tily in this country. The smallest imaginary fixed duty must have a tendency to lessen the whole quantity which can be imported, and which would come into competition with our home-grown corn for the benefit of the consumers of this country. But the protection party seem to me to be doing all they can to depreciate the value of their landed property. It seems of all things in the world strange for them to be exerting themselves hard in telling their tenants that when the Corn Laws are repealed, the land will not yield any rent. Why, they must not wonder if many of these tenants come forward when they are repealed, and ask to have their land rent free. (Hear, hear.) We have never circulated such reports, or created such panies; and I should like to know what there is in the public events of the day that can justify any man in saying, that the repeal of the Corn Laws is to be the ruin of the landed proprietors of this country. Why, have not estates been lately selling in the public market by auction, and have not those estates been purchased by persons for mere investment solely as a security for money and for the interest which they will vield? And I ask if those estates have sold in the market for one year's, or one day's, less purchase than they would some time since, when the agitation against the Corn Law was not near so rife as it is now? Why, the capitalist is generally a very sensitive person. Can there be any answer to that fact the farms are selling by public auction for as many years' purchase as they have ever sold; aye, and even for a greater number of years' purchase? I know several farms that were sold the other day in the south of England, that ran purchased for mere investment, and that brought two years' more purchase than the same farms had brought in 1839; and can it be doubted for a moment that the Corn Law is nearer its repeal now than it was in 1830? We all know there is a well-founded rumour that a very great change is near in the Corn Laws, and that it must before long be totally repealed. I say that if there had been a sincere belief in the mind of the public-in the breast of the capitalistthat the abolition of the Corn Law would rain landed property, we should not have seen these farms selling at such high rates; we should have believed that similar effects would have been produced on the value of that land as would have been effected in the value of all other secu-(Hear, hear.) I put it to this meeting, if there was a well-founded rumour, or even a shadow of suspicion, that the dividends would not be forthcoming on the 5th of Jamary on the account of consols, whether the consols would sell at their usual price? (Cheers.) Do railway shares bring the same value in the market when there is a talk of a competing line, which is seriously to diminish their profits? Nothing of the kind. We find that all securities are affected by these rumours, and very justly, when those rumours are well founded; and what possible exception can there be to the case of land? I can also confirm, from my own knowledge, a statement that has been made by my he hourable friend, Mr. Houghton. I know a case in Suffolk where four tenants were concerned during the Ministerial "interregnum," as it was called. During that interval of time, when Lord John Russell was about to undertake the Government upon the principle of total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, those four tenants were engaged at that particular interval in negociating new leases with their handlords; and not one of them mentioned to his landlord the subject of the Corn Law; but every one was willing to renew his lease for 7 or 11 years, as his landlord wished; and two or three out of those four tenants volunteered of their own accord to give an increase of rent. (Hear). It is no part of our business as advocates for the cause of Free Trade, to be endeavouring to console persons whose property it is stated is about to be injured. But all I say is this how strange it is that dukes, noble lords, and landed proprietors, should be endeavouring all they can to create a panie, and depreciate the value of their own property! The dukes - I do not wish to make any sweeping censure, because all sweeping censures are unjust, but when I speak of dukes, I speak of that description of dukes who have a propensity for delivering themselves of Corn Law speeches,-I say, I must consider that they are not the wisest of mankind. (Hear). They seem to me to be persons, to judge from the speeches that have been lately delivered, of very homely wits. It is difficult to single out any one speech more foolish than another, and in this respect these worthics remind me of an old story of a French duke, who applied at court for a place for his friend. He said that he was under the greatest obligation to that gentleman; and when asked what those obligations were, he replied, "Why, if it had not been for him I should have been the ugliest man in France." any that these dukes are under the greatest obligations to each other, for you cannot single out any one who has made the most foolish speech of the lot; they bave left each other in remarkably good countenance. (Laughter.) But I do not despair evon of any of these That distinguished personage, the Duke of Norfolk, notwithstanding that celebrated curry-powder speech of his (hear), it is said that after all he is going to vote for a repeal of the Corn Laws. I cannot youch for it, but that is the common report; and it is said that when he said "curry" he meant rice;" it was a confusion in his mind. The curry and the rice are mixed together in India, and he made a mistake in puting the curry in the place of rice. But, however, we will forgive him the curry-powder speech if he will vote for a repeal of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) We have another duke who has come forward with a very violent speech; he says that the Anti-Corn-Law meetings must be treated with the contempt,—or something of that sort,—which they deserve. It is a duke well known to the Anti-Corn-Law League, for he was once angeged in a remarkable covrespondence with he was once engaged in a remarkable correspondence with the chairman of that body; and he is rather an ungrateful person for there is no one. I will venture to say, for whose education in this question the League have shown a greater saxiety. (Cries of "Name, name.") It is the Duke of Cleveland I refer to, whose speech appears in this day's Times. He have the country has been convulsed upon Times. He says the country has been convulsed upon this question. (Hear, hear, hear.) I agree with him the country has been "convulsed," but it has been with laughter at the nonsense that has been uttered by noble dukes and manufacted at the nonsense that has been uttered by noble laughter at the nonsense that has been uttered by noble dukes and marquisses at protection meetings. But, if I might be allowed, as I alluded to the correspondence which took place between the noble Duke of Cleveland and the Anti Corn Law Liegus, and as I have got a copy of the lifety in my pooks. I would take the librity, with the serming on this midge, o read them, (fleet, hear.) They are the litrice in the comment in all a correspondence of this actuation, the litrice in the lit

newspapers; and Mr. George Wilson, our worthy chairman, by order of the Council of the League, wrote the following letter to the duke:

"My Lord Duke—In an account of a meeting of your grace's tenants, you are reported in the Mark Long Express to have warned your tenants against the doctrines of the League, and that they (the tenants) could not compete with the foreign growers. As Chairman of the League, I believe you have made these statements in ignorance, and I forward you some tracts of the League that will give you information on the subject, which will show you that the land does not bear those burdens that you have assorted; and that it is not so heavily taxed; and that income derived from land is a small compensation: and I trust that you will take the earliest opportunity of correcting your error.—I am, &c., GRORGE WILSON, "Chairman of the National Anti-Corn-Law League."

Well, then comes the duke's answer:

"Sir—I have received a letter which has followed me to the Highlands of Scotland, and has filled me with astonishment. The writer signs himself Chairman of the League. However despicable that faction has become in the consideration of the country, I could not conceive that any one of its members should have the boldness to lecture me on what I have thought fit to say at a private party, at which no member of the press was present. I know nothing about the Mark Lane Express, and treat your changuations with the contenut they deserve."

treat your observations with the contempt they deserve Now, this is an unfortunate mistake, into which many of our men of rank fall; mon who are hereditary legislators. They tell us that we have no business with their private opinions. But I say we have business with their opinions. (Cheers.) They make laws for us; they sit, in virtue of their descent, in the House of Lords; they pass laws which are to rule us, and therefore I contend we have business with the opinions of these bereditary logislators. (Renewed cheering.) I further contond that it was quite right and fitting for our chairman, Mr. George Wilson, if he thought the Duke of Cleveland under a misapprohension, and that he required instruction upon the question of Free Trade, as was proved by a certain speech he made, reported publicly in the nowspapers; I say he did quite right to indite this letter to the Duke of Cleveland; and I further contend that the letter is indited in those courteous and proper terms that ought not to have called back a letter containing such charges as those of "falsehood;" "sedition," and so forth. The duke says-and that is the fallacy which he adheres to now-that the land is more taxed than other interests in the country. Now, I will venture to say that if this account which has been so much talked of this evening was sent in, that we should see that, during the time the landed interest have had possession of the legislature of this country, that they had, to use a common expression, helped themselves with a bucket and dealt out to others with a tea spoon. (Hear.) I will venture to say that if we were to look through the list of taxes that have been taken off since the year 1815, we should find that the landed interest had allowed scurcely one year to pass without repealing some tax that peculiarly pressed upon agriculture. I say nearly all possible "taxes" that press peculiarly upon agriculture, because local rates are not taxes that press upon agriculture; they are only portions of rent intercepted by the receiver of local taxes, and which, but for him, would find their way into the pocket of the laudlord. But I speak of taxes such as those upon husbandry, horses, taxed carts, fire insurance on farming stock, windows in farm houses, and various things of that kind, all of which have, from time to time, been repealed; and I believe it was shown in the speech delivered in 1836 by Mr. Hume, on Lord Chandos's motion for inquiry into agricultural distress, that the repeal of taxes, pressing peculiarly upon agriculture, amounted to something like a million a year; and up to the time at which he spoke had those taxes been received, they would have yielded something like twenty millions to the Exchequer. Is it not also in the recollection of every one that when the Central Society for the protection of agriculture waited upon Sir Robert Peel at the commencement of last session, there was not one of the party who could name a tax which pressed peculiarly on agriculture, when Sir R Peel asked him to do so? The question was put—What is the relief you ask? What are the burdens that press upon you ?-and there was not one of the party who could make any reply. (Laughter.) Talk of an account! I will venture to say, that if a debtor and oreditor one was made out between the landed interest and the people of England, the balance-sheet would exhibit an awful deficit against the I am myself, to some extent, connected with landed property, and I must say I should rather dread this account being called for on my behalf; for if the land is to pay up all the exemptions it has enjoyed from the state, if there is to be a fair balancing of accounts, I know not how we should meet the immense demand which the people of England would have a right to make on the propriotors of land in this country. (Cheers.) Is it probable on the very face of it that these men have been sitting in Parliament to do nothing but tax themselves, and taking all the burdens of the state on their own shoulder on the very face of it is an absurdity; and even if it were shown (which it cannot be) that there was an excess of poorrate, or an excess of any particular tax pressing on the landed interest, I should say it is no business whatever of the Free Traders. We deny that the Corn Law is a fit compensation for any excess of burdens borne by any class of the community; we dony that you can compensate the landed interest by such a fiction and absurdity as your Corn Law scheme. We say if there be undue burden, if the landed interest bear more of the taxes than falls justly to their share, we are ready to equalise those burdens; we are quite ready to estribute the public burdens with the utmost fairness and equity; but we contend that we are now entitled to ness and equity; but we contend that we are now entitied to freedom of trade, and that the mare alleging that there are special burdens, cannot be a ground for delaying one day the yielding this just and righteous demand. My Lord Beaumont, at the meeting the other day, spoke of these special burdens. He said that real property bore eight millions of local taxation, and, therefore, real property ought to be protected by the Corn Law. Eight millions of taxation, he said, in one scale, and the Corn Law in the other; ought not every one to be satisfied? (Laughter.) Now really it is hardly worth while to reply to such arguments as these; but does the noble lord imagine that real property is all arable land? Does he not recollect that houses are real property? Does he not recollect that quarries are real property? Does he not recollect that quarries are real property? Does he not recollect that quarries are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that quarries are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? Does he not recollect that mines are real property? freedom of trade, and that the mere alleging that there are

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it is said, or from Russia, but Poland they especially dwell upon. Poland they are very fond of; they always tell you about Polish labourers and black bread. If we sat Polish bread, they say we shall become like Poles; our labourers will be like Polish labourers. (Laughter.) I wonder—to use an expression of a very distinguished voteran in this cause, one to whom the cause is, perhaps, more indebted than any man living — I mean Colonel Thompson—(Cheers)—I wonder they don't say that if the labourers cat Polish corn they will speak Polish (laughter), for they might as well say so. All these circumstances con-nected with the kingdom of Poland arise from different causes; there is a variety of causes connected with the condition of that country which has no application to the condition of this; and if it happens that the Polish labourer eats black bread, or that the Pole suffers under peculiar disabilities, those things are attributable to the unfortunate circumstances of the country, and are not at all applicable to Great Britain. Of all arguments it seems the most absurd-let in the food of Poles, and we shall at once sink to the condition of the Polo-forgetting our capital, our onterprise, our energy, the great natural advantages which England possesses, and the long period during which our country has been increasing, our manufacturers have been thriving, and our capital has been accumulating. No; the letting in of the corn will make Englishmen sensible at any rate, that they have accomplished the last step towards the abolition of the found principle. (Cheers.) The real question after all is, as I believe from my conscionce, not a pecuniary question. I think our aristocracy and landed proprietors are, some way or other. jealous of the advance of the great moreantile community of this country. (Cheers.) They do not like to have their heels trodden upon by those whom they have been cradled and taught to look down upon as a secondary class; they do not like the idea of sharing with them in equal rivalry the political power of the country-they wish to elevate themselves by depressing the moreantile community. I believe this is one of the moving powers that inspires this opposition to the Corn Law repont. It cannot be a merely pecuniary motive; it is a motive far higher than that; it is the love of decendancy—it is the love of aristocratic privilege-it is the desire to depress and keep down the middle classes of this country. (Cheers.) Now that this question has been thoroughly sifted and understood, now that it appears as if you had but to put out your hand and take it, now that it appears as if the fruit was within your reach if you would but stretch out your hand to grasp it-I say Englishmen will deserve to be branded as slaves if they do not throw off the ignominious yoke which a proud landed aristocracy has imposed upon them. (Cheers.) And when we consider the greatness and universality of the cause we are advocating, if the moreantile community of England throw off this yoke, it will be felt throughout the whole civilised world. England will not accomplish Free Trade for herself without her example being followed through the different civilised countries of Europe. It may not be to-morrow, it may not be next year; but the example will be followed. (Hear, hear.) Then, as trade becomes free, those ties of a mutual dependence, and the common interest which binds nations together in friendly alliance, will acquire increased strength, and become more closely interwoven. Commercial freedom is the parent of peace upon earth and goodwill amongst men (loud cheers); and the first step to this commercial freedom which is to unite the nations of the earth in the bonds of friendship and peaceable alliance, is the abolition of the British Corn Law. look to that as the first great step in the cause of Free Prade. It is not true, as has been asserted by our opponents. that we seek for protection for certain branches of trade and manufactures, though we are unwilling to yield it to agriculturists. Having the honour of standing in this theatre the representative of Manchester in Parliamont-(cheers)—that great seat of our manufactures-I say distinctly, that it is not true that the men who seek to remove protection from agriculture are desirous of retaining any protection for them selves. The resolutions which have emanated from the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester have all prayed that protection may be removed from corn, that the corn trade may become free, and at the same time that there may be a complete abolition of all protective duties. (Cheers.) A gentleman of the name of Studrt, who is about to become a candidate for the constituency of Newark, and to represent the Duke of Newcastle in the House of Commons, has under taken to assert that those who are making this demand for Free Trade are in reality seeking some protection for themselves. He says so deliberately in his address to the electors of Newark. Now I must take the liberty of telling that honourable gentleman that it is not to be submitted to in these days—after the repeated assertions that we advocate the repeal of the Corn Laws on the broad principle of freedom of trade-of the abolition of protection altogether-that ito a letter, which has the authority of his name asserting that we are seeking some protection to ourselves. The honourable gentleman is a Chancery barrister, I believe, of some reputation; but I can tell him that this is rather sharp practice (cheers and laughter); and I must toll him still further, that the brief which he has received, be it from whom it may, does not contain proper instructions. I hope when he goes to Newark he will take the opportunity of correcting the error into which he has fallen. Mr. Glad-stone has left Newark; where he is going to I know not; but if report speaks true that Sir Robert Peel is about to propose a bold and conclusive measure regarding the Corn Law, why, perhaps, after all, the League may have to find a seat for Mr. Gladstone. (Laughter.) That would indeed be a most extraordinary position to be filled; but more extraordinary things than that have happened in the world. believe Mr. Gladstone to be the best Free Trader of the lot; and I believe also that he has been tutored in the cause of Free Trade by that heat of all teachers, experience. He has seen that every measure that has been adopted for the relax-ation of our tariff and our commercial code, has been attended with success, and therefore I conceive that he is in the Cabinet Councils at this time one of the best supporters of our cause. But, after all, I must not detain you on that toplo, for it signifies little what Sir Robert Peel is doing, what Mr. Claustone is doing, or what Cabinet Councils are considering. I must repeat again, as I stated at the communecement of my address, that it is you, and you alone, assisted by the great body, of the people, the intelligent community of this country, who must carry this question. That you will succeed I have no doubt, but I amy equally sure that you would not succeed, and I believe you would not stop of this district district moment, it there were subspaced to hat the district district moment, it there were subspaced to hat the district district moment, it there were subspaced to hat the district district moment. the Cabinet Councils at this time one of the best supporters

(hear, hear,) -if such an idea entered into the minds of our parcy leaders, I fear the League would have many years will of unduous exertion. But that the day will come is must vortain; because, when I consider what is the nature of the contest,—and if I may read the future by the record of the past, I know that you must triumph,—because I know that the contest is between justice and tyranny, between freedom and oppression, between equality and privilege; and therefore I know that, at a foture day, you must succeed; and I believe that you will succeed in the present year also, from the circumstance of the parties between whom the contest Then, What is the condition of the two parties? On the side of protection there is division; on our side there is none. On our side there is mutual confidence; there distrust and suspicion. Ifere we have firmness; there there is nothing but passion. Here we have the spirit of intellect, of philosophy, of experience; there they are supported by none except those who have long distinguished themselves by advocating every Tookal barbariam and every abuse which has diagraced the statute book of England. (Cheers.) Consider the parties, and I say that our distinguished leaders in this great movement have conducted it with prudence; with unshaken zeal, and with fidelity. Comparing, therefore, the position of these two parties in the contest, I say it is impossible but that these efforts must be crowned with a great and enduring

triumph. (Loud cheering.) The Chairman then said, Gentlemen, Mr. Moore will now address the meeting. (Cheers.) Mr. R. R. R. MOORE then came forward amidst loud applause, and addressed the meeting as follows:—I had much rather our chairman had allowed the meeting to have broken up at the close of Mr. Gibson's speech. (Cries of "No, no.") I really have nothing whatever to add to what has been said to night upon the subject. (Cries of "Go on, go on.") The only point that I would venture to occupy your time for a moment upon, is to urge upon you increased activity in adding to the number of 40s, freeholders in the counties of Middlesex, East Surrey, and Hertfordshire. I do not believe that there has been before the people of the counties eight more memorable days than those which will intervene between the present time and the meeting of Parliament. I do not think you have had a period when there was more in your own power than there is now letwerh this and the close of the present month. We are now virtually contesting the election—not in Middlesex, that is won; you have gained there a majority of upwards of 1790, sufficient to return two Free Traders; but we are virtually now contesting the election in East Surrey and Hertfordshire. It is in your power, by the purchase of 40s. freeholds between this and the close of the month, to win both these counties-East Surrey for two Free Traders, and Hertfordshire for three. (Cheers.) You see what the Protection Society's last move is. It recently met at 17, Old Bond Street, to rescind its fourth resolution, so as to make itself ready for competing with us in the registration courts with success; in fact, to put itself in a position to follow our Thry say we are attending to the registration; so will they-we are making 40s. freeholders; so will they. They assert that our proceedings are unconstitutional, that we have no right to take these measures with reference to the registration of the country. We beg to remind the noble duke who took the chair at that meeting, that his proceeding is really unconstitutional, and that, on the other hand, we are the real defenders of the constitution; the theory of that constitution being that we should have a Housevof Commous free from being tampered with by the House of Lords (cheers); and yet in reality we have no such House of Lords (cheers); and yet in reality we have no such House of Commons. (Renewed cheers.) We say, "we have rather more to do, please your grace, than to attend to the purging of registers of countles and boroughs, and increasing the number of independent 40m, freeholders; we will have a committee of inquiry into the unjust and unconstitutional interference of members of the peerage with the election of commoners." I find that every session there is a standing order of the House of Commons against the Interference of peers in the election of commoners. Annually is that standing order renewed. At nearly every election that occurs certainly at every general election, is that order openly, flagrantly, and unconstitutionally violated. (Hear.) Why, I have here a list of places that return members by the direct and avowed influence of peers? Does not Lord Salisbury return the member for Hertford? Does not the Duke of Richmond return those for Chichester, and in the county of Sussex? Has he not been boasting of his interest in West Sussex, and defying the League to come into that county, telling us that he can drive so many farmers up to the poll, that we cannot possibly have any power to win that county. Does not Lord Londonderry dare to dictate to the city of Durham, and to the southern division of that county who shall be their representatives? Iles he not been holding a correspondence lately with the Conservative Association there, respecting a requisition, calling upon Lord Dungannon to come forward at the next election? Then, is there not the Duke of Marlborough returning three represontatives, within the last three years, for Woodstock-two sentatives, within the last three years, for Woodstock—two of them his his own sons. (Hear, hear.) Is there not the Duke of Newcastle, returning members for Newark, and having such influence, that Mr. Gladstone cannot get in there again? Many of the constituency of Newark are in favour of Free Trade, and they have been in correspondence with Mr. Gladstone, with a view to his return as their member; but that right honourable gentleman knows better; he is well aware that the Duke of Newcastle has such influence in that horough as would completely prehas such influence in that borough as would completely prevent his return if he were he to attempt it. Then there is Lord Lincoln, does he not dictate for Nottingham; the Duke of Buckingham for Buckingham; ditto for Winchoster; ditto for Aylesbury; Lord Egmont for Midhurst; Lord Exeter for Stamford; Lord Bathurst for Circuces-ter; Lord Shaftesbury for Dorchester; Lord Sandwich for Huntingdon? and so on through a whole list of them with which I will not trouble you; you may have read it yourselves in the papers. I say there is in this list abundant
proof of unconstitutional interference with elections, contrary
to the standing orders of the House of Commons, which it is to the standing orders of the House of Commons, which it is the duty of members of that House to endeavour to put a stop to; and if there is no other way of stopping it, then let the boroughs under such influence be disfranchised. (Hear.) Wa will teach these men what unconstitutional interference with elections is. Then they call our registration proceeding unconstitutional. The Duke of Richmond says—and I wish you to remember this—"The gantiemen of the Command the Common teacher the county elections of England by fabricated votes. This threat, no doubted not, they would endeavour to exceed to the humost extent of the manne at their material in the county of a later than the county of the doubt of the Thanks in the later of the manne at their material in the county of the later of the manne at their material in the county of the later of the manne at their material in the county of the later of the manne at their material in the later of th

League—the League of which the Dukes of Buckingham, Richmond, Norfolk, and Bir Edward Knatchbull, are at the head; the League that meets at No. 17, Old Bondstreet; I know their intention is to carry their question by the abstraction of votes; it is the very means by which they have already succeeded. Our proceedings have been to purge the registers of their fabricated votes; and the very way in which we have made such gain upon the registers, has been not merely by adding 40s, free-holds to the list, but by getting rid of the fabricated votes of the protection party. (Loud cheers.) "Gentlemen of the Corn Law League" are the fabricators of votes; they are the men who unconstitutionally interfere in elections in this country; but we of "the Anti-Corn-Law League," what have we done? We have taken hold of the register as it stands, looked over it, and found it was not such as was required by law. We had a shrewd suspicion that there were men upon it who had no right whatever to be there. (Hear, hear.) There was a case which recently occurred at Highgate where a man claimed for a 40s. freehold, and when asked where it was, replied it was in the churchyard. (Laughter.) There it was a grave. Who was the occupying tenant paying bim 40s. a year rent—(laughter)? As he could not tell who the occupying tenant was, he was struck off the register. There were persons in East Surrey who claimed for 40s. freeholds, every one of them, and what was it for? 40s. a year, 10s. a quarter, for preaching a quarterly sermon in a certain church in that county, which was paid out of some land-rent or other, and thereupon they called themselves "40s. freeholders." (Laughter.) They were of course struck off. I give you these instances merely by way of enlivening the matter as we go on. One might readily produce scores of such cases. protectionists speak of our tampering with the register, and any that we make wholesale multitudes of votes to swamp elections, one would imagine that we could steal in at night and write down upon the register the names of Free Traders and rub out the names of those who are opposed to us, and make a register just such as we please. Why, do not you know that, with reference to the register, if we object to any man from the 1st of August to the 25th of that month, a list of the objections in good large legible print is malled up to the church door, and stuck up in public places for all comers to go and look at, and see whether those objections are good or had? Do they not know that those objections must not be merely nailed up to the church door, but notice thereof must be sent to the party objected to, and that there must be legal proof given that they have had actual notice of such objection? Do they not know that from the 11th of September to the 31st of October, an open court is held, where a barrister sits on the bench, called the revising barrister's court, where all these objections are gone into in the presence of the parties objected to, who have an opportunity of defending their votes if they are defensible, retaining them on the register if it is right they should be, and striking them off if they have no right to be on. It is in that way we have purged the register throughout the country—it is in that manner we have proceeded throughout England. They have notice of objections served upon them, and an account of every cause why they are sought to be removed from the register. The objections are dealt with in the way I tell you, and they are only struck off after argument has been gone into in open court, and the decision of the barrister, in the presence of the party objected to, and clear proof given that they had no right to be upon the right, clearing the register from the unfair parties opposing us. And then, how have we got on with our claims—those claims that we have added to the register? Have not all our claims to be sent in by the 20th of July Is there not some three weeks allowed to object to them? Did not our opponents object to every name put on the register by us in the county of Middlesex? There was not one name which they did not object to. (Hear.) Not only have we a right to object, but if the objection be held to be invalid, the electors have a claim to a fine or compensation for loss of service, and for the expenses which they have incurred in being brought up there improperly to defend their votes. And yet, with all the objections that were made by us against monopolists in the county of Middlesex, but 21. was awarded against the League upon this ground, proving that in almost every case we were right. We have established our claims in the same way in open court. It is impossible to attach too much importance to these 40s. frecholds. sincerely trust that between this and the 30th of January the applications at 67, Pleet-street, will increase daily. There you may obtain the whole of the particulars you may reyou may obtain the whole of the particulars you may require for the purpose of enabling you to become freeholders of Middlesex, East Surrey, Hertford, or any other county in which you may desire to become possessed of the franchise. For old. you may be put in possession of a 40s. freehold, yielding you 4 per cent for your money. Having these freehold votes you will then be ready when the election comes. (Hear). You will then have no occasion to run about bither and thither when the day of election actually comes, in all the dread and anxiety whether you shall or shall not win. If you want to win in the counties you must win now. (Hear, hear.) If you want to rescue East Surrey from the hands of the monopolists, it will not be by canvassing and speeches merely at the time of election, but by now purchasing 40s. freehold votes from the counties. This is the franchise which these monopolist speakers call unconstitutional, a franchise settled by the 6 and 7 Henry VIII., by which this important right was conferred. They call it unconstitutional to make 40s. freeholders. They speak as if we, Leaguers, spent our 100,000% last year, and our 50,000% the year before that, and intended to spend our 250,000% this year in purchasing these fresholds and making them presents to the people. (Laughter.) We have done nothing of the kind. We have expended our funds in spreading such information as has induced the people to purchase for themselves, and by creating such an organization throughout the country as is necessary to effect this registration movement. Now what have you to do between this time and the meeting of Parliament? What, above all things is to take a great for you to he would be. above all things, is it necessary for you to be ready for? You have already been told by Mr. Villiers and Mr. Milner Gibson, to take care that there shall be no compromise; nothing short of entire justice, if offered, shall be accepted. I canshort of entire justice, if offered, shall be accepted. I cannot find any language sufficient to express the importance which I attach to the people of this country being in perfect readiness for whatever proposal may be brought forward by Sir Robert Pest. (Hear, liear.) Your meeting to algebraic will liny a strong influence upon him. It is hope than ever necessary for you to be indeptived in the meeting which you will said to Parliament, him still all the meeting to make a first stand adding the meeting the meeting to make a first stand adding the meeting the me

the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and so thing short of their total and immediate repeal. (Cheen.) There has been some talk—the most lamentable nonsens, in my opinion, which has been uttered at protection meet. about compensation. Mr. Newdegate spoke hon the ings—about compensation. Mr. Newagate spoke upon the subject at the meeting recently held at No. 17, Old Bondstreet. "Compensation!" it is said, "what compensation could be awarded them in lieu of the duty on load?" Another says, "Talk of compensation! Why, putting the whole burdens of the land upon the consolidated fund wold." not compensate us. We cannot be compensated." I my we will not talk of compensation; do not be afraid of it; we have not the slightest intention of any such about the slightest intention of any slightest intent surdity. If there is any party to be compensated, it may in justice be those who have been plundered. (Her.) The Quarterly Roview says, that for the last thirty years the Corn Law upon an average has raised the price of wheat 15s. a quarter, that is 15,000,000/. a year. (Herr. If they talk about compensation, we will beg them to me pay us all that vast sum. (Hear, hear.) Compensation indeed! Compensation to those who enacted that law think one years ago in deflance of the country, who burned the bill through the House with such haste that the country had no time to meet, petition, and express its opinion against it! (Hear.) Compensation to those who, in spite of a petition signed by the citizens of London in one day to the amount of 44,000, enacted that law! Compensation to the men who rode down the poor people assembled a Peterloo in 1819 to petition for the repeal of this las! Compensation to those who have oppressed industry for Was there ever such an instance of atdacity heard of before? Do you imagine that any men will be found to stand up in the House of Commons and sak for That there can be any serious idea of putcompensation? ting in such a claim? Do they come forward and say, "You gave twenty millions to the slave holders to take their grasp off their fellow creatures, give us something to in their bread be free," we reply, do you want to stand in the same category with the slave-holder? We have reviewed our verdict as to that grant. We say that twenty millions should have been given to the slave. (Loud cheen, It should have been taken not from our purses to be give to the slave-holder, but from the pockets of the slave-holders to be given to the men whom they had wrouged. They protectionists talk of compensation: we will tell them wh content; that we ask for nothing but forgetfulness of the past, and the total and immediate abolition of the law. If they speak of compensation, we will tell them to go over to our penal colonies, and see if they cannot find some men there whom poverty and hunger, the result of the scarcity of food made by those laws, tempted in the beginning of that criminal course which ended in their transportation to a penal colony. We ask if they can con-pensate them—if they can bring them home, and restore them to the situation they held, before want drove them into a course that ended so lamentably? We will ask them to go and look at our Gazette for the last thirty years, since the enacted this law, and trace the history of those merchans, shopkeepers, manufacturers, and others whose names at inserted there, and find out which of them has been linker down struggling for independence in spite of the most heroir endurance, perseverance, and industry by the crippling of trade, the result of these laws. Who can compensate them (Cheers.) We will tell them to go into our orphan assums, and try if they cannot find some children there whose parent were worn out befor their time by want, from endeavouring to work when they had not food enough to sustain them in their anxiety for the support of their families, and let them try if they can compensate those children for the loss of their parents. (Cheers.) We will tell them to go into our union workhouses and endeavour to find old man and women there scarcely knowing whether they have a friend on earth left to protect them, left without home in their old age, notwith standing they had worked hard in their youth to cam an honest independence, who had a right to expect it from their work in their old days. (Hear, hear, hear.) We ask them to look if there are no young persons in those workhouses brought down to that by the property of the control o petually crushing effect of these Corn Laws, and we will tell them to compensate them. When they have done all that, let them go out over the broad land into those counties where they keep their agents ever busy at work on the register; ke them go out into the neighbourhood of the boroughs which these noble lords influence—into the counties of Porst. Devon, Norfolk, Suffolk, to Essex, Hants, and Wilts, and tell us if there are not whole sets of farmers who have been swept off farm after farm, having agreed to give high rents, believing that the Corn Law would enable them realise such prices as would enable them to pay those rolls by pressing the whole population down; and let them the us if these parties can be compensated? Then let them the the climax of the whole—let them go out amongst their orange included labourers—"a bold peasantry, their country pride"—the labourers whose health they drink—the labourers whose health they drink—the labourers whose their country that they drink—the labourers whose their country that they drink—the labourers they are the country that they drink—the labourers—the la to whom they give prizes for rearing their families upon the least possible amount of provisions—the labourers that they are for ever talking of as if they were their especial favouries—to go into their wretched hovels that do not keep the wind and rain out, and let them go amongst the five hundred we six hundred abourers amongst whom the beds were distributed, which were subscribed for by the Free Traders is William Townstate Subscribed f shire, Dorsetshire, Hampstire, Oxfordshire, and elsewherelet them go out into the cabins of their own pessantry, and see how they live—let them recollect that much of the anxiety felt at the present moment, is on secount of the rot amongst the potato crop. It is proved that five milions of agricultural labourers, four millions in Ireland, and est of agricultural labourers, four millions in Ireland, and essentialists country, live upon potatoes, and are likely to start in consequence of the failure of the crop. How do likely no propose to compensate these labourers? Oan they compensate men who have grown old before their time, worths sate men who have grown old before their time, worths while it was daylight from year's end to year's end; and triag while it was daylight from year's end to year's end; and triag after all, on nothing better than pigs food—possible. (Cheers.) Can these protectionists compensation. There is a dark men? Let them not talk of compensation. It below it and heavy account of responsibility lying at the store of the who maintain the Corn Raw. It they retain the form Raw it they retain the form Raw it they retain the compensation. It they retain the repeal by one of the compensation. It call you what must be designed to the compensation of the protection of the compensation of the protection of the compensation. It call you what must be designed to the compensation of the protection of the compensation of the protection of the compensation. It call you what must be designed to the compensation of the protection of the compensation of the protection of the compensation. It call you what must be designed to the compensation of the protection of the compensation of the

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tation of agricultural labourers in Downing-street will be seen coming to ask their own, demanding from the Prime Minister that, living upon God's boundful and blessed earth, they should have as much of its bountiful production as their own strong arms, hard hands, and willing minds could carn for them. (Cheers.) I caution these protectionists; let them not talk about compensation. Why, between the present time and the meeting of Parliament-between this and the end of this month—you have a great responsibility thrown on you to protect the interest of these labourers. It rests with you to stand by them. The duty may be thrown more closely on you. It may be that Sir Robert Peel cannot carry his measure, or that he is attempting some measured of the whole and that he shall be defeated. sure short of the whole, and that he shall be defeated. trust in that case that his country is ready for the awful responsibility which will be cast upon it. (Hear. hear.) I believe that London is ready to return four Free Traders, and Middlesex two. I cannot but believe that by the 31st of January the registers of East Surroy and Hertford will be in such a position as that those two places between them will he ready to return five Free Traders. I do believe that this new year will be the brightest and happiest that England has had for a long time. 31 or 32 years ago about this time of the year, there was breathless anxiety respecting the war then raging in Europe, and great interest as to the names of battles and victories. The whole country was ready in a moment to ring its bells, light up its windows, and go to its churches to return thanks be-cause their side had killed more of "the enemy," as they called them than were destroyed in their own ranks. But none of you have a subject that you might so well meet for with breathless auxiety, one of infinitely more importance to you, and the question is, shall the great skill and industry of England, its mighty capital, its power, its trade be made as strong and as powerful for good as they have a right to be The question is, shall this great England feed itself, shall it be let out of the hands of Parliament? Shall it continue to be dandled, nursed, and spoon-fed by Lords and Com-Shall it be allowed to go abroad into the world and provide for itself? Has it not grown strong enough for its own maintenance? You cannot watch the coming events with too much interest: it is of vital importance to this great country; our whole position takes a change from the mo-ment we have obtained freedom of trade. From that time we look forward to every man getting his fair share of the produce of the world; we say we will be contented with nothing short of a total, immediate, uncoudi-tional and uncompensated repeal of the Corn Laws, There is one class here to whom I have a word to say, and then I have done. There are many men here who have worked for 31 years, who felt indignant when this was enacted in spite of the remonstrance of the counthere are many present who, long after the time which seems to be so near at hand, have been sneered at and pointed at as impracticable, for believing that this Free Trade question would ever be carried. I feel a wish to shake hands, and congratulate every one of them now; and ask them if they do not feel somewhat of the warmth of youth again at the near triumph of that for which they have toiled so long. I believe you have never too sarnestly wished for it. If you could have seen the anxiety of the people in the manufacturing districts when they found food rising and heard the had accounts of the weekly markets in Manchester and the other towns in Lancashire and Yorkshire; if you could have witnessed the delight of the people, their joyous greetings, the glad faces in the market on the Saturday night when they read that announcement in the Times a few weeks ago, believing that their long-felt anxiety at a time of distress, the shadow of which was before them was about to be got rid of, and the cause of it to be swept away for ever; if you could have seen their joy when they believed that Lord John Russell was about to form a Government, whose great principle was based upon the repeal of the Corn Laws; if you could have beheld the variations from gladness to despondeney, from doubt and hesitancy to anxiety and fear; to have felt that the law was likely to be discontinued or re-pealed; if you knew the reason of that anxiety, if you had witnessed the bitter sufferings they have had to endure when the law pressed upon them, and when they wanted food and were willing to labour, but there was no work to be done, and no wages to be had; and men who love independ ruce, who spurn the very idea of pauperism, who would have walked the country over to get work, yet had to go and stand in the yard of the parish relieving officer, waiting their turn for the miserable pit-pittance of relief; I say, if you knew the joy of the recent revival of trade, the getting home of furniture again, the getting into better lodgings again, the getting on of better ciothes again, the sending children to school again, the returning looks of health and strength of men, women, and of railway the crowded trains of pleasure trips upon the Saturday half day, and at other holiday times, the very last clingers to protection would say, "We are ashamed to have stood by this law so long; we blush to have wronged these people for such a length of time! Compensation to us! We stand before the whole land and acknowledge that we have been in error, selvice when the stand and acknowledge that we have been in error, acknowledging that we have wronged them; we ask only this, that instead of giving compensation, they will forgive us, and believe that we are their friends for the The learned gentleman resumed his seat amidst futurė.' enthusiastic applause.

The CHAIRMAN then came forward, and said, Ladies and fentlemen, I have only to thank you for the very great order which has marked the whole of these proceedings, and to inform you that the meetings will be held here more frequently in future than they have hitherto been; and in all probability, the next meeting will be this day fortnight. (Three cheers were then given for the League, and the meeting separated at a few minutes to eleven).

GREAT MEETING AT LIVERPOOL.

13,0001. SUBSCRIBED TO THE LEAGUE RUND,
A magnificant gathering was obtained at Liverpool on the
tith, in the Amphilicants, to give mother impulse to the
Great "Emergency". Final power relative by the Anii Cornland Liverpool of the Cornland Liverpoo

by the house at such times was past all description. If the manay-amount collected at the meeting was less than that obtained at the Manchester meeting, no one who witnessed the proceedings can dony that the people of Liverpool are as heartly with the League in this great movement as it is possible for a people to be. The stage was crowded with merchants and the *filts* of the commercial classes of Liverpool; and above their heads, at the back of the stage, was creeted their motto, inscribed in legible characters:

"RESOLVED, WE WON'T STAND IT ANY LONGER!"
The chair, on the motion of Mr. Holland, was taken by W. Brown, Esq., the candidate for the representation of South Lancashire at the late election. At his side were Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., the energetic and untiring champions of the cause, Thomas Thornley, Esq., M.P., Col. Thompson, William Rathbone, Esq., Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., J. Brancker, Esq., &c. &c. The requisition convening the meeting having been read by Mr. Rawlins, the honorary secretary to the Liverpool Anti-

Corn-Law Association,
The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, you are aware that we are met on this occasion to co operate with, to sustain and strengthen, our friends of the Anti-Corn Law League— (loud cheering)—who have, for the long period of seven cars, fought the Free Trade battle. (Continued cheering.) Gentlemen, we must not let the present occasion pass with a simple note of approbation, but we must be ready to furnish them with a large, and I hope a glorious subscription to enable them to carry out those objects for which they have so long and so nobly contended. (Loud cheers.) We cannot estimate—it is impossible to estimate—the services done for us by our enlightened friends Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright—(a great burst of cheering, the whole company rising)—and other gentlemen of the League, who have not only contributed a large portion of the pecuniary resources which were necessary to carry on this great struggle, but devoted an important portion of their time in endeavouring to get that justice done to you which we are entitled to, by the revocation of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) You have the example before you of Manchester, whose merchants have raised an amount towards this object unprecedented on any former occasion—(loud cheers)—and I have no doubt, gentlemen, that both you and the country at large will respond to the call in a similarly liberal spirit. We meet here this day not to make long speeches, but what is better, to do some substantial good, and I hope and trust that the cards distributed through this vast assembly, on which to write your subscriptions, will be sent up to the platform with no meagre amounts upon them. (Cheers.) here with hearts determined, and with our purses in hand, to show the country that we are in earnest-that we will not be satisfied with any half measure now that the settling day is come: we must have a "clean bill of health" for all her Majesty's subjects. (Loud cheers.) We are now arrived at a crisis—this measure it is now evidentmust be settled—and it depends upon you, and upon our friends united upon this question, whether we shall have a full measure of redress or a compromise. (Cries of "No compromise.") No, I think our opponents may rost assured that you will be satisfied with no compromise, and I think we may also rest assured that our friends who have led this movement, and have the command, will never surrender the ship till they have brought it into port. (Loud cheers.) We have hoisted the white flag of Free Trade; it must be our endeavour to proserve it pure. We have been told that as England has re-laxed her tariffs, other countries have made theirs more stringent. This is not a time to go over the whole of 22 treaties to answer this fallacy; but I may say that many of the countries with which we have those treatics have Free Trade already; that others only are waiting for us to set the example; there is only one solitary blot upon the escutcheon, and that is in the case of France. But once let us have the white flag of Free Trade hoisted, and no country will make war upon it without losing their places and standing as commercial nations. Gentlemen, I will not detain you longer, but call upon our distinguished friends, who will place before you, in a stronger point of view than I can, the importance of this question, and the necessity of now bringing to their assistance both our hearts and our purses. (Loud cheers.) I will now call upon Mr. Rathbone to move the first resolution.

WILLIAM HATHEONE, Esq., said he rose to move—"That we the inhabitants of Liverpool do hereby repeat our solemn protest against the laws which prohibit the free importation of foreign grain and provisions, or interfere in any way with the natural operations of commerce, believing them to be most oppressive to the great mass of the people, and destructive alike to the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the country. That, relying upon the justice of our cause, and upon the intelligence and honesty of our countrymen, we do declare most emphatically our firm determination not to relax in our exertions until those laws be totally repealed. That we hereby express our high sense of the invaluable services which the National Anti-Corn-Law League has rendered to the cause of Free Trade; and in order to enable its Council to make renewed and increased exertions, a subscription be now entered into in aid of the great fund of a Quarter of a Million (20 per cent. to be paid up immediately); and that the following gentlemen be appointed a committee, with power to said to their number, to canvass for further subscriptions in this town and neighbourhood." (Here followed the list of names.) In moving this resolution, Mr. Rathbone shid, 60 years back, in Williamson-square, William Roscoc, Edward Rushton, and William Rathbone, my father, and many others were stoned for taking part against that atrocious war with France which I firmly believe was the cause of our having this day to unite with heart and purse to struggle for the removal of this law. (Hear, hear.) I hope that no recording angel's near will ever bot out the record of this face, but that it will be remembered and pointed out to every stateman, what is the retribution which follows used unjust and infusions interferences. (Loud cheers.) We had the "life and property" men coming forward, and eaging they would, give hear last chilling in support of "Church and State" (Laugher); and it was a glorious victory which they sole and in the property in the support of "C

will have it. (Tremendous cheering.) Gentlemen, we will support Sir Robert Peal, if, for ones, he will be honest. (Cheers.) His knows that the so called liberal party—(and it is a liberal party) may be relied upon; he relies upon their honesty to carry those measures, which, when out of power, he advocates. (Applause.) He knows that he can rely upon them only to carry these measures. He knows where honesty is, and by that honesty, and by the exertions of the people, will these measures be carried. (Cheers.) I hope, gentlemen, you will carry this resolution, and that you will not only carry it with your voices, but that you will put your hands into your pockets at the same time. (Cheers.)

LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, Esq., who seconded the motion, said—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, when we commenced the agitation for the removal of the restrictions on commerce, we adopted a system which we considered to be most legitimate. Our first design was to expose the fallacies of that fluancial system which has hitherto governed the legislature of this country. Our first effort was to enlighten the minds of the people, and to show that protection laws and legislative monopolies were destructive to the interests of every part of the community. Ladies and gentlemen, we have been successful in this our first endeavour; and we now consider, because we have ample proof and testimony of the fact from every part of the country, that the public mind is well enlightened on this subject. (Cheers.) They now see clearly that monopoly laws and protection laws serve only to cripple our trade, to diminish the employment of our lubourers, and to bring scarcity and famine; whereas, we ought to have, as a commercial population, abundance of employment, and an abundance of that which is to constitute, in the final result, the essential pay and reward of the labourer. Having arrived at this stage of our proceedings, it is necessary to take another step onwards. It is by the representatives of the people in Parliament that our laws are made; and we now consider that if the people had their wills in this respect (their minds being now enlightened) they would indubitably send up to proclaim legislators who would give us freedom of commerce. (Cheers,) Our object now is to extend the franchise of the country. (Loud applause.) Our design is to place within the reach of the labouring classes the means of more readily acquiring the 40s. freehold than they have ever previously been able to do. Thus to extend the franchise is consistent with the constitution of the country; it is every way consistent with the rights of Englishmen (cheers); and we do hope that we shall succeed ultimately in gaining the re-presentation of the counties,—a right which has hitherto been most surreptitiously and wrongfully taken from Englishmen. (Loud cheers.) We do hope that we shall in this succeed with all the counties in England, as we have already succeeded in South Lancashire, West Yorkshire, and North Choshire, and as I am told also we have now succeeded in North Lancashire. (Cheers.) Now we are quite cortain when we have anoneeded in this great step, we shall accomplish effectually the object we have in view. (Lo d cheers.) But in order to take this step, we must have the necessary means; we must have money; and you must come forward liberally to subscribe the funds necessary to assist us in that object. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) I perceive before me a vast number of my fellow-townsmen. It is true that this subscription has been, so far, mainly entered into by the wealthy among the mercantile and manufacturing classes of this country, but I am persuaded that if the labouring classes will come forward with such small means as they can afford, it will give an amazing accession to the power of the League for accomplishing their object. (Hear, hear.) Ladies and gentlemen, we look forward with great confidence to the system and the means which we have adopted for accomplishing the direct object we have in view; but at the same time we warn the aristocracy that the influence which we shall create, the power we shall wield, will be such as shall raise the middle classes and operatives of this country to a state of manly independence. (Loud cheers.) And be assured as this power advances the aristocracy must look to it, or all their exclusive rights and privileges will be attorly dostroyed. (Cheers.) It is for them to cogitate upon this revolution; we leave them to think it over, wisely and well. But if they will adopt the principles we are now surving to carry out, if they will give us freedom of commerce, the result will be such univer al prosperity throughout the country, as may allay for a longth of time, perhaps for a generation, those other agitations to which I have directed attention. people be happy and comfortable—if they have abundance of employment, cheap food, and every thing else cheap, the nominal rate of their wages will be advanced; and not only so, but, articles of consumption being cheapened, their wages will represent an amount double what they do now. Though I look forward with pleasure to this position and state of things, and though I know this will in some measure allay the other desires that the people have felt for a length of time, I do not deprecate their energies being put forth to obtain for themselves those privileges to which they have every just right. (Cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen,—I trust that the observations which have been made, and the long acquaintance which you have had with this vital subject, which interests every town in England, will induce you to come forward liberally on this occasion to aid the League in the great and glorious object which they have in view. It is not an object which belongs to this country or to its inhabitants alone. It is an object which affects the welfare of the whole human family; and I am happy to see, as our worthy chairman has observed, that the various nations of the world are opening their eyes to the importance of this struggle. The last time I addressed you in this place I mentioned that an eminent individual, General Macduffy, in America, had proclaimed, with whole soul and mind, his utter abhorrence of all protective duties. Now we have these sentiments promulgated on authority from the American Government itself.
Mr. Walker, a member of the Government of America, and an officer of the treasury in finance, expresses his sentiments in these words: "Let our commerce be as free as our political institutions—[we (said Mr. Heyworth) wish our commerce to be freer than our political institutions]—let us, with revenue duties only, open our ports to all the world, and nation after nation will follow our example. If we reduce our tariff, the party opposed to the Corn Laws of England would soon prevail, and admit all our agricultural produce at would soon prevail, and admit all our agricultural produce at all times freely into her ports, in exchange for her exports; and if England would now repeat her duties upon our wheat, flour. Indian corn, and other agricultural products, our restrictive system would certainly be doomed to overthrow.' (Loud cheers.) if hus you see, my friends, that the battle we are fighting how in langland is not a battle for the community of the land child, it is a battle for the community of the land child, it is a battle for the community of the land child, it is a battle for the community of the land child, it is a battle for the community of the land child.

worthy of every man to aid in carrying out this laudable en-terprise; and I trust that every one present will feel ready to contribute most heartly to the attainment of this great object. (Loud cheers.

The resolution having been put and carried, the chairman salled upon Mr. Bright, M.P., the mention of whose

name was received with unbounded enthusiasm. Mr. JOHN BRIGHT then rose, and was received with renewed expressions of applause. He said, Mr. President and Centlemen,—At this moment I cannot help looking back to the period when I first formed one of a deputation from the the Anti-Corn Law League to visit the town and port of Liverpool to invite its large and enterprising and intelligent population to assist us in the great contest upon which we were then entering. I recollect, that although there was then a large audience to greet us, yet that it was felt by every body that in your town, amongst many very influential persons, there was extreme apathy to the object we had in view. We have found, however, that here, as claewhere, by persevering labour, by honest devotion to the great question, and one good principle, we have gradually stimulated our friends to renewed and increased exertions, and have diminished to a very large extent the opposition with which we were met by those who did not coincide with us. At present we have, I believe, almost the whole kingdom in favour of the principles which we have expounded. (Hear, hear.) It may be said without any hesitation, that the vast overwhelming majority of all those engaged in the manufactures of this kingdom are at this migaged in the immunetures of this kingdom are at this moment earnestly in favour of Free Trade. (Applianc.) And it may us truly be said that amongst the artisan class—those by whose labour and ingenuity all our exports are propared, that there is a unanimous feeling of approval of the course that we have pursued - (applause and shouts of "brave")-with reference to this great question now before us. The town population, as a rule, is in favour of the emancipation of the industry of the people. Intelligent landowners we have had some from the beginning, and we find every year that the number of such as unite with us and approve of our question is increasing. Intelligent farmers too we have had from the beginning, but we find that farmers now, who are not the foremost in their class for intelligence and general knowledge, are receiving willingly the principles which we have offered to them, and are beginning to doubt or altogether disbelieve the advantages which their landlords have asserted they would gain from a continuance of the protective system. (Cheers.) But of the vast body of farm labourers throughout the kingdom, I believe we may say that they are with us as unani-mously as are the labourers in the manufactories of Lancashire and Yorkshire. (Hear, hear.) We have succeeded, if not in converting, at least in changing, two ministers since the agitation begun—(loud cheering.)—and we have rendered it impossible that any party should undertake office, who is in favour of maintaining, or who will pledge themselves to attempt to maintain the Corn Law, as it now exists, or, in fact, any Corn Law at all. (Cheers.) But there is a class of our opponents that are still unchanged. I mean that class represented by the dukes and high aristo-eracy and squirerarchy, whose speeches have recently oc-cupied so much space in the Morning Post. (Great applause and laughter.) I have been charged with endoavouring to bring the aristocracy into public contempt. I have said harsh things of them, for I have felt harshly towards them. (Hear, hear.) No man can see what I have seen in connexion with this question, and hold the opinions which I entertain, and know that this Corn Law is supported by that choss, without feeling his blood, at times, hoil within him—(hear, hear;)—and feelings, not the most Christian, I admit, may rise when looking at the conduct of a class which has, systematically for a generation at least, sacrificed the great interests of the people to the selfish and misorable interests of a class. (Lond cheers.) But I defv any man living to point to any speech made by any member of the Anti Corn-Law League which deals such fital blows to the permanence and the supremacy of the aristocratic element in the British constitution as the speeches which have been made within the last month by men who are so fond of that element, and so devoted to that supremacy, that they would willingly sacrifice the people to maintain them. (Hear, hear.) Most of you have heard what has been said by the duke, and lord, and squire within the last month. Now I ask you, as representatives of a great commercial community, is it your opinion that those mon are qualified by intelligence, or by their sympathy with right, and with the people, to rule over and to regulate trade and the vast mercantile affairs of this greatest of all commercial empires? (No, no.) Are you willing to sit still in Liver-pool, and that other towns should sit still elsewhere, and that you should work as you can and earn what you can, and live should be here, calling yourselves citizens of this country, having the power, if the law did not interfere with you, to gather to yourselves the riches of the whole earth (hear), and to add, ever and ever, to the comfort and well-being of your population. (Cheors.) I ask, are you willing any longer that these men, who have proved their ignorance and their incompetency so that every man must see it, shall rule over and legislate for the commerce of this kingdom? (Applause, and cries of "No, no; we'll stand it no longer.") I asid that that class of our opponents had made no change! There is another thing connected with this question which has suffered no change; and it is the great and sacred principle by which we are bound together as, I would say, a political association. We said from the beginning, and all experience has confirmed the opinion then expressed, that the Corn haw did good to no human being, unless it starved some human being (hear, hear); that it is a law which cannot enrich those who made it, unless it starves some of those who are bound to obey it. (Cheers.) And I will ask you to refer to the report of a recent meeting held in Wiltalitro, at which a thousand labourers assembled by the light of the moon to discuss the grievances they suffer. Talk of the reign of terror in another country! What sort of a reign is it in this country, when those thousand labourers come out from their hovels almost at the dead of night, there to discuss the tyranny under which they believe themselves to labour, and there to proplaim to the world that the magnanimons aristocracy who rule this country let them cultivate their lands for 0s., 6s., and 7s. a week, and then in the Parliament of Great Britain, and before the world, avow that they have for 80 years been passing laws estensibly to protect these very labourers. (Cheers.) And whits this law is thus dealing out suffering and ruin to the labourers of Wilteshire, it is practically dealing out ruin and distress even to many influential espiralists angaged in trades. (First, hear.)

[A. won't generally manifestic angaged in trades. (First, hear.)

that if that law be long maintained, the future will only reveal greater calamities than we can speak of as concerning the past. (Hear, hear.) This, then, is the critical time. Mr. Heyworth has spoken of the United States, and has read to you a paragraph from the report of Mr. Scoretary Walker—a report which ought to be published in every nowspaper in the kingdom—a report which ought to be read by every man in Great Britain and Ireland—a report which is justly regarded as an extending of the friendly hand from the American Government to this country, and asking us to forget bygones, and to be brethren, as we ought for ever to be. (Loud cheers.) The great reduc-tion of the American tariff must follow the abolition of our Corn Laws; the abolition of our Corn Law will for ever destroy all chance of war between this country and the United States. (Loud cheers.) Now, is there a man here with a spirit of benevolence, or Christian feeling, who does not see that at this moment he is bound to come forward, and to urge on this great question to a final settlement? (Renewed cheering.) You may not think political agitation good; you may think that we may have committed some blunders in the course of this warfare in which we have been engaged. All this may be true; but here is a point of time arrived at where there is some danger; many people here thought the great danger that two of the greatest and most civilised nations in the world will be brought, not only into opposition, but into war. Repeal the Corn Law this session, and the chance is that war will for ever be postponed. (Cheers.) And you must recollect that the Prime Minister of England is in a position of extraordinary difficulty, a position which no Prime Minister has occupied, perhaps, within the memory of any man now present. He is the leader of a party who change not,—whose obtuseness, whose infatuation, must eventually be their ruin. (Loud cheers.) He is much wiser than they. He sees that Parliamentary majorities go for nothing against the necessities of a united people. (Loud cheers.) At this moment, in all human probability, he is balancing in his own mind what shall be the precise measure he will submit to Parliament the week after next. Shall it be total and immediate repeal-(cries of Yes, yes)-or shall it be total and not immediate—or shall it be neither immediate nor total, but some compromise that will leave this question unsettled? (Loud cries of "That will not These are the questions which are passing through the mind of the Prime Minister; and they are questions which he must weigh, however well he may be disposed to do that which is really right and just. How then is he to come to the decision to which we wish to invite him? Why how! Not by his own individual strength; he knows that argument does nothing with Christian men whose champion he has been in former years; he knows that all persuasion with them is unavailing. He knows that they saw the trade of the country sink, aye, and their fellow-country-men die of hunger inflicted by the land, and yet they did not quail and give in; and therefore he turns to other power, he seeks other support, he invites other co-operation, and calls as loudly as Prime Minister could call; and he called the other day, through the answer put into the mouth of the Queen to the addresses of the corporations of London and Dublin-(cheers) ;-he calls to you and to the whole kingdom to help him to give you redemption from the intolerable burden under which you groan. (Cheers.) Now we do not come to this meeting—we are not here to ask you to make any great effort in which we are not willing to take our share. (Hear, hear.) We were present at that ever me-morable meeting which was held in Manchester a fortnight ago-a meeting which has no equal in the past-I trust the future may never demand such another effort from the people of this town. (Cheers.) Here we are assembled to-day to strike another blow; and there are not many days left for the blows which are to be struck before the minis-terial scheme is propounded to the country. On Wednesday next we go to Leeds, to be present at a meeting which is to be held there for the purpose of raising a subscription for the Anti-Corn Law League. Now we want this money—we must have it—(cheers and laughter); and if you are not disposed to pay it, we must go somewhere else, where the people are disposed to pay it. (Cheers and laughter.) In the expenditure of the large sums with which we have been placed in trust, I need say no more than that our proceedings have been public before the world. The newspapers that advocate our views, and those whose principal object it is to slander and calumniate us—these newspapers, alike, have published these statements more or less to the world. The labours the League has undertaken are before you; and no man can look around him without confessing that-in the vast change which has taken place in public opinion in this kingdom, in the proud position which the question of Free Trade now occupies—if the expenditure had been ten times what it is, and if the labour that had been bestowed had been ten times what we have given, all would have been cheap to have purchased the glorious consummation which, we believe, awaits us. (Loud obcors.) Every man here, who ever gave a farthing to the League, should just consider the position in which he and the League are now placed. If the principle was right to begin with—worth lighting for at all—it is right now, and it is worth fighting for till the end. (Cheers.) If this great struggle, which has taken the best part almost of a life-time, was worth commencing, it is worth carrying out to a final and successful issue. (Applause.) If you wish the money you have already invested in this great national emancipation to bring you and the country and the world its fruits, well, then, add something to it now; and when you find the foe faltering—when you find his ranks giving way—then join in once again with a more unanimous, a more determined charge, and this foe to the nation's industry and to individual happiness will be driven entirely from the field. (Cheers.) This Liverpool has had no great reputation herctofore as connected with this great question, but there are men in this town who have done as much for Free Trade as any men within the limits of the kingdom with the means they had at their disposal. (Cheers.) Hitherto you have sent to Parliament, and now send men, who do not represent the true interests of this commercial community. (True.) I am happy to be able to believe with confidence, that whenever another occasion shall come—and come in all probability it will before the summer's sun shall shine upon us, that all past disgrace of this kind will be wiped away, that Liverpool will take its own position in the front of this great battle. (Cheers.) You acknowledge by the motto of your town,—"Deux nobis her offs feetle;" God motto of your town,—" Deux nobis hac otta Jeers; motto of your town,—" Deux nobis hac otta Jeers; has bestowed upon your great gifts and great obligations. (Cheers,) You are here at the mouth of this noble giver, the finest seepest; the greatest in the dingle says (a), you are heatest by a bould less

Fifteen thousand houses have been built in Liverpoo since the League began its struggle. (Applause.) You have a population every day increasing. All that you have done in the past is as nothing to the greatness and the re nown which await your future. May I then entreat you that you will look to this question as a question of life and death for Liverpool, for its trade, and for the country; and that to day, by your resolutions, by your acts, by your subscription, you will give one other (I trust it may be one of the last) of the blows that may be needed to drive this hideous system of monopoly entirely from the earth. (Great cheering.) Mr. RAWLINS then announced the subscriptions, among

which were the following: Wm. Brown, Richmond Hill Messrs. Mathers Lawrence Heyworth J.J. Hamilton J.J. Hamilton Tenants, Clow, and Co. James Mollor Chris. and Jas. Rawdon Thomas Thornley, M.P. Chas. Wilson, Elm Farm Rathbone, Brothers, and Co. Jovons, Sons, and Co Darby and Sands Higgins, Brothers Chas. Holland C. Rawlins, jun. C. E. Rawlins James Stitt, Son, and Co. John Finch and Sons Vincent Higgins and Son James Ryder Bir Joshua Walmsley James Brancker James Mullypoux Jos. Dawson H. Crossfield and Co., amended from £ 100 to
James Harvey
J. B. Cooke, Birkenhead
James Crossfield, jun.
James Denniston Wood 250 100 Thomas Orrell Joseph C. Ewart Wm. Stewart 100 Wm. Stewart ... Geo. Maxwell Joseph Heap Victor Pootz ... Richard Sheil and Co. 100 100 Robert E. Harvey James II. M'Crea and Co. 8. P. Hobson Frederick Pennington D. Pritchett and Co. Thomas Blackburn Sam. Blackburn and Co. A Friend to total repeal 100 W. Maxwell F. Boult 100 100 James Ryloy Vm. Blain J. D. Thornoly 100 100 John Garmienau
Thomas Harvey
Itichard Johnson
Richard Sharpo
Wm. Crossfield
Grote, Tonkinson, and Co. Henry Wood J. P. G. Smith Henry Martindale Wm. Reynolds Nathaniel Weeld John Tenton John Taylor Crook Joslina Heap George P. Leigh, Kidderminster Philip Quirk A. H. Wylie A. H. Wylie
Eyre Evans
Jeffrey, Maurish, and Co.
James Hodson and Co.
D. Maevicar
Samuel Johnson
Thomas Addison
Gamuel Thornely
W. R. Manifold
Edward Lane Edward Lane John Butler John Ewart J. H. and R. C. Rawlines Thomas Baines Mr. J. Whitty Edward Evans and Co. Joseph Mondle James Smith Thomas Bolton Andrew Kirk Edward Heap Wm. Evans, farmer aylor and Brothers M'Lolland and Co. Howard Worsley . King and Co. Thomas Dilwell Thomas Hibbort, Water-street Lloyd Royner J.S. Hyors
P. E. Wobber and Co.
Conservative Free Trader
Alax. Hallam J. H. Tongue, Hope Field J. H. Tongue, Hope Field Hughes and Ronald George J. Everest Joseph Fernyhough A. Shipowner 90 10 10 A Shipowner Thomas Johnson Richard Rathbone, jun. John-Holmes 10 0

Alies Mellor

John Travis

John Graves

J. Dauber, & 3s; R. Turner, &; E. Hampson, &; S. Borle, &;

A Friend, & 10s; E. Graham, &; W. Hooker, &; W. Semerille,

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A this on, &; E. Clothey, &; P. Esstwood, &; T. Garter, &; K.

Moss, & 10s; E. Clothey, &; P. Esstwood, &; T. Garter, &; M.

Atkinson, &; J. W. Lloyd, &; T. Morrord, &; &; J.

Muldrow, &; Perdon Hardy, &; R. M. Gaire, &; M. J.

B. Muldrow, &; Perdon Hardy, &; R. M. Gaire, &; M. J.

W. M. M. Hower, &; J. J. J. And W. J. Manuel, &; J. J.

W. M. M. Millan and Co., &; Dr. Baylis and &; M.

John Benmett, &; J. Caurie, &; L. Kalter, &;

J. Birkett, & 10s; W. Roberts, & 10s;

J. Birkett, & 10s;

J. Bartis, &; H. Danson, &; M.

J. Birkett, & 10s;

J. Charles, &; H. Danson, &; M.

J. Birkett, & 10s;

J. Birkett,

rapidity with which they were read, escaped the reporter's pen; but as a full list of them will be advertised, our Liverpool friends will probably not blame us for this unavoidable

Whilst the subscription was yet going forward, RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P., was called upon, and was received with overwhelming bursts of applause. He said: I feel that I can say nothing that will have half so much effect upon the public and upon the Government as those manifestations of your zeal and determination which have just been handed in so liberally. (Cheers.) Nor is it me-cessary that I should appear here in the quality of a beggar: I am not a very good hand at that kind of work, and fortunately I have a colleague in Mr. Bright, who has the best face for a beggar that I know of. (Cheers and laughter.) For he has impressed himself with this belief, that in persuading others to give as generously as he has always given in this cause, he is conferring upon them a great favour, and giving them the satisfaction in future life of reflecting that they have aided in the accomplishment of one of the greatest reforms that the history of the world has witnessed. (Cheers.) There is but one point in connection with this subscription to which I think it necessary to refer, and it is to remove some misapprehension which has got abroad as to the disposal of a portion of this fund. Some of our opponents have deluded themselves with the idea that we are raising this 200,000% in order by some ingenious necromancy to maunfacture county votes with it. (Hear, hear.) our opponents would really think but for a moment before they swallow these raw jokes of their leaders, they would understand at once that a fund of 250,000%, one-fifth of it called up, would go but a very short way indeed in qualifying people to wrest the counties from the monopolists. The whole of the 250,000*l*, would not make more than 5000 votes. (Hear, hear.) We don't propose to buy votes for people; we don't propose to pay a farthing, even for the legal conveyance of the qualifications. All the League proposes to do by its organisation is, to establish a machinery, to pay for secretaries and the expenses of printing and advertising, and the expenses of qualified agents, both legal and others, in order that, if our opponents put us to the necessity, we may be in a position to do in the other counties of the kingdom what has been done in Laucashire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire. (Cheers.) And I really am so much in love with the 40s. freehold movement, that I have become almost function on the point. (Laughter.) I am sure that if we obtain our end it will be by that instrument; and I want to bring before your attention the necessity of working that instrument in a neighbouring county. You have nothing more to do here in South Lancashire; but on the other side of the river is a county where you may work with great advantage; and I wish our friends here to consider that Liverpool and Birkenhead have it in charge to make South Cheshire as safe as we have made North Cheshire. I must say that I think the subscription which has advanced so far in Liverpool does you great honour, for, boar in mind, you are differently circumstanced to us in Manchester. In the first place we have no monopoly interest at Manchestor; we never had a monopoly interest; we have had no rich West Indian merchants, nor Canadian mer chants of olden time giving a fashionable tone to society and by their wealth influencing public opinion in favour of protection. We have been simply and solely an unprotected cotton trade. (Hear, hear.) But besides that, in justice to you, and that you may not elsewhere be considered to have fallen short of Manchester, I wish it to be understood that in Manchester we have a large number of tributary towns; and those satellite towns on these great occasions always come forward most prominently and liberally with their subscriptions; and thus they swell the nominal amount of Manches ter subscriptions, though they are not all contributed by Manchester houses. Liverpool, on the other hand, stands alone, a divided interest with many rich people in the ranks of your opponents, and having no tributary towns; and under these disadvantageous circumstances, I think that your demonstration to-day, will be considered by the country as wholly equal to what we did a fortnight ago in Manchester. (Loud cheers.) And I here beg to offer my tribute to those gentlemen in Liverpool who, in adverse times, have laboured for this good cause. (Hear, hear.) Here are gen tlemen near me, one whose name I need but mention (al luding to Mr. Brown), who has grown grey in the service of the public-(enthusiastic cheers); a man who has always been ready to lead the forlorn hope in attacking every abuse, and who has not waited till the great battalion of reserve were coming up to his assistance. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, what you have done here encourages me to hope that what you are about to do soon will be decisive of this question. You cannot exaggerate the importance of the representation of Liverpool on this question. I agree with my friend Mr. Bright, that we shall have a dissolution on this question ettled. I mave no doubt l'arlia. ment will be dissolved before next Midsummer. When that event occurs, nothing will be looked to with so much anxiety as the return of members for Liverpool. (Hear and applause) I hear it everywhere asked, they say where-ever I go-" You ftell us South Lancachire is won—the West Riding is won—but what will they do in Liverpool in case of an election?" (Cheers.) Now I am anxious that this question should be put on the fairest possible footing, so as to give every man in this borough the opportunity of recording a Free Trade vote at the next election. This is not a party question; we have never treated it as a political party question; and I am glad to think that this question, by its force and justice, is destined to be the property of the placed to be the property of the placed to be the p to break up every old political party. You will be placed in a very different position in Liverpool on this question within a fortnight's time from this hour to what you have ever been in before. This day fortnight you'll know the intentions of the present Government. Now we have signs enough to prove to us—signs in the conduct of such men as Mr. Christopher, who, on the former changes of the tariff, was considered the pilot balloon of Sir Robert Peel—we have evidence now in his declaration, that he is constant to the fact that the Duke Peel—we have evidence now, in his declaration, that he is opposed to Government—we have in the fact that the Duke of Newcastle, who owns Newark, you know, having declared that Mr. Gladstone, whe has taken office with Sir H. Peel, shall not go back from Newarks gain; to sit in Parliament—(hear, hear); we have evidence enough in these facts to show us that Sir Robert Pael is going to propose, a measure which will approach this from the probabilionist party in Parliament.

[Gastre) Well's repend in the probabilionist party in Parliament.

[Gastre) Well's repend in the consistence.

I suppose in this town, two sections of what may be called Tories: there are the Poelites, or the moderate section; there are the ultras, whom, if you please, we'll call the Buckingham or Richmoudites. (Cheers and laughter.) Well, I take it that three-fourths, nay, four-fifths of the Conservatives of Liverpool are Peelites. Bir Robert Peel will then have ventured the fortunes on the Free Trade cause (hear, hear, hear), and his followers here will be Free Traders,-pot, probably, exactly Longuers; we may have been a little too violent for them in times past: we don't ask them to join our clubs; but, gentlemen, they will be relieved from their party ties, and will become free mon to consider our question on its own morits. (Loud cheers.) I am auxious, gentlemen, that everywhere we should open the door to a fair and impartial consideration of this question. Let us have no taunts against those who have for a long time been either adverse or doubtful. They have stood aloof because they look to their party. We have had Whigs who have done the same, as well as Tories (hear, hear, hear), and, mind you, there are worse qualities in a man than that determined resolution which makes him adhere to a party-colour when he has adopted it. We don't like renegades any more than the Tories; and we all know how much moral courage it requires to advocate a principle before party leaders have made up their minds to adopt that Well, gentlemen, this day fort-(Applause.) night you'll have some of the best men in this town altogether released from their party ties and prejudices; then they'll begin to consider this question, and to see how it affects the interests of this good town of Liverpool. Morchants who would not hitherto look at it immediately will begin to see that Free Trade means more trade, and that more trade means more imports, and a fair exchange for the commodities of this district with all the countries of the globe. They will begin to see that our chief difficulty in carrying on a prosperous trade is in getting ample returns for our exports; there is no limit to the productive skill of this country, but our difficulty is in finding returns which, in this market, will pay a profit to the importing merchant. They will say, Here is a principle which knocks down overy barrier creeted for the purpose of restraining and restricting imports ;" and they will see, instinctively, as we have seen, that Free Trade will be for them a measure of unmixed good. (Hear.) Your brokers, who have sometimes been accused of being somewhat yenal, who follow the merchant rather selfishly. will be released from their party ties, and from that restraint which their customers are sometimes upt to impose upon them. (Hear, hear.) Your brokers in Liverpool will see that more imports will lead to more sales on the Liverpool Exchange; and more sales must give more business to the brokers. Why the brokers' clerks, even, and all who want to be brokers' clerks, will see that this is a question prognant with more employment for them,-better salaries for them, and a better prospect for them of becoming brokers in due time as well as their employers. (Hear, hear.) The shipowners and builders will see that Free Trade will crowd your port with more vessels-that more vessels will be required to bring back the increased traffic of the world, and that more ships will come here to be repaired, and that more must be built here also. They will see at once that an increase of freights will bring improved charges for freights; and the profits of the shipowner will be as completely identified with this principle as that of either the merchant or the broker. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, gentlemen, the labourers, whether ship-carpenters or others—those men who have been accustomed to vote with their party regardless of the claims of this question, will see that more ship building and more ship repairing will bring more employment to the ship-carpenter, the caulker, the anchor-smith, and every other business employed about the vessels. (Loud cheers.) And it will give increased employment not only to these la bourers, but to your porters and all other men engaged in manual labour. This will enrich the town, the benefits will flow into shops, whether they sell cloth, or groceries, or pro visions of any other kind. And you will thus find that every man capable of reasoning,—every man with an honest and conscientious desire to come at the truth, will be at once relieved from this bond of party, and become as sound a Free Trader as any man in this room. (Cheers.) But, gentlemen, let us have no impediment in the way of this conversion; let us abandon our old party colours if you please, till this food crisis is got over. Let us have none of your old colours: do in Liverpool as they have done in the West Riding; throw aside your old colours, and adopt the pure white as the fitting emblem of your principles. (Cheers.) I don't know what your colours are hore. One faction have called themselves, I believe, scarlet: well it's a bloody coour—(cheers and laughter)—I'd throw it aside, and have nothing to do with it. And I believe the other parties have called themselves blue; why, they'll never hoist that colour the next time, surely; it's the colour of the cholera in the otatoes. (Laughter.) Throw aside your searlet and your blue, and adopt white; it's the emblem of peace, the flag of truce held out to your political opponents; and I'll engage for it at the next election-(and here I venture to utter a prophecy)—if a dissolution takes place upon this great ques-tion, I'll venture to say it will be here as it was at the Reform Bill crisin, when General Gascovne came down here and could not get through his canvass-dared not even show himself in Liverpool. Just so will it be at the next election; a monopolist, a pro-corn-law, a curry-powder man will not dare to show himself in town. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, that which you are to do in Liverpool, I hope will be done throughout the kingdom. I hope that we shall teach our friends overywhere to use this wise forbearance towards their old political opponents. I shall not be satisfied with the sottlement of this question, unless it leaves us wholly, as a peo-ple, satisfied with the settlement of it,—satisfied that it has been formed in justice, and that it will ultimately prove a bennfit to every class in the community. (Cheers.) I shall not be satisfied with it, if it does not bring into our ranks the farmers, those of them at least who are intelligent enough to see their own interest. (Cheers.) I shall not he satisfied unless the landowners, in my day, at least, whilst I am living to witness it admit that we, the Free Traders, who are accused of being their greatest enemies, have, in the end, in the end, in the isaue, proved to be their greatest benefactors. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Colonel Thomsoon was received with great cheering. He Colonel Thomseon was received with great obsering. Inc. said: Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—Something like a premittin has been held out for speeches; and you shall see if Lador's wint (Cheers and langues.) I shall be giad to take the copartanty of the few moments that I may detain you to take the characteristic operations and the compact of the languest land to take the characteristic and they will she the form the languest languest

mercial portions of our country. 'Tie true we have heard you are not all agreed upon this great question; but you who are agreed, I auspect, understand it as well as any men who can be pointed out within this realm. Now you have heard before, the time is pressing and most valuable; 13 days from to-day, one fortnight from yesterday, and much will be done that cannot be undone, and that cannot be done over again, I suspect. (Cheers and hughter.) One thing is most certain, that what you hear aunounced, there will be the limit to what you will get. You will have no chance to get anything more—that is an impossible thing; you might get less; and therefore I would employ this time in urging you to consider what your dangers are now, and what you can by possibility do towards providing against and diminishing them. One danger that strikes me is, you'll hear something of a compensation; I heard a million named. I dare say the report has come before you in that shape. (Hear, hear) If not in that naked sense, you may bear of it in another—the removal of taxation—taxation to be removed from those who ought to pay it, and put upon you and every-body else. (Cheers.) Now, then, will it not be wisdom to attempt to guard against these dangers; and is there not a way of doing it? Supposing Ministers should turn round upon you, and say," Has any person in Liverpool an objection to componention?-has any person an objection to the removal of taxation from the landed interest? Oh, dear; if they had thought so, why did they not say so?" you take time by the forelock, and in some way or other not perhaps in the direct course of this inceting; but at some opportunity within these 13 days—eaunot you contrive that the Minister shall know you consider every attempt of this nature as unjust, and therefore, you hope, dangerous; and you trust, also, impracticable? (Loud cheors.) Let him know what you think at (Loud cheers.) Let him know what you think of it. Don't give him the chance of soying he was taken by surprise. Don't you see you must take time by the fore-lock? Use it while you can. Employ precaution against possible danger. (Cheers.) Don't let him have to say to Don't you see you must take time by the forcyou-" If I'd known you would have made a great objection, I might have altered my proceedings." Do you, or do you not, consider that both those expedients would be unjust? (Cries of Yes.) If you do, let Liverpool as a town contrive to say so. (Cheers.) Do not let it be held smong things doubtful whether you intend to submit to anything of that kind or not. (Cheers, and "We won't.") And don't wait till the thing has been proposed, but endeavour to take measures which shall prevent its ever being talked of in the place where it will be dangerous. (Cheers.) One more peril I have thought of. Perhaps you'll say it is not a great peril; but I think it is bigger than it looks. There'll bo some attempt to saddle you, it may be, with some pitiful romnant of a duty, which you'll be told is nothing because it is small. Now if any of you were riding a race, how many pounds and ounces would you allow to be put into your pockets to weight you with? If you were chasing, or being chased, would you allow so much as a pocket handkerchief to be towed astern? (Cheers.) Do I know enough of commerce to think that every commercial man is chasing and being chased? Has he not always somebody running against him ?- somebody he would overtake if he could, and somebody that will overtake him if he allows them to do it? (Loud cheers.) Weigh, then, and consider the effect which the smallest of the small, in the way of duties, left upon you as a badge of servitude, would have upon your future prospects. It is not the quantity of the thing, but the effect that it is to have, the ways it is to by you under an inferiority, and to give the superiority into the hands of your superior rival. Gentlemen, I am afraid I am incurring some danger of losing the sort of bet I made to you at the beginning, therefore I'll sit down. (Loud cheers, and cries of "Go on." The calls continuing, the gallant Colonel again rose and said as follows: ---Gentlemen, if you insist on baying two speeches (laughter) I must go on, and ondeavour to lay before you the many inducements there are why, at this moment, you should stretch every nerve for the obtaining of your honest purpose... I'll say more honest purposes. Now I'm not a man who wants to embarrass one great question with tacking others to it which are not so near to their completion. I trust I have lived long enough to be aware of the evil of this; but there is no harm in saying, I believe there is scarcely one of us who has not some honest object in view which he trusts will be benefited by the removal of this great and crying evil which weighs upon as all. Why, I was present but yesterday at an assemblage of emineut mon and I came to this conclusion, that every one of them had something that he hoped to see prosper, but nobody could agree upon which should prosper first. Well, then, let us endeavour to carry out this great object of ours, nothing doubting that we shall see it made the beginning of a course of prosperity to our country, which in the end will come to all of us. I can recollect things in this town representing a very different aspect to what we see now. I remember when the working classes in this town were not advised well enough as they are at this present moment to see their interest in aiding in the promotion of this cause. / Their conduct was and overywhere is evidence how rapidly they have improved. It is not the work ing classes that are the ignoranuses now (cheers and laughter); not a word from them of curry powdor. (Applause.) Do you all know what curry powder is? (Groat laughter.) Many of you have been in India, perchance, or where it is used. Why, curry powder is perper—curry powder is mustard—curry powder is turmerio and corlander seed. (Applicuse and laughter.) You may feed a man with curry powder as much as he can swallow; and if he lives 12 hours longer for the dose, I give him leave to live for ever. (Laughter and cheers.) Now you must not blame me if I should full back upon the question which I have heard asked here,-Is such knowledge as is there shown fit to the concerns of a community like this our England? (No, no.) Let them keep to things within their knowledge. Cookery, it seems they know something of; let them be quiet there; let them be disciples of Mrs. Classe, but let them not tell Liverpool "gentry" or Manchester "men" cither, how they shall regulate those. concorns on which depend a country's bread had a country's happiness. (Chicars.) The elegate brease, Lupst, we shall come round to congratulate you and one another upon the success of this over-honest cause. Never one promised better; never one was more sure, by the assistance of you, and our enstern men like you, everywhere speedily

to find success. (Loud and prolonged obsering.)
THOMAS THOMALT, Esq. M.P. moved "That the grateful thanks of this menting are due to Richard Golden,
Esq. Mary and the clouding members of the distinction of the
Condition of the condition of th

Mr. CHARLES HOLLAND seconded the motion, which

passed by seclamation.

Mr. Rawline then amnounced the result of the subscription as follows:—The total amount subscribed to day in this building is 12,0401. (Immense cheering.) There were previously announced from gentlemen resident in Liverpool, at the Manchester meeting, at which 60,000 were collected, the amount of 15001., which makes a grand total from Idverpool of Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty Pounds. This is by no means all we intend to get from Liverpool; and I am quite sure that if every man who leaves this building gets his friend to subscribe, we shall raine an much more. (Great applause.)

Mr. Compan: You have done nobly to-day. Our services would be of no avail here were they not so nobly, so magnificently backed by our fellow-countrymen here and everywhere. This demonstration will do more than ten thousand speeches to convince our opponents that the spirit is elevated, after seven years' conflict, to carry this battle to a successful issue, cost what it may, in time, labour, or money.

I have only to may again—Don't forget 40s. freeholds for

South Cheshire,

The hon, gentlemen then moved a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mr. BRIGHT seconded the resolution. Mr. Conden then proposed it should be given with three cheers, coupling with the chairman "Free Trade." The vote of thanks was then carried with three times three, and the meeting broke up about ten minutes to four o'clock.

CARLISLE.

A meeting of the friends of Free Trade was held in the

Carlisle Atheneum on Tuesday evening last.
At seven o'clock, Mr. Coblen and Mr. Bright, accompanied by Colonel P. Thompson, made their appearance in the Lecture room, and were received with the most enthusiastic cheering. The Lord Mayor (Mr. J. Steel) took the chair, and prefaced the business of the meeting with a brief speech.

Mr. Condex was loudly cheered on coming forward. He said: Mr. Mayor, and Gentlemen,—This is, I believe, the first time I have had the pleasure of meeting with an audience in this city; and I am glad to find, from the language of your worthy mayor, that this meeting has been more crowded than any that has been held in this city before. (Applause). Why, it is so everywhere. Wherever we go there is but one difficulty, and that is to, find space enough for our friends who are auxious to come and meet us on this question. (Great cheering), Well, gentlemen, how different is the position of our opponents. The Protectionists meet together, it is true, but, somehow, their meetings are very select and snug little family parties, (laughter), in which the public are not called upon to take a part, be only too afraid to have anybody to listen to them and take part in their proceedings. (Hear, hear). Now, gentlemen, if their case is a good case, surely it will find friends in any part of our good country. There was never yet an abuse that had not a good few staunch supporters. Why the burning of witches was supported by a good body of staunch people. (Laughter). Catholic emancipation raised a vast amount of prejudice against it. Now, although every abuse that has ever yet had to be put down has had some supporters, this bread tax is atterly and completely without friends anywhere. Gentlemen, I believe there is a right honourable baronet in your neighbourhood (laughter), the Home Secretary; and if any one may be supposed to have an interest in the Corn Laws, surely it is Sir James Graham, who has a very wide estate. Nobody doubts that he is a sagacious man. He is far seeing; he knows which way the wind is blowing (laughter), and is as good a judge of a falling house as any one I know. I am glad, therefore, we have demonstrable proof that Sir James Graham, with all his talents, is as good a Free Trader as I am. (cheers.) He has brought forward proof that crime, pauperism, disease, and death are increased by the high price of food. Sir James Graham and Sir Robert Peel know it is impossible to face us next session, and say the Corn Law is to last; they know they cannot face the people and say so. (Cheers.) Now, when we meet Parliament, gentlemen, we we will flud great chances there also. We will have a very great rout and rupture of parties. Sir Robert Peel will leave the protecrupture of parties. Sir Robert Peel will leave the protectionists. Mr. Miles, Sir John Tyrrell, Mr. Christopher, and the rest will settle down on the side of the Duke of Buckingham, and will dissolve partnership with Peel, Gladstone, and Company. (Cheers and laughter.) They will either seven by the Duke of Richmond or Sir Robert Peel; and I should say there will be three-fourths Peclites, and one fourth Richmondites. (Cheers.) People will then say to each other, "Which side are you walking now? do you go with Richmond or Peel?" Three-fourths will say, "We are Free Traders." ' And in less than 12 months we shall all be Free Traders, with the exception of a few, who will be curious as a sort of antediluvian remains, to show that such persons have been. (Laughter and cheers.)

I know some people have come here who are severely logical, and who are already bending their brows on me and saving to themselves, "This has not much to do with the Corn Laws; there is not much argument in this. Indeed, gentlemen, I think the time has almost gone by for argument. (Cheers.) We understand this question pretty well. I meet with no argument I can't 'refute. What account do the farmers' friends themselves give of protection? "Show me a farmer," said Captain Pilkington, at an agricultural meeting, "Show me a farmer who ever made a fortune: he will be a curiosity for Dr. Buckland to preserve. (Hear and laughter.) Then where is the use of protection? The truth is, gentlemen, that neither farmer nor labourer gets any good by it; and I might go further, and show that the landlords never get good by it. And what is therein Free Trade to be afraid of? (Hear.) You have had every form of Corn Law. During the last 100 years you have had Corn Laws immunerable, and they have not stood three years on an average. You have tried fixed duties and allding scales; you have had duties for exportation and duties for importation; you have your present tinkered system of a scale, and you are going to make another change. I say, away with it. God, in his providence, has afforded every guarantee against a famine, by having a standing harvest over the world throughout the year, and if you follow the laws of Providence, and avail yourselves of the laws of nature, you can never suffer from scarcity. (Loud cheering.) The question is getting more and more into the hands of politicians, and they are trying all they can to make a market of war, but they shan it. (Cheers.) I street you

the difficulties of his position," and of his determination "to do the best he can to satisfy all parties." (Laughter,) Now, the best thing Sir Robert Peel can do if he will only do it, will be to do what Lord John Russell has done-leave his party, give up the protectioniets, say he will not help them to save half their plunder—and then I shall be very much obliged to bim for doing all I sak from him. (Cheers.) We won't have him keeping up his party by dexterity, and securing them half the spoil. If he does not approve of protection, let him abandon his party and leave us to make what we like of them; and depend upon it we will make short work of them. (Protracted cheering.) When he short work of them. (Protracted cheering.) When he brought out, in 1842, his tariff, I taunted him with not putting his Corn Law in it. I said, "You have left out corn;" and said he, "I intend to treat corn as a distinct article; it has always been so treated, and I intend to adhere to the custom." And now, if you please, we will keep him to his text. (Cheers.) Mr. Cobden then entered into a detail of the forms necessary for obtaining qualification under the 40s. clause of the Reform Act, which he recommended his hearers to adopt in his usual style of eloquent firmness, and then concluded amidst a storm of applause which lasted for several minutes.

Colonel PERRONET THOMSON: I know not how I can more usefully employ the time given to me to address you than by attempting to impress on you the importance of the time present, and of using every day, every hour of it, while it is permitted to you, for the furtherance of our cause. (Cheers.) Do you see that in 16 days—16 exactly, calculate it as I have done—the Prime Minister of England will come forward to announce to an expectant country what he is prepared to do on this question? (Hear, hear.) During these 16 days you must consider the Prime Minister of England as looking abroad with all his eyes—and keen ones I apprehend he has (great laughter)-watching every indication of public feeling—saying, "these people care nothing about the question, let it go for nothing"—and if, turning to another quarter, he sees demonstrations of carnest feeling, then he will go with them, and say, "these men are not to be trifled with." ("I'remendous cheering.) He had better not think of trifling with them. Let us see what he will do; ay, not only that, but let us do everything we can to make him pitch his mark a little further than he would do without it. (Cheers.) What will he be prepared to offer? A compromise? Shall we hear of a compensation, or of a great shuflling of taxes from the protectionists to you? (Cheers.) Would you like either of these things? It were folly to wait for an answer. Then give mouth—if I may be allowed such an expression—to the abhorrence with which you view such a conclusion to the struggle. (Cheers.) I wish I could produce that perfect union of parties which would bring a more lively interest in behalf of our great cause from one portion of the commu-nity, who, whether they know it or not, will finally benefit by this great act of justice. (Cheers.) If they feel themselves oppressed or trampled upon, what can be more gratifying than to see the pulling down of a vast fabric of oppression which their arms are not strong enough to remove, but which other arms will take away, opening the way to the improvement of their lot, which must be the necessary consequence. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Is not every man who feels himself injured, and not in the position he ought to be, bursting with hope that the injury shall be removed? (Hear, hear.) Does not every man who feels that he is under an inequality, which he knows to be indefensible trust to the attainment of his rights? (Renewed cheering.) Would I could induce them to apply their strong heads and tough intellects to the dispersion of their knowledge of the injustice which comes round to them in the shape of affliction, in order that they may have a share in that victory which is just now impending over our heads. (Cheers.) Who would keep aloof at such a period? If it were a cause involving a long struggle, and painful or doubtful exertions, then apathy could not be a matter of wonder; but every man sees that not many months-certainly not many years must chapse before the evil complained of is removed. (Hear, and much applause.) Who would not try to be in at such a death, to enrol his name among his countrymen, and the class to which he belongs, who have contributed as much as in them lay to being partakers in these glorious efforts? Let me hope that you will employ well the time that intervenes between this and the meeting of Parliament -that your wise heads and intellect will bring forward a something that shall give demonstration to the feelings that possess you, that the House of Commons may see their universality, and shall recken on your sending two members to vote for the removal of this evil. (Cheers.)

Mr. BRIGHT then addressed the meeting at great length, giving a graphic comparison of the condition and arguments of the Free Trade and protectionist parties, and expatiating upon the fallacy of the often asserted statements relative to the "peculiar burdens" upon the land. After

J. DIXON, Esq., of Knells, proposed the first resolution as -" That this meeting being convinced that the Corn Law is injurious to all the great interests of the country, and being satisfied that the proceedings of the League, in urging the friends of Free Trade to purchase county qualifications are constitutional, hereby pledges itself to the use of

every legal endeavour to further that object. T. S. SPEDDING, Esq., of Greta Bank, was next introduced to the meeting by the chairman, as a landed proprietor. He said, I have great satisfaction in seconding the resolution moved by Mr. Dixon. It has been put into my hands, I suppose, for the reason alieded to by the Mayor, because I belong to a class supposed to have personal interest in the Corn Laws, and because every cause derives be: nefit when it obtains support from those whose personal interests are supposed to be in another direction. (Applause). If the land is rained, I shall be rained; but I do not believe the land or anything else will be injured by the repeal of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers). I am as much as any one can be for a total repeal of the Corn Laws. (Hear, and cheers). I have not come to it of late, but ever since I reflected on it I have believed it to be impolitic and unjust, and contrary to the laws of nature and providence. (Loud cheers.) It has never done any good, but it has done much misolnier; and if it were repealed to morrow, and harm were to rise, it would be, not in consequence of its repeal, but in consequence of the law itself. (Loud cheers.) I am for a total repeal to-morrow, if it can be carried, and if not to-morrow, then by a general qualification; a legal and constitutional mode of increasing the landed interest, and which will be attended with hoppy results. (Lond cheers.)

The resolution was their annihilation of the resolution was their annihilation.

for repeal of the Corn Law; and also to the gentlemen was have been deputed by the League to this meeting, for the kindness in attending, and for the valuable and interesting information they have supplied."

It was also carried unanimously.

Colonel Thompson and Mr. Cobnen briefly returned thanks; and the latter proposed three cheers for the char-man, which were given with due fervour, and the meeting separated.

STROUD.

On Thursday evening a Free Trade soirce was held in the subscription room here. The soirse was announced by advertisement for six o'clock, and at that hour a large and most respectable company were assembled. The price of the tickets was one shilling, until the day of the soire, when it was raised to two shillings. Stroud, though not one of the largest towns in the kingdom, has always been formost in the cause of Free Trade, and the result of this meet ing is in every way creditable to the Free Traders of the borough. It will be seen that the subscriptions to the Quarter of a Million l'und reached, and will exceed a thou sand pounds. Ton was provided, and the ladies officialed at the numerous tables in the room. The first part of the busi-

ness having been concluded, CHARLES STAUNTON, Esq., the chairman, rose and said that as the meeting had done him the honour of electing him president of the meeting, he thought the thanks of the meeting should be given to the ladies for the very efficient manner in which they had provided and supplied the company with the "cup that cheers but not inebriates," (Hear, hear.) As regarded the Corn Laws, any argument upon them must be trite and common-place, unless he were gifted with the eloquence of a Cobden or a Bright; and he did not consider it would be good taste to occupy the time of the meeting with many observations on them. Next to security for life and property, it was the duty of all Governments to provide an abundant supply of food for the people. When, in 1815, the monopolists framed their bill, they said, "It is with these views that we want a Corn Law, to stimulate industry, to give low prices, to create abundance." The question has been tested and tried, and met by results in every possible way. We will see how the arguments failed. We had a few successive years of abundance; in 18234 prices were moderate; in 1828 they were very high; then we had three or four years of very high prices. For the last fifteen years prices have varied from high to low, the importations varying from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 quarters. Why is corn imported at all (continued Mr. Staunton)? Because there is not enough grown in England for consumption. If the Corn Law arguments were good in that day, that the people could be abundantly supplied with home grown comthere must be a time when this could not be done for this reason, that we go on increasing nearly half a million annually; the argument falls to the ground, then, that we could supply sufficient corn of home growth. That "pro tection" is merely to denote scarcity, is quite clear. On that point, too, we may consider the argument entirely closed In the first place, the Corn Laws are entirely a labourer question. He (Mr. Staunton) did not mean to say that he capitalist, or himself as a manufacturer, would not derive benefit; but he looked to the good of others-not to his own individual interest. There is another point. mean protection to the cloth manufacturers. I hear (said Mr. Staunton) that at a meeting of Conservatives, held under this room on the day of the Free Trade Meeting. some of them found a mare's nest—they discovered that we were protected 20 per cent. There is, I believe something of the sort; why it was given us I really do not know. I suppose that the landlords did it be cause they had given themselves a little protection. (Her. hear, hear). Our prosperity depends on our being an exporting country, and when we ceuse to be one, we must go down from that moment. If we can export cloths and can compete in any open ports, say Russia or France, with foreign manufactures, we have no protection there, and therefore it is quite clear we do not require any. Fifteen years ago, when we met for the purpose of getting a repul of the Corn Laws, we said, "We are ready to give up our protection if the Corn Laws are repealed. We have no right to ask for the repeal of the Corn Laws to the injury of the landholder, if we will not agree to protection being taken away from our cloth.' The Germans (continued Mr. Staunton), the Belgians, the French, have raw matrid close to their factories. They pay wages, say two-third close to their factories. lower than we do; we go to Germany for our wools, we par all expenses of transit, we bring it here to our factories, and the cloth (made, perhaps, from part of the very same fleet which we may meet with in the shape of cloth at Triest! we can sell lower than the foreigner. See how we produce against odds, and yet the landed interest caunot produce corn with a protection of 12s. a quarter. The sacridce, if any, will fall on the landlords, not on the farmer. Has farmer ever made any money? The labourer cannot be injured. Look at their condition under this infernal protection law. No doubt some of the company saw the report of the meeting of labourers at Wootten Baset by moonlight. I think with one of the speakers of that meeting, that they cannot be worse off under any system. Now (said Mr. Staunton) for the registration. The League, before Cobden hit upon this lucky thought was in a very delicate condition; it could not go as agitating with old arguments for ever, and it was a lucky lift when Clouder showed on the residual classes could hit when Cobden showed us how the middle classes could command a majority in the House of Commons if ar would but do our duty to ourselves and country. I with I could determine how many county freeholders are here. the freeholders hold up their hands. (Ories of "I intest to be.") Now, let the ladies look at those who hold up their hands, and see how many there are who have does their duty. Gentlemen (continued Mr. Staunten) there is no sacrifice required. It is a few ketter investment than no sacrifice required; it is a far better investor scrip. You can secure seven and a half per cent. Why a is equal to our profit. (Laughter.) I do not meen to see we do not do better in better times. Do (Mr. S. santas see tinuad) take this to have a Colder. we do not do better in better times. Do (Mr. 8 santa set tinued) take this to heart. See what we ove to Golden. "This is my soleme to squeeze Sir Robert Peak is made of squeezeable materials, and we will heaven's sake do register. There is one others are expenses incurred by the League takey some purchase of freeholds, but they will see the courts, and put you on thes limit The courts, and put you on these limits. The courts, and put you on the side of the courts, and put you on the side of the courts, and put you on the side of the courts.

J. PARTRIDGE, Esq., said there was one thing he must nodes, protection. We support Government—we support royally (and we do all this with a great deal of pleasure), and we ought to have protection: He (Mr. Partridge) did not mean protection which made a man pay sixpence for a threepenny loss-not proteotion which caused the poor isthreepenny loss—not protected with redsed the poor labourer to be crushed in every possible way, and which made him the miserable wretch he now was. The affections and there feelings of the labouring man must inevitably suffer under the pains of horrible distress. Young kopes were crushed—the young lass dare not enjoy the luxury of a lover, and he (Mr. Partridge) hoped no young lass would allow a lover to enjoy the luxury of a kiss until he had bought a franchise. (Hear and laughter.)

Mr. STAUKTON resumed, and said it was now time to commence the important business of the funds. It was the intention of the League to raise a quarter of a million, for the purpose of carrying on the registration courts; not that all the money will be required; 20 per cent will be all that will be required first, and he hoped that 20 per cent, would be the whole amount they would require at all. [The subscription

papers were now sent round to the company.]

The Rev. HENRY FOX NEWMAN commenced by saying that it would have been better, perhaps, if some influential manufacturer had taken upon himself the duty of advising the meeting to subscribe, by attaching his name to the subscription last for 250l. or 500l. (Cheors.) Mr. Cobden had, on a previous occasion, complimented the people of Strond on the liberality of their subscriptions to the League fund. He (Mr. Newman) was glad of this, for he had apprehended otherwise. Mr. Colden considered that Strond had contributed, comparatively, quite as liberally as other provincial towns in the district. (Cheers.) Let there (continued the reverend gentleman) be no diminution in public spirit. Let the subscription on this occasion quadruple—nay, be tenfold more than before. On the very eve of the late crisis (continued/Mr. Newman) we held a splendid meeting in this room, and before we were aware of the dissolution of the Peel Cabinet. We were anxiously forwarding this cause, when a signal and glorious triumph had been achieved. One Government had succumbed before the just principles of public opinion, embodying as it does the permanent and substantial happiness of mankind. He (Mr. Newman) felt that they were in such a position that no power could discomfit them; and with hands and hearts prepared, success was cer tain. This was a question upon which no power on earth had a right to interpose its dictum. If a gracious Providence showered down plenty, why should man, with an impious hand, seek to prevent its fulfilment? God sendeth plenty for all his creatures, and I do feel (continued Mr. Newman) annoyed that rank, power, or any government should attempt to subvert the ordinations of Providence. It has been shown, over and over again, and with abundant proof, that the world has the power of producing sufficient and ample food for its population. According to the pro-tectionist argument, and by the same rule, a law might be established for obliging a man to purchase any article he required in the same street in which he resided. This description of argument on the part of the protectionists was contrary to all reason. God intended that the world should be a highway to industry, and not a barren waste, so that our fraternal interests should be reciprocated. What sufferings are engendered (continued the reverend gentleman) by the obnoxions (corn Laws! What undeserved misery is experienced by the deserving poor! What a multitude of powers are rendered wretched! Would it not be better were the landlords of this country to act in a more liberal spirit? Instend of grasping every farthing of the tenants' hard earnings for the purpose of adding to their possessione, would it not be better if they were to say, "We will reduce our rents one-fourth, and then we shall see a happy and contented vermanry and peasantry, instead of, as at present, a wrotched and miserable class?" So long (continued Mr. Newman) as commerce is restricted, so long as trade is shackled, so long shall we be unable to prevent the ravages of war. Mr. Newman concluded by saying-We are not all equally endowed with the same modicum of influence; still the cause we are advocating is one of justice, humanity, and for the benefit and prosperity of mankind; and "he that withhold-

when and prosperity of mankind; and "he that withholdeth bread from the people shall be cursed." (Cheers.)

The Chairman here read a list of subscriptions, contributing himself 150l. Several other gentlemen subscribed very liberally—for instance, C. Hooper, Esq., 130l.; N. S. Marling, Esq., 10tl.; C. Scrope, Esq., M.P., 100l.; Samuel Marling, Esq., 100l., &c. &c.

(Cartivaleur, Cartivaleur, Esq., 10tl.)

CARTWRIGHT CARTWRIGHT, Esq., addressed the meeting at some length, with the view of proving that the manufacturers did not require a protection duty. (Cheers.)

Mr. FEBRAHEE said it was all very well for the manufac turers to subscribe liberally, but for his own part be would rather see the operatives contributing a shilling each. Sir James Graham (continued Mr. Ferrahee) told us how to the same rule? (Cheers.)

Mr. PARRONS, the secretary to the association, entered into a statement as to the finances of the Stroud Association, by which it appeared that from the commencement of the society a gradual increase in the receipts had taken

N. S. MARLING, Esq., shortly addressed the meeting, calling upon the Free Traders to register, and subscribe liberally to the fund now in course of collection.

CHARLES HOORES, Eagy said he could not be silent in so good a cause. He said that the applicular body, especially the farmers and labourers, would be materially benefited by the materially benefited by the materially benefited by the materially benefited. fited by the repeal of the Corn Laws. Stroud had not experianced the ill effects of the Corn Laws so much as other manufacturing districts, therefore it could not be said that they were agitating the question from an interested motive. (Cheers.) It was well known that Strond was the principal manufactory for cloth of the very finest description, and the aristocracy could not do without this article. He (Mr. Hooper) was satisfied that the abrogation of the Corn Laws would benefit all classes of the community. (Hear.)

Hooper) was satisfied that the abrogation of the Corn Laws would benefit all classes of the community. (Hear.)

MARQUE MERRETHER TURKER, Esq., at the request of some individual in the assembly, proceeded to address the meeting. He (Mr. Turner) had intended to have addressed the meeting at an earlier period, had not illness prevanted him from societies. He had the plansure of winnessing the analysis and sometiments he happed on some future day to represent any attantant. He hally consider the optimized and decided the processing and decided the process of the process of

however, the population of this country had hearly doubled A great benefit would accrue to the operatives from the aboli-tion of the existing laws, because the price of the article would not vary to any great extens; therefore he would be enabled to expend more in the purchase of food for the support of life family. A great deal was eaid by the formers upon the introduction of foreign cutile and other agricultural produce. We do not, however, find more produce, and meat is probably as dear now as it was then; and so it will be with corn. The advantages of repeal would be gradual, and the prices would be unvarying. [Mr. Turner was here seized with spasms, and was consequently obliged to close his remarks. Several of the previous speakers again addressed the

meeting, enforcing upon it the necessity of contributing liberally to the League fund now in the course of collection. The call was responded to, for before the close of the meeting the the chairman intimuted that upwards of 1000*l*, had been subscribed in the room, amidst cuthusiastic applause.

After which,

JOSEPH PARTRIDGE, Esq., in a highly complimentary speech, proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman. CHARLES HOOPER, Esq., seconded the resolution

The CHAIRMAN briefly returned thanks, after which the assemblage immediately dispersed.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL IN GLASGOW.

(From the Scottish Quardian of Tuesday.) According to previous arrangement, this distinguished statesman arrived in Glasgow yesterday, for the purpose of receiving the freedom of the city, and likewise of being present at a Free Trade demonstration, to be held in the Tontine Hotel in the evening, in honour of his lordship. The noble lord, we understand, left Edinburgh by the half-past eight train, and reached Glasgow pre-cisely at ten o'clock. His lordship was accompanied by Sir Thomas Dick Lander, of Grange; Andrew Rutherfurd, Esq., M.P.; Mr. Gibson Craig; and Mr. Dick Lauder, yr., of Grange. The Lord Provost was at the terminus of the railway, to receive the party, and conducted them, in his lordship's carriage, to Carrick's Royal Hotel, George Square, where having breakfasted, they proceeded to the Normal Seminaries, connected with the Established and Free Churches, and Mr. Napier's works at Finnieston, returning to the hotel about one o'clock. At two o'clock, Lord John proceeded to the City Hall, to receive the freedom of the city. After the proceedings there were over, the noble lord and his friends paid a visit to the Royal Exchange.

Yesterday, agreeably to a unanimous resolution of the Town Council, the Right Hon. Lord John Russell was presented with the freedom of the city of Glasgow, in presence of upwards of three thousand individuals, including many ladies, assembled in the City Hall. The presentation took place at two o'clock, previous to which the spacious hall was densely crowded. The magistrates and members of the town council were seated on the platform, in front of which were elevated scats for Lord John Russell and the Lord Provost, and where also were seated the Earl of Stair, the Earl of Camperdown, Lord Belhaven, Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, Mr. Lauder, yr., of Grange, Andrew Rutherfurd, Esq., M.P.; the Hon. Fox Maule, M.P.; the Hon. North Dairymple, of Clelland; and Mr. Alexander Dunlop,

advocate, Edinburgh. The Lord Provost having taken the chair,

The resolution, conferring the freedom of the city upon Lord John Russell, was read by Arthur Forbes, Esq., town clerk, which resolution is inscribed upon the Burgess Ticket, and is as follows:

"At Glasgow, the twelfth day of January, eighteen hundred and forty six.

"The Magistrates and Council assembled, in testimony of the high sense they entertain of his splendid talents as a statesman; of his elegant accomplishments as a scholar and historian; of his zealous attachment to the principles of our free constitution; of his energetic exertions in the cause of civil and religious liberty; and of his eminent services in promoting commercial freedom, unanimously and by acclamation admit the Right Honourable Lord John Russell a freeman citizen of Glasgow, with all the liberties, privileges, and immunities belonging to an honorary burgess and guild brother of the said city.
"Extracted from the minutes of Council by

"ARTHUR FORBES, Town Clerk."

The Lord Provost, who was received with much Lord, in conformity with the resolution of a previous meeting of Council, which has just been read, I have now, in the name of the Municipal Corporation of Glasgow, and in presence of this great assembly, the honour of presenting to your lordship the freedom of this ancient city. (Applause.) Your fordship's connection with the illustrious house of Russell—a house which has rendered such memorable services to the cause of civil and religious liberty—though well calculated to produce in the minds of all lovers of freedom a strong propossession in your favour, is but the least of the claims possessed by your lordship on the esteem of this community. To the historical claims of your family upon the regard of the British nation, your lordship adds personal claims of the highest order. From the day of your first entrance into public life until the presont time, you have been distinguished as the firm and consistent advocate of every liberal principle of government. Every constitutional reform for which this age has been distinguished, has received your cordial and enlightened support. That just and wise legislative measure, the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, measure, the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, was greatly promoted by your zeal and eloquence. (Cheers.) With equal zeal and eloquence, and with untring energy, your lordship supported the Reform Bill—that great measure from which, notwithstanding the efforms all this been made; by intinidation and corruption, it will be the made; by intinidation and corruption, it will be the made; by intinidation and corruption, it will be the made; by intinidation and corruption, it will be the made; and the course of response to the made of the

the other illustrious statesman with whom it was your privilege to co-operate in conducting that great measure through the many perils with which it was sur-rounded. The abolition of slavery in our West India colonies is another measure of justice and philanthropy in which your lordship largely participated. (Cheers.) The cause of commercial freedom owes no less to your lordship than that of civil and religious liberty; and, in this city, the opening up of the trade with India and China, measures originating with the government of which your lordship was a distinguished member, has given an impulse to manufacture and commerce, the importance of which it is impossible to over-estimate. (Cheers.) This corporation, therefore, only echoes the general voice of the country when it expresses its deep sonso of the powerful support which the principles of Free Trade have uniformly received from your lordship. Within the last few weeks, by the expression of your wise, statesmanlike, and patriotic sentiments upon the all-engrossing question which now occupies the minds of the people-(great applause) -your lordship has furnished a strong additional claim to the many you formerly possessed upon the public gratitude. (Renewed applause.) And I feel no little pride and pleasure in having been deputed by my fellow-citizens to offer you the only tribute by which they have it in their power to manifest their entire confidence in your public character, and their esteem for your private virtues. I hope, in their name and my own, that your lordship will be pleased to accept the freedom of the city of Glasgow thus offered; and that we may have the gratification to enrol so illustrious a name as that of Lord John Russell among the number of our citizens. (Loud cheers.)

His lordship concluded by presenting the document,

inclosed in a very elegant box, silver-gilt.

Lord John Russell then rose, and was received with enthusiastic and prolonged applause. When the cheering had subsided, the noble lord said: My Lord Provost and Gentlemen,-The honour that your lordship has done me in the name of the Council and of the citizens of Clasgow cannot but inspire me with the deepest gratitude. In any ordinary circumstances, I should have felt it a matter of interest and gratification to have visited this great city. I could not but have admired your extensive manufactures, the noble port which has been created by the wealth and commerce of this, one of the most remarkable cities of the United Kingdom. I could not have failed to reflect with interest that here it was that science had enabled art and manufacture to attain some of their greatest triumphs. I could not but have recollected that it was here that Black made some of his most interesting experiments. I could not but have remoinbered that Watt here, as it were, almost recreated the steam-engine, the source of so many advantages and such wonderful inventions which have since succeeded. And likewise at this time, above all, it could not fail to be a matter of the deepest interest to visit your city, where Adam Smith in his lectures had laid the foundation of that knowledge which we have since attained respecting the economy of nations -where he in his lectures gave the outlines of that immortal work which he afterwards published to the world. These, I say, gentlemen, would be to any casual stranger matters of interest and gratification; but in my visit to this city you have added sentiments of pride to those of gratification; for I cannot but be proud that you have deemed me worthy to be enrolled among your citizens. I will not deny that, although I think it my duty in public life to pursue that course which in my conscience I deemed the best fitted for the public welfare, yet I do feel depressed when the approbation of my fellow-countrymen does not follow that conduct; and I feel proportionably proud and gratified when I receive the marks of that approbation. Your lordship has alluded to some of the measures in which I have been engaged since my entrance into public life, these measures was the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. The Protestant dissenters did me the honour to entrust that cause to my feeble hands. I had at least this claim to their regard, that I heartly sympathised in their opinions and their feelings with respect to these laws. I considered these laws to be unjust and pealent. 1 considered them unjust, because they inflicted penalties, disqualifications, and punishments upon the irco exercise of conscience-because they attempted to interfere with those sacred rights which every man has to form and avow his opinions with respect to his religious duties. I considered them inexpedient—most inexpedient—because they fixed a brand upon a body of men who, for a hundred and forty years, had been zealously attached to the throne and constitution of these realms, because they had not imprened to be entirely satisfied with the religion and politics of Charles II. (laughter and cheers.) Gentlemen, when I brought forward the proposal for the repeal of these Acts, I was opposed by the Government of the day; but the House of Commons gave me a majority-a majority, I think, of upwards of forty in favour of the first stops towards that repeal. The ministry of the day then thought it might be wise to propose a suspension of these laws, but I would not listen to any proposal for their suspension. I said there must be a repeal—that it was a question of right and justice, and nothing less than the repeal would satisfy me. Why, gentlemen, upon that the repeal was granted. A declaration indeed was added, to which I acceded, because I thought it very larmless in itself, but perhaps the history of that declaration may show how much deagar there is at times in admisting conditions and qualifications to that which is a plaint of declaration was a later of declaration and define of declarations. claim of justice. "Roe in the House of Lords they added corrain words which, when the law came into operation; were found to been an estillion from corporations
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tion thought it was unsafe any longer to attempt persocution against Protestant dissenters—they were a body too numerous and powerful. It was not safe to continue persecution against the Roman Catholics, for they formed a great portion of the population of Ireland; they were too powerful, and could enforce their claims. But merely to indulge themselves with a little persecution, in the statute-book they added certain words excluding from the corporations those who profemed the Jewish religion. Why, this little remnant, so far as the corporations were concerned, was done away last year. It was one of the measures I supported as a minister, but which I had the misfortune to see rejected in the House of Lords—one of those measures similar to others which, under the present Government, have been approved of by the House of Lords and carried by great majorities in the Commons, including some of those who made the strongest speeches against the admission of those persons to any corporate right. (Laughter and cheers.) Gentlemen, his lordship has alluded to the reform of Parliament -a vast subject, into which I will hardly enter; but I must refer to what, when I first knew it, was the state of Scotland and Scottish representation. The Scottish representation was a very close matter, nothing like popular election. Some three thousand persons in all Scotland had the right to send representatives to the Commons House of Parliament. The corporations were execedingly close; the public voice was checked and repressed; the press itself hardly during toutter those sentiments of free discussion which are now widely expressed over the land. I feel happy to say, that during the time I have lived since I was a student at the College of Edinburgh, I have seen a great change with respect to this matter. (Loud cheers.) I am happy to say that I myself have borne a part in some of the measures by which it has been accomplished. I remember the time, indeed, when a late lamented friend of mine, and a neighbour of yours, Lord Archd. Hamilton, supported by the present Lord Dunfermline, and many others, complained of the state of Scottish representation, but they were defeated by a great majority. I am happy to say now that at last the city of Edinburgh and this city have obtained the right of sending representatives to Parliament; and the Scottish representation does convey an image of the sense, intelligence, and wishes of the Scottish people. (Cheers.) So also with regard to the Scottish corporations. I was one of the ministry which proposed the inpusire that was afterwards carried for opening these corporations, and establishing popular election as the principle by which these corporations were to be formed. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, let me now say, with respect to these measures -- with respect to any measure in which I have been engaged, that the view I took when I first entered upon the public life of this country was this-that there were many abuses-that there were many unjust restrictions--that there were many corruptions in our institutions; but that there were none which could not by patience, by investigation, by measures proposed to Parliament, by the influence of public opinion, be corrected and altered, and that above all things it was desirable to look to the possible conflict of opinion in order to obtain those changes which were to be desired. (Cheers.) And I say, then, with regard to any measures which are past, with regard to any measures which are to come, that the whole fabric of society in this country, with its extensive commerce, manufactures, and its various interests pervading every part of the country, and connected with other interests in every part of the world-that this fabric of society ought to be preserved entire, and that there would be the greatest danger if for one year or six months public confidence was lost, and there was anything like-I will not say a civil war-but distrust among us as to what was to happen in the next few months. But gentlemen, I am confident, with regard to measures to come, as well as those which are past, that the expression of the public voice known to the constitution of England, acting upon the constitutional powers of England, will obtain all that is to be desired. (Cheers.) My lord, your lordship has done me the honour to refer to other measures with which I was connected, but only as a member of the Government to which I belonged -the abolition of slavery, the opening of the East India and China trade. I will not detain you by touching on these measures; but I must refer to two questions in which I have taken a great interest, and upon which I have met with great opposition, but with respect to which, I expect, as with regard to others, to see public opinion firmly and decidedly pronounced in their fayour. The one was, that as Scotsmen ought to have the privileges of Englishmen, so Irishmen ought to have the privileges of Englishmen and of Scotsmon. I consider that the union was but a parchment, an unsubstantial union, not to be trusted to in the hour of difficulty and distress, unless you showed Irishmen that you were prepared to allow them to participate in all our rights and privileges, and to treat their exactly as if they were the inhabitants of the same island. (Cheers,) I therefore could never listen to the assertion that they were to be considered as "aliens" (cheers)—nor could I consent to any laws, or to the absence of any laws, which were founded on that unjust presumption; and yet the endeavour to obtain these privileges, with respect to corporations for instance, the simple power of Irishmen being allowed to govern their own municipal matters, to regulate their own local affairs, even that privilege cost us session after session of endeavour to onforce. I am happy to say that at this time of day the principle appears to be generally allowed, and the question in dispute is only how it is to be carried into effect. For my own part I must say, that I thought I could do no greater benefit to the country than to endeavour to coment Ireland to Great Britain in affection, both in sure of the Government in the House of Common passes and in war. Far, however, from having obtained not but that it is within the range of possibility was any strength from this effort, it has been a source of to no greater benefit to the country than to endeavour to

peated calumnies—calumnies which you all have heard, which at the time I despised, but which were felt materially to impede the public usofulness which might have existed in other circumstances. ceed now to the other question to which I have referred, namely, commercial freedom. (Hear, hear.) It is not the place to argue whether the general principles which Adam Smith has laid down on this subject are the true principles. I believe men who belong, whether to the present Cabinet or to the late Cabinet, or who have been thought worthy from their eminence in either House of Parliament of attempting to rule this country, are generally agreed on that subject—that legislation cannot do so well as the free intelligence, the free skill, the free industry, of the inhabitants of this United Kingdom. But Mr. Adam Smith, Mr. Ricardo, and others who have written on this subject, have all said that if a vicious system of monopoly or protection has been long embedded in the legislation of a country, that it required caution, that it required deliberation to consider in what manner such restrictions could be removed. Upon such principles, and upon such advice, was founded the general outline of the measures, which were proposed by the Ministry which lost office in consequence of this proposition in 1841. You all know that part of this proposition was that there should be an admission of foreign sugar with a differential duty of 12s. It was another part that the differential duty on colonial timber should be diminished; it was another part of the scheme that the duties on corn, instead of proceeding on what is called the sliding scale, should be regulated according to a uniform fixed duty of 8s., subject only to suspension by an order in Council in case of necessity, of which her Majesty's advisers were to be the judges. Now, gentlemen, in consequence of that proposition, the government of that day were assailed as being the most violent enemies of the landed and agricultural interest. I was held up myself to all the farmers as an enemy of the agriculturists of the United Kingdom. They rejected my proposition, and it was prevented from being carried in Parliament. The friends of protection—the friends of monopoly as I may call them—thought they had obtained a great triumph in defeating that government, and returning another more favourable to their views. Do they now rejoice that the 8s, duty was rejected? (Loud cheers.) Are they now prepared to say that the eight shilling duty, which would have prevented much of the misery and mitigated many of the evils of our manufacturing towns in the years 1841, 1842, and 1843, would not have been a compromise most favourable to the views of those who were calling for protection? (Loud cheering.) I was represented as an enciny to the landed interest, and to the farmer. Upon my word, upon reflecting upon my conduct, the only doubt I have is, whether that duty having been rejected, peremptorily rejected, with every mark of indignation and contumely, I ought not at once to have said that I would make no further proposition of the kind. But I proceed; I still said I thought it would be wise on their part to seek for a fixed duty. I went on, and when there was a surplus in the revenue, I said that if they would prove that there were taxes that pressed on them, then was the time to ask for an equality of taxation, along with the aboliton of the Corn Laws; but I was again treated with indignation, and as an enemy to the landed interest. But let us consider what has been the effect of the rejection of these terms. Is there any man now, who, as a member of Parliament-as a Minister to his Sovereign, would propose terms equally favourable to these advocates of protection as those which I proposed in 1841? I believe not (cheers); and for my part, when I saw this obstinate and continued rejection, I reflected that that confined proposition of mine, while it was not accepted by the landed interest, was really an obstacle in the way of those who asked for the complete freedom of trade on the subject of corn; and rather than put that obstacle in the way, and believing that the present Corn Laws are, as I have stated, injurious to agriculture as well as to commerce, I withdrew that proposition, and declared my opinion in a letter to the electors of the city of London, whom I have the honour of representing, that these Corn Laws ought to be totally repealed. (Loud and protracted cheering.) Gentlemen. it is not for me in this place to refer to occurrences of which you must all be aware, and of which the day of explanation will arrive as soon as Parliament meets; but this I will say, that when that day of explanation arrives, I trust that you will find that I did not shrink from the assertion of the principles contained in that letter to the electors of the City of London. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, the question of the proposition with regard to the Corn Laws is now in the hands of Sir Robert Peel. I know no more than yourselves what his proposition may be, or how he has agreed with the remaining colleagues from whom he had differed, and who have again consented to serve under him; but of this I am fully convinced, that if Sir Robert Peel wishes his measure to be safe-safe to propose and safe to carry—it must be founded upon broad and extensive principles. (Cheers.) I am persuaded that unless it contains total repeal, the friends of monopoly and protection will rejoice at the proposal of a measure which will not satisfy the country, and that they will not take heart to defeat that which otherwise they will not have the means of opposing—I say they will not have the means of opposing. (Hear, hear.) Not that I do not believe but that they can make some struggle if they choose on behalf of protection-not but that I believe that if they stand on the ground of protection, and we stand on the ground of freedom,

it is such a measure as I should wish it to be, I feel consident that defeat will be a temporary and not a final one (cheers); that that defeat will only be the conmencement of a struggle which I should indeed regre to see, but which I should infinitely prefer to the carn. ing of a measure which would not settle this question (cheers)—which would not at once, for ever and ever settle the question, and leave the people of this country that which they ought to possess, the power and the privilege to obtain their food as cheap and as good as a is possible for them to obtain it. (Cheers.) I believe that now the people of this country, to whom there questions were presented some time ago in a shape dificult for them altogether to see the bearing of them-I believe they now stand in such a shape that the people of this country will give their support to no measure which does not entirely rid them of the Corn law, (Cheers.) Some time ago, in the year 1841, it was say! by those who advocated protection, that the interests of the labouring classes would be injured, that their wages would be lowered, if the price of corn was diminished by free importation. It was said likewise that we should be exposed to searcity from time to time were the restrictions removed from the importation of foreign corn, This is another of those assertions which now obtain no belief. Sir Robert Peel said in the House of Commons that he did not give his assent to the proposition that the labouring classes would be injured by the low price of food; and every intelligent man who can think on the subject is now of the same opinion. (Hear.) And with regard to the opinion of those who maintain that we should be exposed to periods of searcity by remov. ing the restrictions on the importation of foreign corn, I think the principle is well stated by Adam Smith, that if the kingdoms of a Continent have free communication with each other with regard to food, the prices will be more equal in all of them than if each kingdom were governed by separate laws upon that subject. This principle, therefore, if applicable to Continental comtries, is equally applicable to a free communication with the whole world. If we cannot get a sufficient supply of corn from Dantzie or from Poland, we may obtain it from Odessa or the Black Sea; or if not, we may obtain it from the United States of America. (Cheers,) So that the free importation of food is sure to lead to a more general equality of prices, and a general provision for the people of this country, in a better mode than any law can afford-(cheers)-I say, than any law can afford: for we have tried what some of the in this country have invented as artificial schemes by which the country might be more equally supplied with food. We have tried the scheme of 1815, of which Lord Ripon was the proposer. We have tried the scheme of 1828, of which Lord Liverpool and Mr. Iluskisson were the originators and promoters; and we have had the scheme of 1842, of which Sir Robert Prei was the author, after having given the utmost attention to the subject. We do not say that the proposers of these schemes were unskilful or unwise in the invention of artificial schemes; but we do say that no artificial schoine whatever will so well supply the people of this country with food, as leaving it free and unrettered, to pursue its natural course as an important branch of the commerce and trade of the country. (Great applause.) If I am right in believing that the people of this country, that the working men of this country. take this view of the question, I should like any one to tell me whether he thinks, that out of the public men of this country a Government could be formed that can resist that wish? (Continued cheering.) The people of this country are used to toil—their labour is often protracted—frequently it is of the most skilful nature. The curse that was pronounced, that man should earn his bread by the sweat of his brow is submitted to; and whether in the country in agricultural occupations, or whether in the town in mechanical and manufacturing operations, you see men, not from sunrise till sunset, but for far longer hours, giving all the strength of their sinews to labour, to hard labour, with the view of obtaining their daily bread. They submit manfully—they submit with courage to that toil, in the hope of keeping themselves and their families in sustenance, if not in comfort; and if they wish that their brend should not be farther stinted—that man should not make that more difficult by legislation which the eternal doom of the Almighty has already made difficult in regard to the natural course of things-where, I would wish to know, is the House of Commons, elected by the people, which will long resist such a wish? (Immense cheering.) Gontlemen, there is another advantage which I think will accrue from the abolition of the duties on the importation of grain-I think it will bind us more closely in relations of peace and amity with foreign States, and more especially with one—I mean the United States of America. (Cheers.) I think nothing of the questions which may be now in dispute—questions of territory, in which, as they now stand, the honour of neither nation is engaged, and upon which calm men, representing the Government of her Majesty, and representing the Government of the United States, may, as I believe, by calm and fair discussion, come to an amicable agreement. see no prospect of war arising out of this difference, if we on this side are determined that with regard to the improvement of the said and if importation of the produce of the United States, and if the Government of the United States is determined with regard to the manufactures of this United Ring.
don, that there shall be free intercourse; that they shall
be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to get us to be shall be permitted to feed us, and we shall be permitted to feed us, and the such exchange, that these two nations that the same race and the same language as formed to continue for senting to of amity, united in a family comp

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courts, but a compact arising from feeling ourselves to be of the same blood, and admirors of each other's inminutions t they respecting the freedom of our monarchy, and we admiring the order of their republic. I believe such a union may for conturios ondure for the lasting happiness of the world. (Applause.) I have now to thank you not only for the honour you have conferred upon me, but for the indulgence with which you have listened to the expression of my political opinions. It will be my duty before long, in the House of Commons, to declare my opinions upon some of the most important questions that were ever agitated in that community. I fear not the discussion. I should have little fear of the opposition or the arguments of the men to whom I may be opposed; even though they should think, as a gentleman who was lately proposed as a member of the House of Commons did, that the fittest comparison of me was that of Satan. (Laughter.) I say, I shall be very little afraid even of so brilliant a comparison as that, if the gentlemen of the House of Commons, who represent protection, will only employ such arguments as they adopted last year. (Laughter.) You will hear Sir Robert Peel accused of treachery to the landed interest. I will not enter upon that question; but I would here just say, that he was very unkind to the landed interest, for he allowed them to speak for themselves, and make out their own cause. (Much laughter.) And such an exhibition as it was such a molaneholy show of had argument, and worse declamation, I have never heard. One day we had a gentleman for an hour and a half, with a number of statistical documents, to show that beef would be one penny and mutton a halfpenny a pound cheaper, all of which he attributed to the tariff; and asked, how can you possibly support any law so disastrous in its results? There is no saying how cheap beef, and mutton, and lamb may become if you go on in this ruinous policy of Free Trade! (Great laughter.) Another day the Minister proposed that a number of articles should be free-he proposed, not indeed corn, or oats, or maize, but a number of unpalatable articles, such as rhubarb and senna, and all those drugs whose names themselves are very nauscous. laughter.) But these protection gentlemen were still afraid. Though assured that these laws really allowed nothing of human food to be admitted free, they were always on the look-out, and alarmed lest some food should come in. And when they came to the article of grease, they were under great apprehension. They said-Is not grease butter? and may not some persons import this grease for the purpose of eating it? (Laughter.) And Sir George Clerk, Vice-President of the Board of Trade, was obliged to get up with great solemnityfor he does most of these things with great solemnityand assure these gentlemen, all the county members, and a vast phalanx at the lower end of the House, that this grease meant butter spoiled for human food by tar (great laughter); and he confidently assured them that no human being would attempt to eat it. (Renewed laughter.) Now, if they will but use such arguments as these, which, as I say, Sir R. Peel most unkindly allowed them to use for themselves, and did not stand forth in their behalf, they may call me by any terms they please. I do not know they can call me worse than the devil-(laughter)-but If they use such ridiculous arguments as these, I shall be sure of a triumph over them. (Cheers.) I hope I may be entitled to say, having received this honour from you, and being the representative of the City of London, Abut the great cities of England and Scotland are determined that this monopoly shall last no longer, and that commerce shall be free. (Immense cheering.) The noble lord on sitting down was greeted with three tremendous rounds of applause.

The meeting then separated; and his lordship, on leaving the hall, was loudly cheered by the immense

multitude assembled outside.

KENSINGTON.

On Monday evening, the 4th inst., a public meeting was held in the Theatre, Kensington. The chair was taken by William D. Christie, Esq., M.P. for Weymouth. The theatre will accommodate from 700 to 800 persons, and was crowled in a commodate from 700 to 800 persons, and was crowded in every part. There has not been in that district on any former occasion so numerous and influential s meeting. The neighbourhood stands very much in need of a from sufficiently large for the public meetings of the population. Many went away unable to gain admission to the

Mr. Christin opened the proceedings by referring to the present position of the Free Trade cause, which was now all but triumphant, and needed only the honest expression of public opinion to ensure its triumph. Conversions were numerous now. In the present ministry, and the late ministry, in Parliament, and out of Parliament, men had come over, and were coming over to Free Trade. Evidence of strength, and the near approach of victory, were slways attractive and powerful to convince doubters and waverers lle was not one of the new converts; he was not an old member of the House, having been first returned at the last general election; but from the first he had been an advocate of the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws.

Mr. Moors then addressed the meeting, replying to the speedles of the Marquis of Salisbury and Lord Essex at the St. Alban's meating, reported in that day's Times. He gave details of the progress of the county freehold movement, and invest the investment of continued affort to income details of the progress of the county freehold movement, and urged the importance of continued effort to increase the number of 40s. Free Trade holders in Middlesex and East Surrey. The latter county was not yet aafe, but it was getting to the aafe side; and is believed would be safe by the Blat of January. Middlesex was safe, but half yet more to do. With such an immerse population, equal to that of fifteen counties sending so members to Partiament, and having but two members, it should be safe to bettern those two without a consist. It half yet the register has been well, worked acturing the continue that the safe to be the sa they would be spared all anxiety when the contest came. Let the cottagers do their duty, and the castles could no

Mr. Hanson, who has hitherto been a most active protectionist, working the register for the monopolists in that poling district, and indefatigable on their committee and onevass at elections, then came forward to move a vote of thanks to the chairman and the League. He avowed himself a convert to Free Trade; and he promised his best assistance to return two total and immediate repealers at the next election for Middlesex; no others should for the future have a vote or belp from him. He proposed also that a requisi-tion should be got up to the sheriffs to call a county

The vote of thanks was acconded by JOHN T. LOCKHART, Esq., who contested the borough of Aylesbury in 1841. He gave an amusing account of the protectionists who attended the late meeting at Aylesbury, of their little land, their many embarrassments, and their tricks to get up meetings, and have petitions signed.

The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

A gentleman then came forward to urge the importance of measures being taken to form a borough of Chelsen, Konsington, Fulham, and Hammersmith, a district with a population of upwards of a hundred thousand unrepresented.

The CHAIRMAN agreed with him that the district had a just claim to have two representatives, and he should have pleasure in giving the claim his best support. The two members taken from disfranchised Sudbury should be given to the populous district in which they were then meeting.

The meeting then broke up, with three cheers for the

county movement.

REIGATE.

On Tuesday, the 5th inst a public meeting was held at the White Hart, Reigate. The chair was taken by Thomas Alcock, Esq., who, as a Free Trade landowner, contested East Surrey at the last general election, and has promised to do so again at the next election. Tuesday was the monthly market day, and the meeting was almost entirely attended by landowners, land agents, farmers, and labourers.

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the rapid progress that opinion had made of late, and of the circumstances of the country, imperatively demanding a repeal of the Corn Laws,—a repeal that, as a landowner, whose whole property was in land, he wished to be total, immediate, and unconditional. He promised the most perfect freedom of discussion,—and Mr. MOORE, on coming forward, requested all parties to put whatever questions might occur to them, and he would not consider it discourteous, however much they might interrupt him. He proceeded to point out the importance of Free Trade to farmers, as the only means of securing them independent cultivation of the land, a profit secured not by deceptive Acts of Parliament but by the prosperity of the whole people, their customers. He answered the statements made at protectionist meetings against repeal of the Corn Laws, and argued that, with labourers on the land brought down to live on potatoes, and in danger of being starved by the potato rot, in this the 31st year of their pretended protection by Parliament, it was impossible that the law should be maintained. The people had had enough of being fed by Parliament, and were for the future determined to fred themselves. For more than three hours a running commentary of questions was kept They were all answered, and the meeting broke up up. They were all answerou, and the chairman and with three cheers, all but unanimous, for the chairman and

HERTFORD.

On Thursday last, a public meeting was held in the large room at the Dimsdale Arms, for the purpose of hearing addresses from Mr. Falvey, and other gentlemen, on the subject of the Corn Laws, and the League Registration move-At seven o'clock, the hour named for the meeting, the room was literally crammed to suffocation; indeed, so great was the inconvenience felt, that it was contemplated by the promoters of the meeting to adjourn, and call a meeting on a future day; but silence and attention having been obtained, the proceedings commenced. Mr. GARDENER proposed, and Mr. Manner seconded, a motion, that Mr. William Pollard take the chair, which was carried by acclamation. Having taken his place, Mr. POLLARD proceeded to open the business of the evening. He commenced by stating that endeavours had been made by himself and others, to procure the use of the Town Hall for the meeting, but the county magistrates and the Mayor had refused them, and hence the inconvenience and misery they were then enduring. He thought it most unfair to refuse the use of a public room to the public, but they had no remedy; and as this was the largest room they could procure, they would attempt to get through the business. After some further observations, he introduced to the meeting Mr. Falvey, who, on coming forward was received with much cheering. He commenced by stating that he had been engaged each day during the week addressing meetings in the county, at each of which he had been gratified by finding the utmost unanimity on the subject of Free Trade. He regretted the want of sufficient accommodation for the vast number present, and alluded to the absurd conduct of the authorities in refusing the use of the public room for fair discus-sion. He then addressed himself to the immediate object of the meeting, and most forcibly and eloquently stated the views and sentiments of the Anti-Corn-Law Lengtie, and urged the meeting to co-operate with them in obtaining an immediate settlement of the disputed question. Mr. Falvey was repeatedly cheered during his address, which ho/concluded by challenging the protectionists to call a public macting for discussing the question. We regret that we cannot give a report of Mr. Faivey's appeal to our fellowtownsmen in consequence of the large space devoted to our report of the election, but we understand we shall shortly have an opportunity of supplying the deficiency, as it is pro posed to make another attempt to induce the magistrates to grant the use of the County Hall for a similar meeting. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Lattimore, Mr. J. J. Gripper, and Mr. Bontems, who stated distinctly that the League did not purchase votes, nor did they extort pledges League did not purchase votes, nor did they extort pledges from those whom they assisted by their advice. In obtaining connity qualifications. Their course was simply to exhort, advise, and assist the people is purchasing for themselves a right to vote, and they adopted no unconstitutional means for doing is. What they did was openly and fairly done. The following resolution was then put, and carried unanimously; smidstratediamations; in That this meeting highly amoves of the efforts of the Anti-Corn-Law League to interest these of mitters of the county; said the county; and oping the county of th

portant object." Mr. Falvey then addressed a few words to portant ouject. Ar. r arey then addressed a new words to the meeting on the absurdity of talking about our manufus-tures being protected, which he likened to the farce of a pro-tecting duty upon coals carried to Newcastle; and concluded by saying that Free Traders are auxious for the removal of all protection. Thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting dispersed .- Horts Reformer.

WATFORD.

A public meeting in connection with the Free Trade registration movement, was held at the Spread Eagle Inu. in this town, on Tuesday last; and although the notice was short, the large room was crowded with a most respectable auditory. On the motion of Mr. George Healey, seconded by Mr. Cooper, Mr. J. F. Bontems was called to the chair. After the chairman had explained the wishes and intentions of the "League," as to the registration, he read to the meating a letter from Mr. Capel, cousin to the Earl of Essex. (The letter appeared in This League of last week.)

The CHAIRMAN stated that he should hand the five pounds to Mr. Lattimore, who is raising a Hertfordshire fund in aid of the Quarter of a Million proposed to be col-

lected by the League,

Mr. FALVEY was then introduced to the meeting, and delivered an address on the subject of Free Trade with his usual eloquence and effect. At the close of the meeting, a resolution was carried by acclamation, approving of the proceedings of the League, and three cheers were given for Free Trade.—Herts Reformer.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

A large and influential meeting of the frields of the League was held in this town on Wednesday last. William Howard, Esq., presided, and was surrounded by the leading friends of Free Trade residing in the neighbourhood. The speakers were Mr. C. H. Lattimore, Mr. Bontems, Mr. Falvey, Mr. James Price, and Mr. Crabstone. The two lastnamed gentlemen moved and seconded a resolution approving the conduct of the League, and pledging the meeting to assist, to the utmost in its power, in carrying out its objects. This resolution was carried unanimously, amidst the plaudits of the meeting. The opponents of Free Trade were invited to ask questions and to state their objections, but they abstained from 50 doing.—Herts Reformer.

ROYSTON.

A public meeting was held in Royston on Wednesday evening. Mr. Falvey and Mr. Bontens attended as a deputation from the League. The meeting was originally announced to be held in the large room of the Crown Inn, but a few of the monopolist farmers attending the market on Wednesday, declared that if the League meeting was held there, they would never attend the house again. Under these circumstances, the innkeepers, two orphan sisters, became quite alarmed, and expressed their fear of being ruined in consequence of the threats held out against them by the liberal friends of protection. Mr. T. Titchmarsh having learned how matters stood, at once undertook to relieve the young women from their fears of such petty and intolorable tyranny, and at the same time provide for the meet. ing by granting the use of a malthouse or granury for the

At seven o'clock the room began to fill; and on the mo tion of Mr. Titchmarsh, J. G. FORDHAM, Esq., banker and county magistrate, was called to the chair. He opened the proceedings by stating that though he differed in opinion from the gentlemen who were to address them, he hoped they would give every one an attentive hearing. He then introduced Mr. Falvey to the meeting, who had not concluded a sentence before a few neighbouring monopolists began to make the most hidrous noises, and that, too, in opposition to the great body of the meeting, who were desirons of listening attentively. The chief disturbers were Mr. King, of Tadlow, and his son; Mr. Meyers of Harrington; Mr. Micekley, of Abingdon, and a few others who had threatened the innkeepers with their vengeance in the course of the day, and prevented them from making the most of their room. It was quite clear to all present, that the monopolists had made themselves drunk, in order to get their drooping spirits up. Mr. Falvey, however, persovered, and showed the failure of every Corn Law since 1815, in affording protection to the farmers and farm labourers of Great Britain and Iroland. He invited any of his opponents to discuss the question with him; but they refused to do so, and teenfined their opposition to the sending forth of the most inhuman sounds. The Chairman repeatedly expressed his disgust at the conduct of the small knot of drunken monopolists, and said he intended to have said a few words in opposition to the views of the speaker; but he refrained from doing so in consequence of their un-English-like conduct. Mr-Palvey, at the close of his address, proposed the following resolution: "That, in the opinion of this meeting, it is the interest of the tenant farmer, the labourer, and the landlord, that the Corn Law question should be promptly and permapontly settled, by a total, immediate, and unconditional repeal; the experience of the last 30 years having proved that protection drives capital from land, narrows the home market, by orippling foreign trade, and injures all classes periodically by ruinous fluctuations."

The CHAIRMAN moved an uncendment in the form of two resolutions; one deprecuting the total and immediate repeal, and the other condemning the present system of Corn Laws, and expressing a hope that in the approaching seasion of Parliament such a measure may be proposed as will finally settle the question. He then put both to the meeting, when he declared Mr. Falvey's Free Trade resolution to be car-

Three cheers were then given for Free Trade, three for the League, and, at the suggestion of Mr. Falvey, three for the chairman; and the meeting broke up, the Free Traders in high glee, and the monopolists evidently chop-fallen. Many of the townspeople requested to have a second meeting as soon as possible, and Mr. Falvey promised that their request should be complied with as soon as the qualification business for the present year was brought to a close.

CALTON

On Wednesday evening, at eight o'clook, a public meeting of the inhabitants of the populous district of Culton and Mile-end, containing a population of upwards of 750,000, principally weavers and factory operatives, was held in the Relief Church, Kirk Street, convened on a requisition presented to Provost Bankier, most numerously and respectably signed, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning for a total and dimensional repealed the Corp Lights. The meeting twhich a way was requisited to provide a presented to the Corp Lights. The meeting twhich a way was requisited to the Corp Lights.

Provost Bankler, who was supported by many leading gentlemen of the district.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings by congratulating the meeting on the better understanding that now existed between the middle and working classes, which afforded a prospect of the interests of all being most materially advanced. With this union of interests, it was impossible that the abolition of the odious and unjust laws against the free importation of dorn could longer be denied to them. There was a moral containty that they must be to them. There was a moral certainty that they must be speedily repealed. The honourable gentleman then went on to glance at the unsatisfactory state of the harvest, and the prospects of distress which resulted from it, and con-cluded by calling on the meeting to leave no exertion untried to secure the triumph of Free Trade principles.

Resolutions were then unanimously agreed to, deploring the partial failure of the barvest, particularly the potato grop, and urgently calling upon Sir Robert Peel to advise her Majesty, by an order in conneil, to throw open the ports immediately. A resolution was also passed, utterly repudiating the idea of granting any compensation to the landed proprietors upon the abolition of the existing protective

The meeting then separated.

The following letter appeared in the Morning Chronicle of Tuesday, in reply to the one signed an " M.P., and a Member of the League" published on the previous Friday in the same Journal.

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle. Sin, In your journal of Friday last is a letter signed "M. P., a Member of the League," on which I am unxious to make a few observations. Your correspondent evidently has a lingering, if not a strong, attachment to the principle of protection; and he is willing to preserve it by means of a fixed duty or a sliding scale. That he is not a Free Trader is clear, from the bolief he avows in not a few of the arguments upon which the monopolists have chiefly relied. First, we are told that some revenue might be had from a fixed duty on corn; which is not denied by any one, although most persons who have examined the question are of opinion that revenue gained by any contrivance by which the supply of food is restricted is gained at the expense of a loss, from the injury inflicted upon the great mass of consumers. Next we learn that a fixed duty of 5s. per quarter would not enhance prices in the country at all, but that it would keep them somewhat lower in the producing country, by which the old and almost forgotten fallacy is attempted to be resuscitated, that a duty on imported corn would be paid by the foreigner. That a 5s. duty would to some extent limit the circle from which supplies would be drawn is too obvious to need proof, and no reason can be given why the foreigner would pay a duty of 5s., which would not be equally conclusive as to the probability of his also paying a duty of 10s. if such were imposed. But your correspondent attempts to justify a Corn Law on the old ground of special taxes paid by the land; or if he does not, he would at least endeavour to conciliate the landowners by taking half the county-police and poor-rates on the Consolidated Fund. He is " cortain that land pays more than its just share, as compared with other property, towards the maintenance of the poor," and says that "land pays on its improved value," and then he instances a cotton-mill, employing 1000 hands, paying, perhaps, on a value of 1000l. a-year, (which I may observe is, from ignorance or design, stated at less than half the real amount) while land employing 1000 hands would pay on a value of 30,000l., or in some cases of 40,000l. a-year. The landowners in Parliament have been asked to go into an inquiry as to their special burdens, and they have invariably refused. They never "tell their griefs," and the unavoidable conclusion is that they are too imaginary for the covery of a Parliamentary Committee. If by "conciliating" them is meant that we are advised to give, and they would be willing to exchange one wrong for another, I suspect they have played that game too long already, and that the country is too much alive to the question to submit to a mere shifting of the burden. But it appears a new idea has struck your correspondent; he has found out that "land pays on its improved value." And do not cotton mills pay on their improved value? Certainly they do; and any man at all fit to/give an opinion on such a point must know it perfectly well. Perhaps the strangest notion which "M.P." has propounded, is to be found in his statement as to the inequality of poorrate paid by a mill employing 1000 hands, and a number of farms employing an equal number of labourers. I have yet to learn that the value of any particular property is to be fixed by the number of workmen employed upon it. The trade of pin-making employs a large number of persons, but no one until now ever thought of charging the manufacturers engaged in that trade with poor-rate in proportion to the number of hands they employ. If the land pays upon 30,000l. ayear, it does so because it is worth a yearly rental of that amount, and if the mill pays only on 1000l., it is because the yearly value of it is no more. The moveable machinery in a mill does not pay poor-rate, nor does the cotton in process of manufacture; but to balance this, the agricultural implements on a farm, the crops growing, or in the stack or burn, the manure in the farm-yard, the horses, cows, sheep, &c., are all likewise exempt. In fact the capital of the tenant or cultivator pays no poor-rate whatever, unless it be incorporated with the land when sunk in permanent improvements. Of the hands engaged in mills it may be said that they are almost universally contributors to the poor rate, and very rarely become chargeable upon it; and I can point to mills employing fewer than 1000 hands which have paid a tax to the state on the bricks

alone with which they are built of not less than 1800/. Your correspondent is anxious to retain something of the corn monopoly, that he may got rid of the "einbar-rassing question" of the removal of all protecting duties. Now the Free Traders and the League are anxious not to leave a remnant of the Corn Law, because to the extent of what is left will mischief be done; and further, that no shadow of excuso may exist for the continuance

of any other protecting daty.

It is a miserable quibble to talk of the duties on ton or wine being a protection to the grower of barley or the brower of beer; and your correspondent may rest assured that the use of such an argument, if argument it can be called, will be taken by all who read it as a proof that, like his brother monopolists throughout the country, he is at his wit's end for an excuse for a great public wrong. But possibly his having recourse to such a quibble may proceed from a total ignorance or a total disregard of the principles of political economy; for I observe that a little farther on it is proposed to pass an act to convert rents under existing contracts into a corn rent charge, in case the Corn Law be repealed, until fresh agreements can be made. Is it love for the tenant, or the fear of the landlords which suggests this idea? I suspect the latter, with the view of magnifying the apprehended dangers of repeal, and thus stimulating the tenantry to a greater resistance to the change with which they are threatened. When wool was admitted free of duty, no breaking of contracts took place; and when cattle were admitted from abroad, graziers' leases were not cancelled by law; and corn will, before long, come in free, and Parliament will not interfere to overthrow existing arrangements with respect to the tenure of land. I may remark, however, that wherever a landowner has been a party to the fraud practised upon the tenants by the Corn Law, he would but act a just part if he offered to cancel the leases of such of his tenants who might wish to be freed from engagements contracted under the impression of a continuance of high prices secured by the law.

My chief reason for noticing this singular letter is not because the positions advanced in it appear to me untenuble, but because the writer signs himself, "M.P., a Member of the League," the M.P., I presume, meaning member of Parliament, and your note at the foot of the letter assures me that I am correct in this supposition. Now, if "M.P." be a member of the League, he must have joined that body under false pretences. He knows what are the principles of the League; and he has joined it for some other object that that of endeavouring to carry out those principles. If he be a member of it because he has subscribed to its funds, I may remind him that, about two years ago, when the 100,000l. fund was proposed, Mr. Cobden distinctly stated in public, I believe in Covent Garden Theatre, that the League wanted no money from any man who could not go with it to the full extent in the assertion of its principles; and he hinted that any assistance from any such person would be dearly gained if it enabled him, by seeming co-operation with the League for a time, to injure it at any future period by the betrayal of its cause. Your correspondent is not, and, with his present opinions, cannot be a member of the League in an honest sense; he does not hold the views and principles of the League, and he has no right to publish a letter in favour of monopoly with the signature he has assumed, that he may convey the false impression that members of the League would be content with, or would approve the policy he suggests. I know nothing of the authorship of the letter; but if I were forced to make a guess, I should say the writer of it has some interest in some petty, production of his own, either at home or in colonial produce; or, being a member of Parliament, he is a representative who has conformed to Free Trade unwillingly, and through a salutary fear of those who sent him to Parliament. To test this, I hope when next he writes as a Free Trader defending a Corn Law, he will publish his name, and then his constituents and the public will know who and what he is; and it will be a bolder and more manly course to oppose the League openly, than to assume its colours with the intention to betray it.

I am respectfully yours,

Jan. 12, 1846. [The writer of this letter, like the correspondent to whom he replies, is an "M.P., and a Member of the League," and one whose opinions are also deserving of every consideration.]

THE "PROTECTIONISTS" IN KENT.—The East and West Kent Agricultural Protection Societies have held their meetings—the former so secretly that no report of the meeting exists. Sir Edward Knatchbull was present, but rumour states that he did not encourage an agitation against Si Robert Peel. A petition was agreed on in favour of the present monopoly—and that was all. We did not hear that so much as sixty thousand furthings were subscribed to counteract the pounds sterling of the Leaguers .- Kent

FREE TRADE.—We are happy to learn that the workingclasses of this town are making arrangements for holding a public meeting to raise their voice in favour of Free Trade. Certainly, no one is so deeply interested in the abolition of a tax which makes bread dear and employment scurce as the man who lives on weekly wages. The monstrous delusion that cheap corn produces low wages may be imposed on herds and ploughmen in muirland parishes, but will be be scouted by the better-informed artisans and working-men of our towns.—Scotsman.

QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES. Will you, if elected, in Parliament, vote for the following measures, whenever and by whomseever brought forward —lat. For the total immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws.—2nd. For the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of all coustoms' duties on the import of the flesh of all animals fit for human food, whether living or dead, whether salt or fresh; who on lard, butter, cheese, or eggs.—Sid. For the repeal of so much of all customs' duties as give a preference

repeat of so much of all oustoms duties as give a preference to the produce of one country over that of another; whether the produce come from a British possession or a foreign country.

We hear, from a friend in the change camp that LORGA.

Herve will certainly support for Robert Peet in his and copies attention in the corn Date.

REVIEW.

Forest and Came Law Tales. By II. Martinen. Vols. I. and II. London. Moxon.

Miss Martineau has never been found absent from her post as a zealous advocate of philanthropic improvement, whenever any great question, involving the social happiness of the people, has been mooted The proved evils arising from the laws for the preservation of game having been established before a committee of the House of Commons, it is mon than probable that these laws will be subjected to thorough revision; and in order that such a reci sion may lead to a great amelioration, this bens volent lady has illustrated the principal evileresult ing from a system of game-preserving by a series of sketches, which should be called pictures from life, rather than tales. The sketches in the first volume are antiquarian and historical. She commences before the Conquest with a description of rural life in England as it existed under Cumbe when farmers who refused to furnish the best of their substance for the entertainment of the king. commissioners were obliged to collect a certain number of wolves' tongues as a fine. But thus punishment, politic and lenient as it may seem reduced the offender to the degrading condition of felon. His social existence ceased to be recognised while his wife and children were liable to be sold as slaves. Though these rude old times are far ne moved from our sympathies, Miss Martineau has given such a reality and truth to her description, that it is impossible to avoid feeling a deep interest in the fate of all the personages she has introduced The second tale, "The Manor and the Evrie,"

refers to the period after the Norman conquest, when cultivated lands were deliberately laid waste to be turned into forests and chases for the royal We deem this the best tale in the first volume; and the following extract abundantly provethat "Life in a Sick Room" has not weakened the writer's power of vivid delineation either in scenery

or character:

The royal City of Winchester lay fair to the eve anist its chase and its woodland 800 years ago, when its cathedal three monasteries, and the king's palace rose above the meaner dwellings hidden within its massive walls. Its castle was not yet built; and the afforesting of the district round was only half carried through: so that while in some parts green lawns, young copse, and clumps of old onks and clas approached the walls, on another side, a manor-house and is village, and a convent surrounded by its orchards and patures, might be seen within a short distance; and furtheroff. a farmstead here and there, amidst its fallows and young crops. Such was the aspect of the district one early spring morning, when all was stillness on the side of the budding woodland, where the dragon-fly came forth unnoticed from the rushes of the pools, and the birds twittered and fluttered. unheeded by the fowler; and even the deer crossed the glades unwatched by the king's regarders. Fowler, prestors, their children, and even their dogs, were engaged on the other side of the city walls, aiding or viewing the spectacle which there distinguished the day. On that side. there was no stillness. The sounds were not those of an ordinary working-day. From the village, nothing was head of the builder's mallet, or the carpenter's saw; from the fields, no ploughman's whistle, or herdsman's call. There was the table of the convention that of the convention of the convention of the convention. the toll of the convent bell, and the clang of that of the manor-house, till both ceased in the same moment,—exdently stopped by command, and, to judge by the murnur which arose, by some unacceptable command. The murnur was hushed by such a burst of foresters' horns and clamout of dogs as brought to the city walls the few inhabitants who were not already there to look abroad. And O! what a sight did they throng to see! The Benedictines came forth from their convent, in a procession whose order could not easily be preserved from the impatience of the royal dogs, and the press of the weeping poor, who were never more to receive the supply of their needs at the convent gate. Whenever there was confusion, the Superior stopped, and waited till needs are reserved to and they are reserved to and they are reserved to and they are reserved. order was restored; and then the train resumed its slow progress to one of the city gates. When the indignation of the gazers became so strong as to require some concessions the royal officers made an ostentations show of miscrations round the bearers of the convent plate and other valuables. if to guard them from robbery. Before the monks were within the walls, another spectacle fixed the attention of all who were near enough to see. The gates of the minor-house enclosure were—not opened—but thrown down; and forth came and the second opened other train. A rush was made to the spot: but there was a something encountered which made many shrink, and some look another way. The lord of the domain came first; and on the same horse was a veiled lady, whom all knew to be his eldest daughter. The other daughter, whose attitude showed extreme timidity, though her face could not be seen, rode next,—her horse led by an old serving man. No one claude to could be the should be seen. dared to speak to the lord. His restless eye and bloodles lips made him terrible. But several neighbours accepted by the control of the convent in a low voice, all edger to know where the family were going. To the convent first, with her and her, pointing to the young ladies; and to learn those things as an offering for their support. Chests of precious goods came next,—of gold and allyer cups and ornaments, and the embroidered handings of the inpartate ornaments, and the embroidered handings of the precious left behind. And where is my lord going hand he was to the ladies we shall came in the convent of the ladies we shall came in the convent of the ladies of the ladies. It was allows no time. It was allowed to the ladies of the ladies, and more for you of the ladies of the ladies, and more for you of the ladies, and he asked for a vessel for his family and convent the ladies, or the ladies, or the ladies, or the ladies, or the ladies, and more for you of the ladies, without the ladies, or the ladies, or the ladies, or the ladies, and more to the ladies, and the ladies, or the ladies of the ladies of the ladies. lips made him terrible. But several neighbours accorded

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very cottages? 'No,' replied old Dudda; 'no cottages and no folds will be left. They are all to be razed. It is all to be a waste where our village stands."

The "Staunch and their Work" is dated from the reign of King John, and is more illustrative of the history of Magna Charta than of the Game Laws. There is, however, great spirit in some of the historical pictures, particularly of the closing scene at Runnymede. We are less pleased with "Old Landmarks and Old Laws," and are disposed to regard the character of old Parr as a failure; the delineation is too indistinct to be effective.

The second volume opens with the admirable tale of "The Bishop's Flock and the Bishop's Herd." It describes the pranks of the deer-ponchers in Waltham Forest, who were frequently instigated and joined by wild young men of fashion. A sad accident on the night destined to be the last of the frolic led to fatal consequences. Let us glance at a farm-house, whose inmates act a leading part in the story, as the shades of the unhappy evening began to close:

"Polly was this evening salting her new butter, thinking the while somewhat soberly of the strange disorder which had entered their household. She was persuaded that her father was uneasy under it. He had spoken sharply to Asher about his wildness, though the lad had done nothing wild till his father led-the way; and the farmer had told her, three times over, without the subject being in any way led to, that in a few days he should have received compensation for the expense he had been put to by the deer, and then they must settle down, and have no more irregular doings this winter. Polly well knew that this expected money was from the sale of the venison which had now for three nights been sent off in large quantities to London; and she hoped full as earnestly as her father, that the Blacks would now soon disband for this time, and leave the district in peace. This night's peaching, she believed, was to be the last; and there seemed to be some doubt whether they would not to night be met by some force which would render it advisable for them met by some force which would render it any savie for them to close their enterprise. She wished that morning was come. While so thinking, the door opened, and she started. 'Don't be frightened, Miss Polly,' said the man who entered turning up the black crape which covered his face. 'Oh, Mr. Bob, what brings you here?'
'Only that I am pretty well tired of my post, and thought I should be better amused here. Your quiet neighbour

I should be better amused here. Your quiet neighbour gives us no sport at all—never tries to let fly so much as a little bird with his message to my dad and the rest. Not a thing have we seen more amusing than an old butler, or a frightened housemaid, peeping out of an attic window, to bearn whether we were still there. However, all is safe; and we are likely to have our night's sport undisturbed.

Mr. Bob was a law student, the son of a gamepreserving magistrate in the neighbourhood, who had joined the party of poachers called "the Waltham Blacks" for the mere sake of fun and excitement. His sport was soon changed to sadness:

"Mr. Bob was really about to propose her searching for some kind of whistle or pipe, and going out deer shooting with him, as a little snug private venture, which might be made a joke of in case of their being overtaken by any keeper who might have courage to follow up the shot, when attention of both was caught by the appearance of fire, not very far off.

"Mr. Bob muttered an oath, ran into the house, put on

his crape and hat, and was gone.

"Polly could not stay long behind. The fire presently flared less; but it became a redder and steadier burning. Where to seek her father and brother she knew not; and there was not a neighbour to whom she dared to own this, reept such as she had reason to suppose were with the Blacks. The suspense was soon unendurable. She locked the door, and ran at full speed, guided by the light of the fire, and soon by the shouts of a crowd, mingled with the

O, thank God! it is only the furze! cried she, stopping at the turn of the lane, and laying both her hands on her throbbing heart.

"It was a beautiful sight to her, relieved in mind as sho now was. The flames seemed to filt and dance, like spirits, over the space of common in front of her; to flit and then alight, and shoot up, and crackle and spread, and then make another leap. Polly's heart leaped with them, and she could not help calling out to an acquaintance who was run-

A pretty fright I have had; and you too, I dare say; and all because some silly boy has set the furze on fire. I might Well! I shall not be so easily scared next time.'

'Why, come on, mistress:' cried the man, beckoning as he ran. 'It's catching Squire Islerwood's house, they say.'

"Again Polly flew at her utmost speed. Slie found enough to he alarmed at when she came in full view of the scene.

"The spread of the fire was terrible, leaping as it did from the furze on the common to the fence of Mr. Isherwood's kitchen garden; from the fence to the wood pile; from the wood pile to the wood pile to the wood pile. wood pile to the doors and roofs of the offices; and thence to point after point of the main building, till it was clear that the whole must go. It was also fearful to see how the country people came rushing down to the scene of the fire, while the Waltham Blacks were still in considerable numbers on the spot though many had stolen away more caseful of on the spot, though many had stolen away, more careful of their own safety than of Mr. laberwood's property. It was early to see her father, wholly forgetting his blackened face and the risks he ran, tolling away to put out the fire, and get his naighbours to help him. We made them form a line from and the risks he ran, tolling away to put out the fire, and get his neighbours to help him. He made them form a line from the pond to the fire, and pass from hand to hand such buckets as they had been able to obtain: and there he stood, a Waltham Black confessed, in the row of his yellow-faced neighbours, as the fire shows equally upon them all. Yet more fearful was it to see, through smoke and the darkness of the night, fiffully lighted up by fire, rank beyond rank of horsemen approaching rapidly.

"Polly did not stoned for a second clause. She rushed down and the news, and forced her way with the strength of the state of the state would not be seen that the strength of the state would not have the strength of the state would not have the strength of the state.

Go you home, shild! You are wanted there. Mr. Bob is

hurt, and gone there. Go you home, I say,'
"She saw there was nothing else to be done; and half frantio, bome alle ran.

Trantic, nome ane ren.

"When she burst into the house, she found it already entered from the back. Mr. Bob was lying along the settle by the hearth, and a labourer's wife whom Asher had brought in from the neighbourhood, had taken off his coat, and was a but along the westerness and shirt to save bim pain. A cutting open his walatcoat and shirt, to save him pain. A falling beam had struck him on the shoulder, and bruised him severely; but it did not appear that any hones were broken, though the patient declared his belief that they all were. Asher gave no help till reproached by his sister for his standing in a corner, as if asteep. When he came forward to the light, such was his expression of countenance, and his paleness, that his sister left her patient for a moment, and his paleness, that his sister left her patient for a moment. threw her arms about his neck, and gave him a kiss which

The catastrophe is impressively told:

brought him to salutary tears.

"Mr. Bob was conveyed away, in the course of two or three nights, in safety; but at a cost of anxiety and terror which turned his mother's hair white, and furrowed her face, so as to excite the wonder of her neighbours, and cause mysterious whispers at a time when every one had enough of news to till aloud to all he met. Mr. Bob became a capital lawyer; but he lost all his fine spirits, and turned out by no means the genial character which everybody had expected from the sprightliness of his youth. His father stood in great awe of him, and grew less severe in his magisterial decisions, and less peremptory in the manner of giving them, even in game cases, and when his son was not at his ellow

than he had ever been before Mr. Bob was a lawyer.

"Mr. Bob escaped. But all else connected with the transactions of our story was as black and dreary as the law which ordered the catastrophe. Legal vengeance had full play, in retribution for the deeds of that brief season. It was the extreme severity of the law which caused the organisation of so formidable a band-it was the extent and force of this band and its organisation which caused the magistrates to be passive, and the officers of justice supine in their function. And now that the band was broken up, the reaction was violent, and a cruel law was enforced in a vindictive spirit. Livery magistrate who delighted in game was eager to see poachers punished. Every constable who had seen pass him in the streets culprits against whom he had warrants in his pocket which he dared not execute, was consoled when he can their and taken soled when he saw them and their comrades in irons or at the bar. The Waltham Blacks were a fallen foe—or at first supposed to be so; and those of them who were eaught had no mercy to expe t. As they passed through the streets of Winchester in companies-passed from the jail to the gal-

winelester in companies—passed from the juit to the guilows—they could only hope that their comrades yet at large would take warning, and let the game alone.

"It might have been thought that the warning was abundant; for the law was sufficiently preached and expounded by the spectacle of the hangings. It was pretty well known beneaftenessed that the appears around in any inclosed forest. henceforward that to appear armed in any inclosed forest or place where deer are usually kept, or in any warren for hares and conies, or in any high road, open heath, common or down, by day or by night, with faces blacked or otherwise disguised, or (being so disguised) to hunt, wound, kill, or steal any deer, to rob a warren, or to steal fish, or to procure by sife or procure of the steal fish, or to procure by gift or promise of reward any person to join them in such unlawful act, is felony without benefit of clergy.' That such was the law, all were reminded who passed Farmer Rasbrooke's place, during the years that it stood vacant, and who sighed to think that that man, though not wise, should have died on the gallows-that his spirited boy should have disappeared, and his gay daughter Polly should never have been seen to smile since the night of the fire at Mr. Isher-wood's. Instead of the merry laugh which might formerly be heard from the farm at any hour of the day, there was now only the ominous cry of the owl from the roof-tree. Instead of busy figures which used to trip from kitchen to dairy, and from dairy to poultry-yard, there was now a blan k solitude, unless those told the truth who said that Farmer Rasbrooke's ghost trailed about the premises at night, groaning bitter groans, and appearing to be searching for his chil dren. These things were enough to prevent any one taking the farm; and one would have thought they would be sufficient to deter men from following the deer; but they were not. The peaching in the forest went on till there were no deer left to make it worth while.

" Some of the neighbouring gentry were, on their part, no less slow to learn. When Bishop Hoadley was translated to Winchester, he was urged to restock the forest.

'No,' said he, 'I think we have had mischief enough already from the Waltham deer.'"

"Heathendom in Christendom" is a powerful but very painful tale of legal oppression and rustic revenge. We pass it over to come to the very affecting portraiture of an honest industrious farmer reduced to poverty by the ravages of the game in his landlord's preserves. The story is called "Four years in Maude Chapel Farm." In these four years a young landlord has for the first time established strict preserves in the neighbourhood, and the social evils resulting from the system are exhibited with equal fidelity to truth and nature. Let us take one of the earliest incidents:

"Much dismay was caused one Sunday morning by such an event as had never been witnessed or heard of before by the oldest inhabitant. Some children, the oldest not above the oldest inhabitant. Some children, the oldest not above fifteen, the youngest nine, went out bird-nesting. Four of them got into the wood, saying that people always used to gothere, and there was nothing but a gate to hinder them now. The others remained outside, being afraid of the keepers, and having some sense that it was wrong to go over locked gates. Their companions were bringing them a linner's nest, and a miscellany of eggs in a handkerohief, when the hallon of a keeper was heard, and Tucker appeared. The boys scampered, and all but one had cleared the gate when Tucker came up; and that one was on the top bar. Tucker boys scampered, and all but one had cleared the gate when Tucker came up; and that one was on the top bar. Tucker knocked him off, inside the gate, and struck him with a stick. As the man swore and threatened, and did not enjoy the good opinion of the neighbourhood, the children were sould be would murder their comrade. They pelted him with stones which lay about. He did not stand this long, but retreated through the wood, shaking his stick at the intruders. They went homewards, sufficiently instructed against trespassing, and some two or three of the more timid doubting which they had them, the last of it.

by the constable and the two under-keepers, and carried off to the house of a magiatrate. Of course they did not appear at home in time for church; and their families want without them. It was in church that the report spread that saveral children were to be carried off to Norwich Castle, for an assembly the next the course of the next the next the course of the next th sault on Mr. Neville's keeper. All that day and the next, the parents tried in vain to obtain access to the boys, or to the magistrate. They were merely told through the medium of the butler, that the case would come on on Wednesday morning, when they might attend. On Tuesday afternoon, however, they heard that the case had been heard that morning, the children fined ten pounds for an assault on the kesper, and, being unable to pay, were sent for a fortnight to the nearest House of Correction."

Another evil consequence soon follows:

"The autumn was far from being the obserful season that it ought to be in ordinary years, when the fruits of the earth are gathered in under a genial sun. The sun of this harvest was genial. All the influences of nature were as favourable as in any former year: but the widow herself could not but admit that never had she found it less easy to be merry at the harvest-home. The deficiency in the crops was so great, from the ravages of the rabbits and game, that she could not say that Henry ought to marry this Christmas, if he himself thought that he should not. Fanny King had been used to every comfort that persons in their rank are wont to enjoy; and it had been Henry's hope and thought of pride that he should bring her to a home which might compare favourably with that she had left. If he could not this year accomplish this ambition, his mother felt that she could say nothing against his waiting. Never at a loss for hope, however, the widow trusted that Fanny King would find means to intimate to her revering lover that she meant to marry him for himself, and had rather share his lowered fortunes than wait to be endowed with such as were good.

Do take out a certificate, and shoot down all you can; and I wish I could help you, she said to her son, in her restlessuess to be doing something, when they were estimating their losses after barvest. 'And as for the rabbits, cannot

we defend ourselves better against them?'
'Our men are wiring and trapping, morning and evening;—have been for months past, and must be, more and more, for the thirlips sake, as the year gets on: but it seems all of little use. If the keeper chooses to let them increase, we cannot keep them down.

Suppose you write to Mr. Neville about it.'

'He answers no letters of that kind, or not to any purpose. But I will see him when he comes down to shoot.

'Do, my dear. And tell him we could get seven or eight sacks of wheat to the acre, (though the land is none of the best,) but for the game. Tell him we did, before this year; and that this year we have under six.' 'I wid. And I must show him how the farm will suffer,

if we cannot do more than turn ourselves round in it

'Thut's right. And I dare say you will find him reasonable enough. He will compensate you, I dare say.'
"Henry shook his head.

What do you do that for, Henry? Why should not be make it up to us, when he sees he has injured us?"

'He must excuse our whole rent, and more, to make it up to us; and no landlord thinks of doing that for such a But cannot you give him a hint,-just drop a gentle hint,

you know, about an action for damages?—I mean, if you find he won't listen to you without.' No, because he knows that I could not bring an action.

I have all the law can give me now, in having the right to kill on my own farm.' Then there ought to be a better law, said the widow

I've no notion of a law that pretends to protect us, and then lets us be caten out of house and home. 'Well, that time is not come yet,' observed Dinah. 'We

have a home, dear mother."

'Yes, thank God, we have, my dears; and a very happy one, I'm sure,—for all a few losses now and then. We'll

make it up next year, Henry, depend upon it."

"Henry did not reply; for he did not see how, with above 150l. deficient, which he had hoped to put into the land, he could expect to prosper better. He could not see how he could help falling back, unless he could induce some great change in Mr. Neville's proceedings."

We need not follow every step in the decline and fall of the once prosperous farmer. Ruin came upon him with more rapid strides every successive year; he bore up against misfortune with the sturdy spirit of an English yeoman, but all his efforts were vain, and he sunk to the condition of a day

We shall wait for the appearance of the concluding volume to discuss the social and economic questions of griovances and their remedies which Miss Martineau has undertaken to illustrate. But looking upon this work as simply that of a novelist laying open life, we feel that it is one in which intelligence of the highest order is employed to excite sympathies of the purest and noblest character.

SIGN OF THE TIMES.—At a meeting of the Gloucestershire magistrates, held in the grand jury room, Gloucester, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., on the propriety of erecting additional lodgings for the judges, the following bint was thrown out as regards the Corn Laws. The Hon. C. F. Berkeley said he agreed that this was a question of time, but he thought the present was a very bad time for incurring such an expense. The country was on the eve of a very great change with regard to the agricultural interest, and they were bound to defer expending such a sum (7000L), until they knew what course would be taken, and he should raise bis voice against laying out any sum for judges' lodgings at the present time. Earl Fitzhardings said there was much that was worthy of consideration in the remarks made by the Hon. Craven Berkeley. That court was not a place for political discussions, but they could not ahut their eyes to the fact that some great cliange would take place which would affect the agriculturists very much indeed. Before the next quarter sessions they should know what it was pro-

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By Order of the Board.

Moorgate Chamipers, Moorgute-street, Jan. 1, 1848.

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of remony in all who have a surplus of income beyond providing for their current requirements.

400 Shares have now been taken up. It is evident this Society will be very large, so as not only to afford a good profit to those who have savings to invest, but to supply ample funds to such as wish to borrow money. From the present amount of Shares the Trustoes will have to receive £2050 every Calendar month, which according to the constitution of the Society has to be lent out to members of the Society on real or leasehold security, so that not only may small Shareholders be at once accommodated, but those whose circumstances render it desirable may take up £2000 or £3000 at once.

at once: It is evident that those who wish to borrow money prefer this Society, for Shareholders holding 583 Shares have given bonuses averaging £16 2a. 14d. per Share, in order to have their Shares (£60 each) advanced to

them at once.

One peculiar feature in this undertaking is the facility afforded to Building Members to obtain the County Franchise in the first year; us, on all purchased Shares for building with, the monthly subscription may be reduced to 2s. 6d.; thus leaving a surplus of rent beyond the encumbrance on morigage sufficient to give a qualification.

Thu Second Meeting of the Society will take place at the Free Trade Hall on the 4th February, at half-past beven o'clock, when a public meeting of the members and friends will be held; prior to which shares may be taken up at the Secretary's Office, 9, Princess street, Maschestar, by payment of One Month's Bubscription; from whom copies of the Rules and Prospectures may also be obtained.

TONDON AND PROVINCIAL BUILDING AND INVESTMENT HOCIETY.
(To be Enrolled pursuant to Act of Parliament, 6 & 7 Wm. IV., ch. 32.)
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John Morris, Raq., 58, Fenchurch Street, and 4, Trinity Terrace, Poplar. The projectors of this Society, availing themselves of the experience fursished by the history of Building Societies, have matured a plan which not only embraces all the advantages of those societies, and avoids the inconveniences incident to some of them. but secures peculiar benefits to the shareholders, and opens its doors to parties hitherto altogother overlooked. Sanctioned by ministors and laymon, whose names are a sufficient guarantee for the infegrity and spirit by which all the operations of the London and Provincial Building and Investment Society will be governed, the Projectors confidently appeal to the religious public, and invite them to John a Society through which (as will be presently shown) they may be assisted in their offorts to promote the cause of religion, and the education of the young.

of the young.

The objects generally contouplated by Building Societies are—To enable the shareholders to build or purchase household property. To give those shareholders who do not wish to build or purchase, a higher rate of interest furtheir money than they could obtain in the Public Funds or the Savings Banks. Some Societies also advance money to enable shareholders to re-

for their money than they could obtain the Public Funus or the navings lianks. Some Societies also advance money to enable shareholders to redeem mortgaged property.

The objects of the present Society are the following:—

1. To enable persons to build dwelling-houses, or to purchase freehold or leasthold property, on the most advantageous terms.

2. To afford satisfance to congregations wishing to creet chaptes or school-rooms, and to enable parties to extinguish chapel debts, and prevent the possibility of foreologue in cases where buildings are mortgaged.

3. To give to monthly depositors a higher rate of interest than is yielded by the ordinary modes of investment.

4. To give to persons advancing money by way of loan to this Society interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum.

5. To advance money to shareholders upon freehold or leasehold property, and upon reversions or other kinds of real security, subject to the approval of the Directors; and to enable mortgagers to redeem their mortgages.

approval of the Directors; and to emble mortgagors to redeem their mortgages.

Applications for Shares may be made, in the undermentioned form, to Mr. Ituil Terrell, 30, Hasinghiall-street; Mr. Joseph Hagstor, 3, Size-lane, Rucklersbury; and of Mr. William Lawley, 6, Red Lion-street, Borough, from whom also Prospectuses may be obtained.

Prospectuses may also be obtained at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, and John Morris, Esq., 38, Penelurch street, or 4, Trinity-terrace, Poplar.

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I request you will enrol me a Member of the Lundon and Provincial Building and Investment Society for Shares, and I enclose & a. d. being the Butrance Fee of 2s. 6d., and the first Monthly Subscription of 12s. Name in full—

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PERDOE'S WINTER OVER-COATS, TRAVELLED WHAPPERS, and OUTSIDE GARMANTS of all testing accounts of all testing accounts of an experience of which an inspection as a lift a facet of first late garments, of which an inspection as a lift a facet, of a to our first late garments, of which an inspection as a series of the second of the second trains to order), all a facet of the second of the second

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TOHN GOSMELL and CO.'S ANIBROSIAL SHAY
OR MAN (Paramised by Prince Albert). This inestinable free
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In Pois, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 6c.

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THE TRIPLE HAIR BRUSH. One stroke of is equal to the effect of one penetrating, five small tooth can one even cut brush; to be had in four sizes, No. 7, &s. 6d. No. 9, No. 9, Sed. No. 10, 11s. 6d.

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THE DOUBLE ANTI-PRESSURE NAIL BRUSH, w does not divide the quick from the nnil, no pressure being reading theoroughly cleans and polishes the nnils in a tenth part of the date other method. Price, in Bone, No. 1, 2s. No. 2, 2s. 6d. No. 3, 3s. 6d. 4, 3s., and of all sizes and prices in Ivory.

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Though nothing but a piece of agur'd tage;
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In proper hands (like those at MOBES' Mart)
The measure acts a most important part.
Look at that gentleman! and you'd confess
Winer a true fit distinguishes his dress!
And why is this? Because he purchas'd where
The skifful hand can measure to a hair.
MOSES and SON (who never are remiss)
Have always been particular in this.
And nothing, nothing do they let escape
Connected with this piece of figur'd tage.
MOSES and SON, at all times, try to please,
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Neat to the eye, and fashionably smart.
In waistecuts, too, they show the greatest taste,
liy fitting on the shoulder, breast, and waistLook at the coats of MOSES at your leisure;
Those choice productions of the "Tailor's Measure!"
In back, and sleeves, and breast, and skirt, and naps.

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Men's Suits, dress coat, vest, and fromsets

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Interpretable purchased or ordered if selanged, or the money returned.
Onserve. B. MOSHS and SON, Tallers, v. drapers, Outlitters, and General Watchessens, gats, Oily, opposite the Church.
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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE COUNTIES! THE COUNTIES! ONLY SIX DAYS MORE!

We are come now to the last time of asking. THE THIRTIETH OF JANUARY IS AT HAND. Another week, and it will be too late. When we next address the public, the campaign will be over, and the watchword of struggle and victory—"QUALIFY! QUALIFY! QUALIFY!-will have lost its meaning and power, for this season. FRIDAY NEXT, the thirtieth instant, is the LATEST DAY up to which county qualifications can be purchased in time for the registration of the year 1846. A week hence, and the books will be closed. Whoever is unqualified then, will be too late for the church-door lists in July, and the revising barristers' courts in September-too late to bear a part in any general election that may take place between the 1st of December, 1846, and the 1st of December, 1847.

We entreat our hitherto unqualified friends to lose not an hour that now remains to them, for arming themselves with the only one weapon that can avail in this warfare of right against might, and of a nation against an oligarchy. We trust that no Free Trader, possessed of the means of entering himself on the muster roll, will subject himself to the bitter mortification of being self-doomed to stand by a passive and powerless spectator of the closing struggle. Let nobody dream that this question either will or can be settled without an APPEAL TO THE PROPIE -i. s., an appeal to those of the people who have got votes. Never mind about or Robert Peel and his "plan"—be that plan what it may. The assumption that Sir Robert-Peel can carry the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Law through the two Houses of Parliament, without an intervening general election, is one of the wildest of hallucinations. The Prople have done it all, thus farand rely on it, the People will have to do it all, at last. The total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Law will, almost certainly, be the work of the next House of Commons ;—and the next Rouse of Commons will, almost certainly (should the present one live long enough) be elected under Die fegiatration of 1846.

The time is short—yet much may still be done in his short time. In the precious six days that now main, there is time for thousands and thousands the upendanchised to pay money, receive their his to a freehold that county, and a share in county and a share in a share in the county and a share in the county are the county and a share in the county and a share in the county are the co

these few days may be invaluable. Where much has been accomplished, and the victory is all but won, a little more may make all the difference between a minority and a majority—or between a mere majority, and a majority so decisive and commanding, as to preclude all possibility of defeat, or even of contest.

Once more, then, with all the earnestness and emphasis prompted by the conviction, that the time, though short, is yet long enough for great successes—that victory is within our grasp, if we will but grasp it—and that the exertions of the next six days may have much to do with making the Parliament that is to make England free for ever from landlordism and artifleial famine—we reiterate our fervent exhortation and entreaty to the Free Traders of every county in England, to

QUALIFY, QUALIFY, QUALIFY.

MR. COWPER AND THE BOROUGH OF HERTFORD.

We are glad to learn, by the subjoined letter which we have received from a highly respectable elector of Hertford, that we were mistaken in supposing that the Honourable W. F. Cowper represonts that borough by aristocratic nomination, rather than by popular election. The passage in last week's number of THE LEAGUE to which our correspondent demurs—to the effect that Mr. Cow per's connexion with the Hertford constituency is based on the "favour of a couple of peers"was written on the authority of Dodd's Parliamentary Companion, which states that "the Marquis of Salisbury has considerable in-FLUENCE in this borough, as has also EARL COW-PER." From this we inferred, that a relative of Earl Cowper's, sitting in Parliament for this borough of Hertford, was the representative, not so much of the electors, as of that "considerable influence" which, in the vast majority of boroughs thus under influence, overrides all choice and judgment on the part of the constituencies, and makes the form of popular election a mere farce and sham. Our correspondent will, we are sure, allow that the inference was natural; -we most willingly and gladly give him the use of our columns, to tell the world that it was erroneous. His letter is as follows:---

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.
"Herford, 20th of 1st month, 1846.

"ESTERMED FRIEND,—I will not comment on any part of your remarks upon the speech of the Hon. W. F. Cowper at the late election of a member for this county, as far as regards what is personal to that hon. gentleman; but, as an elector of the Borough of Hortford, I ask you to remove from the Liberal electors the stigma cast on them in that article, which states, that the Hon. W. F. Cowper 'represents, under favour of a couple of peers, the populous and influential Borough of Hertford.' Now, so far from his being the nominee of any peer or couple of peers, it is well known that he came forward at the earnest request of the electors, as signified by regulation, numerously signed, just in the same way as Lord Morpeth had been invited, and has agreed to stand for the West Riding: and to the honour of the Cowper family be it stated, they have never improperly interfered in our elections.

our elections.

"Whilst admitting, as I most cheerfully do, the great service rendered to the public by the exertions of the Lengue, I regret its organ should do injustice to any party; and I have no doubt they will have pleasure in correcting it in their next Number.

"I am, sincerely, thy friend,
"William Pollard."

Our correspondent does us no more than justice. We feel real pleasure in giving publicity to the above—not merely as a simple act of fairness to Mr. Cowper and the Hertford electors, but because it expresses an honourable sense of independence on the part of the Hertford constituency, and intimates an equally honourable respect for that independence, on the part of the Cowper family, both of which are, we fear, extremely uncommon in boroughs where "considerable influence" exists. It is creditable to the spirit of the Hertford electors, that they resent, as a "stigma," the implied imputation

of subserviency to a couple of peers; and it is creditable to the Cowper family, that they do not, like so many others of their order under similar circumstances, practise that oppressive and unconstitutional dictation which has reduced a large number of our Parliamentary boroughs to the condition of so many Gattons and Old Sarums We should be most happy to be informed, on authority as trustworthy as that of our correspondent, that Hertford is not, in these respects, a most rare exception from the general rule of the class of boroughs (some fifty or sixty) to which it belongs.

THE LAST OF THE PROTECTION SOCIETY MEETINGS.

We suppose society may now congratulate itself on having come to the end of those exhibitions of fatuous imbecility and drivelling rant. The spokesmen of the agricultural mind will, for some time to come, be safely housed, "attending to their Parliamentary duties," in a place where they do not speak; and the sated world will hear little more of its Tyrrells, and Miloses, and Newdigates, and Knightleys. The thoughts and words of statesmen will now occupy those columns which have latterly teemed with a brainless twaddle, that might have been held to qualify its authors for the interior of an asylum, did it not also afford satisfactory evidence that the poor creatures were thoroughly harmless.

We are glad of it. The thing was coming to be too tiresome. It was very well at first. We have had our laugh, like other people; and when the drollery grew flat, and one felt rather the lumiliation of witnessing such awful self-exposures on the part of educated English gentlemen with decent coats on their backs, still there was the satisfaction that the affair was doing a salutary public work, by revealing the otherwise unconceivable mental pauperism of the protectionist cause. But the work is done, and no further revelations from that quarter are needed. All mankind have known for this many a week past, that monopolist landlordism has not an idea in its head-nor a reasonable, or reasonable-seeming, word to say for itself; that the party has scarcely a man in its ranks capable of making a decent figure at a tenth-rate spouting-club; and that "protection meeting" is but a short phrase for a certain amount of bungling and falsified statistics, exploded fallacies, ridiculous self-contradictions, and coarse and stupid virulence, uttered at small private parties in the large rooms of small country-town inns. Another hundred of them would add nothing to an already redundant demonstration. Latterly, the whole affair has only been a thing to yawn at. Curry-powder had lost its savour. Salmon was stale. The British lion was tame. The joke of "fighting the League with its own weapons" was dull. The Lennox poetry had gone the round of the critics. The dukes seemed to have exhausted themselves. Even the Norwich "shindy" turned out a failure. There was no shindy at all—so far, at least, as we can learn what a shindy is, or ought to be-but only one of Mr. Cobdon's very best and most powerful speeches on the effects of protection on agriculture, rapturously applauded by five thousand people, in the enpital of a great agricultural district. If there were one or two other incidents on the occasion, it is but common charity not to speak of them.

Nover, surely, was a party so uttorly, helplessly, and hopelessly prestrate as is this "country party"—as we believe it calls itself. Without a man of average Parliamentary talent to lead it in the House of Commons; snubbed most cruelly by the Premier, whom it made, but cannot unmake; the scoff and byword of the country; incapable of opening its

mouth, without letting out the most desperate inanities and stupidities; without brains even to give a decent show of verbinilitude to its own fallacies; unable to call a public meeting in the most purely agricultural of country towns or villages, without a moral cortainty of disastrous defect; insanely boastful and bullying, yet abjectly fearful; trombling all over, both with rage and terror; afraid of Peel, afraid of the farmers, afraid of its own representatives, afraid of the League, afraid of mountains of best foreign wheat, which labourers who get no wages grow on farms that pay no taxes; -- was there ever anything in this world in so dismal a case as our British landlordism?

We bear these men no manner of ill will. Their day for mischief is over. They have still their Parliamentary majority (perhaps); but if they had twice their majority, they could do the country no great ham. They have not do snything with their majority. A few of the crazier ones may indulge in the anties of a shun resistance to a necessity known to be inevitable -- but practically, the thing is over. We may look for some kicking and sprawling -- but the hook is in the jaw of this big Leviathan of a "landed interest," and the creature will be safely hauled to shore.

LORD BROUGHAM IN A TAKING ABOUT THE LEAGUE.

We do not know that we are quite right in calling The attention of the public to the late Parliamentary display of this eccentric person. The precise nature and extent of Lord Brougham's responsibility for his words is, we believe, still an open question with the psychologists; and though we are not aware that he is entitled to the full benefit of the legal plea for an uncontrolled license of speech, we feel that the case demands every equitable consideration. must be owned that Lord Brougham has received the most deadly provocation. The League have done without his lordship, and mean to do without him. The League never asked his lordship's opinion -never took his lordship's advice-never sought or acknowledged the favour of his lordship's advoeacy of Free Trade in the abstract-never deprecated his lordship's censure-never recognised his lordship's existence, save on one or two occasions, the memory of which it would be cruel to revive, From first to last, his lordship has never been consulted about the League. And now the League are triumphing without his lordship. The grandest political drama of this age is being played out, with the part of Brougham (except in the capacity of candle-smuffer) omitted by everybody's desire. Actually, not a human creature cares—we are sure a vast number do not know--which sidé Lord Brougham is of. Could there be a graver offencea more exasperating and inexpiable provocation?

As it is out of the question seriously to resentany thing from a man whose inordinate and mortified vanity, disappointed ambition, soured temper, and constitutional recklessness of tongue, seem to deprive him of all power of self-restraint; and, as it is needless to controvert the nonsense, or turn aside the censures, of a man who has played the spendthrift with his talents and character, and muddled away the last remnant of the moral force, weight, and influence once attached to his name; -we are, on the whole, contented to leave Lord Brougham to be his own tormentor. We think it quite punishment enough, simply to put on record the Brougham opinions, as they stand. Be it known, then, to all whom it may concern, that Lord Brougham" must be allowed to express his disapprobation of the manner in which his opinions"—that is, lifs free Trade opinions— "important as he deems them, and sincerely as he holds them, have formerly, but chiefly of late, been supported." And Lord Brougham "would rather put his right hand into the fire till it was consumed, than put it to a document which pretended that the Corn Law was the cause of crime, of famine, of disease, and of death." - And Lord Brougham thinks the proceedings of the League, though "perfectly lauful," most particularly "unconstitutional," and rules that " those who enter into voluntary contributions without the consent of Parliament, must be

prepared to abandon the constitution." And if Lord Brougham "were asked, was he one of the League, or one of the followers of the League, or one of the allies, or one of the Accomplices of the Leagues-or If he were niked, ' Are their means your means! then he would unhesitatingly answer, 'God forbid.' And Lord Brougham "cannot bring himself to think favourably " of constant political agitation," and greatly deprecates "forment" and public "excitement," and "would have" the legislature "wholly uninfluenced by the pressure of the multitude from without" (as it was in the days of his Lordship's Reform Bill)-it being well known that all our great reforms for the last thirty years have heen carried by Parliament being left to do exactly as it ploased. The "abolition of the slave trade," in particular, is felicitously instanced by his lordship as a measure which was carried "without agita-TION !!!"

Has Lord Brougham no friends? They should be on the alert. Trying times are coming. The exasperating and unbearable fact of his lordship's moral and political nullity is about to be more pulpably manifested than ever. The greatest national struggle of this generation has been begun and carried on, and will now be finished without him. Why must he put the world in mind of himself? The world is good-natured-quite willing to forget, and pass on.

We pass to a far more agreeable duty in calling our readers' attention to the able and triumphant vindication of the League by our noble champion, Earl Radnor, which will appear in another part of our columns.

THE BEEF, BACON, BUTTER, AND CHEESE MONOPOLIES.

Previously to the formation of the League, no foreign cows, oxen, bulls, calves, sheep, hambs, or swine were permitted to enter this country to be slaughtered for food. Foreign beef, veal, mutton lamb, and pork, were alike forbidden by law to be eaten by the people. It is pretended by the monopolists that these iniquitous laws were passed for the protection and benefit of the farmers, and their labourers; and that if they were abolished, both would be involved in ruin.

Few of our readers have probably read without emotion the extraordinary proceedings of the meeting of the starving Wiltshire labourers, in our last Number. What an affecting and unanswerable refutation do they present to the monopolist fallacies! Thirty years of protection have ended in yielding these poor labourers the magnificent wages of 0s. to 8s. per week! William Burchell, one of these protected labourers, told the meeting that

"He was past forty years of age, and he could say that he never purchased a pound of good slaughtered beef fit to be carried into market. As to mutton, he had purchased a little of that; but never as much as would average a pound a year in the forty years. He knew what yeal was, but he had never had any at all."

Well may these poor creatures cry out when told by their masters that "Free Trade would starve them," "Let us try it, we can't be worse off!" Things have assumed a serious aspect in Wiltshire. Truly it is high time to try Free Trade; and by the help of God we will never cease our labours until it be tried; for, be it remembered, that the League was founded to obtain not only the total and unconditional repeal of the infamous Corn Laws, but also the total repeal of the no less infamous provision

The time is at hand when these laws must again be brought under the consideration of the legislature. Sir Robert Peel's tariff of 1842 removed the prohibition of foreign cattle and meat, but in its stead imposed such heavy protective duties as to render their admission more nominal than real. All the foreign meat imported in a whole year is scarcely sufficient for a single day's consumption of the metropolis. Of the butter imported, a considerable quantity has been mixed with tar, to save the duty, and then sold as grosso! In the last session of Parliament, when Mr. Ewart moved for the ropeal of the butter and choose duties, Sir Robert Peel did posed the proposal on the ground that these duties involved a financial question, and that he had then disposed of all the surplus revenue in the remission

of sundry other taxes. That the Government can not spare the amount of revenue produced by the taxes on provisions is an idle pretence, as we shall presently show. We do not ask for one farthing of the existing revenue to be given up for this object We are prepared to prove that not only the provisor taxes, but taxes to sight times the amount they produce, may be remitted without imposing one shilling of additional burthen upon the people.

The duties levied on the following foreign projection sions in the year 1844, the latest official account published, were as follows:

8,588 owts., at 14s. Od. & 2,170 Bacon and Hame Beef, salted 5,204 ,, Pork, salted 1.811 Butter 180,601 20s. 0d. 190,00 Cheese 210,480 10s. 6d. 110,50g Total

296,181 The total repeal of the above provision mopa polies would create a loss of revenue amounting to 300,000l. How then can this deficiency be made up? Simply by the abolition of another monpoly. Sugar, imported from our own colonics, 144, a duty of 14s. per cwt., whilst foreign sugar pay, 28s. 4d. per cwt. The consequence of this difference in the rate of duty is a corresponding differ ence in the market price. Suppose the price of sugar duty paid be 54s. per cwt., colonial sugar without duty will sell in the market at 9s. 1d. per cwt. more than the same quality of foreign sugar because the duty on colonial sugar is 9s. 4d per owt. less than on foreign sugar: thus:

FOREIGN. COLONIAL. Sugar in bond 80s. 8d. per cwt. Sugar in bond 40e, 23s. 1d. Duty - 118. 04s. 0d.

There cannot be two prices in the market for an article of the same quality, paying the same rate of duty. If therefore the duties on foreign and colo nial sugar were alike, the price in bond (that is to say, without duty) would be also alike. Now foreign sugar in bond is selling at 30s. 8d. per cwt. of the same quality as colonial sugar which sells at 515 per cwt., duty paid. The elements of the price of this sugar are therefore as follows:

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Real value of sugar in bond Tux paid to the Queen Tax paid to the sugar monopolist 9 4

To meet the loss of revenue by the repeal of the taxes on provisions, we propose to transfer that pertion of the tax on sugar at present paid to the sign monopolists to its only legitimate claimant the Queen's Exchequer. Estimating the consumption of colonial sugar at 4,800,000 cwts. per annual at 9s. 4d. per cwt., the Queen would gain an additional revenue of no less than 2,200,000l. per annal. Add to this 2d. por lb. tax at present paid to the coffee monopolists on 20,000,000 lbs. of colleamounting to 170,000l., which we propose also to transfer to the Queen's Exchequer, there would be from these two sources a revenue amounting to 2.370,000l. per annum, and the people would continue to pay precisely the same prices for their sugar and coffee which they do now.

It is sufficient for us to show that there are no real grounds for the pretence of maintaining the beef, bacon, butter, and cheese monopolies on the plea that the revenue derived from these articles cannot be spared. We shall not now enter into the discussion in what manner the surplus of more than 2,000,000%, which would remain, after providing for the loss of revenue, in the abolition of the provision taxes, could be best appropriated, because we may hereafter enter upon this question in dicussing the sugar duties; but we trust our friends in Parliament will now be prepared to meet a reptition of the arguments of last session against the repeal of the provision laws; and if they find themsolves outvoted on our view of the question, we venture to suggest another plan of meeting the loss of revenue or provisions, viz. by extending the probate and legacy duties to real property. A case came recently under our notice, of a poor washerwoman, who, by 40 years of wearlsome toll and rigid

probate and legacy duties. We could not avoid the reflection that, if this poor woman's property was taxed, it seemed but an act of justice that the lands and houses of the Duke of Richmond, and our other hereditary legislators, should be taxed in like manner; and yet, strange to say, their lands have deseended to their heirs from generation to generation ever since the tax was laid, without having contributed one shilling of probate and legacy duty !!

IMPORTANT DECLARATION OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IN FAVOUR OF FREE TRADE.

We have been delighted and cheered by the response to our labours from our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic more than we can express. The able and enlightened report of Mr. Walker, the Secretary of the Treasury, on the finances of the United States, on which President Polk's message to Congress is founded, has given us unmixed pleasure. The doctrines laid down in this most important document, relating to trade and the principles of taxation, are suited to all times and to all countries; and it comes most opportunely on the eve of a session of Parliament, in which those questions will absorb almost exclusive attention.

The Secretary acknowledges in a frank and candid spirit the improvements made during the last three or four years in the British tariff, and urges them as reasons for similar improvements in the tariff of the United States.

To meet the repeal of the cotton duty, and the reduction on American grain and provisions, the Secretary recommends that the duty on salt should be repealed; that on iron reduced from 60 per cent. ad valorem to 20; and all other duties reduced to the lowest point compatible with raising the necessary amount of public revenue. This recommendation ought to stop the mouths of those English protectionists who are continually declaring that foreign nations will not reciprocate our concossions, as effectually as the facts on which it is founded will close the mouths of the American manufacturers.

The following extracts from the report will be read with great pleasure by the friends of Free Trade, and may be read with great profit by its opponents.

The Secretary ably refutes the reciprocity fullacy, and declares that the repeal of our Corn Laws would result in the overthrow of the protective system in the United States.

" Sail, climate, and other causes (he says,) vary very much, in different countries, the pursuits which are most profitable in each; and the prosperity of all of them will be best promoted by leaving them, unrestricted by legislation, to exchange with each other those fabrics and products which they severally raise most cheaply. This is clearly illustrated by the perfect Free Trade which exists among all the States of the Union, and by the scknowledged fact that any one of those States would be injured by imposing duties upon one of these States would be injured by imposing duties upon the products of others. It is generally conseded that reciprocal free Trade among untions would best advance the interest of all. But it is contended that we must meet the tariffs of other patients by counterestime registrons. That duties other nations by countervailing restrictions. That duties npon our exports by foreign nations are prejudicial to us, is conceded; but whilst this injury is lightly felt by the manufacturers, its weight falls almost exclusively upon agriculture, commerce, and navigation. If those interests which sustain the loss do not ask countervailing restrictions, it should not be demanded by the manufacturers who do not feel the be demanded by the n injury, and whose fabrics, in fact, are not excluded by the foreign legislation of which they complain. That agriculture, commerce, and navigation are injured by foreign restrictions, constitutes no reason why they should be subjected to still soveken treatment by additional materialisms, and to still severer treatment, by additional restrictions, and countervailing tariffs enacted at home. Commerce, agriculture, and navigation, harassed as they may be by foreign restrictions, diminishing the amount of exchangeable products which they could otherwise purchase abroad, are burdened with heavier, impositions at home. Nor will augmented duties here load to a reduction of foreign tariffs; but the reverse by furnishing the prefered degree there augmented duties here load to a reduction of foreign tarins; but the reverse, by furnishing the protected classes there with the identical argument used by the protected classes here against reduction. By countervalling restrictions, we injure our own fellow-citizens much more than the foreign nation at whom we purpose to aim their force; and, in the conflict of opposing thrifts, we ascriffee our own counterce, agriculture, and maximum As well might we impose conflict of opposing thrifts, we storifice our own commerce, agriculture, and navigation. As well might we impose inconarchical or aristoarsite restrictions on our government or people, because that is the course of foreign legislation. Let our commerce be as free as our political institutions. Let us, with revenue duties only, open our ports to all the world, and nation after nation will soon follow our example. If we reduce our tariff, the fairty opposed to the Corn Laws of England would soon prevail, and admit all our agricultural products at attention therefore, and single faires apply our while, they have been ports, in exchange duties apply our while, they have been done to the agricultural products at a tentions. They have been soon prevail, and so they are ports, in exchange duties apply our while, they have been would now repeal her putting and our while, they have within would carried by putting and other agricultures are supposed to the corn laws of the corn, and other agricultures are supposed to the corn in the supposed to the supposed to the supposed to the suppos

visions, and other articles; and her present had harvest, accompanied by a reduction of our turiff, would lead to the repeal of her Corn Laws, and the unrestricted admission, at all times, of our agricultural products."

Commerce is the exchange of the products of one country for those of another. The report shows that when nations pass laws which interfere with this natural exchange, and force exports of specie. trade must be necessarily restricted. Our Corn Laws have afforded too many instances of the truth of this fact. Having no regular trade with foreign countries for corn in exchange for our manufactures, whenever we need foreign supplies of corn we are obliged to pay for it in specie; and hence the disturbance of our currency, the diminished demand for our manufactures, the decline in prices, the want of employment, and the long train of evils which follow.

"The growing West, in a series of years, must be the greatest sufferers by the tariff, in depriving them of the foreign market, and of that of the cotton-growing states. We demand, in fact, for our agricultural products, specie from nearly all the the world, by heavy taxes upon all their manufactures; and their purchases from us must therefore be limited, as well as their sales to us enhanced in price. Such a demand for specie, which we know in advance cannot be complied with, is nearly equivalent to a decree excluding most of our agricultural products from the foreign markets Such is the rigour of our restrictions, that nothing short of a famine opens freely the ports of Europe for our breadstuffs. Agriculture is our chief employment; it is best adapted to our situation, and, if not depressed by the tariff, would be the most profitable. We can raise a larger surplus of agricultural products, and a greater variety; than almost any other nation, and at cheaper rates. Remove, then, from agriculture all our rastrictions, and, by its own unfettered power, it will break down all foreign restrictions, and, our own being removed, would feed the hungry and clothe the poor of our fellow men throughout all the densely peopled nations of the world. But now we will take nothing in exchange for these products but specie, except at very high duties; and nothing but a famine breaks down all foreign restrictions, and opens for a time the ports of Europe to our breadstuffs. If, on a reduction of our duties, England repeals her Corn Laws, nearly all Europe must follow her example, or give to her manufacturers advantages which cannot be successfully encountered in most of the markets of the world. The tariff did not raise the price of our brendstuffs, but a bad harvest in England does—giving us for the time that foreign market which we would soon have at all times, by that repeal of the Corn Law which must follow the reduction of our duties, But while breadstuffs rise with a bad barvest in England, cotton almost invariably falls; because the increased sum which, in that event, England must pay for our breadstuffs we will take, not in manufactures, but only in specie; and, not having it to spare, she brings down, even to a greater extent, the price of our cotton. Hence the result, that a bad harvest in England reduces the aggregate price of our ex ports, often turns the exchanges against us, carrying our specie abroad, and inflicting a serious blow on our prosperity.

Foreign nations cannot for a series of years import more than they export; and if we close our markets against their imports by high duties, they must buy less of our exports, or give a lower price, or both.

"Coal, iron, sugar, and molasses, articles of great bulk and weight, yielded last year six millions of revenue, at an average rate of duty exceeding 60 per cent. ad valorem. These duties are far too high for revenue upon all these articles, and ought to be reduced to the revenue standard.

"The duty on cotton-bagging is equivalent to 55 20 per cent. ad valorem on the Scotch bagging, and to 123 11 per cent. on the gunny bag; and yet the whole revenue from these duties has fallen to 00,064,00 dollars. Nearly the cutire amount, therefore, of this enormous tax makes no addition to the revenue, but passes to the benefit of about thirty manufacturers. As five-sixths of the cotton crop is exported abroad, the same proportion of the bagging around the bald is exported, and sold abroad at a heavy loss, growing out of a deduction for ture. Now, as duties are designed to operate only on the domestic consumption, there ought to be a draw back of the whole duty on cotton-bagging re-exported around the bale, on the same principles on which drawbacks are allowed in other cases. The cotton planting is the great exporting interest, and suffers from the tariff in the double capacity of consumer and exporter. Cotton is the great basis of our foreign exchange, furnishing most of the means to purchase imports and supply the revenue. It is thus the source of two thirds of the revenue, and of our foreign freight and commerce, upholding our commercial marine, and maritime power. It is also a bond of peace with foreign nations, constructing a stronger preventive of war than armies or constructing a stronger preventive of war than armies or navies, forts or armaments. At present prices, our cotton crop will yield an annual product of 72,000,000 dollars, and the manufactured fabric 501,000,000 dollars, furnishing profits abroad to thousands of capitalists, and wages to hundreds of thousands of the working classes—all of whom would be deeply injured by any disturbances, growing out of a state of war, to the direct and adequate supply of the raw-material. If our manufacturers consumn 400,000 hates, it material. If our manufacturers consume 400,000 bales, it would cost them 12,000,000 dollars, whilst selling the manufactured fabric for 84,000,000 dollars; and they should be the last to unite in imposing heavy taxes upon that great interest which supplies them with the raw material out of which they realise such immense profits. Accompanying the drawback of the duty on cotton-bagging should be the repeal of the duty on foreign editor, which is inoperative and delusive, and not desired by the domestic producer."

Our corn monopolists tell the agricultural lubourers that the Corn Laws were passed for their benefit, and that if they be repealed wages will fall. This impudent assertion was answered the officer day at the meeting of the poor Wiltshire labourers, by the declaration that they only earned 6s. to 8s. per week! The American monopolists tell their dupon the same story, and, as appears from the Secretary's report, with about the same degree of truth:

"An appeal has been made to the poor by the friends of protection, on the ground that it angments the wages of labour. In reply, it is contended that the wages of labour have not augmented since the tariff of 1812, and that in some cases they have diminished.

." Where the number of manufactories is not great, the power of the system to regulate the wages of labour is in considerable; but, as the profit of capital invested in manufactures is augmented by the protective tariff, there is a corresponding increase of power, until the control of such capital over the wages of labour becomes irresistible. As this power is exercised from time to time, we find it resisted by combinations amongst the working classes by turning out for higher wages, or for shorter time, by trades' union; and in some countries, unfortunately, by violence and bloodshed. But the Government, by protective duties, arm a itself on the side of the manufacturing system, and, by thus augmenting its woulds and power, soon terminates in its favour the struggle between man and money-between capital and labour. When the tariff of 1842 was enacted, the maximum duty was 20 per cent. By that act, the average of duties on the protected article was more than doubled. But the wages of labour did not increase in a corresponding ratio, or in any ratio whatever. On the contrary, whill a wages in some cases have diminished, the prices of many articles used by the working classes have greatly appre-

"A protective tariff is a question regarding the enhancement of the profits of capital. That is its object, and not to augment the wages of labour, which would reduce those profits. It is a question of per centuge, and is to decide whether money vested in our manufactures shall, by special legislation, yield a profit of ten, twenty, or thirty per cent or whether it shall remain satisfied with a dividend equal to that according from the same capital, when invested in agri-

culture, commerce, or unvigation.

"It discriminates in favour of the manufacturet, and against the mechanic, by many higher duties upon the manufacture, than upon the article made out of it by the mechanic. It discriminates in favour of the manufacturer. and against the merchant, by injurious restrictions upon trade and commerce; and against the ship building and na vigating interest, by heavy dulles on almost every article used in building or invigating vessels. It discriminates in favour of manufactures, and against exports, which me as truly the product of American industry as manufactures, It discriminates in favour of the rich, against the poor, by high duties upon yearly all the necessaties of life, and by minimums and specific duties, rendering the tax upon the real value much higher on the cheaper than upon the finer

It was proved by the evidence of Deacon Humo and Mr. Macgregor, both Secretaries of the Pound of Trade, and therefore the highest authority, that the effects of our Corn Laws were to impose a bur then upon the people greater than the amount of all the State taxes, including the interest on the national debt. The Secretary tells us, that the American monopoly taxes the people to the extent of 81,000,000 dols., but that of this sum only 27,000,000 dols, reaches the State treasury; and moreover, that 20 millions of people are thus taxed for the benefit of the small fraction of 10,000 capitalists. In like manner-our Corn -laws tax -the people to the amount of 50 to 60,000,000% per annum for the presumed benefit of a few thousand

"At least two-thirds of the taxes imposed by the present tariff are paid, not into the treasury, but to the protected classes. The revenue from imports last year exceeded 27 millions of dollars. This, in itself, is a heavy tax; but the whole tax imposed upon the people by the present thriff is not less than 81 millions of dollars, of which 27 millions are paid to the Government upon the imports, and 54 millions to the protected classes, in enhanced prices of similar dones-

This estimate is based upon the position that the duty is added to the price of the import, and also of its domestic rival. If the import is enhanced in price by the duty, so must be the domestic rival; for, being like articles, their price must be the same in the same market. The merchant advances in eash the duty on the import, and adds the duty, with a profit upon it, and other charges, to the price, which must therefore be anhanced to that extent, unless the foreign producer had first deducted the duty from the price. But this is impossible; for such now is, and long has been, the superabundance of capital and active competition in Europe, that a profit of six per cent, in any business is buffi clout to produce large investments of money in that business; and if, by a tariff, a duty of four per cent, be exacted on the products of such business, and the foreign producer deducts that duty from his previous price, he must sustain a heavy loss. This loss would also soon extend beyond the sales for our consumption to the sales of our merchants of articles to be re-experted by them from our ports with a drawback of duty, which would bring down their price throughout the markets of the world. But this the foreign producer cannot afford. The duty, therefore, must be added to the price, and paid by the consumer; the duty constituting as much a part of the price as the cost of production.

"If it be true that, when a duty of 40 per cent, is imposed by our tariff, the foreign producer first deducts the duty from

the previous price on the sale to our morehant, it must be equally true with a duty of 100 per cent., which is exactly equal to the previous price, and, whou deducted, would reduce the price to nothing.

"In suggesting improvements in the revenue laws, the

following principles have been adopted:

"I. That no more money should be collected than is necessary for the wants of the Government economically

42. That no duty he imposed on any article above the lowest rate which will yield the largest amount of revenue.

"3. That below such rate, discrimination may be made, descending in the scale of duites; or, for imperative reasons, the article may be placed in the list of those free from all duty.
4. That the maximum revenue duty should be imposed

"O. That all minimums, and all specific duries, should

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be abolished, and ad valorem duties substituted in their place—care being taken to guard against fraudulent invoices and under-valuation, and to assess the duty upon the actual

market value.

Of That the duties should be so imposed as to operate discriminating as equally as possible throughout the union, discriminating

neither for nor against any class or section.

Thus, by the twiff of 1842, a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorem is levied on all manufactures of cotton; but the law further provides that cotton goods, 'not dyed, coloured, printed, or stained, not exceeding in value 20 cents per square yard, shall be valued at 20 cents per square yard. If, then, the real value of the cheapest cotton goods yard. If, then, the real value of the cheapent comes have of in but 4 conts a square yard, it is placed by the false value of 20 cents per square yard, and the duty levied on the fictions is five times higher on the cheap article consumed by the poor - than upon the fine article purchased by the more wealthy. Indeed, by House document, No. 306 of the first session of the 28th Congress, this differonce, by actual importation, was 65 per cent, between the cheaper and the finerarticle of the 20 per cent, minimum, 131 per cont. on the 30 per cent minimum, 484 per cent. on the 35 per cent, minimum, 84 per cent, on the 60 per cent, miniminn, and 81 per cent. on the 75 per cent. minimum. This difference is founded on actual importation, and shows an average discrimination against the poor on cotton imports of 82 per cent, beyond what the tax would be if assessed upon the actual value. The operation of the specific duty presents a similar discrimination against the poor and in favour of the rich. Thus, upon salt, the duty is not upon the value, but it is eight cents, a bushel, whether the article be coarso or fine, showing, by the same document, from actual importation, a discrimination of 61 per cent, against the cheap, and in favour of the finer article; and this, to a greater or less extent, is the effect of all specific duties. When we consider that 2,892,621-74 dollars of the revenue last year was collected by minimum duties, and 13,311,085-46 dol. by specific duties, the discrimination against the cheaper article must amount by estimates founded on the same document, to a tax of 5,103,122 dollars, exacted by minimums and specific duties annually from the poorer classes, by raising thus the duties on the cheaper article above whatthey would be if duty were assessed upon the actual value. If direct taxes were made spacific, they would be intolerable. Thus, if an annual tax of thirty dollars were assessed on all houses, without respect to their actual value, making the owner of the humble tenement or cabin pay a tax of 30 dollars, and the owner of the coatly mansion a tax of but 30 dollars on their respective houses-it would differ in degree, but not in principle, from the same unvarying specific duty on cheap as on fine articles. If any discrimination should be made, it should be the reverse of the specific duty, and of the minimum principle, by establishing a maximum standard, above which value the duty on the finer acticles should be higher, and below which they should be lower on the cheaper article. The tax upon the actual value is the most equal, and can only be accomplished by ad valorem duties. As to fraudulent invoices and under valuation, these dangers are believed to be arrested effectually by the stringent provisions and severe penalty of the 17th section of the tariff of 1812; and now one-half of the revenue is collected from ad valorem duties.

" From improved machinery, diminished prices of the raw material, or other causes, prices may fall even after a tariff, but they would in such cases have fallen much more but for a tariff. The truest comparison is between the present price of the same article at home and abroad; and to the extent that the price is lower in the foreign market than in our own, the duty, if equal to that difference, must to that extent enhance the price, and in the same rate with the lower duty. The difference in price at home and abroad is generally about equal to the difference in the cost of production, and presents, in a series of years, the surest measures of the effect of the duty - the enhancement in price being equal to that difference if the duty be higher than that difference, or equal to it, or, if the duty be than that difference, or equal to it, or, it the unity be lower, then the enhancement is equal to the duty; and if the article is produced, like cotton, more cheaply here than abroad, the duty is inoperative. The great argument for the tariff is, that, foreign labour being cheaper than our own, the cost of foreign production, it is said, is lessened to that extent; and that we must make up this difference by an equivalent duty, and a corresponding enhancement in price, in our own market, both of the foreign article and of its rival domestic product—thus rendering the duty a tax on all consumers, for the benefit of the protected classes. If the marshal were sent by the federal government to collect a direct tax upon the whole people, to be paid over to manufacturing capitalists to them to sustain their business, or realise a larger profit, it would be the same in effect as the protective duty, which, when analysed in its simplest elements, and reduced to actual results, is a mere subtraction of so much money from the people, to increase the revenues of the protected clusses. Legislation for classes is against the doctrine of equal rights, and repugnant to the spirit of our free institutions, and, it is apprehended by many may become but another form for privileged orders—indicated here not by rank or title, but by profits, and dividends, extracted from the many, by taxes upon them, for the benefit of the few. No prejudice is felt by the Secretary of the Treasury against manufacturers. Ilis opposition is to the protective system, and not to classes or individuals. He doubts not that the manufacturers are sincerely persuaded that the system which is a source of so much profit to them, is beneficial also to the country. He entertains a contrary opinion, and claims for the opponents of the system a settled conviction of its injurious effects. Whilst a due regard to the just and equal rights of all classes forbids a discrimination in favour of the manufacturers, by duties above the lowest revenue limit, no disposition is felt to discriminate against them by reducing such duties as operate in their favour below that standard. Under revenue duties, it is believed, they would still receive a reasonable profit, equal to that realised by those engaged in reasonable profit, equal to that realised by those engaged in other pursuits; and it is thought they should desire no more, at least through the agency of governmental power. Equal rights and profits, so far as laws are made, best conform to the principles upon which the constitution was founded, and with an undeviating regard to which all its functions should be exercised—looking to the whole country, and not

varies from one to eight per cent., that of manufacturers is more than double. The reason is, that whilst the high duties secure nearly a monopoly of the home market to the manufacturers and plantage and plantage are described. facturer, the farmer and planter are deprived to a great extent of the foreign market by these duties. The farmer and planter are, to a great extent, forbidden to buy in the foreign market, and confined to the domestic articles en-

to classes or sectious.

hanced in price by the duties. The tariff is thus a double benefit to the manufacturer, and a double loss to the farmer and planter-a benefit to the former, in nearly a monopoly of the home market, and in onhanced prices of their fabrics, of the nome market, and in enhanced prices of their ratios, and a loss to the latter in the payment of those high prices, and in total or partial exclusion from the foreign market. The true question is, whether the farmer and planter shall, to a great extent, supply our people with cheap manufactures, purchased abroad with their agricultural pro-ducts, or whether this exchange shall be forbidden by high duties on such manufactures, and their supply thrown, as a monopoly, at large prices, by high tariffs, into the hands of our own manufacturers? The number of manufacturing capitalists who derive the benefit from the heavy taxes extracted by the tariff from twenty millions of people does not exceed ten thousand. The whole number (including the working classes engaged in our manufactures) deriving any benefit from the tariff, does not exceed 400,000, of whom not more than 40,000 have been brought into this pursuit by the last tariff. But this small number of 40,000 would still have been in the country, consuming our egricultural resolution. country, consuming our agricultural products; and in the attempt to secure them as purchasers, so small in number, and not consuming one-half the supply of many countries, the farmer and planter are asked to sacrifice the markets of the world, containing a population of 800 millions, disabled from purchasing our products by our high duties on all they would sell in exchange. The farmer and planter would have the home market without a tariff, and they would have the foreign market, also, to a much greater extent, but for the total or partial prohibition of the late turiff."

Monopoly in the Uhited States will not long survive the Secretary's very able exposure of its injustice and thoroughly anti-republican character. The American people are too shrewd not to see that their truest policy consists in commerce free as their political institutions. We may be excused if we exult in the pleasing idea that our seven years' labours have not been in vain. The President of the United States has declared in favour of Free Trade. We doubt not a message of a similar character will shortly be delivered to our assembled Par. When the two freest nations of the world shall have hoisted the banner of Free Trade, it will be the signal for other nations also to hoist the white emblem of "peace on earth, good will to men." "This will (in the language of Mr. Cal. houn) indeed be a victory—THE HARBINGER OF A NEW AND BRIGHTER AND HIGHER CIVILIZATION."

The Council of the League some time ago presented to Mr. Calhoun and General M'Duffic, the Free Trade leaders in America, splendidly bound copies of the League, as a mark of its esteem and sympathy, and of the senso it entertained of their able and indefatigable advocacy of Free Trade We are happy to learn that the Council has ordered similar tokens to be prepared for presentation to President Polk, and to the Hon. Mr. Walker, the Secretary of the United States' Treasury.

THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

We re-publish from last week's League, with considerable additions, the list of Local Treasurers, and once more urge upon all those who have not yet'replied to the Circular of the Council relative to their appointment, to do so without delay.

The Council, we believe, are anxious to announce, not only in the columns of this journal, but also in the local papers, the name of some gentleman in every considerable town in the country, to whom subscriptions may be paid, and by whom they will be transmitted to Manchester. This is a very important preliminary arrangement, and will, we trust, receive the prompt attention of those who have been corresponded with on the subject.

The gentlemen named below will, as we have already implied, receive contributions in their several neighbourhoods.

Immediate exertion is not only important—it is imperatively necessary. The present is the moment for action; and if it is allowed to pass away unimproved, we may look in vain for the recurrence of another opportunity of acting so influentially, or with such probabilities of success.

The Subscription Cards and Books are now ready, and will be supplied either direct from the offices of the League, in Manchester, or by the Local Treasurers.

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MARQUIS WELLESLEY'S MEMOIRS opinions of the Marquis Wellesley on the ... Free Frade, and the unrestricted in people, are peoplically interesting.
Marquis Wellesley, just subject the origin of the Corn Lard, and a expressing his lordship, objections, ple of the baneful measure of 1810.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE PREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE session of 1846.

First Week, ending Saturday, January 24.

The session of Parliament for 1846 has opened at an carlier period than usual, and under circumstances the most remarkable which have occurred in the entire history of Free Trade agitation.

After a night of storm and rain-a night in which the elements seemed let loose, as if to illustrate what would be the condition of Great Britain if it were abandoned to the anarchic sway of the monopolists-the sun, about the middle of the day, on Thursday, the 22d January, peeped forth, and threw a cheorful aspect over the royal procession. The crowds on the streets assembled to greet her Majesty were greater than usual; while the House of Lords contained a more splendid array of rank and fashion than we recollect on any similar occasion for several years past.

The usual ceremonials having been gone through, her Majesty delivered the following "Most Gracious Speech :"

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMBN,

It gives me great satisfaction again to meet you in Parliament, and to have the opportunity of recurring to your assistance and advice. I continue to receive from my Allies, and from all other

Foreign Powers, the strongest assurances of their desire to cultivate the most friendly relations with this country. I rejoice that in concert with the Emperor of Russia, and

through the success of our joint mediation, I have been enabled to adjust the differences which had long provailed between the Ottoman Porte and the King of Persia, and had seriously endangered the tranquillity of the East.

For several years a desolating and sanguinary warfare has efficied the States of the Rio de la Plata. The Commerce of all nations has been interrupted, and acts of burbarity have been committed unknown to the practice of civilised people. In conjunction with the King of the French I am endeavouring to effect the pacification of those States.

The convention concluded with France in the course of the last year, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, is about to be carried into immediate execution w the active co-operation of the two Powers on the Const of

It is my desire that the present union and the good understanding which so happily exists between us may always be employed to promote the interests of humanity, and to secure the peace of the world.

I regret that the conflicting claims of Great Britain and the United States in respect to the territory on the North Western Coast of America, although they have been made

the subject of repeated negociation, still remain unsettled.
You may be assured that no effort, consistent with national bonour, shall be wanting on my part to bring this question to an early and peaceful termination.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, The Estimates for the year will be laid before you at an

Although I am deeply sensible of the importance of enforcing economy in all branches of the expenditure, yet I have been compelled, by a due regard to the exigencies of the public service and to the state of our mand and military establishments, to propose some increase in the Estimates which provide for their efficiency.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN, I have observed with deep regret the very frequent instances in which the crime of deliberate assassination has been of late committed in Ireland. It will be your duty to consider whether any measures can be devised calculated to give increased protection to life, and to bring to justice the perpetrators of so dreadful a crime.

I have to lamont that, in consequence of a failure of the potato-crop in several parts of the United Kingdom, there will be a deficient supply of an article of food which forms the chief subsistence of great numbers of my people. The disease by which the plant has been affected has prevailed to the greatest extent in Ireland.

I have adopted all such precautions as it was in my power to adopt for the purpose of alleviating the sufferings which may be caused by this calamity, and I shall confidently rely on your co-operation in devising such other means for effecting the same benevolent purpose as may tion of the Legislature.

I have had great satisfaction in giving my assent to the measures which you have presented to me from time to time, calculated to extend commerce, and to atimulate domestic skill and industry, by the repeal of prohibitory and the relaxation of protective duties.

The prosperous state of the revenue, the increased demand for labour, and the general improvement which has taken place in the internal condition of the country, are strong testimonics in favour of the course you have pur-

I recommend you to take into your early consideration, whether the principles on which you have acted may not, with advantage to the principles of the princ with advantage, be yet more extensively applied, and whether it may not be in your power, after a careful raview of the axisting duties upon many articles, the produce or manufacture of other countries, to make such further reductions and remissions are many and of a countries of and remissions as may tend to ensure the continuance of the great benefits to which I have adverted, and, by enlarging our commercial intercourse, to strengthen the bonds of amity with Foreign Powers.

Any measures which you may adopt for effecting these great objects will, I am convinced, be accompanied by such pre cautions as shall prevent permanent loss to the revenue, or injurious results to any of the great interests of the country.

I have full reliance on your just and dispessionate consideration of matters so deeply affecting the public welfare. It is my exmest prayer that, with the bleesing of Divine Provisione on your councils, you may be enabled to promote reliably feelings between different alasses of my subjects, provide middle scenario for the continuance of peace, and to make the constraint and happiness at home, by increasing the condition of the greating the greating the condition of the greating the greating the greating the condition of the greating the greating

was tame and brief. The Duke of Richmond angrily demanded explanation; the Duke of Wellington sheltered himself behind a Privy Councillor's oath; and Lord Stanley, who stated that he had received the Queen's permission to disclose everything connected with his resignation declined doing so on that occasion, as he would thereby be driven into a premature discussion of Sir Robert Peel's plans. But he intimated, distinctly enough, that he had retired because of his dissatisfaction with the attempt to diminish or abolish "protection to native industry." A few other peers took, part in the discussion; and Lord Brougham made a rambling and really contemptible attack on the Anti-Corn Law League, for which its members had very ample satisfaction in the fact, that at the very same moment Sir Robert Peel was stating their case with all his force and ability, and giving in his unqualified adhesion to their views. The Earl of Radnor took Lord Brougham to task, telling the House of Lords that the whole intellect and enthusiasm of the country were in favour of the Anti-Corn Law League; that there was nothing unconstitutional in its proceedings; and, with a touch of sareasm, reminding their lordships, that "the League did not traffic in votes; that they did not take advantage of the 50%, clause in the Reform Act, nor did they split up property to manufacture votes." Some grumblings followed from the Earl of Hardwicke, and other peers; and then the Duke of Richmond (who had shown his pre-eminent capacity for the office of Premier, and the combined nobleness and grandeur of his character, by pettishly asking the Government why they did not make Mr. COBDEN a PEER. and place him on the Treasury Bench in the House of Lords !) put off his interrogations until next week.

In the House of Commons the scene was animating, The House was crowded; expectation stood on tiptoe. Sir Robert Peel gave notice that on Tuesday he will bring under consideration the commercial policy of the country, and the subject of the Corn Laws. Several other notices were given; one by Lord Ashley, of his intention to introduce a "Ten Hours' bill.". Then came on the business of the night.

LORD FRANCIS EGERTON rose to move the Address, in answer to the Royal Speech. He reminded the House that, TWENTY YEARS AGO, he had, under the auspices of Mr. Canning, occupied a similar position; and this reminiscence led him to his chief topic - that his opinions on the Coun Law have undergone an En-TIRE ALTERATION. A burst of cheering from the crowded Opposition benches was not re-echoed from the Ministerial side of the House; the "great party". received so important an intimation in blank and solemn silence. Then the noble lord went on to advocate the views of the Anti-Corn Law League--emphatically intimating, that if he did not concur, without qualification, in the recommendation contained in the Royal Speech, to re-consider the Corn Laws, he would not occupy his present position. He gave also to Mr. CROEER, in the last Quarterly Review, a most unceremonious contradic-It may be recollected that the "angient tion. mariner," in the last Quarterly, rolled up "his eyes in terror at the awful position in which this country would be placed, if, with Free Trade, we had also foreign war. In that case, the aged white-headed man, who affirmed that Tenterden steeple was the cause of Goodwin Sands, was resuscitated in the person of Mr. Croker, who solumnly affirmed, in the last "Quarterly," that if we had FREE TRADE, the French, during the next war, need not fit out a frigate, or fire a shot; all they had to do, was to "close their ports," sit down on the sea-shore, telescope in hand, and, looking across the Channel, with an exclamation of " mort aux rats," watch poor entrapped Englishmen dropping on their fields for want of food, leaving their skeletons to bleach for manure! Lord Francis Egerton laughed at the ludicrous fancy. He pointed to the year 1810, when even from France, we received the largest supply of Continental corn at the very time when we needed it; and he closed his remarkable speech by imploring the House to bring about a " PULL, BATISPACTORY, and PINAL виттимият of the Corn Law question!"

Mr. Becket Denison seconded the Address; and gave in his adhesion, though in a more guarded manner, to Free Trade views. Experience had DRIVEN him to his present convictions; and, looking to the results of the financial policy of Government during the last three years, he had the fullest confidence in her Majesty's Government, that any further measures they would undariake would be for the benefit of all classes, without injury to any.

Sir Robert Peel now rose, and the full gaze and attention of the crowded House were concentrated upon him. His speech was the most remarkable thing that has occurred in the history of Free Trade debate, not for its seconds, but its specialty. The accounts which the newspapers carnithed last year of the causes which had

rendered so many Cabinet meetings necessary, have turned out from Sir Robert Peel's own account, to have been substantially correct. The mysterious and universal blight in the potatoes was the immediate and proximate cause of all the e Cabinet consultations. But Sir Robert Peel said that it would be unfair to make that cause occupy the prominent place. The laws which regulate the importation or rood were the primary, the grand subject of the deliberations of a reluctant Cabinet. On the question of the CORN LAW his opinion had undergone a complete CHANGE! This announcement was received with triamphant cheering from the Opposition benches, with profound silence from the Minis-Then the Prime Minister proceeded, with great ability, to show that all the grounds on which "Protection to Native Industry" was advocated, had been proved to be wholly untenable. Deliberately adopting the speeches of Mr. VILLIERS as his model, he went on, as it he were about to conclude with a motion for the immediate and total abolition of the Corn Law. Protection was not a labourer's question; for during the last three years, prices had been low, and food abundant; and during that period the working classes had been better off than during the preceding three years. High prices did not produce high wages nor vice versa. In the last three years, with low prices and abundance of food, wages were comparatively high, and labour was in demand; in the three years preceding, with high prices and scarcity, wages were low and employment was scarce. Experience thus proved that wages were ruled by abundance of capital and demand for labour, and did not vary with the price of provisions. Again, increased freedom of trade was favourable to the prosperity of our commerce. In three scarce and dear years, namely from 1839 to 1841, our foreign exports fell off from fitty-three millions in value to forty-seven millions. But in three years of reduction of duties and low prices, namely, from 1842 to 1844, the value of our exports rose from forty seven millions to fifty-eight millions. Even deducting the amount of the China trade, a similar result was shown Nor was the reduction in the Customs' duties unfavourable to the revenue. In 1842 there was an estimated loss of a million and a half; in 1843, a smaller one of two hundred and seventy-three thousand pounds; but in 1845 there was a reduction, at an estimated loss to the revenue, of no less than two millions and a half. The total amount of the various reductions effected in three years exceeded four millions sterling; and many of the duties were totally abolished; the loss, therefore, not being compensated by any increased consumption. Had four millions been lost to the revenue? He believed that on the 5th of April next the revenue would be found to be more buoyant than ever. But there was a higher test. Criminal statistics showed a connection between increase and decrease of crime, and a declining or prosperous state of the country. In 1843, there had been a decrease of crime to the extent of five and a half per cent.; in 1844, of no less than ten per cent.; in 1845, of five and a half per cent.; and the decrease last year was especially marked in all the great manufacturing districts. Thus, during the time that they have been engaged in reducing Protective duties -in other words, gradually destroying protection to native industry -- the interests of the labouring classes, of commerce and of morality had been promoted; and it was impossible to resist the inevitable conclusion that relaxation of protection was favourable to all the social relations and concerns of the country: Nor was relaxation unfavourable to native industry, however much it might bitherto have relied on protection. Flax was a striking instance in point. Foreign flax was now freely imported; yet, in the face of a rapidly increasing amount of foreign importation, the price of flax was higher. Foreign cattle was another instance. They all remembered the predictions of ruin in 1842, when prohibition was removed, and foreign cattle were admitted at a small fixed duty - predictions which created an unfounded though temporary panic. What was the case now? In the face of a rapidly augmenting importation of foreign cattle, sheep, and swine, prices had not heen affected, and the contracts for the supply of provisions were now nearly double what they were even in 1844. Nay, on the subject of lard, about which there was so much alarm last year (loud laughter), with an importation running up from a nominal amount to eighty thousand hundred weight, prices had risen from 48s. to 62s. Another example was afforded by wool. The total abolition of the duty line been followed by a largely augmented importation, and a rapidly increasing price; as he showed by giving the quotations for several years. In the face of all these facts—the advancement of the comforts of the working classes, the diminution

of crime, the improvement even of the public health,

increase of trade, and an advance in price concur-

nent with an increase in importation, he for he could be longer stand up in the House of Commons at the

advocate of protection. (Hear, hear.) It would be impossible for him, with these convictions on his mind, any longer to meet the annual motion of Mr. Villiers with a direct negative. The change in his views had been brought about by observation and experience; and he now frankly stated to his usual supporters that he could no longer defend the Corn Tawr. He could have wished that the settlement of the question had been deferred to another Parliament; but the sudden and mysterious blight in the potatoes -the wood in Ireland of four million people -rendered neceseary immediate action. Sir R. Peel then read copious extracts from the mass of communications which had been forwarded to the Government on the subject; mentioned the appointment of the Government commission of inquiry; and detailed the proceedings of the Cabinet meetings assembled from time to time to consider the rubject. His own wish was either at once to open the ports by an Order in Council, of which he was ready to take the responsibility, or else to call Parliament topother. But at the same time he felt that though a teinpowary opening of the ports was not essentially connected with a consideration of the Corn Law, yet that it tunes, on the present occasion, he necessarily involved. His propositions were opposed by his colleagues in the Cabinet: Lord Stanley especially, considering that there was much exaggeration in the alleged failure of the potato and grain crops. Meantime, agitation increased; and though he might have evaded responsibility, under the fact of his colleagues having overruled his opinions, he telt it impossible to continue at the head of the Covernment with the strong convictions he entertained of an impending danger, and the necessity for meeting it. His position also was changed by the publication of Lord John Russell's letter. Any movement after it would be misinterpreted; and feeling that he could not bring the matter to a successful issue without the support of a united Cabinet, he determined to place his resignation in the hands of her Majosty. Lord John Russell was sent for; and he (Sir Robert Peel) promised that, in his private capacity, he would give the noble lord all the aid in his power to effect a settlement of the question.— The noble ford-having failed in his endeavour to form an administration, the Queen usked him if he persisted in his resignation? He replied, no; as the noble ford had not succeeded, he would resume the Government, and endeavour to bring his colleagues into his views. He had given notice of his intention to bring the subject generally before the House, and would not therefore anticipate discussion. But he trusted that he had shown that his motives were honourable. He was charged with "treason" to agriculture. . It would indeed be "treason" to agriculture to suffer it to incur the odium of so great a calamity as a failure in the sustenance of the people, to call upon the House to vote money to purchase oats, and refuse to ask them to make any relaxation in the laws which restricted supply. He would not touch the existing law on any slight pretence, as, for instance, the introduction of Indian corn, which was urged as a boon to the agriculturists. It was urged over and over again that he was under some personal obligation to the agriculturists, and he was told that the power which had placed him in his present position could remove him. But he did not feel himself under any obligation to any man or body of men for submitting to the sacrifices of office. He did not undervalue the distinction, but the value of power did not consist in the invidious office of selection for the distribution of patronage. He had now served four sovereigns; under three he had held high office; but the highest reward he had ever asked was the assurance of his having been a faithful and loyal subicet. His power he had never used for unworthy purposes; he had tried to use it for the advancement of national interests, and as a Conservative leader, or a Conservative minister, he had thought it consistent with high Conservative policy to reconcile an ancient momurchy and a proud aristocracy to a reformed House of Commons. The burden of office was far above his physical and mental powers; relief would be a favour, not a penalty.\ But he would not retain office with shackled were and mutilated authority; the helm he would not hold, especially in such stormy nights as he had seen in the House of Commons, unless it had liberty to traverse. If minister of England, he must be unshackled in his efarts to provide for the public safety.

Sir Robert Peel concluded this triumphant Free Trade speech with a kind of deflance to the aristocracy and the landed interest. Had this been delivered at any reo Trado mooting, there would not be wanting foolish to talk about vulgarity and intomporance. Robert Poel plainly told the monopolist rulers has attempts to recoucile "an ancient mo-proud aratocracy" to the action of a

buse of Commons, and the necessity of

moving with the times. Contemptuously did he talk of the bousted Richmond power of making and unmaking Premiers. Removal from office, the toils of which were above his physical and mental powers, would be a relief, not a penalty. But while he was Minister of England, it would not be with shackled power and mutilated authority. He would not hold office on a SERVILE TENURS. Nor would be touch the Corn Law for any trivial and temporary purpose, such as the free introduction of Indian corn. If he changed it at all, the change, he intimated, must be a comprehensive one. If he held the helm, especially in stormy times, that helm must "have liberty to traverse!" The Minister of England, if he held the office, must have unshackled liberty to take such measures as he considered necessary to provide for the public safety!

Such is an abstract of this remarkable speech; which was followed by one no less remarkable from Lord John RESSFEE. The noble lord mainly occupied himself in giving those details respecting his recent attempt to form an administration, with which the public are familiar. But the speech was marked by the emphatic decharation of the noble lord, that the great principle on which he intended to form an administration was FREE TRADE in its integrity and power. Lord J. Russell went further than Sir R. Peel, for the noble lord repudiated any attempt at compromise, by any offer to COMPENSATE, or, in other words, to BRIDE the landed interest. But on one great point both Lord John Russell and Sir R. Peel are agreed-the principles of Free Trade are not merely the principles of common sense, but the principles of imperious public safety. Here is "Mene, mene, tekel, tekel upharsin," written on the walls of the House of Commons. The hand-writing was interpreted to the mortified monopolists by the two leading men of what used to be the two great parties. On Thursday night they were told that "their kingdom was departed from them;" and silence, more expressive than words, proclaimed the depth of their despair, the choking aggravation of their rage. The "dumb creatures" did at last find vent for harricane-like explosion; and Mr. MILES, in a voice so agitated by internal passion, that he could scarcely articulate, warned the apostate Prime Minister that the agriculturists were preparing for him swift vengeance. Poor Colonel Sibthorp, also, uttered tokens of deep anguish. Once he thought Sir Robert Peel the only man to save the country; now he considered him the only individual capable of ruining it! But all this was mere brutum fulmen, so far as voting the address was concerned; though vigorous opposition is threatened when Sir Robert Peel's measures are

The only-other speech of the evening was that by Mr. D'Israeli. But with this, as Free Traders, we have no sympathy. We have but one single object in view, that of the accomplishment of Free Trade; and whether it be achieved by Sir Robert Peel or Lord John Russell, we equally rejoice in the progress and the triumph of truth and reason. Sir R. Peel has as much right to change his opinions on the subject of protection as has Lord John Russell. Besides, Mr. D'Israeli is hardly the man to rate a Prime Minister for inconsistency. The member for Shrewsbury has himself boxed the political compass; he has veered in his short career from ultrademocratic to ultra-Tory views. In 1842, he elaborately patronised Sir R. Peel, when he introduced the New Tariff, and proved, much to his own satisfaction, that Free Trade was no heir-loom of the Whigs, for Pitt and the Torics adopted it before them. Whatever may be his motives, he has now taken to the dissecting line, his favorite victim being the Prime Minister; and with cool cruelty be performs his operations. Those who enjoy political anatomy may read the speech of Mr. D'Israeli on Thursday night. It is painful to see and to hear an assembly of Christians and gentlemen enjoying so keenly the process of skinning a living frog: but possibly it may teach future aspirants to office better to define their principles, and to study the map of their future course, before they commit themselves irrevocably to questions, on which, like a weathercock, they may have to turn completely round !

For remainder of Parliamentary News see Supplement,

THE NEXT COVERT GARDEN MEETING .- As Sir Robert Peel has announced his intention of bringing forward his Free Trade measures on Tuesday night next. and as the debate will probably continue through several nights, the Aggregate League Meeting in Covent Garden Theatre, announced for Wednesday next, will be postponed until further notice.

EAST SUSSEX REGISTRATION.—The county registration movement for East Sussex is going on with vigoph. The Free Trade friends at Brighton are publing forth all their energies in the full confidence of success. Mr. Felvey will lepture in this division of Sussex during part week, at Eastbourne, on Monday: Hallelian, on we need a unit.

FREE TRADE MEETINGS.

NORWICH.

TRIUMPH OF MR. COBDEN OVER THE NOR. Among the various meetings which have lately been held throughout the country upon the subject of the repeal of the Corn Laws, it is perhaps difficult to select any one as possessing pre-eminent importance. An intense interest in the country and a firm and abiling determination and a firm and abiling determination to question, and a firm and abiding determination to pursue if to a successful issue is the spirit which pervades every brance & of the kingdom. But the meeting at Norwich on Tuesday last, whether viewed in reference to its intrinsic importance or to the extrinsic circumstances by which it was attended cortainly possessed features which gave it a high degree of interest, at least in Noriolk and the whole of the caster counties, if not to the country at large. The intrinsic value of the meeting lies in a strong and unequivocal expression. sion by the citizens of Norwich at the largest public meeting ever held there, of entire concurrence with the principles of the League, and a determination to axis in their realisation, notwithstanding the seductive blanding ments, the corruption and intimidation employed by the monopolists of the district to procure a different result The chief peculiar circumstances which marked the proceedings was the appearance of a gentleman-acknowledged to be the very hean ideal of a "county member"-u such public meeting to discuss the question of the justice of expediency of Free Trade principles, at a period when the whole question has long been given up by the leaders of his own and every other party. It is somewhat singular that Norwich should have been lately distinguished for the resuscitation of ancient superstitions and exploded fallacies, whose existence, even in the most rural districts, had become a matter of doubt. A few weeks ago, John Bell, of Norwich, gravely preferred a charge of witcheraft against a respectable old lady of that city. The magistrate listened patiently to the recital of the bodily ills which the complainant alleged he was labouring under, but as the poor fellow had come to a firm determination that they all did and must result from the baleful influence exercised over him by the aforesaid old lady, it was in vain to urge upon him the necessity of availing himself of the aid of medical science, the protection of the law being the only thing which in his bewildered judgment would meet the necessities of his case. The majistrates smiled and dismissed the case. The Hon. Edward Wodehouse, the prototype of John Bell, appeared on Wednesday last before bond of the inhabitants of Norwich—to whom, by the byc, he facctional introduced himself as "your representative,"—and in the face of that vast assembly propounded fallacies which have long since been abandoned by the protectionists themselfs. The hon, gentleman, in a most pitcous manner, detailed the evils under which be and his order were struggling, mixing from the witchery exercised over the nation by the Leaguand the inevitable ruin that must ensue to the agriculturist of the country, if the Free Trade spell, now in operation, were not counteracted by the charm of an Act of Puli-ment. The fate of Mr. Wodehouse's appeal was similar to that of John Bell—the Norwichians laughed at the delusion and dismissed the case. It had for some time been known that Mr. Coldon had accepted an invitation given to him by the inhabitants of Norwich, to be present at a meeting in favour of a repeal of the Corn Laws; and a requisition having been presented to the Mayor, calling upon him to convent a meeting for that purpose in St. Andrew's Hall, and that " quisition having been cheerfully complied with, the greatest interest was excited with respect to the forthcoming maing, but that interest was subsequently vastly augmented when it became known that a challenge had been sent by Mr. Wodehouse-to Mr. Cobden, and accepted by that gentleman, to discuss the question of the influence of agricultural protection. It appears to be one of the arrangements of Providence that some of the most important advanced made in great principles should result from the folly of their opponents. This was eminently the case in the Free Trade cause, in regard to the celebrated speech of Lord Mountcashel, and that more recently of the Duke of Norfolk. The determination of the rabid portion of the Norfolk monopo lists to oppose Mr. Cobden, adds another memorale instance to the list, exposing as it does in the most se nal manner the misorable weakness and futility of aguments of men who are deemed fit to hold the highest position in the ranks of the monopolists. But, perhaps it may be said that the only circumstance in which any thing like prudence was exhibited by the protectionists on this a. casion was in the selection of their champions. The her member for East Norfolk, it is known, can sustain little dumage in reputation for wisdom, and the Norfolk moneyolists were so far sufe in putting him forward. To apply the words of Mr. Cobden, with reference to the county repre sentation, the stakes being all in the hands of their opportunity nents, they could not by possibility lose much by a deles One of the parties by whom Mr. Wodehouse was seconder was Mr. Hamond, a gentleman who, like his principal, is much respected in the county for his kindness and amission between the county f lity, but who was most cruelly treated by his friends in their not preventing him from the rash attempt of defending the Corn Laws at a public meeting. Perhaps one of the mo interesting features in the evening's proceedings was the manner in which the protectionist fallacies were all disposed of by the pithy remarks made by the working men in the body of the hall, clearly proving the success and value of those instructions which the League have discussion nated throughout the country. The third protestion champion was Mr. Bowles, of Cambridge. It was, indeed strongly rumoured that Mr. George Came Day was comis over to aid and assist, but those who know that gentlement over to aid and assist, but those who know that gentlemanter for prudence, were satisfied that the report was stounded. Upon his first appearance upon the pattern, M. Bowles assumed a very determined stripide; in what are need his papers, he paced the platform to and frow the agreement of the manner and dignity of demander similar to that ness of manner and dignity of demander similar to that formerly exhibited in Smithfald by the tragio herce estable of Richardson's Theatre. This gentleman has an exacting happy knack of addressing an audience giving the ingry happy knack of addressing an audience giving the next, thereby taking upon Minister and a second the next, thereby taking upon Minister and a second meeting of weavers was attained in bottom. meeting of weavefu was attempted on the day of meeting. 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corps, through the medium of the old fallsoy of "cheap bread and low wages;" but this effort has falled. George Lynes, to whom "The Norwich Weaver Boy" recently addressed one of his admirable letters in THE LEAGUE, was in attendance, and it was probably owing to that circumstance, and the ascertained unfavourable temper of the operatives, which induced Mr. Warnes not to appear, and the assembly broke up without holding any meeting. Strenuous efforts had also been made to rouse the farmers' clubs, and the local protection societies, but this attempt likewise proved an abortion; the only result being the attendance at the meeting of, at the most, some score of disorderly landlords and agents, and the subsequent presence at an hotel of an equally disorderly party—who, in consoling themselves for the miserable defeat of their champion, gave an influity of trouble during the night to the servants of the establishment. The modern agricultural Cocker, the Marquis of Hastings, was upon the platform, in company with Mr. Warnes, but meither the one nor the other ventured to address the meet ing; slthough every opportunity was afforded for so doing. Mr. Cobden was accompanied by Colonel Thompson, and both gentlemen were received with loud cheers upon presenting themselves upon the platferm.
St. Andrew's Hall was crowded to suffocation. The

and cathedral-like aisle was filled by an immense assemblage, probably numbering five thousand, including people of every class in society, young and old, manufacturing and agricultural. The farmers from the neighbourhood flocked in early, their top boots and leathers shining almost like the party colours of monopoly. The town party of course consisted of the more intelligent ranks of Free Trade. Throughout the evening the feeling of the meeting was almost manimous; it was that of a thorough Free Trade assemblage, and the triumph of the League was splendid.

Among the gentlemen present we observed Mr. Cobden, M.P.; Mr. Wodehquse, M.P.; Colonel Thompson, Rev. Mr. Brock, Mesars. Hamond, Willett, Younge, Sultzer, Tillet, Bateman, Prout, Martin, Blackburn Chamberlayne, Betts, Towler, Freeman, Butcher, Baker, Copeman, Finch, Thomson, Dr. Richardson, Brightwell, Bankes, Bayne, Alexander, Gellheart, Stark, J. Richies, Harman, Bardwell, Pamp, Jarrold, Mr. Sheriff Colman, Bacon, &c., &c.

JOHN BETTS Esq., the Mayor of Norwich, took the chair, and in opening the business of the meeting, requested them to hear all-friends and foes. He did not profess to know which party was in the right or wrong on the Free Trade question. He hoped they would hear both sides and then judge for themselves, and concluded by introducing to the

Mr. Conden, who was received with tumultuous applanse, at its partial subsidence, he addressed himself to the great subject of the evening, and after expressing the peculiar pleasure which he experienced from the presence of a gen-tleman, "a distinguished leader of the protectionist party in the House of Commons," he proceeded to define the term conficulturist, stating his conviction that farmers and labourers alone were entitled to be so called-not mere landowners -men who, perhaps, never had an acre of land in their own hands to cultivate. Mr. Cobden then delivered a long address, in which he expounded to the meeting what he himself terms the A B C of the Free Trade question. With reference to the present position of that question, the hon-gentleman said, I think, after all, that both landlords and tenants here must feel indebted to me and to the League for coming here, and telling them so much about their own business. (Laughter.) I tell them we are going to abolish the Corn Law. We will do it. (Tremendous cheers.) You see the old edifice shaking now, but you will see it tottering and crumbling before another six weeks are over, (Prolonged cheering.) Now I want this to be done without exciting the alarm of any of the parties concerned. I have gone into the country from one end of it to the other. In almost every county, from Dorsetsbire to Aberdeensbire, I have attended meetings, most of them, or many of them in the open air. Two years ago, we of the League spent 10,000% in culightening the farmers upon this corn question, in making speeches, in delivering lectures, in distributing tracts. (Loud cheers.) Wherever we went we took a reporter with us, and we distributed copies of the speeches that were delivered. And what has ever been the burden of my song? It has been always the same. I have always said that the Corn Laws might be repealed without injury to any one (hear, hear, hear); that the landowner would get as good rent as now if he attended properly to his business, and let his land on mercantile principles; that the farmer would get as good profit as now, provided he invested more capital, which he could if he had a secure lease; and that when the farmer applied more capital, labour could not fail to be more employed and to find better wages. This is the language I have ever held, and yet no sconer is my back turned, than up get these people in the protection sociaties, and cry out, "Don't mind what that 'obden says to you; it's all nonsense. You can't compete in your business with those Russians and Poles. Come to us; we will pass a law for your protection; if you don't trust to us you will all be ruined. And what a precious trust to us you will all be ruined." And what a precious mass they have landed you in! They are going to have the Corn Law ropealed, and they know it. They all know it; they know it just as well as I do. (Cheers.) Why, then, all this fass and galvanised movement is nothing but a few landlords—and those I can tell you not the matter. landlords—and those, I can toll you, not the most intelligent of their class (hear, hear)—sending out their agents and whipping up the farmers, getting together meetings of not more than some 60 or 90, and getting up long reports of long speeches, which are put in the Post or Heratal (great laughter), and then they call all this a great national demonstration. (Cheers.) Well, we meet in Parliament on Thursday (hear) stration. (Cheers.) Well, we meet in Parliament on Thursday (hear), and what is to become of this great protection with the property. Their own Prime Minister, the man they made Prime Minister to uphoid them, has run away. (Cheers and iaughter.) That reminds me of an anecdote I heard of a gentlement the North who was betting upon a recoourse, and it was proposed that the states should be deposited in the hands of a cartain major to hold. If Aye, aye, said the gentlemen, but who is to hold the major? (Great languter.) Now the projectioners in 1841 put the states in Papirshands, and now they want sometody to hold fir Robert. (Languer) Now, that there may be no delucion on that continue in the states of resection (hear and opinion is at other masses, of resection (hear and opinion is at other masses, will assess the projection (hear and opinion is at other masses.)

Col. ANGERSTEIN, a large landowner of the county.

Mr. Wodehouse, M.P., for the eastern division of the county, then came forward, and was well received by a small section of the meeting. Its said: I have addressed a latter to the electors of Norfolk, saying that though we did believe that the predictions of a famine, if not groundless, had been grossly exaggerated; (noises, and cries of No, no, from all parts of the meeting); yet we did feel that the anticipation of searcity, under all circumstances, and in all times, ought to be a matter of paramount importance. (Cheera.) Now, I ask you, and I appeal to every man present, whether it is not something like unblishing effrontery on the part of Mr. Cobden, that he has not in any way alluded to that scarcity, which a few weeks ago he said was so much to be apprehended and dreaded. (Cheers, Oh, oh, and a voice, "We want corn, and not potatoos.") I will read my resolution. It is as follows: "That this meeting, while it is duly sensible of the inestimable blessings derived from the enjoyment of commercial liberty, is still impressed with the belief that what is called 'Free Trade,' to use the words of Mr. Clay, formerly President of the United States, is nothing more than a beautiful vision, existing only in the imagination of philosophers and theorists, and practically repudiated by all nations; since an indispensable condition to the adoption of it by one nation is its adoption by all." (A laugh.) And that amendment I am prepared to move on the resolution which has been proposed. The resolution says: "That the Corn Laws and all other laws designed to restrict trade under pretence of protecting particular classes, are unjust in principle and injurious in operation, and ought to be forthwith abolished." (Slight uproar.) I know not whether by the forms of this meeting I um to be prevented from further discussion (no, no); but I am perfectly satisfied to sit down with this declaration. (Oh, go on, go on.) I am perfectly satisfied, I say, to assert that the resolution which has been proposed to you involving the sugar duties, the spirit duties, the malt and beer, and the tobacco duties; involving, in fact, a sweeping annihilation of everything-(Hisses, laughter, and considerable confusion.) Am I to be permitted to go on. ("Yes, to be sure, tell us the good of protection.") I was about to say that I do most cordially relicie to see my friend Mr. Cobden here to night. (Hear, hear.) I say so very sincerely, and I may add that I much egret the absence of another gentleman, Mr. Bright. (Cheers.) I am sorry that he is not here, because he has been taking so leading a part in this matter that I should have felt it my duty, had he been present, to have adverted to his conduct and expressions elsewhere. With the leave of the mayor, I will do so now. (Cheers, and cries of "Answer Colden, never mind Bright; he isn't here to an swor for himself;" followed by some confusion.) I was about to say that every man must view with indignation the excessive bitterness with which Mr. Bright expresses himself upon every occasion. (Uproar, cries of "Question," and "Why don't you answer Cobden?"). I see I shall be obliged to sit down. The meeting here became impatient, and after a few more sentences Mr. Wodehouse resumed his seat.

Mr. Hamond then came forward and seconded the reso lution. He contended that both the agricultural and manufacturing labourer would be injuriously affected by Free Trade in corn. Mr. Cobden had said (alluding to his enormous size) that he (Mr. Hamond) had too much protection but he was ready to prove that he had too little. He defended the landlords from the attacks which had been made upon them; and, in conclusion, he advised them to take the registration movement out of the hands of the League, and

appoint their own agents for that purpose.

Mr. Bowles, of Cambridge, then came forward to support the anendment. He denied that the Corn Law was passed to secure any particular price, or equality of prices. The distress of 1822 grose from the over abundance of the harvest of 1820; the growth in that year being 4,000,000 quarters above an average crop, and 1,000,000 more having been imported from Ireland. Wheat was, in 1819, lying in heaps upon the shores of the Baltic, and ready to be imported here at 14s. a quarter. America grew this year 15,000,000 quarters of wheat, and 80,000,000 of Indian corn; but the first effect of the introduction of American corn would be to rain the entire milling property of this county, in which more capital was employed than in all the mills in the country. (Cries of Oh, oh.) The Americans would send us not corn but flour. But then the receipt of corn from America would be interrupted, for though America could grow corn cheap, it could be grown cheaper on the shores of the Baltic, in Odessa, in Moldavia, and in Wallachia; and instead of purchasing from America, we should go with our money in our pockets and buy on the Bultic, so that the reciprocity between England and America, expected to result from Free Trade, must not be looked forward to. (Cheers, and cries of "Ch.") Every quarter of foreign wheat imported displaced so much of English labour. (No, no, and cheering.) What a disallvantageous bargain, to have Free Trade with all the world! Was America so caim, and quiet, and contented, that when Great Britain became a beggar to her for wheat, she could be relied upon? What would she say ?-that we had ne right to the Canadas; that if we would give her Canada she would let us have food. (Oh, oh, and groams.) Mr. Bowles went on to contend, as well as we could understand, that Free Trade would produce poverty in the villages, and from them to the towns, where the shopkeepers would be ruiped; and he contended that Mr. Con-den's speech, however amusing, had been utterly barren in argument, and that he had appealed to the passions, not the understandings of his hourers. (Indescribable uproar.)

Mr. Couden then came forward to reply, and was hailed with a renewal of the plaudits which had welcomed his first appearance. When I came here I expected, from the announcement made by the honourable member near me (Mr. Wodehouse)—made in London trumpet tongued, that we were to have a great shindy here to night. I expected that we should be treated with a great speech from the honourable gentleman. But he has said nothing in reply to my arguments. (Uproat.) He was very ready to answer Mr. Bright, who is not here (hear, hear, hear); and if I had not been here, he would have been very ready to reply to me. been here, he would have been very ready to reply to me. (Cheers) But though Mr. Wodehouse has not given us a speech, he has sent forward a substitute (laughter), a volunteer in this cause. You have heard his speech, and whatever you may think, of the quality of it, I assure you it is quite as good as I generally hear on that side of the question, like the hird speaker displayed more shifty. He would be him the priorities distress of 1800 areas from the sent, of this country having sent, or the priorities of quarters its average yield.

the abundance of nature. (Cheers.) I repeat, if there be anything in that argument; it is that the farmers will be the most prosperous when they have the worst crops.' (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, is there not something foully unnatural in such a proposition? (Loud cheers.) Ploes it require any argument from me to convince your judgments that there must be something fundamentally wrong in the trade of the farmer, if such pleas be started in his defence? (Cheers.) Your natural feelings-your moral, your religious feelingswill rise in rebollion against such arguments. (Cheeres)! The blessings of abundance rain the farmer! Why, does not the church offer up its prayers and thanks for abundant harvasts? (Cheers.) But I will tell you why the farmer is rained by favourable seasons. His rent was fixed when he believed that he was to sell his wheat at 8the per quarter. (Hear, hear.) I think I hear an honourable gentleman say that the law held out no such prospect. Now, put it to any candid farmer, whether it has not been the provailing delusion, from 1815 to the present day, that Parliament can regulate the prices at which he is to sell his wheat? (Hear, hear.) Have I not heard it announced at half your protection meetings, that Peel proposed to give the farmer a protection of from 51s. to 50s. per quarter?

Mr. Cobden having in the most masterly manner replied to the statements of the speakers, in his usual conclusive

The Mayor put the amendment of Mr. Wodehouse, for which about 20 hands were held up, while for the original Free Trade resolution a perfect forest of lands was immediately raised. The resolution was carried amidst load

Mr. WILLETT then moved a resolution of confidence in the League, and co operation in the registration movement.

Mr. Sheriff Colman (Sheriff of Norwich), seconded the resolution.

Mr. Wodehouse then moved an amendment affirming the impolicy of Free Trade principles.

Mr. Hamond having seconded the amendment.

Col. THOMPSON then amid loud cheers briefly addressed the meeting in support of the resolution.

The Maxon put the amendment and resolution with the same result as the first, amidst most enthusiastic cheers. Mr. Wodenouse then moved, and Mr. Condex seconded.

a vote of thanks to the chairman. The CHAIRMAN briefly returned thanks.

Mr. BOLINGHROKE, Secretary of the Anti-Corn-Law Association, then read the following letters from gentlemen, apologising for their absence -

Thorpe, Jan. 19, 1816. My DEAR SIR, -I regret to say that I have been confined to my room for the last ten days by severe indisposition. I am better to-day, but Dalrymple will not let me stir, and there is not consequently the smallest chance of my being able to attend the Free Trade meeting to morrow night.
Yours truly, WM. Fosten.

Hastings, Jan. 18, 1816.

DEAR SIR, The near approach of the important contest on the Corn Laws makes me anxious to avoid the risk of a journey at this season of the year, which in my weak state of health might probably prevent my attending in Par-liament, when every vote will be wanted. It is, I trust, scarcely necessary for one who from the first has been a supporter of the repeal of these odious laws, to express his firm determination to hold the same course to the end, in the full confidence that so just a cause must be finally suc-I am, dear Sir, yours most faithful, To C. N. Bolingbroke, Esq.

47, Russell Square, Jan. 19th/1846. Sin,-I have received the invitation of your Committee to attend the Free Trade meeting which they are about to hold in St. Andrew's Hall. I am rejoiced that so important a city as Norwich is coming forward a second time to give expression to its sympathy with the national movement against the Corn Laws. The sooner they are unconditionally and absolutely done away with the better for all parties. Persuaded of this, I would gladly have complied with the request to attend your meeting had it been in my power, Engagements in a distant county for Tuesday render it impossible, and I can only hope you will give Mr. Colden such a greeting as shall convince him of your determination to support the League in their truly patriotic efforts to secure for the country the inestimable advantages of Free Trade; as a proof of my interest in your proceedings I enclose my cheque for 100/.

I remain, Sir, yours very faithfully, C. N. Bolingbroke, Esq. S. MORTON PETO.

Lexham Hall, Swaffhan, Jan. 19. received your letter of the 17th inst. this morning, containing the request of the Norwich Anti-Corn Law Association to attend the meeting to morrow evening. I regret that an engagement will prevent my doing so. However, I do not want to hear any arguments to convince me of the absolute necessity for abolishing the Corn Laws, as I have never yet read or beard of any that have been written or spoken in their favour, which a sensible boy in the upper part of Eton or any of our public schools would not be ashamed to make use of. I have long been a repealer, and wish all success to Mr. Cobden in his ardnows undertaking.

The landlords and farmers rejected Lord John Russell's excellent proposition for a fixed duty upon corn, and must take the consequences, for every one is well aware that a repeal of the Corn Laws is inevitable—that shortly a minis ter might as soon attempt to stop the world from going round, as to attempt to prevent a repeal of the Corn Law. I only trust the abominable cant of measures not men will be also abolished, and that the people of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland will see that it is absolutely necessary to have an honest minister to govern this country -not a quack ductor, who must have his fee paid before he gives his prescription. Idonosty is the best policy, and I much regret that I have lived to hear any other doctrine advocated. Yours clediently, F. W. KEPEL. ocated. Yours obediently, To C. N. Belingbroke, Esq., &c., &c.

WESTMINSTER.

A large and most respectable meeting of the electors and inhabitants was hold at the Crown and Anchor on Tucaday evening, to petition against the Corn Laws; "The faeling against all compromise was loudly expressed; and no pessages in the speeches were so loudly cheered as those which threatened the landholders with a demand for more average in the landholders with a demand for more average. In the period of the landholders with a demand for more average. The country of the period and the landholders with a demand for more average.

of members of Parliament present. Amongst them were Dr. Bowring, Hon. Mr. Bouverie, Mr. M. Gibson, and Sir C. Nauler.

The Chairman (Mr. Elphinstone, M.P.), read letters of apology for non-attendance from Mr. Leader and Captain Bous. They were both badly received, though there were some cheers for Mr. Leader; inasmuch as he pledged himself to vote, as he had often done before, for a total repeal of the Corn Laws. Letters had also been received from Lord R. Orosvepor, Mr. Ewart, Mr. B. Hawes, Sir W. Clay, and Colonel Thompson, all expressing a regret that they could be to a strong

The CHAIRMAN then amid loud cheering proceeded to address the meeting:—I must say, that when I look at the crowded state of this meeting, and when we know that equally important meetings have been held in almost all the important towns in every part of the United Kingdom, we, who for some time past have been Free Traders, have a right to congratulate ourselves on the progress which has been made in public opinion on this question. Every man who reads the signs of the times must be of opinion that the days of the present Corn Laws are numbered, and that the time has arrived when a final settlement of this question must take place. (Loud cheers.) I think the great mass of the people, in spite of the opinion of certain dukes and protectionists, have come to the conclusion that they ought to have the right of paying for their food in whatever markets they deem best and cheapest and most expedient for that purpose; and I believe the people fully understand the principles of Free Trade, that when duties are imposed, they should be solely for the purpose of revenue, and not for the sake of protecting any particular interest; and with that impression on their minds, they consider that all the money rereived by means of these duties ought to find its way into her Majesty's treasury, and not into the pockets of private and particular individuals. (Cheers.) In point of fact, it roust be clear to every one, that if there be an article, a large proportion of which is produced at home, and a small portion imported, that you raise the price of that which is produced it from in the proportion of the tax imposed on that which is imported. Take the case of wheat. If of the 20 million Warters consumed, 18 are produced here and two imported: and if on that which is brought from abroad you lay a tax of on, you, in point of fact, for the half million that goes to the Treasury, make a present of 5,000,000% to the landlords. We Free Traders have long known that a fixed tax on the bread of the people is a fixed injustice. I wish to say, if there is any protectionist present, very respectfully, but firmly and emphatically, that the time has gone by for any compromise in this matter. (Loud and long-continued cheers). I think the people of England have a full right to task, and they should be satisfied with no less than the total and immediate repeal of those laws which press so heavily on the industry of the people. (Vehement cheering.) There can be no doubt we are now arrived at a great political crisis. the consequences of which on the future destinies of this country it is impossible to foresee. But having the fullest confidence in the good sense of the people of England, I do not fear for the result; and if Sir Robert Peel brings forward a really good measure, he may calculate on the unanimous and warm support of the Liberal party in Parliament; but in saying this, I trust there will be no compromise, (loud cheers, and cries of, "We'll hear of none;") no clipping

and mutilation of a great principle; and I trust that if Sir

Robert Peel should think it right to consult the people, he

will not give them the half of what they demand, but the

whole of what they are entitled to. (Cheers.) I am satisfied

at all events that we may calculate with the utmost confi-

dence on the near approach of the day when these bad laws

will be swept from the statute book. (Loud cheers,) Mr. M. Gibbox, M.P., came forward amid-loud cheers to move the first resolution :- It has been with much satisfac tion that I have come to this meeting, the more so as I appear not a stranger amongst you, but as a resident of West-minster, and an elector of this borough. The resolution is to this effect :- "That it is proved by undoubted evidence that several millions of the agricultural population of Great Britain and Ireland are fed on potatoes, and that there are a thousand individuals born daily, for whose future support provision must be made; and that the Corn Laws, though they professed to be enacted for the protection of industry, have wholly failed in that object." The resolution insists on certain facts, some of which are not disputed even by ultra protectionists. Every one knows that a large portion of the population of the United Kingdom subsists on pota-toes. We did not want the authority of Dr. Marsham for that fact; nor does it require any argument or reasoning to show that the population is increasing, for this simple reason—that it has been counted at successive intervals of ten years, and that at the end of each there has been found an increase of something like a thousand a day, 1 dure say, if the census lisd not been taken, some of our opponents would fact an to any increase of population; and (it can hardly be credited,) a writer of authority on such subjects in his day wrote a book to satisfy the country that the population had not increased. But fortunately we have taken the means, by counting the people, to set at rest that question; and from various commissions of inquiry into the state of the agricultural population, we know that it Ireland, and in many parts of this country, their subsistence is reduced to the lowest point at which human beings can be kept alive. (Hear, henr.) We who advocate the cause of Free Trade believe that the Corn Law is instrumental in reducing the labouring population to the melancholy condition in which they are now placed. We do not my that there are not other causes that have not had an effect, and a considerable effect, on the condition of the people; but we think that whatever other causes may have been at work, the Corn Laws have tended to aggregate the evils under which the people suffered, and were in themselves calculated to straiten the means of the great bulk of the industrious population, and gradually reduce the labouring people to a worse condition than they would have been in had they the means of procuring a fair reward for their own industry. But we require not, in advocating Free Trade, any arguments to prove that the condition of the agricultural labourers has deteriorated. We deny the right of any portion of our fellow-countrymen to dictate to the remainder the condition on which their industry shall be carried on. We dany to any partion of our countrymen the privilege of measuring out employment and trade to the rust of their follow-subjects. (Cheers.) We say the loom is as essential follow-subjects. (Cheers.) We say the loom is as essential to the country as the plough, and that the people of the country have as good a right to food, through the operations of the doom, as through those of the plough. (Hear, hear, and obsers.) We say further, that if any body of presents, combined together in Parliament for their own pecuniary interest, restrict one of the most carred and ob-

vious rights of Englishmen, it is a gross and odious tyranny, and a matter of congratulation that the people have at last determined to throw off the odious yoke, and to proclaim to the world that trade and industry shall be free. Who are the parties to the conflict? On the one side the landed proprietors, and on the other the people of England It is true the generality of landed proprietors advocate mo-nopoly, but we have many distinguished and able supporters in that body; and we know as a fact that the most distinguished advocates of Free Trade have also been remarkable for the improvements they introduce into agriculture, and the ability which they displayed in promoting the improvements of the soil. I need only refer to such names as Lords Spencer and Leicester amongst those who have passed away, and Lords Ducie, Fitzwilliam, and Radnor, amongst those still with us. Our enemies-the most bitter of themare the mortgaged landlords (cheers); the men who fear even a small reduction of their rents, because there is but a narrow margin between the limits of their entire rental, and the interest of their mortgages. (Loud cheers.) Those are the men who are our most bitter opponents; but let it be remembered, that if the estates of those men have been mortgaged, they have, or have had, the money which was raised on these lands. (Cheers.) They have sold their propertythey have received the money for it—and they cannot now call on the legislature to restrict the comfort of the great body of their countrymen, in order to maintain the arbitrary position in which they chose to place themselves. (Hear hear.) It is true that we do not hear much of their mort-gaged lands now. Sir Edward Knatchbull (hear, hear, and langhter) once ventured on that dangerous ground in the flouse of Commons, and I remember that a friend of mine said on that occasion, that it was a very dangerous speech for his party. The gentleman whom I mentioned is a memher of Parliament, and I remember his saying of Sir Edward Knatchbull—"His speeches are always perilous (laughter), but his explanations are fatal" (loud laughter); for you must know that the worthy baronet thought it necessary to enter into an elaborate explanation, which left the matter worse than he found it. (Cheers and renewed laughter.) Instead of that topic, we now hear of special burdens on the land—of peculiar taxes and imposts—which are supposed to press heavily upon the agricultural interest. (Hear, hear.) And we are told that it is necessary that the effect of those taxes should be countervailed by some duty on the admis-sion of foreign corn, &c. (Cries of hear, hear.) After referring to all the Parliamentary documents on the subject, and listening to all the most able specches of the supporters of the agricultural interest and their views. I must say I never recollect to have heard a single case of peculiar taxation on land at all proved; but I have heard that there are peculiar exemptions from taxation, (loud cheers.) and I know that it is a very common thing to hear of the House of Commons being employed for much of its time in procuring and maintaining those peculiar exemptions. (Hear, hear.) That indeed is not to be wondered at, considering the large majority which the landed interest possesses in Parliament-it is not to be wondered at, if under the circumstances much of their time is spent in devising measures for the protection of their own interest; and if they have a chance by a little bamboozling (laughter), and by having such a leader as Sir Robert Peel, of doing so, that they should take every opportunity of benefiting themselves, and of removing the consequences of their own acts from their own shoulders. (Hear.) I wonder that at some of those agricultural protection meetings they do not call upon the speaker to explain what and why those peculiar exemptions are. I should like to know why a farmer is not to pay window tax, whilst the shopkeeper is called on to do so? (Loud cheers.) Can his grace the Duke of Richmond, can the Duke of Buckingham, or the whole collective wisdom of 17, Old Band street (roars of laughter) explain that? (Laughter and cheers.) give an intelligible reason why a farmhouse should not pay that duty as well as a shop, or why farming stock and imple ments of husbandry should be exempt from the fire insurance duty, whilst those of the shopkeeper are not? (Cheers.) Canathey explain the reason why it is that very few farmers, as it now appears, pay any income-tax at all? (Cheers. The farmer's profit is taken as being equal to one-half of his rent, and it is now ascertained that the great majority of farmers pay rents under 300%, a year; those who do not pay more than 300% are exempt from the income-tax (cheers) for it is presumed by the legislature that he only makes 1507 a year, as they choose to take one-half of his rent as his profit. (Cheers.) I want to know why the shopkeeper, making 9/. a week, should pay the income-tax, and the farmer who may happen to pay a rent of 200/. 10s. 114d. be exempt from it? (Cheers.) A man paying 300l, a year may be making more than 150l., but the legislature supposes he does not, though it is well known that the farmer's profit depends on the capital applied to his land, and he may be making a very much larger profit than the equivalent to onehalf of his rent. (Cheers.) There is gross favouritism in the way in which the income-tax is applied to the agriculturul and manufacturing classes. (Hear, hear.) Look at the odious inquisition into the private affairs of the shop keeper, from which the furmer escapes. (Uheers.) He is not compelled to show his books, the profits of his trade, or the state of his stock. (Hear, hear,) The rent he pays is the only question, and half of that is at once taken as the amount of his profit. Here, again, I say it, there appears to be gross favouritism to the landed interest. (Hear, hear.) But the chairman has more than once called the attention of the House to other instances of a similar nature, such as the exemption enjoyed by land from the legacy and probate duties. (Cheers.) Will those men of 17, Old Bondbate duties. (Cheers.) Will those men of 17, Old Bond-street, explain the reason why a tradesman should pay heavy taxes and he subject to deductions from his family, whilst the estates of the Duke of Buckingham or of the Duke of Richmond pass from son to son without any diminution? (Hear, hear.) I say that a grosser case of plunder, a more flagrant instance of unequal legislation is not to be found in the annals of history than the treatment which the people of this country have received at the hands of their legislators. (Loud cheers.) No doubt the freedom of taxation may be advantageous to the landed interest, but it is not very much to the benefit of the farmer, for-as they almost begin to find out—the whole advantage derived from protection finds its way into their landlords, pockets. How seldom does he get even the remission of a local rate—the amount of it is only added to his rent. (Hear, hear.) I believe the farmers are now making their calculations, and are beginning to disco-

Corn Laws are gone. (Loud cheers.) cases, were I at liberty to do so, where they have even taken leases under that impression—where they have ignored the Corn Laws, and considered them as repealed (cheers); and yet they have calculated on being able to cultivate theu profitably, without relying on the broken reed of protection.
The landed interest has been the spoiled child of the legislature, and, like too many other spoiled children, has been frequently indulged to its own disadvantage, (Hear, hear I believe the Corn Law is one of those instances, for I think the farmers would have been in a far better position if the laws never had been passed (hear, hear), and that ther workings have been most prejudicial to the interests of defarmers. I have spoken to many of that class, and their m. swers have led me to believe that some such thoughts have passed through their minds too. (Hear, hear.) You have heard of the large numbers that have assembled at various protection meetings throughout the country (hear, hear; out you must remember that those are not county meeting. that they are packed in small rooms, and that no strangen are admissible, and that in many the reporters of the Mora ing Post and other papers form a considerable part of the audience. Hear, hear.) The farmers attend them from habit—they go there to hear the news—they are there informed that my Lord This and Squire That will make a speech—and for them they are told that there will be a very good dinner, with a bottle of blackstrap at the inn afterwards. (Laughter.) All these were inducement from which if you separated the farmer, he would tell you three times out of five that the Corn Laws had done him no good. (Hear, hear.) But, as the Morning Post has admird, the landed interest see in this question something more than mere money—(hear)—they see in it a question sheet ing landed supremacy—(hear)—they see that it is a struggle between the privileged classes and the people, and they we that success inspires further hopes, and that the repeal of the Corn Laws will be but a step towards the complete destruction of every thing which can be considered to my against just and righteons legislation. (Loud applause.) As we are approaching so near the day on which it is supposed Sir R. Peel is to make his revelation, there seems to be vest dismay among the supporters of the right honourable gent. man. Lam told that the usual ministerial dinners are put off; that, in fact, the usual supporters of Government are "off their feed." (Roars of laughter.) Let us hope that the people of England will get a better supply for themselves from their loss of appetite. (Laughter.) Secing the deter mination of the country on this subject, I cannot think that Sir R. Peel will propose anything short of a complete near sure, which will satisfy the country and the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Cheers.) It must be complete, it must satisfy the north of England. I believe the men who have supposed that League are men determined to carry this question (Loud cheers.) Those men have not brought this forward is a mere party question, as a means of displacing the ministry, or reinstating that; they have not made it what political questions in this country have been many times made,—a mere watchword to bind a party together. (Hear.) They are determined to carry it; they mean never to deast till commerce, trade, and industry are set free. (Cheers.) I believe-and I have some reason to believe so, if we may read the future from the past—that Westminster (cherhas a constituency of firm and determined purpose not to rest till this great question is carried successfully. (Lord cheering.) I believe the glories of old Westminster will be renewed (cheers), and that the day will come, and that soon. when the heart of Westminster will be what it once wasthe heart of the nation (great applause), at every throb of which the whole empire was driven into action. (Cheer.) What was more natural than that the most wealthy, it set the most populous, of the metropolitan boroughs should be in the van of this great movement? (Applause.) The no tropolis aiding the north will make our triumph certain They might have been successful through their individual efforts, but the union of all the determination, wealth, and enterprise, and stability of the metropolis must carry this great movement to a successful issue. [The hon member resumed his seat amid loud applause.] Sir DE LACY EVANS, in coming forward to propose the

next resolution, begged to express the pleasure he felt at we ing so many well-known faces, and in assisting at one of the most important meetings in which that great constituent had ever been engaged. The preceding speeches left him only the task of stating a few additional facts in confirmation of their views. Mr. Gibson had reminded them the generally a generally a generally a generally a generally a general without can be a generally a general without can be a generally a general without can be a general without a general with a general without a general without a general with a genera scarcely a session passed without some measure being car ried for the benefit of the landed interest. (Hear, bear.) About two years ago there was a most painful sensation pro duced by a number of persons being seen in the streets of the metropolis in great distress, who were agricultural labourer out of employ. (Hear, hear.) It was declared that it would ving of famine. The con sequence was, that last session an Act was passed, required every purish to provide asylums for the casual poor, although they had ample accommodation for the maintenance of their own paupers. (Hear, hear.) That Act was clearly passed for the purpose of relieving the agricultural interest from the relief of their own poor. (Hear, hear.) The resoluted which he had to propose asserted that the Corn Laws had failed to accomplish their professed object of affording protection to industry. It was impossible to imagine in what was industry could be supported by placing a price on the mean of subsistence. (Hear, hear.) Another of these evil connumber of absentes families on the Continent. There ver living abroad about 100,000 families, with average income of 300% a year each, which amounted to 30,000,000%, april out of the country, without paying any proportion of tase (hear, hear); and that was all, no doubt, attributable to high prices of corn hore, which causes high prices in every thing also. thing else. They were told that the Corn Laws were is tended for the benefit of all classes; tenant farmers, as well as agricultural labourers. It had been in existence that years, and yet it was well known that the condition of the letter class the condition of the latter class had been declining instead of advancing. It was equally clear that these laws produced crime, and a variety of proofs had been brought before the House and skewhere that effect; but the landed proprietors had friends in Parisment, and she proofs described as their seasons and she proofs described as their seasons and produced as that effect; but the landed proprietors had friends in Parliament, and the proofs dropped on their cars and produced as result. The patition stated that the press parison of the British population were reduced to subsist on the that the press parison of the last that 4,000,000 in Ireland, and 1,000,000 in Eapland as their only food. That was another committee of bread; and the consumptions of place of corp would increase as it was property being lessened. They were all aware of the property of the population of the property of the property of the population of the property of the property

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crop was injured, and no one knew to what extent the discase might go for the next three months. What had the Government done? In France, Belgium, and other Continental nations, the ports had been thrown open at once; but here not one measure had been resorted to by Government to remedy the evils that were likely to ensue. He thought they might expect a better measure of Corn Law repeal from Sir R. Peel than from the Whigs, who were but recent converts to the great principle of the League. For the last 15 or 20 years he had attended meetings in that room, in which great triumphs were obtained for political and religious liberty; and if he rightly interpreted their onthusiasm on the present occasion, he anticipated a speedy triumph for the cause of Free Trade, from the manner in which the principles had been advocated there that night.

Dr. Bowning seconded the resolution. They asked no more and would accept no less than a total, absolute, and irrevocable repeal of the Corn Laws. (Loud cheers.) There were but two principles that Premiers had to choose between: there was no room now left for the narrow, shifting sliding plank between monopoly and Free Trade. (Loud and rehement cheering.) He recollected Sir Robert Peel's declaration as to posthumous fame; and there was no position more deserving of a great man's ambition than the martyrdom which that right hon, gentleman was subjected to for having abandoned principles which he discovered to he false, and for giving effect to principles which he knew to be true. (Cheers.) He hoped they might find Sir Robert Peol had greatness enough for this. He could not conciliste those whom he had abandoned, for he had done enough to incur their ununtigated barred. Why not, then, at once entitle himself to the affection and goodwill of the people of England, and record his name in the page of history as fuvourable to a measure which, he ventured to say, would have more effect in destroying human misery and creating human happiness than any other which could be submitted to Parliament. (Loud cheers.) He had watched the birth, education, strength, and now the omnipotence of the Anti-Corn Law League. In its early progress it was said to be contemptible. Again and again its depression and death were announced and rejoiced over; and now we see it making and unnaking Ministers, creating and overthrowing Go-rempents, knowing that while it was supported by men like those whom he addressed no Government could exist should exist, or would be tolerated, which was not founded on the principles of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Cheers.) The people had set their heart on a settlement of this question; and it could only be settled one way. Compromise was too late. (Cries of Yes, and cheers.) The monopolists had better deal with them in their present temper. There was a willingness to forgive them for all the wrongs and robberies they had committed. They should be allowed to button up all the ill-gotten gains they had amassed under that wicked, inhuman, and oppressive legislation. But he was not sure the people would be so good humoured by andby. We should have no sharp reckonings now; but we entreated them to shut the books of accounts, as the balance was everywhere against them. (Hear, hear.) We are willing to give them an honest discharge; but on this condition, that the Corn Laws were unconditionally repealed, now and for ever. (Loud cheers.) The time had gone by for argument as to the operation of the Corn Laws. Public opinion was unanimous on the subject. (Cheers.) The Corn Laws made war on all that was true, honest, and religious. Their overthrow was connected with peace, commerce, and human felicity. In the name, then, of all the interests that unite us, in the name of our country and of mankind, he demanded the immediate and total repeal of these laws (Loud

cheers.)

Sir C. NAPIER was received with enthusiastic cheering. I feel perfectly oppressed (said he) by the manner in which you have received me. This is the second time I have had the honour of appearing at the Crown and Anchor, the first being to support my gallant friend, Colonel Evans, when he stood for this borough; and I must say, though I have a great respect for my gallant fellow-officer (Captain Rous), who, it must always be remembered, was the first to sound the downfall of the monopolists, I should like to see my gallant friend near me in his place, and I hope he will attain that high honour at the next election. (Cries of Yes, and cheers; and a cry of "We don't mean to have Leader again.") I am almost unworthy to address you on the subject of Free Trade; for it is only lately I have become a total repealer of the Corn Laws in preference to the sliding scale; but I thought, and perhaps wrongly, that a fixed duty would be the fairest arrangement for all parties. Lord John Russell's letter has thrown a fixed duty overboard; and all liberal men are now united that nothing but a total repeal can satisfy this country. We owe a great deal to the League. But next to them we owe most to the protectionists. Let us take an analysis of a few speeches. We'll go first to Chichester. There Lord March wesided, the son of the Duke of Richmond, the protector-general of abuses. He was not able to attend the meeting; but a letter was read from him, in which he said there was a failure of the notatoes, but a greater breadth of crop than usual, and that two millions of quarters were ready to come in. Yes, when the prices were so high, that the people must be in a starving condition. (Cheers.) Then comes the Duke of Rutland. He says he has a reliah for potatoes. So have I; but the poor are able to relish them too, though unfortunately they may not be always able to get them. (Hear, hear.) Then comes another duke, who told us what I never heard before, and that was, that it was a good onre for, hunger to give a man a pinch of carry and some hot water. (Laughter.) Now, I have been a long time at sea, and seen many stormy nights; but I never learned that curry powder was a protection against cold and hunger. (Renewed laughter.) My friend (Mr. Oibson) did not give the whole of Sir Edward-Knutchbull's explanation. That right honourable gentleman asked, in the event of the Corn Law being repealed, what were they to do for the jointures of widows and the portions of youngar children? (Hear.) So that the modest request is, that the working-men of England should pay the broad tax, that Lady Knatchbull, when her husband may bread tax, that Laily Knatchbull, when her husband may die, should have a jointure and her younger daughters and sons portions. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) A gentleman at Chichester asked, "If you abolish the Corn Laws, how are the country gentlemen possibly to keep up their station?" And what sid that mean? Magnificant castles in the country; mansions in town, preservation of game, and trips to Newmarkst, during which themsands were expended in gambling. All must be abandoned if the Corn Laws are resided. I want to the castle of the Duke of Northumberand he other are and it took me a day to go over his present the country. The country to he was the present the same that he like his product to he was the present that he was the country to here they become the present that the like here were the same that he like here were the same that he was the country to here they become the present that they have the same that they have the present the same that they have the country to have a day to go over his present the same that they have they have the same that they have they have they have the same that they have the same that they have they have they have they have they have the same they have the have the have they have the have they have they have they have they have

defray such expenses out of the price of their food. (Cheers.) There is sucher class to whom we also owe much, and who have only lately spoken out-1 mean the agricultural labourers. I believe the meeting at Goatacre will be followed throughout the length and breadth of the land if Sir Robert Peel has the magnanimity to throw himself on the liberal part of the community, instead of sticking to his old friends the protectionists. I am a farmer myself, I purchased forty acres of forest land, which were constantly overflowed with water, and which farmer after farmer gave up. I divided the lands into six fields. I knew no more of agricul ture than a child; and though I ried to get some ploughmen to do my work, I found them bent on the old usages, and so little intelligent, that the horse seemed to go before the ploughman because he had the instinct to know that some guide was necessary. (A laugh.) Having found myself 2001, out of pocket the first year, I lighted upon a man who, for his intelligence deserves to have his name mentioned. It was John Sparkes; and he, having six acres of land of the same description as mine, complotely redeemed it without any other assistance than his own industry, one poncy, and a wife. (Much laughter.) The gallant officer then proceeded to give a detail of the various agricultural operations performed at the suggestion of his assistant on his farm. The land was too wet; he of his assistant on his farm. drained it by degrees, and got excellent crops off it; and now, said Sir Charles, I'll engage there's not better hand in all Hampshire. (Cheers and laughter.) My loss at first was 100%, next year it was reduced to 30%, the fourth year it was nothing, and this year I have 100% in my pocket. (Lond cheers and laughter,—"I hope you'e got a long lease).
The gallant member next enlarged on the superiority of the Scotch agricultural system, which made hand, naturally much less fertile, produce better crops than the English farms. So much had the Scotch improved their land that good farmers did not care one straw about the Corn Laws, (Cheers.) Why did they not do the same in England? Why did not landlords, instead of making long speeches to their tenants, give them long leases, (great laughter and applause,) give them draining tiles, and charge a reasonable amount for them, and hie would answer for it that this country, instead of being an importing, would be an exporting country. (Cheers.) In 1811, Lord J. Russell, like a clever statesman, saw that it was impossible that the Corn Laws could continue as they were, and recommended an 8s. fixed duty, as sufficient protection to the laudfords. They refused to accept it, and turned him out of office. They had now been struggling for five years to maintain protection; their last year was come, and they now deserved no protection at all, He hoped and trusted that he would this session see a repeal of the Corn Laws, without having any taxes chapped on them to reimburse the landlords for what they had been robbing the country of for forty-five years. (Cheers.) Let them suffer a little-it would make them cultivate their land properly and cause the country to be the exemple instead of being the disgrace of the world in respect to agriculture. (Loud cheers.

The Hon. Mr. BOUVERIE said, that after the expression of opinion which the meeting had given, there could be no doubt but that they would all agree to the resolution he had to propose, which was, that they should petition Parliament for a total repeal of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) Parliament was now about to meet again. The two questions which had been so lately agitating the public would speedily re-ceive a solution—the one was unimportant but as it was considered in connection with the other. It would then appear why all Sir Robert Peel's government, strong ordinary sense of the word, in one day fell to pieces like a house of cards. He thought any reasonable man-could make a good guess as to the cause. For himself he thought the reason was, that the cabinet was founded on a great falsehood—that the Corn Laves could be maintained in free discussion, and that the working people of this country would get under that system a greater portion of the produce of the earth than under the beneficent dispensations of God. (Cheers.) The cabinet so founded deservedly fell to the ground when the day came. The question was now, will the Corn Laws be repealed or not? With the exception of one gentleman, who appeared to have disappeared, (laughter,) they were all unanimous with respect to those laws. (Hear, hear.) He could not conceive the existence of two opinions on the subject in an unprejudiced mind. There was no use in arguing with those who had no ears, and would not understand. (Hear, hear.) Let them suppose there was a statute, which enacted that every year 1000 persons should be put into the Thames and drowned, 5000 hanged, 10 000 inoculated with the typhus, and 30,000 sent to the workhouse. (Hear.) Why, it could not exist in this country for ten minutes. But he said the Corn Laws did more and worse than that, (Loud cheers.) Death-the greatest evil which from hunger, than by the halter or the knife. (Applause.) There was evidence the Corn Law had done this; it had been admitted by a leading member of the cabinet that the Corn Laws caused crime, and multiplied disease, bastened death, and perpetuated all those evils which the light of returning prosperity would be unable to dissipate. (Cheers.) He thought be might assume that they were all agreed as to what ought to be done with the Corn Laws, and believed that nothing but a mind biased by prejudice or supposed regard to its own interests, could differ from them. He rather wondered that a gentleman of the gallant officer's (Sir C. Napier's) intelligence and ability could have been at any time in favour of the Corn Laws. (Sir C. Napier intimated his dissent—he was for a fixed duty); but it uppeared that he was only so till be became a furmer. (Hear, Let them mark, that the instant he became a good farmer he disregarded the Corn Laws altogether. (Cheors and laughter.) Such a farmer cared nothing about those laws, but the farmer who did not hunt about on his pony for his neighbour's assistance (laughter) looked to the rotten reed of protection, and imagined that the law should give him those advantages which his own intelligence and indus-try ought to afford him. (Cheers.) He could not help hoping that Sir Robert Peel would propose a total repeal. What less could be do with any hope of success? If he proposed a reduction of the duty he would meet the same difficulty from his quondam friends as if he proposed the total repeal. He knew-he must know-that the total repeal must come sooner or later—that if the public once made up their minds they were sure to triumph. (Loud obsers.)

polisis were strong-not in numb rs, it was true, nor station, or intolligence, but in the state of things which they had themselves created, and which they were builded together to maintain. At the time of the Reformation, the college of the Sorbonne declared that there was an end to the Christian religion if the study of Greek and Latin were continued. In the same way the Duke of Newcastle believed that the monurshy would be at an end if the Corn Laws were repealed. (Cheers and laughter.) Let them observe the close resemblance. A nation's Christianity had not suffered for the study of Greek and Latin, neither would the condition of this country is injured by the repeal of those laws. Nations would be linked more closely together; peace receive more homage; and every condition receive greater reverence. -The honourable member concluded by moving the resolu-

MR. HEALEY seconded the resolution in an eloquent speech. The secret of Sir Robert Peel's resignation might be explained thus :- "There are such incapable legislators in the Houses of Lords and Commons that I can't govern the country as it ought to be through them, and I therefore must resign." He warned the handlords that if this just demand was refused, the people would soon ask why birth alone was a qualification for Government, and why the Commons House did not somewhat better support their name? (Cheers.)

Mr. DEARY moved the adoption of a petition founded on

the foregoing resolutions.

Mr. WALKER recorded the motion, and referred to a number of returns to show that the landlords, by the posi-

Mr. G. Thompson addressed the meeting at great length

in support of the resolution.
The usual vote of thanks having been passed to the chairman, the meeting broke up.

MARYLEBONE.

A numerous and important meeting of the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League and other friends of Free Trade resident in the parish of St. Marylchone, was held on Tues day evening at Hall's Riding Sahook Albany-streat, Regent'spark, for the purpose of considering the present position of the Corn Laws, and also of adopting measures to cusure the registration of Pree Trade voters in the borough. A largo platform was creeted immediately in front of the gallery at the upper and of the room, and was thronged with some of the more influential parishioners, while the remainder of the spacious building was densely crowded by the public. The gallery and a reserved space in front of the platform was

filled with ladies. At half-past seven o'clock,
Mr. Hung, M.P., took the chair, anidst loud and general
acclamation. When the cheering had subsided, he proceeded to address the meeting as follows. He said, in order that their discussion should proceed effectively, he had to request that they would, as far as possible, maintain quietness and silence. It was of the utmost importance that in that, as in every other assemblage where Englishmen were met together, a fair hearing should be extended to all who wished to address them. They had the privilege which the inhabitants of many other countries did not possess, of meeting and expressing their opinions on any subject that might interest the public welfare, or even their own particular interests. It was, beyond all others, the privilege of Englishmen to differ in their opinious, and it was on that ground that he would call upon them-should any individuals who differed from him, and from others who had called that meeting, wish to address them-to give such individuals a full and a fair Their cause was a sacred_one. They bearing. (Hear.) had no want of confidence in the goodness of their cause. They only wished to hear what arguments could be urged against it, and the meeting might rest assured that to these arguments, should they be brought forward, there would be ample, prompt, and effective answers returned. Before proeveding to the consideration of the resolutions that would be offered for their approval, it was his anxious wish to be allowed to offer a few remarks on the great and important There could be no object for which they were assembled. doubt whatever but that the Government of this country was constituted with a view of passing laws that should affect equally all classes of the community, and no uniter from what cause these laws may be enacted, whenever they became partial and oppressive on any portion of the people, it was their duty as honest men to endeavour to effect the correction of these abuses, and see justles done to all. (Hear, hear.) He could speak from many years' experience. He did not come before them as a tyro about to commence his public advocacy. Four and thirty years had passed away since he first entered Parliament, and he could boast that the opinions which he publicly professed in the first year of his Parliamentary life remained to that hour unchanged, or rather, they had become stronger and stronger throughout all the intervening time. (Cheers.) The only difference which he could trace was, that the prospect which was now as it were wittin his group, he had then but slight hope of ever seeing realised. Great progress bad since then been made in the advance of public opinion. The feeling against injustice in the laws towards any portion of the community had become most powerful, and with the public voice so united as it now was, he hoped and trusted that those who governed the union would think it their duty to yield to prudence what they might even not be ready to grant to justice, and would act in a manner calculated to satisfy the public mind. The inceting of that evening had two objects in view. One was to express their feelings with regard to the partial laws, and the old restrictions and trammels that pressed upon all classes of the community. He was one of those who had always held, and who still held, and who was capable of proving the fact, that the Corn and Provision Laws had injured the great mass of the community, while they had falled to benefit those for whose advantage they had been intended. They wanted no concessions from any portion of the community. They required no favour, no par-tiality. They sought only for justice; and it was to demand that justice that they had assembled there that night. (Hear, He wished, in addressing his fellow-parishionors, to remind them that they personally had much to effect in their populous and most important borough. Their object was to repeal all laws that were unjust and oppressive, and they de sired to effect that object in the constitutional mode allowed them, peaceably, quietly, but effectively. They possessed a representative Government; and he for one would wish to see duction would morely be taking a bits at a pill, (laughter)—
the whole of it would do him and the country good (laughter), but the half of it would be exceedingly many, and not produce, half the good effects that the whole it into the half of it would be exceedingly many, and would not produce, half the good effects that the whole it is not the half of the middle classes. The representative two remaining the representative two remaining the first the middle classes. He had lived to see the power of making likes taken from a few boroughmongers, and without the half of the middle classes. The representative two remaining the representation more effective. He had lived to see the power of making likes taken from a few boroughmongers, and if the representative two remaining the remaining the representative two remaining the rema

self with the power which the State gave him of having a vote, and if he then exercised that power on the soundest principles of justice to his fellow men, they might be certain of success. (Hear, hear.) They had, therefore, a double object in meeting that night: first, to pass an opinion, which he hoped would be an unanimous one, of the destructive tendency and injustice of the Corn Laws; and secondly, to join with those who were so ably and actively engaged in obtaining Mr da tridny di possible the power of voting, and thus giving an effect to their wishes by a gradual and perfect change in the selection of those whom they dent to represent them in Parliament, and who would be thus taught to act honestly and justly. Could it be supposed that if Great Britain enlightened as it was - were freely represented in the House of Commons, such laws as those against which they were now met to protest would have been allowed to remain on the statute-book? (Cheers.) With these general views he would conclude with the hope that this question would receive the warmest consideration from the meeting, particularly at a period at which they were within almost eight and forty hours of the assembling of Parliament, which they expected to hear from her Majesty's ministers the course that they were prepared to adopt. Should the public be disappointed at the announcement that would then be made, it would become their duty to buckle to, as men conscious of being injured and determined to be free. (Cheers.) After some further remarks the hon, goutleman resumed his seat amidst land cheers.

Professor KEY moved the first resolution. He said he stould not have undertaken to perform the duty of moving dicrodition at that meeting had he followed his own por-sonal inclinations, because he felt himself utterly incompetent, as well as inexperienced, to take a part in a great public discussion. The meeting would however, he better pleased at having only a short address from him, when he informed them that he would be followed by a most eloquent orstor-Mr. Moore. (Hear, hear.) Though he had not, like their chairman, a public life of thirty four years to refer back to, he could say, that since he had arrived at any maturity of mind, he had entertained but one opinion on the subject of protection laws. He had the pleasure of forming the acquaintance of Mr. Charles Villiers at the University of Cambridge. They both came to London about the same time, and they shortly after joined with three other friends for the purpose of studying the question of Erec Trade. Their little party consisted of five individuals. Three of these had entered Parliament, and had distinguished themselves there for being most zealous advocates for a repeal of the Corn Laws. Mr. Charles Villiers was the first to move in the House of Commons for the total repeal of this law; and, after his various unsuccessful efforts there, it was gratifying to think that it was no longer in the power of any minister to resist the public will. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)
The resolution was as follows:— That this meeting enters its solomn protest against the Corn Laws, as impolitic and unjust, and argos their total, immediate, and unconditional

Mr. Gronag Fondo seconded the resolution. He referred briefly to the progress which public opinion had made latterly in favour of the abolition of the Corn Laws, and expressed his opinion that if a portion of the malt duty, to the amount of two millions annually, were repealed as a relief to the agriculturists, the loss to the revenue ought to be made good by an extension of the legacy duty to landed property In a case that came under his own knowledge, a poor blind girl had been left an animity of 20%, a-year by some benevolent 'individual, but out of this sum no less than 2/. a-year was taken away by Government, while the landed interests were allowed to bequeath estates worth 50,000 a year to their relatives or others, without the payment of any duty what-

Mr. ROBERT R. R. MOORE addressed the meeting in support of the resolution. He said the man would have been a hold prophet who, when they met there two years ago, would have ventured to foretell that they would at the present time meet under such altered circumstances. At the time of the former meeting the League was comparatively a small body, while he never witnessed such a scene of riot, uprour, and confusion, as in that room (cries of " Whose fault was it?" and some slight confusion in the body of the meeting.) At present they were all but unanimous. That was the forty-second meeting that he had attended since the 25th of November last, in London and the metropolitan counties; and though they had been all public meetings-open to all who wished to attend themstill they each unanimously expressed a condemnation of the Corn laws. They had then neither the Whig nor the Tory party with them. They had a majority of a hundred and upwards opposed to them in the House of Commons. Everything looked dark and gloomy; but now there was no principles of protection. (Cheers.) Lord John Russell had come nobly forward, and in the manner that he liked to see a man come forward in. He did not say that he had always been with them, but he boldly admitted that for twenty years he had been in error; that for that period he had thought protection was right, but that he now admitted it to be a delusion. That he felt it had been the blight of commerce and the bane of agriculture. The landords have been latterly particularly busy. They beasted of having the farmers and the agricultural labourers with them; but if the fact were so, why were their meetings held in inn rooms, instead of being great county meetings as they ought to be? He would like to see the Duke of Richmond presiding at a second labourers' meeting at Goataore, to revise and correct the mischief they had done by the first. (Hear, hear.) He denied that the manufacturers were anxious for protection, or that they would continue the import duty on Prench silks, and Swiss watches, and Belgian fire-anns. (Hear, hear.) The protectionists could bring forward no proof that such was the fact. On the contrary, the first resolutions adopted at every Free Trade meeting was against all pro-tection whatever, and the Manchester Chamber of Commerce adopted a resolution to that effect as long ago as 1880. (Hesr.) He had been in Derby about a year ago conversing for articles for the Free Trade baxaar, and he could tell them what occurred there. Dorby, as they all knew, was the great contre of the silk trade, and when the repeal of the duty of dd. on foreign silk was apoken of a single manufacturor there held a meeting of himself to provide against the change. (A laugh.) He got two friends to move and second a resolution in favour of the protecting nove and second a resolution in favour of the protecting duty, while he occupied the chair himself, and then went up to London to present his memorial to Sir R. Peel. But what sid the other allk throwsters of Derby do? As goon as they head of what he had done, they held a meeting. They refused to allow his ansenses in going to London, and drow up a counter-memorial, praying Sir Robert Peel to

take off the 6d. duty, and declaring that they were ready to meet the competition of the world; that they did not believe they would suffer at all by the removal of the duty; and that even if they should be injured, they would prefer bearing the injury rather than have the duty continued as a peg on which to hang some shied of an argument for the continuance of the Corn Laws. (Chiefe.) It was also said continuance of the Corn Laws. (Chiere.) It was also said that if the protection duty was repealed on bwiss watches, the English watchmakers' trade would be destroyed. While in Coventry last year he called on every watchmaker there, and got contributions from all for the Free Trade Bazaar. He spoke to them on this subject, and their reply to him was, that every one hundred pounds' worth of Geneva watches imported into this country paid, up to a few mouths' previously, 306 in duty, but that since the duty had been reduced to 101., the watchmaking trade in this country, which had been previously in a recent miserable condition, began at once to revive.

A Voige—That is the fact. (Hear.)
Mr. Moone continued—He did not mean that the alteration of duty was the instantaneous cause of that improvement in the trade; but what the watchmakers said was, that their trade with America would become three times as great as it now was if American corn could be received in return; and the fact must be so, for English watches were admittelly the best in the world. (Hear.) Another proof of the sincerity of the manufacturers was afforded by the fact, that though the atteriority of English goods was mainly to be attributed to the pre-eminence of English machinery, they did not oppose, but, on the contrary, actually petitioned in favour of the repeal of the law prohibiting the exportation of machinery. (Hear.) He then referred to the necessity of exertion in the registries. By attention to the registration, they sought to have men instead of acres represented. (Cheers.) At the next election he trusted they would exert themselves. (Hear.) Let them go to their office in Fleetstreet; they would get every information on the subject. They must not go away from that meeting and say, that the fate of the Corn Laws was settled. They did not know that the Lords would go with him. They did not know but that they would have dissolution upon dissolution of Parliament. It was nothing but the public voice that would enable Sir Robert Peel to carry repeal, even if so inclined. The progress of events had assisted him. The 40s. freeholders must prop him up on one side, and Lord John Russell, with his motion for total repeal, must prop him up on the other. He; did not know but that their exertions must be redoubled he did not know but that a compromise might be suggested. That they must denounce. He trusted that this year would be memorable in the annals of England, and that it would be the first year in which they would have industry free and unfettered. (Cheers.) They must be earnest, zealous, and unanimous in their opinion, and there could be no doubt of final success. The learned gentleman resumed his seat amidst enthusiastic and reiterated applause.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, first inviting observations from any gentleman present.

Mr. LANGHAM coincided in the views of the previous speaker with respect to the impolicy of a duty on corn, but dissented from him on some other points which he was proceeding to specify, when he was encountered by a storm of opposition, amidat loud cries of "No protection," and "Down, down," which compelled him to resume his seat.

The resolution was unanimously carried. Mr. BRADSHAW moved the next resolution, urging the meeting strenuously to carry it out, and beat the protectionists with their own weapons. It was to the following effect: -" That this meeting tenders its most cordial thanks to the Council of the National Anti Corn-Law League for the attention given to the registration of electors; congratulates them on the progress of the 40s, freehold movement in the counties, and pledges its support to win the counties of East Surrey and Hertford, and other metropolitan counties." He impressed upon them that after all, votes in the House of Commons must carry this measure for repeal, and votes in the House of Commons must be got by votes out of doors. (Hear, hear.) They must send the fate of the Corn Laws for ever. (Cheers.) It was their duty one and all to assist in this momentous crisis. (Cries of "We will.") Though they might have to struggle on one or two occasions more yet, they might be assured their exertions would be crowned with victory. (Cheers.) They owed their present position on this measure to the League, to whom they owed their cordial thanks. There were hundreds and thousands of persons in Marylebone who were not on the register. He begged those gentlemen to take the hint. They must make this question their own. They had now 16,000 votes on the register, and he trusted that by their next meeting it would be increased to 20,000. (Cheers.)

Mr. ROBERT BAGSMAWS seconded the resolution, which , amiast great cheering:

Mr. HUMB, M.P., further stimulated the assemblage to exertion by a characteristic speech on the weakness of the landed interest in this country, which he affirmed few per sons were aware of. He would give evidence of this which no one would deny. His statement was grounded upon the returns of the income tax in the Parliamentary papers which were laid on the table of the House of Commons in 1848. The whole amount of the income-tax of the United Kingdom was 5,384,124l. Now, what was the fact? The entire land of England was only assessed at about one-sixth of the whole. (Hear.) The total amount of property in all the schedules upon which the assessment was made was 100,000,035/., which, from the report on the table of the House of Commons, appeared to be composed of the follow ing items: houses, wharfs, factories, docks, and shipping, 41,063,892l.; tenant furmers, 20,486,006l.; public funds, 27,873.001; profits of trade, 00,298,640l.; public offices, 8,080,831l.; Sociland in all its soliedules, 9,284,888l.; land in Eugland and Wales 32,650,187l. The honourable meinber, after entering into some further calculations, concluded by observing that out of the 100,000,000%, of capital, the capital of the great interest in land which kept them all in bondage, was only about 82,000,000/. (Hear, hear.) He had been at pains to draw up these figures, to open the syes of the people at large to the real facts, and to show the imprudence of those agriculturists who set down the other classes as mere shopkeepers, and who would not be received at a siere country ball. He preced upon them these details not simply for the purpose of obtaining a repeal of the Gorn Laws, but to show them the gossibility of atteining in a constitutional manner their rights and liberties to the fullest extent. In furtherance of this liberties to the muest extent. In the number of view he would tell them another etary. The number of members in the House of Commons was 658. Now, every county in England. Scotland, and Insland, together with the meet that, if the ten-pounded would be homes in the called

and boroughs, 392 members, which, adding that portion of the landed interest voting with them, gave them a clear me. the landed interest voting with them, gave them a clear mejority of 147 votes. There was no man without a vote who was not a slave—he was completely governed by others. There was not a Free Trader who possessed 501, who ought not to lay it ought immediately in the purchase of a county and trader. freehold wherever it could be had. Nay, there was no trades.
man or artisan who could not by economy save out; and why should be not? He might then stand at the poll as in-dependent as any duke in the land. (Cheers.) If the midthe and working classes would carry out this principle, they would have the remedy for the evils of which they complained would have the remedy for the evise of which they comprained in their own bands. At this hour the power of the State was in the hands of the middle classes. Fie assisted in earrying the Reform Bill, and he was now anxious that the people should exercise the privileges they possessed, and free themselves from the shackles in which the aristocracy wished to bind them. The middle classes were too sordid—they had the means to attain political power. The working classes had the means, and if they did not use them, let him never hear more of cruelty and oppression. He had laid before them plain, simple, and consistent views, which every man ought to carry out if he did his duty. (Cheers.)

Mr. R. R. R. Moone proposed, in very handsome terms, a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was cravied with all the honours.

The meeting then broke up.

EDINBURGH.

On Thursday evening, a public-meeting of the inhabitants was held in the Music Hall, for the purpose of promoting the immediate and unconditional abolition of the Corn and Provision Laws; and of taking means to raise a subscription in aid of the National Anti Corn-Law League Fund of a Quarter of a Million. The hall was crowded. Among those on the platform we observed the following:

The Lord Provost; Bailies Gray, Duncan, and Ritchie; Councillors P. Wilson, Drummond, Russell, and Robertson; Alex. Dunlop, Esq., advocate; Rev. Mr. M'Kenzie; Rev. Mr. Robertson; James Moncrieff, Esq., advocate; John Wig. M. Jun., Esq.; Robert Hunter, Esq., advocate; John Wig-hun, jun., Esq.; Robert Hunter, Esq., advocate; Duncan M. Jaren, Esq.; George Stone, Esq.; William M. Keuzle, Esq., of Muirton; Professor Gregory; George Macallua, Esq.; Robert Cox, Esq.; Ralph Richardson, Esq.; John Howison, Esq., Secretary to the Anti-Corn-Law Association; Rev. Mr. French; Wm. Tait, Esq.; J. H. Burton, Esq. advocate; Andrew Smith, Esq.; Archibald Thompson, Esq.; John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch; R. S. Grieve, Esq.; John Gray, Esq.; James Richardson, Esq.; Cuptain Willis; Chus. Morton, Esq., S.S.C.; D. Laidlaw, Esq.; John Lees, Esq.; Robert Richardson, Esq.; Dr. William Peddie; Dr. Renton, &c.

On the motion of Bailie DUNGAN, the Lord Provost was called to the chair.

The LORD PROVOST said, that before commencing the other proceedings, there were one or two letters he wished to The first was from Mr. Murray, of Henderland, a landed proprietor. Mr. Murray's letter, after regretting his unavoidable absence, went on:

"I have long been convinced that the repeal of the Corn Laws will not injure the landed or agricultural interests, whilst the establishment of Free Trade will afford the lest security for a regular and steady supply of food for the people at a fair price, notwithstanding the vicissitudes of the sec sons, to which all countries are liable. But this is not the only good it will produce. The derangements of the mone tary system, occasioned by the export of bullion in times of scarcity, which have frequently done so much mischief to the country, will no longer occur. The working-classes, by increased demand for the produce of their labour, will ab tain larger means of procuring the necessaries of life, and be better able to compete with foreigners in their own

"It is also no small recommendation of the measure in my opinion, that it would at once put an end to the prevailing impression that one class is disposed to oppose the others for its own particular advantage, and that it would thus restore that harmony and kindly feeling which ought to exist among all classes of the community.

"Whilst the repeal of the Corn Laws will thus increase

our internal prosperity, it will at the same time strengthen and cement our relations with foreign countries, by the mutual advantages of commercial intercourse, the best and surest bond of peace and friendship between rival nations.

"I am, &c.-WM. MURBAY. The LORD PROVORT afterwards read letters from Mr. George Hope, of Fenton Barns, and Sir G, S. Macketzic, Bart., Rosebank, Roslin, approving of the meeting, and the latter intimating a subscription of 20%. His lordship afterwards addressed the meeting at considerable langth. He concluded by anying that he had no dealer and meeting at considerable langth. all the opposition which certain gentlemen about Edinburgh had made at present, they would all succumb when Sir R. Peel brought forward his measure. concluded by saying that he had no doubt, not

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Mr. ALEXANDER DUNLOP, Advocate, delivered a long dress in proposing the first resolution, and concluded as follows:—When we see the working classes obliged to much longer every day in consequence of the increased price of food-when we see them broken down by premature of age—whom we see their children stinted for food, and in stead of the joyous smile, the glad laugh, and the spring! vigour of youth, have presented to us the pallid countenmer, the sunken eye, and the emeciated form—when we see this, I think it impossible for any man to behold it without in dignation, when he considers that the cause of it is the stinting of the daily meal of the poor child, in order that the great aristocrats may be enabled to have additional equiper. and to keep up the luxuries they enjoy. Feeling this, I can not but feel indignant, not so much at their opport though that is great—not so much at their assault as though that is intense—but at what I cannot but call the national that is intense—but at what I cannot but call the natitarable meanness of taking the obliders is brief. (Applause.) Mr. Dunlop, after a few other remarks, and that the conclusion of all this was, and this was his opinion.

the conclusion of all this was, and this was his opinion as he was sure it was that of the meeting, that these law should be immediately and unconditionally aboliable.

J. GRAY, Esq. seconded the metion, which was mounty assessed to, as were all the others proceed mounty assessed to, as were all the others proceed mounty assessed to as were all the others proceed mounty as were all the others proceed mounty as were all the others proceed the second resolution:

The liev. Mr. Macranyara, of faith in Lipse mounty, Early Trade would be fragging the meeting. Early of the processes to our commerce to our output of the processes of peace amount the processes of peace amount the processes of peace amount the processes.

by the graster amount of necessaries, comforts, and luxuries which they would purchase; amelierate the condition of the cheaper food; lassen the temptations to immorality, vice, and crime, by amploying the take and supplying the necessi-ties of the destitute; facilitate the progress of education; and by these means greatly promote the happiness of the

people at large.
The Rev. Mr. Robertson, of Portsburgh, seconded the

metion, which was unanimously approved of.

Mr. James Moncherry, Advocate, proposed the next re-

solution, pledging the meeting to support the League Fund.
Mr. John Whiteham, jun., in seconding the resolution, said, he had much pleasure in announcing the state of the subscriptions; and, in doing so, he had to state that, along with Mr. Stone, he had been requested by the committee to call on a few friends of murk to begin the subscription; and he was happy to say that they had been recoived in the kind cat manner, and that the sum of 2000% had been already obtained. (Loud cheers.) There had been some very liberal sums indeed put down. One individual had subscribed 250%; one firm, 300%; five individuals, 100%, each; seven individuals, 50% each; seven individuals, 50% each; one firm 50% one individuals, 20% one individual. individuals, 50% each; one firm, 50%; one individual, 30%; and a great many for 20%.—making altogether 2000/. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Whigham then explained the way in which the League proposed to call up the subscriptions, and concluded by expressing an earnest hope that the people of Edinburgh would be as liberal as they had been on former occasions. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. ROBERT HUNTER, Advocate, said—The bare montion of the resolution which has been entrusted to me will be sufficient to command the general and cordial approbation of this meeting. It is-" That this meeting express its highest scuse of the invaluable services to the cause of Free Trade which have been rendered by the National Anti-Corn Law League; and tenders its warmest thanks to Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Wilson, and the other members of the Council of the League, for their unwearied labours in the cause. (Loud cheers.)

The motion was seconded by Mr. Duncan McLanen, and

unanimously agreed to.

Mr. STONE proposed that the cordial thanks of this meet. ing should be given to the Right Hon. the Lord Provost, for his conduct in the chair. (Cheers.)

The following are the subscriptions above 10/.:-

	£	P.	. d.	
Richardsons Brothers	300	ü		
G Stone	250	Ö		
d Jamieson, 18, Rutland-square	100	Ö		
R Grieve, Noble House	100	ő		
Duncan M'Laren, 13, Frederick-stroot	100	0		
W Somerville, sen, Dalmore	100	0		
W Somerville, jun, Dalmore	100	0	0	
A Amusudale, Polton	100	-0	0	
Cowan, 17, Princes-street	1(4)	()	()	_
W. Murray, 11, Great Stuart-street	50	-0	0	
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G M Callum, 42, India-stroot	50	0	0	
W M'Murray, Bload's Place, Leith Walk	50	0	0	
G H Girle, 125, High-street	39	0	0	
Mesers J and P Bosg, 3, Waterloo Place	25	,0	0	
G Hope, Fenton Barns Baille Ritchio	25	0	0	
J Duniop, Randolph Place	25	()	0	
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A and C Black, 27, North Bridge	25	0	0	
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Captain Willis		Ü	ö	
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GLASGOW.

last night a great public meeting was held in the City Hall, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of considering the present position of the question of Free Trade, and the steps which ought to be adopted to ensure the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. The Hall, which can accommodate about 6000 persons, was completely filled, and on the platform we observed Bailies Anderson and Whitchead; Councillors Bankler, Chapman, R. Orr, Allan, Stirling, Small, D. M'Phali, Wylle, Turner, Hamilton, Dreghorn; Rev. C. Jeffrey, Walter Buchanan, Esq., Alex. Graliam, Esq., S. Higginbotham, Esq., James M'Clelland, Esq., W. P. Paton, Esq.; Messrs. Mitchell, P. B. Henderson, Davidson, &c. &c.

son, &c. &c.
Mr. W. Buchawan, as President of the Glasgow Anti-

Corn-Law Association, took the chair.

The CHAIRMAN on rising said, You are aware that this is a meeting of the Anti Corn-Law Association; and, as President of that association, I have ventured, without being moved to the chair, to preside over the meeting. (Appleuse. The object for which we are assembled is to endeavour, as far as we possibly can, to support the views of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and to subscribe in aid of the 250,000/. fund which they have announced. The centre of the agitation against the present Corn Laws is in Manchester. For more than seven tears the centlemen there have been angused in against the present Corn Laws is in Manchester. For more than seven years the gentlemen there have been engaged in this agitation, and have exhibited a degree of energy and enthusiasm in the cause of Free Trade, which has drawn forth the admiration of the whole island, (Applause.) But not only have they above a great deal of geth and devoted a constant of their in this paper cause; they have been equally there will their money. You, no doubt, will recollect, that about two value and they cause they provide a free Traders of Great lighted and I related to subsection the sum of 100,000.

That we have the sum of 100,000.

upon them. You are all aware of the result. The sum subscribed greatly exceeded 100,00%; it amounted to 120,000; and the disbursement of that large sum has also been explained to you. I believe no argument can be employed more likely to influence the most ignorant and the most spatiative than this great, palpable, and undeniable appeal to the sympathies of the British people. It may be from our mercapille character, or from whatever other cause I cannot explain, but so it is, that John Bull never argues with more effect than when he comes down with a sum to back his opinion. (Applause.) This was the logic addressed to the community by the Anti-Corn-Law League at Manchester, and I believe the sagarity and knowledge of mankind, so eminently conspicuous from first to last in that body, was never more shown than in this appeal. They said, rally round us-give us positive proof of your sympathy, and we may defy the monopolists to resist our efforts. The nonsequence of this appeal was just what was expected—the 100,000% was more than subscribed. From the moment this was commenced, our opponents trembled in their strong places. Having gained strength and confidence from experienco—having seen the enemy beginning to trumble—we are resolved to re-double our strokes, and, finally, to conquer in this cause. (Great applause.) They appeal, now, for a quarter of a million; and, gentlemen, I am happy to see that those bold and liberal hearts who recommend this great plan are not at all slack or loath to, follow up their mivice by a good example. They have up to this day already subscribed the sum of upwards of \$0,000%. (Applause.) In Liverpool they have subscribed upwards of 15,000%, and various of the minor towns throughout Yorkshire and Lancashire have announced large subscriptions; and I am happy to observe that our good neighbours in Dundse have had a meeting, and subscribed upwards of 2000/, to the same object. (Cheers.) I am sure we all feel, therefore, that Giangow would be diagraced if it did not come forward liberally on this occasion; and I hope before we separate that the good and true men of Glasgow will not prove unfaithful, but, according to their abilities, will come forward liberally and willingly with their subscriptions in aid of the great onnse. (Cheers.) The business of the evening, you will perceive, is not of the same exciting kind as upon some former occasions, being more one of pounds, shillings, and pence, than of speechmaking; but I have no doubt but that the gentlemen who will address you will throw interest oven on those dry details. (Cheers.) Without farther preface, I beg to introduce to you Mr. Alexander Grahum. (Great cheering.)

ALEXANDER GRAHAM, Esq., of Lancefield, said-In consequence of the absence of a reverend and learned gentleman who was to have moved the resolution on this occasion, the task had devolved on him at very short notice. He had however, put together a few notes, and in so far as time had not permitted him to give them that premeditation and digestion which was necessary in order to luminous expression and clear method, he begged to throw himself on the indulgence of the meeting. He was sure they would be at all times indulgent to one who had never been absent from his post as an advocate of the principles of Free Trade. (Cheers.) Mr. Graham here read the resolution, which is as follows:

Mr. Graham here read the resolution, which is as follows:

Resolved,—"That we, the merchants, manufacturers, and others, of Glasgow, do hereby repeat our solemn protest against the laws which prohibit the free importation of foreign grain and provisions, helieving them to be most oppressive to the great mass of the people, and destructive alike of the true interests of agriculture and commerce; and relying upon the intelligence and honesty of our countrymen, we declare most emphatically our determination not to relax in our exertions until those laws are entirely alsolished. Farther, that this meeting hereby expresses its high sense of the invaluable services which the National Anti-Corn-Law Laugue has rendered to the cause of Free Trade; and in order to enable the Conneil to make renewed and increased exertions for the repeal of the corn and provision laws, a subscription in aid of the Great Fund of 250,000. be now commenced, and that the Directors of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association be appointed a committee to cauvass for subscriptions in Glasgow and the neighbourhood, with power to add to their number."

This resolution, he continued, in its terms is as broad as the

This resolution, he continued, in its terms is as broad as the vast question of Free Trade itself, and it would be absurd for him at the present time to attempt to follow it out in all its details. He would, therefore, content himself with calling their attention to one point of the question, on which he con ceived latter events had thrown peculiar light, namely, the connection betwixt commercial and manufacturing prosperity, both as it concerns the manufacturing capitalist and the labourer, and its operation in the lowering of the price of food. Within the last few years there had been made several new discoveries in political economy, by which the truth had at last been brought forth to bear on the public mind, and been demonstrated before the public eye with a strength and clearness which had never before been attained. The facts which proved this principle lay within a small compans. they went back for 13 years, it would be found that from the year 1833 to 1837, we had good harvests and low prices, high wages, and commercial prosperity. From the year 1837 to 1842 we had five had seasons, and wheat rose from the previous range of 40s. to 45s. up to 60s. and 70s.; and it would be in the recollection of those who now heard him the state of prostration under which the manufacturing interest of this country suffered at that period; and more particularly when he looked to the vast mass of operatives now present, the friends of Free Trade could appeal to them for proof as to the distress that was then suffered by all the labouring classes. (Cheers.) It has been stated that the manufacturing classes sunk one hundred millions of money at that time, and he believed it. Now, such being the case, he should like to get at something like a philosophical analysis of the cause of this fact; and in order to get at this he begged leave to press on their attention this fact, the whole annual value of the produce of this country, not agricultural, but manufacturing and mineral, amounts to 250 millions. This is the value of the produce of this country, exclusive of the agricultural produce of the United Kingdom. Now, let it be observed, that of this amount of produce all that is experted is 60 millions, leaving 200 millions, or fourfifths, to be consumed at home. It was evident, therefore that the home market is the sphere of consumption for this vast amount of produce, and according to the healthy state of the home market, would be the state of prosperity of the manufacturing constallst, and the operative by whom he is employed. The next question was, seeing that so vast an amount of our manufactures are consumed at home, Is it the amount or our manufactures are consumed at home, is it the upper classes or the operatives who are the best customers? He balloved the whole Parliamentary constituency of this country lived in the parliamentary per cents of the population; therefore P7 per cents of the people of this country lived in the people of the t SOLVER THE LAND OF THE PROPER OF THE

sountry are living by means of their own industry, in one form or another. Now, what did these facts demonstrate? Did they not plainly tell us that the portion of wealthy con-sumers is very small, and that the vast mass of the consumers consists of the industrious clusses?

He held in his hand a statement of the stocks on hand in the year 1844; which he would read. It is as follows: Cotton, a stock equal to 40 wooks consumption, Cocon, 40 do.

Rum, Saltpotro, Rice, Tea, Bago, Indigo, 80

and all spices 100 weeks consumption. But at this time what a striking contrast to the above do the stocks of monopoly articles present:

Of corn, stock equal to Colonial sugar A weeks' eensumplidu,

Colonial sugar
Foreign sugar (prohibited):

Under Free Trade in corn they would have in place of eight weeks one bindred weeks' consumption. But look at the working of the same principle on sugar. Of colonial sugar we had ten weeks consumption; and of foreign sugar, which is prohibited from consumption by these restrictive laws, we had thirteen weeks' consumption. He believed that if we had Free Trade in corn a remarkable change would be seen in the commerce of this country; and, great as would bit the advantages to commerce, those which would scerne to this grain trade would surmount them all. Ureat Britain would then become the emporition of grain. England would become the money pivot of the world, affording, as she could, the greatest facilities and accommodation for receiving stocks of all kinds in consignment; and he was persuaded that, with Free Trade in corn, this country would become the granary of Europe-a second Egypt.

They were next told that other nations would not act towards them on a system of reciprocity, but he believed the exclusion of manufactures from other countries arose entirely from the system pursued by this nation. (Hear, hear.) Other nations saw Great Britain prosperous, and it was very natural to suppose that it was by this exclusive policy that she rose to this eminence. Now it was in spite of this policy that it had prospered. It was well known that in their ne-gociations with Germany the Corn Laws had been the principal barrier in the way of reciprocity, and that the German League would never likely have been formed if Great Britain had opened its ports to their timber and corn. The stand opinion was entertained in America, and was well expressed in the following extract from a report by Mr. Walker, the secretary of the treasury. This official document says: (Mr. Walker then read an extract and continued.) But what w. s this bugbear of reciprocity? He would venture to say that it was as clear as any axiom in mathematics, that for any kind of produce they receive from foreign countries they have something to pay for it. Nothing was clearer than that if they saw stuff of any kind coming into this country, there would be something exported to pay for it, either of their own production, or of some other thing they had previously got for the products of their industry. The services of the League in enlightening public opinion had been of the greatest consequence to the cause in which they were engaged, as public opinion was the lever of power by which they hoped to achieve their find triumph. Let them observe the tribute paid by Lord John Russell, on the occasion of his addressing them in that hall the other day, to the loaders of the League. They could not suppose that he viewed the League in its first progress with opposition, but with that magnanimity for which his lordship was so conspicatous, he declared "that it would not be consistent with fairness, if he did not say that the progress this question has made, is very much owing to the persovering exertions, the instructive statements, and the lucid arguments employed by the members of what is called the Anti Corn Law League. (Cheers.) In 1842, at the meeting at which the League fund of 50,000%, was first spoken of, Mr. Cobden merely hinted at it, saying that their friend in the chair had got a project to announce by which they would be startled when they told them of it. He meant, he added, to subsidise the country of fifty thousand pounds. Fince public opinion had gone on expanding, and they had raised a farther sum of 100,000/. this had increased their boldness, and they were now bent on obtaining 250,000l. (Cheers.) In fact the money was realised. Manchester had given nearly 80,000l.; and he believed, if it were necessary, that such was the extending influence of this question, such the influence acquired by the Leugue, that they could realise half a million for the same purpose. He could conceive no means so effective to enlarge it to that amount as the threats of some of their opponents; for if these were carried into effect-if it were attempted, by the arm of the law, to put down the League, or to punish its leaders as violators of the law-he was quite sure if a finger was laid upon a member of that body, a spirit would be raised in the country which would show a willingness of surrender of property far more than anything yet accomplished. (Applause.) He was no admirer of Sir Robert Peel's politics, but he was satisfied he was possessed of more sense and caution than to countenance the landlords in hinting at such a thing; and the monopolists only showed their own weakness and impotence, when they talked in this way. Let them look to the opinions of the Longue extracted from the ministers of the Crown. (Loud cheering.) Sir Robert had declared that we should buy in the cheapost market and sell in the dearest. Another minister had declared that the principles of Fren Trade are the principles of common sense. And a third minister had written articles in favour of Free Trade. (Hear.) Now, all that had been extorted by the League. (Hear, hear.) Look at what the League had done by convenient all the freed data was and helical and the freed data. verting all the fixed duty men, and bringing them into their ranks. They were thus usited and going forward in a phalanx which would prove to be irresistible. The League had dissolved and re-constructed the Péel Ministry, and he hoped for the purpose of carrying the Gorn Law question. There was something said about compensation, but in his opinion the less the landlords said about compensation opinion the less the landlords said about compensation the better. If the landlords were to bring an action for compensation, then the people must bring on a counter-action against them, (Hear.) It would be a curious inquiry to suiter upon; in endearcorring to ascertain the amount of unjust burdlords the landlords had thrown from their own shoulders on the rest of the compunity. (Cheers.) It could be shown that, in order to supply the best of the people the suiter from the landlords of the people in the landlords and the shown that the compensation which is the same of the people. If compensation thus the great mass of the people. If compensation

was to be given at all, he was afraid it would be found that the balance would preponderate against the landlords. (Hear.) After a few further observations, Mr. Graham resumed his seat amidst loud cheers.

BAILIE WHITEHEAD said-I rise with great pleasure to second the resolution. As I see, by manifestations of your impatience, that you came here to night more to show your doeds in aversion to these accurred laws than to listen to speeches on the subject, I say no more.

Mr. DAVID MURRAY, Secretary, then read the following

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(The announcement of the various large subscriptions called forth the most rapturous applause; and during the time the lists were being banded in, the Chairman took an opportunity of apologising for the absence of the Lord Provost.] £10,060 10 0

Samuri. Hugar norman, Esq., then rose and said dentismen.—The Chairman has just whispered into my ear that I am to tell you that there is still something to be done. And as we came from the ante-room he gave me the first And as we came from the ante-room he gave me the first certain indication I had, that I should be expected to address you this evening; and he gave me that indication in these rather familiar terms: "You must tell the people they ought to fill up the earls they have received." (Hear, hear.) Now, gontlemen, I trust you have all obtained cards, and that you will do your duty—for, in this great cause, England

expects every man who has an interest in the country, in himself, and in his labour, to do his duty. (Cheers.)

I wish you to show your adherence to this cause by deeds not simply by words. (Cheers.) I see a gentleman not far from me who said to me some time ago, in reference to the repeal of the Corn Luws: "I know the importance of this question, and I will not, according to my means and abilities. be belind any one in the city of Glasgow in the endeavour to obtain a repeal." (Hear, hear.) This, gentleman, I am happy to say, belongs to a religious party in this country, for whom I have always entertained the highest respect and esteem. (Hear.) And as a proof of the great interest he feels in the cause which has brought us together, he has not only come himself to the meeting to-night, but has likewise brought with him some female friends—and almost the only female friends in the Hall. (Loud cheers.) This friend, & am sure, will commence the subscription which it is expected will be made by those present: he will, I feel assured, manfully do his duty. (Cheers.) This gentleman belongs to a class of men who are at once intelligent, shrewd, and able, and who are well acquainted with the bearings of this great question upon the interests of all classes of the people of this country. He, too, is well acquainted with the subject; and according to his means will, I am sure, not be behind any of us in this subscription. I need not say that the gentleman to whom I allude is our respected friend, Mr. White. (Lond cheers.) I hope he will pardon me for the allusions I have made; but I could not help calling to mind the language he used when speaking to me on this subject some years ago. (Hear, hear.) Like my friend who lately addressed you (Mr. Graham), I have a few notes—but I have no written speech—and I hope you will excuse the somewhat irregular manner in which I address you. (Cheers.) I think, gentlemen, that the contest in which we are now and have for some time been engaged—the contest of Free Trade against monopoly—is fast drawing to a close; and that the principles which this association has all along advocated are about to receive a most signal triumph. (Hear, hear.) And why should not this be the case? (Cheers.) Those principles are the principles of truth, the principles of common sense, the principles of justice, and therefore they must ultimately triumph. (Cheurs.) If we look abrowl on the political world, everywhere we see indications and proofs of the truth of what I say-that this great contest is drawing to a close. (Hear, hear.) But I think the most striking, the most conclusive proof we have received of this, is the acknowledgment of that most distinguished statesman who has recently visited our city, that the question of commercial freedom was about to receive its solution; and in the solu tion of that question our contest is at an end, and the principles that have been advocated so ably, so clearly, and so distinctly, by the leaders of the association are triumphant, For, gentlemen, that question can only be solved in one way, immediate and unconditional repeal of the provision laws. (Cheers.) When that question shall be solved, the contest in which we are now engaged will have come to an end; and our principles, I say, will then be triumphant. (Applause.) Now, if this be the case, what is it that has placed this question in so favourable a light, in so favourable a position, at the present moment? (Hear, hear.) Without any wish to disparage statesmen, ominent and celebrated men, who have taken an interest in this question-cither those who promulgated the doctrines of Free Trade years and years ago, or those statesmen who now come forward and wish to bring those principles of Free Trade into practical operation in the policy of this country—without wishing, I say, to dispurage those men, you must all admit, I think, that the Anti-Corn Law League has the great merit of having brought this question to its present most favourable position. Without the exertions of the League, in all probability we should have been years and years more in obtaining the point at which we have now strived. (Cheers.) Now, if this be the case, has not the League a claim upon every man's exertions? has it not a claim upon every man's purse, in proportion to the means he possesses, and is able to give? (Hear, hear.) Yes, gentlemen, we must say, without disparagement to any of those eminent statesmen for whose services we are gratefol, that the League, by its unceasing exertions, and by the liberal support which it has received from the people of this country, has in a great measure accomplished the object it had in view, in causing the question to attain that position in which it now stands (cheers); and I claim your support to the League on that ground. It matters nothing what names our opponents may call us. They may call this meeting an incendiary meeting, an unconstitutional meeting, or anything else they please; but it is by means of these discussions, and by means of our public meetings, that the question has assumed its present most favourable aspect. (Cheers.)

In contrast with the splendid, the lucid and conclusive arguments of that well meaning publication, the Herald— (loud laughter)—I'll give you the simple reasoning of two piecers in our own mill. The conversation I am about to refer to was overheard by one of the overseers. I shall relate the incident in half English and half Scotch, for, you know, I am only a Scotchman by adoption. (Hear.) One of the boys sail to the other, "The ports will soon be open now." "Weel," says the other, "muckle gaid will the openin' o' the ports dae us." Says the other—"Is that a' ye ken o' the subject? Didn't auld Gourlay gie us our breakfast for treasure formerly and now he charges us treasure. fast for twopence formerly, an' noo he charges us twopencehalfpence; but if the ports were open there would be mair meal if the country, and half Gourlay would gie us our breakfast for twopence again." (Much cheering.) Here, gentlemen, is much finer reasoning—this is, indeed, common sonse. (Applause.) And just contrast the reasoning of the little boy with the duke of Curry-powder notoriety. (Hear.)

Why, in contrast with shell dukes, the boy puts them as much in the back ground as Voltaira was not in the back. much in the back ground as Voltaire was put in the background by Cowper the poet, when he drew a contrast between the contented cottager and the wily philosopher. (Cheers.) There is much more in the conversation between the two boys than may at first sight be apparent. Until I began to reflect upon that conversation I did not see all its hearing. The boy said he had to pay a halfpenny more for his breakfast in consequence of the rise in the price of provisions. The boy in this way spent twopence per day or one shilling per week more than formerly for his food. Now, if you extend this increase to the twenty-six millions of the people of this country—say a shilling per week to each for fifty-two weeks—the increase in the price of provisions will be found to —the increase in the price of provisions will be found to amount very nearly to the enormous sum of seventy millions starling. (Loud cries of Hear, hear.) You will, therefore, see that it is consistent even with economy to subsoribe to the fund now being raised by the League. Indeed, I am of opinion that if they had to subsoribe ten millions—if that were necessary—it would be policy on our parts to come for—

ward and subscribe to the utmost of our means-igner ward and subscribe to the utmost of our means—(great cheering)—aye, and beyond our means, in order to effect the object we have in view, the repeal of the Corn Lawa (Cheers.) Now, gentlemen, I hope you will all hand in your cards, and testify, by the amount of your subscriptions, your determination that these laws shall be finally, totally, and for ever repealed. (Great cheering.)

Mr. Burrum, a gentleman from the United States, baving been requested by the Chairman to address the meeting, !. said he was much interested in the cause of Free Trade, and trusted that, by vonturing to express his sentiments on the trusted that, by venturing to express his sentiments on the subject, it would not be considered in the light of foreign interference. He had been present at the late meeting held in Manchester by the Anti-Corn-Law League, and was not more impressed by the eloquence and sound judgment which Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright brought to bear on this great subject, than with the intelligence of the audience as applied on that occasion. He had argued man the quarter sembled on that occasion. He had argued upon the question of Free Trade with many persons since he came to the country, but he had never found one who, although disagree. ing with him to a certain extent, did not admit that the question was right in itself. He referred to the question of Oregon, and stated it as his opinion, that the fire and bluster of General Cass's late speech in Congress would soon give way before the sound arguments of Mr. Webster, and that peace would prevail. He then went on at considerable length to refer to the peculiar advantages of the two courtries, the one from its minerals and other natural facilities to supply America with articles of manufacture, and the other from its great extent and fruitful soil to supply this country with food; and concluded by saving that the best and most effectual plan to maintain peace betwixt nations, was to abolish all restrictive laws.

On the motion of Provost Bankier, a vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, and the meeting dispersed.

MEETING OF THE GLASGOW INCORPO-RATION OF WEAVERS.

In terms of previous intimation, a special meeting of the members of this old and highly respectable incorporation of Glasgow freemen, was held on Friday in the Trades Hall. Glassford street, for the purpose of taking into consideration a motion, "That her Majesty's Ministers be memorialised, and petitions presented to both Houses of Parliament, pray ing for the abolition of the existing restrictions on the importation of grain and provisions from foreign countries. John Bartholomew, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair. In addition to the chairman, we observed among the gentlemen present, Bailies Anderson, Whitehead, Brodie, and Mackinlay; Provost Bankier, of Calton; Conneillors Orr, Smith, and M'Nee; Thomas Waddell, Esq., from Montreal, &c. After the reading of the advertisement upon which the meeting was convened, the classa few introductory observations. He then combe

Bailie BRODIE, who, on rising to move the first resolution, said-In accordance with the object for which the meeting has been called, a resolution has been put into Ey hands which I have much pleasure in proposing. It is not my intention, neither is it necessary that I should occupy your time in discussing this question, because the arguments which go to prove the injury inflicted upon all classes by the operation of the Corn Laws are so manerous, unanswerable, that every person of the meanest capacity must see the necessity for their total and immediate repeat. It is gratifying to me, as it must be to all, that we can now approach the discussion of this subject without reference to politics-(cheers)-men of every shade of political sentiment agreeing that these laws, so obnoxious, or destructive to the interests of the community at large, on not be much longer maintained in consistency with the prosperity of the kingdom at large. Among the few who still advocate a restriction in the supply of food, are some who hold up the agricultural and manufacturing classes as the enemies of each other. But this position he would need with a simple denial, as an assertion utterly destitute of truth. While Free Traders express their determination to persevere until they get these unjust laws repealed, they delso under the solemn and deep conviction, that the proper application of capital and skill to the cultivation of the sed would do more than promote the prosperity of agriculture than all the laws which a short-sighted policy has or can enact for its protection. Agriculture and commerce and nearly allied to, and mutually dependent upon, each otherthe one cannot suffer without the other partaking in it. The one cannot prosper without the other partaking in the prosper of perity; so that, in every point of view, the mercantile is the best friend of the agricultural interest. (Applause.)

Councillor M'Nee, in seconding the resolution, remarked, that from a conversation he had that day with a surgeon. A marked increase in mortality had taken place among the poorer classes since November last.

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Mr. W. ORR rose to move the appointment of a committee to carry out the object of the provious resolution. He entirely coincided with Bailie Brodie in the opinion that the interest of the manufacturer and agriculturist were perfectly identical. He would ask, how would the agriculturist be protected. if manufactures were driven from the country? They would Involuped the country? They was a people who could not want bread, yet must have it, and yet have nothing to give for it. He had always viewed the Corn Laws as founded on injustice, and supported in misconception. And so far from being a benefit, a protection to the agricultural classes, every day's report from the agricultural districts, and the oft-current appointment of Published the course of gri Parliamentary committees, to examine into the cause of agricultural distress, betokened that the system of protection did not even effect the objects for which it was said to be re tained. But a better proof lay in the fact, that in 1811 the agricultural population was to the manufacturing as 28 to 42, while in 1812 they bere the relationship of 22 to the form (Hear.) Now, if these Corn Laws were of benefit to the agricultural interest as a whole, would this change have tuken place? Few people left a better position for a worse; but in ulmost all possible cases they did so from a worse to a better did so from a worse to a better. (Great applicate.) The agriculturists tell us that they are our best customers, but he thought they were more designed to the state of the state of the state. dependent upon the mercantile community than the later. dependent upon the mercantile community than the latter. They point to splendid mansions of our merchants, and to the poor dwellings of the agricultural labourst, in most that protection is necessary to proverve the small remaining our which the poor peasant possesses. But this only force one fact, viz. that their so-called protection, bowerer it may tingle sweetly in the ear of the ignorant, it a fact; tify as far as regards either the farmer of labourst tify as far as regards either the farmer of labourst morial would tell as it should upon the labourst.

country:
The motion being agreed to a to be the

to the chairman, and the meeting broke up.-Glasgow Argus.

DEMONSTRATION OF THE WORKING . MEN OF LIVERPOOL.

One of the most important demonstrations which has ever been made in favour of Free Trade was made last night by the working classes. The meeting was called by a placard

of which the following is a copy:

"Working Men of Liverpool,—You are hereby invited to attend a public meeting of ourselves, to be held in Claytonattend a public meeting of disserves, to be field in Clayton-square, on Thursday evening next, January 16, 1846, at half past seven o'clock, to give expression to your sentiments in reference to the present high price of all sorts of provisions, and the demand for labour in connection with the maintenance of the present Corn Laws, and their total, immediate, and unconditional repeal. A journeyman shipwright is expected to take the chair, and several other working men only will andress the meeting. It is hoped that the best of order will be preserved, and a fair estimate of our opinions obtained on this question.—Signed at the request, and on behalf of, a number of working men, originating and intending to conduct the said meeting .- R. BIRKETT, 67, Jordan street, Queen's Dock."

Long before the hour appointed for holding the meeting, throngs of the industrious classes crowded the square, and before the chair was taken there could not have been fewer than 5000 persons present. There would no doubt have been a much larger number assembled, but the meeting was summoned at two days' notice, and it was, comparatively speaking, unknown. The arrangements were quite of a speaking, unknown. The arrangements were quite of a characteristic nature. A four-wheeled lorry was stationed on the east side of the square, and upon the vehicle two or three chairs and two small tables for the reporters were placed. The only light was the glimmering of a neighbourng gas lamp, the rays of which enabled the reporters to take but very imperfect notes of the proceedings. many thousand faces, not yet washed after the labours of the day, gazing intently at the speakers, was most gratifying. It bespoke a determined and carnest desire on their part to promote the progress of the cause which now agitates the country. The devout attention they paid to the speakers, and their hearty responses to the liberal sentiments intered, also marked their devotion to the principles of Free Trade. Upon the motion of Mr. Hinde, seconded by Mr. William Simmonds, Mr. John Price, a journeyman millwright, was unanimously called on to preside.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by expressing a hope that they would do all they could to conduct matters in

a quiet and peaceable manuer.

The assembly was then addressed by Mr. Simmonds,

who moved the following resolution:

Resolved,-That we, the working men of Liverpool, in public meeting assembled, having no other means of procuring a sufficiency of food and other necessaries of life for ourselves, our wives, and our children, except through the profitable sale of our labour, and the receipt of a fair day's pay for a fair day's work,' do enter our solemn protest against the continuance of the Corn Laws, which at this inclement season of the year, with a prospect of scarcity, by cleangour ports to the admission of food from abroad, and thus limiting the quantity, enhances the price, and restricts to a great extent the demand for our labour, by which alone, as free-horn British subjects, we wish honestly to live. May God protect the poor.

Mr. Simmonds concluded by quoting passages of Scripture which proved that the Free Trade cause was sanctioned by the Bible. He was followed by William Hinde, a ropemaker, and by one or two others, in speeches of some length, which were frequently applicated; and the resolution, being put by the chairman, was carried ununimously. Another meeting will be held in a short time.

KENDAL.

On Wednesday night, a meeting was held at the Odd-Fellows' Hotel, to meet Messrs. Cobden and Bright, and Col. Thompson, as a deputation from the League, to promote the increase of Free Trade qualifications in counties, and espe-

The hall was crowded by men of the first influence in the county. The orchestra was filled with ladies.

Mr. J. J. WILSON said he had great pleasure in proposing

that Mr. W. Whitwell take the chair.

Mr. J. THOMPSON, jun. said he had great pleasure in ecconding the nomination.

Mr. J. J. Wilson, before the business of the evening comreduced, read a letter from Mr. Crackauthorpe, expressing that gentleman's regret at not being able to attend.

Mr. Connex, on rising, was greated with the most en-thusiastic acclamations. He spoke at very great length, commenting argumentatively and humorously upon passing events. In the course of his speech he made the following allusion to the representation of

The Pree Traders have won South Lancashire, and by the end of the present month North Lancashire will be equally eafe. But then we want to go forward. Westmoreland comes best, and on stop the way. We want Westmoreland next, and we intend to have it next. (A voice, 'You shall have at next.') Now, I will undertake, if necessary, to find, in less than twelve months, a thousand mon who shall qualify in Westmoreland, and wrest it out of the hands of the Lowthere. (Immense cheering.) If there is any reporter present, who reports for the paper that is read at Lowther Castle, I hope he will take down these few words. I tell Lord Lonsdale, if he upholds these laws for another two years, we, the Free Traders of England, will as surely have Westmoreland in our power, as we have now South Lancashire and Yorkshire. If he maintains the monstrous primatics of taxing the monals bread. A voice "Whether injustice of taxing the people's bread—(A voice, "Whether he does that or not")—I speak, continued Mr. Cobden, as a Free Trader; if he had not meddled with the food of the people, we should not now have come forward to interhere with him; if, I say, he persists in the monstrous injustice of taxing the bread of the people, for the mean and paltry object of filling the pockets of his own order, I do not say his own pocket, for whatever he may think, he does not really put anything into his own pocket, we he does not really put anything into his own poaket, we will as surely wrest the representation out of his hands, as we have won the other counties that have been alluded to, and he shall be as little consulted in the choice of members as any hard working man that wears a fustian jacket. (Most repturous appliance, that continued for some time.) Now, you will say the is gold, language for a handle individual like myself to use towerds a man whose sally has been acceptomed to digitate terms to the Reinne allusier, and to compel him to give his it the Lora Lies.

tenancy of two counties, lest they should withhold from him that large parliamentary influence which they possessed. But how is it that I am enabled to use this language? It is that he has made me strong by attempting to maintain a great nijustice against the people of this country. I should be nothing in this country, if he would only do justice to the people. (Loud applause). I pledge my honour here this night to find a thousand men, and if a thousand is not sufficient, then I engage to find two thousand to take up the franchise for Westmoreland. (Cheers.) Now, you must remember they cannot play the old trick over again which they practised when Henry Brougham fought the battle with them. In those times the poll lasted fourteen days, and finding themselves on one occasion in a minority, they took the advantage of a Sunday intervening, and the lawyors were set to work, and fictitious votes were created, which were polled on the Monday. (Cries of "That is all true;" "We know all about that.") This trick cannot be repeated; the names must now be on the register 12 months; they must be hung up on the church and chapel doors, where every body that passes by may exsmine them; they must go through the revision court, and stand the test of the closest legal scrutiny, and we will take care there shall not be a vote on the register that has not been honestly paid for. (Cheors.) They cannot play tricks with us. I throw down the gauntlet in the name of the Free Traders of England, and I declare that if he maintain these laws, he shall not retain the representation of Westmorland. (Loud and continued cheering.) He will believe us when he sees what we have done; and, if he wants a character, we will refer him to Mr. Wilson Patten and Mr. Palbot (lif ton, in the adjoining county of North Lancashire. (Laughter.) Why, Westmoreland is nothing to North Lancashire. In that last-mentioned county, by the end of this month, we shall have gained 5000 upon the register; here, in Westmorland, we want only 1000, which is but a work that can be done before breakfast. (Laughter and cheers.)

Mr. Cobden resumed his seat amidst the most enthusiastic cheering. The meeting was subsequently addressed in a most effective manner by Colonel Thompson, and Mr. Bright, M.P., who were followed by Mr. J. J. Wilson, and Mr. J. Holme.-Mr. John Gill, on behalf of the working classes, made an excellent speech; and after a vote of thank proposed by the Mayor to Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Bright, the meeting separated in a high state of enthusiasm.

SUNDERLAND.

Even with a Supplement we are compelled to omit detailed reports of several important meetings which have been held in various parts of the country. At Sunderland, the mayor, in pursuance of a requisition, held a meeting which was attended by the most influential merchants and shipowners of the borough, including several who withheld their votes from Col. Thompson at the last election. The principal speakers were the Mayor, who is one of the largest shipowners in the town, Dr. J. Browne, Mr. A. J. Moore, Mr. J Wilson, Mr. Dickinson, (better known as the Manchester Parker, and a leader of the Chartists), Mr. A White, Mr. J. Thompson, Mr. G. Horneastle, Col. Beckwith, and Mr. Cur-On the Tuesday following, at a meeting of the Anti-Corn Law Association of the same town, resolutions were adopted to canvass for the Great League Fund, and nearly 2007, were subscribed in the room.

On Wednesday evening, the 7th Inst., a meeting was hold at the Clarendon Hotel, Grainger-street, for the purpose of carrying into operation the recommendations of Mr. Cobden, at the Corn Exchange, on the previous Monday evening. Mr. Crawshay was in the chair. The meeting was principally occupied in receiving subscriptions to the League Fund, and the names of those who wished to qualify themselves as county voters. About 30 gentlemen applied for qualifica-tions, principally in North Durham; and the names of a great many who were likely to qualify were taken down. The following gentlemen have subscribed to the League The following gentlemen have subscribed to the League Fund:—Mr. Geo. Crawshay, 100L; Messrs. Pow and Fawcus, 50L; Messrs. John Lee and Co., 50L; Mr. Robert Ormston, 50L; Messrs. Bell, Brothers, 30L; Mr. H. C. Armstrong, 25L; Mr. John Shield, 21L; Mr. James Shield, 20L; Mr. W. Armstrong, Town's Chamber, 10L 10s.; Mr. Joseph Watson, 10L; Mr. T. A. Cook, 10L; Mr. F. Staniford, 10L; Messrs. T. Burnett and Son, Dunstan, 10L; Captain Weatherlow, 15L. Mr. T. Burnett 5L. Mr. R. H. Ven tain Weatherley, 15l.; Mr. T. Burnett, 5l.; Mr. R. H. Yea, 5l.; Mr. W. Proctor, 5l.; Mr. W. H. Brockett, 5l.; Mr. Thomas Dewar, 5l.; Mr. Joshua Watson, jun., 5l.; Mr. Jacob Grey, Gateshead, 5l.; Mr. Timothy Oliver, 5l.; a Gateshead Friend to Fair play, 51.; Mr. John Blakey, 11. 18.; Mr. Jas. Clephan, Il.; Mr. Samuel Dixon, Il.; Mr. John Fawcett, Il.; Mr. Joseph Clephan, Il.

DUNDEE.

A meeting of the Friends of Free Trade in Dundee, conue runa Commutee, was held in the Guild. hall on Saturday last, for the purpose of considering the heat means of immediately raising a subscription in aid of the Great League Fund of 250,000/. On the motion of George Dinican, Esq., number for the burgh, Provost Brown was called to the chair; and, on the solicitation of the Provost, George Duncan, Esq., took-bis seat on his right, and Ed ward Baxter, Esq., on his left. Several spirited resolutions were adopted, and a sum of 1,461/. 11s. was subscribed in the space of a few minutes; the total subscription in Dundee being nearly 2000).

OXFORD.

On Thursday, a meeting convened by the Mayor was held in the Town-hall of Oxford, which was completely filled by citizens of all ranks, forming a striking contrast to the "hole and corner" meeting of protectionists held in that city during the preceding week. The speakers were Mr. Grub, Mr. Toole, Mr. Hemming, Mr. Faulkner, the Rev. Mr. Godwin, Mr. Warne, and Mr. Mr. Wame, and Mr. Langstone, M.P. We greatly regret being obliged to omit Mr. Langstone's speech. He showed, that the landlords would profit by the repeal of the Corn Law in common with the rest of the community, and that they were actually losers by maintaining the present exclusive points. nivo privileges.

ST. AUSTELL.

On Friday evening, the 9th inst., a public meeting was held in the Market-house, at St. Anatell, when petitions to both Houses of the legislature, praying the removal of every restriction on trade that is compatible with the raising of a sufficient resenue, especially the removal of those that bear upon necessary siriless of food were moved. The chair was filled by Mr. John Hosting a memilia, of the Society of France, who made a few partment observations on opening.

the business. He was followed by Mr. Barlow and Mr. Boyle. Mr. J. S. Trelawney, M.P. for Tuvistock, made a powerful and argumentative speech in supporting the petition, which was listened to with marked attention. Mr. Jacob Prior and Mr. Morcom briefly addressed the meeting, and C. J. W. Kills, Esq., who is well known as an earnest and zealous reformer, and a considerable landowner in this county, spoke with telling effect, and concluded by saying, "Though there was a calm for the moment, the period might not be far distant when the people ought to be pro-pared to stand up for those gentlemen who would really and disinterestedly support the bread and cheese question, which affected the whole community. (Cheers.) And surely that county which boasted of a Davy and a Paris in science, and a Molesworth and Trolawny in polities, should not be behind the rest of the kingdom in this great Free Trade movement. (Cheers.)-Cornish Herald.

HERTFORD.

A Free Trade meeting was held at the Shire Hall, Hertford, on Monday evening, Jan. 19, which was fully attended, and great interest was excited. The Hon. Wm. Cowper, M.P., and many gentlemen from the town and neighbour-hood, were present. Mr. WM. Polland was called to the chair, who briefly explained the objects of the meeting, and introduced Mr. Palvey. Mr. FALVEY replied to the fallacies and mis-statements uttered at the late election for this county (by a Mr. Woodley, a grocer, from Cambridgeshire, and Sir M. Farquhar) at great length, and with considerable force and eloquence, and completely demolished them.

Mr. J. J. Gairren then proposed a petition to Parliament for the impediate and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws. This was seconded by Wm. Manser, Esq., and carried unanimously. It was proposed that the Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., for the borough, be requested to present such petition to the House of Commons, and to support its prayer. The hon, member then addressed the meeting at greatlength, pledging himself to support the principles advocated by their petition to the utmost of his power, and stating his conviction of the speedy and inevitable abolition of the Corn Lawy,

The Chairman having called upon Mr. LATTIMORE, he said, that he should have been happy to have remained a passive listener to the able and argumentative speeches delivered that evening, so great was the delight he derived from witnessing the rapid and wide-spread progress of the important principle of commercial freedom, which he had long and correlentiously laboured to support. (Cheers.) Every part of the ground had been preoccupied that evening, and he would therefore occupy but little of their time at that late hour, as they must be exhausted by listening to the lengthened addresses delivered that night. (Ne, no.) Mr. Lattimore stated his entire concurrence in the advantages derived by the staple manufacturers of the country from the remission of duties upon the raw materials used thereby, as cotton, wool, and silk, to which allusion has been made, and commented with great force upon the singular anomaly that such duties were now solely retained upon the raw muterials used by the farmers and graziers in the manufacture of beef, mutton, and pork; such as onts, beans, peas, &c., which he considered as a proof of the consciousness of the injustice of the Corn Laws. And Hortfordshire, he said, had been lately distinguished-first, by the great protection meeting at St. Albans, at which the Marquis of Salisbury, being chairman, actually came out as an advocate of the purity of election! Now, many strange conversions were daily taking place, but the most surprising of them all was that of the noble marquis becoming a political Magdalene! (Cheers.) They had all heard of the conjuror who invited the public to see him get into a quart bottle; but even such a feat was scarcely inferior to that of the noble marquis becoming an advocate of electoral independence. Then the Earl of Essex announced himself as a partial Freq Trader in some minor articles, as lentils, Indian corn; and secondly, by the recent election for this county. When he read the account of the meeting for that purpose (at which he was not present) the long and malignant tissue of abuse uttered at that meeting, the saturnalia of diabolical images presented to the public, it forcibly recalled to his mind that passage in holy writ, where the arch enemy of man is described as having come down to earth, with great wrath, knowing that he lath but a short time. (Cheers.) He thought that pussing events were daily declaring to these in-temperate persons, in language as conspicuous as the handwriting upon the wall-

"O man, thy kingdom is departing from thee, And while it hats is emption than thy shade. (Loud cheers.) But the stuple of all their speeches consisted solely of indiscriminate abuse, and unjustifiable impatations of the League, which he believe grose from an entire ignorance of the motives and feelings which animated the members of that great national body. (Cheers.) They required no defence from any one, being well able to defend themselves from these malignant aspersions; but he should be ushamed of himself if he failed to speak, from his own personal knowledge, to the great worth of, and high national objects supported by, the champions of that body. (Cheers. He sincerely believed that more pure, honourable, or part otic-minded men than the leading members of the Council of the League did not exist in this country. (Loud cheers.) He believed they were actuated by the conviction that the great principle of commercial freedom they sought to esta-blish was calculated to produce immense advantages to all classes of the people of this country, and universal good to the world at large. (Cheers.) He had also witnessed the cordiality and good feeling prevalent between the working people and their employers, having lately been through many of the large factories and dwellings of the machanies in the neighbourhood of Manchester. They had heard the most harrowing tales of the miseries and sufferings of the workpeople in manufacturing districts, and he sincerely wished they could have witnessed what he had recently acen, and then such statements would be scouted for ever. He was requested by the masters to put any questions to the work. ing people about their earnings, comforts, or privations, that might occur to him. More cheerful, happy, and contended poople, he never saw. The earnings of the men, which he took from their own lips, were 10s. to 40s.; girls, 0s. to 11s.; women, 11s. to 18s.; then their dwellings were neat and comfortable; and he could safely say that the better class of mechanics enjoy more of the comforts, decencies, and elegancies of life than many of the small farmers of this country. (Cheers.) He assured them that he felt the degrada-tion, upon comparing the different rate of wages paid by manufacturers, and that by agriculturists; and yet, Air. Bigg stated at the late election, on seconding Mr. Halsey, that he apported the Corn Pays, in order to militain wages and supported the Corn Pays, in order to militain wages and

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the extensive and admirably managed factories of Mr. H. Ashworth, of Turton; Mr. E. Ashworth, of Egerton; Mesura. Gardner and Barely, of Halliwell; Mr. J. Whitaker, of Ashton; and Mesura. Bright, of Roothele; at the whole of the state of t which the machinery was beautiful; the most perfect order prevailed; and the appearance of the working people cheerful and happy. (Choers and ories of Hear.) And he would state before that meeting, and before the world, that he falt indignant at the aspersions which had been thrown upon the manufacturers, and was proud to be able to call such men his countrymen. (Loud cheers.) These gentlemen had invited all persons to come and examine for themselves, and they would be happy to show them their mills, and to give them every information they required; and he recommended those present at that meeting to avail themselves of an early opportunity of doing so, and he felt assured they would derive a similar satisfaction to that he had done, and thus enable them to refute the ignorant calumnies asserted at various meetings, against this most valuable class of our countrymen. (Cheers.) Great attention was now paid to the moral welfare of the mechanics; schools, assembly rooms, and chapels, were springing up on all sides. The working people employed at Mr. J. Whitaker's factory, at Ashton, have subscribed from their earnings 4001, towards the crection of a chapel at Ashton. (Cheers.) I trust the speakers upon this subject will feel it to be their duty to become acquainted with the truth, before they venture again to asperse and calumniate the members of the League. (Loud cheers.) He said, then, all honour to the citizens of Manchester, who have set their countrymen so glorious an example, and exerted themselves so nobly to establish the moral, industrial, and political independence of all classes of the community. (Loud cheers.) In conclusion, he begged to propose the best thanks of the meeting to their respected chairman, for his able and impartial conduct in the chair; seconded by Mr. Bontems, and carried by acclamation. Three cheers being given for Free Trade, the meeting quietly dispersed.

QUALIFY! QUALIFY! QUALIFY!

THE Friends of FREE TRADE residing in the Northern or Midland Counties, desirous of purchasing Fresholds in any of the undermentioned Counties, are-requested to apply to the Secretary of the League, Newsli's Buildings Manchester,

North Lancashire South Lancashire North Cheshire West Holling of York South Stafford North Stafford South Cheshire

North Derbyshire Bouth Derbyshire North Durham East Cumberland West Cumberland South Northumberland.

Each applicant is requested to give his name and residence at full length.

By Order of the Council, By Order of the Council,
JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

QUALIFY! QUALIFY! QUALIFY!

TREE TRADERS desirous of purchasing Freeholds for Middlesex, East Surrey, Wost Kent, South Essex, East Sussex, and South Hants, are requested to send their applications, with name and address in full, to the League Offices, 67, Fleet-street, London.

By Order of the Council,
JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

NORTH LANCASHIRE.
QUALIFY: QUALIFY: QUALIFY:
AS but few days now remain for Qualifying,
so as to be on the next Register, the Friends of Free
Trade are respectfully arged to Purchase Freeholds without
delay.

Freehold Property, giving a Qualification, can be purchased, in North Lancashire, at from 301, to 331, yielding about 7 per

Every information may be had from Mr. Moorhouse, League Rooms, 4, Cheapside, Preston.

FREEHOLD QUALIFICATIONS FOR HERTS.

REE TRADERS desirous of purchasing Freeholds in Heriforishire are requested to send their applications to The League Offices, 67, Flort-street, or to Mr. J. F. Bontems, Horts Registration Office, Hertford.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

While we congratulate our readers on the progress of the subscriptions to the Quarter of a Million Fund, and on the effect that they have obviously produced without and within the walls of Parliament, we must impress upon them the necessity of not relaxing in their exertions, now that the crisis of our great struggle has arrived. The victory is not yet won; all the resources, and all the energies of the League, will be required, before complete success can be achieved. A dissolution of Parliament appears to be imminent; and the battle of Free Trade will have to be fought inch by inch on the hustings. We are anxious to urge on our friends the importance, not only of subscribing freely, but of subscribing early. The manifestation of strength will often decide the course of the wavering and the doubtful; but, above all, our subscriptions are the best proof that we are thoroughly in carnest, and that we shall not cease to labour until every link of the fotters imposed on British industry is struck off, and every restriction on the supply of food to the people completely annihilatod

Subscriptions received during the wook ending

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1840.

N.B .- As the Subscription List is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received ou Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succoeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, sub scribers are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for George Wilson, League Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.

*Ashton, R. Hyde, near Manohaster \$00
*Henry, A. & M. & Co ditto \$200
Pannington, John, R. & A., Hindley, nr Wigan \$200
Walker, Wm. Bouthport \$100
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*Johnston, R. Park House, Broughton, Manohaster \$100
Johnston, R. Park House, Broughton, Manohaster \$100
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*Arrowamith, P. R. Biolton \$100
*Schoffield, J. & B., Littlaborough, near Rochdalo \$00
*Watkina, W. B., Manchester \$400
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*Pender, J. & Co., 29, Hals-street, Manchester \$100
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*Robson, Isaac, grover, Huddersfield
Twellon, Wm, jun, Commercial street, ditto
*Robinson, MJ, surgeon. Bank House, Bolton.
*Su terthwaite, T. 127, Chapel-street, Salford
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*Hockton, J. 24, Oxford, grand Manchester
*Hockton, J. 24, Oxford, grand *Hockton, J., 26, Oxford-road, Manchester... Grundy, Wm, 6, Summers-place, Broughton-lane, ditto *Hargreaves, J. 2, London-road *Hully, Dr. 8t John street *Fox. Sam. 187, Deansgate *Preston. J. 2. Albert Bridge *Taylor, J. 3, Princess-street *Taylor, San. ditto ditto *Taylor, San, ditto
*Taylor, San, ditto
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*Rogers, R. Oxford-street ditto ditto ditto ditto "Rogers, R. Oxford-street, Pendleton
"Warburton, T. Broad street, Pendleton
"Houstotn, Win, 44, Thomas-street
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"Twiss, James, 3, Oxford-road
"Wolsteneroft, G. Blakely Mill, near
"Scholes, P. Stand-lane, near
"Robinson, E. 23, Whitby Orove
"Hampson, Benj, 22, Fountain-street
"Walker A Stand-lane, Diktordon, near ditto ditto ditto ditto dit**t**o *Hampson, Benj, 22, Fountain-street
*Walker, A, Stand-lane, Pilkington, near
*Leek, R, 12, Downing-street
*Whittaker, J, Great Ancoat street
*Bland, J, 38, Bridge-street
*Walts, J, 66, Donnsgate
*Walts, J, 66, Donnsgate ditto *Mills, W. 18. Bridge-street ditto

*Wakefield, J. Blackfriars ditto

*Horton, R. Nantwich ditto

*Barge, U. 44. Grosvenor-street, Corn Markot ditto

*Wood, T. 91. Millgate ditto

*Atherton, Wm., St. Mary's Gato ditto

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In consequence of earnest and repeated applications made to some of the genitemen whose maines appear in the above directory, an invostment the genitemen whose maines appear in the above directory, an invostment Association is about to be formed.
Its object will be principally to afford to persons of limited means facilities for gurchasing freeholds, &c.
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Prospectuses may be obtained on, and after, Tuesday next, at Mr. Ivimey's Offices, 26, Chancery-land, or at the Offices of the Association, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriars street, Fleet street.

THE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.—
A PUBLIC MEETING of this Association will be held on Thursday livening next, the 20th inst, at the London Mechanics' Institution, Notitiampton-buildings, Hollborn, when the principles of the society will be explained, and addresses delivered by (BOHUR THOMPSON, Esq., and

COL. T. PERRONET THOMPSON The Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock precisely.

Admission without ticket. A few reserved sents for ladies, for which tickets will be required, to be obtained at East Temple Chambers, White-

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, January 24, 1840.

We have published, in a Supplement, the speeches of Lord F. Egerton, Sir Robert Peel, and Lord John Russell, delivered during the debate on the Address —a debate that is likely to make the first night of this session one of the most memorable in the an. nals of England. But, gratified as all Free Tradors must be by the frank and honourable acknowledgement of the soundness of their principles, volunteered by the Promier, and by his manly declaration of a change of opinion upon the Corn Laws, it would be dangerous for them to fold their arms and remit their exertion in assured certainty of approaching triumph. The tug of war has yet to come; there were mutterings from the back benches in the lower House; there were blustering threats from the corresponding locality in the upper, which indicate that monopoly has not abandoned all intentions of resistance--perhaps not all hopes of success. Sir Robert Peel's measure is not yet before the country, and we cannot therefore determine whether all its details will be consistent with its professed principles. Even supposing it to be as perfect as the most enthusiastic hope, there can be no doubt that attempts at compromise, and at a frittering away of its efficiency by pretended amendments, will be made during its progress through Parliament. Fresh vigilance and renewed activity are necessary to secure the full measure of our just rights. The harvest is most exposed to danger when the ears are fast ripening-the ship is in most peril when land is declared to be in sight—the great struggle of the race is when the runners come near the goal-and the interests of the nation are exposed to most linzard when a great question is about to be softled Sir Robert Peel has effectually demolished the fallacies so often repoated at agricultural meetings, and has hurled back defiance to the menaces of disappointed protectionists, but he has not yet brought into issue the great question of his commercial policy-and, what is more important, the amount of opposition he will have to encounter cannot yet be estimated. A nation's safety is always secure under the vigilant guardianship of a nation's self. We have abundant reason for hope, but we have more abundant reason for watchfulness. There are times when distrust becomes at once a necessity and a virtue. Let us, then, wait for a coming season of confidence; but let us, in the meantime, keep ourselves prepared for contingencies which promptitudo can triumph over, but which negligence may render injurious, and perliaps fatal. Above ALL, LET US BE PREPARED FOR A DISSOLUTION.

Young America.—Aristocracy turns the great stream of property out of its natural channels, and compels it to flow into a few hands. By means of special legislation, unequal into a few hands. By means of special regishation, unuquial laws, and odious monopolies, a large portion of every community are kept in abject ponury; made stupid by ignorance and incessant toil, nakedness and hunger sturing them in and incessant ton, naxeuness and hunger staring them in the face, and perhaps gouled to the commission of primes which their souls abhor, all in consequence of the infamous system of modern legislation which "fills the rich man with good things, said solids the poor empty away." It is approximate, inflating and vandalism, to inquire whether this deporable state of things may not be exchanged for a tetter in U.S. Johnal. THE COATACHE MEETING.

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TONESS 24. 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES warpined not to vary more than half a minute per week, are selling the Manufactory, 338, Strand, opposite Somersel-house. They combine the fruth of a mathematical instrument with the elegance of an ornament of taste. On receipt of a Post office order for is, above the price, a Watch will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Read Jones's "Sketch of Watch Work," sent free for a 3d, stamp

THE MOST AGREEABLE APERIENT in the world is Water, and is preferable to every other remedy for Indigestion, Costiveness, lille, &c. That these who desire to rejort to this matural physic without difficulty or restraint, and to have the stomach and hour is effectually relieved, must apply it with the APRICITYE VASIS, which invalids and ladies may use with the greatest case, and is sold only at which invalids and ladies may use with the greatest case, and is sold only at which may be worn constantly, and are made to magnify voices to any pitch a deal person may find necessary. Descriptio, a sent post free on receipt of two letter stumps.

EAL and SON'S LIST of BEDDING, containing a

OTANIC WATER and BEAR'S GREASE.—When the hair is becoming thin and fulling off, the only effectual remedy, buildes shaving the head, is the use of the two above named articles, applied alternately—the bottomic water to cleaned the requisition from sourf, and as a stimulable, and the bear's prease as a murisher. If any higher villages was required of the virtues of bear's grease for renovating and preserving the hair, Mr. Ostlin's secount of the quantity used, and the insigh of hair obtained by some of the North American Indiana, would be a sufficient answer,—1108H and SONH, 110 and 120, llishopsgate-street, who first introduced the me of bear's grease in this country, and who far and kill the anticals, recommude the public to purchase none other but with their names and address minical on the post, or, the chances are they are obtaining a spurious article. All vegetable oils applied to the hair are worse than BOTANIC WATER and BEAR'S GREASE,—When

THE RARE AND VALUABLE DUALITIES, together with the consist and rightent expedienced on the celebrated preparating and an activation of the day. It is a support to the most appropriate production of the day. It course the fair to our beautiful free it invested that to consider the production of the day. It course the fair to our beautiful, free it invested that to consider the property of the production of the day. It course the fair to our beautiful, free it invested, and stope it from the fair of the day, and a few bottles should be active to the present and the day of the day

VOTE FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKS.—TO The DIRDINGED of for 250, A PRESENCE COTTAGE in the Town of Arleabury, which has been let at the low rental of £2 12a per graum. Further particulars may be obtained of Joseph Gutes, Tring, 11571a.

NDEPENTENT FILEHOLDERS BUILDING BOCIETY, held in the Large Loom of the Bed Lion Inn. (hapel-street, short, near Victoria Bridge.—£129 Shares. Subscriptions, 10s. per lunar month.—Interest, 6 per cont., psyable on the helt amount advanced.—The "INDIG" BNDINGS. PILBERIOLDERS BUILDING BOCIETY is companied upder very favourable dirementances, and promises to be a large and lughly respectable society. The principles on which it is founded and then well tried, and have stond that set of experience, there having being four special points and are gulated by the same rules, one of which has been satisfactorily taxinated, and a second one is just about completing, and the other two are proposeding very propercously. And walls juries inad, by the satisfactorily taxinated, and a second one is just about completing of the analysis of the satisfactorily taxinated and year propercously. And walls juries inad, by the satisfactor of this podety, secure to thouselves a comply vote, and in a few years a compressible competence, they will be left officiently free and independent in the exercise of that fruichise. Information may by the by applying at the Rod Low Lun, on Tuesday evenings, from seven with mine offices; of to far. Orughy, solicitor, Hillion-street, Manchastar, the studies street; or to J. Turlay, Secretary, 5, Italiwell-street. The first Bonthly Recting will be held on Taxing, the 27th January, at seven placed in the evening; and the Second Butthly on Tuesday, the 24th Robruary, at seven placed in the evening.

REEHOLDERS' BUILDING SOCIETY.

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Mauchester. Bhares, 200. Subscription, 10s. por Month.

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It is evident that those who wish to borrow money prefer this Society, for Shareholders holding 581. Shares have given bonness averaging LIG 28. 134, per Share, luorder to have their Shares (200 each) advanced to them at once.

them at once.

One peculiar feature in this undertaking is the facility afforded to Building Members to estain the County Franchise in the first year; as, on all purchased Shares for building with, the monthly subscription may be reduced to 2s. 6d.; thus leaving a surplus of rent beyond the encounbrance on mortgage sufficient to give a qualification.

The Second Meeting of the Society will take place at the Free Trade Hall on the 4th Pebruary, at half past Seven o'clock, when a public meeting of the monthers and friends will be held; prior to which shares may be taken up at the Secretary a Office, 2, Princess street, Manchester, by payment of One Month's Subscription; from whom copies of the Rules and Prospectaces may also be obtained. pectures may also be obtained.

LARGEST ASSORTMENT of STOVES and FIRE IRONS. The DEARGEST ASSORTMENT of STOVES and FENDERS, as well as GENERAL IRONMONDERLY, in the World, is now on Sale at RIPTON and BURTON'S extensive warchouses, 39, Oxford-street, corner of Nowman-street (just removed frum Wells-street). Hight steel fenders, to 4 sect, from 30s each; ditto do., with ormolu ornaments, from 60s; fich henozed scroll do., with steel bar, 16s 6d; iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; 4 feet, 6s; do., brunzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, 9s; 4 feet, 11s; wrought from kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; 4 feet, 6s; bright register stoves, with bronzed ornaments and two sets of bars, from 5 guineas; do. do, with ornoul ornaments, from £5 log lack dining room register stoves, 2 feet, 20s; 3 feet, 30s; bed-room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s; 3 feet, 24s. The new economical thermio stove, with fender and estimating heartinghte, from 28 is; firstions for chambers is 6d languages. The number of the store in the store of the feeds, 18s. A variety of fire-from, with ormolu and richly cut heads, at proportionate prices. Any article in turnishing frommongery, 30 per cent, under any other house, while the event and variety of the stock is without any equal. The money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sont (per post) free. Established in Wells-street, 1850.

Sont (per post) free. Exhibitished in Wells-street, 1820.

The high estimate formed by the public during the ten years RIP-PON and BURTON 8 chemically purified material has been before it (made into every useful and ornamental article usually made in silver, possessing, as 't does, the characteristic purity and durnbility of silver), has called into every useful and ornamental article usually made in silver, possessing, as 't does, the characteristic purity and durnbility of silver), has called into existence the deleterious compounds of "Albata Plate." "Berlin Silver," and other so called substitutes; they are at best but bad imitations of the genuine articles manufactured, with the view of satisfying the purchaser, by Rippon and Burton, and sold only by them.

Palled Threaded King's Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per Pattern. Pattern. Pattern. dozen.

12a. 04. 28s. 04. 28s. 04. 38s. 04.

Dessert ditto and ditto. ditto 10s. 04. 21s. 04. 25s. 04.

Ten ditto and ditto, ditto 5s. 04. 11s. 04. 12s. 04.

Oravy ditto 3s. 04. 6s. 04. 12s. 04.

NICKEL, ELECTRO-PLATED.—The REAL NICKEL SILVER introduced and made only by Rippon and Burton, when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Eighing ton and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article, ext to stelling silver, that can be employed as anch either usefully or ornamentally. In the longthened and increasing popularity of the material itself, and the high character of the method of plating, the public have a guarantee that the articles sold by Rippon and Burton and by them only) are, as it rogards wear, immeasurably superior to what can be supplied at any other house, while by no possible test can they be distinguished from real silver. Fiddle. Thread. King's.

Ten and coffee sets, waiters, candlestieks, &c., a proportionals prices. All kinds of replating done by the patent process. Densited catalogues, with engravings, as woll as of overy ironmongery article, sent (per post) free.

All Render of the maches of the patent process. Densited catalogues, with e

free.
Rieros & Bunton's Stock of General Eurnishing Irunmongery is literally the largest in the world. They regret they cannot employ any language which will convey an adequate interession of its variety and extent: they therefore invite purchasers to call and inspect it.—Rippon and literion, 29, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street). Established in Wells et., 1826.

CAUTION.—All persons advertising Succedaneum for stopping secayed terth, fruidulently attempt to initiate Mr. Clarke's original Succedaneum; and if any Succedaneum than Mr. Clarke's be purchased, it will be discovered useless. Mr. Clarke can say, without the slightest exaggeration, that he has sold 300 bottles of Succedaneum within 16 months; and 2000 individuals have been able to use it successfully; and most of the other purchasors have been to Mr. Clarke, at his residence, 01, Lower Groweiner-street, London, to have whelr toeth stopped, without any further charge than the original cost of the Succedaneum, price 5s. Sold wholesale to all the chamists in town and country; and some is genuine unless had through Mewer. Harelay and Sons, wholesale Modicine Warchouse, 95, Parringdon-street; Edwards and Son, 67, 81. Paul's Church-yard; Haunay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Colleck and Mosely, 130, Upper Thames-street, London; and other respectable wholesale Medicine Warchouses; or Mr. Clarke can send it by post to any part of the United Kingdom, on receiving a Post-office Order.

the eavity....Patronised by Her Majesty the Queen Dowager, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, his Grace the Ducke of Wellingston, and the principal Mohility....Mr. CLAILER'S SUCCHAN EDMs, for stopping dreayed teeth, is far superior to applying a year used before, as it is placed in the tooth without any presume of pinin, becomes as hard as the channel immediately after application, and rehiams fare in the tooth for life; not only rendering extraction unnocessary, but also making them again useful or dispatched. All porsons can use Mr. OLAHKE'S HUGGS-IMNIL' at themselves with case, as full directions are enclosed. Price 5s, and sold by all respectable Medicine-vendors in town and country; and can be sent by post, on receiving a post-office order. Prepared only by Mr. CLARES, Surrecon-Dentist, 81, Growenorstreet, hund-street, removed from 23, Harley streat, Cavandain-square. LOSS UP TEETH....Mr. CLARES still continues to supply the loss of teeth, from one to a complete set, upon 415 least its continues to supply the loss of teeth, from one to a complete set, upon 115 least inference of the fathers of the proceeding in some time for the most inference of the fathers of the process of the Majesty, shed numerous other Menibers of the Medical Profession, as being the most ingosious system of supplying artificial teeth hitherto invented. They are so contrived as to adapt the mast least pals, resparing the openition of surrection quite tunecoancy; and in order that his avenue may be within the reach of the most economic tender game, or remaining stances, without causing the product the season of the most in-govious system of the mast economic tender game, or includes the reach of the most economic tender game, or includes the reach of the most economic tender game, or includes the reach of the most economic tender game, or includes the reach of the most economic tender game, or include the reach of the most economic tender as the sum of the season. TOR STOPPING DECAYED TEETH, however large

TUMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHY
the BLACK TEA, at 4s. 6d. per its, sold by Dakin and 100 is
its popularity solely to its intrinals excellence.
Orders from the country forwarded Carriage Prec.

TAPPY DISCOVERY.—THE VEGETABLE RIENT SUGAR PLUMS, avoiding all nauses or uncapenly be had in Loudon of Mr. Howett, Confectioner, 188, 189 price One Shilling por box. If sent by post a ponny stamp in warded in addition.

THE GOLDEN FLAX CRAVAT COLLAR,—

BINGLE BANDS" may be worn with the customary craving reased was inth and compactness, by substituting lines based the unsightly and troublesome tape strings, and avoiding the parting and irritation of the usual collar at the back of the median band passing through the other.

"THE DOUBLE BANDS" need no additional cravat—in one combined both collar and cravat.

In both kinds "The Purest White" is obtained by the use, and "THE GOLDEN PLAX" linen.

N.B.—Each cravat collar bears the name of "John Paterson registered 20th August, 1843," and may be obtained at any of the hosiers and drapers in Loudon and the country.

PEANE'S DOUBLY-REGISTERED 8 converges two simple processes, which, by their rapid and certa secure a run of rich, boiling, aromatic, and brilliant cofee windres. When the interior cylinder is first filled with boiling latter drives out all the cold air from the body, into which the stantly follows. When the cylinder is filled the second time, as to the top of the pot, the tail column of small dismeter is, by a we law of pneumatics, instantly emptied into the pot below, and that once ready for use, Gronge and John Dranz, opening to the Monument, 46, King street, London-bridge.

A BRONZED SCROLL FENDER for 10s. mental fron ditto, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 2 feet 6, 5s. 2d.; Chamber Is. 6d. per set. Parlour ditto, 3s. 6d.; Superior ditto, from 6s. 6 Stock also consists of an autonsive assortment of Drawingrous London-made Dish Covers, Paper and Japan Tea Trays, superior Tlery, Nickel Sliver Wares, and every description of Furnishing gery, every article of which is marked at such prices that will vince purchasers of the great advantages resulting from cust pays Riomand and Junn Silver, 33d, Strand, opposite Somersei-laue illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent per post fre blished 1913.

PERDOE'S WINTER OVER-COATS, TRAVEL WRAPPERS, and OUTSIDE GARMENTS of all kindsteed to exclude any rain whatever. Now completed for the press a large stock of first-rate garments, of which an inspection may dentify invited. General price of lighter kinds from 40s. to 80s stouter, 80s. to 60s. (selected from stock or made to order, all slop rior goods being strictly excluded. W. BERDOE, Tallor, Over-Coand and Vaterproofer, 90, Corrabill (north-side). W. B. fight reposition and Vaterproofer, 90, Corrabill (north-side). W. B. fight reposit that attaching bis name and label to garments not made by him to the various attempts now making to mislend.

A CCEPTABLE PRESENTS,—At a period whe social sympathies are most predominant, and the genial isa most predominant, and the genial isa master and missus," now spending their vacation at the "Old Halmost appropriate present becomes the first subject of considers merely useful one can afford no evidence of taste, white a preentying no claims to utility, shows a want of judgment. To consider requisites, a more atting souvenir cannot be suggested than ROWL Tollet Articles, the "MACASSAR," "KALYDOR," and "ODONTO," each of infallible attributes. In creating and austaining luxuiant treases, ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL is highly appreciated by and Fushion, and patronised by all the Severigas of Knope LAND'S KALYDOR is a preparation of unparalleled efficacy in ignand beautifying the skin and Complexion; and ROWLAND'S Of or PEARL DENTIFRICE, is invaluable for its preservative and be ng effects on the Toeth and Oums, which infallibly tend to the station of that imposing exterior, which Lend Chesterfield justice at a tation of that imposing exterior, which Lend Chesterfield justices at a card of recommendation."

** Beware of SPURIOUS IMITATIONS! Each genuins arise the word "ROWLAND's" preceding the name on the Wrisper others are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS. The genuins are said a Proprietors at 20, Hatton-garden, London, and by Chemists and Period others are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS.

PROTECTION . THE MILE

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A USEFUL HINT.

Two gentlemen, a week ngo, or more,
Were heard to talk of the Militia Corps.

"I say (sold one) we're certain to be drawn,
They'll bailot us, as sure as we are boru;
And we, of course, shall be oblig'd to go,
Or clae provide a substitute, you know.

"Stop! (said the other) stop! I know a trick
Worth two of that; and you shall hear it; lifek,
Yes, as I am your friend and true well wisher.
I'll show you how to "diddle" the Millitia.
The needful, lifek, that I and you require
Is simply this—respectable attire.
MOSISS and SON have dress beneath their roof,
Whose beauty keeps stillitia gents aboof—
Whose fashion gives us an appearance which
Will make th' authorities suppose we're rich.
If once we're dress'd on MOSISS' matchless plan,
Each will be taken for a nobleman.
And while the worthies take us to be such
They'll keep their distance, liek, and never touck.
"Bravo! (said Dick) I thank you for this lift—
Capital notion! I can see your drift!
We'll go to MOSBS' Mart this very day,
And he respectable, without delay,"
They went accordingly, and told their stork.
In which the two great tailors seaged to glorx.

Exapt MADE.

LIST OF PALICES. Reaver Taglionis
Chesterfiolds or Codringtons
D'Orasy's, Athol's, Pembroke, and every description of winter coals
Roy's winter coats in every style
Winter trousers, lined Winter trousers, fined Dooskin Dress Costs, edged Freek ditto Roll collar Vests Double breasted ditto. Boy's Hussar and Tunio Sults Hoy's winter Trousers Roy's winter Vests

MADE TO MEASURE.

Winter Conts in every style and shape, handsom Milled Coth Great Couts, velvet collar and cuffs Tweed Wrappers
Ditto Trousers
Winter Trousers
Winter Trousers
Best, or Dress Trousers
Dress Costs
Ditto, best quality made
Frock Conts
Ditto, best quality made
Coshancre Vests
Batin, plain or fancy
Hoy's Hussar and Tunic Buits
Boy's Great Costs

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEM

Hoy's Ituaar and Tunic Buits

INCORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

A new work, entitled "The Palage of Realty" with self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwards. Mourning to any amount can be had at five minutes motive. In the price of the money returned.

Men's Buits, dross coat, vest, and trousers.

INFORMAT. Any article purchased or ordered, if the self-manged, or the money returned.

ORMANN. H. MOBES and BON. Tallers, Wholeself drapers, Ounitions, and General Warehousemen, is gate, Gity, opposite the Charach.

Ounrior. R. Aloese and Bon are obliged to imposition, having learned that the uncreased imposition, having learned that the uncreased with any other applications or tis the same coal many instances, and for obvitous readons, with any other applications of the same coal sequence Choop Cotching should be presented to 154, Miniorice, or St. Alignets, opposite to Sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to suppose the supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to sunset on Saturday, when business is a supposed to suppose the supposed to suppose the supposed to suppose the supposed to suppose the suppose the supposed to suppose the suppose the

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P. R. for 10s, Ores, 5s. 3d.; Chanber Fire bear or ditto, from 5s. 6t. 15s. or ditto, from 5s. or ditto, from cash payments prices that will fully one thing from cash payments alto Homeraet-lenes. The result per poet free. he

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 122.—Vol. III.]

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1846.

[GRATIS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The great national importance of the debate on the address has induced us, at the last hour, to determine on publishing a supplement, containing full reports of the speeches of Lord Francis Egerton, Sir Robert Peel, and Lord John Russell. Indemendent of their merits, the disclosures they make, and the principles they enunciate, must secure them a permanent place as historical documents in the annals of the country. Even if we had time and space at our command, the explicitness of the speeches would preclude the necessity of comment; there is no need of recommending them to attentive perusal, but we hope that our readers will preserve them for future reference.

Lord F. EGERTON said, -In rising, Sir, on this occasion to address the House, for the purpose of proposing an Address to her Majesty in reply to the speech we have just heard read, it is my misfortune that I cannot prefer the same grounds for caking your indulgence which many hon- gen-demen who have undertaken a similar duty have had it in their power to plead. A reference to Hansard, and this is the only reference I intend to make to that authority in the course of my observations, testifies, I regret to say, to the fact, that precisely 20 years have elapsed since, under the suspices of Mr. Canning, I stood in a similar situation to that I now occupy. I can truly say, however, that the intervening years have taught me any other Parliamentary lesson rather than that of confidence in my own discretion, or reliance on any powers I possess, as entitling me to claim the indulgence or command the sympathies of this House. I hope, therefore, that on other grounds—on the ground of the importance of the juncture which calls us together, of the difficulty which even the masters of debate in this place must feel in rising to a level with the importance of these circumstances, the House will extend to me that considera-tion and indulgance which, in 1820, I perhaps had a better claim to ask, but certainly had no greater need to re-ceive. (Hear, hear.) I think it will be for the convenience of the House that, in the brief review it will be my duty to take of the topics adverted to in her Majesty's duty to take of the topics adverted to in her Majesty's Speech, I should, in the first place, shortly refer to the earlier topics of that speech, which I have little apprehension will be regarded with feelings other than those of unanimous concurrence. I have little apprehension that this House, or the country at large, will receive with any other feeling than that of unanimous concurrence and satisfaction, the observations in her Majesty's Speech as to the state of our relations with France. (Hear, hear.) Believing, as I do, that the peace and happiness of Europe, and, more than that—the progress of civilisation and good government throughout the world, depends upon no single vernment throughout the world, depends upon no single circumstance which human sugacity could conceive more directly than on the continuance of amicable relations between those two countries which, I am proud to think, are heading the march of civilisation—believing that any coldness in those relations would chill and retard, and that any positive rupture would throw that progress back in its course, I receive with unalloyed satisfaction that paragraph in her Majesty's speech to which I now allude. (Cheers.) Rejoictions ing as I do in such a guarantee for the peace and happiness of the world, I must undoubtedly look with proportionate distress and anxiety to any other quarter with respect to which I find myself compelled to speak with less entire confidence of the con adence as to the maintenance of peaceful relations. I cannot full to perceive, with deep anxiety and regret the possibility that England may be called upon to maintain her hobitity that nour, and to assert her right to protect her loyal subjects in eyery part of the world, however distant, by any other arguments than those of patient, temperate, and friendly discussion. But most especially must I regret the possibility that any difference or difficulty should exist between our difficulty should exist between our difficulty should exist be been any law. selves and those with whom a community of blood and language forms an union not less binding than those strong ties of mutual requirements and friendly intercourse which have grown up between us to the advantage of both (cheers), and which the results of human skill and invention have so largely, in later years, facilitated and matured. (Renewed cheers.) My only consolation is, that I believe nother the present Government, nor any Government which in the course of political events could hold its place in the councils of this county, could look at any such possible differences with other feelings than an ardent desire to maintain by creaty means consistent with the honour and the just rights of both nations the most cordial terms of arotiv and friend. of both nations the most cordial terms of amity and friendship with that great confederation, the United States. (Loud-cheens.) Apart from all these considerations, and utterly independent of them, there is no portion of her Majesty's Seasch that will I am convinced receive more deliberate

Speech that will, I am convinced, receive more deliberate escourence on your part than that, which suggests for the resideration of this House some extension of our means of allowed defence. (Rear, hear, bear.) On this subject I will only say for myself individually, that if all allusion to the modelly of has extension lied been omitted from the stand I should have doubted the wisdom and precaution there who had allowed the wisdom and precaution there was the world be indicated in this House to which they would be responded in this House anathmity, which will, I start, be manifested to these subjects to which I have just respondence in a uncounterwhen, at the Instance of the respon-

Speech that will, I am convinced, receive more deliberate

sible advisers of the Crown, topics of more than ordinary magnitude, and of more than temporary interest, are suggested for its future and early consideration. I cannot doubt that the intent and bearing of that invitation, coming, as it does, upon a train of political events fresh in the recollection of hon, members, and consequent on those events,-1 cannot doubt that that invitation to consider the whole state of those laws which have hitherto regulated the importation of various foreign commodities into this country, will be received without surprise by this House or the country, but with an interest which no length of expectation could have diminished. If I did not concur in the propriety and necessity of that invitation, I could not consistently have undertaken the duty I am now endoavouring to discharge. (Cheers.) [We may here observe that the frequent cheers with which the noble lord's observations on this question were received proceeded almost exclusively from the opposition benches.] That concurrence is, on my own part, unqualified. (Renewed cheers.) But if I had been unable to appear in the situation I now occupy,—if my opinious had been such as would have prevented me from undertaking this office, still I should have hesitated before I incurred the responsibility of pronouncing, by any vote of mine in this House, that those subjects did not deserve that serious and early consideration to which the House is invited. and early consideration to which the House is invited in her Majesty's Speech. I have heard many royal speeches read, Sir, by yourself and your predecessors in that chair, and I have heard many addresses in reply moved and discussed in Mark Mark and Mark discussed in this House, but certainly it was never my fortune to hear any speech which was altogether palatable to all parties in this House. I have, however, frequently seen all parties in the House agree with unanimity to the address in reply to the royal Speech, by the uniform assertion of the principle that no man giving his assent to the address on such an occasion was thereby bound to any subsequent course of action. I hold that even the mover of the address is not more restricted or fettered than any other hon, members as to his future course of action in this House with respect to any questions that may be propounded for its consideration. Upon that principle I might, upon this occasion, deal largely in generalities; but, if the House does not consider it a departure from the strict discharge of the functions I have undertaken, I am auxious to take this opportunity of avow. ing that, with respect to the important subject so soon to be brought under the consideration of the House, my individual opinions have undergone a considerable change. (Loud cheering.) I am aware my opinions have not that influence or authority with others which would entitle me to inflict upon the House a long explanation or defence of any charge or modification which has taken place in them. Fill, I feel nothing but that insignificance could shelter these opinions from the inquiry which public opinion claims a right to institute as to the motives of those who, with regard to any matters of great public concern, avow a change in their views and sentiments; and I, for one, should be sorry, even on this occasion, to shrink in any respect from that investigation. (Cheers.) This much, at least, I will say, that no defence of mine would rest upon the example of others, or on any change or modification of opinions which may have been at any former period avowed by those whose eminence in public estimation makes their reputation a matter of consequence to the country at large, while mine is only of importance to myself. The vindication of any modification my opinions have undergone should rest alone upon my observation of events, and a consideration of the state and prospects of the country. (Hear, and cheers.) I have feared and hesitated to interfere with that system of restriction upon imports which I found interwoven with the whole state of our commercial relations. I have, on the best consideration I could give to the state and interests of the country, arrived at the conclusion that the time has arrived when you should take the opportunity—and take it now (cheers)—to reconsider the whole system of those laws which regulate our commercial interchanse (hear, and oheers), with a view of his matter than the system of the system late our commercial interchurse (hear, and oneers), with a view of ultimately departing from a principle you have hitherto maintained—a principle which endeavours, by the exclusion, or prohibition, or restrictive atmission of foreign commodities, to encourage your home manufacture. (Cheers.) When I use the term "home manufacture," let me not be misunderstood. I consider the products of the earth, as prepared for the food of man, as much a manufacture as any other. (Renewed cheers!) I regard the earth as a manufacture of the carth as a manuf any other. (Ronewed cheers.) I regard the earth as a machine, and the largest landowners in this country as master manufacturers, and nothing else. (Hear, hear.) Holding these views, I consider that, whether you apply the principle of protection to your system of government, or whether you withhold it, it should be applied or withhold impartially (Cries of hear, hear, and cheers) with regard to all the various departments of the industry of the country. (Renewed ories of hear, hear.) It is my hope and boilef, without being acquainted with the details of the measures which may be proposed to Parliament by her Majesty's Government, that when they are propounded to the House I may be able to give them my support. I hope they will be such as, in dealing with this important question, will be compatible with the broad principles I have laid down (hear, hear); and that they will embrace, with a comprehensive and states manifely gram, the various departments of the industry of the country which could come within the terms of my proposition I have, I freely acknowledge, opposed the proposition of the noble lord (J. Russell) opposite for a fixed duty on the importation of corn, when that measure was intended, as I believed, to be permanently embodied in the statute-hook. I have now a strend at the company to the contract of the country of book. I have now arrived at the conclusion that restrictions, permanently applied to the introduction of foreign commodities, should no longer be adopted by the Legislature of this country. (Loud cheers.) When the noble lord (Lord J. Riusedl) brought forward his proposition, J. expressed the principle of this general confederacy at all likely. (Hear, hear.) I do principle, which I still maintain, that if you are to apply restrictions to the importation of foreign corn with the object of fixing a certain standard of remuneration for the British continuous to the importation of price which has been suiting that steadards of price which has been supposed that some vast confederacy of foreign nations might be formed against us, which, at some vast confederacy of foreign nations might be formed against us, which, at some vast confederacy of foreign nations might be formed against us, which, at some oritical moment, might reduce this country to a state of uter de pendence on foreign nations. I do not think the coourtence of this general relations of this general relations of this general relations. I do not think the country is a dargor which ongit to entar sectionsly into our dalunt the object. (Hear, hear.) History would teach me another lesson, if I looked back at the situation of this country when a subject the supply of foreign nations might be formed against us, which, at some oritical moment, might reduce this country to an exist of uter de pendence on foreign nations. I do not think the country to an exist of uter de pendence on foreign nations. I do not think the country to an exist of uter de pendence on foreign nations might be formed against us, which, at some oritical moment, might book. I have now arrived at the conclusion that restrictions,

opinions on the policy of these restrictive laws, but I have not departed from the opinion I have always entertained as to the comparative advantage of a fixed duty and the sliding scale. You have felt your way largely in this matter, with respect to the arricles of week cattle, and timber (Theorem the articles of wool, cattle, and timber. (Hear, hear.) I am not going, on this occasion, to trouble the House with figures and statistical returns, but I will venture to say this. that when the great accounts of the country come before you, and you have an opportunity of investigating rigidly the effects of those alterations, you will find that in every important instance the results have been such as to justify the hopes entertained by the success of those changes. I myself have been compelled to be a somewhat close observer of the connection between the prices of provisions and the employment and happiness of the population. (Hear, hear.) Accident has cast my let in the midst of a dense population, with respect to a large portion of which this accident has made me a distributor of working wages, and I have near the apparatus of what I hallow to be the the constitution. have seen the operation of what I believe to be the connexion between the prices of provisions and the happiness and employment of the people in various conditions. Among the population to which I have alluded when there arose, from natural causes I believe, though protracted beyond their natural limits by derangements in the commercial intercourse with the United States, any difficulty in the state of the labour market for men to flud employment at their regular occupations, I, as well as others, have endeavoured at such times to find temporary employment for those who could not obtain regular work. It had happened that, in the course of my endeavours, prices have fallen again, a reaction has taken place, and provisions have been come cheap; and but for that I have felt how vain would have been all our exertious to effect that which we had in view. (Hear, hear.) Changes have since taken place, and I, as well as others, have had to struggle with a difficulty of a far less ordinary character—the difficulty of finding labourers for the work we desired to be performed. In the turn of these more presperous days, I trace again the connection between abundance and employment. (Loud obsert.) However, in the midst of this general tide of prosperity an interruption very recently occurred, and I bolleve that I can give some history of the occurrence in words better than my own, by referring to a circular which I reselved by post from Manchester a day or two ago, and which by accident I read, for it is not always that one reads printed circulars. In this circular it is stated that "the elements of permanent advantages were everywhere visible in the year 1844, and that the expectations formed with same to the year 1846 were realised in the better half of the year; trade was going on, wages rising, &c. (Hear, hear) Notwithstanding the drawbacks that had to be contended against in the last quarter of 1845, trade was satisfactory on the whole, for profits were realised by our spinners and some of our manufacturers in the first nine months of the yeur. (Hear.) Those who attribute all the mischlef to the late reaction and the exerbitant railway schemes, take a one-sided view of the case, and mistake the effect for the cause. The railway schemes, no doubt, aggravated the evil; but the main cause originated in the deficiency of the harvest, and the failure of the potato crop, at a time when a similar estastrophe occurred on the Continent of Europe, and rendered an immediate supply of provisions almost impossible." (Henr. hear.) I sak any continuous of continuous and continuous an possible." (Hear, hear.) I ask any gentleman connected with the manufactures of Lancashire—any one who is acquainted with the situation of Manchester, Bolton, or Ashton, whether the period to which this circular alludes did not cause the memory involuntarily to recur to those times in 1841 and 1842, which I do hope will never again occur in this country? (Hear, hear.) I ask whether men's hearts did not fail them for fear of the prospect of anything like high prices occurring again in those manufacturing districts? (Hear, hear.) But I may be told, and fairly told, that the abundance of which I have spoken, and which have contended against the evils which have threatened as here contended against the evils which have threatened us, has been co-existent with those restrictive laws which I propose to consider. Others will go further, and say that the abundance is even the consequence of those restrictive laws, and that it may cease and determine with their abolition, or material reduction. Whatever change of opinion I may have undergone, I certainly have no right to question the sense, sagacity, or still less, the sincerity of those who continue to entertain those ideas. The time has been when with equal sincarity I have entertained them myself; but my observation has led me to believe that if you, as a Covernment, undertake to control and regulate the supply of the means of sub-sistence to the community, you will find that it is difficult, nay, impossible for you, spread the public table with what profusion you may, to satisfy those who would still retire from the feast with appointes not altogether pleased, that they have had sufficient for their health, and that all that remains for them is to pray that they may be truly thankful. This abundance, which you call sufficient, but which no man can call excessive, is after all but matter of comparison. (Hear.) Claudite jam rivos, pueri: sat prata biberunt ; this, indeed, would be a dangerous principle for a Minister to act upon. With regard to the objection, that this conntry night be made to depend on foreign countries for a sup-

ply of food, I do not, when I consider the general state and condition of our relations for the supply of the commodity of

food—I do not see in that objection anything which can cause me long to healtate in any course which, on totals grounds, I may think it desirable to adopt. (Hear, hear,). It has been supposed that some vast confederacy of foreign

with Austria by marriage, when his influence pravailed in Prussia, when the dreadful example of his victories was handing over the Northern Powers, and when Europe was at his command, the iron frame of his Continental system still yielded to the strenuous and irresistible pressure of mutual wants. (Hear, hear.) I take the case of 1810. Then there was searcity, or apprehension of searcity; and in 1810 our importation of sorn from foreign countries was 1,2002,000 quarters, of which not less than (MI, (MM) quarters came from France and Flanders; and the men whom Napoleon had raised to the rank of marshals in his successful army were among the parties who ventured on this operation of supplying us with corn. (Hear, bear.) From a passage, too, which I lately read in "Napier's History of the Peninsular War," I find that when the Duke of Wellington planted the English standard, for the first time for many centuries, on French ground—a circumstance one would think Mkely to raise the resentment of the French against the invadors of their soil-yet at Bayonne they offered their services for the express purpose of vistualing the invading army. (Hear.) That some sacrifices may be necessary in making such changes in legislation as would follow the adoption of the principles I advocate, I wish I could deny or dispute, but you must pay some penalty for having maintained and persevered in a contrary system; but I am con soled by the feeling that there never has been a period in the history of this country, and I doubt whether one such will ever occur, in which from temporary causes you would flad so many opportunities of absorbing the temporary and local superfluity of labour by the means of the great public works in progress in this country at present. (Hear.) If I look, again, to the extension of our foreign relations, there has seldom been a period which presented, in my opinion, a reater prospect of largely extending our intercourse with orsign countries, promoting thereby peace and good-will, and preventing the effects of mutual animosities between this and other countries. The progress of these great public works in this country will, no doubt, be, in the first instance, beneficial to the labouring population, whose interests and well-fare it is our duty to watch over; but I believe that there is no class of the community who will reap greater advantages from a just and proper settlement of this agitated question than that higher class of manufacturers who bear the name of the landed interest. (Cheers.) Whatever might be the circumstances attending the process of the settlement-whatever the throes which might accompany this adjusttheir-remuneration would be ample in the removal of a state of intentine dissension, which I cannot contemplate without apprehension. (Hear, hear, hear.) livings me to a part of my subject which it is difficult for me to approach without, perhaps, under the peculiar circumstances, incurring the suspicion of being influenced by personal considerations. This reason alone would be sufficient to induce me to refrain from originating in this House any topic which could generate any angry discussion on the present occasion. Fortunately, it is not necessary for me to do so; but I may assume, for argument's sake, that there have been procaedings in this country as dangerous and as unconstitutional us the warmest advocates of protection could imagine. Then, 1 sak, what have you to expect from counter-irritation at which ingenuity and experience can suggest? A war of bribery and chicamery—a war of the Roses in the reign of Victoria, which, in my opinion, could but terminate in one way, but which, when terminated, would leave this country torn by intestine divisions, and so exhausted as to attract the notice of foreign nations and the enemies of our common country to the spectacle of that exhaustion. (Cheers). These, in my opinion, are reflections well worthy the attention of Parliament and this House, and I am glad to believe that you will give them that full, deliberate, and dispassionate consideration which is not in the inture of things to be hoped for chewhere. (Hear, hear). I believe that elsewhere these questions have been discussed too long in a spirit which makes it difficult to eliminate the trath from the passion and prejudice which surround it. (Hear, hear). My apprehensions are not confined to the fate of those who, I believe would be the more immediate sufferers from the continuance of the contests I allude to—the landed interest—but I look further. If I could regard with any unbecoming feeling the great body of manufacturers in this country, by many of whom Lam surrounded, and for the value of whose opinion I have never betrayed indifference—if I could consider that the men were unfit for a share in the administration of the government of this country who exhibit great industry, sugacity, and intelligence-if such were my feelings towards the manufacturers, I could wish them no more fatal gift than the monopoly of power in the State by questionable means-by some revolutionary, however bloodless, a convulsion, and by weapons likely to be used in the contest I now contemplate. I wee special danger to them, though it is not unlikely that danger would affect other classes. There is something tensoious of life and enduring in land. The storms of popular commotion may sweep over our ancient landmarks. and the tide of popular convulsion may submerge them for a back, and the old limits and landmarks will re-appear, and the fertility of prosperous seasons replace the ravages of disastrous years. I doubt whether it would be so with your absches of peaceful industry. There is a difference between your machinery and that which comes fresh from the hands of the great Creator of the universe. The latter is less destructible. The trade of agitation is no mystery of difficult acquirement. I can imagine no better pupil in that school than some man of liberal education, of rained means and no principle, who, goaded by a sense, real or imaginary, of wrongs, and the recollection of fallen fortunes, might be led to become a leader of agitation in the manufacturing districts. Exeriatur aliquis nostris ex essibus ulter. Such a man, with opportunity, might make those chimneys and storied edifices, which I hope may long endure in the manufacturing districts, tremble to their bases. I dread such a system of sgitation, which I think may exist if Parliament does not interfere to make a satisfactory, just, and find settlement of this question. (Loud obsers). There are dark There are dark spots and weak places in various parts of our social system: lot us not be blind to them, or neglect the duty of exposing them, with the view of mending and improving them. Let us not fling in one another's teeth difficulties, remedial or irremedial, for the sole purpose of party or of faction. Let insemedial, for the sole purpose of party or of faction. Let us not fing in the face of one class a Wiltshire labourer, or a manufacturing labourer in the face of another. To meet the cases of both—to give them in the first instance fact—(cheens)—to give them other luxuries which many of them still anothering, water, drainage—to give them all the physical industrial party and let us endeavour to perform that office by making the country of those subjects of angry dis

cussion to which I have majored. (Loud cheers.) With this explanation I express my concurrence in the statement contained in Her Majesty's speech, and an performing my task I fear I have transgressed too far on your patience. The remaining topics of the speech are not such as I believe will involve any serious differences of opinion in this House, and I think that I shall now best evince my sense of the indulgence and forbearance of the House, by proceeding to move the Address in answer to Her Majesty's speech. The noble lord concluded by moving the Address, which was, as usual, merely an echo of the Queen's speech.

Mr. E. B. DENISON seconded the address. The Address having been read from the chair, Sir R. PEEL rose and spoke as follows :- Sir, I would fain hope, that although the course which I take is an unusual one, yet I am acting in conformity with the general wish of the house, by availing myself of the very carliest opportunity of giving that explanation which at no remote period the house would require from me. (Hear, hear.) I would fain hope that I am not obstructing the course of this discussion upon the Address by giving that explanation at this period. But, if no consideration of public advantage could justify this course, yet to the generous feeling of the house it will seem but natural that I should desire that not a moment should clapse before I explain to the house the motives on which I have acted, and the principles which have governed my conduct. (Cheers.) I may feel hurt at having been the object of much accusation upon vague surmise; I may think it unjust to have been condemned without a hearing (hear); I say nothing upon that head. If any momentary feelings of indignation were aroused, the recollection of frequent indulgence, of great confidence, was quite sufficient to efface those temporary feelings. I make, therefore, no reference to particular expressions, or particular accusations. But this I do ask, even while I do not require the reversal of the sentence, I ask for the opportunity, after condemnation, of explaining the motives of my conduct. (Hear, hear.) I ask you to listen at least with patience and indulgence to those facts and that evidence which I shall this night adduce, and which will form the materials on which other tribunals, judging under less excitement, will ultimately pronounce upon the motives and the conduct of men charged with deep responsibility in critical times. (Hear, hear.) I wish to explain what were the grounds which led me, and those with whom I acted, humbly to tender to a gracious Sovereign the resignation of the trust which was committed to us. I wish also to explain what were the circumstances under which that trust was re-assumed, and under which I now appear as the Minister of this empire. (Hear, hear.) Sir, the immediate cause which led to the dissolution of the Goernment in the early part of last December was that great and mysterious calamity which caused a lamentable failure in an article of food on which great humbers of the people in this part of the United Kingdom, and still larger numbers in the sister kingdom, depend mainly for their subsistence. That was the immediate and proximate cause, no doubt, which led to the dissolution of the Government. But it would be unfair and uncandid on my part, if I attached undue importance to that particular cause. That particular cause appeared to me to preclude further delay, and to require immediate decision-decision not only upon the measures which it was necessary at the time to adopt, but as to the course to be ultimately taken with regard to the laws which govern the importation of grain. (Hear, hear.) I will not assign to that cause too much weight. I will not withhold the homage which is due to the progress of reason and to truth, by denying that my opinions on the subject of protection have undergone a change. (Cheers from the Opposition.) Whether holding a private station, or a public one, I will assert the privilege of yielding to the force of argument and conviction, and acting upon the results of enlarged experience. (('heers.) It may be supposed that there is something humiliating in making such admissions. Sir, I feel no such humiliation. (Loud cheers.) I should feel humiliation, if, having modified or changed my opinious, I declined to acknowledge the change for fear of incurring the imputation of inconsistency. (Cheers.) The question is whether the facts are sufficient to account for the change, and the motives for it are pure and disinterested. Nothing could be more base on the part of a public man than to protect himself from danger by pretending a change; on the other hand, nothing could be more inconsistent with the duty he owes to his Sovereign and country than if, seeing reason to alter his course, he is precluded from that alteration by the fear of being taunted with it. (Cheers.) Sir, those who contend for the removal of impediments upon the import of a great article of subsistence, such as corn, start with an immense advantage in the argument. The natural presumption is in favour of free and unrestricted importation. It may be possible to combat that presumption, to meet the advocates of free import in the field of argument, by showing that there are other and greater advantages in a system of protection than in a system of unrestricted importation. We all admit that the argument in favour of high protection or prohibition on the ground that it is for the benefit of a particular class is untenuble. The most strenuous advocates for protection have abandoned that argument; they rest, and wisely rost, the defence of protective duties upon higher principles. They have alleged, as I have myself allowed, that there were public reasons for retaining this protection. Sir, it became absolutely necessary for me, occupying the public station I do, and seeing the part that must unavoidably devolve on me in the present contest,-it became absolutely necessary for me maturely to consider whether the grounds on which an alteration of the Corn Lawsof protection must be either that protection to demestic industry is in itself a sound principle, and that therefore, agriculture, being a branch of domestic industry, is entitled to share in that protection; or, that in a

country like ours, encumbered with an enormous debt, and subject to great taxation, it is necessary that domestic industry should be protected from competition with foreigners; or, again, that the interests of the great body of the community—the laborious classes, are not committed in this question, that the rate of wages varies with the price of provisions, that high prices implies high wages, and that low wages are the concomitants of low prices. Again, it may be said, that the land is entitled to protection on account of peculiar burdens to which it is subject. But that is a question of justice rather than of policy. It may be, I have always felt it was so; but you have the power of weakening the force of that argument by the removal of the burden, The first three objections to the removal of protection are objections founded on considerations of public policy. Now, I want to deprive those who, arguing a priori, without the benefit of experience, have come to the conclusion that protection is objectionable in principle—I want to deprive them of none of the credit which is fairly their due. Reason, unaided by experience, brought conviction to their minds. My opinions have been modified by the result of the experience of the last three years. I have had the opportunity of comparing the results which have followed during the last three years from the principle upon which you have been acting for some years past—namely, the gradual removal of protection on domestic industry. I have had the opportunity of comparing the periods of abundance and comparatively low prices with periods of scarcity and high prices (cheers); and I am led to the conclusion that the main grounds of public policy on which protection has been defended are not tenable; at least I cannot maintain them. (Cheers.) I do not believe, after the experience of the last three years, that the rate of wages varies with the price of food. I do not believe, that with high prices, wages will necessarily rise in the same ratio. I do not believe that a low price of food necessarily implies a low rate of wages. (Cheers.) Neither can I maintain that protection to domestic industry is a necessary good. I said last year that I thought these protective duties were evils in themselve. I thought they ought not to be lightly abolished; that the system of protected industry had grown up, and mast be tenderly and cautiously dealt with; but it is utterly impossible for any men who have made the changes we have made in the tariff during the last four years, to contend that protection to industry is in itrelf and abstractedly a public good. Then, as to the other argument, which makes great impression on its first statement—that because we have a heavy debt and a high rute of taxation, we must be protected from competition with foreign industry, -that argument has also been submitted to the test of the last three years, and, so far as the experience of that period can supply an argument, it is this-thut a large debt and heavy taxation are bestencountered by abundance and cheapness of provisions; that they rather alleviate than add to the weight of taxation. Let us take the result of the experience of the last three years. The result of constantly diminished protectionon wages-on trade and on revenue. First, as to wages. Who can deny the fact that during the three years that preceded the month of October last prices were comparatively low? There was comparative cheapness and plenty, and yet at no period were the wages of labour higher than during that period. (Cheers.) If you take the three preceding years, you will find high prices, and co-existent with high prices you will find low wages. (Cheers.) Well, then, I have six years; I have during the first three years high prices and low wages; I have during the last three years low prices and high wages (cheers); and I cannot resist the conclusion that wages do not vary with the price of provisions. (Loud cheers.) They do vary with the increase of capital, with the prosperity of the country, with the increased power to comploy labour; but there is no immediate relation between wages and provisions—or if there be a relation, it is in an inverse ratio. (Cheers.) Now as to trade; as I said, during the last four or five years we have been seting on the admitted principle of removing prohibitions -reducing duties, that is, destroying protection to naive industry. (Loud cheers.) That has been the principle, whether right or wrong, on which we have acted—the removal of protection to native industry. Now, what has been the result? I will give you the total amount of exports since the year 18 produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom was, in 1839, 53,000,000l.; in 1840, 51,000,000l; in 1841, 51,000,000l.; in 1842, 47,000,000l.; in 1843, 52,000,000%; in 1844, 58,000,000%; that is, the rise from the year when the great invasion upon the protection of domestic industry was made by Parliament was from 47,381,000/., in 1842, to 58,500,000/., in 1844. (Loud cheers.) But it may be said, the China trade made all the difference. Now let us deduct the whole of that trade. In 1842, our exports to all the countries, except China, amounted to 46,411,000%; and in 1844 they increased by 10,000,000L, amounting to 56,000,000L For the last year we can only have the account for in months preceding December. In 1843, the experts of our principal articles of manufacture to all parts of the world, including China, amounted to 41,011,000L; in 1844, to 47,812,0004 : and during the first 11 months of 1845, to 47,764,000l. (Loud cheers.) Such is the state of our foreign exports under this system of contract removal of protection. (Cheers.) Now let nued removal of protection. (Cheers.) Now let make the revenue (Hear, hear.)—the results of the revenue as bearing on this question—Ought them to be high protection in a country encumbered with an immense public debt and heavy taxation. (Hear.)

In 1842, I proposed a reduction when the country amount of 1,488,000/. in 1844, [proposed a reduction the Customs duties so the make the country in 1845 to that of 3,418,000/. [Customs of 1,288,000/.] (Customs of 1,288,000/.)

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The total amount of the loss has been 1,500,000L (Loud cheers.) In the Excise last year there was a reduction of a million in duties; the whole of the glass duties, the whole of the auction duty was taken off. The loss on that ocension was estimated at 1,000,000%. Observe. that was no mere reduction of duties; there was no expeciation, therefore, of recovering the revenue by increased consumption. I felt confident, that although the glass and auction duties were abolished, still, by vivifying other branches of industry I should derive some compensation. (Cheers.) What will be the fact on the 5th of April? I believe, that notwithstanding the total reduction, the absolute loss of a million-my firm belief is the Excise will this year be more prosperous than ever. (Loud cheers,) Notwithstanding these reductions there has been a salient spring of prosperity which has supplied the void you caused by the remission of tax-ation. (Cheers.) Well, then, with that evidence before me, could'I contend that on account of high taxation or great debt you must necessarily continue high protective duties? I have shown you that my estimates as to loss in the Customs have been already fulsified, that the Customs this year amount to nearly 20,000,0001. that comparing the Customs' revenue of 1845 with the Customs' revenue of 1842, after that diminution of taxation to the extent of 4,000,000L, the Customs of this year, excluding from both years the revenue from foreign corn, are better by 100,000% than in the former year. (Cheers.) But I will take more important considerations than those either of trade or revenue; I take the state of crime in the country. My right hon, friend at the head of the Home Department stated that reductions had taken place in the number of commitments in the year 1842; in 1843 there was also a decrease; and the decrease in the commitments remarkable in 1843 and 1844 continued in 1845. The total number of commitments in 1845 was 24,350, that is 2,237 less than in the lowest preceding year, 1842—a decrease of 51 per cent on the crimes of the preceding year. In 1843 there was a decrease of 51 per cent.; in 1844 a decrease there was a decrease of 54 per cent.; in 1845 a decrease of 54 per of 10 3-10 per cent.; in 1845 a decrease of 54 per of 10 3-10 per cent.; in on increasing population. This decrease of crime in the last year has taken place in all the chief manufacturing districts, and not only in all the chief manufacturing districts, but, with the exception of five, there has been a corresponding and almost equal decrease in all the chief agricultural districts. What is the state of Wales? In Wales the decrease of commitments is more remarkable than in almost any other part of the kingdom. So much for actual crime. With respect to crimes connected with sedition, discontent, and disaffection to the Government,-why, in the last two years the office of the Attorney-General has been a sinecure. There has been no prosecution for seditious libel during the whole of the last year. Government has no right to take credit for lenity; it is because the crime of sedition did not exist. 1840-1-2-3,-listen to this, and seriously consider it,there were 1257 persons committed on charges of seditious and riotous offences. In 1843-4-5, only 124 persons were committed so charged, instead of 1257; while, in the last year, I believe there was not one. (Cheers.) In 1845 there were 422 persons sentenced to transportation less than in 1842. In the last three rears there were 1701 persons sentenced to transportation less than in the three preceding years. (Cheers,) This has been during a period of comparative abundance, and low prices. Is it possible to resist the inference that employment, low prices, comparative abundance, contribute to the diminution of crime? (Loud choors.) Now, these are great social advantages; I will not say they have been promoted by, -I say only they have been concurrent with, the diminution of protection to domestic industry-concurrent with comparative abundance. Well, have these advantages been purchased by any serious detriment to that great interest whose welfare ought to be one of the first objects of our concern,—the agricultural interest? Protection has been diminished. I have been the object of repeated accusation and attack for diminishing it, and deeply should I regret if those great social advantages to which I have referred had been accompanied, in consequence of that diminution of protection, with any serious injury to agriculture. (Cheers.) Let us take the four great aricles in respect of which there has been a diminution of protection. Foreign flax has, for many years, been admitted at a very low duty into this country. What duty remained we remitted last year. There is now, therefore, a perfectly unrestricted import of foreign flax. In 1924 the daty of the country of the country. In 1824 the duty on flax was 10% 14s. 6d. per ton. It is now absolutely nothing. The reduction having taken place, what was the effect on the price of flax? The price of fine flax in Belfast market in 1843 was 65s. to 70s.; in 1844 it was 63s. to 68s.; in 1845 from 65s. to 68a; and in January, 1846, from 70s, to 80s. (Henr.) There was no reduction then made that caused so much alarn, and which it was prophesied would do so much injury as the ramoval of the absolute prohibition on the importation of foreign cattle, (Mear, hear.) The permission to import at a very low rate foreign castle, fowigh sheep, and foreign swine, was accompanied with many predictions (hear, hear, hear)—predictions that serious loss and injury would be inflicted on the agri-serious loss and injury would be inflicted on the agri-cultural interest, and it was said that we should deeply regret the day those changes were made and the panic that would arise. (Hear.) Now, has serious injury been massissed by that reduction? There was before that should prohibition, and them is now the admission of sholute prohibition, and there is now the admission of foreign catela at a very loss mate; and I must on this season, thus of all, admission of there has been a gradual described (Cries of hear, hear;) I want at the temperation; (hear, hear;) I want at the temperation; (hear, hear;) I want at the temperation of the best intrease in the price of the described (Cries of hear, hear), in 1844 there months of the year loss there were not less than

15,000 imported, showing a very great increase i (hear i) have prices in this country been affected either in a corresponding degree or in any by this large importation? In 1844 the contenot price for the victualling stores in the navy for salt beef was 3t. 18s. 2d.; the contract price entered into for the navy in Deember 1845, was, regret to say, 6/. 8s. 8d.; (hear, hear;) the salt pork that was contracted for in 1844 was 31, 15s, 10d. attorce, and in 1845 it was 6l. 12s.; (hear, hear;) the contract price for fresh boof for the navy in 1844 was 1/. 14s. 9d. the contract price for 1845 was 21. 2s. 2d. ; (bear; now, all this increase in price was attended with inerensed importation; one prophecy, if I recollect rightly, was, that there would be an importation into this country of 3,500,000 pigs, and that the price of sait pork would be immensely reduced; (hear;) there was no article last year that caused so much alarm as lard. (Great laughter.) In 1840 there were 97 cwt. of foreign lard imported into this country. In 1842 the duty was reduced from 8s. to 2s. a cwt., and there were then imported 48,312 cwt.; in 1844, 76,000 cwt. were imported; and in 1843 the importation had reached above 80,000 cwt. And what has been the price of domestic lard at Belfast during that period? In 1844 it was 48s, a cwt; in 1845 it was 67s.; and in January of the present year, notwithstanding the increase caused by this importation, the price has risen from 48s. in 1844, to 62s. (cries of hear.) Another article of great importance was that of wool. We proposed in 1844 that the duty on foreign wool should be altogether done away with, and we were again met with the argument that wool would suffer from the reduction. But here again there has been a wholly different result. In 1842 there were 45,880,000 lb. of foreign wool imported; in 1844 there were 65,079,000 lb.; and in ten months of the last year it amounted to 65,216,000lb,-all in consequence of the reduction of the duty. Now, what had been the price of wool? In 1842 the price of South Down wool was 111d. per pound; long wool was lod, per pound. In 1843 South Down wool was 111d.; in 1844, it was 1s. 2d. ; long wool was also 1s. 2d. ; and in December, 1845, 18 months after the reduction, the price of South Down wool rose to 1s. 41d. per pound, and the price of common wool was 1s. 2d. per pound, (hear, hear.) Such has been the effect of those reductions that were made in 1842 and 1844, and which were regarded as a protection to domestic industry. So far as we have experience of the last three years, then, I have shown that, under the removal of protection to domestic industry, the great social interests of the country have been premoted, crime has been less, morality has been improved, and I could-also bring conclusive proofs that the public health has been promoted, (cheers). Our national trade has increased, and our exports have been greater than before; and these we have succeeded in effecting, not only without doing serious injury to those interests from which protection has been withdrawn, but I have shown that the change has been concurrent with an incrosse in the price of the articles, (hear, hear). Now, it is right I should state that, notwithstanding the conviction which this experience has brought home to my mind, yet my decided impression was, that on other grounds the charge of considering a change in the present Corn Law ought not to have devolved upon me. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) This I was firmly resolved upon, that I could not this session, on the motion of the hon, gentleman for the consideration of the Corn Laws, - I could not with these convictions which, say as you will, I cannot withhold, have met that motion with a direct negative. (Cries of hear, hear.) I claim no credit whatever for these arguments. My conviction has been brought about by the results of observation and experience. Those who have the merit of having formed their deductions from argument and reason are entitled to all credit on that account: but I claim no title to having made an impression by arguments drawn from any other source than that of experience and observation. If I could not have undertaken the defence of the Corn Laws either upon the public ground of this country being highly taxed, and protection therefore necessary, or on the ground that it was for the interest of the labouring classes that high prices should continue as the guarantee for high wages, so I could not have undertaken it upon the ground that interference with domestic industry must necessarily be to paralyze our commerce. (Hear, hear.) I wish most ardently to have the opportunity of stating to those friends who lave honoured me on so many occasions with their confidenge, that I can continue this conflict no longer (loud cheers from the opposition benches); that I must devolve it upon other persons more convinced of the strength of their arguments. (Hear.) I question whether, if it had to be defended in another Marliament, it would not have been my duty to commit the defence of protection to other hands, more able to maintain the struggle. I should also have wished that another Parliament should have had the opportunity of considering this question; but there did occur that, during the course of the last autumn, which precluded me from taking that step that great calamity, the limits of which it was difficult to find, and the consequence of which it was, and I believe still is, difficult to foresce—that great visitafron of Providence, the failure to a large extent of the potato-crap in Iroland, and in many parts of England, which made it a great and pressing question with the Government what course it was our duty to pursue in such an emergency towards our Sovereign and the country (hear, hear); whather it was advisable, from the pressure of the okreumstances to take immediate measures for meeting the threatened evil? (hear, hear.) It was impossible, with the convictions we entertained, to abstain from adopting some course, if we did not pretend apprehensions of scarcity for the purpose of making on alteration in the Corn Laws, than which nothing could be more base or dishonourable. (Hear.) But you will now have the apportunity of judging and

determining in what way I came to that conclusion, sooing that I was induced to advise the unusual course of obtaining that information in the way which shall now be faid before you. I now approach an explanation of the circumstances in which, early in November, the Covornment was temperarily dissolved, and in which it was re-constituted in the month of Decumber. There are two important periods in giving that information to which I shall refer ;- first, the period which elapsed between the lat of November and the 6th of November, and then the period between the 25th of November and the 6th of December. I propose to read the correspondonce by which information was received from different parties in this country and on the Continent, and which appeared to me to justify the conclusions to which I came. The disease which affected the potato crop of this country was also felt in other parts of the world, and in several parts of Europe there were apprehensions of scarcity; for example, in Poland, from which the resident agent for the Government, writing on the 22d of October, said, "The cost of articles of food is stated to be higher than it has been since 1813 and 1814. The unfavourable results of the harvests, in Podolia, Lithuania, Gallicia, and the German Baltic provinces, precludo the hope of foreign aid. No alleviation of the general distress is expected before next autumn." In a letter dated the 14th of December, Colonel Wynford says. "The supply of rye and rye flour sent from St. Petersburgh is sufficient for the relief of the Livenians, and discontent prevails." From Prussia, on the 10th of November, the Minister of the Interior informed Lord Westmorland that the potato disease had been observed in almost every part of the Prussian monarchy. From Belgium, dated the 24th of September, the Chambers sanctioned the proposal of the Government to prohibit. export and permit import. Egypt, on the 22d of Octobor, 1845, prohibited expertation of all corn arriving at Alexandria after that day. Turkey prohibited the onport of all grain from the ports of Anatolia and her Asiatic provinces from the 27th of August, 1845, to harvest time in 1846. Sweden prohibited the export of pointoes from the 15th of October until the next harvest. There was, indeed, at this period a general apprehension of scarcity of provisions extending from Sweden to Egypt, and from Riga to Turkey, and measures were taken to stop their exportation, (hear.) Now, in respect to England and Scotland, this is a part of the information which I have in great abundance. Flere is a letter, addressed by a great salesman in London, engaged in the retail trade. I should first state that the carliest account I received of the disease in the potato crop was from the Isle of Wight, where the crop had materially suffered. The gentleman to whom I have referred wrote, on the 11th of August, as follows :-

" Being myself a harge grower some years to the extent of 300 acres, in Kent, where I farm, am also a salesman in London, and have been engaged bargely in the retail part of the business, I can give you an opinion.

I recoived a letter on the 1st just, from my agent at Ash, near Sandwich, stating the crops were blighted in that neighbourhood, the same as in October hast year (it was then only partial in East Kent). On Theselay last I went down by the Dover 8 o'clock train. On my nerival there I immedintely drove all round the neighbourhood of Sandwich, Ash, Wingham, and its neighbourhood, and found the whole of the crop, early and late, not excepting the cottager's gardens, was being entirely destroyed. On my return I could trace it by the side of the whole line to Tunbridge. Have since looked over the tops that come as covering on that article to the different markets, and find that they are all affeeted. On Thursday lest I paid a visit to my farm at Maidstone, and found it had made fearful destruction there, and returned by way of Grayescud. All were alike effected. The same evening I went to East and West Ham, in Essex, Amongst the large growths found it was just appearing. Friday I went to Leytonstone and neighbourhood. All ar a'ike'

The next letter was in reference to the state of Lancashire, and was from the Rev. Mr. Clay, chaplain to the House of Correction at Preston, dated the 23d of October

It is too certain that the potate crop in this part of the country will be a serious failure. I have obtained information from the districts extending as far as Endlord and Croston on the south, the Fylde country and Blackpool on the west, and Lancaster on the north, and from all quarters the accounts speak of great injury to the crops, though they vary as to the extent of it. My information, verbal and written, has come from scientific agriculturists, from practical farmers, and from dealers.

"Those among the first-named, who have paid much attention to the facts, estimate the loss, as it exists now, at more than two-lifebs. But the progress of the disease is so rapid and its presence so universal, that it is impossible to conjecture what may be the amount of the defalcation by

The next letter is from Mr. Wood, of Yorkshire, and is "You will regret to hear that the potato disease has now

manufacted itself in the most extensive manner in this distriet. Posatoes were selling to days above at 2s. to 2s. dd. a bushel of 70lb. in York. Yesterday the same weight sold at in. 2d., owing to the farmers bringing an extra quantity to

"I have consequently had several pits opened on this tate, and I fear that before Christmas we shall not lave a sound one; what the poor are to live on I cannot guess. I know you will be auxious to have accurate information, and therefore have ventured to give you this secount."
To turn now to Soutland. I received a letter from the

hon, mumber for Dumfriesshire, which was as wafavourable as any I had previously received. Mr. hlope Johnstolfs, in a letter duted the 2nd of Novembor, says-

"I am sorry to say, that in so far as my own observation has gone, the disease appears to be progressing. I have soday examined a large quantity of potations grown on some of
the best and driest soils in this negligibration, and have not
found one potate in twenty untained, while three-founds
are quite units for himsel foods. These has been executily
homsel, and have never been exposed to damp since they
were taken out of the ground. In Dumbicsshire also the
decay is going on rapidly.

These were some of the accounts received in the months

of October and December as to the state of the crop in Britain, and I will now direct your attention to Ireland, where so large a proportion of the people subsist upon potators. Here is a report made to the Government by Mr. Lucas, Sir R. Routh, and Professor Kane, stating that the numerical proportion of the Irish population that may be considered practically to live exclusively upon potatoes, include certainly 4,000,000. (Hear.) And, I would ask would the Government be justified in acting carelessly in reference to a calamity which threatened the existence of 4,000,000 of people? (Hear, hear.) The first of these letters which I shall read is from the Lord Lieutenant of Ire-He had been sending us almost day by day accounts from the whole of the constabulary force, who are spread over the whole of Ireland. It was the duty of my right hon. friend and myself to devote our days and nights to the reading of these accounts, for the purpose of finding what was the real state of Ireland. I shall not enter into details; they were nearly all concurrent; it will not, therefore, be necessary for me to enter into details; but I will state the impression made upon the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and will state the communications which he made to her Majesty's Government here. On the 17th of October Lord Heytesbury writes to the Secretary of State—"Even if the crops should turn out to be as bad as is now apprehended, it is not thought that there will be any immediate pressure in the market. There will be enough saved for immediate The evil will probably not be felt in all its intensity till towards the month of February or the beginning of spring. I am assured that there is no stock whatever of last year's potatoes in the country." And so deep on him, who is chiefly responsible as Lord-Lieutenant for the tranquillity of Ireland, was his impression of alarm, that not a day scarcely passed that he did not reiterate the warnings he had already given. I now state these things that they may be placed on record, in order that if you say now "there is no danger," you may be smabled to judge of the reasons which operated upon me. On the 17th of October the Lord Licatement wrote that letter that on the 20th was followed by this—" Our accounts continue to be of the most discouraging nature. They are regularly transmitted to Sir James Graham's office. One of the most embarrassing circumstances attending the disease is, that potatoes dug up to all appearance perfectly sound, after a short time begin to decay, and very soon rot altogother. Under such circumstances it is impossible to form any decisive opinion as to the amount of the calamity. This was on the 20th. On the 24th he writes—" From the accounts which reach us I should be inclined to say that the progress of the disease has in some localities been checked, but I dare not lay too great a stress upon this, for we constantly receive satisfactory reports of the state of the potatoos when dug, and learn a few days after that they have all rotted in the pits. It is this insecurity that forms our greatest difficulty. We do not know, and cannot know the extent of this evil." On the 27th he says-" We are most anxious for the result of the deliberations of the Cabinet upon the state of the potate crops in Ireland; the r from various country gentlemen and public bodies continue to be of so darming a nature that it seems desirable that something should be done, if it be only to tranquillise the public mind, and diminish the panic. Everything is rising rapidly in price, and the people begin to show symptoms of discontent, which may ripen into something more. (Hear, hear.) Should we be authorised in issuing a proclamation prohibiting distillation in grain? This is demanded on all sides." In reply to this, we stated to the Lord-Lieutexant that in his answer to the address of the city of Dublin, read to him by the Lord Mayor, he had expressed his opinion that there was no immediate pressure in the market, and we stated that this was apparently at variance with the statements contained in the letters I have just read. He answered, on the 8th of November-"It is perfectly true that I did, in my answer to the Lord Mayor, say that there was no immediste pressure in the market; but you must not give too wide a meaning to that observation, which had reference merely to his domand, that the exportation of grain should be prohibited, and the ports immediately thrown open. My meaning was, that there was nothing so pressing as to re quire us to act without waiting for the decision of the responsible advisers of the Crown. But the danger may be upon us before we are aware of its being near, for, as I said in a former letter, the sudden decay of the potatoes dug up in an apparently sound state, sets all calculation at defiance. Some precantionary measures must be adopted and adopted promptly—for there is danger in delay. As the digging of the potatoes advances, we see it more clearly; and I regret to say that Professor Lindley, when he took leave of me yesterday, told me that he doubted very much whether the potatoes would keep through the winter." On the 11th of November the Lord Lieutenant says—"The accounts we receive of the progress of the potato harvest from the constabulary are still very unsatisfactory, but those from the resident magistrates are rather less unfavourable."
But then, in a postscript to this letter, he says—" Since this letter was written, later reports have been submitted to me, in which even the resident magistrates now appear to be of opinion that the disease is extending, and the evil much greater than they had imagined it to be. The heavy rains of the last few days have done infinite mischief." The last of these letters of the Lord Lieutenant, which I shall read, is one dated the 17th of November—"The disease progresses apparently unchecked by any of the precautions adopted, and the ill-intentioned leave nothing undone to irritate and exasperate the people. A very bad spirit prevails in many of the provinces. If we had to do only with a short crop, we might calculate with some degree of certainty upon the time when the pressure would be felt; but how rely upon any calculation when the potatoes are perishing in the pits? When the evil day of scarcity does come, it will probably come with fearful rapidity. We must not allow ourselves to be taken by surprise." Such being the state of our infortintion with respect to the state of the disease in Ireland, I do hope that those who may have been disposed precipitately to condemn will make allowance for those who were charged with the duty of watching the effect of this calamitous visitation, and of considering what were the prospects before them for the future. It may be said these are official reports, and therefore less to be relied on. Let us, then, take the communications we derived from other quarters, from gontlemen unconnected with the Government. These must be unobjectionable. The secretary of the Royal Agricultural Improvement Soviety of Ireland made a communication to the Government, and he says-"I beg leave to send you an extract from a Dublin morning paper, which will give you a correct account of the measures which the council of the society have adopted respecting the prevailing disease in the potuto crop. I beg leave also to state that when I issued a circular about a month since to the secre-

turies of about 120 local societies in connexion with the central one, I got several answers from persons stating that the disease was not then appearent in their immediate neighbourhood, but I have since received letters from most of them, stating, that upon digging the crops, they found the disease in almost every quarter; and I may safely say at present that there is not a county in Ireland that is not more or less affected by it. I shall barely add, Sir, that the greatest panic appears to exist in all parts of the community, and those who know the country best, are most puzzled how to act. One thing, however, I think is certain, that enough has already transpired to justify the most prompt and energetic measures on the part of the public and the Government."
This is the language of the secretary of the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society of Ireland, and he had very ample means of forming an opinion. Now I will read the commu-nications we received from others: Lord Monteagle writes— Take it, however, at the least, I do not recollect any former example of a calamitous failure being anything near so great and so alarming as the present. Generally, we have seen the means of carrying our people forward at least till summer approaches, and till we were within two or three months of the new crop. The case is very different now, and in some places I know not how the peasantry will get through the winter in very many cases. On the 31st of October, the Duke of Leinster presided at a meeting in Dublin, where the following resolutions were passed:—" That the committee do respectfully represent to the Lord-Lieutenant, that it has now been ascertained beyond a doubt, that famine, and consequent pestilence, are immediately imminent, unless the Government shall, without hesitation or delay, take the most prompt measures to provide food for the people, and to organize means for the distribution of support in each locality throughout the land. That we respectfully call upon his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant forthwith to order the ports of Ireland to be opened for the importation of Indian corn. rice, and other articles suited for human food;" and, on the 5th of November, I had a communication from Lord Clare, that gives an account to the same effect. Now, at the first appearance of this disorder, we thought it advisable to appoint two gentlemen, Professor Lindley, and Dr. Lyon Playfair, to investigate the matter. They were entirely unconnected with Ireland, and they were to give their own account of what they should observe, and their impression with respect to the state of the disease. They went to Ireland and travelled through several counties, and on their return my right hon, friend had an interview with Professor Lindley, the result of which was so alarming, that we decided that Professor Lindley and Dr. Playfuir should place upon record their opinions; and, accordingly, on the 15th of November, they wrote a letter, in which they state-" During our stay in Iroland we carefully examined such official papers as were transmitted to us from the Castle. We consulted persons acquainted with the facts of the disease. We visited the district lying between Dublin and Drogheda, and inspected various potato fields and stores in the counties of Dublin, Louth, Meath, Westmeath, and a part of Kildare. Judging from the evidence thus collected, and from what we have seen of the progress of the disease in England, we can come to no other conclusion than that one half of the actual potato crop of Ireland is either destroyed or remains in a state unfit for the food of man. We, moreover, feel it our duty to apprise you that we feel this to be a low estimate. We would now add, melancholy as this picture is, that in all probability the late rainy weather has rendered the mischief yet greater. It is also necessary to direct your attention to the quantity of seed potatoes which must be reserved for the coming year, if the cultivation of this plant is to be perse-We can state that on an average one-eighth of a crop is required for planting the same quantity of ground, so that in fact only three-eighths of the crop can, in our view, be at this moment assumed to be available as food," The remaining five-eighths had been destroyed, or been reserved for seed. I must remind the House that there are two periods, one reaching from the 1st to the 6th of November; the other from the 25th of November to the 6th of December; and, in justice to those who dissented from my opinions, I must say that on any advice I gave, no information derived from letters received since the 6th of December has or could have any bearing. These letters, many of them, explain that the state of the crop continues the same, and relate also to England. Now, many Cabinets were held between the 31st October and the 6th of December. On the 1st of November, there was no agitation, no petitions had been presented, but it appeared to me that these reports from the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, the example of foreign countries, the example of Belgium, whose merchants had cleared the market at Liverpool of rice, almost in a day, justified the Government in taking measures before it was too late, either by closing the ports by an Order in Council, or by calling l'arliament together in a fortnight, to obviate the impending evil. That was the advice I gave on the 1st of November. There would have been an advantage in the plan of taking the responsibility of issuing an Order in Council, and trusting to obtain an indemnity from Parliament afterwards, and I was prepared to take that responsibility; but I did not insist on that course; but I stated that I was prepared to call Parliament together immediately, and advise Parliament that for a limited period the restrictions on importation should be suspended. (Hear, hear.) I did not anticipate that this would compel a reconsideration of the tariff; but I considered that the effect of calling Parliament together during the period of the suspension of the duties, would compel the reconsideration of this question. My advice at that period was not taken. Only three of my colleagues concurred with me, and we separated on the 6th of November, I reserving to myself the power of calling the Cabinet together, with the hope of convincing them, that if my alarm was confirmed by subsequent events, my advice ought to be taken at a late period. So far as I was concerned, that was the time for me to have tendered my resignation. I can truly say, that if I did not do so, it was upon public consideration that I acted. (Cheers.) I felt that it was my duty to adhere to my post when there was a possibility of my advice being acceded to. I felt it was a positive duty not to evade the difficulty. I might have said, that overruled by the great majority of my colleagues, I cannot take the responsibility of continuing in office, but I determined not to abandon my post. I determined to remain, that if there was a probability of an adjustment of this question I might bear my part; I determined, therefore, to remain. The Cabinet re-assembled on the 25th of November. The evidence I received in the interval did not in the slightest degree diminish my apprehensions. We had during the interval, with the unanimous consent of the Cabinet, taken extraordinary measures for acquiring certain information; we had issued a commission for that purpose, and on the 20th of November

it became necessary to consider what instructions should be is became necessary to consider the instructions were determined on. I stated at that time that it appeared to me the the issuing of these instructions was inconsistent with a determination to maintain the present Corn Laws, and that I could not consent to the issuing of these in structions to the commission, without reserving on by own part the power to propose to Parliament some measure of immediate relief. The instructions were issued, and again I brought under the consideration of the Cabinet what I had pressed on them on the 1st of November, namely, the suspension of the restrictions upon importation, either by the suspension of the restrictions upon importation, either by means of Orders in Council or by calling Parliament together. But at that period my own position, I admit, was entirely changed. The lapse of time, the increase of agitation, and other circumstances had occurred materially affecting my own position. I had been overruled in the Cabinet. The noble lord opposite had in the interval written his leuer (a laugh); and, giving him credit for the hest intentions, I must say it was a letter which, after what had occurred in the Cabinet, did most materially affect my position. (The right hon. baronet was here very indistinctly heard for about a minute.) He then proceeded as follows:—We were taking. as it appeared to me, a natural and reasonable provision, not merely against a great disaster, but against the possibility of a great calamity, and it was impossible for me, or those who gave advice to me that the potatoes would fail, to avoid taking such precautions as would justify us in the eyes of the country I felt, therefore, on the 20th of November, that nothing but the support of an united Government—after the letter of the noble lord (hear, hear)-would give a chance to me to pass such a measure as I thought advisable. After that letter I should appear to be adopting the proposition of the noble lord. On the 22nd of November his letter appeared, and that act of mine on the 26th November, would have appeared to be a servile acquiescence in his views. I would not have abandoned the post of danger if I had been supported by an unanimous Government; but that was not the result of our deliberations. One of my colleagues, one for whom I feel the sincerest regard, for whose public qualities I felt, and now feel, the highest respect; he took from the first the most entirely opposite views. His views were most sincere, I am sure, and adopted, after great deliberation, and he was convinced that the danger had been greatly magnified, and that no sufficient reasons had been brought forward for having recourse to Orders in Council. 1 thought that the adoption of extraordinary measures would compel the reconsideration of this question. That was my opinion. In these circumstances, my noble friend would have felt it his duty, and he was not the only member of the Government who would have felt it his duty, to resign; and believing, as I did, that their resignation would be followed by that of others, and thinking, too, that it was highly probable that, in the attempt to settle this question, I should fail, and that, after vehement contests, and the new combinations that would be formed, probably worse terms would be made than if some other person were to undertake the settlement of the ques tion, I felt it my duty humbly to tender my resignation. (Hear, hear.) That resignation was accepted by her Majesty, and her Majesty of her own choice immediately sent for the noble lord the member for London. The noble lord undertook the task of forming an Administration. I believed that I was then in the situation of a private Member of Parliament—that I was reduced once more to the ranks; that I was at liberty to act as I thought right; and I don't hesitate to say that in that capacity I would have done all that I could to promote the settlement of this question. (Loud crics of "lear.")
There appeared every probability of the duty of adjusting this question falling upon the noble lord, and in my capacity of a private member of Parliament I would have done all I could to facilitate its final settlement. On Thurday, December 18, it was intimated to me that the noble lord had undertaken the duty of forming an Administration: and on the 19th I received from her gracious Majesty a communication stating, that as my relation to her Majesty was about to terminate, she desired again to see me for the purpose of taking a final farewell. I went to Windson Uastle, on the 20th of December, for that purpose. Before waiting on her Mujesty I was apprized by the noble lord that his efforts to form a Government had failed. Her Majesty informed me that so far from taking farewell of me, she was obliged to require me to continue my services. (Hear, hear,) The colleagues who differed from me not having advised the formation of a Government on the principles of protection, and the noble lord (from causes to which I think it unnecessary to refer) having signified to her Majesty that he had failed, her Majesty asked me whether I intended to persist in tendering my resignation I don't hesitate to say that I informed her Majesty on the instant that I should return as her minister, and that I should withdraw my resignation. I accordingly did return to London as her Majesty's minister, and did resolve them meeting Davidsment these submit these measures which I thought necessary in the emergency which had occurred. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") Having reson to expect that the noble lord to whom I formerly referred would be precluded from lending his assistance to the Government as reconstructed, I felt it my painful duty to accept his resignation. My other colleagues felt it their daty w assist me in the arduous task I had undertaken. (Hear. hear.) I have given notice that on the earliest day it is my intention to submit to the House of Commons some messures of the greatest importance connected with commerce It is my firm determination not to anticipate the discussion of these measures, though I am aware that my explanation will be incomplete without them. I must ask you still to suspend your judgment, but I have been desirous to discon nect as far as possible a great political question from mere personal and party explanations. (Hear, hear.) I do bope, after having referred to the evidence in possession of the lower, that although many may think that the conclusions to which I and other than many may think that the conclusions to which I and other than the denoreman to which I and others have come respecting the danger may have been erroneous, they will not be too confident. cries of "Hear, hear.") I advise them to recollect that we have yet seven months to pass before there will be any new supply of food. Better accounts the coming in from supply of food. Better accounts may be coming in from some quarters, but I ask them not to form too precipitate an oninion. opinion. Some persons had suggested the introduction of Indian corn as a remedy; this was impossible. At the present moment the duty on Indian corn is regulated by the duty on British barley. This might seem very old hands was the law. Suppose that on the meeting of Parliaments proposition had been made to admit Indian corn day such a what would have been the consequences, numbered such a what would have been the consequence, supposing such a state of things to arise in Ireland which I antistate sible? What would be the effect upon the real interest, supposing we had agreed to touch the present

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Corn Laws on some alight point like Indian corn, and refuse to admit the alightest relaxation in regard to that nobler species of grain, namely, corn? (Hear, hear.) For my own part, I would rather keep the present system intact, and tue to touch Indian corn, and fight the battle of protection with respect to other grain. (Hear, hear.) As I said before, that even after the severe labour of last session almost every hour of my time since has been devoted to watching chances and reading evidence night and day, so as to be able to guard against a heavy national calamity. I confess it does seem hard to find myself the object of accusations—(loud cries of hear, hear)—of accusations of heing unfaithful to the interests of the community in general, or to any special or peculiar interests. (Hear, hear.) have over and over again attempted to define the relation in which I think I stand towards parties, towards the community, and towards this House; and yet I have observed it stated over and over again that I am under some kind of personal obligation to a certain party for having placed me in the office I now hold. I see it over and over repeated that the same power which elevated me is powerful enough to displace me; and I am constantly menaced with the threat, that they will remove me from power. Now, I do affirm that there is a material mistake, both as to the extent of the obligation and the severity of the penalty. I owe no personal obligation to any man, or to any body of men, for being compelled to submit to the toil, and to make the sacrifices which official duty gives me. (Hear, hear.) I by no means undervalue the distinction of my position; but let there be a distinct understanding as to what is the real notion of the obligation which I owe for being placed in power. Its value, allow me to say, does not consist in the power of distributing honours. That is inseparable from the office of Prime Minister, and cannot be diverted from it; but believe me, that the possession of the power of advising the Sovereign us to the highest rewards and the highest offices is ill compensated by the invidious duty of selection. and the disappointments which every selection unavoidably occasions. I value not power for the privilege it confers of distributing patronage. (Hear, hear.) As to personal objeets, let me say it without arrogance, I have none. I have served four Sovereigns—George III. and his three successors. In the reign of George III. my office was of so subordinate a character, that it was impossible for me to attract the notice of my Sovereign; but during the reign of his three successors, George IV., first as Regent, and then as King. William IV., and Victoria, it has been my fate to hold some of the highest offices in the state. I have served them in critical times, and under difficult circumstances. They have each taken far too favourable a view of any services I have rendered; but to each of those Sovereigns I have said, with every feeling of dutiful and grateful acknowledgment, that there was but one favour-one distinction-one reward they had it in their power to confer,—the simple assurance that I had been a loyal and faithful servant. (Hear, hear.) If power have any value, it is because it gives increased opportunities for rendering public service. It is this which constitutes the real value of official power, and I think I can say with truth that in intention, at least, I have not abused it. (Hear, hear.) I and those with whom I act have tried to use it for the promotion of the public interest and the advancement of the common good. We cannot charge ourselves with having acted at variance with true principles. of Conservative policy. We cannot think that it was at variance with Conservative policy that we attempted to repair the disasters of Cabul, and to restore in the Indian army a spirit which had been checked by the misfortunes of Affghanistan. (Hear, hear.) We cannot think it inconsistent with Conservative policy that we laboured to assuage the animosities which have so long prevailed between this country and our powerful neighbour. In the speech, which was read to day from the throne, her Majesty expresses her desire that the cordial understanding which so happily exists between this country and France may always be made conducive to the promotion of the interests of humanity, and to secure the peace of the world. It surely is not inconsistent with true Conservative policy that we were enabled to insert that paragraph (hear, hear;) that we have tried not to efface the recollection—the glorious recollection, of military exploits and great achievements-but to extract from those glorious recollections everything that can provoke inter-national cumity; that we have tried to engage in a rivalry, not on the field of blood, but on the field of honourable competition for the advancement of commerce and the improve ment of the social condition of mankind. (Hear, hear.) It surely is not inconsistent with Conservative policy that we have laboured to increase the foreign trade of the country by removing prohibitory duties,—that we have reduced taxation and yet have increased revenue. (Cries of hear, hear.) Is it inconsistent with a true Conservative policy that we have discouraged agitation and extinguished sedition, not by coercive laws, but by creating an impression on the part of the great body of the people that we, the rich and powerful, are ready to take our full share of the public burdens, and relieve them of oppressive taxation? (Hear, hear.) The conduct of Government is an arduous and a difficult conduct by the conduct of Government is an arduous and a hear.) The conduct of Government is an arunous the difficult undertaking. I may, without irreverence, be permitted to say, that, like our physical frame, our ancient conditions in Goodally and wonderfully made," that it is no stitution is "fearfully and wonderfully made," that it is no casy task to insure the harmonious and united action of monarchy, aristocracy, and a reformed House of Commons. These are the objects which we have attempted to accomplish, and I cannot think they are inconsistent with a pure and enlarged Conservatism. (Hear, hear.) Power for such objects is really valuable; but for my own part I can say with perfect truth that, even for these objects, I do not cover it. (Hear, hear.) It is a burden far above my physical, infinitely above my intellectual strength. The relief from it with honour would be a favour, and not a punishment. (Cheers.) But while honour and a sense of public duty require it, I do not shrink from office. I am ready to incur its responsibilities, to bear its sacrifices, to confront its honourable perils; but I will not retain it with mutilated power and shackled authority. (Cheers.) I will not stand at the helm during the tempestuous night, if that belm is not allowed freely to traverse. I will not undertake to direct the course of the vessel by cheerestions taken in to direct the course of the vessel by observations taken in the year 1842. (Loud cheers.) I will reserve to myself the the year 1842. (Loud cheers.) I-will reserve to myself the unfettered power of judging what will be for the public interest. I do not desire to be the Minister of England; but while I am Minister of England I will hold office by no service tenurs (loud cheers); I will hold office unshackled by any other obligation than that of consulting the public interests, and providing for the public safety. (The right hon, gentleman sat down amidst loud and continued cheering).

Lord J. Russell.—I think it necessary to rise at an

early period of this debate in explanation of my own conduct during the recent negociations. For that purpose I applied to the right hon, gentleman to lay before her Majesty my humble application that I might state in my place in Parliament the circumstances which attended the late attempt to form an Administration. I stated, at the same time, that if it were more convenient to the public service, and conducive to the purposes of the right hon, baronet as to any measures he might have to bring forward, that I should postpone that explanation to any later day, I should be ready to comply with the right hon, gentleman's inclination on that subject. The right hon, gentleman not only informed me that her Majesty was graciously pleased to comply with my application, but that it would perfectly accord with his own convenience that I should make that explanation at the commencement of the session. I now, therefore, proceed, having that understanding, and trusting, if I do now make that explanation, and if I should find it necessary to refer to some measures which are now pending, I shall stand excused in the eyes of the right hon, gentleman, in consideration of the willingness I expressed to postpone it if he should so wish it. But hefore I make that explanation I think it necessary to refer to a letter which he has mentioned in the course of his statement of the circumstances which led to his resignation of office. I feel it necessary to refer to it, not only because the right hon, gentleman has said that it caused him some embarrassment in his proceedings, (a laugh,) but also because it was by some supposed to have been written for a very different purpose. (Hear.) Sir, it happened to me, in consequence of private affairs, to go to Edinburgh at the latter end of October last. Early in November, the Lord Provost and corporation of Edinburgh did me the honour to confer on me the freedom of that city, and invited me to a publie meeting to receive it. I addressed those who conferred on me that honour, and at the same time I took especial care not to refer in my speech to any measures that might at the time be under consideration. The Lord Provost expressed to me immediately afterwards his regret that I had not expressed my opinions on the subject of the Corn Laws, and he added, that it was the wish of a number of the citizens of Edinburgh to give a publie dinner, to which I should be invited to attend. I told him I was unwilling to receive that honour, and that, among other reasons, having formed a very strong opinion as to the course which ought to be pursued as to the Corn Laws, I could neither be silent in justice to my own opinion, nor could I declare fully and freely that opinion without some risk of embarrassing the publie councils of my Sovereign. (Hear, hear.) But I found, by the public prints, and by the London Guzette, that her Majesty's servants had met; that they had been in consultation for many days; that no result appeared; that it was confidently reported that no proposition had been adopted, or even made; and there was also the regular announcement in the Gazette of the further prorogation of Parliament. Under these circumstances, I did think that the ministers were not performing their duty to their Sovereign and to their country. It was my opinion that it was advisable to call Parliament together to consider the state of the Corn Laws, having seen-for it was not confined to the Government -many statements of the failure of the potato crop, and more especially the uncertainty in which Ireland was on that subject, (Hear, hear.) The right hon, gentleman stated to night that the commissioners appointed by the Government found, that as regarded the kind of food which is the sustenance of four millions of the people, four-eighths of the crop were supposed to be seriously injured, that one-eighth of it was necessary for seed, and that there remained only three-eighths of the crop of the year for the food of the people. I did consider such a state of things most alarming. It now appears that I was not alone in that opinion, but that at the time when I was refraining from a public expression of it, the right hon, gentleman himself had formed an opinion at least equally strong, and, in conjunction with three of his colleagues, had expressed that opinion in the Cabinet Councils. (Hear, hear.) Sir, it was not forme to know that such an opinion had been expressed. I I could only gather from the consequences of the decision of the Cabinet—that is to say, from its inaction—that no decision had been come to. It was in that state of things that the letter I allude to was published. It was published on the 26th of November, and it did state very strongly my opinion on the subject of the Corn Law, and it also expressed my opinion, that as the Government seemed to be inactive, it would be necessary for the public to express their opinion in a constitutional manner, in order that they might obtain the remedies which seemed necessary. If the facts and opinions of the right hon, gentleman were correct, I cannot but think that I was justified in so stating my opinion to the public. (Hear, hear.) I know that some persons of low minds have supposed that I had intended, as it was called, to advertise for office by expressing that opinion; but nothing was further from my thoughts than that intention. (Hear, hear.) But I did wish that there should be such an expression of opinion that the Government should be compelled, by its constitutional expression of it, to yield to that opinion, and save the country from very serious evils. It appears that on the 26th of November the right hon, gentleman himself urged that the ports should be opened for the admission of grain, and that the Corn Laws themselves should be considered. Sir, unfortunately (for I think it was a misfortune), the Cabinet did not agree to that opinion, and there was a difference, the extent of which he did not explain tonight, but which was to such an extent that the right hon. gentleman thought he could not usefully carry on the government of this country. On the 6th of December the Minister resigned. On the 8th, at night, I recaived from her Majesty a command to wait on her at Osborne-house, in the Isle of Wight. I arrived in Lon-

don on the 10th, and on the 11th I proceeded to the Now, of course it could not but ap-Isle of Wight. pear to me that her Majesty had received the resignation of her Ministers, and that she wished to consult me as to the formation of an Administration, I felt that in any ordinary circumstances the only thing I could usefully do would have been to decline that commission. The party to which I belong were in a minority of from 90 to 100 in the House of Commons, I could not think that it would be for the public service to expose her Majesty to the chance of an arrangement which must very soon lead to another change. (Hear.) I do not wish to enter into the causes why in the present Parliament the numbers of those who generally agree with me in opinion are inferior to those who follow the right hon, gentleman; but I must state, because it is my opinion, and I cannot conceal it, that during the time we were in the Administration our motives never received a fair construction (hear), and our measures never received an impartial consideration (hear) from those who are our political opponents. (Hear, hear.) But be that, Sir, as it may, the result being that we were in a minority, I could not consider that it would be for the public service that we should form a Government. Sir, I was no sooner admitted to an audience of Her Majesty, than she informed me she had sent for me to undertake the formation of a new Administration, 'I at once stated to her what I now state, that those I acted with were in a minority. Her Majesty replied by putting into my hand a paper, which she said the right hon, gentleman had given to her just before, the day before I believe, stating generally the reasons why he had resigned, and stating also that he would be ready in his private capacity to give every assistance and support to whatever new ministry her Majesty might choose for the settlement of the question of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) Sir. I immediately stated to her Majesty that the perusal of that paper altered the state of the question, and that if her Majesty would permit me I would consult those I was in the habit of acting with, and ascortain from thom what their sentiments were as to our duty to her Majesty. I immediately came back to London, where I consulted a few persons who were within reach, and who were of opinion that it was very desirable, if possible, to know exactly the nature of the measure which the right hon. gentleman had in contemplation. The right hon, gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department was good enough to call on me, and to inform me generally of the state of this country and of Ireland, and to give me all the information it was desirable for me to I stated to him the wish of my colleagues. He next day stated to me that the right hon, baronet now at the head of the Government did not think it would be convenient for the public service that he should state the details of the measures he proposed on the subject of the Corn Laws. I then again called together those with whom I am in the habit of acting, and stated that I would endeavour to frame an outline of a measure on the Corn Laws, and communicate it to the right hon. gentleman, in order to ascertain whether it was a measure which would meet with his support. Now, I may be asked, and therefore I will state it at once, what prospect I can have of carrying any measure of the kind? I have already stated that my opinion was that it was not advisable for me to attempt to form an Administration, but when there was a prospect of a settlement of the Corn Laws, which the right hon, gentleman thought with his Administration he was not likely to effect, I did consider that such a settlement would be so great an advantage to the country,—that to obtain it would put an end to so much of discontent, while it would be the source of so much future good, that I should be justified in encountering great risks for the attainment of such an object. But there was another and a further question. Suppose I were to have proposed a settlement of the corn question, should I attempt it without endeavouring to get such a majority of this House as would influence the House of Lords, or should I propose to her Majesty to dissolve Parliament and obtain the triumph over their opinions by public opinion expressed at the elections? (Hear, hear.) Sir, 1 confess it appeared to me that if it were possible to obtain a settlement of the Corn Laws without having recourse to a general election, without putting in strife the various interests, commercial and manufacturing, against the landed and agricultural, that would be the course most for the benefit of the country. But it was impossible that I could obtain much concurrence in this House unless I had not only the support of those who agree with me, and of those who support the cause of absolute Free Trade, but also that of the right hon, gentlemun and a considerable number of those who usually support his measures. The right hon, gentleman, in a letter which her Majesty showed me (and which I would read if the right hon gentleman wished me), said for reasons which I think cogent. that it was not, in his opinion, desirable that a person out of the service of the Crown should be consulted on the details of a measure which would be submitted on the responsibility of the Government. I had then to consider what was the kind of measure which, if I formed a Government, it would be our duty to propose. I thought it necessary to hold a consultation with those with whom I was accustomed to act; in the first place, because the letter to which I have already alluded was written from a strong feeling of public duty, and an apprehension of public danger, and when only two persons with whom I happened to be in immediate relation were cognisant of my intention. I thought it necessary therefore to consult with those who usually not with me, and who were dispersed in different parts of the country, as to how far they were agreed on the question, before I undertook so arduous a duty as the settlement of the Corn Laws, that I might avoid the risk of forming a Government, and putting the country to great inconvenience, when there was a chance of the measure not

being assented to by my colleagues. Sir, the grounds on which, in the letter to which the right hon, baronet has referred, I stated my opinion that the Corn Laws ought to be settled, were, first, that the proposal of any duty at present, without a provision for its extinction in a short period, would only prolong a contest, already sufficiently fruitful of animosity and discontent. (Hear.) I stated also that neither the Government nor the Legislature could ever regulate the corn markets with the benefit that would result from entire Free Trade; but I also said, let the Ministers propose such a revision of taxation as would in their opinions render the public burdees more just and equal, and let them add any other regulation which a cautious and scrupulous forbearance might suggest. Those were the general principles on which I proposed the consideration of the question as to the Corn Laws. Perhaps I can best explain my views by reading a letter which I addressed to Her Majesty, a part of which was referred to by the right hon, gentleman. I cannot read it without referring to some measures which the right hon, gentleman is stated to have in contemplation. I should state that I repeat them from memory, because of the first letter of the right hon. gontleman, which was shown me by her Majesty, I never had a copy. This is the letter which I sent to her

" Chesham place, Dec. 16, 1845. "Lord John Russell presents his humble duty to your Majesty, and has the honour to submit to your Majesty the following considerations:

"Sir Robert Peel's letter to your Majesty, communicated to Lord John Russell at Osborne House, offers the support of Sir Robert Peel to his successors, provided their measures should be founded on certain principles, which are there explained, and framed in a spirit of caution and forbourance towards the interest to be affected.

"The measures which Sir Robert Peel had in contemplation appear to have been the present suspension of the duties on corn -a repeal of the Corn Laws at no remote period, preceded by a diminution of duties; relief to the occupiers of land from burdens by which they are peculiarly affected, as

for as it may be practicable.

If Upon fall consideration of these proposals, Lord John Russell is propored to assent to the opening of the ports, and to the fiscal relief which it was intended to afford.

But upon maturely weighing the second proposal, that by which duties would, after a suspension, or temporary repeal, namely, be re-imposed and again diminished, there appears to him to be grave objections to such a measure.

The advantage given thereby to the land appears to him

more apparent than real; the uncertainty of prices in future venes will be aggravated, and the prospect of a complete Free Trade would be still kept in the distance; the prospect alarming the farmer, and the distance irritating the merchants and manufacturers.

In this view he finds that many persons deeply engaged to the maintenance and support of the agricultural class entirely participate.

"So great an object as the settlement of this question might indeed have been held sufficient to justify the support of Sir R. Peel's Administration, had they proposed such a measure. But, as Lord J. Russell is placed at present, he could not himself propose a measure against which the weight of argument, as well as public opinion, appears to him to preponderate.

"Had the harvest been plentiful, and corn cheap, it

might have been very advisable to have diminished the duties gradually, but the restoration of a duty after suspenaion has all the appearance of the re-cuaciment of a protec-

" Lord John Russell humbly submits to your Mujesty that should the proposal of ah immediate repeal, instead of immediate suspension and ultimate repeal of the Corn law, preelude Sir Robert Peel from affording that support to the new Government which he so spontaneously and handsomely offered in his letter of the 10th of December, Loud John Russoll must humbly decline the task so graciously confided

to him by your Majosty.
"Lord John Russell concurs with the reasoning of Sir Robert Peel, which shows the inexpediency of pledging him to the outline of a series of measures.

"The measures for fiscal purposes, therefore, would have to be considered in detail by those alone who may be in your

Lord John Russell trusts that your Majesty will attribute the reluctance which he feels to undertake the Government without a previous knowledge of the opinion of Sir Robert Poel to his very deep sense of the injury the country unty austain from the rejection of a measure of such vital importance, and not to a desire to obtain a security for those who may be in powor."

ther Majesty was graciously pleased to answer my letter Poel, and that she understood the motives by which I was ming me that she had sont to Sir R. guided in endeavouring to procure support for the great measure which I had undertaken to propose. All I shall say in this place is, that those rumous which were circulated, that I was unable to bring those I consulted to an agreement on the subject of the Corn Laws, were attorly uniounded. (Hoar, hear.) Those I consulted—all, with the exception of my brother, the Duke of Bedford, persons who had belonged to her Majesty's Privy Council, and had been in the Cobinet during ofther the present or the former reign-entirely concurred with me in the sentiments expressed in my letter. Her Majesty next day desired I would attend her at Windsor Castle; and when I then explained the difficulty which I felt, she put into my hands a letter from the right hon, buronet, which, if he has no objection, I will read. Sir R. Part.-I have no objection.

Sir Robert Peel to her Majesty:—

Whitehall, Dec. 17, 1810. hard J. RUSSELL then read the following letter from

" Sir Robert Peel presents his humble duty to your Majesty, and takes the earliest opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your Majesty's letter of yesterday, which reached him at a late hour last night.

Bir Robert Peel feels assured that your Majesty will remit him humbly to refer to the communications he use addressed to your Majesty since his tender of resignation, as an evidence of his carnest desire to co-operate in a private capacity in the adjustment of the question of the

In the letter of Lord John Russell to your Majesty, he expresses his concurrence in the reasoning of Sir Robert Peel, which shows the inexpediency of pledging Sir Robert Peel to the outline of a series of measures connected with the settlement of that question.

" Lord John Russell requires, at the same time, that Sir Robert Peel should give assurances which amount substantially to a pledge, that he will support one of those measures, namely, the immediate and total repeal of the corn

laws.
"Bir Robert Peel humbly expresses to your Majesty his regret that he does not feel it to be consistent with his duty to enter upon the consideration of this important question in Parliament, being fettered by a previous engagement of

the nature of that required from him. Now, Sir, (continued the noble lord), I think the right hou gontleman has somewhat misunderstood the letter which I addressed to her Majesty. What I wanted was, not a previous pledge on the part of the right hon. gentleman; but what I thought was, that the right hon gentleman having stated the general nature of the measure he proposed—if we afterwards proposed a measure going beyond what he was prepared to bring forward-if he should then find himself precluded from supporting it, we should incur the same evil I have already alluded to. What I wished from the right hon, gentleman was, that he should not feel himself precluded from taking the measure into consideration when brought into Parliament. The letter I have just read, though it proceeds on a misunderstanding of my letter, seems to amount substitutially to this—that the right hon, gentleman was quite ready to consider, and did not regard himself as precluded from supporting such a measure, if brought before Parliament by her Majesty's ministers. On considering that letter, those with whom I consulted, as well as myself, were of opinion, that though the task was one subject to great risk, though it was full of danger and hazard; yet, placed as no were, we should run that peril and assure her Majesty that we would undertake the task. When I came to that determination, I was by no means blind to the very heavy responsibility which lay upon me. I have already said that I wished the question of the Corn Laws settled; but I wish that settlement to be effected, if nossible without a violent strangely lecture of the effected, if possible, without a violent struggle between different interests in the country, by the full and deliberate consent of Parliament. I was aware-I hardly know how I should express that opinion—but I was aware that many po liticians, and many who care little about politics, parties connected with the great manufacturing towns, and in-terested in the question, as well is men who sit on this side of the House, who are of the Liberal party, whatever their various denominations, had declared, when the question was put to them whether they were disposed to support a measure brought forward by Sir R. Peel for the repeal of the Corn Laws, that they should not hesitate to do so, having more at heart the success of the measure than the advancement of the interests of any political party (hear); while, on the other hand, I was also aware that there were men who followed Sir R. Peel, who would follow him and give him their confidence so as to maintain him in power, but who would not vote for any measure founded on the same principle. (Cherrs.) Now, I must state this, because it is a fact, that the opinions to which I refer in favour of such a measure were conveyed to me, not only by many persons who were personally known to me, but by many others whose names I had never heard-persons connected with Manchester and other places, who were especially anxious for a settlement of the question. (Hear, hear, hear.) I thought it would be incurring great hazard and risk to take upon myself to act upon a different opinion. (Hear, hear.) But I certainly thought that while the right hon, gentleman and his colleagues who supported him in the Cabinet would promote a settlement of the Corn Laws, there were many others, such as the noble lord who moved the Address to-night, that would give me their support if they thought the measure suited to the circumstances of the country, though I was not the person who possessed their political confidence. But we felt we had a great risk to encounter, and that if we should fail in our attempt, if we proposed a measure only to give rise to a long protracted struggle, or some new Administration should be formed to begin a new settlement of the question, and propose a new measure, I knew that on us would fall the blame of having attempted what we could not accomplish. While, then, having this difficult task before me, I felt it was necessary that all those with whom I consulted should be ready and willing to take part in an Administration, to bear the risk and encounter the opposition to which they would be exposed, and to give their co-operation and advice as official Ministers of the Crown-I must say that the disposition of those with whom I consulted in general - I must bear this testimony that they looked only to public objects, that they did not consider whether it was for the advantage of their party or of themselves that an Administration should be formed, but that they did consider above all, and over all, the great questions which they were called upon to decide. I, therefore, told her Majesty on the 18th of December, that I was ready to undertake the formation of an Administration; but on the after I had endeavoured to make my arrangements, I found that one of those with whom I had consulted had objections which it was impossible to overcome, and that I should lose his assistance in the Administration which I proposed to form. I do not think it necessary to enter on the grounds of those objections, it is quite enough to say that they had power to deprive me of the assistance of his services. His name has been frequently mentioned, and I see not why I should not state that I refer to Lord Grey. With the highest respect for Lord Grey, for his great talents, for his courage and his honesty, I should nevertheless not have thought, on an ordinary occasion that the loss of a person, even of his importance, should have prevented me from undertaking the formation of a Government. But when I take in view the risk which was to be encountered, and the necessity which existed that we should all go together on this great question when I considered that my noble friend was among the first of those acting with me in Parliament, who declared that he regarded no other measure but complete free trade in corn adequate to meet the exigencies of the country—when I put all those shings together, I did think that the task of forming a Government, leaving out my noble friend, was a task which I was not justified in attempting. I could not but consider, that if my noble friend was absent from that Ministry, all kinds of interpretations would be put upon his absence and the Ministry be weakened at its very commence. ment. Considering therefore, the absolute necessity, as I thought there was, for complete agreement, considering the importance of the person who could not take a part in the Administration, I came to the conclusion that it was necessary for mee to give up the task which Her Majesty had gra-doubly confided to me. Some may say the attempt might have been made to remedy that difference. But I had to

consider that for more than eight days the country had been consider that for more that the want of a Government was a kept in expectation—that the want of a Government was a very serious ovil—and that if I could not succeed in forming very semons evil—and that it is could any succeed in ferming an Administration, the right hon, gentleman would be approbability think it his duty to attempt effecting a settleman of the question. It was in this mind therefore probability thank it has duty to this mind, therefore, that i waited upon Her Majesty on the morning of the sale o December, and made the following communication to He

" Chesham-place, Dec. 20, 1846, "Lord John Russell presents his humble duty to you Majesty, and has the honour to state that he has found it

Majesty, and has the monoin to the first money impossible to form an administration.

"Lord John Russell was aware from the first money." when your Majesty was pleased to propose to him this conwhen your Majesty was pressent to propose to min mis con-mission, that there were very great difficulties in the way which it required the most cordial co-operation on the parof his friends, and the firm support of a large portion of the who followed Sir Robert Peel, to surmount.

"Lord John Russell has had solely in view the settlement

of the question of the Corn Laws, by which the country is

so much agitated.
"Those who have served your Majesty and your rotal predecessor in Cabinet offices during the administrations of Lord Grey and Lord Melbourne, who were now in political connection with Lord John Russell, were consulted by him. They agreed on the principles by which they would be guided in framing a measure for the repeal of the tora Laws. Thus one great difficulty was surmounted. But, as the party which acts with Lord John Russell is in a mine rity in both Houses of Parliament, it was necessary to sore tain how far they were likely to obtain the support of Sir

Robert Peel.

Your Majesty is acquainted with all that has passed on this subject. Lord John Russell is quite ready to admit that this subject. Lord John Russell is quite ready to admit that the Commencement to Sir Robert Peel has been willing from the commencement to the end to diminish the difficulties in the course of a new Government prepared to attempt the settlement of the corn laws. But Sir Robert Peel could not, of course, rely on the support of his political friends, should the proposed measure be in their eyes dangerous and unwise.

"In this uncertainty of obtaining a majority in the House of Commons, it was absolutely necessary that all those who were prominent in the political party to which Lord John Russell is attached should give their zealous ald, and act in concert in the new Administration,

Lord John Russell hus, in one instance, been unable to obtain this concert, and he must now consider that task as hopeless, which has been from the beginning hazardons.

Lord John Russell is deeply sensible of the embarrass. ment caused by the present state of public affairs. He will be ready, therefore, to do all in his power, as a member of Parliament, to promote the settlement of that question which in present circumstances, is the source of so much danger, especially to the welfare and peace of Ireland.

"Lord John Russell would have formed his Ministry on the lassis of a complete Free Trute in corn, to be established at once without gradation or delay. He would have accompanied that proposal with measures of relief to a considerable extent of the occupiers of land from the burlens to which they are subjected. But he will be little disposed to insist, as a member of Parliament, on what may seem to your Majesty's advisers an impracticable course. The country requires, above all things, an early and peaceable scalement of a question which, if not settled, may in an adverse state of affairs cause a fearful convalsion."

I owe action of the deepest gratitude to her Majesty for the gracious manner in which she entrusted me with the task of forming an administration, and for the facilities which she was always ready to afford with the view of lessening the difficulties of the task I had undertaken. Her Majosty has imposed upon me a burden of obligation which I cannot sufficiently acknowledge. I would say, in reference to the right hon, gentleman's offer of assistance, that it was entirely spontaneous; and as to his subsequent communications, there was nothing that tended to make my tusk more difficult. (Hear, hear, hear.) With regard to my noble friend Lord Grey, I am exceedingly sorry that was not able to overcome his objections; but, in justice to him, I should certainly state that they did not mise from any objects of a personal nature, but that they were of a putlic nature, and were stated by him in what he felt to be the discharge of a public duty. (Hear, hear.) As to the question now in agitation with regard to the Corn Laws, I do hope we may be able to come to such an agreement as may afford the country the hope of its penceable settlement at the present time. (Cheers.) At agricultural meetings I have with no inconsiderable surprise seen it alleged that the danger had been exaggerated, and therefore that the protecting laws should be left as at present. But do the gentlemen who use such language never carry their thoughts forward? Do they never consider that, if it has pleased Providence to visit us with an affliction lighter than was at one time dreaded, such may not al tion; that there may come a time when searcity will be undoubted-when it will come home to the eyes, the understandings, and the feelings of every men-when the prospect of famine may be too real and too near not to appul the stoutest hearted amongst us? And do they wish to wait for such a time? (Flear, hear.) Do they think it desirable that a settlement of the Corn Laws should be delayed till a season shall come when we shall have no power of choice, no discretion left to be exercised as to the nature of the measure, but when the multitude will imperiously demand the instant abrogation of the laws which limit the supplies of food. Is there any one who has watched erens that will say the law of 1842 is sufficient to provide for the food of the people, and that a measure for the free admission of foreign corn not is required? The House has bear what the author of the law has said to-night. The House has heard what the right hou, gentleman has stated as the result of his observations and experience. He, with his natural talents; he, with his acquired experience; he, placed at the head of affairs, with that heavy responsibility weighing upon him which he has so truly described, which involves the highest honour and trust to which a subsection can attain, but which is at the same time the most grave if not the most alarming of responsibilities. (Criss of hear, hear.) I do trust, therefore, we are about to see a settlement of this queetion. When the right han gentleman beings forward his measure, I shall perhap have some observations to make, both as regards the nature of the more make. sure itself; as to the provisions which may alsompaby it as as to the inexpediency of waiting, east to the present the before the repeal of the law of 1842 was proposed. For the present I refruin from all such topics. I must, however, to subther subject which is always in my missing think of public affairs—I mean the subject of freing. I will think of public affairs—I mean the subject of freing.

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net deny that I feel I should have been enabled to place the government of that country in the hands of persons who, by conciliation and firmuses, would have tempered and allayed many of the evils which weigh on that unhappy country. I did think, if I did succeed in carrying a bill for taking off restrictive duties on com and various manufactures that I might have been able to propose a large and comprehensive scheme on the subject of Ireland, which would have been the foundation of future peace. (Hear, hear.) did certainly indulge in such droums. I cannot assent to any epinions in favour of the wisdom of the Government's conduct as to Ireland from the time they came into office till the present day. (Hear, hear.) I see now, according to the Queen's Speech, that dreadful acts of premeditated assassination call for some new law. I shall be ready to support measures calculated to suppress such orimes. But there are in Irland adverse associations-one asking for that dangerous, and I think fatal measure, the repeal of the Union: the other issning addresses, from which it appears they consiler partiality should still be the rule, and that their Roman subplic fellow-subjects are not outitled to the same favour from the Legislature as the Protestants. I am sorry to May I do not think anything has been done or been doing to establish that peace, or procure for this country that section, which are so carnestly to be desired. I shall not enter further on that subject. I have stated the transactions which took place when her Majesty was pleased to call on me to form a Government—the reason why I was unable to do so—my views of the policy which has been pursued in Ireland. I have now only to say, that whether in office or out of office, I shall be really to give my hearty assent to measures which I think are for the tencht of the country in whatever quarter they are proposed. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. D'Israeli followed Lord John Russell in a speech replete with bitterness and satire, and after a short speech from Mr. Miles, and one or two agricultural members, the address was voted without opposition, and the house broke up about half-past teu.

LORD RADNOR'S REPLY TO LORD

BROUGHAM IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS. The Earl of RADNOR confessed that he was somewhat surprised and indeed startled by the energetic and unqualified terms in which his noble and learned friend. who had addressed the house at such length (Lord Brougham), had reprobated the notion that a government should adopt measures in deference to "pressure from without." He was a little surprised that such an objection should come from such a source. (Loud cries of "hear, hear.") However, he was far from expressing his dissent from much that his noble and learned friend had said upon this point. He concurred with his friend in thinking that it was a deplorable thing that a government should never take a wise, a judicious, or a salutary step unless under the coercion of pressure from without. (Hear, hear, hear.) It was indeed very much to be lamental, but how could it be helped? This state of things could not be avoided so long as there was a government in this country which would not or could not lead the public mind (loud cries of "hear, hear")-a government which did not address itself to the comnon sense and sound judgment of the community, and which never thought of enforcing its measures reason and argument. Such a government must always yield to "the pressure from without." (Hear, hear, hear.) He admitted with sorrow and shame, that for many years back it had been too much the practice of Governments in this country to introduce salutary measures only under the compulsion of that description of influence which his noble friend had designated "the pressure from without;" (hear, hear;) it was a lamentable fact, but not the less a fact, He would be glad to know by what means had all those great measures been carried through Parliament which his noble and learned friend had supported so powerfully by his eloquence in by-gone days? Was it had the Reform Bill been carried, he should like to know? (hear, hear;) how, but by the pressure from without ? (hear, hear;) howhad the abolition of slavery been accomplished? (hear, hear;) how, but by the pressure from without? And was it not notoriously true that it was by the like means that the repeal of the erders of council had been effected, and that the Catholic Pagarcipation Bill, after encountering for many succeswe years the most desperate opposition, at length oblaned the sanction of the Legislature? He would with to ask his noble and learned left his place, to what circumstance he attributed the re-lead of the Corporation and Test Acts? Would his table friend hesitate to reply, "To the pressure from without" (lond cries of "hear, hear")? He (the Earl Malior lamented that the fact should be so, for it was a fact by no means honourable to our rulers; but it must of necessity occur in every country where the people outsupped in intelligence the government which was in Previon of the helm of the state (loud cheers.) He must be pardoned if he took leave to observe, that in his opinion nothing could be more unfair or more unjustihable than the attack which his noble friend had made upon the leading members of the Anti-Corn-law League (hear, hear, hear.) He had denounced the raising of reduntary contributions; but, in so doing, he had very mely and properly made a reservation infavour of colbettons for charitable purposes. Amongst such collections he (Lord Radnor) hashated not to class the collections has tion which was made by the League (hear, hear, hear, (If all things in the world, the raising of money with a view to the demolition of the detestable Corn Laws was, in his opinion, the most charitable (hear, hear, and lead cheers.) But nothing could be more absurd (under a cheers.) (under favour be it spoken) than his noble friend's docunder favour be it spoken) than his noble friend's doc-tries with respect to the lavying a constitutions. (Hear, hear.) If that doctrine were to held good, a constitu-tion of money for the purpose of constructing a railway would be anconstitutional; (hear, hear;) so too would the subscription which was now on foot in the purpose of improving the awallings of the metropolitan poor;

(hear, hear ;) so too would a collection for the erection of a church or public edifice of any kind; in a word, there was no conceivable purpose for which men, in the exercise of their own discretion, might think fit to subscribe their own money, which would not be absolute'y and scandalously unconstitutional, if the doctrine of his noble and learned friend were to pass current. (Loud cries of Hear, hear, and cheers.) His noble friend had peremptorily asserted that it was unconstitutional to subscribe to the Anti-Corn-Law Longue; but, with all possible respect for his noble friend, he would take the liberty of denying this assertion. (Hear, hear.) He (Lord Radner) was himself a subscriber to the Anti-Corn-Law League (hear, hear), and so far from thinking that he had done anything in the least unconstitutional, he was decidedly of opinion that he could not have done anything more consistent with Christian charity than to have subscribed (hear, hear, hear.) He considered that every penny was given in charity which was given to get yid of these detestable Corn Laws (hear, hear, and cheers.) This was his deliberate opinion, and he was prepared to justify it. It was not the fact that the leaders of the League were collecting money for the purpose of buying votes. They had no such intention. They bought no votes. They were engaged in a great national movement, and the object of collecting this money was to carry on a profound and wisely-devised project of agitation for five years longer if necessary; but they traded not in votes nor in rent-charges (hear, hear, and cheers.) They used their influence and their powers of persuasion to induce the people to purchase what would entitle them to votes (hear, hear, hear,)-They exhorted them to lay out their money in a manner which would enable them to give expression to their opinions, and that too in a way which would have influence with the Legislature; and what could there be more legitimatewhat more constitutional than this? (Hear, hear;) Was he to be told there was anything unconstitutional or illegimate in a man's endeavouring to give weight, currency, and circulation to an opinion which he had conscientiously conceived, and which in his heart he believed to be founded on truth and justice? (Hear, hear, and cheers.) It was monstrons to say so. The League did not traffle in votes, they did not buy and sell them (hour); they did not take advantage of the 50% clause in the Reform Act, nor did they split up property to make votes, (Hear, hear,) There was nothing unconstitutional in their proceedings. It was unconstitutional to say to the contrary (hear, hear, and cheers.) He begged leave to ask his noble and learned friend whether he considered it unconstitutional to agitate (hear, hear)? His noble friend should be the last in the world to say so. (Hear, hear, hear.) Had not his noble friend agitated—zealously and powerfully agitated—for the abolition of the slave trade (hear, hear)? Was he not the prominent man in that agitation (hear, hear)? Was he not the great leader in it (hear, hear)? And when it was at length carried, who was there who rejoiced more cordially at the success of the measure than he (hear, hear)? His noble friend had insimuted that the leaders of the League were actuated by base and mercenary motives-that, in fact, they only consulted their own profit and aggrandisement It was no such thing. (Loud cries of " hear.") To their own great loss and inconvenience, to the great peril and insecurity of their business, which they were obliged to neglect, they, with vast expenditure of time, money, and labour, with singular disinterestedness, and remarkable honesty of purpose, devoted themselves to the Anti Corn Law movement, simply because they were convinced that the repeal of that hateful code would be of the utmost benefit to the public in general. It was a little too hard that the motives of such men should be misinterpreted, their characters calumniated, and their intentions misrepresented. The League was first instituted in the year 1830, and originally consisted of seven Manchester gendemen. Since then it had made gigantic progress in the favour of the people, and had already attained an eminence which commanded an enforced respect. And wherefore was this? because the people saw that the cause which it advocated was the cause of justice, honesty, and wisdom (hear, hear). He (Lord Radner) for one was resolved to support the League to the atmost of his ability. (Hear, hear.) He was sorry that the Government should be led and coerced in this way; but as long as their Government was one which did not yield to argument and the dictates of reason, so long must it of necessity submit to the influence of the pressure from without. (Hear, hear, hear.) His noble friend was somewhat contradictory in his speech, for fierce though the attack was which he made upon the League, he actually commenced his address by expressing his gratification that there was a prospect of the country's enjoying the blessings of Free Trade. ("Hear," and cheers.) How long would it have been before the country would have enjoyed those blessings were it not for the exertions of the League? (Lond ories of "Hear, hear, hear.") Were it not for those exertions his noble friend would have been obliged to delight the House with his eloquent speeches in favour of Free Trade night after night for many a weary session in vain. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) But through the influence of the League, the "pressure from without" had been brought to bear on the Government, and the Government must yield to that recognition. to that pressure, or woe to them and woe to the country. (Hear, hear.) The majority of the people were in favour of the League, and he (Lord Radnor) rejoiced in the contemplation of the measures which the Government, no doubt, intended ere long to bring forward. In conclusion, he would again declare his conviction that the Auti-Corn-Law Longue were actuated by no unworthy—no mercenary viows—that they did not mean to do anything unconstitutional; but that they agitated because they knew that agitation was absolutely necessary; and there was a time when his noble friend was of the same opinion too. (Hear, and cheers.)

"The Rev. Mr. Spencer, a clergyman of the Church of England, is lecturing on Temperance and the Corn Laws of Great Britain. We should think he had better he employed in precaking the Gospel and semimetering the secraments, to which he has been set apart by the Floly (Marie We find the above in the Calendar, the Episcopal paper published in this city. Isn't it "rich?" What has the Gospel to do with the vulgar work of seving the drunkerd and feedo do with the vulgar work of saving the drunkard and feeding the starving?—The Liberator, (N.Y.) Dec. 10.

LIBEALDX.—A, movement towards a subscription in aid.

of the League Fand has been commenced here to-day, and already a sum of pywards of 1800i. has been collected.

THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

We have heard many good friends to the cause in Southampton express an anxiety to do something in aid of this great movement. We would advise them to call an early preliminary meeting-let all who attend resolve the macives into a committee, appoint one of their members treasurer to receive and forward subscriptions, put down their own names immediately for what they purpose to give themselves, and thon set about canvassing their friends out of doors for assistance. Subsequently a soirce might be held similar to that hold two years ago in sid of the former fund, at which some gentlemen actively connected with the League would no doubt attend, and then the subscription might be extended. Other necessary details the committee would of course be able to arrange, but unless the Southampton subscription amount to at least 1000L, (of which, he it understood, only 2007, would have to be paid down), we shall say that our fellow-townsmen will not have done their share in the work of emancipating British industry from landlordly and duent thrull, and will have no title to participate in the glory of the coming triumph .- Hampshire Independent.

We are happy to announce that the friends of Free Trade in this town, have set about in good earnest to get up subscriptions for the purpose of emancipating British Industry. Two gentlemen commenced canvascing, on the afternoon of Tuesday last, and before evening a sum was entered on the subscription list which justifies the conclusion that Whitehaven will not, in proportion to inssize he a whit behind our neighbours. We shall be able to advance something more definite on the subject in our next number.—Whitchaven Herald, Jan. 17.

It will be seen that the amount subscribed in Dumlee was (to last night) nearly 2500%. We are happy to learn that at least 500% more is expected. Limited, however, as the friends of Free Trade here have been, we are informed that those in Kirkaldy have been still more so, which is an other noble example for other places to imitate. At a private and preparatory meeting held in Kirkaldy on Wednesday evening, 1000/, was subscribed in a few minutes, Mr. Fergus giving 100/, of it; and yesterday forenoon the subscriptions amounted to 1700/, and much more is expected. From such an example, we hope that those in Dunder who laye not yet come forward and declared their subscriptions will now do so.—Dunder Advertiser, Jan. 16 Up to this about 18,000l. has been subscribed in Glas

gow, Edinburgh, and Dundee; and the Fund may now be stated altogether at 150,000%, it is pretty evident, therefore, that the towns and districts which do not make their sule criptions, soon will be deprived of the honour of assisting, in so far as the raising of the 250,000% is concerned, in giving this last blow to the stronghold of mono-

poly.—Glasgow Argus, Jan. 19. Аввиолти.—We understand that subscriptions are about to be opened in this place, in aid of the Quarter of a Million Fund, now being raised throughout the country, for giving the comp de grace to that most iniquitous of all legislative abominations, the tax on bread Montrose Review, Jan. 10.

FORFAR.-The Anti-Corn Law Association here is again roused from its usual state of quiescence, by the news re ceived from head-quarters. The committee have reacted upon convening a public meeting, getting up a subscription for the general fund, and otherwise making "a strong pull," in the hope that it will be the last.

William Marshall, Esq., M.P., for this city, has directed his name to be entered in the Carlisle subscription list to the Anti Corn Law League Fund of a Quarter of a Million, for the sum of 300%.

ST. ANDREWS, MR. ELLICE, M.P. Mr. Ellice met his constituents here in our Town Hall, on the evening of Friday last. The Hall was crowded to excess, and our memher, by his munly and straightforward conduct, pleased all. On the motion of Bailie Brown, seconded by Dean of Guild Sime, Bailie Wright took the chair, and having expressed in a neat Free Trade speech the object of the meeting, Mr. Ellice at great length entered upon the all engrossing topic of Free Trade, particularly in the staff of life. He also explained the part he laid taken and votes given by him in the lust session of Parliament, in the manner he had done the previous evening at Cupar. Mr. Ellice, in conclusion, stated that he had neither the wish nor the intention to change his connexion with our burghs, whatever rumour might say to the contrary, so long as his constituents were satisfied with his Parliamentary conduct; which should be, as in time past, that of a free and independent member, unxious to legislate, not "for the few," but " for the many." -Fife Herald,

SHERRIELD-MR. WARD'S ADDRESS. - On Thursday, the 15th inst., Mr. Ward puld his seventh annual visit to his Sheffield constituents, and addressed a crowded meeting at the Town Hall, giving an account of his political steward-ship, and of the various public questions which had been agitated during last session. He declared that his policy was progressive, and that he considered the great question in which the country was now engaged as much a struggle against monopoly in votes as against monopoly in food.
"You will recollect," said Mr. Ward, "That I am now speaking as a man connected with land. Everything I have in the world depends upon it. If I take a wrong view, I am destroying the comfort of my life, and the fortunes of my children. I have grown reason to world, the thing nicely children. I have every reason to weigh the thing nicely and accurately; and I say conscientiously and honestly, that I have not the least apprehension as to the issue. I believe that we shall do better with Free Trade. I believe that you will do better, and we shall do better because you do better. The thing acts and re-acts. What we want are wealthy, well-employed customers. (Cheers.)" A motion was put from the chair, and carried by a universal show of hands, expressing the thanks of the meeting to the honourable gentleman for his annual visit, and respectfully requesting him to support, to the utmost of his power, may messure which may be proposed in the approaching session, for a total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws.

THE QUALIFICATION MOVEMENT.—We understand that the committee of the Anti-Corn-Law League, in this city, expects that fully 100 freeholds will be purchased in Light Cumberland, in time to admit their owners upon the Regisfor for next year. A great number, keys uso been taken up for West Cumberland.—Carlisle Journal, Jan. 17.

At Bradford, the election of two Free Traders appears scourc. The requisition to Mr. Busfelld and Ook Thomsson has nearly 850 signatures, besides 900 promises that have new signed; the total on the register being 1900, and less than five-aixths usually voting. Meanwhile the process of addition is going on.

CORRESPONDENCE.

RENT OF LAND IN SURREY.
To the Editor of Tub Leadum.

London, January 15, 1846. Sin,-It is a favourite assertion of the "protectionists" that the Corn Laws are for the benefit of the tenant farmers and labourers.

Having frequently heard eminent practical farmers in Scotland maintain that the only gainers by the Corn Laws are the corn factors, the wish to ascertain the correctness of the assertion led me to make a few inquiries.

The first answers I received were so favourable to a change, and the wish so carnestly expressed that a ministry should come into power with a Free Trade measure in their hand, that I was disposed to deny the allegation altogether. My informant was an owner as well as tenant of land, the value of which he had increased by draining and other im-

The next replies I received were of an opposite kind. farmer who holds land which in Scotland would readily yield a rent of 50s. to 3l. per scre, for which he pays 27s. per acre declaimed loudly against any chance of a reduction in the price of wheat by the advent of Free Trade. With very ordinary cultivation, his land has upon it fine Swedes and good wheat; and from seven acres of hop land he sold hops enough last year (the crop elsewhere being very deficient) to pay two-thirds of two years rent of the whole farm. In very many farms in this part of the country, the land is either not at all, or most insufficiently drained; even where the soil is deep and of a productive nature, they never subsoilplough it. In a large number of the farm yards, placed on sloping ground, at the lower side you may see an open pond, into which all the valuable liquid manure is allowed to run; thus "wasting their sweetness on the desert air." By an intelligent gentleman, resident in the county, I am informed that the average rent of land in Surrey does not exceed 17s. per acre, the rates which fall on the tenant being under 28. 6d. per pound of rent. Even admitting that the lighter soils will only yield 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, is not a tenant with inadequate capital incapable of doing justical incapable of doing justical incapable of the control of the cont tice to his land and to derive as large a return as he ought, while the proprietor is a loser by receiving from him a rent below the value of his land? In many cases it is not capital, but industry, which is wanting; and in these the Corn Laws are a boon as a protection to native idleness.

Not to occupy too much of your space, in my next I shall advert to the case of the labourers, the other supporters claimed by protectionists for the Corn Laws.

I shall conclude in the eloquent words of Mr. Rutherfurd, M.P. for Leith, in a late address to his constituents at Musselburgh, that "deep and large as are the other benefits that will result from the total repeal of the Corn Laws, we may look upon the putting down of that which separates one great class of the community from the other classes, and which will unite them in the bonds of common brotherhood, as one of the most important blessings which can be conforred on this country.

A PROPRIETOR OF LAND IN SCOTLAND, On a Visit in Surrey.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF SHEETS, BLANKETS, AND **MOCK**PROCKS, TO MANY OF THE STARVING PEASANTRY OF OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.
SIR,—Those Free Traders whose favours, I have had the bonour to acknowledge, through the medium of your " great fact" paper, will, I doubt not, be pleased to hear that ten deserving and needy labourers on the Duke of Buckingham's estate, have each been supplied this week, by me, with a good linen frock, and others have been supplied with sheets and blankets. I assure your many readers that I have not spared myself, but have gone from hovel to hovel, day after day, to see and examine for myself, the untold and un-reasonable sufferings of the Buckinghamshire and Oxford-shire penhantry. I shall just describe the real condition of three or four families in the village of Oakley, near Brill,

1st. George Hepburn has a wife and three children; wages six shillings a week on the roads; pays poor's rates

and highway rates!!!
2nd. William Winter has a very sickly wife and two children; they live in a hovel, in the wall of which there is a large hole, but not an inch of glass; the starving and wrotched family live, sloop, and porish on the same damp floor!! This poor man pays poors rates and highway rates out of 6s. or 7s. a week. He works on the roads, but as I had to write in the dark at the door, and was compelled to use my hat for a writing table, I cannot tell whether my figure is 6s. or 7s., but I believe the poor man's wages are only 0s, per week.

3rd. Samuel Tebby has a wife and three children:

on the roads; wages 7s. a week, out of which he pays 1s. 6d. a week for rent!! There is, therefore, remaining only 5s. 6d. a week, out of which the poor man has to support himself, his wife, and three children this winter.

4th. John Hubbock has a wife and three children; works on the roads; wages 0s. a week, out of which he pays 21. 10s. a year house ront, and about 8s. a year rates and taxes!! Brethren! Free Traders! friends of the poor! read this case, and sigh for your brother! Angel of morey, weep over this Buckinghamshire labourer! If we deduct house rent and taxes, and allow 3d. per week for sonp, and 3d. for candles, we shall find that this man, with his wife and three children, have ld. per hoad per day to live on, and ld. per week

What a blessing it is that he has a few potators for his poor wife, who has just been confined with her third child. I understand that some of the duke's faithful servants we greatly disturbed by the seasonable gift of beds, smock freeks, sheets, and blankets, which have been distributed by me to the poor of Brill and its neighbourhood. I have many touching applications for beds, &c., from places in Buckinghamshive and Oxfordshire every day.

I find that cheap as the Bible is now, many of the poor

peasantry in the villages are not able to pay for a small copy of the Word of Life, and consequently I have resolved to give a small pocket libbe to such of the poor creatures as I may meet with, and find unable to pay for, but able and will-

ing to read that best of books.
Thanks to those benevolent Free Traders who have put it into my power to add this delightful works of faith to my many and various other refroshing though arduous labours in the cause of the poor peasantry.

Thirty-five owts. of coals, and a number of sheets, blan-

kets, and smock-frocks have been distributed by me this week in the village of Launton, Oxon.

I am, Bir, yours very faithfully, WM. FERGUSON,

Minister of the Independent Congregational
Jan. 14, 1846.

[This Rev. Wm. Ferguson, minister of the Dissenting
church, Bicester, Oxon, begs to inform the poor man's real
friends that he has received "Tom Thumb's" letter, and friends that he has received "Tom Thumb's" letter, and another letter, containing 5l. from "J. S. P." and other friends, at West Bromwich, and a third letter containing a post-office order, to the amount of 1l. 9s. 6d., from 1l. Young, Esq., and other Free Traders; also a purcel containing 17 smooth freeks (and more promised) from Stonies. toling, 1841, and other Free Traders; also a parcel containing 17 smock frocks (and more promised) from friends in town. Mr. Ferguson begs to tender his grateful thanks to his friends for their seasonable and benevolent gifts to the poor and starving peasantry in parts of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, and assures them that the peasantry of every denomination in his neighbourhood shall be looked effortly him. after by him. His grateful thanks are also hereby tendered to Mrs. Darwin, Bromley; J. Finch, Esq., London; J. Keighley, Esq., London; W. Shrewsbury, sen., Esq., Redford, Notts; and to Luke Grimson, Esq., Loughborough, leicestershire, for their kind gifts to the poor in the neighbourhood of Bicester, Oxon.—Jan. 19, 1848.]
[We are requested to correct a mistake in publishing the

letter of Mr. Hoyland in our paper of the 3d inst.; for 101. read 10s.]

CLOTHING FOR THE POOR AGRICUL. TURAL LABOURERS. To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

Sin,—It is the conviction of my own mind that there can be no person who, having read the statements in The LEAGUE, giving such a sorrowful account of the awful destitution and truly miserable condition of the poor agricultural labourers in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, made by that most amiable and charitable of men, the Rev. Wm. erguson, of Bicester, Oxon, without having at once enlisted their sympathies with him, in his benevolent exertions, or without feeling an anxious desire to place it in his power to help those who cannot help themselves," and to aid him

in his efforts to obtain for them some clothing, to protect

When I surgested, in a former communication, the plan for making up and distributing flock beds to the wretched agricultural labourers, I was conscious they would prove very acceptable; and I hope the present communication

them from the inclemency of the season.

may meet with your approbation.

Now, Sir, I believe that there is not a single subscriber to the League Fund, but what has some good old clothes thrown aside, which the would gladly give to those miserably clad labourers, if proper means were adopted to convey them. I have mentioned this to several of my friends who gave flocks for the beds, and they cordially approve of the suggestion, and promise to assist in carrying it into effect. The plan and promise to assist in carrying it into effect. The plan that I propose for collecting and conveying the clothes is this, viz, that one of the ante-rooms, in the Free Trade Hall, Peter-street, Manchester, should be opened, and a man be engaged there to receive the parcels that might be sent in by any benevolent persons; and for him to see to the immediate forwarding of them to the address of the Rev. Wm. Ferguson, of Bicsster, Oxon, or any other known friends, who would see to a proper distribution of the same. And I think the ladies, who are generally first and foremost in relieving distress, might abundantly manifest their charity on this pecuator by sending articles or electing of approximately. on this occasion, by sending articles, or clothing of any description, which would add to the comfort of these miserable

That important meeting of agricultural labourers which took place at Goatacre last week must upset the flimsy arguments of the protectionists, who contend that the Corn Laws are for the especial benefit of agricultural labourers. I assure you I feel glad to see that the thousand men who attended that meeting are moving in the right direction. I am, Sir, yours ALEXANDER TAYLOR.

Greenacre's Moor, near Oldham, Jan. 14, 1846. P.S. You will greatly oblige me by forwarding the enclosed half sovereign to poor Wm. Parry, of Charlton, who had to walk twenty miles to the meeting to tell his heart-rending tale of distress, and which ought to be read with the greatest attention.

GOATACRE LABOURERS' FUND.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

8. Powis-place, Jan., 15th, 1840.

Drar Sir,—It may be that many of your readers may desire to do something in behalf of the brave men of Goatacre, but may have no means of forwarding their assistance to them. them. I beg to say that I shall be happy to add any funds that may be entrusted to me for that purpose to others which I have received. I would they were more. I have put myself in communication with the chairman of the Goatacre meeting, David Kell, as to the best mode of applying whatever may be ruised, and shall be happy to render an account of my stewardship to all who like to subscribe through me.—I am dear Sir, yours truly, P. A. TAYLOR, Jun.

Coalbrookdale, Jan. 21, 1846. Sin,—I have much pleasure in forwarding to you the result of subscriptions in aid of the Quarter of a Million Fund from this neighbourhood, so far as we at present

The members of the Free Trade Committee, and othersmet in Coalbrookdale last evening, and the subscriptions in the room amounted to 2057l. 15a. I will furnish particulars when the proceeds of a canvass of the district shall have been brought in.—I am, yours respectfully, G. Wilson, Esq. H. DICKINBON.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.
Otley, near Leeds, Yorkshire.
Sin,—Our noble-minded and philanthropic neighbour, Sin,—Our none-minded and pullatinopic neighbors, Francis Hawksworth Fawkes, Esq., of Farnley Hall, has, since the Leeds meeting, directed his name to be placed upon the subscription list for the place towards the Anti-Corn-Law League Fund for 1001.

This patriotic gentleman is one of the largest landowners, and greatest of land improvers, in Yorkshire.—I am, Sir, yours obsdiently, Edward Barner. yours obsdiently, 20th January, 1846.

Brechin, January 17th, 1846. Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 19th ult., reminding me that my yearly subscription was again due. I submitted it to the consideration of my fellow workmen, when, without hesitation, they agreed is mite to the Quarter of a Million League Fund.

Enclosed is the smount of their subscription although comparatively small, will testify their believely principles so ship advocated by the Least also instructed to give you and the other champion than to the arguments of the monopolists above to the arguments of the monopolists above. Tyeds their post manks for the monopolists about and high wages, and to congratulate you on the cess you have already obtained, particularly in the hold movement, a movement so well adapted to make a quake and tremble.—I am, Sir, your repet

By order of the workmen of East Mill, Brechin. George Wilson, Esq., Chairman of the National Anti-Corn-Law League.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

Glastonbury, 19th Jan

DEAR SIR,—You will much oblige by insertinext LEAGUE, that the nine beds were duly receive
and distributed. They were very thankfully receive
we have had many applications for more. Should
eight or ton more that could be sent, they would eight or ton more that could be sent, they would be ceptable. The labourers here are as bad off as the Wiltshire. I sincerely thank the League on behalf who received the beds; and remain your obedient s THOS.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.
Paisley, 12th January,

DEAR SIR,-I see the "Norwich Weaver B other writers, have stated that the monopolis compensation before they will give up the Cor Will you be kind enough to present the follow count, and urge payment before they receive furthing? In doing so, you will oblige A. Paisley Weaven Call

Messrs. the Dukes Wellington, Richmond, and (to England, Ireland, and Scotlan To 30 years' plunder at 36,000,000l. per 1,080,000,000%

REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS The publication of a manifesto by Mr. James Gordon, one of the largest landowners in the co Somerset, in favour of a repeal of the Corn Is spread dismay throughout the Protectionist c that county, and must by its natural and legiting fluence upon society tend very much to diminist entirely to neutralise, the attempts which Mr. Miles and the bread tax party are making to a feeling against the Anti-Corn-Law movement. years since Mr. Gordon was an avowed advocate tection, and was then triumphantly pointed, to h holding consonant opinions as one of the pillars strength in Somersetshire, and the western co What can they say now? Mr. Gordon is as w as talented, and as powerful as he was in that still the lord of very many thousand acres of lan holds the manorial rights of Abbots Leigh, Posts. George, Portishead, and North Western, and moves in the same influential circle. This manife regarded by the friends of repeal as one of the important signs of the times that has yet appeared its influence upon the election for East Somerset-when it may—can scarcely be over-valued. It is shape of a letter to the Earl of Waldegrave, wh invited Mr. Gordon to join the protection move and is subjoined:

"TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF WALDEGRAYS,

"My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge lordship's invitation to become a member of the Set Protection Society. More than a year ago I deal similar invitation from Mr. Miles and Sir Alexander and I have many more research. and I have many more reasons for doing so now. In I was a strenuous protectionist; under the circumstant that time I am now that the I am now the I am now the I am now that the I am now the I am that time I am persuaded I acted rightly. Those of are widely different, and I am as well satisfied with reasons which compel me to advocate a repeal of the Laws as any one can be for retaining his former option.

"I have ever placed the utmost reliance on Sir R Peel, and see no grounds for departing from it now. hands I have no fear whatever of the result, and even farmers have not gone very deep into the subject, Is and them admitting that any state is better than that it was the subject of the subject victims.

"I believe, with Sir Thomas Lethbridge, in his left the Duke of Richmond, that 'protection is a thing can and I hope your lordship will pardon my suggestion." of the policy of protectionist landlords putting and weapons into their tenants' hands to use grant selves, for the reduction of their rents, when the Lacit

repeal shall have taken place.
"I have the honour to be, my lord, your obedient and have the honour to be, my lord, your obedient and lord to be a l "JAMES ADAM GORDO "Naish, Bristol, Jan. 8, 1840.

REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS .- A petition, of wall

REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.—A petition, of which following is a copy, is now lying for signature at the hall, in Tiverton:—

"To the honourable the Commons of Great Iteland, in Parliament assembled. The humbs the undersigned inhabitants of the Borough of the County of Devon: Sheweth, that in the petitioners, the laws which prohibit the first foreign grain and provisions, are most opposite mass of the people, and destructive alike to the of agriculture and commerce; they, petition for their total, unconditional, and improvements of the provision of the people, and destructive alike to the petition for their total, unconditional, and improvements of the provisions of the people, and destructive alike to the petition for their total, unconditional, and improvements of the people of Devonshire Chronicle, Jan. 90.

Printed at the Whitedriars Printe clasts of Whitedriars, in the Oir, o Number 7, Eldgravith place, He has partal of Manchaster, in the country for 47, Place-street, in the poster,

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fill, Brechin. of the gue.

E LEAGUE. E LEAGUE.

abury, 19th Jan, 1844.

lige by inserting is the end of the light received by many than he fully received is all more. Should there be the service of the light reague on behalf of these your obedient servant.

your obedient servent.

LEAGUE, 12th January, 1846, ich Weaver Boy," and the monopolists was ve up the Corn Law they receive a single

oblige WEAVER CALLANT chmond, and Co., Dr. d, and Scotland.

,000,000l. per annum,

ORN LAWS. by Mr. James Adam's wners in the county of

wners in the county of the Corn Iswa, his Protectionist camp in ral and legitimite in the to diminish it is which Mr. While with movement. A few movement of the pointed, to by the pointed, to by the cord on is as wealthy was in 1841. nd acres of land will ots Leigh, Postery, th Western, and still . This manifesto b

as one of the most as yet appeared; and East Somerset—come -valued. It is in the Valdegrave, who had protection movement,

P WALDEGRAYS, MART &c.

to acknowledge your to acknowledge your more of the Separate year ago I decline a decl

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

All Subscribers of 21 and upwards to the Linagum Fund will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

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

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

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

By order of the Council,

Joseph Hickin, Secretary.

PETITION! PETITION! PETITION!

At a numerously attended meeting of the Council of the League, held on Thursday morning last, Mr. Wilson in the chair, the proposed measures of Sir Robert Peel were discussed at some length. Congratulations were exchanged at the progress which the great question has made in the minds of the most distinguished statesmen of all parties. With respect to the measure itself, several parts of it elicited expressions of satisfaction; but the feeling of regret at the re-enactment of the sliding-scale was universal. The meeting was addressed, among others, by Messrs. R. H. Greg, Alderman Korshaw, J. B. Smith, A. Prentice, J. Heywood, H. Rawson, J. Whitaker, W. Bickham, T. Woolley, &c. All were of opinion that the League and its friends should stand firm to the principle of immediate and total repeal; and the following resolution, recommending universal petitioning, was unanimously passed:

"Resolved,—That the announcement of a new Corn Law renders it desirable that the friends of Free Trade throughout the kingdom should originate petitions for the total and immediate abolition of all laws imposing duties on foreign corn and provisions."

THE MINISTERIAL MEASURE. -- IMME DIATE REPEAL BEST FOR THE AGRI-CULTURIST.

Before entering on a criticism, the necessity for which we would most gladly have been spared, of the details of the great measure now before Parliament and the country, our first words must be of congratulation. It is a triumph indeed! The night of Tuesday, the 27th January, will ever be memorable in the annals of the English people, as the date of a grand popular success. The principle of monopoly is finally and for ever surrendered. The principle of perfect and absolute Free Trade is broadly announced, as the basis and canon of all British legislation, present and future. And this, not "in the abstract," but in set and fact. Free Trade—entire Free Trade—is to go at once on the statute-book. The First Minister of the Crown, with the delignited, and enthusiastic concurrence of his wenal opponents, and with the aid of a sufficient number of his political supporters to leave no doubt as to the eventual result, stakes his Ministerial existon getting "Total Repeal of the Corn Law" Milian in an Act of Parliament. Again we say, is is Ctriumph indeed rand most cornectly and De Arborato congressiones de la constantición de la constantición

working have won it—THE INDUSTRIOUS CLASSES OF THE ENGLISH PROPER. THRY HAVE DONE IT Unaided by aristocratic countenance or patronage, or by the co-operation of political parties and Parliamentary politicians, they have leagued themselves together in the bands of a common allegiance to true and just principlethey have extorted from a once hostile Government, one concession after another-and now, all the outworks having been long since carried, the inner citadel itself is thrown open, on terms of capitulation which, however unsatisfactory in some essential points, have the merit of explicitly recognising the totality of the national demand.

We regret deeply being unable to offer an unreserved support to a measure, of whose intent and spirit we cannot but speak in terms of warm approval, and which, as an immediate practical relief to the commerce and industry, the poverty and hunger of the country, is of the very greatest value. As regards the first necessaries of human life—the only items of the Ministerial plan of which we have now to speak—the measure introduced by Sir Robert Peel on Tuesday night is large, comprehensive, and bold. If the execution is whimsical, arbitrary, and self-contradictory, the design is admirable for its breadth and daring. On the allimportant articles Indian corn, or maize, colonial corn, meat (salted and fresh), and cattle, we have total and immediate repeal of protective duties. On foreign corn we have total repeal, not immediate. Our rights are guaranteed us in reversion; in præsenti, we are asked to content ourselves with a rather large instalment. A certain filmy and shadowy-looking "protection" is still to linger among us, for three years longer, in the shape of a new Corn Law, which seems as if it were intended to give us a parting taste of the thing in all its various modes and forms. The combination is ingenious. A little of everything. In name and nature, a "sliding scale"—in practical present operation, a 4s. " fixed duty "—in eventual result, a "vanishing scale." We have not had so mild and innocent a Corn Law these 50 years, as in this variegated miscellany of every species of the Corn Law genus. If we cannot praise it, we have no difficulty in saying, that we are sure it means no harm.

This new Corn Law of Sir Robert Peel's does, however—with all its seeming mildness and innocence—contain most serious and even fearful powers of mischief; and we cannot but hope, even yet, that the author of the largest, boldest, and most sweeping measure of commercial freedom ever proposed by a British statesman, will see reason, before all is over, for giving to this really grand reform that completeness and self-consistency which, as we now proceed to show, are essential securities for its practical well-working.

We approach this most important question of the IMMEDIATENESS of that total Free Trade which the Ministerial plan promises in no spirit of hostility either to the Government or the landlords. Nor is it for the mere sake of theoretical and logical consistency, nor from any fanatical zeal for the literality of our own well-known shibboleth, that we now urge this matter on the most grave consideration of the Ministry, the legislature, and the country. It is not even on the score of justice to the bread-eating public, that we now earnestly and anxiously deprecate this last attempt at a Parliamentary Corn Law. We rest our argument solely and exclusively on the interests of those agricultural oldines for whose benefit this device is especially intended, and on the national safety and well-being as involved in the prosperity of the cultivators of the soil. That the rights of the consumer are iden-

altogether independent of them, is but one illustration the more of the unvarying coincidence of strict justice with true expediency.

We contend that the proposed postponement of a Free Trade in food until the 1st of February, 1849, is perfectly needless to the agriculturist-cortainly injurious, to a greater or less extent-and fraught with the most disastrous contingent possibilities, or probabilities, of evil, both to the agriculturists and to the country.

The thing is needless. The farmer does not want this three years' "interval of preparation." Granting that an interval of preparation is desirable in such cases—granting that sudden legislative changes in the conditions under which any branch of industry or trade is carried on are injurious to those ongaged in it—still we say, it is needless. The farmer has actually got his interval of preparation-and Parliament need not trouble itself. Under the poculiar circumstances of the present season, the change cannot be sudden - if Parliament will only let it alone. There is not the slightest possibility of any sudden change, injurious to the farmer, taking place for the next six or eight months. If the Corn Law were totally repealed to-morrow, and our merchants instantly began sweeping the markets of the world bare of their surplus wheat-still there would be no sudden change for the farmer. No perceptible shock would, or could, be given to prices. The best informed men in the corn trade are confident that in any case prices will, on the whole, keep rising from now until after next harvest. They must. There is not the corn at this moment in the world that could hurt the English farmer. Over the greater part of Europe, scarcity has been officially proclaimed for some months past. America has a surplus, but it is only a chance surplus, bearing no sort of pro: portion to our needs. America did not know that we were coming, and has therefore made no preparation for us. For such surplus as there happens to be, we shall have our European neighbours com peting with us as purchasers ;-they have already (under favour of the sliding scale) outbid us at our own doors for the foreign corn in our bonded warehouses. Make the change now-and the farmer will not feel it. Actually he would not know it, if the newspapers did not tell him. Were it possible to legislate with closed doors and "in confidence" if the Corn Law could only be scored out of the statute-book sub silentio-the farmers would not en counter anything in his market day experience that could lead him to suspect, or imagine, that any change whatever had taken place. Why, if Sir Robert Peel had the creating of the circumstances under vhich he would legislate for the instant and total abolition of protection, he could not improve on the circumstances that are ready made to his hands. Repeal the Corn Laws, totally and for ever, in February—and the very worst that can happen is a panie that will be over before the end of March. The farmer may be dull at abstract principles, but he knows a fact when he sees it. He will soon come right when he finds that he has actually got the dreaded Free Trade, and that, after all, it makes no such great difference.

We turn to the other side of the picture.

Suppose that Sir Robert Peel's measure becomes law, in its present shape—i. e., suppose the enactment, for six months cortain, and an indefinite period afterwards, of a four-shilling fixed duty. Suppose the first angry and ignorant panic which this change will produce—and which will be every whit as violent as any total-and-immediate-repeal panio -to be fairly over, and the farmer to have experimentally discovered the baselessness of his terrors. There is another panic yet to come. A fatal day is fical with the policy which we urge on grounds yet before him, in the not very remote future—a

day which the legislature itself will have taugh him, by the elaborate ingenuity of lus procautions, to regard with anxious apprehension. On the 1st of February, 1849, all protection will suddenly coase, and he will be turned finally adrift. On the 1st of February, 1849, the dreaded competition with the "untaxed foreigner" will really beginthat competition which the English farmer will have been expressly taught, by the very Legislature that ordains it, to anticipate with all manner of doubts and fears-and which the foreign agriculturist will have been encouraged, on the same authority, to look forward to with eager and triumphant confidence.

Well, the 1st of February, 1849, arrives; the ports are open, and the competition of British and foreign farmers begins. Very possibly there may he no great harm done; the day may go off well. There may have been a season of rather scarce supplies, or extraordinarily active demand; prices may have been at or above 53s -the duty consequently at four shillings-and importations large and regular. In that case, there will be no very violent or nlarming change. The 1st of February, 1849, may be a not very extraordinary day, after all.

But it is at least equally possible that the 1st of February, 1849, may be the commencement of a period of unexampled distress and ruin for the whole class of farmers—a distress and ruin reacting, in the most fearful way, on the entire community. For that 1st of February, 1849, be it remembered, the foreign agriculturist will have been making his preparations; an "interval of preparation" for the British farmer will also have been an interval of preparation for his rival. The untaxed foreigner's preparations will moreover, beyond all doubt, be made on the very largest scale that a poverty-stricken and unscientific agriculture will allow. Europe and America will strain overy norve to be ready to reap golden harvests in the El Dorado of the British corn market. Now, suppose that the years 1-47 and 1848 should be years of abundant harvests in Great Britain-i. c. years of moderate prices-i. c. years of the maximum tenshilling duty. Europe and America, in that case, will keep their corn at home. They will wait for the 1st of February, 1849. They will have large stores ready to come in at the death of the sliding scale. And then they will pour in upon us their hourded and accumulated supplies—supplies provided expressly for us, but artificially excluded by our ten shilling duty - pour them in just when we do not want them, and when our own furmers are struggling with heavy stocks and low-prices. Then there really will be a panie -a panicalmost realising the gloomiest bodings of the landlord imagination-a panic covering the agriculture of the world. The foreigner will be grievously disappointed and disheartened—and will think twice before trying the lottery of the English market again. He will be deterred from sowing and growing on such an uncertainty. The English farmer will be frightened and exasperated beyond measure. He will of course throw it all on "Free Trade 4—and the supposed cause of his distress being a permanent one, he will presume on the permanonce of the effect. He will withdraw the remnant, if any, of his wasted and dwindling capital from a pursuit which, he will say, Parliament has decreed shall never be remunerative again. Both at home and abroad, agriculture will be grievously discouraged. Both at home and abroad, cultivation will diminish. And the end will be, that, in the years 1850 and 1851, we may be suffering a flightful crisis of scarcity and distress, commercial embarrassment, and fiscal collapse:--the whole of which will be charged by the agriculturists on " Peel and Free Trade"-while the real cause will bo that Sir Robert Poel wanted faith in Free Trade, and was over-cautious and timid in the application of its sound and enlightened principles.

All this gloomy array of possible, or probable, calamities may be for over made impossible, if She Robert Peel will do the right thing now. "Per foot faith in just and true principles will be perfect

of preparation" beyond that which nature has given him already, in the fact of European scarcity and the foreign farmer will have no interval of preparation for deluging us with the possible accumulations of a couple of overflowing harvests. Let Europe and America see at once what the English market really is, in its natural state. Let them try their experiments, season by season, and year by year, and feel their way as they go on. There will then be no hoarding for a given dayno extravagant agricultural speculations, reacting in agricultural distress and public scarcity. If Sir Robert Peel will only believe, with a full assurance of faith, that he is mour-thoroughly and altogether right-in his Free Trade principles, it will save a world of mischief.

Most fervently do we trust that the agriculturists and the country may yet be saved from that fatal legacy of peril and possible disaster, which an expiring protection threatens to bequeath to both. It is a great satisfaction to us to be able to feel assured that this most important argument will be stated, with all possible force and clearness, in the House of Commons. Our friend, Mr. Villiers, will doubtless be at his post when the time comes, to press his well-tried, and now all, but successful motionnever again to be met with a "direct negative"for the total and immediate repeal. We cannot but believe, that, thus grounded and supported, it will be found irresistible. Sir Robert Peel has the same end in view with ourselves. He has the deepest imaginable interest in the success and credit of his Free Trade legislation. Even the purpose and intention of his new sliding scale-to make the change gradual and easy to the farmer-is one that we approve and concur in. The only difference is about the means. We think his new sliding scale is perfectly needless for its object, and will grievously frustrate, instead of furthering it. We do believe he will think so too, when the argument is fairly brought before him in the House of Commons. We feel a strong hope that, even now, we are on the verge of that full and final success which will at once close and crown our labours, and dissolve

The question, How ought the people to deal with the Ministerial scheme? is a most grave and important one; but it may be answered in the fewest words. The people will pursue precisely the same course which they have followed with so signal a success for the last seven years. They will talk of nothing, petition for nothing, think of nothing, but total and immediate repeal. They will be everywhere in readiness for a dissolution of Parliament, and a general election, should their lordships of the Upper House think the experiment desirable. They will be watchful, active, and self-relying ;-rememboring that, as everything that has been done has been done by them, so they will have-directly by the franchise, or indirectly by opinion—to do every thing at last.

THE "COMPENSATION."

Sir Robert Pool has cortainly managed this matter very cleverly. It was his "chief difficulty," and he has put forth his best skill in its solution. By carefully and repeatedly protesting that his measures of "compensation to the agricultural interest" are not meant to be compensatory (except incidentally, and, as it wore, by accident), but to promote certain objects of "general social utility"-as, for example, to induce a more economical and profitable management of local business, to "do justice to the labouring man," to facilitate "improvement in the criminal law," and to mond the quality of education in the Union workhouses—he at once forecloses all inquiry as to the adequacy of the compensation, on the one hand, and the right to compensation on the other. In fact, he does not, strictly speaking, raise the question of compensation at all. All the incidentally, or accidentally, compensatory arrangemonts which he proposes, are (with, perhaps, one exception) to be discussed on their own meriu, as so many independent legislative topics; sadi of them to stand or fall, according to its independent safety: Give the English farmer no "inferral fitness or unfitness for its professed purious by

special public utility. the Free Trader may rounds unconnected with the Free Trade quetion. Some of the proposed arrangements are manifestly good, and will probably be adopted by all parties with tolerable unanimity. On other, there may very likely be a difference of opinionas on the law of sottlement, which is one of the most difficult problems in legislation. Of course, we cannot, on a subject like this, attempt to anticipate, or suggest, the line to be taken by our friends. Every just and humane mind will be anxious to amend the law, if practicable, so as to render its operations more beneficial to the working man, and more equitable between the town and rural districts. It is not, however, a League que tion, and we abstain from discussing it. On these matters we willingly adopt Sir Robert Poel's judiclous suggestion. We leave them to be dealt with separately, on grounds independent of the large national question with which they are casually associated.

We have hinted the existence of one exception from this safe and prudent rule. One of these quasi-compensatory provisions—the proposed loans for draining and agricultural improvement-seems to stand in more than a merely casual relation to the Free Trade question. The avowed object of this loan system—that of " enabling the agriculturist and the labouring man to meet the competition which will be raised up against them"-distinctly brings it within the scope of our criticism. As the "compre tition will be the League's doing, the League is bound in honour to give the country fair warning of any attempt, actual, or possible, to put a price on the competition. Really it is somewhat alarming to hear of treasury loans to the landlord. This exchequer-bill affair has, on the face of it, a decidedly ugly look. We don't at all like the idea of the landlords getting their fingers into the public purse. Loans to meet competition strike one, on first sight, as bearing a strong family likeness to protection against competition. On general grounds, we have quite a horror at State loans to private individuals. Loans of this description are marvellously apt to be metamorphosed, when the public is not looking, into gifts. The generous and confiding country never sees its cash again. Of all creditors, the State is the unluckiest. There was the Irish church, and its loan of a million—never paid from that day to this. There was the West India interest, and itsloan of 15 millions -which the State good-humouredly changed by a stroke of the pen into a free gift of 20 millions. Seriously we don't like the notion of State loans to the landlords-especially as our statesmen (so the Duke of Wellington reminded us the other day) are landlords themselves. with a fellow-feeling for the order.

The thing reads well enough, no doubt. "Good security," "sufficient" security, "ample" securitythe best arrangements for annual payment of interest, with "instalments of the principal"-" "" loss," at least, no "ultimate" loss, " to fall on the public." Still, we don't like it. If the security is good, they may get the money any morning in Lonabard Street, at 31 per cent. Not the least occasion for coming to Downing Street. The worthy British public never yet made a good thing of the money-lending business.

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We are well satisfied to know that the people understand this sort of thing infinitely better now than they did some years ago, and that no very serious mischief is likely to be done by a Legislature and Government which are fast learning the respect due to popular intelligence. We doubt, in fact, whether any mischief is really intended. The Premier is a shrewd financier, and likes dearly, as a First Lord of the Treasury should, to take care of the people's money for them. Still the pare intimation of such a scheme ought to excite the utmost vigilance and lealousy on the part of our representatives in Parliament; and it should furnish tional incentive to three vare in the salted for all active shall fill a their compay, was

PROTECTION TO MANUFACTURES.

The League, from the very commencement of its career, has proclaimed its hostility to every form of protection, whother manufacturing or agricultural and there is no member of our body that is not ready to support the Premier in the abolition of all such duties. As applied to the staple branches of industry, fabrics of flax, wool, and cotton, protection was not only nugatory, but delusive. How could we be protected against the competition of foreigners in our home markets, when we were able to undersell them in their own? The abolition of such a mockery can only be regarded as a tardy tribute to common sense; and we should scarcely have deemed it worthy of comment had not the Premier so shaped his proposition as to leave room for misapprehension, or perhaps dangerous error. In giving up their claims to protection, the manufacturers literally abandon nothing. Experience has shown them that protection is not only unjust to consumers, but injurious to producers. Like the hug of the bear, it destroys the object that it seems to fondle. Whatever a former race of manufacturers may have thought, the present generation has discovered that the protection was useless when inoperative, and mischievous when brought into action. most branches of our national industry, we may say of Sir Robert's concession of Free Trade in linen, cotton, and woollen fabrics, as was said of Pope Gregory's reformation of the calendar, " He has found out an evil that does nobody any harm, and devised a remedy that will do nobody any good." Articles of clothing cannot be rendered cheaper by his measures; for, with some very trifling exceptions, articles of clothing are cheaper at this moment in England than they are in any part of the world. Were this not the case, we should be unable to ex-

In minor branches of industry, designated by Lord Ashley as "the small interests," it is probable that any sudden change of system may produce some derangement of capital and employment; but this can only be temporary, and it will be more than compensated by the increased demand for labour which must follow from the establishment of a natural and healthy system of trade. In the case of the bootmakers, to which Sir Robert Peel alluded, protection has acted as a check and discouragement to ingenuity and economy. The author of the "Shoemaker," in Knight's industrial series, has stated that the reliance of the London bootmakers on protection has induced them to neglect several improvements adopted by their brothron in Paris, which save material and ensure a better fit. Taking darability into account as well as fashion, we much doubt whether the feet could be covered more cheaply in Paris than in London: and, so far as our experience has gone, the reverse is the case.

The case of the coachmakers appears to have been misunderstood by the Premier. If English coaches are dearer than Continental, it must be added that they are much better, as those who have gone through the misery of French and Gorman posting can abundantly testify. In fact, as English coaches are notoriously exported, it is clear that the superiority of their quality must be deemed more than an equivalent for a higher rate of price. At the late Free Trade meeting in Southampton, Mr. Andrews, one of the most extensive coach-builders in England, expressed his regret, not because Sir Robert Peel had diminished protection, but because he had not abolished it altogether.

The branches of industry connected with fashionable life in London are abnormal. Those who pay are taxed for the deficiencies of those who do not pay; a sufficient amount of insurance to cover risk-from bad debts must form an element of the price charged by most tradesmen in the metropolis. Froe Trade cannot remedy this anomaly; it belongs to a very different branch of economics, the relations between credit and cash payments.

Sir Robert Peel appears to have misled some of the agriculturies, by dwelling on the shorifice of probability to be aracit. Then the manufacturers and operative sould and about the manufacturing and operative sould and about the manufacturing and operative operated to be wanted to be accounted to the manufacturing and operative operated to be accounted to the manufacturing and operative operated to be accounted to the manufacturing and operative operated to be accounted to the manufacturing and that the counter of the manufacturing and that the counter of the counter of

on these as new allies. But the Premier gave them a little additional information, which ought to have corrected the mistake into which his earlier statements might have led the protectionists. He told them that Free Trade in corn would not diminish the wages of labour; and he appealed, as we have done, to the experience of the last three years, to prove that cheapness of provisions had produced a rise, and not a fall, in the money-rate of wages.

But the great fact is, that labour, as measured by results, is cheaper in England than in any part of the world. If an English artisan gets more for his week's work than a German or a Frenchman, he adds more value to raw material than any other European could give to it in double the time. Engglishmen, in free competition, cannot be reduced to the Continental rate of wages until their skill is reduced to the Continental level of skill. While they continue ahead in enterprise, knowledge, and ingenuity, they must necessarily have the superiority in earnings; and one of the worst evils of protections and restrictions consisted in their depriving English artisans of this fair and adequate remuneration.

It is only justice to the manufacturers to say, that they anticipated Sir Robert Pool in repudiating the protection of which he proposes to deprive them; and it is only fair to the squires to inform them, that a crusade, in favour of protection, undertaken in the manufacturing districts would be more hopoless than an attempt to revive the claims of the House of Stuart. The delusion is not merely antiquated-it is utterly forgotten; the very tradition has perished. The operatives have learned by bitter experience that the meaning of monopoly is starvation; and of protection, famine. They will not listen to the voice of the charmer who comes to tell them that looms ought to stand idle, and that spindles should cease their revolutions They cannot be indoctrinated with the belief that diminished employment will raise the rate of wages, and we warn the aristocratic lecturers that they will not find audiences so patient of nonsense as those which assemble in Steyning, or are packed in Chichester. The operatives are a reasoning class; they have courage to pronounce their opinions-if indeed there be any yet really ignorant of their recorded sentiments in favour of Free Trade.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Second Week, ending Saturday, January 31.

The Parliamentary week opened, on Monday, with an exceedingly characteristic speech from the Duke of Wellington. It was promised that ministerial revelations would be made on that evening; and all the world (i.e. the political world of London) were eagerly anxious to hear the illustrious Duke state his own share in the transactions which led to the resignation and the resumption of office by Sir Robert Peel. His grace's speech is so pithy, so illustrical, so absurd, and yet so straightforward, that we msert it here, and recommend it to the perusal of our readers:

The Duke of Wellington: My lords, I rise to give an answer to my noble friend's question. (The Duke of Richmond.) But, my lords, in doing so, although I can answer positively only for myself and for my own motives, yet I must, in order to state them clearly to the house, state generally what passed in her Majesty's councils; and I may therefore be under the necessity of detaining your lordships upon the subject, but your lordships may rely upon it I will detain you for as short a time as possible. My lords, when the accounts were received from Ireland and from different parts of Great Britain of the state of the potato crops, in the course of list autumn, and of the inconvenience likely to result from that state in different parts of the country, my right honourable friend at the head of her Majesty's Government considered it his duty to call together his colleagues, in order to consider the reports which were sent to him. Accordingly he did so; he laid these reports before his colleagues, and made to them certain propositions for the adoption of measures which he considered it necessary that her Majesty's Government should adopt, either to avoid or to limit the wills likely, in his opinion, to occur in consequence of those misfertunes. One of the measures suggested by my right hon, friend was, that her Majesty's servants should recommend to her Majesty and order in Council to suspend the operation of the existing Corn Law, so as to open the porte for the admission of corn duty free. My lords, it is not necessary that I should discuss the motives stated, or the grounds upon which this recommendation was founded; but, however, to be adopted at that time. I considered that the misfortune wis had cocurred, and which undoubtedly had the effect of the had cocurred, and which undoubtedly had the effect of the had cocurred, and which undoubtedly had the effect of the provision missing the food, but still there was no deficiency of food in

the country. That which was required, in my opinion, was, that arrangements should be made, as had been made theretotore, for finding the means of employment (hear, hear), and for finding the means of rewarding them for their employment, and giving them food (hear, hear). My lords, besides, it appeared to me that in the provisions of the existing Corn Luw, if it was desirable that the ports slightly be considered, the provisions of that law itself would provide for opened, the provisions of that law itself would provide for that measure (hear, hear, from the Duke of Richmond). soon as ever the price of any particular article of grain should rise and reach to much an amount as it would appear there was not sufficient for the wants of the country, the law has provided that such grain should be admitted at a nominal duty. Under these circumstances, it appeared to me to be unnecessary to suspend the law; and upon that ground I was ca of those who certainly objected to that proposition. At the same time, and I was most anxious for it, the Government unanimously proceeded to adopt all the measures to form a commission in Ireland, and to instruct that commission with record to the measures to be closeful. with regard to the measures to be adopted for giving employment to the people, for procuring food for them the ordinary payment of that employment, and all those measures which upon former occasions had been found so beneficial and so affectual. No local Tability that all these ficial and so effectual. My lords, I believe that all these measures have been adopted. They are not new to the public servants of this country; they have been effectually adopted; and it is to be hoped that the great inconvenience apprehended as the result of this misfortune will be avoided. My lords, in the course of the discussions. My lords, in the course of the disoussions upon this measure, it was certainly intimated that the suspension of the Corn-law must render the renewal of it very difficult; and it was certainly lutimated that it might be necessary to make an essential alteration of it. Subsequently, my lords, when the instructions were agreed upon to be given to these commissions established in Ireland, as I before stated to your lordships, my right kion. friend intimated his opinion of the absolute necessity of making an essential alteration in the Corn Law. I believe everyholdy admitted that some alteration was necessary. everybody admitted that some alteration was necessary everybody admitted that some points was necessary. I that an alteration upon certain points was necessary. I think there is no doubt about that. That was admitted that an atteration upon certain points was necessary, think there is no doubt about that. That was admitted by all (hear, hear). But in the opinion of my right homerical it was necessary to make an essential alteration in the existing Corn Law. Many members of the Cabinet objected to the manufactured alterations and there was a strong different to the contract of the cabinet objected to the cabinet object. to the suggested alterations, and there was a strong difference of opinion upon the subject. As for my part, my lords I certainly was of opinion that it was desirable to avoid making any alteration—any essential alteration—in the Corn Law: but, my lords, I confess that in my individual position, I considered a union of opinion in the Cabinet as essential, upon account of the safety of the Government itself. Having served England now for above fifty years, in high public stations, I consider it my duty, upon all occasions, to endeavour to promote its service; and I did every thing in my power to reconcile the differences of opinion among my colleagues, and to preserve in union a Government which enjoyed the confidence of the Sovereign, of the public, which has served the public so steadily, and enjoyed the confidence of both Houses of Parliament. I considered it my duty to make every effort to preserve union in the Cabinet, to reconcile differences of opinion, as the best service I could tender to the Government in the oircumstances in which I was placed, and in which the Cabinet was placed upon this subject. My lords, unfortunately in these efforts I did not succeed; and the result was a determination upon the part of my right honourable friend that he would submit to her Mujesty the resignation of his office, and that he would recommend to her Malesty to endeavour to form another Government. My lords, this course was adopted after a discussion whether it was most advisable that he should come down to Parliament and make his proposition for an alteration in the Corn Law, having a divided Cabinet, in which the majority were against the proposition, or whether it was not best, and most for the interest and convemence of her Majesty, that he should proceed at once and intimate to her the position in which he stood, and express his desire that her Majesty would permit him to resign his office, and that her Majesty would form another Government. That course was discussed. I certainly was one who thought it was desirable be should resign his office before resign to Declarate with a divided Cabinat. before going to Parliament with a divided Cabinet. I believe that all the members of the Cabinet were of the same opinion. I was of that opinion, and I know others were: and accordingly my right honourable friend took that course he waited upon her Majesty, informed her of the situation in which he found himself, and recommended to her Majorty to form another administration. Hor Majesty sent for a noble lord, and that noble lord, I undarstand—indeed I know did make an endeavour to form an administration. endeavour did not succeed. Her Majesty then thought proper to write to my right hon friend, to desire him to resume his situation, which he still held, until another administration. tration was formed. My right hon friend wrote to me—I was in the country at the time—and informed me he had been sout for, and that her Majosty having desired him to resume his situation, he had determined, happen what might, it class he would eachly her Majosty as her Minister, to been sent for, and that her Majesty having desired him to resume his situation, he had determined, happen what might, if alone, he would enable her Majesty, as her Minister, to meet her Parliament. My lords, I highly applauded the course taken by my right hon. friend on that occasion; and I determined that I, for one, would stand hy him (hear, hear, and laughter). I did so because I felt it to be my duty to the Crown to endeavour to be of service; and I did think the formation of a Government, in which her Majesty would have confidence, was of infinitely greater importance than any opinion of any individual on the Corn Law or any other law (laughter). My lords, that moment my right honourable friend. I would have followed myself under similar circumstances, and I accordingly determined that I would stand by him. My lords it the same time that I did this I know well the position in which my right honourable friend stood in relation to the Corn Law. I knew well, that in consequence of his having resigned his office into her Majesty's hands, because he could not prevail upon his Cabinet to support him in the material alteration of the Corn Law which he considered necessary, those who were employed to form a Government must have had a knowledge of the particular circumstances, and, my lords, how could my right honourable friend hed resumed his office, and, my lords, how could my right honourable friend hed resumed his office, and, my lords, how could my right honourable friend hed resumed his office, and, my lords, how could my right honourable friend hed resumed his office, and, my lords, how could my right honourable friend hed resumed his office, and, my lords, how could my right honourable friend hed resumed his office, and, my lords, how could my right honourable friend hed resumed his office, and, my lords, how could be go into Parliament and default that his opinions on the subject had been altered, and who,

of course, would have reproached him with a fresh alteraof course, would have represented him with a fraction of opinion in going down to support the existing law? I knew well, therefore, that when I told my right honourable friend that, I would stand by him in the resumption of his Government, that in doing so I must be a party in the proposition for the material alteration of the Corn Law. It could not be otherwise. I knew it. When I did it I knew it (hear). Thus, my lovid so far I have accounted Law. It could not be otherwise. I knew it. When I did it I knew it (hear). Thus, my lords, so far I have accounted for my own conduct. And, my lords, I wish your lordships would have so far confidence in the position in which I mend, as to rest assured for this evening that the proposition of my right honourable friend, although it will involve a material alteration of the Corn Law, will be a proposition satisfactory to the country, satisfactory to the friends of my right honourable friend, and one which will give such adright honourable friend, and one which will give such advantages to the landed interests, as the landed interests have a right to expact in the general arrangements of the country (hear, hear). My lords, my right hon, friend is himself a great landed proprietor. His pursuits are those of agriculture; he is related in friendship and in association with many of your lordships, and it cannot be supposed that under such diraumstances he would betray the interests of a body with which he is so united, and which possesses so great a stake in this country (hear). No, my lords, I venture to pradict that your lordships will be deceived when you hear what the proposition is which my right hon, friend has to bring forward, and which will be made known in the course of a very faw days, and your lordships will then see whether er not he has betrayed his duty in recommending such a measure to you. But, at all events, whatever that information may be, I say that, situated as I am in this country, rewarded as I have been by the Sovereign and people of England, I could not refuse to serve her Majesty in assisting to form a Government when I was called upon, to enable her Majesty to meet her l'arliament, in order to carry on the husiness of the country. Majesty to meet her Parliament, in order to carry on the business of the country. On that ground, as it appears from my statement now to you, I claim from your lordships an acquiescence in the principle which I lay down, namely, that I positively could not refuse serving my Sovereign when called upon to do so (hear, hear). My lords, I have no doubt when these measures come to be laid before you that they will give antisfection to your lordships million and they are they will give satisfaction to your lordships, neither have I any doubt but that they will meet with general approbation from the country (hear, hear).

On the Duke of Buckingham expressing his regret that the Duke of Wellington should have become a member of a Free Trade Government, the noble Duke exclaimed, that he did not know what a Free Trade Government meant! The Earl of Radnor thus criticised the conduct of of the Government.

cised the conduct of of the Government: The Earl of Radnor could not help observing that there was one question which he was surprised had not been asked by any person during the present explanations. The question he alluded to was, what measures and precautions had been taken to avoid or obviate the calamity alluded to by the noble duke (hear, hear). The noble duke, in the course of his speech, said that many millions would be deprived of their food in consequence of the disease of the potato crop. They all knew that the alarm on the subject was so great, that it was known that the First Lord of the Treasury, so far back as the end of October, made a proposition to the Cabinet to issue an order in council for the opening of the ports. Divers Cabinet meetings were held to consider this subject, as was known to the public, for it was so stated in another place; and all these Cabinet meetings scparated without coming to any other determination than to issue a commission to inquire into the state of the potato erop in Ireland. All, therefore, that was done tended to exoite alarm throughout the country. It did excite such marm and apprehension. The Cabinet separated on the alarm and apprehension. The Cabinet separated on the fith of November, and did not come together again until the 26th. This appeared to him to be rather an extraordinary proceeding at a period whou the country was under a welfgrounded apprehension of famine. Was it not, he would ask, extraordinary that the Government should, at such a poriod, separate without doing anything to relieve the appre-itensions of the country, or to obvinte the danger which threatened? The Cabinet met again on the 25th of Novem-After some meetings it came to no determination, and they were told that this arose from the circumstance that the noble lord, the member for the City of London, had published a letter, in which he said that he thought that something should at once be done. The majority of the Cabinet then declared that they would not do anything, however they had been told that they ought to do something. This did not appear to him to be a rational proceeding (hear, hear). It looked very like the act of a spoiled child, who said, "Oh, you tell me that I should do such and such a thing: I therefore will not do it." He wanted to know what they had really been about. The apprehension of the sellect of the feilure of the negative area existed on the 31 effect of the fullure of the potato crop existed on Oot. 31, and it was still felt at the present moment, according to the statements in the papers. Something had been said in ridiouls of the fulture of the potato crop, but the right hon. genoils of the failure of the potato crop, but the right hon, gentleman at the head of the Government, only on Friday last, said, do not talk in a tone of ridicule about rotten potatoes, for you will find it to be no joke if you wait two months. From October, however, they had waited three months; and from everything that had fallen from the mobile duke, it appeared that nothing had been done, although every alarm had been excited. It appeared that the cabinet every alarm had been excited. It appeared that the cabbint met again and again, came to no determination, quarrelled mat again and again, came to no determination, quarrened amongst themselves, and separated, leaving overything alone. The noble duke had told them that millions were deprived of a large portion of their customary food; now every one knew that potatoes constituted a large proportion of the food of the people of Iroland. As for the proposed alteration in the Corn Laws, he feared much, after what had fallen from the noble duke, that it would not be of such a nature as he could approve of. With respect to an observation made by his noble friend the noble marquess, he (the Earl of Radnor), for one, did not know and could not understand what were the burdens that fell peculiarly on the landed interest, and for which compensation should be made to them. He trusted that nothing of this kind would be acceded to without the strictest inquiry, and if this was instituted he doubted very much whether any case could be made out.

The measures which, according to the Duke of Wellington, were to give satisfaction to both the House of Lords and the country, were stated by Sir Robert Peel on Tuesday evening.

-On that afternoon, the scene outside the House of Commons, and within its walls, was animating and ox-

citing. The House was crowded, both by members and strangers. Amongst the latter were a large number of peers, all anxious to hear the statement of the Prime Minister; but the most remarkable visitant was his Royal Highness Prince Albert. The Prince was accompanied by the Earl of Jersey, who is Master of the Horse, and whose eldest son, Lord Villiers, member for Circucster, is married to Sir Robert Peel's eldest daughter. His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cambridge, uncle of the Queen, sat beside the Prince; and the party remained during the three hours and a half which were occupied by Sir R. Peel's speech; they paid great attention to its statements, and left the House the moment the First Lord of the Treasury sat down. There was nothing, however, in the entry or the presence of the Prince which marked out the attendance of his Royal Highness as different from that of any private gentleman who might desire to witness the debates of the House of Commons. So far, therefore, this was constitutionally correct; and it is against constitutional etiquette to allude to the opinions of the Sovereign on any matter under the deliberation of Parliament. Still, when it is considered that the rights of the people are opposed by a wealthy and powerful aristocracy, it is gratifying to know that the Queen is, from a careful study of the writings and publications of the advocates of Free Trade, a most decided advocate of commercial freedom; and so far as she is concerned, the cause will receive her energetic, anxious, and carnest support, consistently with that decorum which it is necessary for the Crown to observe.

Sir Robert Peel's speech occupied, as we have stated, nearly three hours and a half in delivering. Throughout, scarcely a cheer hailed it from what used to be the Ministerial benches. All the support he received, in the way of applause, came from the ranks of the Opposition. Though his plan is disfigured by many small blemishes, it was still great enough to stagger the agriculturists; even Mr. Becket Denison, who seconded the address, is stated to have muttered that it was too large for him. The crowning defect of the plan is, that though it provides for the ultimate total repeal of the Corn Law, yet it protracts it for a period of three years, keeping up a subsidiary sliding scale, for which the agriculturists do not care a rush, and which checks the support of the advocates of Free Trade. Stripping Sir Robert Peel's statements of all their rhetoric, and reducing them to naked propositions, the following is what he now proposes to effect :

He proposes the repeal, or the material reduction of all protective duties on manufactured articles; and he calls on the manufacturers cheerfully to submit to this on these grounds—first, that Adam Smith, and other great authorities attribute the origin of the restrictive system to the commercial classes, and they should now show their sincerity in wishing for its removal; and secondly, that by the new tariff, all duties on raw materials have been abolished or mitigated, with the exception of tallow and timber, which are to be added to the list. The duty on Russian tallow is to be reduced from 3s. 2d. to 1s. 6d., but the reduction on timber is to be a gradual one, the nature of which is not to be stated for a few days, as information is still incomplete.

The duty on the coarser fabrics of linen, cotton, and woollen is to be altogether abolished; on the finer, to be reduced from 20 to 10 per cent. The duty on silk manufactures is hereafter not to exceed the maximum of 15 per cent.; on ornamental paper hangings, to be reduced form one shilling to twopence the square yard; on foreign carriages, from 20 to 10 per cent.: on foreign candles and soap the reduction is one half; on boot fronts from 3s. 6d. to 1s. 9d., on boots from 1l. 8s. to 14s., on shoes from 1ls. to 7s. per dozen pairs, and on straw plait from 7s. 6d. to 5s.

French brandy, Geneva, and other foreign spirits: the duty to be reduced from 22s. 10d. per gallon to 10s.

Retaining his objection to the introduction of slave-grown sugar, Sir Robert Peel proposes to strike off 3s. 6d. from the differential duty on foreign free grown, believing that our colonies can bear increased competition. Thus, foreign free-grown Muscovado will be reduced from 9s. 4d. to 9s. 10d., and clayed from 11s. 10d. to 8s.

Agriculture: Indian corn and buckwheat to be admitted duty free. This is a boon to the agriculturists, Sir Robert Peel pointing out that beautiful dispensation of Providence, by which manure is rendered the fertiliser of the soil; while the rising price of rape and linseed justify the free introduction of nutritious food for fattening cattle.

Butter and Cheese: the duties to be reduced by one-half; thus, on butter from 11. to 10s., and on cheese from 10s. to 0s. The duty on foreign hope, which, by the tariff of 1842, was reduced to 41. 10s., is to be still further reduced to 21. 10s. Provisions, as fresh and salted meat, pork, and vegetables, duty free.

The duty on live animals, fixed by the new tariff, is to be abolished, and foreign cattle are to come in duty free.

Conn: in lieu of the present sliding scale, the following to be substituted:

When the average price of wheat is 48s., the day to be 10s., the duty falling by one shifting with every shifting of rise in price, till on resolving 08s., the duty is to be a fixed one of 4s.

This mitigated scale is to last for three years; and, by a

positive enactment, to disappear on the 1st of February, 1849, leaving for the future only a nominal rate of duty.

By this new scale, foreign wheat, which at present prices pays a duty of 16s., will only pay 4s.; and keeping the ratio between wheat and other grain, cate, barley, &c., will be admitted at a nominal rate.

All British colonial wheat and flour to be forthwith admitted at a nominal rate of duty.

As a compensation, or rather alleviation for this great change, some local burdens are to be revised, with a view to their economical collection and application.

The highway rates, which are now under the control of 16,000 local functionaries, are to be placed, by union of parishes, &c., under the management of 600; and their applicants more effectually supervised.

The law of settlement to be altered, so as to give every resident of five years in towns a status, and thus save rural districts from a flood of pauperism, thrown upon them in times of commercial and manufacturing revulsion.

Various other charges to be taken off county rates, and placed on the consolidated fund, as expenses of convicted prisoners, of prosecutions. &c., which are to be wholly or partly borne by the State.

The State to encourage agriculture by lending money, at a moderate rate of interest, on adequate security, for the drainage and other improvement of estates. The newly-constituted board for the inclosure of commons, and the Exchequer bill commissioners, to be the machinery for this purpose.

In the speech in which Sir Robert Peel made these propositions, he illustrated his object in various ways, and enforced it by different arguments.

We have, however, given the fullest report of his speech in the Supplement to THE LEAGUE; and must, therefore, refer our readers to that portion of the paper for these particulars.

A debate of some length ensued after Sir Robert Peel sat down; and it was arranged, chiefly on the suggestion of Mr. Stafford O'Brien, who asked for time, that the debate on Sir Robert Peel's propositions should be postponed till Morday, the 9th of February. But the more ardent agriculturists were not to be baulked. Mr. LIDDELL, one of the members for North Durham, and son of Lord Ravensworth, got up, and, though he has hitherto shown himself a tolerably pliable Ministerialist, broke out in denunciation of Sir Robert Peel. The House, however, paid little attention to a speech evidently prepared before the orator heard the plans of the Prime Minister. Honourable members were eagerly engaged in conversation, and the voice of Mr. Liddell was heard with difficulty above the hubbub. Still, his opposition is indicative of the degree and extent of opposition which Sir Robert Peel will encounter from those who were once his political friends and supporters.

The Earl of March, eldest son of the Duke of Richmond, spoke out in a more rabid spirit. He assured Sir Robert Peel that his measures would receive his "most strenuous, VIOLENT, and unceasing opposition!" The word "violent" caused a loud burst of laughter. But this soion of the house of Lennox was not satisfied with this. He demanded from Mr. Sydney Herbert, the Secretary of War, and a member of the Cabinet, why he had abandoned the cause of protection, and how he could explain his conduct to his constituents of South Wiltshire.

Mr. Sydney Herbert instantly rose; and, it must be admitted, that in personal appearance, style, and favour with the House, he has a great advantage over the Earl of March. He is young, tall, handsome; his style of address and of speaking have an easy, natural, unaffected grace, which conveys the impression, not of great intellectual power, but of that true gentlemanly spirit and feeling which possess such fascination for every Englishman, no matter what, may be his politics. Then Mr. Sydney Herbert is half brother and heir apparent to the Earl of Pembroke; in his own right he has large landed property, and is, withal, a generous holder of the powers which Nature and Providence have placed in his hands. So, when he assured the House that, at the proper time, he would be able amply to vindicate his "disinterestedness," his honour, and his faith, in giving a hearty and honest support to Sir Robert Peel's measures, a burn o cheering from both sides of the House indicated the spirit in which his defence was received.

But, grave as was the occasion; deep as ought to have been the interest felt; the night did not pass without an exhibition of buffoonery, as if to convince the House that the despairing agriculturists could afford to die in a fit of langiter. The redoubtable Colonel Sibthorp rose, and, with stolid gravity, informed the House that he had received a letter, marked "private and confidential," just which, nevertheless, he would read pro bono publico. This letter was one purporting to come from the Anti-Corn-Law League, inviting him, as a FREE TRADER, to secure a freehold qualification for Surrey! The horror of the gallant Colonel was ludio rously rich. But a more startling, striking, and amusing incident occurred.

All of a sudden, Sir John Tyrrell appeared at the table, opposite to Sir Robert Peel; as if he had installed himself leader of her Majesty's Opposition. The effect of the spirition was magical. Roars of laughter velocated the droll, aturdy, consistent champion and representative of the "agricultural mind," who proceeded gravely to tell the Prime Minister that "he felt much as a soldier might have been installed to feel in the Peninsular war. If the Duke of Walkers and a great part of his staff had gone over to Majake (green-daingiteer): The right phonographic housest (green-daingiteer): The right phonographic housest (green-daingiteer): The right phonographic housest (green-daingiteer) and when he spoke of the passage of the period of what a farmer said to him

was out handing (laughter). He said that Sir Robert Pael would only pull in front; he would neither go in the shafts nor in the middle; and if the country was not prepared to receive his dictum, he would do his best to force his measures. His (Sir J. Tyrrell's) complaint was that the right honourable baronet had not, by an appeal to the country. placed those who followed him in the same position they were in before." He then called the Government "the "Potato Peel Government," and accused the Prime Minister of compromising, not with the agriculturists, but with the Anti Corn Law League.

Ultimately, the debate was adjourned till Monday, the Oth

On Thursday night, a rambling debate was originated by the Duke of Richmond, in the House of Lords. He accused the Anti-Corn Law League of systematic bribery and interference with elections; to which accusations Lord Kinnaird replied with much spirit, owning himself a member of the League. The noble lord, while defending the League, said he would not, of course, make himself responsible for the language of every individual member of the League; and presumed that the Duke of Richmond would not make himself responsible for every sentiment uttered at Protection meetings. But the Duke of Richmond,-who is certainly not a coward, if he be not a wise man, and who is in the habit of constantly reminding people that at Waterloo he received a bullet through some part of his body—bravely and chivalrously declared that he would take upon himself the responsibility of every sentiment uttered at every meeting of every Protectionist Society! On this Lord Kinnaird reminded the very gallant Duke that, in that case, he must make himself responsible for much that was utterly unchristian, unkind, and

This short debate, however. was rendered remarkable by a declaration of opinion from Earl GREY on the Ministerial policy. The noble earl, as Lord Howick, constantly gave a bold, unhesitating support, in the House of Commons, to the motions of Mr. Villiers and Mr. Cobden; and now, as a peer of Parliament, he is as unbesitating as ever. As a landowner, he said, the only portion of the Ministerial measure of which he was afraid, was the three years of transition. This modified temporary sliding scale was a mere mockery of protection. He was not afraid of competition in agriculture; and he wished to be exposed to it at once. But the transition state would render nugatory all satisfactory arrangements between landlord and tenant; while, instead of at once opening the ports, at a time when all foreign stocks were low, they were building up an obstructing dyke which, for three years, would more or less exclude foreign importation; and then, after a three years' preparation, suddenly let it in as a flood. He also ridiculed the "compensating" portion of the Ministerial scheme, as utterly unworthy of association with so great an experiment as the removal of all protection.

Lord Ashburton admitted that the doctrines of Free Trade were the doctrines of common some; but thought the country was in too artificial a state to bear the application of common sense! Lord Ashburton's mind possesses a very peculiar quality of "judicial imbecility." Throughout his long life he would never have made himself up on any public question, had it not been for the external weight of his "breeches pocket." When he was Mr. Baring, a member of the House of Commons, and the head of one of the greatest mercantile firms in the world, the weight of his breeches pocketinelined him to Free Trade: and accordingly, in 1815, he presented the well-known petition of the merchants of London, in which the doctrines of Free Trade are laid down in the most lucid manner. But now that he is a peer and a landowner, he doubts, and doubts, and doubts, if this country can bear the application of the principle of common

In the House of Commons, the debate of Thursday night turned on the Ten Hours' Bill; which Lord Ashley has once more got leave to introduce. Sir James Graham, in assenting to its introduction, expressed lumself doubtful whether or not capital and labour could bear any farther interference; and hoped that the noble lord would not ask for a decision on its merits, until the higher and more important question of the laws which regulate the importation of food had been disposed of. After some discussion, leave was given to bring

IMPORTANT DECISION IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, IN FAVOUR OF THE LEGALITY OF THE NEW QUALI-FICATION VOTES.

On Thursday, Lord Chief Justice Tindal delivered judgment in those cases bearing upon 7 and 8 of William III. commonly called the Splitting Act. The opinion of the Court was, where the conveyances were bona fide, the votes were valid and good. His lordship said he saw nothing improper in this mode of enfranchisement, but it appeared to him a VERY LAUDABLE ACT ON THE PART OF THE PROPLE OF A FREE COUNTRY. The judgment was read, and occupied more than an hour in the delivery. We regret that we cannot this week give a full report of this important judgment. but shall do so in our next number,

Resources.—The Conservatives of Preston did not ring the latter special of the Queen's special Hemistikis? el uelle geben ! e

SIR ROBERT PEEL AND FREE TRADE. (From The Times.)

The chief characteristic of the Premier's plan is its claborate attempt at equalisation. It ambraces every class, and touches every article. That, of course, is a circumstance which ought to be taken into account previous to any positive judgment on the plan; for we ought always to know what is intended. Sir Robort Peel intends to deal equal justice and equal protection to all parties, town and country, great and small. He has himself been the centre of universal solicitation, and now every one of his fellow-countrymen, not to say every member of the whole human family, may feel bimself the object of special solicitude. So careful and expansive a work is likely to run into minuties, and betray an unostentatious equilibrium. Such is undoubtedly the case with Sir Robert Peel's third new tariff. The balance is excessive. As in old-fashioned gardens, tower answers to tower, walk to walk, tree to tree, urn to urn, so in this scheme every interest shows a parallel series of modifications. It is a diminished protection pervading all runks and conditions of men. We are all let down a peg lower. Everybody must console himself for the diminution of his own status by looking at every man and thing in the universe—i. c., in Sir Robert Peel's tariff. He will see that they are let down as well as himself, and though he has suffered an absolute curtailment, yet comparatively he is much where he was before, and so much the better for the general reduction. To construct so vast and complicated a system is no small proof of courage; but it demands equal courage to criticise. We must count up the sum of a hundred protections before we venture to pronounce our own insufficient. Some people would have preferred a simpler fabric; but simplicity was not the Premier's object, any more than it is the object of those old cathedral clocks on the Continent, which tell not only the time of the day, but the time of earth, sea, and sky, sun, moon, and stars, the time of human affairs, and of everything that goes, or can be imagined to go. The Premier's scheme is a microcosm of commerce and finance. Like as in a Gothic building, its multiplicity of parts and exactness of proportion are as much its merits as the greatness of the whole.

The first fear that suggests itself is, that so vast and minute an adjustment is above the powers of mortal man. It is really impossible to apprehend all the conditions necessary to the perfect unanimity of the change. One of the Bridgewater treatises enumerated, we think, twenty-two conditions of the inanimate universe, which, arbitrary as they might be, were yet all necessary to the actual constitution of man. He could not have been other than what he is without a change in the whole. Now, it would require an unusual degree of presumption to specify all the changes necessary to make man, for example, ten times as big and as s rong as he is. Yet that attempt is not so very unlike Sir Robert Peel's "equitable adjustment."

The agriculturist expects a dreadful downfall in the price of his corn, or that if he has a short crop he will not now enjoy the natural compensation of a high price. Let us see the multifarious equivalent which the watchful Premier has provided for him. He is to save ten or lifteen per cent. in the material of the clothes worn by himself, his family, his servants, and his labourers. If he has not a dairy of his own, he will gain by the reduction on butter and cheese. He will pay a trifle less for his sugar, his rice, his brandy, his soap pay a time less for his sugar, his rice, his brandy, his soap and candles, and 50 other little things. If he does not get a cheap gig from Brussels, or a drawing-room paper from Paris, he may still combine economy and taste in a French tea-tray and tea-service. Whether the labourer is likely to benefit by these letter reductions we is likely to benefit by these latter reductions, we will leave his patron, the landowner, to decide. The farmer, then, is to get his clover seed and his rape seed and his oil cake a good deal cheaper; and he has the option of cheap Indian corn, "rice feed," and we know not what other patritions delication for his tileague. nutritious delicacies for his "beasts" or his pigs. If he has a family, his daughters will get their millinery from Paris without the alternative of ruination or smuggling. His roads are to be better and cheaper. When the disorderlies of his parish steal his poultry, or rob his potato bed, they will be prosecuted wholly at the national charge, their twelve-months keep in prison will be no addition to the rates. The nation will help to pay the doctor's bill for the parish, and the schoolmaster's salary for the union children, besides some other small matters. What is more important than all, the farmer need not be under dully apprehension of such and such a man and his family falling back on his parish. They've been five years in the town, and are safe. Nor is it necessary to explain how this comfortable security may be made the object of prospective arrangements.

All this is on the farmer's own supposition. We think that neither his loss northis equivalents will be considerable. The more probable result is, that the whole scale of prices will be tolerably sustained; and as for the local taxation, after all, prosecutions and gaols and outcast paupers are not a very large item of agricultural expense. Still the farmer must feel that he is in careful hands. He is the tender object of a thousand auxious cares and delicate attentions. tender object of a thousand auxious cares and denotes attentions. He is propped up on every side that he shall not fall, and shielded on every side that the blasts of Heaven shall not blow upon him. We have frequently assured him that his fears are visionary; that the avalanche of corn which is to overshalm him is not yet housed or grown or in the to overwhelm him is not yet housed, or grown, or in the earliest stage of preparation. But if the catastrophe should come, then he will have his consolations. "If the sky should fall," then, as the ancient proverb says, "he will catch

Nor is it likely that any interest, either great or small, to adopt a new distinction, will suffer more than the farmer by the new tariff. The manufacturers want no protection for those articles of general use which it seems the special vocation of the Anglo-Saxon race to make for the world, and which are the great basis of our national wealth and power. In the more common fabrics, whether of cotton, linen, wool, or silk, we beat our neighbours, far and near, in every open or suc, we beat our neighbours, far and near, in every open market, and à fortieri in our own. As for the higher productions of taste and skill, we shall never compete effectually till we have learnt to compete in the school of fair and close competition. English art and enterprise will not receive any permanent injury from the importation of foreign and more also ant fairless and natterns, and the consequent entered of elegant fabrics and patterns, and the consequent spread of fushion and refinement of taste.

fushion and refinement of teste.

The "small" interests, the thousand and one male and famile handlerafts, may safely rely, ou their present amount of prosperity, such as it is. The danger of foreign competition is balanced by the reduced cost of materials. The shoethalter and the glovemaker compete with the foreigner on hader and seems! "The very "small" interests, however, the hand loom wasvers, the scalingers, the scalingers, and such other headess people, cannot be relieved by special

laws, and are the very last persons to benefit by protection It is a mistake to treat them as substantial and integral classes. They are rather the unfortunate, the incapable, the unskilled, and perhaps the intractable portions of society, such as society always will contain, and always will deposit in the depth of wretchedness and toil. "To "protect" them by legislative enactments is to protect, to multiply, to perpetuate misery. Their only chance is to be absorbed in higher and more productive occupations; and the best aid the State can render them is to give those higher and more productive occupations a securer footing and an ampler scope. Indeed, whatever common cause some deluded agriculturists may attempt to make with other classes in favour of protection, they will not easily persuade them that the present measure is not an immense and universal relief.

From the Morning Chronicle.

We are glad to be able to state that the opinions which we expressed of Sir Robert Peel's plan, immediately upon being propounded, are identical with those which, apoly communication, are identical with those which, upower communication, are found to prevail amongst the members of the Liberal party. Those defects of the scheme to which we adverted are fully felt, and it will be perfectly right to take any opportunity that may present itself of getting rid of them, provided that the attempt to do so involves no dauger to the great measure of abolition itself. We are strongly convinced that it would have been widen and better and to convinced that it would have been wiser and better, and in a merely political point of view quite as safe, for Sir Robert Peel to have proposed at once the establishment of a Free Trade in corn, without the petty clogs and conditions which he has chosen to attach to it; and as discussion develops antagonist opinions, we think it may yet become manifest, even to himself, that he has only marred the gracious as pect of a noble reform, by contrivances which will be either wholly inoperative, or he very slightly felt, and which in any case neither will be, nor deserve to be, much valued by anybody. But whatever success may attend efforts to amond the plan, and whatever shape its details may assume when the time comes for the final struggle, there can be but one opinion amongst Free Traders as to the importance of combining and putting forth their whole strength to ensure the success of a measure which virtually catablishes a Free Trade in corn at once, and provides for the speedy removal of every, even nominal, restriction, of which the temporary existence may be auffered.

With regard to the immediate proceedings of the House of Commons, though the country can badly afford to wait for the legislative realisation of principles which public opinion, the unanimous convictions of all our leading statesmen, and pressing national exigences demand to have placed on the statute-book with the least possible loss of time, we are not disposed to find fault with the Premier's concession to the application for postponement made on Tuesday night can only express our wish that the interval will be wisely employed. We trust that our landlords will avail themselves of this period of leisure, to take a calm and prudent survey of their position, resources, responsibilities, and permanent interests. They will not, we hope, merely look to their own powers, real or supposed, of temporary ob-struction, but to the consequences of a possibly successful exercise of those powers. They must not imagine that the great question now before Parliament and the country can, by any conceivable amount of violence of protectionist agitation, be put back to where it was, one year, one mouth, or one week ago. The whole collective statesmanship of the empire has now, once for all, committed itself in this struggle -has definitively sanctioned and legitimated the national demand for commercial freedom—and the only possible consequence of resistance our be an extremely brief postponement of an inevitable result, purchased at the cost of an exasporating and disorganising war of classes.

We are sure that all prudent and sober-minded protection ists must see this. We trust that no timidity, indolence, or false shame will prevent them from streamously using their influence to counteract the suggestions of the more hasty and passionate members of their party. It must be quite superfluous for us to tell such of the landlords as are capable of watching the signs of opinion, that the adjustment now proposed by Sir Robert Peel is the most favourable to their pretensions that any statesman could venture to offer with the slightest prospect of its being accepted by the country. It falls short of the measures of public demands and expectations. It is not exactly what the country looked for. It will, we cannot doubt, be very generally regarded as, on the whole and under all circumstances, a satisfactory settlement; butit will only be so regarded because it is a settlement, offered by a Minister who is presumed to have the power of giving immediate effect to his purposes. We are not at all sure that the popular feeling on the matter will go much beyond contented and pleased acquiescence. The satisfaction will, we should hope, be nearly universal; but we are afraid that any enthusiasm on the subject will be very partial. Let any serious doubt be thrown on Sir Robert Peel's power to give immediate legislative reality to the scheme of adjustment proposed last night, and we may look for a sudden and vast accession, both of force and of hitterness, to the best organised and most formidable popular movement that this country has ever seen. To say that the defeat of Sir Robert Peel's measure would involve the certain loss of that temporary and qualified protection which it offers to the agriculturists, would be little to the purpose; for we believe all agricultural interests would be the better without believe all agricultural interests would be the better without this apparent boon. But it would involve evils in the presence of which all the gains of protection, as estimated by the most imaginative agricultural arithmetic, become utterly insignificant. We could then look only for an indefinite extension and continuance of agitation which, under the influence of such an irritant, would merge its merely commercial and industrial character in an organised offort to alter the weapont distribution of political and special power. alter the present distribution of political and social power.

All good men must depreente such a result ; all thoughtful men must see it to be inevitable under the chromstances we have supposed. We trust we do not presume too far on the prudence and patriotism of English landlords, in expressing the hope that a large and influential portion of them will use their utmost exertions to avert the disasters consequent on a re opening of this question now. The present interval for consideration and reflection will, we fervently hope, be spent, by very many of those to whom the agricultural community look for counsel and guidance, not in family the finite of a hopeless agliation, but in smoothing and facilitating a settlement which will terminate an anxious political question; close a harassing social controversy; heal an exasperating social quarrel; and enable the country to meet, as calmly and hopefully as may be, a grave public calamity that has long been rapidly approaching, and may soon be present with us in all its strength and bitterness.

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE MERTING OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURISMS AT GOATAGRS, printed in a statement of the stateme

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

While we congratulate our readers on the progress of the subscriptions to the Quarter of a Millian Fund, and on the effect that they have obvivusly produced without and within the walls of Parliament, we must impress upon them the necessity of not relaxing in their exertions, now that the edsis of our great struggle has arrived. The victory is not yet won; all the resources, and all the energies of the League, will be required, before complete success can be achieved. A dissolution of Parliament appears to be imminent; and the battle of Free Trade will have to be fought inch by inch on the hustings. We are anxious to arge on our friends the importance, not only of subscribing freely, but of subscribing early. The manifestation of strength will often decide the course of the wavering and the doubtful; but, above all, our subscriptions are the best proof that we are thoroughly in earnest, and that we shall not cease to labour until every link of the fetters imposed on British industry is struck off, and every restriction on the supply of food to the people completely annibilated.

PRESTON

From an announcement in mother column, it will be ween that the subscription in aid of the League fund has been commenced in this town, in a very spirited manner. - Preston Chronicle, Jan. 21.

In the column referred to, the following liberal subscriptions are recorded, and others solicited:

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DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.
The Jarrow Chemical Company have subscribed 50l. to the Quarter of a Million League, Fund; H. E. F. (per Mr. D. Liddell), 10l. 10s.; Mr. In Hedley, Villa place, Mr. Stephen Lowrey, Mr. John Hewitson, Mr. William Wilson, Mr. James Stephen, Mr. Pringle, jun., and Mr. John Potts, (Gateshead) 5l. each.—Gateshead Observer, Jan. 24th.
Mr. Lohn Ormston, of Newspatle, has removed his sub-

Mr. John Ormston, of Newcastle, has renewed his subscription of 11. to the League; also the following Free Traders in Sanderland:—William Bell, Esq., Ford Honse, Mr. W. T. Bell, High street, Mr. Henry Armstrong, Union Bank, Mr. Thomas Robson, Cumberland-terrace, Mr. Ralph Dauson, High street, Mr. George Handeastle, Norfolk-street, and 'A Friend.' Monkwarmouth Cant. Cant. Capt. League the and 'A Friend," Monkwearmouth. Capt. Gauntlet, of the brig Dorothy, Sunderland, has subscribed bs.—Ibid. Jan.

WHITEHAVEN.

Whitehaven -- a town which presents a striking instance of the disustrous effects of monopoly—is showing signs of of the disastrous enects of monopoly—is snowing signs of landable activity in the movement for emancipating trade from the unwholesome operation of prohibitory laws. A meeting is in contemplation in aid of the Loague Quarter of a Million Fund, and it is expected that the services of Mr. Falyey will be secured for the occasion. As a proof that the no means deficient in the spirit which has been so nobly displayed in Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, and Glasgow, we may mention that two gentlemon connected with the Anti-Monopoly Association of Whitehaven, collectwith the Ann-Monopoly Association of Whitehaven, collected, in one afternoon's canvass, last week, no less than 2007. With such evidence of the progress of sound principles as this, may we not hope that, assisted by that ancient constitutional weapon, whose efficacy has been so recently discovered, (the crostion of 40s. freeholds) our brethren in the west will be at no distant day (mabled to throw off the yoke of the domineering house of Lowther?—Carlisle Journal, Jan. 21.

DUNDEE.

We have much pleasure in reporting the continued progress of the League Fund subscriptions here. Since our last paper, sums amounting to nearly 500% have been subscribed. The following is the list:

Reported in our last,	£	1848	19	0
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-Northern Warder, Jan. 22.

ARBROATH.

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The subscriptions in this place to this giant fund have onneaced on a scale corresponding to the vast amount required. One gentleman, we believe, of this place, has given 1501, and his example is being followed by others in sums proportionally large. Arbroath is Free Trade to the core; and we doubt not in proportion to its size, that its sum total will not stand lowest on the list.—Northern Warder, Jan. 22.

CARLISLE.

W. Marshall, Esq. M.P. for this city, has directed his name to be entered in the Carlisle subscription to the Anti-Corn-Law League Fund of a Quarter of a Million, for the sum of 3000l,—Carlisle Journal.

LIVERPOOL.

The Liverpool contribution to the Corn Law League, now amounts to nearly 17,000l.: and it is expected that it will

HORSHAM.

A subscription of nearly fifty pounds has already been raised by the friends of Free Trade, towards the above fund. -Sussex Advertiser.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "SHEFFIELD INDEPENDENT." SIR,—A friend of the Anti-Corn-Law League received, on Mozday last, a circular, requesting his aid and assistanceto the Anti-Corn-Law League Fund. Accordingly he, with another friend, canvassed the little neighbourhood of Lox-ley, when, in a few hours, they got the sum of 22/. 10s., every shilling of it from working men; one man contributed 2/., and eleven men 1/. each, and the remainder in 10s. and os. each. I feel confident that if the country was canvassed in a similar way, there would be many thousand pounds got, that perhaps will not be got if neglected.

Yours respectfully, A FREE TRADER.
Loxley, Jan 11. P.S. We have not done yet

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1846.

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

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, sub scribers are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for George Wilson, League Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.

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*Graham, John, merchant, G *Black, Arobibald, Shaw-plac	rey-pl	800]		
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Those names marked with an astorisk are renewed sub-

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE WILTSHIRE LABOURERS. Taylor, A., Greenacro Moor, near Oldham, for Wm. Perry, of Charlton Duke, Geo., Battle 0 5 2 Harris, James, Clapham

BEDS FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS. tovin, Mr. South Western Railway, Vauxhall 0 5 0 5

The following names in our last week's Subscription List were either erroneously spelt, or appeared with misdescriptious in the addresses. As given below they are correct:—In Leaure, No. 122, for J. Mather, R. Mather, and D. Mather, St. Mount Pleasant, Holywell, read John Mather, Richard Mather, and Daniel Mather, St. Mount Pleasant, Liverpool; for Miss Mather, and Miss Jane Mather, 58, Mount Pleasant, Holywell, read 58, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool; for G. and J. Rawdon, Old Hall, read Christopher and James Rawdon, Old Hall, steepeol; for Messrs. James Kitl, Sons, and Co.; for F. Pennington, Exchange Chambers, real Exchange-street, East; for J. Harvey, Hamilton Hall, Waterlow, read Wavertree; for A. Kurk, Bootle, read Andrew Kurt.; for P. Quirk, Court House, Bombro, read Brombro, Cheshire; for Peter M'Mulldron, 6, Heinter, read 5, Hunterstreet; for J. Brocklebank, Rumford, read Rumford-street; for Ralph Brocklebank, Rumford, read Rumford-street; for Ralph Brocklebank, Rumford, read Rumford-street; for S. Thornley, 12, Claremont-street, read Clarence-street; for Mrs. Mathews, Waverton, read Wavertree; for McClellan and Lee, Princesstreet, roul Prices-street; for R. Waylie, 2, India-bridge, read India-briddings; for P. G. and J. Hoyworth, Rumford, read Rumford-street; for R. Bright, 72, Bole-street, road Bold-street; for T. Carter, 4, Temple Boss, read Temple-briddings; for E. Jackson, 7, Deighton-street, Biristol, read Ebenezer Harris.

In the Birmingham list of Subscriptions it should have been stated, "From the Clerks and Poremen of London Works, Smeth-wick, near Birmingham."

The following gondar	1			- 1/			
The following gentler	men nuv	o sent	in their	r ina	ıme	B to	67
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LETTER FROM MR. COBDEN TO THE TENANT FARMERS OF ENGLAND.

TO THE FARMING TENANTRY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

GENTLEMEN,-The question for you now to determine is, Shall the repeal of the Corn Law be gradual or immediate? Deny it who may, this is the only question that deserves a moment's consideration at your hands. Public opinion has decreed that protection to both agriculture and manufactures shall be abelished; and Ministers and statesmen have at last reluctantly bowed to a power from which there is no appeal. Let no designing or obtuse politicians delude you with the cry that the House of Lords, or a dissolution of Parliament, can prevent the repeal of the Corn Law. All men of average sagacity are now agreed that Free Trade in corn and manufactures is inevitable. How, then, shall we apply this new principle?timidly and gradually, like children; or boldly and at once, as becomes men and Englishmen? Upon this point, I wish to submit to your consideration a few remarks which I believe to be of the utmost importance to your interests; they are offered in good faith by one who has sprung from your own ranks, and who, although deemed by some to be your enemy, will, I hope, live to be regarded as a promoter of the independence and prosperity of the farming tenantry of the kingdom.

The Government measure proposes to abolish the Corn Law in February, 1840, putting on for the three intervening years, a new scale of duties, sliding from 10s. to 4s. The moment this law is passed, the duty will drop from 15s. to 4s. Here will be change the first, fright the first, and with many fear, panie the first. But there will be no settlement. You will not be able to foretell whether the duty during the years 1847 and 1848 will be 4s. or 10s. It is quite probable that, in February, 1819, the duty will be 10s.; if so, on the 1st of that month, it will drop again suddenly, from 10s. to 1s. Here will be change the second, fright the second, and, possibly, panic the second. The fall of duty in these two changes would have amounted to, first, from 15s. to 4s.; next, from 10s. to 1s.; making, together, 20s.; but, mark, if the duty were immediately reduced, from 15s. to 1s., the fall would be only 14s. So that by this clumsy contrivance, you are not only to be kept for three years in a state of suspense and embarrassment, and exposed to double panies, but are liable to a drop of 20s., instead of 14s., duty; you are actually subjected to the shock of the withdrawal of 6s, more of protection!

But this is only a small part of the danger to which you will be exposed by the delay. From the moment that the new Corn Lian is passed foreign-

ors and corn importers will begin to make prepara tions for the day of its extinction; they dread a aliding scale in any shape, owing to former losses, and will keep their eyes steadily fixed upon the 1st of February, 1840.

What a precious policy is this which advertises for three years to all the landowners and speculators of the entire world, offering them a premium to hold back their supplies, and then to pour upon our markets, in one day, a quantity of corn which, but for this contrivance, might have been spread over 12 or 18 months! And what may your fate be under these probable circumstances? Supposing the crop of 1848 to be abundant in this country, you will be liable, in the spring of 1849, to the sudden and unnatural influx of the corn accumulated by foreigners for this market, which must be sold here, having no other market; thus beating down prices artificially, to the loss of all parties, but more especially of the British farmer.

How different would be the operations of an immediate repeal of the Corn-Law. There would then be no stock of foreign corn waiting for the opening of our ports. Nobody expected last year in Poland or America that the English Corn Law would be repealed-nobody prepared for it; not a bushel of grain was raised upon the chance of such an unlooked-for contingency. Is there an intelligent farmer in the kingdom that will not at once exclaim, " If we are to have a repeal of the Corn Law, give us it this spring, when the foreigner is unprepared for it, and when not a single quarter of corn sown after the news reaches him can be brought to this market iu less than 18 months."

But the present is, beyond all comparison, the most favourable moment ever known for abolishing the Corn Law. If ever it could be repealed without even temporary inconvenience to the turner, this is the time. There is a scarcity at present over nearly all the Continent. One half of Europe is compoting for the seanty surplus stock of grain in America. Millions of our countrymen are deprived of their ordinary subsistence by the disease of the potato, and they must be sustained at the public expense upon a superior food. Do what we will, we cannot, during the present year, secure low prices. Abolish the Corn Law to morrow, and still wheat must rise during the spring and summer. If the farmers had the power of ordering time and cir cumstances, they could not contrive a juncture more favourable to them than the present for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Law. Nay, I believe that if the Corn Law could be abolished by a secret edict to-morrow, the farmers would never make the discovery of open ports by any injurious effect produced upon their interests.

I cannot believe that Sir Robert Peel is favorable to the gradual repeal; he supported it by no other argument in his speech than the fear of panic amongst the farmers; but he has told us again and again, in proposing his former alterations in the tariff, that he believes all such changes are less injurious, if suddonly made, than when spread over a period of years. I have the strongest conviction, derived from his own past changes in the tariff, that he is right. Why then should you, in deference to unfounded fears, be deprived of the benefits of experionce? If you speak out in favour of an immediate settlement, who will oppose your wishes? —Not the Government: they are auxious, so far as public opinion and the exigencies of the moment will allow, to conciliate your favour: Not the great landed proprietors, whose interests and yours are in this respect identical, who desire also, on political grounds, to put a period to an agitation, the prolonged duration of which they believe to be injurious, and who would willingly take any step which shall at once consult your interests and dissolve the Loague.

Let me entreat you to take this subject into your instant and earnest consideration. Do mo the justice to believe that I have no other object in view in writing this letter but to serve your interests. If you should be induced to concur in its views, you will exaid the onlyldanger to which, in my opinion, the farmers were ever exposed from the

repeal of the Corn Law-that of the transition state. From the first I have always entertained and expressed the conviction that Prec Trade, far from permanently injuring the farmers, would ultimately tend to their prosperity and independence. never disguised from myself, however, the temporary evils to which they might be exposed in the change. But let us unite in seizing the present opportunity, and the triumph of sound principles may be achieved without the bitter ingredient of one particle of injury to any class or individual. From the most exalted personage in the realm down to the humblest peasant, all may witness, with unalloyed pleasure, one of the greatest victories over achieved over past prejudice and ignorance, whilst each class may derive peculiar gratification at the close of our long domestic struggle. The Sovereign may glory that her reign was reserved for the era of a commercial reformation, more pregnant in its beneficial consequences to the destinies of mankind than all the wars of her illustrious ancestors; the landed aristocracy will see in the consummation of our labours, an opening for the resumption of their social influence based upon the only sure foundation-the respect and confidence of the people; whilst to the middle and industrious classes will be presented a constantly widening field for the employment of their peaceful energies, together with greater means and more leisure for that moral amelioration which, I trust, will accompany their improved physical condition.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant, RICHARD COBDEN. London, 80th January, 1816.

FREE TRADE MEETINGS.

SECOND FREE TRADE DEMONSTRATION OF THE WORKING MEN OF LIVERPOOL.

At the meeting held in Clayton square yesterday evening week, it was stated that, in consequence of the shortness of the notice given for convening that meeting, another would be held, for the purpose of allowing a still larger number of the labouring classes an opportunity of publicly expressing their opinions upon the great question of Free Trade. Accordingly, the second meeting was announced for Wednes-day evening last, in Williamson square; and the publicity given to the proceedings of Thursday having excited considerable interest, preparations were made for one of the

most numerous assemblages ever witnessed in this town.
A drizzling rain had fallen during the greater portion of the day; and at seven o'clock, when the square began to fill, the wet had increased considerably. Nothing dannted, however, the poor men kept their places—the bands came up, bringing with them thousands of people, and at half past seven o'clock the immense square was at the very least two thirds filled. The rain, by this time came down almost in torrents, the wind extinguished some of the gas lights, and the atmospheric appearances were altogether so unfavourable to proceeding, that the committee decined it prudent to put it to the assembled thousands whether they should go on, or adjourn to the first fine evening. Several insisted that they should proceed "if it rained cats and dogs "-a sally which was received with lond laughter; but the necessity was imporative, and the crowd quietly dispersed. -Liverpool Mercury, Jan. 23. ADJOURNED MESTING.

The adjourned meeting was held on the evening of Thursday, the 23d, when the elements were scarcely less unfavourable than on the previous evening, a notice of which is reported above. The arrangements were much the same as before noticed, with the addition of a canvass covering to the platform, which protected the chairman, speakers, and reporters from the rain. The bands from the north and south ends, again brought up thousands of the working-chases, whose ardour seemed in no degree abated. The enthusiasm which prevailed was of the most exciting nature, and the immenso concourse who thronged the square conducted themselves with the most perfect good humour-like men in earnest in the good work in which they were ongaged.

Mr. Alamilton M'Gregon said : Workmen of Liverpool this is rare weather for umbrella makers. I hope they will have plenty of trade and profit by it. Her Majesty assembles Parliament to-day to consider what is necessary for the good of the nation, and we have assembled to night for the purpose of telling them that the measures which we think they should adopt the milestell and catalaly (change). should adopt, must be adopted, and quickly (cheers). I therefore propose that the chairman of last night, Mr. John Walawright, a shipwright, of Liverpool, and a right good

fellow, take the chair.
Mr. John Puter seconded the motion; and it was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. John Simmons to road the placent announcing the meeting, which was as follows :

"The aristocracy want all: they have the Colonies, the Army, the Navy, the Law, and the Church, and yet they demand a share of the poor man's loaf. Notice.—A second open air meeting of the working-classes will be hold on Wednesday evening next, Jan. 21, 1846, at hair past seven o'clock, in Williamson square, to take into consideration the best means of securing the total immediate, and unconditional moans of securing the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws. Two bands of music will be one flamed, one of which will laws St. James's Market-place, and the other the north end of Scotland road, at seven o clock presidely to accompany thousands of the working-man of Liverpeol to the place of meeting. A journeyman aniswright is expected to preside, and a number of working-men will some of it. A little further on he said this meeting was

address the meeting, when it is hoped the most perfect order will prevail, as on the occasion of our last meeting. God save the Queen! The committee of the working-man meet every evening, except Hunday, at No. 25, Tarleton-street, near Williamson-square, where all communications may be addressed to the committee. Highed, on behalf of the committee of the working-men, William Himmons, secretary."

The CHAIRMAN then proceeded. It gives me great pleasure in seeing such a number of my fellow working men assembled together on such a grand occasion as the present one. Never, in all my life, had I so great an honour conferred upon me as in presiding over so vast an assemblage of my fellow working men. I hope and trust, gentlemen, that none of you will disgrace this meeting by any kind of disorderly conduct (hear, and no, no). I hope that, as men of Liverpool, none of you will forget your character as men. I have that note of you will disgrace the town wherein you hope that none of you will disgrace the town wherein you live by letting it go forth to the world, through the means of the public press, that the working men of Liverpool could the public press, that the working men of Liverpool could not hold a meeting on such a glorious occasion as this without being annoyed by any portion of the working classes (hear). Gentlemen, I will not fill up your time by making any further remarks, and I hope and trust the greatest order will be maintained by you, and I pledge myself to do my endeavours towards keeping that which is so requisite on the present occasion (cheers) present occasion (cheers).

Mr. James Brown, a journeyman tailor, was next introduced to the meeting. He said, "Gentlemen, the resolution which I have the honour of proposing is as follows:

"That the working men of Liverpool in open air assembled to be proposed to be presented to

bled do hereby declare that our earnest desire is to be permitted the free exercise of our skill and exertions for the support of our families. That thousands of our fellow men, in all parts of the country, who have neither sufficient work nor food, though willing and anxious to work, have our deepest sympathy. We, therefore, join in the demand now making in every part of the kingdom for the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws, believing and asserting most emphatically our opinion, that the Corn Laws tend only to demoralise the people and intercept the bless-ings of a kind Providence as the reward of honest and perse-

vering industry."

Gentlemen, continued the speaker, at this time last night the Duke of Wellington was giving his Parliamentary dinner, and I hope they were considering the best means of giving to the poor cheap bread; but if not, we'll oblige them to do so (cheers). The placend calling this meeting has informed you that we are met here to take into consideration the best means of seeking a total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws; therefore, no matter what may be the result of to-day's proceedings, you must persent in anitating until you grave for over from the statute vere in agitating until you crase for ever from the statute book the iniquitous and damnable laws that cramp the commerce, the bane of industry, and the curse of this country, and create more misery and poverty than any hell-born minister could be supplied to the country than any hell-born minister. nister could ever imagine (great cheering). Persevere, peaceably and energetically, until every restriction, every rabibition on the food of man shall be removed for ever and in the name of this great meeting-in the name of the suffering thousands of our follow-countrymen—in the name of the Goatacre agricultural labourers of this kingdom—and in the name of the half employed and half-fed operatives of this and other large towns, I call on Sir Robert Peel to let the people enjoy what he has asserted we have a right to, that which we now demand as our right—the privilege of buying in the cheapest, and selling in the dearest market (cheers). I call on him to knock the fetters off our commerce, to give a fresh impetus to industry—to let the people of this country prosper if it can only be done by a repeal of the Corn Laws (cheers). At a meeting lately held in Brighton, over which the Duke of Richmond presided, he quoted an extract from a speech delivered by Sir James Graham in an extract from a speech delivered by Sir James Graham in 1838. It was to this effect:—" If you repeal the Corn Laws you make England the workshop of the world, but you become dependent on foreigners." The Duke of Richmond acquiesced with Sir James Graham, and I acquiesce with the Duke of Richmond in one thing. We want exactly to make England the workshop of the world, for nature has designed have to have any walker aware power to make her so. But her to be so, and we have every power to make her so. But the Duke goes further, and says—Do not be dependent upon foreigners. Where does he get his tea and coffee, and things of that sort? Where does he get his principal supply of beef, pork, and butter from? Let him ask Lord Lyndhurst, and perhaps he will say it is the alien Irish that supplies it-a nation under the parental care of our Government—an integral portion of Great Britain—and one which, according to Lord Denman, contains upwards of four millions of people in a state of starvation—a nation, as Karl, a German traveller, said, whose inhabitants are worse clad and fed than any other people. On that very ground I for one am one that will not claim for myself what I would not give to another; and I call on Sir Robert Peel to adopt prompt, carly, and a can on sir moore reer to anope prompt, early, and energetic measures to improve the international condition of Ireland (hear). I call on him to adopt such measures as will prevent famine and disease from striding through the land; for, if not, individual as I am, I will be amongst that crowd that will raise their voice, and call "Ireland for the Irish" (vehement cheering). Many will say this is irrelevant to the question, but I maintain it is not; for are not the Irish people sending their representatives over to help us in achieving this great question?—consequently, we ought to extend our sympathies towards them (great cheering). The Duke of Richmond said the friends of the League dare not call an open air meeting. I think you will all admit the Duke of Richmond is a perverter of truth, and on this platform, and on the authority of this meeting, I call the Duke of Richmond a liar (loud cheers). The Duke of Richmond, moreover, said to his dupes, that if the Corn have were repealed, they would be transplanted into Manchester, to be placed into those scenes of iniquity and vice, the manufactories of Manchester and Leeds. But I would tell him there is, perhaps, as much morality, and more, about the factories of Manchester than about Goodwood and its neighbourhood. He had an automaton in strings there, a person named Fruen, to say there was no deficiency in the wheat crop, and that the potato disease was greatly exagge-rated. I will put another name to him, and call him "Premeditating Ruin"—(roars of laughter)—and ask if he intended to give the curry powder of the Duke of Norfolk to feed the Irish with till next March? Mr. Miles, at the sume mosting, said—"O, the cry of cheap bread is low wages;" but that is a fallacy. I come now to a much more homely person, the editor of the Standard. He called the

Now I wonder how many he w only composed of 500, say is here to night. (Is he here?) No matter what he says; I care not a pin for the vile slauders of the lying standard (loud and continued cheening.)

The speaker concluded by reading the following lines:

What do we want? Our daily bread;
Leave to earn it by our skill:
Leave to labour freely for it, Leave to buy it where we will. For tis hard upon the many, Hard—unpitled by the few, To starve and die for want of work, Or live, half-starved, with work to do. What do we want? Our daily bread; Fair reward for labour done; Daily bread for wives and children; All our wants are merged in one. When the flerce flend Hunger grips us, Evil faucies clog our brains, Vengeance settles on our hearts, And Frenzy gallops through our veius, What do we want? Our daily bread-Sole release from thoughts so dire; To rise at morn with cheerful faces, And sit at evening round the fire; To teach our babes the words of blessing, Instead of curses, deep though mute; And tell them England is a land Where man is happier than a brute. What do we want? Our daily bread: Give us that; all else will come: Self respect and self-denial, And the happiness of home; Kindly feelings, education, Liberty for act and thought: And surety that, whate'er befal, Our children shall be fed and taught. What do we want? Our daily bread; Give us that for willing toil: Make us sharers in the plenty God has showered upon the soil; And we'll nurse our better nature With bold hearts, and judgment strong, To do as much as men can do, To keep the world from going wrong. What do we want? Our daily bread, And trade untrammell'd as the wind; And from our ranks shall spirits start, To aid the progress of mankind. Sages, poets, mechanicians, Mighty thinkers shall arise, To take their share of loftier work, And teach, exalt, and civilise. And so we want our daily bread;-Grant it ;- make our efforts free Let us work and let us prosper; You shall prosper more than we.

And the humblest homes of England Shall, in proper time, give birth To better men than we have been,

To live upon a better earth. HAMILTON MACGREGOR, a printer, in seconding the resolution, said he felt great pleasure in having the opportunity of addressing them, being acquainted with them, and their interests being mixed up with his own. He would just refer to what his predecessor had alluded,—some remarks in the Standard,—and read from that paper the following quota-tion:—"You may fureify anything—even the evidence of misery;—and the open air meeting got up by the operatives of Liverpool—got up on Thursday evening, in Claylon-square, has furcified even the telling meeting of the labourer of Wiltshire. The speakers at the latter place were men whose startling details of their suffering and neglected coudition, we could be amazed and grieved at; the speakers at the former exhibit nothing like reality of suffering, by which the poor agriculturists were prompted to plead their case be fore mankind." Now, my follow-operatives, these men, like ourselves, met under the canopy of heaven, but they were not so well clad as we! When they are, we may rejoice with them. If the editor of the Standard calls the meeting of Thursday last a farce, will be call this an interlude or a m-gedy? Speaking of the Wiltshire men, the editor says,— "The one was the prompting of those real and truthful fed-ings of wretchedness, the expression of which is ever elequent; the other was the maudlin raying of similated suffering." Now, if we are mad, continued the speaker, certainly there are a great number of madmen here to night He perhaps expected us to come like Falstaff's regiment, all clad in rags, and not unlike the Wiltshire men! I should like to know what the editor of the Stundard means by 'superiors'—cut-throats, I suppose. If so, he did well to say we had our superiors in that respect. He talks of Religion and the Church, now I was a listener at the meeting last week, and did not hear either mentioned. Our religion is cheap loaf and a good one. This same gentleman endeavoured to abuse us, and dealt most uncharitably with us. We shall exercise charity towards him, and pity him. Long may be live an editorial life, and live in peace; we wish him year happiness this world can confer, and may the printer's deal inscribe to his memory on the tombstone, "Here lies the martyr of curry powder!" The speaker continued—We have met here to say that justice ought to be done to the working men of Liverpool and England. We wish no longer to see the widow's tears flow in greater channels. We wish no the widow's tears flow in greater channels. We wish no louger to see the poor man's child cry for bread, and the line ones in nakedness. Our cause is a common one, and a good cause. He would call their attention to a circumstance which cause. He would call their attention to a circumstance which occurred in Liverpool two years ago. The Chesing sow-keepers finding that the cowkeepers of Liverpool each not supply the town with milk, sent over large quantities, betthe people of Liverpool did not say "You must sall year milk at 3d. per quart instead of 4d." Oh no. It was just the same with respect to bread bought, in the chestant ket, and sold in the dearest, "I expect," committee the speaker, "the people of England, from the Landau in Cornwall, to John o'Groats, in Scotland, will cry, Down with the Corn Laws, and no sourceder."

Robert Jones, a labouring man, then came to years, and

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the Corn Laws, and no surrender."

ROBERT JONES, a labouring man, then oame farward, and spoke as follows:—Fellow workmen, I recollect should be years ago when this question was first as the farward what small meetings we got, and I feel this the progressed rapidly, as shown by the number of the continuous laws when the present cocacion. Working the laws was a specific to these things. It should be the same on the present cocacion. Working the laws was a specific to the same of the

should seek for their repeal (ories of hear, hear). Fifty years ago we had all England in a state of commotion, in consequence of a war. The landlords of England, seeing the great stake they themselves had in the country,—for what here the most in the country. the great stake they themselves had in the country,—for what have we to figure for?—what has the working man to fight for?—he has no atake—well, the landholders of England, having seen the aristocracy swept away in France, aid, "We will maintain the war, and hear the expense of it." How did they fulfil their word? They expended 800 millions of hard-earned money of the sons of toil, and sacrificed millions of the lives of human beings, and then, instead of bearing the arrests a themselves, throw it on the shoulders of the workexpense themselves, throw it on the shoulders of the working men (hear, hear). In 1810 the war was at an end, haptug-inen (man, and we concluded we were to have peace and plenty; for I recollect, as I was a big lad at the time, that millions were half famished. At that time I fetched potatoes for my mother at a distance of three miles, coating 7s. tid. per measure, and flour was only two pounds for a shilling. As I said, we expected peace and plenty. During the war millions of money were expended, the landholders were in want of money, and a property-tax was put on to help to maintain that war (hear, hear). They were right in doing so. But then at the end of the war what was the first Act that was carried? Why, it was the repeal of the propertyter. They took the burden off their own shoulders, and threw it on the backs of the working-men (hear). Thirty millions of pounds sterling, of which the landholders had spent the capital, was thrown on the working-men of Enghand (hear, hear). The landlords had also raised the rents to three times what they were when the war began. The Corn Law was then passed; and I ask you whether you think that was a just law to the working classes?—and, as sure as God's in heaven, that law has been productive of more misery, wretchedness, want, wickedness, crime, and everything that was bad, than any law that had ever emanated from the mind of man (cheers). The effect of that law was to make food scarce; and I should say to any man that has a voice in the Legislature, that it is one of the most wicked things that can be conceived of to make food scarce. There is no way of making an article dear but by making it scarce. I know it to my sorrow, as I have a family of 13 children. The Legislature have made food scarce, and it behoves us to come forward and try to repeal those laws which have made food scarce and dear (loud obsers). It has been told us over and over again-and as ignorant, simple working-men, sorry am I to say we have been led to believe it—that the price of food regulated our wages (hear). Every man of 40 must be sware that every four, five, or six years there has been a scarcity of food, and with it a scarcity of work, and then wages have gone down; and the consequence has been, that we have not had work even at low wages. A Quaker gentleman at Carlisle had heard this repeated so often that he was determined to ascertain whether it was true or not, and in 1836, 37, and 38, he went to a certain number of shops in the city of Carlisle, and the result was, that in 1836, when wheat was 10s, per quarter, the amount of the wages was 151,000/.; in 1837, when wheat was 60s., it fell to 15,000/.; and in 1838, when wheat was 70s., it came down to 51,000%. So you see this showed the fallacy of such an argument-(hear, hear)-only one-third of the amount being paid when food was dear to what it was when food was cheap (cheers). We must be convinced, if we look at these things, that they are all false from the beginning to the end. Another thing was, that when food was dear a great portion of the poor man's earnings were expended for that alone, and clothes and other necessaries could not be had, causing a decreased demand for manufactured goods. What we we contending for from early morn till late at night? Simply for food, and shelter, and raiment. And why should we not then raise our voices against the laws which prevent us from selling our labour to the best advantage? To show the umount paid when food is dear, we need only state that there are in this country five millions of families, and if each had to pay two shillings per week more, then it would come to 25,000,000/. more for food alone in one year (hear, hear). There is this 25,000,000l. taken from the labour market, that ought to go for clothing and other things that we stand in need of (hear, hear). Another proof of the benefits of Free Trade is, that during the last year, owing to cheap food. 14,000 houses had been built in this town, thus employing builders, joiners, plasterers, and workmon of every description, (cheers,) all getting good wages. It had been said that a repeal of the Corn Laws would bring down the price of grain to almost nothing, which, however, would not be the case, as in a short time all things would find their level, and it would realize a steady price. As to scarcity in a case of war, that was preposterous. They need only look at the means taken by Napoleon during the war to stop sup-plies coming into this country, and how signally he failed; even his own soldiers were clothed with manufactures from this country, and we had plenty of corn from all parts. Only let us have Free Trade, and make the world a nation of shopkeepers, and you may bid deflance to war for ever, and all nations would be happy and prosperous. He concluded by extending the concluded by the concl

Laws were swept from the statute book. (Loud cheers.)
The CHAIRMAN then read the motion, and put it to the meeting, when it was carried amidst the loudest cheering. Mr. Simmons came forward to propose a memorial to her Majesty. He said that it had been his intention to have onbeen prevented by not having had an opportunity of speaking sooner. He spoke for some time, and concluded by reading

the following memorial:-"The momorial of the working men of Liverpool to her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoris, of Great Britain and Ireland;—We, your Majesty's most humble, most loyal, and affectionate subjects, being confident that your Majesty entertains the greatest sympathy for the suffering poor of this country, beg to express our most sauguine kopes that your Majesty's attention has been drawn to the resent bigh prices of all kinds of provisions arising from the failure of the corn and potato crops, and to express our blumble opinion to your Majesty that the Corn Laws act most injuriously on the interests of your memorialists, who have no means of providing for our families but through our sernings, that our request is most simple, and we beg can buy with as much wages as a man can get, for as much can buy with as much wages as a man can get, for as much work as a man can do, is not more than the natural and interesting the content of every man whom does has created with expectable lakengand with hands to work?

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Mr. Himps seconded the adoption of the memorial; and after a vote of thanks being passed to the chairman, the meeting broke up about half past nine o'clock. Heave separating, however, three cheers were given for Colden and Bright, three for Russell and Palmerston, three for Villiors and Ewart, and three for the Queen.

DROGHEDA.

Monday last, pursuant to requisition, a meeting of the inhabitants of Droghada and its vicinity, convened by the Mayor, was held in the Tholasi to "Petition Parliament for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Lawa." Long before the hour of meeting, the Tholsel was crowded almost to suffication.

Amongst those present were, Sir Wm. M. Somerville, Bart., M.P.; Patrick Boylan, Esq., Mayor; Wm. Campbell, Esq.; T. C., (ex-Mayor); Rev. Mr. O'l'arrell, O.S.F.; Rev. Mr. Connolly, O.S.A.; Daniel Brady, T.C.; Stephen Drow, T.C.; John Connolly, T.C.; Patrick Conway, T.C.; Patrick Kelly, T.C.; John Magec, Feq., solicitor; Alderman Rogers;

Anthony Keappock, T.C.; Patrick Byrne, T.C.; John Collins, T.C.; David Morton, Esq.; Robert Skelly, &c.
Mr. Campbell came forward and said,—It gives me great pleasure to move that our respected and esteemed Mayor be called upon to preside over this numerous and respectable meeting (loud cheers).

Mr. MAGER having seconded the proposition, it was car ried with acclamation.

The Mayon, on taking the chair, said—Fellow townsmen I return you thanks for the position you have placed me in —at the head of this respectable meeting (hear, hear). About ten-days since I received a requisition, signed by the Roman Catholic Primato, several clergymen, gentlemon, merchants, and other inhabitants of the town, requesting me to call this meeting. I folt it to be my duty at once to comply, and named as early a day as was convenient (cheers.) I am glad to see so large an attendance, and I shall be lappy to listen to any remarks, or put any resolution which may be moved and seconded. The question of the Corn Laws is a very important one, and one which at the present time is exciting a great deal of attention. I shall not occupy your time by pointing out the necessity there is, as expressed in the requisition, for the "total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws"—(hear, and obsers.) This will be done by the speakers, who will address the meeting: I will morely say that I entirely concur in the object for which you are assembled (cheers.) I hope that the speakers will confine themselves strictly to the object for which the meeting was called. The Mayor sat down loudly cheered.

Mr. Brady, T.C., moved, and Mr. Driew, T.C., seconded, that Mr. Marron, Editor of the Argus, be appointed to act as Samutane Comical with the Argus, be appointed to act as Secretary.—Carried with loud cheers.

Mr. Mannon returned thanks, and expressed his fullest concurrence in the object of the meeting. He stated that Sir Wm. Somerville, who had been invited by the committee of arrangements, would attend; and read the following letter which he had received from Mr. Cobden:

"National Auti-Corn Law League, " Manchester, 15th January, 1846. "DEAR SIR.—I feel much obliged to you for your letter with the enclosed requisition calling the meeting in Drogheda against the Corn Law; and it is especially gratifying to see the names of your Catholic primate and clergy amongst the requisitionists. I shall take the opportunity o alluding to it at our great meeting in the Free Trade Hall this evening, in hopes that it may not be without its ef fect in the way of example in other quarters, and remain, ear, Sir, Faithfully yours, Patrick Marron, Esq." RICUARD COBDEN.

Mr. HUGH CARRAHER (an operative weaver), rose to address the meeting. He said—It has fallen to my lot to move the first resolution at this meeting. I will read it first, and say a few words on it afterwards. [Mr. Carraher here read the resolution and proceeded.] It requires no eloquence on my part to enforce the necessity of adopting this resolution. This, we all know, is no ordinary adopting this resolution. This, we all know, is no ordinary year. The potato crop, which formed the staple food of the people of this country, has been a total failure. Men of all parties and of all politics, in the country, admit this to be the case. Where, then, are the people to find food? (cries of hear, hear). It is notorious that the Irish people are the worst fed people in the British dominions. It is not because of the soil not being productive (cries of No). It is because of the poverty of the people. How can we provide good food when the price of it is beyond our reach, and this is caused by the laws we are assembled here to-day to have repeated hour, hour). Some say that the Corn Laws benefit the farmer, but this I do not believe. I know farmers holding 20 and 30 acres of land who never taste most from year to year in their houses. Are these Corn Laws then of service to them. Do they add to their comforts? (cries of No, no). In my own locality, on account of the want of employment, the people have suffered from distress and sickness—the latter brought on by eating bad potatoes, for they could not get good ones for want of money. I know of one or two having died through this means (hear, hear, and sensation). Those persons possessing means in the locality contributed as far as in them lay to relieve the sufferers' wants, but this was still of little avail when so many stood in need. If the Government want proof of the wretchedness in which the people are placed at the present time I would direct atten-tion to the fact that the Poor Law Guardians of the Drogheda Union, to prevent the spread of disease, had to open a fover hospital. And when the matter stands so but at the commencement of the year, what must be the state of things in summer?

A Voice-Potatoes are not to be got. Mr. CABRAHER—Look to every county in Ireland, and see how the people are suffering. It is no use for the Government to coerce the people; if they want to preserve peace the way to do it is to give the people food. [A noise of persons rushing in prevented the speaker from going on for a short time. Mr. Richard Shiel, of Ardeath, was one of those who entered now]. Mr. Carraher in continuation: Mr. Chairman, I am particularly glad of the interruption. I felt that I was not thoroughly aware of all the evil effects of the Corn Laws upon the farmers, and I am glad to see so influential a gentleman as Mr. Shiel enter the mosting (chaers). In Ireland, the people look for bread by agricultural employ-ment—in England and Scotland they do not to each an ex-tent they have manufactures; the price paid for labour in Ireland is consequently much less than is paid in England; Ireland to consequently much less than is paid in hinging a indeed, the bire paid an agricultural labourer is, in the best research, the bire than adequate to keep him in pointoes. With a pointer, and you have the condition how with his pointoes rotten, and you have the provided by the point of the paid of the paid of provisions it would not be so bad; for besides lowering the price of provisions it would not be so bad; for besides lowering the price of provisions it would not be seen.

encourage more work in the country (hear, hear). He (the speaker) felt the injurious effects of the Corn Laws, for from his earnings he was not able to provide good food for his family and himself. His hoped Bir Bohert Peel would man-fully support the repeal of these injurious laws. [Here Sir Wm. Somerville entered, and was enthusiastically choosed.)
Mr. Carraber continued: Sir William, on behalf of the famishing people of Droglada, I thank you for attending here to day (cheers). It is an earnest of what you will do in your place in the House of Commons—

Sir WM. SOMERVILLE; Allow me to say one word before the business of the meeting goes further (hear, hear). I thank you most gratefully for the reception I have met with on my coming in to the meeting. I felt it to be my duty to be here to-day, to ascertain from you what your opinions were with respect to the Corn Laws, that I should know how to not, as your representative, when the subject came before the house (hear, hear). I will listen to what you have to say, and at the close I shall offer a few observations of my own. Sir William sat down loudly cheered.

Mr. Cannahen again resumed—It is fearful to contomplate the condition of the country. The people cannot get food—they can't get employment. It was said some time ago that railways would furnish ample employment; I grant they will give some employment, but the employment they will afford will not be sufficient to engage millions. We shall have the poor-houses crammed. No fewer than fiftyavo persons applied for admission into the poor house of the Drogheda Union last week on one day. Nothing but the greatest distress could force those persons to seek relief there. The Irish people would almost sconer starve than enter these poor houses, conducted upon the principles they are, Here all the social ties are broken—trampled down. The ties of wedlock which are holy—the ties of parentage—yea, all the better feelings of our nature abused (cheers). If the people have employment they will not enter the poor-house. If the Corn Laws are repealed it will be easier for the poor to live. If the Government think they will austain a loss by repealing the Corn Laws, let them tax the luxuries of the rich, and leave bread, the luxury of the poor, within their reach. By doing this they will increase the loyalty and affection of the people to the throne, and confer a blessing on the land. Mr. Carraber now proposed the adoption of the first resolution, and withdrow amid loud cheering.

Mr. P. HENRY (manufacturer) rose and said-Mr. Chair man and gentlemen, I beg leave to second this resolution, proposed by our esteemed townsman Mr. Carraber. I rejoice that it fell into so good bands; I am glad of having so able a colleague, for he has left me nothing to say (hear, hear, and laughter). I honostly and fearlossly say that from the wages paid, and the price of provisions, the humbler the wages paid, and the price of provisions, the humbler classes cannot support their families—a man can scarcely maintain himself. I know it for certain — I have men employed myself. They are not supported as they ought to be; it is impossible for them to live under the present circumstances. (Hear, hear.) I would say in the present state of things that men of influence who labour to support the laws which raise the price of bread are murderers of their fellow men. I would say this if I were at the derers of their fellow men. I would say this if I were at the cannon's mouth. (Loud cheers.) I say that when fifty six persons are found in one day to seek admission into our poor house, it is lamentable. I am poor-law warden since the poor house was opened, and I ought to know something of the circumstances of those who go into the poor-house. I have known persons to work for 4d, and 5d, a day, breaking stones, sooner than go there. Not a few, who were in a starving condition, I had to induce by persuasion to seek the shelter which this roof affords. Mr. Carraher has told you truly that the people would sooner work for the smallest sum by which they could live than go into such an unnatural prison. (Cries of hear, and cheers). Repeal the Corn Laws and the poor houses will soon be empty. There was no doubt the Corn Laws would be repealed if the working people assisted, as they ought, such mon as Cobden and O'Connell. In doing this it was not necessary to resort to violence; peaceable means were those to be adopted. Tho course was to petition—a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, and I defy all the power in England to resist you. Mr. Heeny concluded by saying that he felt much pleasure in seconding the resolution. (Cheers.)

The resolution was now put from the chair, and unani-

mously carried.

Mr. CAMPBELL came forward to propose the next resolu-tion, and was loudly cheered. He said—Mr. Mayor, and fellow-townsmen, I have the honour of being entrusted with the second resolution, which I will read to this meeting. (Mr. Campbell read the resolution and proceeded). Goutlemen, with the language of that resolution I fully concur. I do think that if ever the time has arrived that the Corn Laws should be repealed that time has come (loud cheers). There can be no doubt now of the failure of the potato crop in Ireland, nor that all classes of her Majesty's subjects must be soriously affected by the increased price of provisions, and there is just reason to fear that the poor may by this failure be reduced to absolute starvation, and that the concomitant evil of postilence and riot may overrun the land unless the corn and provision laws are immediately repealed—(hear, hear, and cheers). It is not my intention to go into any lengthened detail as to the baneful effects produced by the Corn Laws upon all classes of the people. The speakers who proceded me have pointed out, I think, very forefully and plainly, that these laws were passed to the detriment of the bulk of the people (cheers). In times of distress I have often visited the advins in the outlots of this town. I have often seen a man with his wife and family gathered round what is commonly called a schuddle, a wicker jusket, upon which were placed some potatoes with sait for kitchen. This was the meal for breakfast, dinner, and supper. I felt at the time, as I do still, that the sooner this state of things was remedied the better, and it could not take place too soon (cheers). But this consummation so devoutly to be wished can never be brought about so long as the Corn Laws remain unrepealed. If the people have but patience, and bide their time, I venture to predict there are good days in store for thom.

Mr. Campustl: I am delighted to see your excellent member come amongst you to day, as he has done, and to see you great him with warm hearts; such a reception he is see you greet him with warm hearts; such a reception he is cuttied to at your hands. Next to Mr. O'Connell, Ireland does not possess a better representative in the Imperial Parliament. He will convey to the House of Commons the sontinents expressed have to day by his constituents (hear, hear, and cheam). I know I speak the feelings of the popule of Drogheds when I say, they are thankful to him for attending, at imperiant (meating, to disconsidered to him for attending, at imperiant (meating, to the pullar). In the limit of the guidance of my House of Commons he will be union the guidance of my

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Lord John Russell, and encouraged by that excellent noble Lors John Morpeth, and smoovinged by this excellent notice man Lord Morpeth, who has ever been an upright, straightforward public man; and last, though not least, he will be backed by that invincible champion of Ireland, O'Connell (loud and continued cheering)—and depend upon it, before six months go by, the Corn Laws will be numbered with the

A Voice ! Say six weeks. Mr. Campbell: It will not be the fault of Sir William Somerville, or the fault of the people's friends, if it be not sconer. Mr. Campbell concluded by saying, that he felt much pleasure in proposing the resolution he held in his hands (chaers)

hands (cheers).

Mr. KELLY, T.C., having seconded the resolution, it was put and carried unanimously.

Rev. Mr. O'FEBRALL next came forward, and was greeted with loud applause. He said: Mr. Mayor and gentle-men, a resolution has been put into my hand, which I feel great pleasure in moving for the adoption of this meet The reverend gentleman here read the resolution, proceeded.] Mr. Mayor and Centlemen : I did not come here to make a speech. It is not more than half an hour since I made up my mind to attend; I am not, then, prepared to speak at any length. I have considered it to be my duty to be present, having signed my name to the requisition, which was presented to one works shief magistrate. quisition, which was presented to our worthy chief magistrate to convene this assembly, as also to express my fullest detes-tation of those laws, which, by preventing Free Trade in corn and provisions, are particularly injurious to Ireland; because, in the words of the resolution, "they promote that violent competition for land which leads to so many murders and various other erimes." Let us look to the source of the commission of these crimes in Ireland—Is not land the cause? Do not the t rant-landlords throw their tenantry out of their houses in order to make more money of the land by the encouragement of the Corn Laws (hear, hear, hear, and cheers). I have very little to add to what has been already said. Every one in Ireland knows that it is unjust and contrary to the law of God to withhold or keep food from the people. If I were prepared, or had time, I could adduce various proofs from the sacred Scriptures in support of this. For the present I would refer you to the book of Ecclesiasticus, xxxiv. 25. "The bread of the needy is the life of the poor: he that defruudeth them thereof, is a man of blood" (hear). Then, my good people, may we not consider those who maintain the Corn Laws as defrauding the poor of bread, and therefore, "men of blood" (loud cries of hear, and applaine). Them rejoiced to think that those laws must be soon abolithed. Every reluitive that is formed laws must be soon abolished. Every ministry that is formed in England must yield to the wishes and demands of the people, when made in a constitutional manner (renewed people, when made in a constitutional manner (renewed cries of hear). I consider you, presiding over this meeting, Mr. Mayor, a happy circumstance. It is the first public meeting, since your coming into office, in which you were in the chair; and called for the purpose this meeting is, namely, that of charity and justice, I doubt not but your year of office will be regulated by conduct which, while it increases your nonularity will be poless along in the sight increases your popularity, will be no less pleasing in the sight of Heaven (lond cheers). There is another feature in this meeting which must be regarded with pleasure by the people -1 allude to the attendance of Sir William Somerville, who has been ranked next to the Liberator himself as the advocate of Ireland in the Imperial senate Not unfrequently has his voice re-cchoed through the halls of St. Stephen's, demanding justice for this country (loud cheers). He will go, as has been remarked, from this meeting, carrying with him the feelings and the wishes expressed here to-thay. Notwithstanding that he has a large interest in the support of the Corn Laws, from his being an extensive land proprietor, he has come amongst you determined to east every selfish interest aside, and to be your representative in reality-to tell Peel and Russell, no matter which of them is at the head of affairs, that we must necessarily have the Corn Laws repealed (cheering for some time). I was not prepared, as I told you, to make a speech—take the will for the deed—and allow me to withdraw by saving I feel great pleasure in proposing the resolution which I have read

(loud and continued cheers). Mr. Hugh O'NKLL (an operative shoemaker) rose to second the resolution. He said—Mr. Chairinan and gentlemen, in seconding this resolution it will be perhaps expected that I should give a history of the Corn Law, and its evil effects many society. I will endow our to do so an briefly as effects upon society. I will endeavour to do so as briefly as possible (hear, hear). I believe it had its origin about the year 1815, and was intended as a sort of remaneration to the owners of land and the farmers for the taxes they were called on to pay in order to support an expensive war which was carried on by the then Government against France. But instead of being a boon to the small farmer, it has proved a very great ovil, for it has driven him from the land to the bog and the roadsides, and made paupers of his family, in too many instances (hear, hear). The painful accounts furnished by the different commissions, instituted from time to time by the divernment, demonstrate very clearly that instead of the condition of the labouring population having been bettered by the protection afforded to agriculture, it has grown worse. Every day the calamities of the people are hecoming greater. We wait in suspense for the Government of the course o ment to do something to ameliorate our condition. We were promised employment for the labouring classes from extensive works of drainage, and from the formation of railways; but we have not seen these things yet. The Lord of the universe ordained that man should carn his bread by the sweat of his brow; but many of the poor starving people of this country cannot get employment or bread (hear, hear). The condition of the people of this country has been at the lowest for years—their food such as is given to swine. Well did that great political writer. Cobbett, remark that a failure in the potate crop would be ruinous to the United Kingdom, We have melaucholy proof of the truth of this at present. But can it be thought that the people will starve, and tamely yield to death? Forbid it justice—forbid it Heaven (loud cheers). I know of my own knowledge a man in this town (and what is at most or the start of the start (and who is at present at this meeting, I believe) with a wife and two children to be obliged to subsist for nearly two days upon one pound of oatmeal made into gruel or thin stirabout (sensation). I regret that I do not see in attendance the Poor Law guardians; there are a few of them present; but the greater number of them have thought fit to absent themselves. A great many of them in my mind, and to all appearance, guard the law, and not the poor (loud cheering and languer). See how the guardians of Education and See how the guardians at Edenderry have acted. Usey passed a resolution in favour of the ports being appear they peased a resolution in favour of the ports using opened; no such resolution was resolved on by the guardians of the property of the property of the people, and teach they are people they are people, and teach they are people they are people of the people of t

some of our Liberal Corporation—gentlemen who will be coming into town to-morrow or next day to seek for Alder-

coming into town to-morrow or next day to seek for Aldermanic gowns (cheers).

The Mayor said he begged to interrupt the speaker for a moment. There was upon that day an important meeting of the steam packet company, at which many gontlemen who would attend at their meeting were obliged to be—

A VOICE. It is here they ought to be.

Mr. O'NELL in continuation: To return to my subject.

I recret that I have gone so far: but I must unburthen my.

I regret that I have gone so far; but I must unburthen myself of the load I have (cheers and laughter). In the state in which we are placed at present it is small consequence to us who is Prime Minister—whether Peel or Russell—who can first repeal the Corn Laws is the Premier we want (cries of hear, hear). It is said that the Duke and Peel are at handy ouffs (at least so the newspapers tell us)-if this turns out to be true there must be a delay, or Peel go out of office. The Duke of Norfolk, however, with great keenness and foresight, has hit upon a plan to quiet the people till the Ministry can agree. He has discovered a patent invention, this is it—He says a little cayenne pepper and sait thrown upon water will keep the stomach warm (laughter and shouts of disapprobation). I know I would wish to see the Duke amongst those by whom I am surrounded, working with a spade and fed at meal times on bad potatoes and curry (loud laughter). I am sorry, said Mr. O'Neill, that "the blood of all the Howards" has descended so low—but the working classes are not so simple as to prefer the Duke of

occupying the time of the meeting so long, and stating his full concurrence in the resolution proposed, sat down, loudly Mr. Connolly, T.C., moved that a petition founded on the resolutions proposed be forwarded to both Houses of Parlia-

This resolution was seconded by Mr. Conway, T.C., and carried unanimously.

Mr. MARRON (the secretary), now read the following

draft of a petition:

"To the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses in Parliament assembled: the petition of the inhabitants of Drogheda and

" Most respectfully showeth-

"That it has been officially declared by the report of her Majesty's Commissioners appointed to inquire into the law and practice in respect to the occupation of land in Ireland, that an immense mass of the people of Ireland, in ordinary years, suffer under the deepest state of destitution-potatoes, their food—water, their drink—and to whom a blanket is a luxury; your petitioners, therefore, humbly suggest that a tax, whereby the price of food is enhanced to such a people, is cruel, impolitic, and unjust.

"That your petitioners, from the testimony of trustworthy

persons, clergymen of every creed, magistrates and poor law guardians, and from their own knowledge, believe that an extraordinary disease has destroyed a very large proportion of the potato crop, which the persons so described had as their only food; and they must, therefore, be reduced to fumine this year; and it is feared that postilence may thereby ensue, and starvation riots take place. And further, that in consequence of the said disease in the potatoes, all classes of her Majesty's subjects in Ireland may be seriously affected by greatly enhanced prices for every species of provision, unless the Corn Law duties are immediately and entirely repealed. "Your petitioners further believe that the laws preventing a

Free Trade in corn and provisions are peculiarly injurious to Ireland, inasmuch as they foster and promote a rainous competition for the possession of land, by which many murders and various other crimes have occured, and are like to occur: and that this eagerness for land indirectly, but with certain effect, diminishes the employment of agricultural lubour-because furmers grasp at large quantities of land, which they have not capital to till, instead of employing labour to cultivate a lesser quantity in a better manner.

Your petitioners, therefore, respectfully beseech your honourable house to give relief in the premises, by immediately and completely repealing all laws imposing a tax upon corn and provisions—and your petitioners will ever

Mr. Draw, T.C., moved that the foregoing petition now read be adopted, which was seconded by Mr. HAND, and unanimously carried.

Mr. MAGRE (solicitor) rose and said —I beg leave to move that this petition be entrusted to our representative Sir W. Somerville for presentation in the House of Commons, and to the Earl of Radnor for a like purpose in the House of Lords (hear). Of the manner in which Sir William has executed the trust reposed in him, it is unnecessary for me to speak, as you all know it perfectly. He has represented you faithfully and honorthy indeed a more highly independent, honorthy fully and honestly: indeed, a more highly independent, honourable, or talented gentleman you could not select for your representative in the British dominions. Sir William's first connection with the electors of Drogheda was as creditable to them as it was honourable for him; he did not canvass them, or seek their suffrages; they invited him. I had the honour of being one of the deputation nominated to wait on him for that purpose. We were instructed to put various questions to him; and to show Sir William's manly, straightforward independence of mind and indep forward independence of mind, and integrity of purpose, I will just mention that one of these questions was, whether he would vote for a repeal of the Corn Laws (hear), hear). He said he would not pledge himself to vote for their repeal, but would reserve to himself the right to consider the question when brought before the house; now, how did Sir William act with regard to this question? Notwithstanding that he is a large landed proprietor, he voted with those who were for the total abolition of those laws (hear, hear). In conclusion I have only to add, that he was always found at his post when the interest of his constituents required it, and particularly when his vote or his interest was required to obtuin full and ample justice for Ireland (cheers.)

Mr. BBADY, T.C., having seconded the resolution, it was put and carried unanimously.

Sir WM. SOMERVILLE, Bart., M.P., now came forward, and was received with loud and protracted cheers. He said: I came here not to obtitude my sentiments on the question which you have met to consider, but to hear what were yours. I have listened with attention to the resolutions as they have been put forward; and, if I may judge from the manner in which they have been received, the Corn Laws are no favourites of yours (loud cheers, and hear). Laws are no favourites of yours (loud cheers, and hear). Mr. Mages has told you that when I had the honour to be requested to stand for the borough of Drogleds, the deputation that waited on me wished to know my sentiments on the Corn Law. I did not at that time pledge myself, because I thought I had not given the subject that consideration which is required—not that I was in love with the Corn Laws, but I wished calmiy to consider the question

before I gave my decision on it (hear, hear). I went to House of Commons, and from the arguments I bear the came to the commission that those laws were continue I came to the combusion that those laws were contral the great principles of truth and justice, and my resisting was formed never to give any vote contrary to these place (obsers). Such would be my determination whether was a landlord or not—each was the resolution which i thought it my duty to come to—and I trust that my come has not been such as to disentitle me to the possesse of the continue to the continue has not been such as to disentine me to the possession of your esteem (loud cheers). I will continue to consider it not as a landlord (though being one), but as to he effect upon the mechanic and the trader and the great bulk of the course this question me upon the medianic and the course this question rus at people. You are aware of the course this question rus at iong since. There was a proposition made to have a find duty; when that proposition was made I voted for h, as because I thought it as good a measure as I wished for, but because I bolieved it an improvement on the previous sp tem (hear). The proposition was, however, scouled by the Tories—they defeated the party who introduced it, and they brought fir Robert Peel into power; but in doing so, I be brought bir Robert reel into power; but in doing so, I believe you will agree with me in saying, "they opt a rod to whip themselves" (cheers and laughter). If I read the sign of the times aright, he will propose a very extensive change indeed—in fact, if he does not he cannot hold the offer of Dalma Minister of England in six months (lend the Prime Minister of England in six months (loud cheen) For myself I will say that if you declare for the repel of the Corn Law—if you instruct me that they are injunes to the people of Drogheda, the measure for their removal shall have my support (cheers.) I have always given my bear Norfolk's curry to bread. Mr. O'Neill after apologising for attention to every request emanating from the people, and i may add that under our complicated system of representative Government, I considered it my duty particularly to attend to the wishes of the humbler and the poor classes from the farthat they have not votes (cheers). Some persons might perhaps say, "This man has no vote—no influence—win should you take any trouble to oblige him?" I have alway. thought that because he had not this privilege or this infeonce he the more required protection and assistance (load cheers). On the first occasion upon which the question of a change in the Corn Law was proposed after I entered Parliament, I voted in favour of the measure, and as I was a Irish landed proprietor, my remarks were taken up by the press and commented on. I even received an anonymou letter, the writer of which paid me the compliment of very seriously asking me, was I mad?—I—an Irish landlord, a vote against the Corn Laws? (Laughter and cheen.) heard the arguments in the House of Commons on both sides of the question; and I will say that the opponent of the Corn Laws had the best of it. There is no man who could for a moment stand up to oppose the reasoning of Mr. Cobden on the question (cheers); next to the great leader of Ireland—there is no man of higher reasoning powers—to man of more indomitable energy, and his influence in Eng. land is only second to the influence possessed in Ireland by the leader of the Irish people (loud oheers for Mr. UCon-With the influence and energy of Mr. Cobden backed by the leader of Ireland and many of the Irish people the fate of the Corn Laws is sealed (cheers). It is unform nately too true that when the Corn Laws were carried is Purliament at the point of the bayonet, the system was made the basis of many of our commercial and monetary a rangements, so that it might appear dangerous to shift the basement lest the whole fabric should fall (hear, hear). But I feel satisfied that, after all, it is better to make the change; the entire social system will be made more firmmore secure. The change will, I have no doubt, be ultimately for the benefit of all classes—but especially for the mechanic. (Hear, hear.) You have done me the honour to entrust your petition to me for presentation. I see you meeting is composed of men of high respectability, and of the mechanics and working classes, who have so deep so interes in the question. I will present that petition, and I have no doubt it will have much effect, as every petition coming from Ireland on this subject must. (Hear, hear.) I do not an ticipate that the landlords shall suffer so much as they seen to fear, nor do I suppose it will have that injurious effect upon the furmers which they seem to dread; as to the agricultural labourer, his condition is already so bad that we might suppose that no change could make it worse. (Hear, hear.) There can be no doubt that the political barometer just now points to change—there are some threatening indications of storm, but I trust that they shall speedily pass away, and that the ultimate result will be such as none will have reason to complain of. (Cheers.) I have before me full evidence of your opinion on these laws; but even if you were favourable to their continuance, I would think it my duty to come in here to warn you that the cliange must come I would consider it but an honest part to come here and tell such of you as might advocate these laws, that they must fall—they are doomed, and I again repeat my belief that no interest will suffer so much as is feared. It would be a suffer so much as indeed be a gratification to me to support the law if it could be proved to me that they are not contrary to justice, that they are beneficial to all classes of society; but until some conjurer comes forward in the House of Commons and proves that beyond dispute, I feel bound to vote for their removal. I now beg leave to return my best thanks to you. Mr. Mayor, and to the several gentlemen around me-to Mr. Campbell, Rev. Mr. O'Ferrall, Mr. Magee, and to the meeting generally for the very kind manner in which I have been received here to-day. I return to you all my best thunks for the forbearance you evinced towards me when was unable to attend in my place in Parliament (cheers). can only assure you that that forbearance shall spur me on to do everything that may be in my power to advance the interests of Drogheda and its inhabitants. To all my constituents I must return my warmest thanks—they have treated me not merely as their representative, but as their personal friend. I can only reciprocate those feelings, and as one and all, that the confidence, forbearance, and friendship which I have received at your hands shall never be forgette by me. The hon, baronet resumed his seat amid the most

enthusiastic applause. The Mayor having now vacated the chair, Mr. Campbell

was called thereto. Rev. Mr. CORNODLY came forward to propose the solution, and was greeted with loud and continued He said, -I sincerely thank you for this warm red resolution has just been given me which I feel great in moving; it is to the effect that the market this meeting are due, and deserve to be given in the chair, and his anxiety on all roots are those measures which have for their or the condition of the condition of the man when he was the same than the condition of the conditio of the condition of the poor (bear, hear), the three nor worthy Mayor is well the the first time for him to be beginned in

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and appreciated by the inhabitants, and the part he has taken in the meeting of this day, adds to his many claims upon the gratinds and esteem of the people (hear, hear, and cheers). It has pleased Providence this year to afflict you by the fallers of the potato crop—you have only to be directed by such men as your mayor, and your excellent representative. such men as your mayor, and your excellent representative. Wait with patience—do nothing rash—place your confidence in Heaven, and everything will yet be to your wishes (hear, hear). Gentlemen, I again thank you for the enthusiastic manner in which you received me, and in conclusion, let me sak of you one favour, that is—to give three hearty cheers for that excellent gentleman, the Mayor, your chairman (loud cheering for several minutes).

RIVILLIAN SOMBRULLE begged paradical to

Bir William Sombrille begged permission to second a rote of thanks to their worthy and excellent Mayor. The people of Drogheda were alive to his intrinsic marits, and conferred upon him the situation of honour to which he is so well entitled. I have the honour of his friendship, and it is with the greatest pleasure I second the resolution (cheers). The Mayon, in handsome terms, returned thanks to Sir William Somerville, Rev. Mr. Connolly, and the meeting, for the vote of thanks passed to him.

Mr. MAGEE: Before this highly respectable meeting sensrates. I beg to move that the marked thanks of this meeting are due, and hereby given to our representative, Sir William Somerville, for his attendance here this day, and his former services in Parliament.

M1. DANIEL BRADY claimed the privilege of seconding this resolution, which was put and carried by acclamation. The meeting then separated in good order.

GREAT MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF LANARK.

(From the Glasgow Argus.)

A meeting of the county of Lanark, convened by his grace, the Duke of Hamilton, lord-lieutenant, in compliance with a

requisition numerously signed, was held in the County Hall, Hamilton, on Monday, at 12 o'clock. The meeting was well strended, and amongst those present we observed the following noblemen and gentlemen:

ing noblemen and gentlemen:
Lord Belhaven; Sir J. E. Colebrooke, Bart.; Sir W. C.
Anstruther, Bart.; Sir Norman M. Lockhart, Bart.; Sir
Henry & Stewart, Bart.; Lord, Major Gochrane; William
Lockhart, of Milton Lockhart, M.P. for the county; James
Lumsden, Lord Provost of Glasgow; Messrs. Farie, of Fairlie; Greenshields, of Kerse; Campbell Douglass, Glasgow;
Lord Fife merchant Glasgow: David Mackinlay, Glasgow; John Fife, merchant, Glasgow; David Mackinlay, Glasgow; Robert Stewart, of Omoa ironworks; Geo. Wilson, of Dalmarnock; John Wilson, of Auchineden: Wm. Mills, merchant, Glasgow; John Mure, of Provan; James Dunlop, of Clyde ironworks; Colin R. Dunlop, ditto; Charles Stirling, merchant, Glasgow; Robert Bartholomew, ditto; James Couper, ditto; J. P. Reid, ditto; W. P. Pitt, ditto; Andrew Galbraith, ditto; Alexander Couper, ditto; J. S. Blythe, ditto; Wm. Brown, writer, Clasgow; James Davidson, of Ruchill; Robert Finlay, of Easterhill; James M'Call, of Daldowie; Walter Black, Provost of Hamilton; Dunean-Swim, Hamilton; Wm. Paterson, Hamilton; H. Houldsworth, of Coltness; Andrew Jackson, of Park; John Whitehead, one of the magistrates of Glasgow; David Chapman, merchant, Glasgow; Wm. Bankier, Provost of Calton; John Robertson, merchant, Glasgow; George Ord, ditto; William M'Lean, of Plantation; William G. Mitchell, of Carwood; Thos. R. Scott, Castlemains; Wm. Murray, of Monkland; John Wilson, of Dundyvan; John Wilson, jun., of Dundyvan; George Crawfurd, writer, Glasgow; North Dalrymple, of Cleland; Patrick Graham, of Limekilns; Wm. Clark, of Easter Moffat. John Tannant of St. Pollary, Wm. Gelbig. Easter Mosfat; John Tennant, of St. Rollox; Wm. Gebbie, of Hallburn; Alexander Graham, of Capilly; John Webster, Woodhall; John Hamilton, of Fairholm; Henry M. Call, Yr., of Daldowie; James Barr, of Almeida Hill; Geo. Stirling, merchant, Glasgow; Walter Buchanan, ditto; John Clark, of Kirkland Park; John Marshall. of Machan; D. O. Marienski, member of the town council, Hamilton: Wm. Moubray, ditto; John Davidson, Airdric; and a number of the inhabitants of the county of Lanark.

Lord BELHAVEN said, in consequence of a letter which had been received, he believed that they need not expect the attendance of his Grace the Duke of Hamilton; he therefore begged leave to propose that the Hon. North Dalrymple, of Ciciand, be requested to take the chair.

The motion was seconded by Sir EDWARD COLEBROOKE, and unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. Marr to read a letter

from his Grace the Duke of Hamilton. Sir NORMAN M'DONALD LOCKMART said, before the businces commenced, he would beg leave to propose that the

Clerk be requested to read the sederunt. Mr. Mans then read a list of the names of the Justices of

Mr. Mark then read a list of the names of the Justices of the Peace, Commissioners of Supply, &c., present.

Mr. Alex. Graham said, might he be permitted to take the liberty of asking, if they were going to take down the names of all the persons present? He observed that this was a meeting called to take place in this county—it was taking place—and he presumed that every person here had a right to take part in the deliberations and in any vote which right to take part in the deliberations, and in any vote which might be come to (cheers). He thought it a work of superrogation, therefore, taking down the names of each judyvidual, for on coming to any division, it would be the sheep

foing to the right, and the goats to the left.

Mr. James Davidson said the question seemed to be, whether they were to have universal suffrage or not. Mr. Green, of Strathaven, suggested that the requisition

calling the meeting should be read, in order to settle the point as to who should be present and take a share in the

Mr. Mann then read the following:-

"My Loan Duke, We, who have signed this requisi-tion to your Grace, feel anxious that an opportunity should be given to this country of anxious that an opportunity should tien to your Grace, feel anxious that an opportunity should be given to this county of expressing its opinion on the present state of public affairs. When we consider the many and varied interests of this great county, and the duty which we owe to the industrious and rapidly increasing population employed is agriculture, in commerce, and in manufactures, all of whom are suffering from an erroneous and permicious synam of monopoly and protection, destructive alike of the real interests of the county, and the welfare of our people, we say desirons of expressing our, sentiments on this important question, and for this purpose regimest your Grace, and as a serious of the county; to be half at the county of the county; to be half at the county of the county.

" Hamilton Palace, Jan. 0, 1840."

The Chairman said from the terms of the requisition he would have a right to vote. It

ne Unairman said from the terms of the requisition he supposed every one present would have a right to vote. It was a general meeting of the county.

Mr. Brown, writer, Glasgow, maintained that it could not be a meeting of the county of Lanark unless a sederant was taken down of the persons who had a right to be present. Unless this were done, individuals might come here from Kilmarnook. Kirkintillook. Pollookahaws, and other places. Kilmarnock, Kirkintilloch, Pollockshaws, and other places not in the county, and swamp the meeting, who did not belong to the county at all. In that case, it might be a meeting

in the county of Lanark, but not of the county of Lanark.

Mr. A. Graham said, it was a general meeting of the county of Lanark, and he did not believe any gentleman would take part in the proceedings, except he had an interest in the county.

Mr. M'CALL said, if it was a general meeting of the county, he considered it as poor a turn out as ever he saw in his life. The hall, he considered, would not hold above 1000 persons, and if it had been meant for a general meeting of the county, some suitable place of meeting should have been provided.

After considerable discussion, it seemed to be understood that every one present had a right to take part in the deliberations, and to vote in any division that might be come to by

the meeting.

Lord Brlhaven rose to move a resolution in accordance with the object for which the meeting had been called, and in doing so said: Mr. Chairmen and Gentlemen, This point being now settled, I rise to bring before your attention the object for which this meeting has been called, and I will be as brief as possible in explaining my views on the subject, which I have no hesitation in saying, is of the highest inportance of any that a county meeting could be called to deliberate upon. You have already heard the letter of the Duke of Hamilton, in which he declares that he entertains the same principles of Free Trade as he held 30 years ago, when he signed the celebrated protest drawn up by Lord Grenville in the House of Peers (cheers). In asking you, then, to turn your attention to this question, I may begin by stating that we are now arrived in this country at a state of matters in which to stand still is impossible (cheers.) If we know anything at all of the opinion of public men on this question, we know this, that men of all sides and of every ahada of politics have arrived at the conclusion that the Corn Laws cannot last (cheers). We can arrive at but one conclusion, and that is, that the Corn Laws cannot be continued any longer. Whether their repeal is to be accompanied by the general adoption of Free Trade is another question; but it is a question upon which we ought to deliberate the contract of the co rate and decide, by declaring it as our opinion that Free Trade as a general principle ought to be adopted by the politicians of this country (cheers.) If we consider the vast interests involved in this county (in connection with the object of our meeting), of the first importance as regards merchandise and manufactures—interests which in a few years have raised this county to a pitch of prosperity which I may almost say is unequalled in any other county in Scotland—and which no county of similar extent can have any pretensions to; if we look to that great branch of industry which has risen within the last 20 years—if we consider the immense value of it, not only to the districts where it is in operation, but to the whole country—(I mean the iron trade of this county)—
if we look to the individuals who, I may say, have created
that trade—if we consider the ability, industry, and talent
brought to bear upon it, so as to raise it from utter insignificunce to be one of the staple trades of this country, we must come to the conclusion that we owe a debt of gratitude to those men for their energy and enterprise-and that we are not entitled to stand in the way of the means by which that and every other description of manufacture in the country may be improved and increased (cheers). In considering this question, then, as far as relates to Free Trade in corn, is there any proprietor of land—is there any occupant of land, who will say that there is any benefit either to the one receiving or to the other paying his rent, apart from the general prosperity of the country-or is there any one who loes not acknowledge that the one receives his rent best, and the other is best able to pay his rent, when trade is in the most flourishing condition (hear, hear)? And does not that prove that agriculture, and commerce, and manufac-tures, can only thrive by the encouragement of these recl-procal interests which exist among them? We, then, of procal interests which exist among them? We, then, of the agricultural classes have as great an interest in supporting everything that benefits commerce and manufactures as in supporting that which benefits ourselves. Let us ask, then, what advantages we have gained from these Corn Laws? Will any man take the trouble to look back to the year 1815, when the agriculturists declared that it was impossible for them to get on unless wheat was maintained at 80s, a quarter; and considering the fact that since that time, even with the Corn Law protection, it has been at prices varying from 70s. to 60s., and almost down as far as 60s. a quarter, still we continue to grow wheat, and a larger proportion of it than we ever did. Whence, then, is the advantage we have derived from this protection? At one time we have abundance, at another a scarcity. We have no trust or confidence in any settlement that can be made of this question but one. We have seen the duties vary four or five times, the law having been changed so many times, till at last, as I believe, the time is now nearly arrived when they will be totally agreed (change). Taloudd take the liberty will be totally repealed (cheers). I should take the liberty, then, of urging on the agricultural interest the propriety of considering well whether or not it would be for their own benefit that they come forward willingly and cheerfully, and desire to kee protective duties taken of mot only core, but desire to see protective duties taken off, not only corn, but every other article of impost (hear, hear). Let the great principles of Free Trade be adopted as the only principles on which trade can flourish. I hope, and trust, and believe, that the agricultural interests will suffer in no way because they are afforded less protection, provided the same measures are meted out to the manufacturing and commercial interest (hear, hear). Lord Belliaven then read the resolution.

vative Cabinet of Sir Robert Peel had been broken upon the question of Free Trade; and the Premier, with those onlightened opinions which he has often expressed, and that prescience of which he has shown so many remarkable examples, seems now to be satisfied that the question of Free Trade in corn can no longer be delayed. There could be no doubt that this was still made a leading question in the newly formed Cabinet, though perhaps not to the full extent; and it was therefore the duty of all classes to let sir Robert Peol and the Legislature know their opinion on the question; as, if supported by the country, they might still hope for his persevering in the measures he had originally devised. It was important that Glasgow should co-operate with the country of home and the first state of the country of home and the country of home an with the county of Lanark, as from its importance as a manufacturing and commercial county, it must produce an important influence on the county at large. If the landlords of this country would examine their rent rolls for one hundred years back, they would find that the improvement they now exhibited was consequent on the extension of the manufactures of the country, and particularly on the progress of the iron trade. After alluding to the benefits which railof the fron trade. After alluding to the benefits which rauways were conferring on the country, he said that these, as tending to promote the prosperity of trade in general, were joined in by all political parties, and he could not see why the question of Free Trade should be an exception. The railways were intended to increase our trade, and if a prostration of trade should occur, railways would suffer as they had done in 1841 and 1842. He would refer to Mr. Wilson, Mr. Railed Mr. Divon, or any other of the great iron manu-Mr. Baird, Mr. Dixon, or any other of the great iron manufacturers, if it were possible to carry out, under any system, the manufacturing capabilities of the country, except under that of complete freedom of trade (cheers). While such was the state of the case as regards capitalists, was there no reason why Free Trade should not be adopted so far as the working classes were concerned? The increase of wealth in the country was not more evident than the increase of population. Look for instance at the Airdrie district, the chiefest of the iron manufacture—look at the seats of the cotton manufactures, and see the extent of the increase of the population of late years, without a corresponding increase in the extent of cultivated soil on which the people must depend for food, and it would be impossible for any one to affirm that the country was independent in regard to a supply of corn. The question then was, would they continue to expose the country to those periodical prostrations of trade which produced so much misery in this manufacturing country? Being satisfied that Free Trade alone would meet a which they had so much was not a coupling to a series of which they had so much was not a country or a series of which they had so much was not a country in the series of which they had so much was not a country in the series of which they had so much was not a country in the series of which they had so much was not a country in the series of which they had so much was not a country in the series of the seri evils of which they had so much reason to complain, he cordially seconded the motion. (Ceeers.) Mr. Lоскнапт, M.P. said, he felt it his duty to attend on

this occasion, in order to make a few explanations. He wished to state to the requisitionists, very few of whom he knew, and most of whom never took any part in the business of the county before, that the question which had called forth this meeting had already been decided by the county of Lanurk. He presumed be had been sent to Parliament as member for this county because he was friendly to the emplayment of their own people, and was opposed to placing this country in dependence upon those who were their friends to day, but might be their mortal enemies to morrow. Very recently a meeting of the county was held in the county town, and a petition was agreed upon in favour of the existing protection to agriculture, which was presented to the House of Lords by his grace the Duke of Hamilton, and he (Mr. L.) had the same honour in the House of Commons; and he would venture to say that that petition was as respectably signed as any petition which ever emanated from this country, and showed that the intelligence, the wealth, and the industry of this county were all opposed to the wild principles of Free Trade (hear, hear, and disapprobation). No circumstances had arisen in the meantime to induce him to change his opinion. It might be that this meeting had been got up for the purpose of forwarding the views of those connected with the League. The time at which the requisition was first handed about, and the mysterious and obscure terms in which it was conched, seemed to favour this idea; but he would venture to say, that the county of Lanark would never submit to be dragged at the tail of the Anti-Corn-Law League (hear, hear, and hissing). He said, the county of Lanark would never submit to be dragged at the tail of the Anti-Corn Law League (great disapprobation). The requisition stated, that this country was suffering from an erroneous and pernicious system of monopoly and protection. Now, he would appeal to all present, whether in their experience the country was ever in a more presperous state. That this was ascribable to various causes, he did not deny; but still he would appeal to them if the country was ever in a more prosperous condition. It was partly at. tributable, be believed, to the railway speculations, but partly it was the consequence, that during the three successive years past they had been blessed with abundant barvests. The repeal of the Corn Laws would destroy this prosperity for the future, for it would throw all the inferior lands of this country out of outlivation, and would throw hundreds of the country out of outlivation, and would throw hundreds of the country out of outlivation, and would throw hundreds of the country out of outlivation. He thousands of agricultural labourers out of employment. He was surprised the noble Lord had not entered a little upon that point when he made the proposal he did. He saw a gentleman from Strathaven in the meeting, where the farms were improved at so much expense and trouble; and were the Corn Laws repealed, the ground would be converted into its original moor, and the whole country would return to what it was a hundred years ago (laughter and disappro-

The CHAIRMAN inelated on the meeting being more orderly, and allowing the honourable gentleman to proceed with his observations.

Mr. Lockhart said he was much obliged to the Chairman, but he could assure them he was not at all offended at what had taken place. He was perfectly ready to take his share of any ridicule which might be east upon him in consequence of the views which he entertained, for he was perfectly satisfied that he had the cause of truth and the cause of the working classes at heart in everything which he did, and he believed all who knew him would give him credit for this being the case. Mr. Ruchman had extend rest (hear, hear). Lord Bellaven then read the resolution. His Lordship reserved to himself the liberty of reply to any observations which might afterwards be made.

WALTER BUCKLEM, Esq., merchant, Glasgow, said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion. He and his friends from Glasgow, who were now present, had long laborated in the cause of Free Trade, and to them it was a matter of great gratification to attend this meeting, to see gentlemen of such families in the county as their honourable challenge of such families in the county as their honourable challenge in the county as their honourable challenge in the county as their honourable challenge in the present meeting, to see and if her knowled down the agriculture? He appeared to forget that three fourths of the manufactures of this country were dominated at home, and if her knowled down the agriculture. Interest they would diminish the means of the labourable forms demand, to employ new, and their three three three three trades of the country of the sountry of the

agreed in this—to give protection to the industry of their own people. It was a principle with them, and with all the enlightened statesmen of Enrope, to give employment to their own people in preference to employing the inhabitants of other countries. Could they expect, therefore, that other countries would abandon this principle because/Great Britain shaudoned it? He had beard it said that if they declared for Free Trude the whole world would follow their example; but what was the fact? He would ask the noble lord (Belhaven) in what manner the adoption of this principle was haven) in what manner the adoption of this principle was met in 1842? That year they made extensive diterations in The duties on corn, said to be prohibitory, were greatly modified, and various other prohibitory duties were abolished or diminished. The whole system was altered, and greatly in favour of foreign nations. Now, in what manner where these approaches to Free Trade met? Why by no less than six hostile tariffs. The nations of Europe and America all took the slaver, and instead of over Europe and America all took the alarm, and instead of coming forward in the manner expected, drew more closely the bonds of protection around their own people; and various attempts made since to induce them to relax their system of prohibitory duties had signally failed. An impression was abroad, from the speeches delivered elsewhere, that agriculture was the only protected interest; but there was no man in this room who did not derive benefit from protection. Take the case of the silk weaver. He joined in the cry of cheap bread, but when he did so he did not recollect that his master had a protection of 20 or 30 percent, on his goods, which enabled him to pay workmen double the wages paid in France. He observed two watchmakers amongst the requisitionists, and he would like to ask if they were aware that there was a protecting duty of 20 per cent, on watches, and 10 per cent, on clocks? Shoemakers were likewise protected; and he recollected that some of the very men who now clamoured for the Corn Laws holing abolished, were quite nlarmed at the proposal to reduce the duty on foreign shoes. The Strathaven shoemakers wished their own trude protected; but they had no hesitation to take away protection from the cheese and but-ter of the Strathaven lairds, to whom he owed his custom. Were this system of Free Trade adopted, he would strongly Were this system of Free Trade adopted, he would strongly recommend those gentlemen to get their boots and shoes from France—they would get them better made, probably—and their Strathaven friends might be reduced to the position of cobblers, and only get old boots to mend. Mr. L. went on to show that the effect of doing away with agricultural protection would be to lower the wages of the working-classes in this country to the same level as those paid upon the Continent; for he maintained it would be impossible for the landowner in this country to pay his labourers 10s. a week, while the foreigner only paid is, if the parties were to be called upon to compete on equal terms. America, he granted, was an exception; but there they had the command of unexhausted land, and pastures of boundless extent. After referring to the condition of Ireland from the tent. After referring to the condition of Ireland from the foliare of the potato crop, and to the fact that during all the lo years the Whigs were in power, they never proposed any reduction of the import duties, or any repeal of the Corn Laws, he concluded by making an analysis of the requisition, for the purpose of showing that few of the gentlemen whose names were upon that paper had any great interest in the county. Amongst 896, only 13 were commissioners of supply, and only 51 electors.

Sir E. Colennooke, M.P. for Taunton in rising to move

the next resolution, which, he said, was merely a sequel to the one which had been proposed by Lord Belliaven, said the remarks which fell from the hon, member for the county in regard to Lord John Russell having changed his opinions on the subject of the Corn Laws, came with a bad grace from a supporter of Sir R. Peel's Government, seeing that that hou. gentleman, who had been carried into office by the protectionists, had made the greatest advances of any party in power in the direction of Free Trade principles. If the opinions of Lord John Russell, therefore, were open to tunnt, certainly those of other parties were not less so. He did not think, however, that the present was the time in which they should use party taunts. He believed that he spoke the opinion of all who are favourable to the principle of Free Trade, that they are anxious to join any party favourable to the principle. able to these views, and nothing would give him greater pleasure, in his place in Parliament, than to support Sir R. Peel in carrying this measure. It was the opinion of the requisitionists, that in submitting resolutions to a country in which are united so many various interests, mining, manufacturing, commercial, and agricultural, that no class should be called upon to give up protection when all were prepared to do the same. If the principles of Free Trade were good, they ought to be extended to every article of import; and in conformity with this opinion, he had to submit the resolution which he would propose for the adoption of the meeting. The hon, gentleman proceeded to refer at some length to the doings of Sir R. Peel's Government during the past three years, whereby important reforms had been introduced into the laws affecting importation. He well remembered the representations made by various parties who considered that they would be affected by these alterations from being exposed to foreign competition. The fears of these parties, however, had been dissipated. Notwithstanding the difference of wages paid by the manufacturers of this country compared to those on the Continent-notwithstanding the heavy burdons of taxation, and the operation of hostile tariffs heavy burdens of taxation, and the operation of heatile tariffs to which the hon, member for the county had alluded, the manufacturers of this country carried more than fifty millions of their manufactures to various parts of the world. The agriculturists were still desirous to lean in sloth and indolence on the state-protection, and still sholding out the idle threat that nuless the soil is protected, and corn kept at a dear rate, their millions of acres, will be thrown out of cultivation. (Flear, hear.) It became the agriculturists to take their position along with the other weat interests of the country, and not stand out for other great interests of the country, and not stand out for may exclusive privilege. He saw no room for a middle course with regard to this matter. Nothing would be satisfactory but a repeal of the Corn Laws. Three yours ago the case was different. There then existed a strong party, not merely smoon the architecture but a repeal of the course was different. smong the agriculturists, but among the commercial classes, who would have been favourable to a middle course, and would willingly have adopted it, but after the last three years' discussion they had been shown the rottenness of that years discussion they had been shown the rottenness of that cause that relied on protection. He knew, if they might judge from what was passing at the present time in many of the agricultural districts of this country, that there were many members of the Conservative party who would gladly as hardling that would analyst them to the Court. many members of the Conservative party who would giadly do shything that would enable them to support the Government in compromising this question, and snything that would prevent their supporting the views of the gentlement of the Anti-Corn Law Lengue. But he submitted to the missing where was the possibility of supporting any modification of these laws? (cheers,) He thought the file of the

measures introduced three or four years ago by the present Government must satisfy them that no fixed duty, and no mere modifications of the sliding scale would command the smallest confidence of the people of this country—would be regarded by any interest, whether commercial or agricultural, in any other light than as a stepping stone to a final repeal (loud cheers). Now, if a total repeal was to be carried he must take that opportunity of saving, in the presence of must take that opportunity of saying, in the presence of manufacturers as well as agriculturists, that in his own optnion, the sooner it was carried the better (continued cheers Fie had come slowly into these views, he willingly admitted. He admitted there was much to startle persons in so greet a change as that proposed, for which the agricultural mind was not prepared. But he thought this with regard to its bearing upon the sgricultural interest. He thought that the past experience of the Corn Laws, constantly changing, never giving any prospect of permanency to the farmers, must make them sick of patching up this system by any modification or gradual reduction (loud cheers). He thought the tenant farmer had suffered deeply under this system, for when high wages were obtained, the higher average, whatever it might be, had gone in the shape of higher rent to the landlord (hear, hear). He did feel that the effects they had already experienced from the patching up of prices, and thus interfering with the natural course of trade in these matters, must convince them of the danger of attempting now to patch He had come slowly into these views, he willingly admitted. must convince them of the danger of attempting now to patch up the present system (cheers). But, if a change was to be brought about, he thought it should be done in such a way as that the tenant farmer should at once see what the result of it would be (bear). He did not himself apprehend that the repeal of these laws would produce so great a fall of prices as was apprehended (hear). He believed that Free Trade in the end would not disappoint the expectations of its promoters (cheers). He believed it would lead to a fairer and fuller supply of the great necessaries of life; but he was bound to say that he believed it would not produce so violent a change as to place any person in the smallest diffi-culty in competing with foreign nations (hear, hear). Fit thought the production of corn in this country, the great ar-ticle of food, would always full behind the increase of our population. Look at what took place in regard to the introduction of foreign cattle under the new tariff. It was only four years since the alteration took place; but it was only within the last year the change had produced any perceptible effect; 25,000 head of cattle, or thereabouts, had been introduced. But we have a million more months to fill since the introduction of the new tariff (hear). Looking at that case, he was justified, he thought, in assuming that, while case, he was justified, he thought, in assuming that, while our population increases at the rate of land a day, the productions of this country would always ing behind the increase of the population (cheers). If any great evil was to take place, he did say that they ought to be allowed to know the result at once. The position of the tenant farmer would then be known; he would know the nature of the change; he would at once be able to go to his landlord, and call upon him for a modification of the engagements on which he has entered. Public opinion would support the demand, and he did not think the contract of the change of the contract of the contra not think there existed the hundlord that would venture to resist the demand. But if the tenant farmer falls from the proposed for a gradual repeal, there would never be any change in any one year-never he a reduction of the scale in any one year, that would enable the tenant to go to his landlord and attribute it to the alteration in the law. He did say, therefore, that it was the clearest interest of the tenantry throughout the whole country, that if a change is to be introduced in this law, it should be done at once—that there should be no attempt to patch up the protective system—that the principles of Free Trade should be carried out at once, and that the tenant farmer should have an opportunity of going at once to his landlord. (The hon, member was loudly

going at once to his landlord. (The non. member was loudly applauded on resigning his seat.)
The Hon. JAMES LUMSDEN, Lord Provost of Glasgow, said: He had not intended to take any part in the proceedings of this meeting, and the more especially as it appeared to be rather an unpleasant eigenvectures to the country of to be rather an unpleasant circumstance to the county genthemen, that persons from Glasgow should mix with them in endeavouring to express the public opinion of the county. In this instance, however, he felt that he should be privileged to be a partaker in the promotion of a meeting for the advancement of a cause that would prove so beneficial to manufactures, commerce, and agriculture. At the same time, he was proud to know that his grace, the Duke of Hamilton, in was proud to know that his grace, the Duke of Hamilton, in addition to giving them an opportunity of meeting together so near to the city of Glasgow, had also expressed his own adherence to those principles of Freo Trade for which he had contended in more youthful years. The worthy member for the county (Mr. Lookhart) had referred to a meeting held better in Laurence at which contain regardations had here come lately in Lanark, at which certain resolutions had been come to on this subject. Now, that meeting might be all very well in its own way, when held in a small town at a distance well in its own way, when held in a small town at a distance from the great mining, manufacturing, and agricultural districts of Laumkshire; but it was quite another matter here (cheers). Concurring as he did in the object of this meeting, and in the clear and satisfactory arguments of Sir E. Colebrooke in favour of Corn Law repeal, he begged leave to second the resolution of the hon, baronet, and write he did so to express the lange that the part they had some of did so, to express the hope that the next time his grace of Hamilton called a county meeting, it would be in a locality such as this town, at which the inhabitants of Glasgow and the such as this town, at which the inhabitants of Glasgow and the surrounding districts might conveniently appear and express their sentiments (cheers). He begged further to inform the hon member for the county, that even were another meeting to be held at Lanark, the proceedings, so far as the sounty gentlemen were concerned, would not be allowed to be so unanimous as they had been.

The Hon. Major Cocurann said,—I regret that Sir E. Colebrooke did not advert more at length to the results that would take place in the event of a total repeal of protection on all articles. My impression is, that that part of his his speech was merely given as a scape goat, in order to attract the attention of parties from the manner in which the League has been supported at this meeting to day (disapprobation). If all the duties on imports were repealed, the whole of the articles of the world would come into this country—food and products of every kind (hear, hear). Now, the being possessed of a general system of cheap articles in a country does not necessarily imply the prosperity of that country. I have seen many countries where almost all articles are proportially chase. are remarkably cheap, but much misery was prevalent in those countries, notwithstanding that they were free from an immense pressure of debt, and of the interest physble upon it. mense pressure of debt, and of the interest physics upon it. Now, I would ask any gentleman, or any person in this room, if every article, not only of consumption but of inxury, including every implement of material employed in art or otherwise, he so cheap, would not a small quantity of disculating medium be sufficient to supply the wants of this country (hear, bear, from the protectionists). It therefore the was but a small circulating medium required, how is the tree.

vernment to raise the 52 millions of taxes? thing is utterly impossible. I also dones ions of taxes? I contend to thing is utterly impossible. I was contend that the six of land and the value of its produce are the standard of rise in this country. Reduce the value of land and of its probe, and every other thing must come down to a level. It be man hands that produce articles of every description. Thus hands must be supported—and food to man is the clief at ticle of expense to him and his family. If that food h ticle of expense to him and his family. If that foot is dear, of course every article which he manufactures must give him a proportionally high; and his employers must give him a very considerable wage out of that high-priced article. But if food is cheap, and the man's body is supported by the food, he can afford to labour for a lower rate of weat. Therefore he can manufacture articles cheaper, and the whole system will come to this, as I said before, that the whole system will come to this, as a sum beart, that the circulating medium will be reduced to a very limited somethe Government will thus be unable to raise taxes for its supplies, and the consequence will be a national back supplies, and the consequence will be a national back ruptoy (laughter and disapprobation.) With respect to the duty on corn, it may be supposed that the ten or fifteen shiflings average is entirely lost, because the Government getait. But I can tell you it is not lost to the county be a supposed to the county be getait. getsit. But I can tell you it is not lost to the country be cause the Government gets it. For it is quite obvious if the Government were to give up these fifteen shillings, the farmer must give up fifteen shillings of the price of his quarter of wheat. On that ground it may be said the man-facturers and other parts of the population would gain. But what will they gain? Not the thirty shillings which the Government and the farmer lose—they'll gain the half of it what the farmer loses. Therefore, they would be robbing what the farmer loses. Therefore, they would be robbing Peter to pay Paul, and they would lose the fifteen shilling to pay the foreigner. A repeal of the Corn Laws would ruin the farmer and the agricultural interest, and deprice the Government of a revenue which it stands most in need of The fifteen shillings Government gets are not thrown away and the labourer, with the wages he receives in this comm. oan afford to purchase food when corn is at 13s, a quane. But look at the condition of the Irish squatters, who if the bread loaf was at a farthing, could not purchase it. Then f say, let the meeting address the Government to keep on the Corn Laws (disapprobation)—let them say to the Gorers, ment there is a duty on corn at present of los, a quanter, let that remain; but send any quantity to Ireland, so that its inhabitants may be supplied with food, with which they cannot supply themselves. Remember that if you deprive the Government of the los. tax, a tax must be put on to support them. Then you deprive the farmer of his fifteen shilling, and come upon him for his proportion of the tax to feed to people. Now, is that a rational position? I say it is the very reverse. After arguing that the most injurious consequences would arise were we dependent for a supply of food upon foreigners, who, he contended, would hoard up the corn in order to got high prices for it, the hon. gentleman continued: It would have been much better if we had orested no alarm on this subject at all (a laugh). It is a fullacy to suppose that we are to have cheap bread and the farmers not be injured. It is very well to say the landlend must bring down his rents, and that it is not a farmer's que tion. But look at the condition of the landlords, particularly in Scotland, where many title deeds are locked up in Edin burgh (loud laughter). The very first step after this would be that the whole of their property would be put into the market, and the manufacturers, who are coming forward just now, purse-proud with their thousands and tens of thousands. sands, would buy up their estates (hear, and loud laughter) Is that just? Is that what any Englishman or Scotchman with a heart would wish to see? The members of the League are endeavouring to carry this question by their thousands and hundreds of thousands. What next? The next thing you will hear of will probably be that the Honsof Lords will throw out any bill sanctioning the free importation of corn, and the League will then raise another quarter of a million with the view of obtaining a victor over the Lords. I say the League is a revolutionary boly over the Lords. I say the League is a revolutionary boly (hisses and hooting). The League will not rest (hisses) the League will not rest until [the remainder of the sertence was lost in the hissing which followed). That is my opi nion, and with the expression of it I sit down.

Sir HENY STEWART denied that the agriculturists had been idle-doing nothing for the last few years. By means of societies they had done much for the improvement of agriculture, and not less than 14 millions had been invested in guano to increase the productiveness of the soil, in order to keep pace with the population. It was, in fact, well known to all, that produce had increased in proportion to the population. If by any means they reduced agricultural produce here, they would do incafculable injury, not only to the land-lords, but to the working classes, and throw their desimis-into the hands of foreigners.

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Mr. JAMES M'CALL, of Daldowic, said: The question was, whether the people of this country were to be protected against foreign invasion in regard to their corn and their manufactures? It was impossible that this country—with its large debt, its high taxes, and its paper currency, which so much reduced the value of money, and made them believe they paid higher prices for their food-could compete with foreigners if there was a Free Trade. Let them take away the paper and substitute gold, and corn would then b cheaper even than it was in France (hear, hear). For the last two years there had been vast improvements in serial. ture; and greater quantities of provisions were now raised in proportion to the population than at any former period; and more manufactures were now exported than ever were before. They never had such a flourishing home trade at at this moment. If so, would they attempt a theoretical exp riment which had never been heard of in any other country They ought to pause before they passed any resolution open ing up the country, not only to the importation of com, but to every other article which gave employment to the indu-trious classes of the community. He would sak the indutrious classes if they were not at present getting more rand and were not better now than they had been accumulated (No, no.) If they were not getting better wages (so, no, less wages). Well, then, if you are not getting better wages (so, no, less wages). Well, then, if you are not getting better wages at present, your masters are not doing their way thear, hear, and olders). When the country was in state of prosperity so it was, the masters out it to give higher wages, and if they did not, with such an extent of radius, soing on, the waveling his matter and while well. wages, and if they did not, with such an aftent of raffery going on, the working classes might not only go ment, but such wages as they chose to ask (list; ment, but such wages as they chose to ask (list; the national debt war a great burden on the work; to meet the interest; they required a great national can and because they paid in a depreciable with an adequate they paid higher than in white passes and hope with the paid higher than it white passes and allow him; but if they paid higher than not allow him; but if they paid higher than not allow with skin.

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bent.

The CHAIRMAN then put the question, by a show of hands on the first resolution, the hands in favour consisting of nearly the whole meeting, those against not exceeding 10 or 20. This having been declared carried,

The question was put in the same way on the 2d resolution, and not more than half-a-dozen hands were held up against it. Both resolutions were then declared carried.

Mr. PATRICK GRAHAM, of Limekilus, moved that a petition, founded on the resolutions, should be forwarded, through his Grace the Duke of Hamilton, to the House of Lords, and another, by Bir E. Colebrooke, to the House of

Mr. JOHN WILSON of Dundyvan said, it must be gratify

ing to the noble Duke, as well as those of the county opposed

to monopoly, to find that his Grace, thirty years ago, outered his protest against the pernicious Corn Laws. He is now the only surviving peer who signed that celebrated protestit was at a time, too, when those opposed to protection were but few in number—when, among the Members sent from Scotland to the House of Commons, there could only be found two, viz. Lord Archibald Hamilton, and Lord Panmure. With regard to the object of this meeting—the taking into consideration the perufolous consequences of monopoly and protection—the resolutions which have just been moved and the able arguments which have been adduced in support of them, render it unnecessary for me to trouble you with any observations of mine (hear, hear, hear). one point, however, which has not been very clearly brought out, namely, the difference between protective and other import duties. Many of those who formerly upheld the Corn Laws, now say-" If you take off the tax on corn, which is our protection, you must take off the tax on other articles of import as well; you must take off the tax on the articles which I buy-the tax on angur, on tea, on wine," &c. Now, the principles of Free Trade is-take off these taxes by all means, but none of these is so obnoxious as that on corn. The tax on corn goes to protect the corn growers of this country, and goes but a small way in aiding revenue, while the taxes on ten, sugar, and wine, are not protections, because neither of these articles are produced in this country; these taxes, therefore, go to make up the revenue, but the tax on corn, as I have already stated, goes but a small way in this, as is easily illustrated, viz.—Take the duty on corn at ten shillings per quarter, before it comes into this country, there requiring to be added to the price it cost at Dantzic or Odessa the freight and this ten shillings duty—that is the net amount of what goes into the pockets of the landlords, and does not benefit the revenue. Not so the taxes on tea, sugar, and wine. These go directly towards making up the revenue, and are alike to all. The tax on corn is paid into the pockets of the landlords out of the pockets of the manufacturing and industrious classes. It is a class tax, for it benefits the few at the expense of the many. It benefits the protectionists, who have monopolised the sents around this table, at the expense of the manufacturing and industrious classes, who are obliged to stand behind their chairs. (Laughter and cheers.) To make it an equal tax, the same duty should be levied on home grown corn as on that which is imported. But let us take a more general and Free Trade view of the evil effects of the existing Corn Law on this country (cheers, and cries of "Hear, hear.") Great Britain, from its geographical position in relation to the different nations of the world, is particularly well situated for exchanging the productions of the different climates. The very shape of the island is in its favour, being longer than it is broud, with navigable rivers on each side, penetrating to page its course added to which one has constant and the penetrations to page its course added to which one has constant and the penetrations of the penetrations of the penetration of the penetratio ing to near its centre—added to which are her commanding harbours—and united to all these advantages she possesses the element of manufacture in a greater degree than any other nation in the world, (the principal of which are its coal and iron,) without which, no nation can be great, and with which and good laws, limits can scarcely be set to a nation's advancement. (Cheers.) Allusion has been made by the mover and seconder of the first resolution to the iron trade, and to its prosperous condition; but were it not for the railways which have so recently sprung up in this country, the iron trade would probably have been at this moment in a languishing condition, in consequence of the import duties, which prevent its finding its way into foreign countries. With the exception of Holland, no foreign country will now almit our iron duty free-in France and Spain, the duty is now more than the cost of production in this country, which amounts also to a prohibition. In America the import duty on pig iron is above 40s. por ton; and the Germans, who were the last to lay on a protecting tax, last year imposed an import duty of 20s. per ton. Now, I believe, all these import duties have been laid on in consequence of the import duties we lay on the produce of these countries, and particularly on their corn. The result is, that in consequence of our refusing to admit their corn, they refuse to admit our manufactures, and thus both countries are injured. From the iron district around us, there was exported in 1848 above (60,000) tons of pig iron to Germany, but during the last year, I believe, there has not been 1000 tons exported to these states, and that in consequence of the "Zollverein" laying on a 20s, duty. Another evil that may arise from the maintaining of these laws, is the inimical feeling they engender in those countries with whom we are most likely to the maintaining of these laws, is the inimical feeling they engender in those countries with whom we are most likely to the maintaining of these and America. We tax the wines and go to war, France and America. We tax the wines and braudies of our nearest neighbours, the French, their silks, and their corn, so as to make them retaliate on us by taxing our iron, our coals, and our cottons. On the produce of America we layan import tax likewise, while they, in return, lay a high tariff on our manufactures; and an occasion has now arisen which may form a pretext for a most sanguinary war, that of the disputed territory of the Oregon. I cannot contemplate such a war without horror; I have no fears for the issue, even though France were to join thembut what scones of bloodshed would such a war lead to-for in proportion to our advancement in civilisation, we have at the same time advanced in our power to destroy our enenies. I hope and trust matters will not come to thisbut the best way to prevent it is by abrogating the Corn laws, and thus paving the way to a general reconciliation

MF. A. GRAHAM, of Capillic, said that they must have observed that the hon, member for the county had met with two disappointments on this occasion—the one, that the arment meeting was not constituted like his favourite one at largers, so as to emable him to barry resolutions; however autogent for maintaining the fullest agricultural protection are the other that solody had a hearto reply to his quest of any low-solid-starmer; saying low-a week of wages to an application in the solody had a hearto of wages to an application in the solody had been accompanied in the paying the contract of the solody had been accompanied in the paying the solody had been accompanied in the solody had been accompanied to the solody had been accompanied t Present meeting was not constituted like his favourite one at

who had informed them that some years ago he was elected the member for the county, should not consider himself the representative of all classes, instead of only some of those called the gentlemen of this county (hear, hear). As to the question of competition in the case of different rates of wages which he had at first put so pointedly to him (Mr. A. G.) and which he had just repeated with an air of such assured triumph, he might presume that the hon, member had heard of a country not very far distant, commonly called Ireland (laughter), where an agricultural labourer receives od. a-day, which, multiplied by 0, makes 80 ponco, or, in other words, 2s. 0d., which is 1s. 6d. less than 4s. (cheers). And who ever heard that a Scottish farmer dreaded to enter the great corn market of Britain, and compete with an Irish farmer? And what is there about an Irishman less dreadful than a Pole? (hear, hear.) But as it has been with cattle so shall it be with corn. When the tariff came out it was the cry of the Highlands that cattle could no longer be properly bred. Cattle bought in at markets before the twiff were sold at Whitsunday, after its commencement, at 10s. to 20s. a head of diminished price, with the loss of keep to boot; and how fared it at this moment with home-bred outtle after so short an interval, and with a rapidly increasing introduction of foreign stock? Too many could not now be bred, and prices never were higher (loud cheers). His excellent friend, Sir II. Stewart, plumed himself on the fact, that farming societies improved agriculture, but he would ask why had the landholders of England at length imitated the Highland society of Scotland? Was it to benefit the public, by increasing and cheapening their food (hear)? Or, was it even for the pleasure of beholding better cultivated fields? No it was because that wise in their contracted fields? No, it was because that, wise in their generation, the landlords inwardly say and confessed to themselves what they dared not publicly arow, that the Corn Laws were doomed (cheers), and that it was requisite for rents of future years that the tenantry should be taught to combine science with any and a make up for wateries (cheers). His require with art, and so make up for protection (cheers). His young friend mentioned, as a proof of agricultural improvement the large purchases of guano. He thanked him for the word hear, hear). Was he (Sir H. S.) aware that on the introtheir, near). Was no (Sir 11. S.) aware that the brought duction of guano the public dung of Edinburgh brought 1500l. less than the year before? And had any sliding scale been adopted for dung, so as to protect this home proceed been adopted for dung, so as to protect this home proceed by the foreign guano process. duct of Edinburgh from competition with the foreign quano product of distant rocks in the sea (cheers and laughter)? If justice is to rule the legislation of this country, either a protective import duty should have been put on guano, or the citizens of Edinburgh should have been relieved of 1500% of the corn tax (hear, hear). He utterly scouted the idea that the abolition of the Corn Laws would make agriculture cease (hear, hear). 80s. was thought the lowest price at which wheat could be grown; it fell to 60s., and still wheat was grown; it fell to 50s., and still the farmer grew it; it fell to 40s.,; yes, to 38s., and wheat was still grown; and the lower the price fell, the greater breadth was sown (hear). He thoroughly believed that the abolition of protection would not ruin, but increase and improve agriculture (hear). The necessity, whether real or believed, for increased exertion, would force on more and better drainage; the plough would not be beat down and converted into some manufacturing instrument, but it and every other implement, with all their adjuncts, would be improved; and the only competition a Scottish farmer would have to fear would be the farmer of the south, when the abolition of protection opened the eyes of the English landlord to the expediency, propriety, and justice of granting him a lease—(hear)—and of assisting him in improvement (cheers). He would say, that if any tax were to be imposed on corn, under whatever name and of whatever amount, it must be for revenue, which was for the good of the State, and not for rent, which was for the good of the landlords—one of whom he happened to be (much cheering).

Major Cochrane and other gentlemen again addressed the meeting, amidst considerable manifestations of impa-

Lord Belhaven said,—Before the meeting closes, should wish to say a few words, chiefly in explanation of some part of what I stated before, which I think has not been altogether understood, Before I allude to that, how-over, I must say one word with respect to what fell from my honourable friend, the member for Lanarkshire. I certainly did regret to hear the statement made by him, because think of all men here, that statement with respect to this meeting came from him with the worst possible grace (loud cheers). I am sure my honourable friend could not meanand yet it is difficult for me to construc it otherwise-I hope he did not mean, that because there happened to be but he did not mean, that because there happened to be but 13 Commissioners of Supply who signed the requisition calling this meeting, that the meeting is an unimportant one. The requisition, said the honourable member, was signed by only 13 Commissioners of Supply; he then stated what these Commissioners of Supply were; that, in fact; only nine of them possessed any property. Now, I think I am not saying too much, when I state that in this county we have a right to consider, that as my honourable friend is the mamber for the county be is the nourable friend is the number for the county, he is the representative of all. I am sure we all wish to pay him respect as such, although many of us may differ from him in matters of polities. And I am sure if any of us wished to have any business done in Parliament, he would be as ready to do it as any individual would be (obcers). But there was another observation which the hon gentleman shade, which I was also sorry to hear from him; and I must at the same time say, when I allude to these observations, it delights me to think they were not coloed back by any person here (cheers). The observations to which I refer are contained in the statement of the hon, member, that we are desirous of dragging the county of Lanark at the tail of the Anti-Corn-Law League (hear, hear). To that statement, gentlemen, I make no reply. I stand here, and I hope that we as the county of Lanark, stand here upon our own principles, alike independent of the Anti-Corn-Law League and of the present. Government—(lovel alicertus); and not I will be a like independent of the present. alike independent of the Anti-Corn-Law League and of the present Government—(loud cheering); and yet I might throw out the taunt that my hon-friend (Mr. Lockhart); who was also to support the protection to agriculture then existing, did support a measure which did take away part and parcel of that protection (hear, hear). Now, what is it was that may be proposed for taking away the whole of that protection—(cheers)—and I think we have some right to axion. that may be proposed for taking away the whole of that pro-tection—(cheers)—and I think we have some right to ex-pect that he will do it; because he has so far set the example of voting for a portion of it.

The resolution was agreed to.

Sir E. Corresponds then moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was capted by acclamation. TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.

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Owing to the pressure on our space, we have been compelled to omit our Correspondence and several other articles until next week.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, January 31, 1846.

His Grace the Duke of Richmond deserves credit for boldness; he has declared himself ready to become responsible for every thing that has been said or done at protection meetings, including the comparison of the Premier to Satau, and the holocaust of the Times newspaper. Mon have taken strange means of immortalising their names at different periods; Empedocles threw himself into a volcano, and Erostratus fired the templo of Ephesus; the Duke of Richmond's plunge is only into mire, and his highest feat of arion is the burning of a morning journal. While seeking historic fame for himself, he revives the memory of the circumstances in which the Richmond peerage originated; it was a reward to a French courtezan, for inducing a profligate monarch to betray the honour of England; and it would scen as if the implied condition of its maintenance had been hostility to the interests of the English people. With him the Corn Laws are as sacred as the tyranny of Louis the Fourteenth, which La Quenouille was sent from Paris to support; artificial scarcity is to him what Le Grand Monarque was to her, a cause to be maintained at all hazards, in which doubt was blasphemy, and wavering, impicty. The parallel even goes further, for a part of the policy which La Quenouille bequeathed to her descendants was to insist on a dissolution of Parliament. Representatives he deems bound to consult their constituencies on every great question, but more especially when such a constituency happens to be a

Great body corporate of one, Important *omnes solus.*"

The duke himself happens to be one of those "plural units," and under this general recommendation he hides a delicate hint to the ducal representative that a vacating of his place would not be unde-

The rambling abusive speech to which we have referred, of course repeats the groundless calumnies against the Longue which have been a thousand times refuted. The absurd charge of spending the League Funds in bribery at elections, was properly and promptly demolished by Lord Kinnaird; but the duke had not the manliness to retract his charge, or acknowledge his error.

We should scarcely have noticed this display of imbecile fury had not the reference made to the number of petitions in favour of protection shown the importance of the recommendation of the Council published in the first page of our paper. We must take every constitutional means of evincing the national determination to get rid of those laws which are the bane of agricultural, not less than of manufacturing industry. The policy of La Quenouille was shattered into atoms by an indignant people in 1088; and the policy of her descendants must meet a like faté in 1846

We regret to find in the report of the same debate a speech attributed to Lord Ashburton, who led the van in opposing the Corn Laws in 1814. He is not the only example of a statesman sacrifleing as a peer the honours he won as a commoner. Chesterfield said of Pulteney, when he became Earl of Bath, "he was sent into the Lords, that great hospital of incurables, and sunk into insignificancy and an carldom;" and Pulteney was but a melancholy type

of a Baring and a Brougham.

One lesson which may be deduced from this debate is the necessity for continued, and even incroased, vigilance and exertion on the part of the Free Traders. A dissolution is menaced; let us be prepared for the event. Ducal monads may send up their butlers, their stewards, or their land agents, to amounce their will to the House of Commons, but the people have sufficient power to defeat these unliveried servants if they firmly resolve to stand by the cause of justice and freedom. We know that such is the determination of Free Traders, and all that is required in the energy of their notion,

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As real goodness is not helped by praise, nor injured by the BLAUK That, at 4s, 6d, per its, and by DAKIN and COMPANIES popularity addity to its intrinsic expellence.

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Can only be had in London of Mr. Hewett, Confectioner, les. Accept

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Bet Foreign ditto, ditto, 2s.; Best Frish White ditto, 2s. ed. Best Balling ditto, 2s.; Best Frish White ditto, 2s. ed. Best Balling ditto, 2s. Heat Frish White ditto, 2s. Heat Balling ditto, 2s. Heat Balling ditto, 2s.

TONES'S 24. 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES Warranted not to vary more than half a minute per week, are at the Manufactory, 236, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. They make that the truth of a mathematical inatrument with the elagance of a receipt of a Post-office order for is, above the priority of taste. On receipt of a Post-office order for is, above the priority will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Head Jone's "Shein a Watch Work," sent free for a 2d. stamp

THE ATRAPILATORY, or LIQUID HAIR DYEST THE ATRAPILATORY, or LIQUID HAIR DYEST THE ORD WAS THE ATRAPILATORY, OR LIQUID HAIR DYEST THE ORD WAS THE ATRAPED AND WAS AN ACCOUNT. THE ATRAPED AND WAS AND W

STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION of the CHERT are entirely provented and contraction of the CHEST are entirely prevented, and gently and electrical removed in Youth and Ladies and dentiaman, by the occasional use of the Impreved Elastic Chest Expander, which is light, simple easily maybe outwardly or invisitity, without any uncounfortable restraint, or invisitity, without any uncounfortable restraint, or invisitity, without any uncounfortable restraint, or invisition, without any uncounfortable restraint, or invisitor. It is not to the invisit of the

BELLING OFF CARPETS.

UCK, KENT, and CUMMING, beg to inform the Nobility and Gentry, as well as their friends and the public, that they have removed their Business from Carpenter's Hall, London Will, to the control of the Control o

A CCEPTABLE PRESENTS.—At a period when the social sympathies are most predominant, and the genial inflames in moxe" is felt in the highest degree—more especially by "My years master and missay." now spending their vacation at the "Old Hell," the most appropriate present becomes the first subject of considerations in morely useful one can afford no evidence of taste, while a present person is go no claims to utility, shows a want of judgment. To considerate in the consideration of the stributes. In creating and sustaining insuriant that tresses, ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL is highly appreciated by task and Pashion, and patronised by all the Sovereigns of Europe. 160%. LAND'S KALYDOR is a preparation of unparalleled efficacy is inserving and beautifying the Skin and Complexion; and ROWLAND'S ODORTO, or PEARL DENTIFRIOE, is invaluable for its preservative and lensifying effects on the Teeth and Guma, which infallibly tend to the sagnetiation of that imposing exterior, which Lerd Chosterfield justly observe is "a card effect memendation."

"a card effect memendation."

"c. Reware of SPURIOUS IMITATIONS! Back genuins article in the word "ROWLAND's" preceding the name on the Wrapper. All others are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS. The gonuine are said by the Proprietors at 20, Hatton-garden, London, and by Chemists and Fertings,

PROTECTION TO THE FARMERS!

GOOD NEWS FOR THE AGRICULTURISTS.
In choosing a subject bentring the times,
We think that "Protection" demands a few rhymes.
This selection is made, as a suitable one.
By the two great "Protection stable one.
By the two great "Protection is "MOSES and SON.
Then listen, yo farmers! ye friends to "Protection!"
While briefly we throw out a hint for reflection.
At a time like the present, you all will require
"Protection" from winter—that turbulent sire.
And, for asfety and shelter, you all ought to run
To the two great "Protectionists"—MOSES and SON.
These tailors have coats in the highest perfection,
Whose purpose and special design is "Protection."
Should winter prove rather too "free," in his "trade,"
These coats will "protect" you, and lend you their sid.
They'll "protect" you from cold, and "protect" you from rais,
And their high reputation will ever sustain.
They'll "protect" you from snow, and "protect" you from hal,
Whon you travel by coach—when you travel by rail.
They'll "prietect" you by day, and "protect" you by angat,
And "protect" you they say, and "protect" you by angat,
And "protect" you thill winter has taken his flight.
And thus will abundance of credit be done
To the two great "Protectionists"—MOSES and SON.

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Beaver Taglionis
Chesterficids or Codringtons
D'Oray's, Athol's, Pembroke, and every description of winteres
Boy's winter coats in every style
Winter treusors, lined
Docekin Dress Coats, edged Frock ditto Roll collar Vests

Roll collar Vests Double-breasted ditto Boy's Hussar and Tunis Suits : Roy's winter Trousers Boy's winter Vests

Winter Coats in every style and shape, handson Milled C'oth Oreat Coats, volvet collar and cuffs Ditto Trousers Ditto Trousers
Ditto Trousers, in all the new patterns
Dreskin Trousers
Best, or Dress Trousers
Dress Coats
Ditto, best quality made
Frock Coats
Ditto, best quality made
Caalmere Vosts
Satin, plain or fancy
Roy's Russer and Tunic Suits
Roy's Great Coats

Boy's flusser and Tunic Suits
Roy's Great Coats

IMPORTANT ANNOUNGEMENT.

A new work, entitled "Habiliment Hall," with full dipose self-measurement, may be had on application, or detyrated self-measurement for property and forest and from the property of the same of the property of the same of the property of the same of the same of the property of the same of t

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THE LEAGUE.

HAIR DYE:

[GRATIS.

SIR ROBERT PEEL'S SPEECH ON THE COMMERCIAL POLICY OF THE COUNTRY.

Never was interest more intense than that which was manifested in the metropolis on Tuesday evening to learn the development of Sir R. Peel's promised proposals on the subject of the commercial policy of this country. The strangers' gallery was growded at an early hour; multitudes who had been successful in procuring tickets were unable to obtain admittance; and, externally, the passages and the very streets were so crowded, that the police, who attended in considerable force, had no little difficulty in keeping a passage clear for the membars. In the house itself there were not less than 400 members present at half-past four. The seats below the bar, usually reserved for strangers, were filled with peers, and other distinguished visitors; and most prominent of those, in the front seats, were seated His Royal Highness Prince Albert, His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and the Earl of Jersey. This, we believe, was the first visit made by the Prince to the House while sitting.

The Speaker took the chair at the usual hour, and various petitions were presented connected with the Corn Law and other subjects-one from Manchester, by Mr. Philips, which had received the signatures of 52,579 inhabitants of Manchester in two hours, praying that all restrictions on the sale of human food might be abolished. At 20 minutes to five o'clock Sir R. Peel moved that the order of the day be read for the House resolving itself into a committee of the whole House on the customs and corn importation acts; and having stated, in reply to a question from Mr. Miles, that he did not intend to ask for the opinion of the House that night upon any portion of his financial statement, and the speaker having left the chair, and Mr. Greene read a portion of her Majesty's Speech,

Sir Robert Perl then rose and said : Sir, whatever opinion may be ultimately formed with regard to the merits of the proposal which I am about, on the part of her Majesty's Government, to submit this night to the consideration of the house, I am convinced that the extreme difficulty of the task which it devolves upon me to perform, and a consideration of the magnitude and extent of the interests involved in the questions with which I have to deal, will insure for me from the house that patient and intelligent attention without which it would be wholly out of my power, either with satisfaction to myself or utility to the public interests, to discharge my duty (hear, hear). I am about, in pursuance of the re-commendations contained in her Majesty's speech, and which recommendations were advised by her responsible servants—I am about to review the duties which apply to many articles the produce and manufacture of other countries. I am about to proceed on the assumption adopted in the speech from the throne, that the repeal of prohibitory and the relaxation of protective duties is in itself a wise course to be pursued (loud cries of hear, hear, from the Opposition benches); and I am about to proceed upon the assumption that protective duties, ab-stractedly and in principle, are open to objection (hear, hear); that the policy of maintaining them may be defended, but that there must be shown to be special considerations either of policy or justice for their continuance. I am about to act upon the assumption that, during the last three years, there has been in this country an increased productiveness of revenue, notwithstanding that there has been a remission of heavy taxation (cheers); that there has been an increased demand for labour; that there has been increased commercial activity; and that there has been an increase of comfort, happiness, and contentment in this country (foud cheers, chiefly from the Opposition benches.) I do not say that these great blessings have necessarily been caused by any particular policy which you may have adopted, but this I say, that the enjoyment of these inestimable blessings has been concurrent with your legislation, with the plan and policy; I mean, of repealing prolibibity and reducing protective duties. I am not now, therefore, by praising that plan and policy, about to call most he House of Commons to receive from any portion of a surres which has been satisfacted by the House. It will be for the House to consider which his fourtee has the following the consider which has been satisfacted by the House. It will be for the House to consider which his fourtee has the following the consider which has been satisfacted by the House. It activity; and that there has been an increase of com-

of the public credit, taking care not to endanger it, and not to cause any loss in the permanent revenue. Neither, Sir, have I lost sight of another recommendation, that in the application of sound principles, we should act with so much precaution and forbearance as that we should not prejudice any of the great interests of the country. This will be, I hope, scarcely rendered necessary, for the great interests will not be prejudiced by the proposal I am about to make. Above all, I trust that the recommendation of her Majesty will be attended to, and that this subject will receive the patient and dispassionate consideration of the house. I have already stated, in answer to the question put to me by an hon. gentleman, that I do not intend asking the House of Commons to pronounce any opinion to-night upon the entire or any part of the proposals I am about to submit to their consideration. It is on the contrary, the wish of her Majesty's Government, that the whole of those proposals may be dispassionately and deliberately considered and weighed. I am about to touch so many interests in those proposals, that some honourable gentlemen may be induced to dissent from them, and to comsider me rash and improvident. If that should be the prevailing impression of those who are unwilling to relinquish the principle of protection, nothing can be more easy than upon the night when it will be my duty to ask the house to pronounce an opinion upon the question, for them to place upon record their protest against it. At the outset the proposal will be some such resolution as this. Not that protection to any branch of industry is advisable, but this comprehensive one—that protection to native industry is not in itself good (hear); it may be on the other hand that, considering all the great difficulties of this question—considering the variety of opinion upon it, and the nature of the contest which has been so long waged, and which I fear will long continue unless there be an early and satisfactory adjustment of it—it may be that those who dissent from parts of the scheme I am about to propose may be disposed to accept it as a settlement, and that the voice of the country may pronounce upon it as a whole, "This is not an unequitable or unwise adjustment, and, rather than continue a perpetual conflict, we will receive it." If that be the conclusion of the reasonable and intelligent of all classes of the community, I shall have confidence of ultimate success. If, on the contrary, I touch so many interests by the application of the great principle that protective duties are not in themselves abstractedly good, and ought to be relinquished, another fate will await my proposition, and the sooner it is disposed of the better for the public good. Sir, in the relaxation of protective duties, I am not about to select any one particular interest. I am not about to select the great interest connected with the agriculture of the country, and call upon them to relinquish their protection, whilst forbearing to call upon other interests to relinquish theirs (loud cheers). Mine is no separate, isolated proposal. Convinced that the proposal I am about to make is a just and wise one, I will ask all to make the sacrifice, if it be a sacrifice, of their protective privileges (loud cheers from both sides of the house, but chiefly from the Opposition seats). Sir, the house is aware that during the last three years what is called the tariff has been amended; and that in so doing, the whole scheme of customs' duties has been submitted to the reviewal and consideration of the house. In 1842 it was my duty, as the organ of the Government, to propose great changes in the then existing system of customs' duties. The general principle of the plan on which I then acted, was to remove the duties upon articles of raw material constituting the elements of manufacturing industry. The principle of that plan also was, the subjecting generally the manufactured articles, the effect of the labour of other countries, to duties not exceeding 20 per cent. Not only in 1842, but at a subsequent period, the house adopted the principle upon which I had acted in 1842. Notwithstanding the apprehension of a failing revenue, we selected articles being raw materials for the remission of taxation. In 1844 we reduced altogether the duty upon wool. In 1845 we reduced altogether the duty upon cotton. There hardly remains a raw material imported from other countries the duty upon which has not been diminished or removed. The manufacturers of this country, therefore, have at present an advantage which they never before possessed. They have free access to the raw material which constitutes the fabric of their articles of manufacture, and I consider that I am entitled, therefore, to call upon the manufacturers to relinquish the advantages which they now derive from protection (loud cheers from both sides) The manufacturer has now advantages which he never before possessed. It might have been feared that a diminution of revenue would have ensued from the import of cotsph wool free of the duty which existed in 1814. But the liouse was sensible that to the continuance of it there were objections, in consequence of the formidable competition which was ariting in other places. The house discognized the system desirable from it, and removed the 800,000/rozz/00/00/rozz/01/rozz/01/00/rozz/01/00/rozz/01/00/rozz/01/rozz/0 protection (loud cheers from both sides) The manufac-

complaint of any great body of the people. Both with regard to the removal of duty from sheep's wool and cotton wool, this house subjected its members and the country to the imposition of an income-tax, out of consideration to the manufacturing interests, and thus it was that they removed the duty upon those articles. Sir, I mean in the first instance, in taking that review of duties still existing to which we are invited by her Majesty, to continue to act on this principle. I propose to take the articles of raw material first. I shall begin with them in order to still further justify myself in calling upon the manufacturers to relinquish the amount of protection which they still possess. Sir, I hardly know any article of raw material still liable to duty except tallow and timber (hear, hear). Sir, with respect to tallow, which is in the nature of a raw material from its being a staple largely used in manufactures of great importance, being used in the making of soap and candles, and in the dressing of leather, I propose to begin by reducing the duty which is still left upon it. Russia is the country from which chiefly the importation of tallow is made. Some also comes from the United States. and there is at present a duty upon it of 3s. 2d. per cwt. This subject was adverted to in the course of the last sossion, mainly with a view to our own interest, but partly also for the purpose of encouraging Russia to inake some advance in the extension of commerce, of which I trust she has given some indications. I propose without any stipulation (hear, hear)—I propose that England should set the example of relaxation of those heavy duties (loud cheers). I propose it in the confidence that that example will ultimately be followed; and that our example, even if we do not purchase any immediate reciprocal benefit, will yet be productive of infinite good. By these reductions we shall improve our own manufactures; I therefore propose to reduce the duty on tallow from 3s. 2d. per cwt. to 1s. 6d. In taking those articles which are of the nature of raw materials first, I come to that of timber. With respect to timber I do not mean to exempt it. We have admitted timber from our colonial possessions at a nominal duty; but with respect to that from foreign countries it is subject to impost. Now timber is the only article on which I must ask time to consider the course I shall pursue. I shall be propared to make a definite proposal with regard to every other article; but I am most anxious to make such alteration as shall give the benefit of the reduction to the consumer. My intention is to effect a gradual reduction of the duty on timber, the reduction being so proportioned, if possible, as to prevent any derangement of the trade, by parties withholding in order to reap the benefit of the change. As the importation from the Baltic partakes something of the nature of monopoly, I wish to make the reduction so that the consumer may have the benefit. Upon a very early day it is the intention of her Majesty's Government to make known their intentions with regard to the timber duties. The subject is a very complicated one. It is a very difficult one to gain reliable information upon, for it is extremely difficult to obtain information when you have to keep your intentions in seeking for it secret. I: rust the house will be satisfied with my promise to make a gradual reduction in the duty, to be spread over a number of years, until it be entirely reduced. But it will be three or four days before the precise nature of those reductions can be laid before the house. Now, with these exceptions, I hardly know a raw material with respect to which, in this country, there is any duty. We have the advantage of a free command of foreign articles, so far as regards imposts upon raw materials. I call, therefore. upon the manufacturers of the three great articles which enter into the consumption of the great body of the people—I ask them to give that proof, which I am sure they will freely give, of the sincerity of their convictions with regard to the impolicy of protecting duties. (Loud cheers from both sides of the house.). The three great branches of manufacturing industry of which I speak are those of linen, of woollen, and of cotton hear, hear, hear)-I ask them at once to set the example to others, by relinquishing chearfully the protection afforded them. (Cheers.) An honourable friend of mine, the member for Dorsetshire-and I will call him, if he allow me, my honourable friend; for it shall not be my fault if these unfortunate political differences be allowed to interfero with private friendship and regard —expressed a hope, being jealous of an expression which occurred in her Majesty's speech, that the small interests of the country would not be overlooked. I promise him that those interests shall meet especial attention. I promise that on the revisal of the tariff I mean to affect the great interests; and therefore I hope to meet the views of my honourable friend, and to gratify his expectations that the small interests small be attended to. Now I shall call upon the manufacturers of cotton—I shall call upon the manufacturer, of the great cotton—I shall call upon the manufacturer of the great articles of cotton, linen, and woollen, to relinquish the protection which they now enjoy. These articles that affect particularly the labouring classes I shall sudon-vour to-treat with more for beauties. In the first instance, I will refer to the cotton manufacture. The great mass of the cotton manufacture, consisting of calicoes, prints, acceptate which to a daty of free par cant, cotton goods made up light as alires and cookings, brought from abroad, are subject

to a duty of twenty; per mann, but generally, cotton manufactures are liable only to a duty of 10 per cent. I propose that all now imported at a duty of 10 per cent, should in future be being in duty free, and that the duty of 20 per cent, which applies to certain and the manufactured about from another and therefore articles manufactured abroad from cotton, and therefore in a certain advanced state, shall hereafter be liable to a duty of only 10 per cent. Articles of the ordinary cotton manufacture shall be imported free of all duty, while shirts, stockings, &c. shall pay 10 per cont., instead of 80 per cent., as at present (some confusion). The only favour I ask of the house is this-that I may be permitted to state the whole of my plan (hear, hear), without any inferences being drawn at once respecting a particular part of it (cheers). I may have to recommend precautions in the first part of my proposal which may give rise to erroneous conclusions as to the rest, and I therefore have to request that honourable members will for the present suspend their judgments (choers). I do not ask you to suspend your judgments even to a future day, but merely until I have concluded my observations (hear, hear). I am the more anxious to call upon the manufacturers to set the example in relinquishing protective duties, because, according to a very high authority, it was not the agriculturist but the manufacturer who called upon the legislature, in the first instance, to adopt the protective system. The mercantile and manufacturing interests set the example in requiring protection, and it is but right, therefore, that they should set the example, as I doubt not they will do cheerfully, in now relinquishing protection. Nothing can be more marked than the observations made upon this part of the subject, by one who had no prejudices in favour of the agriculturists; I mean Adam Smith. Speaking historically he says.—" Country gentlemen and farmers, to their great honour, are of all persons the last who are subject to the wretched spirit of monopoly' (cheers, and much laughter). We are adverting now to the origin of the system, and Adam Smith must be quoted as a most impartial authority, having no leaning or blue any way; he is speaking as a historian, and I shall beg leave to repeat what I was reading when I broke off, in consequence of interruption. He tells us that "country gentlemen and farmers, to their great honour, are of all persons the last who are subject to the wretched spirit of monopoly" (loud laughter). "Country gentlemen and farmers, dispersed in different parts of the country, cannot so easily combine as merchants and manufacturers, who, being collected into towns, and accustomed to that exclusive corporation spirit which prevails in them, naturally endeavour to ohtain, against all their countrymen, the same exclusive privilege which they generally possess against the inhabitants of their respective towns. They accordingly seem to have been the original inventors of those restraints upon the importation of foreign goods, which secure to them the monopoly of the home-market. It was probably in imitation of them, and to put themselves upon a level with those who, they found, were disposed to oppress them, that the country gentlemen and farmers of Great Britain so far forgot the generosity which is natural to their station, as to demand the exclusive privilege of supplying their countrymen with corn and butcher's meat. They did not perhaps take time to consider how much less their interest could be affected by the freedom of trade than that of the people whose example they followed." That extract may excite laughter from some honourable gentlemen on the other side of the house, but my belief is that the statement made in it is perfectly correct. Protection was first pressed upon the legislature by the mercantile and manufacturing interests, and it was afterwards extended almost as a necessary consequence to the landed interest. I have, therefore, invited cotton, in the first instance, to relinquish protection. I propose to call on the manufacturers of cotton, wool, and flax, the three great articles concerned in clothing, to relinquish protection as applied to thom, and as regards the coarsor articles they produce . I believe they can do it without injury (cheers), although there will be some loss to the revenue. It is my opinion that the importation of some articles of the kind will stimulate their exertions, and with the skill, ingenuity, and enterprise that exists in this country, I do not doubt that we shall bent not only the French but the Saxon manufacturer (choors). At present, in the case of the tariff of 1842, to a duty of 20 per cent. In woollen when made up they are subject, under goods, as in cotton, I propose to reduce that duty from 20 to 10 per cent. The house will observe that in the cotton and woollen trade we have given the manufacturer unrestricted power to import the raw manufacturer unrestricted power to import the raw material (hear, hear, hear). The same rule will apply to linens. Plax, on its importation, is free from any duty. As I said the other night, there is no impost whatever, and there has been none for many years, on foreign flax. Therefore, in the case of linens, as in woollens and cottons, it is proposed that the coarser articles of manufacture, in which the great mass of the people is interested, should come into this country duty free. Some linen articles, it is true, are very fine—they are not of general consumption, but of luxury; but with regard to these I do not propose that we should retain the present amount of duty. Among these, cambries and some other fabrics may be included, and upon these the duties vary according to the article, but my proposition is (the right honourable baronet here dropped his voice, and we cannot be answerable for the precise words of the conclusion of the sontence), that the duty on made-up linen goods should be reduced one-half. So much with respect to these three great fabrics; and I now approach another manufacture, which does not fall exactly within the principle applied to cottons, woollens, and linens, but with respect to which it seems of great importance to make a great reduction in the present duty-I mean silks (obcors). It may be supposed that the existing duty on elike operates as a protection to the

signestic manufacture. How have wellnty which your call 80 persons, but assing and make articles it is a great deal higher, and addits reliance is placed upon its as a protection to domestic manufacture. It is no such thing. There are many houses in Paris and on the coast who will guarantee the delivery of goods in london for half the amount of the duty (hear hear) London for half the amount of the duty (hear, hear). The duty, therefore, is a decided encouragement to smuggling, and it is a delusion on the part of the manufacturer and the labouring class employed in the slik trade to suppose that they are enjoying protection, while they are, in fact, robbed by the smuggler and by the dishonest consumer. I conceive, therefore, that some new arrangement of the silk duties, by a reduction of the amount levied upon foreign goods, would not interfere with the prospect of the domestic interest (hear, hear). Such a course would stimulate skill and industry among us, and at the same time diminish the profits of the smuggler, while it encouraged a lawful and innocent trade to the destruction of one that is unlawful and immoral (loud cheers). The general impression, as I have said, is that there is a general duty of 30 per cent. upon silk; but I hold in my hand an account of the duties paid upon silk at present; and although as to some the duty may not exceed 30 per cent. as to others it is less than 30 per cent.; and as to many it is much higher. Crape, for instance, pays a duty of not less than from 43 to 50 per cent., and velvet from 34 to 50 per cent.; fancy silk net, called tulle, is charged a duty of frem 36 to 78 per cent., and manufactured silk bonnets not less than 145 per cent.; turbans and caps pay at least as much. Does any man believe, however, that any French turbans or caps really pay a duty of 145 per cent.? No such thing. The article, I believe, is in common use among us, but it is introduced by the smuggler (hear, hear). I propose, then, a new arrangement; but respecting this and other points I must not enter into much detail. Of course my proposals will be in the hands of members to morrow-morning, and my suggestion is, that a new principle should be established as regards the silk duties, in which the general rule shall be, onumerating every article, that a duty shall be imposed of so much per pound. I would give an option to the Custom-house officer; but if taken ad valorem, the duty shall not exceed 15% upon every 100%. value. The general rule would be the adoption of a duty of 15 per cent., instead of the varying and capricious duties now called 30 per cent., but less upon some articles, and vastly more upon others. We shall then have a qualified admission of the article, which will stimulate competition and do no injury to the home ma-It seems to me much more likely that it will excite him to greater exertions than that it will at all reduce the amount of his business. I will now speak of paper, I mean paperhangings, upon which there is a duty, when brought into this country, of 1s. per square yard, and it is paid indiscriminately upon all kinds. I believe it possible to sell for a single farthing a square yard of some descriptions of paper; but upon the finest, that which has gold embroidery, as well as upon the coursest, the duty is 1s. per square yard. As the excise duty is, I believe, only a farthing a yard, the duty of 1s. a yard seems exorbitant, and I propose to reduce that duty from 1s. to 2d (hear, hear). I now approach those manufactures that are connected with me-(some laughter and confusion). possible for me to guess what may or may not excite the risibility of some honourable members, but if I could avoid such points I would willingly do it, in order that I might be able to explain myself without inter-ruption (loud cheers). I will enter into no more details than are absolutely necessary; and with respect to metals, I would observe that we have reduced the duty on foreign ores; if, therefore, there are any domostic manufacturers who ought to be able to compete with foreigners, it is the manufacturers of metals. Manufacturers of metals, generally speaking, are protected by a duty of 15 per cent. ad valorem. I propose that with respect to these, and other arricles I do not specifically mention, the general rule for the future should be a duty not exceeding 10 per cent.; that shall be the maximum upon articles I do not enumerate. Of course it is impossible to apply that rule to such an article as paper hangings; and I mentioned it as an exception to the general rule of 10 per cent.; but wherever at present the duty upon any article is 20 per cent, my recommendation is, that it should be reduced in future to 10 per cent., and that is to be the maximum. Within the rule of 10 per cent. will fall brocade, carthenware, and some others, as well as all manufactures of hair. At present the duty is 20 per cent. upon foreign carriages, and I think I am only giving a proper advantage to the consumers in this country by making a reduction. I will venture to say that there is no article so extravagant in price as carriages in London. Compare the price of an Edinburgh curriage with one built in London, and the difference is most exorbitant (cheers). When we have timber, metal. leather, skill, and capital, there seems no reason why carriages built abroad should be so much cheaper, or why our own should be protected by a duty of 20 per cent. I propose, therefore, partly in order to promote competition in the manufacture of carriages in this country, and partly in order to encourage the introduction of foreign carriages, that the duty should be reduced to 10 per cent. There is another manufacture with regard to which I shall suggest the propriety of a reduction of duty: I sllude to candles. We have lowered the duty on wax and spermaceti, and now I propose a reduction of the duty on caudles to the now I propose a reduction of the duty on caudies to the extant of half per cent. I recommend likewise that the duty on soap shall be thus reduced: hard soap is now subject to a duty of 30 per cent.; but in future it ought, I think, to be lowered to 20 per cent.; the duty on soft soap ought to be reduced from 20s. to 1 is, and upon Naples soap from 56s. to 16s. [as the right hose happings, dropped his voice we are not sure of the last figures].

dicreat in portaine that I should give as full an epi-dicreat in portaine that I should give as full an epi-dicion as item, and I passenver other articles of an epi-ment. There are many ition which the duty is on-paratively driffing, and those I omit. Notwithman, the great simplification of the tariff in the year 1841, propose to carry that simplification still farther. The were, I think, nearly 1100 articles in the tariff, and in the convenience of alphabetical arrangement to the catom-house officers, 500 articles on which the day he been abolished are retained in it. I wish to sary be abolition farther, and to admit, duty free, many and yet remaining in the tariff. There are some manual tures with which I must deal specially, and others a garding which I cannot now state precisely the anon of duty, but it may not be advisable to apply to them the general rule of 10 per cent. In respect to all aniche connected with the manufacture of leather, we have made great reductions, and I now come to an important article of clothing—boots and shoes. You have remined the duty on raw hides; they are now introduced day free. You have remitted also the duty on almost every article connected with the tanning process, and I propose to abolish the duty on one article which parake more of the character of a raw material thun of a manfacture—dressed hides, with a view to lower the proc of an article of clothing of great and increasing impor-ance to the lower classes. For the sake of making book and shoes cheaper, I propose to extinguish the present duty on dressed hides; and when that is done there will not be a single raw material which we cannot conmand for the purposes of manufacture without the jet-ment of duty (cheers). Having proceeded so far I thall recommend to diminish the duty on foreign boots and shoes, in order to reduce what I consider the present rather unreasonable price of them in this country. They are most important to the comfort of the working classes; and my suggestion is, that we should lower the duty on what are called boot-fronts from 3s. 6d. to 1a.9d. per dozen, and upon the larger boot-fronts from 5s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per dozen. The duty on manufactured boots I would reduce from 11. 8s. to 14s. per dozen, and on shoes from 14s, to 7s. per dozen. I propose also to lower the duty on hats; and to carry now into effect a reduction postponed in the year 1842-I am afraid notwisely upon straw-plat; at present it is 7s. 6d. per lb., and I wish to reduce it to 5s. per lb.; the duty on straw hats I would make 5s. per dozen, instead of 8s. 6d. I have already urged a reduction of the duty upon tilk manufacture, and I propose also to reduce the duty on what Consider rather a raw material than a manufacture article connected with our siik manufacture, I meandved thrown silk. I hope I am convincing the house that I am disposed to act fairly and impartially in the application of my principle, and I believe I have now exhausted every article that can be called an article of manufacture, as the word "manufacture" is now generally used. Upon all articles of clothing, use, and consumption, I have stated the general principle I would apply; and I come now to an item of great importance, which, though a manufacture in common parlance, does not strictly fall within that denomination, and with regard to which I apprehend a reduction ought to be made. I propose to reduce the duty on brandy and foreign spirits (cheen). At present, the duty on brandy is not less than 22s, 10d, and, if I am rightly informed, the consumption of French brandy at this moment is not so great, or, at all events, not greater than it was in the latter end of the 17thcentury. This fact, I apprehend, is mainly to be attributed to the exorbitant amount of duty as compared with the value of the article itself. Now brandy, like silk, is an article in respect to which appearances are delusive: there is no article, unless it be silk, in which smuggling so much prevails as in brandy (cheers.) The diminution of duty, therefore, is no necessary diminution of protection to the maker of domestic spirits. We are bound to prevent smuggling, and if we can, to convert an unlawful into a lawful traffic, and I propose that the present duty on brandy, Geneva, and foreign spirits generally, shall be reduced from 22s. 10d. to 15s. There remains one article to which I shall advert with respect to which an arrangement was made only as recently as last year, but the duty on which I also propose now to reduce. I allude to sugar (much cheering from the Opposition benches.) It is quite impossible with the Opposition benches. impossible with reference to this article, which must necessarily become the subject of prolonged discussions. that I should enter into details; and, avoiding details, I shall on the present occasion submit to the house the intentions of her Majesty's Government. I am afraid the proposal I have to make will not at all meet with the approbation of those who cheered the mention of sugar by me (hear, hear), but on the present occasion I shall not argue the matter, but state our proposal. Last year I estimated the probable amount of the increased consumption of sugar at not less than 50,000 tons, bat that increased consumption did not exceed 38,000 tons. I have no doubt that that consumption will go on increasing hereafter, but it is not parhaps possible to calculate the ratio at which it will proceed, or to tell the amount of free labour augar that will be brought into compatition with Printed competition with British colonial sugar. I supposed that the increase in the quantity of free labour sugar would be 25,000 tons, but the amount adually broaght into consumption has fallen far short of that calculates. I believe the defalcation may be accounted for by the total failure of the grap in Cuba, and by the augmental price of sugar on the Continent of Europe: the supple we might have received were therefore discrete these two causes will account in these two causes will account in the court diminished supply. I feel must sufficient that British celenial guest on the court diminished supply that British celenial guest on the court of the way that British celenial guest on the court of the way that British celenial guest on the court of the way that a produce of the make any relaxation with the court of th competition with British colonial sugar. I supposed

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TO THE THE PARTY AND THE PARTY

ducing sugar by slave labour (hear, hear, hear). I must sell contend the that; but he to sugar the produce of the labour, and while the competition shall be limited to sugar so preduced, her Majesty's Government have not the spill it fight to examply sugar from the general application of the principle (obsers). Assuming, therefore, that the competition is to be confined to sugar the produce of free labour, we propose to deduct St. 5d. from the of free labour, we propose to deduct Ss. 6d. from the amount of the present differential duty. In the case of Muscovado sugar, the amount of differential duty is 9s.
4d., in the case of clayed sugar, it is 11s. 9d., and in both we propose to reduce the amount of differential daty by 3s. 6d., making it 5s. 10d. on Muscovado sugar, and 8s. 3d. on clayed sugar. In concluding this review of the different articles, I might say nearly all articles on which import duties are levied, I come to those which are connected with agriculture. (Considerable anxiety was here evinced by all parts of the house, and a general murmur and whisper were heard.) There are many articles of this kind of first-rate importance, on which heavy duties are imposed, but on which those heavy duties do not operate as a protection, and I may take as an instance tobacco. In making the extensive changes which, on the part of her Majesty's government, I am now proposing, I hope that considerations of revenue will be allowed to have their due weight. I admit that the arguments may be most cogent as to particular items, but the house ought to bear in mind the importance of not breaking down a large source of public income. The demand this year on account of these reductions must be great, and considerations of public interest and of national defence will leave us no alternative but to make that demand. Revenue, therefore, must be duly regarded where interests of such great public magnitude are involved, and the house must not fail to remember that the reductions I am suggesting will necessarily occasion a considerable defalcation. On the other hand, it becomes our duty, not with any hostile intention, but with a view to a provident regard for our defences, to recommend a considerable increase of our paval and military establishments (hear). Those who may think that there are still duties extravagantly high, must exercise such a degree of forbearance as not to recommend simultaneous reductions (hear). I will first refer to those articles of agricultural produce, which are immediately connected with the food of the people. I will, in the first instance, take seeds-grass and other seeds; and I have a deep conviction that a reduction of duty upon them, so far from being a removal of protection to agriculture, will be conferring a benefit upon Let us look at the article of clover; it is surely impossible to maintain that the heavy duty for some years applied to clover operated as a protection to agriculture. Upon many parts of the country the duty on clover seed was, in fact, a heavy burden. In 1823, if I recollect rightly, you levied a duty upon clover seed of not less than 144,000l.; but how small a portion of the agricultural districts was benefited by it. Clover seed was necessary when farming was best conducted, for it was most importantly conducive to the improved system of husbandry. Some few counties of England were producers of clover seed; but speaking generally, the duty on clover seed was not a protection but a burden upon agriculture; and with respect to all seeds of the kind, to repeal the duty will not be to remove a protection-It is stated that the duty levied on clover last year produced 75,000L, whereas in former years, before the reduction, it amounted to nearly 150,000l. For the sake chiefly of simplifying, the house will recollect that I have reduced foreign manufactures generally to a uniform duty of 10 per cent., and as relates to seeds, my proposition is that in no case the duty shall exceed 5s. per cwt. In some cases, leck and onion seed for instance, the present duty is not less than 20s. per cwt., but my suggestion is, that as to all the maximum duty should be 5s. per cwt. I have already adverted incidentally to that most valuable department of agriculture, the fattening of cattle. I believe it is impossible to overestimate the importance of fattening cattle as in-arumental in the improved system of agriculture. The increase of the fertility of the soil, by means of manure, is one of the most beautiful of the dispensations of Providence; and I believe there is no manure, let it come from where it will, that, with respect to its fertilising power, can enter into competition with that dein the cattle led on the soil itself. You cannot conduce more to the improvement of inferior soils than by encouraging the feeding and futtening of cattle, and promoting the application of their manure to increasing which I believe might be applied to the fattoning of cattle shall hereafter be imported duty free (cheers). It is an article of immense importance—maize, or Indian core (charm). cora (cheers). I propose that the duty upon it shall be be hereafter and immediately nominal (hear, hear). I do not consider that by the removal of the duty on maize I am depriving agriculture of any protection. I understand that in the United States maize is used partly as human food; and that in this country its utility as luman food is too much disrogarded. In some parts of the Continent it is held to make excellent food, and it might be advantageously applied in the same way in Great Britain. To promote the free import of maize it seems to me, that so fax from doing agriculture a disservice, is will be doing it a benefit, by promoting the nourishment and fattening of cattle. For nearly the same reasons, I suggest that buckwheet should be subpoted to the same rule, namely, that the duty should a made marely nominal. I propose, likewise, that meal should be introduced upon the same terms as grain. If my scoonable panileman can ascertain the enormous areas now paid by our heat farmors in the purchase of lineard gales and rappicake. I finish they will be with me, that it give increased facilities to the same with me, that it give increased facilities to the same same of the cake it so grain increases.

the price is gradually rising, and the consumption on some farms is daily increasing; on some farms, linsoid and rape cake chiefly provide the manure for the better cultivation of the soil; The following is a comparative statement of the price of linsoid and rape cake at various recent periods;—

I hold in my hand a letter from a merchant, strongly recommending, as a source of great advantage to the agricultural interest, the import of another article, much employed in the feeding and fattening of cattle in the United States; it is there called rice-feed, and it is the refuse of rice which is ground up and given to beasts, which are said to thrive better upon it than on linseed cake. It seems that this material is at present excluded. on the ground that it comes under the description of meal, but I believe that the admission of it would enable us better to enter into competition with the foreign breeder, and would so far be an advantage to agriculture. I come now to the consideration of those articles of agricultural produce which are immediately connected with the food of man (renewed murmurs). On this great question, on which of course I anticipate much difference of opinion, I have to meet those on the one hand who contend for no delay and no qualification (cheers); and on the other, those who insist that there shall be no relaxation of the present amount of protection (cheers). My object will be, if possible, to make some adjustment of this question in which both sides may concur (hear, hear): I know that neither will approve of it (cheers and laughter). I know, I say, that neither will approve of it (renewed cheers). I know that I must meet the disapprobation, possibly the opposition, of those who usually sit on this side of the house (ministerial cheers). Probably I may have to encounter equal resistance from the honourable gentlemen opposite (cheers from the Opposition side). But on the part of her Majesty's Government I beg to say that our desire is, without favour or undue partiality, to suggest that which we believe to be just, and calculated to terminate that conflict, the continuance of which all must lament. I trust to be able to remove those causes of jealousy and dissension between different classes of her Majesty's subjects, so as not injuriously to affect any one class, and yet to promote the general interest of all (cheers). I consider it for the public advantage at least to lay the foundation of a final settlement (much cheering). I am not about to propose the immediate repeal of the duties imposed upon grain, and what I shall propose will be an earnest of the principle on which we shall act. I am induced to recommend the immediate reduction of duty on some articles of primary importance in contributing to the food of man. I will first state the articles with respect to which I propose that there shall be either reduction or repeal; as to all I shall recommend an immediate reduction, but I will first advert to those on which I propose an immediate and total repeal. Speaking of articles of consumption, I propose an extensive review of the duties on all articles included in the tariff which enter into the consumption of the people. As I stated, I propose to make an immediate reduction upon the whole, though not the repeal of the whole. On the part of her Majesty's Government I recommend that the duty should be immediately reduced to one-half: upon butter from 1l. to 10s., cheese from 10s. to 5s., hops from 4l. 10s., to 2l. 5s. The duty on cured fish I would reduce to 1s. per cwt. These are the articles of agricultural produce on which I propose the immediate repeal. I propose also the immediate repeal of the duty on all articles which constitute ment food. I propose that the repeal of the duty on bacon shall be absolute and immediate. On fresh beef, on salt beef, on salt pork, on fresh pork, on potatoes, and vegetables of all kinds, the duty shall be forthwith and immediately abolished (hear). Everything then which enters into the vegetable kingdom, and everything of animal food, shall be admitted at once duty free (cheers.) I believe that the agriculturist need fear no foreign competition in consequence of this; for, in dealing with him as with the manufacturer, I conceive that I have given to the agriculturist increased facilities in meeting competition, by removing the duty from oil cake, rape cake, and linseed cake, with which he feeds his cattle. Then I propose, having reduced the duty on what may be considered the manufactured articles of food, at once to remove the duty on the importation of animals. I propose, with respect to all animals imported from foreign countries, as a general rule, that they should come in duty free. There is no necessity for retaining the duty on asses, still less on many other animals mentioned in the tariff (a laugh); but with respect to all animals, I propose, as a proof of our adherence to the principles which I have laid down, I propose that they, as well as meat, should be free from duty (hear, hear). It has been represented to me, that it is not fair to levy an equal amount of duty on cattle futted abroad, and on lean animals imported from abroad; and it has been said that there would be an advantage to the agriculturist in getting access to the lean animal, whilst there would be none in admitting the fatted animal; at any rate my proposition will redress that inequality (hear, and a laugh); and I must say that I trust the increased means of futtening cattle which will be afforded, coupled with the great facility of getting lain sattle, and the ready means of converting them into valuable food for the people of this country, will be considered as some compensation for the removal of the fluir from the fatted animal (hear). I hope, also, that shoes compensate with agriculture will bear it mind, while I am proposing these reductions, that I have altered proposed the removal of protection from some of

the great articles of manufacture (hear, hear) that I have not directed their attention to the removal of me testion from the landed interest only; but that I his called, as I skynysdo call, on the manufacturer to set the first example of the relinquishment of protection. W will bear in mind that the farm-servent can commands. cheaper supply of clothing than he could before, and I trust, therefore, that they will not be indisposed to follow the example of those whom I have called on first to relinquish their claims to-protection (hear). Sir, I now. will state, with the permission of the house, the proposal which I intend to make on the subject of the Corn Laws (sonsation). I have already said that I exempt some articles of grain from duty altogether. I have said that maize and buckwheat will be admitted duty free (hear). Now, on the one hand, though I do not propose the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, I am yet in the hope of making a final adjustment of the question, whilst undue apprehension is prevented, and time is given for the adjustment of agriculture to the new state of circumstances (hear, hear). Though I propose a temporary continuance of protection (hear, hear), I do propose that the bill shall contain a distinct enactment that after the lapse of a certain time, foreign grain shall be imported into this country duty free (loud choors). I am deeply convinced that any intermediate proposition would be of no avail (renewed cheers). It would have been out of my power, as I explained to the house on s former occasion, to have suggested any modification of the existing Corn Law with a guarantee to have continued that modification (hear, hear). That, I say, would have been out of my power. I feel that the choice is between the maintenance intact of the existing amount of protection in every branch, and the laying of the foundation for an ultimate settlement by means of a total repeal of the Corn Law (cheers). I propose therefore that there shall be a considerable reduction in the amount of protection on corn, and I propose that the continuance of the duty so reduced shall be limited to a period of three years (cheers). This act, if it shall meet the sanction of this house, will contain a provision that at that period of the year whon I believe there will be the least inconvenience from the termination of protection. viz., on the 1st of February, 1849, oats, barley, and wheat, shall be subjected only to that nominal rate of duty which I propose to apply now at once to The next point maize and buckwheat (hear, hear). which we had to determine was as to what the intermediate state of the law should be during the continuance of protection. My opinion, I am bound to say, as the policy of providing immediately for a gre duction of the duty on corn remains unchanged (hear, henr), I cannot admit that I took an erroneous entimate-I regret that it is so-I wish I had-but I cannot admit, I say, that I have over-stated the amount of pressure which before the arrival of next harvest may be felt in many parts of the country. I think, not only looking to the prospects of next spring, but looking to the consequence of a deficiency of food, that it is of the greatest importance to take precautions, as far as the Legislature can take precautions, against the evil day (hear, hear). It is possible that the results of that defletency may be more extensive and permanent than we think of. I am sure I wish it were possible to take advantage of this calamity in one view; and to extract benefit from it, by introducing amongst the people of Ireland a desire for better food than potatoes afford (cheers), and thus to diminish the chance, to which they will possibly be liable, of a recurrence of this great visitation by which the food of millions of our fellow-subjects is rendered uncertain (hear, hear). We have yet to consider what provision is to be made for them—what substitute is to be provided for all the unsound potatoes which, had they been sound, would have formed the food of a majority of the people of Iroland. It is impossible to provide an immediate substitute which would prove satisfactory. You may think that the potato is a most insufficient article of subsistence; but you can't for two or three years to come, do what you will, dispense with the reliance on potato is. In such a position, the most provident arrangement which can be come to must be suggested. I am not about to propose now what I proposed on the 1st Nov., the immediate suspension of the duty on wheat by an order in council; but I think it is of importance to make such reductions in the present amount of duties as shall realise a great part of the advantage which might have been derived from opening the ports. I wish to have but one law enduring for the limited period to which I have referred; but I wish in that law to take every necessary precaution against impending danger (hear, hear). I propose, therefore, that there shall be for the present, and immediately, a great reduction in the duty on wheat, and that that amount so reduced shall endure only for a limited poriod, there being a guarantee, by express enactment in the bill, that on the arrival of that period the then existing duty shall be converted into a mere nominal duty. What then shall be the nature of the law which is to ondure for a limited period? My collengues and myself have approached this question wholly unprejudiced, and with no other object in view than the general advancement and prosperity of the country. Our desire has been to propose a law, temporary in its relations, which appears to us, on the whole, best suited to meet the exigencies of the present case, and best calculated to provide for the wants of the country during the period for which it is intended. The rate of duty under the existing which it is intended. The rate of duty under the existing law, on other descriptions of grain, has been regulated by the rate of duty on wheat. We propose, therefore, that the rates of duty on barley, oats, pend, beans, and ryo shall be governed as nearly as possible, during the continuance of this law, if it meet with the sanction of Parliament, by the principles which will apply to wheat that is, that there shall be a reduction of a corresponding amount applied to all. But I propose that immediately from the passing of this not, all grain, the pro-

duce of British colonial presentions out of bond, shell be admitted at a nominal duty (hear, hear). I propose that in all cases those restrictions which apply to meal, the produce of grain, shall be removed. I presume that they were established for the protection of the milling interest of this country. I believe them, however, to be wholly unnecessary. They are not applied to flour, the produce of wheat; I see no reason why they should be applied to weal the weedness of barley, or any other crein. applied to meal, the produce of barley, or any other grain. Now, on the one hand, I offer to those who insist on the immediate and unqualified removal of those laws, the unrestricted importation—at least, the importation at a moninal duty—of all kinds of grain, and all kinds of meal, the produce of British colonial possessions, out of bond. One great article, also the produce of the United States—the article of maize—to the free produce of which the United States attaches the utmost importance, we propose should be admitted duty free, and at once. I now come to the provisions with respect to other descriptions of grain, which we propose to adopt during the period whilst foreign grain is to be subjected to duty. We have attempted to meet some of the objections. tions which have been made to varying the rate of duty; at the same time, to have fixed any duty which would be considered valuable in the shape of protection would not have answered the purpose which we desired to attain-of making an immediate reduction in the price of foreign grain, on account of the temporary exigencies of the country (hear, hear). We propose, therefore, that the enactment to endure for three years shall be to this effect, "That until the 1st day of February, 1849, the following duties shall be levied on wheat if imported from any foreign country. Whenever the average price of wheat made up and published in the manner required by law shall be for every quarter under

48s. the duty shall be: 10s.

over 48s. and under 49s. 9s.
49s. 50s. 8s.
50s. 7s.
51s. 52s. 6s.

•••• and that whenever the price of grain made up and published in the manner required by law shall exceed 53s., there shall then be an invariable duty of 4s. per quarter." That is to say, that there shall be no temptation to hold grain when the price shall exceed 54s., for the purpose of securing the shilling of extra duty (hear, hear). The enactments which we shall propose with respect to all other descriptions of grain will precisely follow the scale which we have adopted with regard to wheat. It would, however, perhaps be more convenient for the house, considering the time I have already occupled, that I should rather refer them to the details which will be printed to-morrow morning, than go through the whole now as regards oats and barley (hear, hear). It may be sufficient for the present purpose to state that the same general rule will be adopted in all (hear, hear). There would now, therefore, be levied on wheat, instead of a duty of 16s., one of 4s.; and every other grain at the present prices taken out of bond for consumption in the home market, would be subject to a merely nominal duty (hear, hear). That is the arrangement for the adjustment of this great question which her Majesty's Government are induced to offer for the consideration of Parliament. We propose to accompany that arrangement with other provisions calculated—I will not say to give compensation—but calculated, in my firm belief, materially to advance the interests of that portion of the community which, after the lapse of three years, will be called on to relinquish their protection. I believe it is possible to suggest arrangements not affecting the interests of other portions of the community, yet materially benefiting theirs, by introducing reforms in the levying of duties, and in the application of the burdens which are to be raised. I thank them for having permitted me without interruption to state all those portions of my proposal which might appear to be bearing heavily on them. I am obliged to them for the forbearance with which they have permitted me to go through that part of my proposed measure (hear, hear). I will now state what are the measures with which we propose to accompany this great present reduction, and the ultimate extinction of protection-measures which, I believe, will prove greatly to the advantage of that interest in whose welfare this country is deeply interested (hear, hear). Let us re which do full immediately on land; but burdens which are, in my opinion, some of them at least, capable of alleviation, not by their transfer to other parties, but by the introduction of reforms into the mode of their levy. Now, first, let me take the existing arrangement with respect to one great source of expenditure—to one great burden which is constantly and justly complained of by the agriculturists—I mean the amount of rate which is levied for highways (hear, hear). Is it not quite possible, without subjecting other parties to the expense of maintaining the highways, to introduce reforms into the mode of raising the highway rate which might be advantageous to the agriculturists? I believe it is possible (hear, hear), What is the law at present with respect to highways? There are at least 16,000 localauthorities, each of which has charge of the highways. As railways advance, whilst turnpike roads are in many cases becoming of little importance, highways, which have hitherto been of little advantage to the public, are becoming of increased importance. But where a highway is a continuous channel of communication passing through different parishes, that same highway is under the control of every parish through which it passes, and as I have before said, the total number of parish authorities is not less than 16,000. The practice of keeping up the repair of the reads is to have a nominal appointment of a paid surveyor in each parish, who absolutely knows nothing whatever of the construction of roads (bear, hear, hear); or even if they did—if they had double the ability which they do possess, the existence of different surveyors on one highway is necessarily a de-

fective arrangement. That each portion of the highway should be subject to a parochial authority, distinct from the other portions in other parishes, and that the highway should be thus subjected to numerous local authority. rities, must evidently tend to increased outley, to great abuse, and generally to a laxity of expenditure, and a bad system of repair, which it is desirons should be avoided in future (hear, hear). There is at present in existence an act of Parliament which permits the voluntary union of parishes into local districts, for the purpose of the most effectual superintendence and repair of the roads; but as the union of the parishes for that purpose is required under the act to be voluntary, there is hardly any instance in which that union has taken place, in which the voluntary power of forming such a district has been exercised. What I propose is this—and in proposing, I do not bring it forward as a relief to agriculture from any burden, but as a means of benefiting the agricultural interests, by greatly improving the communication by highways throughout the country (hear, hear). I propose, therefore, that what is now a power of voluntary union on the part of the parishes should be made compulsory (cheers). If we adopt the same extent of district for those local unions as that which is selected for the poor law unions, it will be 600 local authorities throughout the country; and I propose to compel the parishes in those districts to form such unions for the purpose of the superintendence and repair of the roads (hear, hear). I also propose that such union, when so formed, should have the power of appointing a surveyor of the roads for that particular district; the surveyor so appointed to be a properly qualified professional man, who is to have the entire charge of the roads in his district. Some cases of the voluntary union of parishes do exist at present, as I have before stated; and I wish to remind the house, before I proceed further, of the effects which have been produced by the adoption of these unions, and the substitution, for a parochial management, of a central management under the direction of a surveyor (hear, hear). I hold in my hand a return re-lating to a district in the north, in which parochial management has been superseded, and a district of seventy miles in extent formed for the purpose of carrying into effect a better mode than that which prevailed under parochial management, of repairing and superintending the roads under the direction of a county surveyor. The result of the improved system of central management is thus described:-[Here the right hon. baronet read a return from the parishes within the district of seventy miles, from which it appeared that under the old system the cost of repairing and surveying the roads was from 6d. to 9d. in the pound, whilst the money at the same time was thrown away; whereas, under the centralised system this expense was no more than from 11d. to 3d. in the pound, and the work done in the best manner. In nine adjoining parishes which had not adopted the system of voluntary union, the expense of repairing, &c. &c., was from 4½d. to 5d. in the pound]. That is not a transfer of any burden, whilst it will go a great way in improving the channels of communication, and thus so far tend to the benefit of the agricultural interest, and relieve them to a certain extent of a burden which they bear. That is, therefore, one system by which I propose to relieve the agricultural interest, and it can be effected without transferring it to others, but by a better arrangement of our existing institutions. will now direct the attention of the house to a law which has been greatly complained of by the agricultural interest-I mean the present law of settlement (hear, hear, from the agricultural representatives.) It happens, under the present law of settlement, that a large portion of the population of rural districts are induced, in times of great manufacturing prosperity, to move into the manufacturing districts, and it happens frequently that the power, the labour, and the best part of a man's life, who so removes, are consumed in that manufacturing district, and thus all the advantage of his strength, and good conduct, and industry are derived by the manufacturing district during the period of his residence (hear. hear). A revulsion then comes in trade; the manufacturing districts are not prosperous, and what course is taken with respect to the man who moved in more prosperous times from the rural to the manufacturing dis-The man with his wife and family is sent back to the rural districts (hear, hear); and the individual who spent the best part of his life as a manufacturing operative, and who perhaps was not very provident during the time of his best labour, is returned to the rural district from which he originally came—returned unfit for an agricultural occupation (hear, hear). Under those circumstances the man is sent against his will to a new home, at a period when all his communications with that district have been interrupted, and with no means of earning an honest livelihood, a proceeding which must shock the feelings of every man who witnesses it (hear, hear). In proposing an alteration of the system under which these circumstances take place, I am not merely doing an act of justice, but also preventing an act of injustice to the labouring man. The proposal is not, therefore, merely that an industrial residence of five years should give a settlement, but that the power of removability should be taken away in the case of that man (loud cheers). We propose that after an industrial residence of five years after a man has belowed trial residence of five years, after a man has laboured for a period of five years in a district, his settlement shall not be in the place where he had originally a settlemant, but in the district to which his industry and labour had been given during those five years (cheers). The house may recollect what passed in 1842. In 1842 great distress prevailed in the manufacturing districts, and the practice adopted in consequence of this distress was, that the men who had originally a settlement in agricultural districts were returned to thom, after having la-boured in the manufacturing districts. Now I conceive

that what we propose is a great moral improvement in

the law of settlement (hear, hear, and cheers), and a improvement which will prove a just relief to the residence, but the great adventage of which will be to avoidance of an act of injustice to the labouring hear, hear, and cheers). I propose, on the part of the Government, that from the passing of the measure which we shall introduce with reference to this subject no passing who has resided five years in a parish shall be not been according to the measure who has resided five years in a parish shall be not be the second of the measure who has resided five years in a parish shall be not be the second of the measure who has resided five years in a parish shall be not be the second of the secon son who has resided five years in a parish shall be n moved from that parish, and no residence in a price of a berrack, or lunatic asylum, or an hospital in that period, or no period during which the individual versish, or no period during which the individual verscelving public relief, shall be reckoned in those for years, or, on the other hand, be an interruption (her, hear). I propose that there shall not only be no power to remove that man, but that there shall be no power to remove his wife or his children, legitimate or illegid-mate, under sixteen years of age—that those children shall be permitted to reside with the father and mother for there is to be no power to remove them when the removal of the man himself is prevented (her, hear.) There is to be no separation of the children from the parent in this case (great cheering), or of the man so situated from his family (cheers). The man who labours for five years in a district of which he is not a native, is thus not to be sent to the place of his original settlement. Under the present system, immediately on the death of a labouring man in a manufacturing district of which he happens not to be a native, his widow can beremoved to the parish in which she had her settlement; but we propose that no widow can be removable, for 12 months after the death of her husband, from the parish in which he resided at the time of his death (hear, hear, and cheers). At present, when a man situated as the individual I have described begins to fail in a manufacturing district-perhaps from having undergone extreme labour—an apprehension begins to be entertained that he may become a permanent incumbrance on the parish, and means are accordingly taken for an early removal of that man to his original settlement; now, I propose that he shall not be removable after five years lebour or the grounds of sickness or accident; that no such ground as sickness or accident shall be alleged as the cause of the removal of such a man or his family from manufacturing to an agricultural district (hear, hear). This alteration in the law of settlement which I propose will be found to be a great social advantage, whilst it will relieve the agricultural interest of a burden which at present it is subject to. In proposing this alteration, I am doing only what is just to the place of the man's original settlement, and preventing an injustice from being done to the man who for a long time employed his labour in a manufacturing district (hear, hear). The next measure I am prepared on the part of her Majesty's Government to advise is one that, without loss to any party in the community, will confer great advantage on others. There is a dread-a natural dread-of competition with our agriculture on the cessation of the present Corn Law, and I must add it is impossible to deny that agricultural science is as yet in its infancy in this country, and that opportunities are afforded for effecting immense improvements in that department, and thus affording the means of meeting competition (hear): there are opportunities of enabling the British farmer, by the skill, capital, and industry of this country, to meet any competition which might be entered into by other countries (great cheering). Now, we recommend that the State should encourage improvements in agricultural science, and we propose that for this parpose the State should give facilities for carrying on meh improvements in agriculture (hear, hear). Look at the committee of last year, at which the Duke of Richmond presided-look at the evidence before that committee with respect to the improvement of estates; that eridence shows that great opportunities of improvement exist where the means were afforded, and that large and extensive districts of the country are in a state to afford a wide and profitable field for the application of those improvements. I believe that those facilities existbelieve that draining would greatly increase the product of this country (hear, hear). Difficulties are no doubt to be met, and those difficulties are alluded to in the report of the committee which I have just mentionedbut there have been also proposed various schemes for effecting the necessary improvements in agriculture, and ward by my honourable friend the member for Berkamongst them are some which have been shire. Amongst the principal difficulties to be encountered was the necessary intervention of the Court of Chancery in many cases, and the difficulty of raising sufficient sums of money, and obtaining satisfactory ecurity for its repayment, as well as the interest, in case of failure. Now, we recommend that the public credit of the state should be lent for the purpose of encouraging improvements. ing improvements, but we intend that it shall be done in a manner which will not subject the public to any loss, whilst money can be thus afforded on certain terms which we will name for the purpose of affording every facility for agricultural improvement. I see a great design of advances of a fine of a contract of a c of advantage likely to arise from that recommendation, and I will now lay before the house the manner is which we propose to effect it. At present we advance in Exchequer bill loans on sufficient security; now I would advise the application of the public credit to the which we propose to effect it. At present will be considered to the sound advise the application of the public credit to the would advise the application of the public credit to the encouragement of agriculture in such a manner as perfectly to guard the public against any loss who feetly to guard the public against any loss who pose that the Exchequer bill commissioners should see a sufficient sum of money to effect agricultural as sufficient sum of money to effect agricultural incomments, on due securities, and we will take allowed a sufficient so the public those improvements. We recommend that the public the public to the enclosing of the public that application to the enclosing of the public and we recommend that the expense of the public and we recommend the public and the expense of the public and t

order to prevent all frivolous applications. After a full order to prevent all nivolons apparents of the inclusions commissioners, a certificate is to be issued by those commissioners, warranting the Exchequar bill loan commissioners to advance a certain sum, such as may be required for the improvement so approved, providing by the terms of the improvement so approved, providing by the terms of the advance an annual payment of a moderate rate of interest, and a repayment of the principal by annual instalments, the rent charge thus created to be taken as prior to all other charges, except any other party having a prior claim to the land should object to it. I believe, however, that there will be few cases in which an objection will be made by such a party to the effecting of the improvement on the terms which I have described, as those improvements would be the best guarantee for new charges on the estate (hear, hear). We propose that parties who have a prior claim on the land shall only be prior to the rent charge thus created, and that in case they shall object to the advance, it may not be done without the consent of the Court of Chancery. We believe that we shall thus be enabled to remove the objection which at present applies with respect to the difficulty that exists as regards improvements of entailed estates, and that we shall be enabled to obviate the great expense attending appeal to the Court of Chancery in such cases, thus removing the difficulties which now prevent advances on the part of private companies, and that thus great advantages will be conferred. believe that a spirit of improvement will take place, and that the landlords, under scientific direction, will be enabled to improve their estates, and that the stimulation and emulation thus excited will lead to a general spirit of agricultural improvement (hear, hear). Well, that's another mode by which we purpose to enable the landed interest to meet the competition to which they will be exposed at the termination of the present Corn Laws. With respect to direct local burdens her Majesty's Government have devoted serious consideration to that subject, and I must say that I cannot advise any material alteration of the present system of assessment. There is now raised an immense sum of money by this assessment, which is partly applied to the sustenance and relief of the poor, and partly for other objects. It is said, and said with apparent justice, that this charge bears on the agricultural interest, that it ought to be relaxed, and that there ought to be an alteration in the manner of levying it. Now, in point of fact, it is not a charge on the land; the opposition is not between the country and the manufacturing districts—not between land and houses—but between real and personal property (hear, hear); for whe-ther real property is in houses or manufactures, where industry is employed it is subjected to the assessment for poor rates. It this were a general charge—if the Government undertook the general support of the poor, it might be advantageous to make personal property subject to the support of the poor. But this assessment to which I refer—this charge for the support of the poor is a local charge, and not a general one (hear, hear). The land would have no advantage if the personal property of Manchester were all made to contribute to the poor rates. It would be no advantage to the land of the north of England, if the inhabitants of Halifax, Stock-port, Macclesfield were rated in this manner, for this charge. You may say, subject personal as well as real property to the assessment. If you do this, you must subject it to the assessment in the rural as well as in the manufacturing districts. If you did so, how, I ask, would you levy so small a charge upon personal property as this would be in many cases? It might be possible to do so with great sums, and on urgent occasions; but when you come to levy sums for the relief of the poor on personal property in rural districts, you would find that the attempt would not be so successful (hear, hear, hear). To raise minute sums by any inquisition on the part of local authorities would prove a great burden on land in the rural districts (hear). There are districts, partly agricultural and partly manufacturing, and there you may say this mode of assessment is unjust; but whether or no, 1 am not prepared to suggest such a remody as this inquisition into personal property for the purpose of assessment. I do not think that it would be an advantage to the land that there should be an inquisition by local authorities, in order to levy this tax on personal property. If an inquiry were made into the profits of trade for the purpose of this assessment, an inquiry should take place into the profits of the farmer. You had an inquiry into personal property before, under another act, but you abandoned it because you found it impossible. If you established it in this case, I see no advantage that would arise to the agricultural interest, and I am a that if the state took upon interest; and I am sure that if the state took upon itself the maintenance of the poor it would be an arrangement open to the greatest objections; and as the charge is at present not a general but a local one, I do not believe that the landed interest would be benefited by this assessment of personal property for the poor alteration as to the principle on which the rates are at present levied. I always thought that the agricultural interest had a fair claim to direct relief from some local burdens, and looking at those which affect the land exclusively, we propose to take some of them off. I cannot mantion this as a direct compensation, but I believe it will be found to lay the foundation of great social improvement if the public take upon them some of those charges. The hon, member for Somersotshire brought some of those burdens under the consideration of the some of those burdens under the consideration of the house last year. I then said that while we retained projection I would not advise the agricultural interest to seek he relief then sought, as that relief would be comparately small. But when we remove protection from the agricultural interest, I think it is in our power to select the last to a certain excess, and offer further to all the last to a certain excess, and offer further to all the last to a certain excess, and offer further the last to a certain excess, and offer further to all the last to a certain excess.

yourselves helf the expense of melnishing prisoners while in gaol before trial, and also half the expense of lunatic asylums. You already bear a portion of the charge of maintaining convicts while in prison, and of removing convicts under sentence of transportation. We propose to relieve the country from these expenses alternative and to throw the charge outland. altogether, and to throw the charge entirely upon the consolidated fund. When I say the consolidated fund, I do not mean to say that these expenses shall be paid without inquiry; and therefore I propose, in order that there may be a constant and yigilant check upon the expenditure of the country, that the necessary amount With respect shall be provided for by an annual vote. to the expenses of prosecutions in England, one-half of that charge is already paid out of the public purso, the other half by the county in which the prosecution takes place. In Scotland, the charge is paid altogether by the country; in Iroland a portion of the charge still remains imposed upon the land. We propose that in the case of England and Ireland, that portion of the expenses of prosecutions which is now defrayed by the county out of the local rates shall be borne by the country at large. The relief will not be great, but it will at the same time afford you the means of establishing some control over prosecutions (hear, hear), and thus, in a social point of view, the country will be amply repaid for the addition made to the public burdens. In Scotland, a good system of checking prosecutions by means of a public prosecutor has for some time existed (hear). In Ireland you have a control of the same kind, by requiring that in all prosecutions there shall be the consent of a public officer before the prosecution can be instituted. With a view, therefore, partly to the relief which the land will receive, and partly to the means of supervision which will be thereby afforded, I propose that the whole charge of prosecutions shall be taken from the land and placed upon the consolidated fund. The expense which this will occasion will be 17,000% for Ireland, but in England it will not be less than 100,000l. When I speak of Ireland, let it not be forgotten that if there be any part of the United Kingdom which will suffer from the withdrawal of protection to agriculture, that part of the United Kingdom will be a loser by the course which we have recommended. Its capital and its enterprise are almost exclusively directed to agricultural pursuits. If, therefore, there should appear at first any undue favour shown to Ireland, let it be borne in mind that Ireland has not the means which other parts of the United Kingdom possess of employing labour in manufactures. It must also be recollected at the same time that we propose no relief from burdens which is not accompanied with some great social benefit to the whole of the community. At present there is a large police force established in Ireland. The expense of maintaining that force falls partly on the county, and partly on the public at large. This seems to me, I confess, an anomalous system (hear, hear). I think that it would be a great advantage to place that force under the control of the executive government, and to make it as perfect a system as you can, excluding all power of local nomination and local interference. This course was strongly recommended by the commission over which Lord Devon presided, without any reference to the withdrawal of protection from agriculture; and, therefore, her Majesty's Government are disposed to recommend that the charge of maintaining the police force in Ireland shall be wholly borne by the public treasury. There is another charge borne by the land in this country, which, with a view to the social advantages which will result from the change, we propose to transfer to the consolidated fund. I allude to medical relief (hear, hear). There is no part of the administration of the Poor Laws which gives more dissatisfaction than the administration of medical relief (hear, hear, hear). There has been often great unwillingness on the part of the guardians to provide proper means for visiting and relieving the sick poor; and I am sorry to say, there has been frequently just grounds of complaint with respect to medical attendance. The state of medical relief in Scotland also has frequently attracted the attention of the house during the last session of Parliament. For the sake, therefore, of gradually introducing an amended system of medical relief to the poor, we propose that the public shall pay half the charge of medical officers. I estimate that the amount of relief which the land will receive by this plan will, in England, amount to not less than 100,000l., and will amount to about 15,000l. in Scotland. Ireland stands in a different position in this respect, and the circumstances in which it is placed will shortly occupy the attention of the other house of Parliament. There is a separate charge which falls on the land in Scotland, from which, I think, it is entitled to be relieved. The charge of the model prison, Pentonville, is borne by the country generally, and Scotland objects that the expense of maintaining the prison at Perth ought not to fall upon her exclusively. It is but a very small amount, but Scotland wishes to be relieved from it, more, perhaps, as a matter of feeling, than on account of the burden which it casts upon the people of that country, who see the prison at Pentonville and the establishment at Parkhurst, in the Isle of Wight, supported at the public expense. There is only one other item of expenditure which I propose to take off from the land, but on which I think I shall have the general acquiescence of the house. I believe that in many parish workhouses there is great ground of complaint on account of the inadequate provision made for education (hear, hear, hear.) In many workhouses persons who are perfectly unfit to be trusted wish the education of youth have been appointed schoolmasters. We propose not to interfere with the right of the guardians to appoint these persons, as we do not wish to raise any question about their religious tenets. The right of appointment, therefore, shall remain the guardians; but the Government will be ready to bear the expense. We shall require the right of examination,

of inspection, and of dismissal; but we are ready to provide a completent and decent salary for those who see to sentern the task of instruction. We propose that a sum of 30,000. a year shall be devoted to the purpose of providing sometions salaries for schoolmasters and schoolmistresses for the dillidren of the destitute poor, taking at the same time upon ourselves so much of control as shall not amount to interference with the right of election, but requiring that the person appointed shall be competent to discharge the duties of the situation. I propose also that the salaries of auditors of son appointed shall be competent to discharge the duties of the situation. I propose also that the salaries of suditors of Poor Law unions shall be paid out of the public treasury, upon the same ground as those upon which the Poor Law commissioners are paid from the same source. If this general scheme shall meet with the approbation of the house, observe what it does for the great body of the people in this country. At a very early period all legislative restrictions on food will be entirely removed. Many of those restrictions will be removed immediately. With regard to clothing, the purchaser may at once go into the cheapest market. A great purchaser may at once go into the cheapest market. A great improvement will be introduced in respect to medical attendance. Before this measure be rejected, I do hope that both parties in this house, though their immediate views may not be consulted, will consider that, in respect to many articles of food, there will be an immediate removal of restrictions, and that with respect to all there will be a free importation at an early period. I trust, however, that the whole measure may be fairly and temperately considered, and that on each side you will reflect on the consequences of an immediate rejection of this scheme (hear, hear). I ask for no expression of opinion upon it this evening. I hope that after an interval of some days we shall approach the consideration of the final result in the same temper of mind in which, on both sides of the house, you have listened to my explanation of the views of the Government (hear, hear). Now, let me conclude with two observations, one connected with our foreign policy and the interests of our commercial intercourse with other countries, the other having reference to our own domestic prosperity. I fairly svow to you that in making this great reduction on the imports of articles which are the produce of other countries, I have no guarantee that other countries will follow our example (hear, hear). I give you the advantage of the admission that her Majesty's Government, worn out with long-continued efforts to make other countries give us a fair equivalent, have determined to pursue their lown course, and that we, on the behalf of this country, have resolved to consult our own interest, and not to punish both other countries and ourselves by encouraging high duties, and with high duties a contrabend trade (cheers). We have had no communication with band trade (cheers). We have had no communication with any other Government on this subject. I cannot promise you that France will give us an equivalent for the reductions made on articles which are the produce of that country; nor that Russia will evince her gratitude for the policy of reducing the duty on tallow; you may therefore say to me, "You are giving away all these duties, and you get nothing I may be told, and with truth, that many foreign in return. countries which have benefited by the reductions which we lave already made have not followed our example, but have actually applied to British goods ligher rates of duty than were imposed upon them before (cries of hear, hear). I give you the whole benefit of that argument. I rely on that fact as a conclusive proof of the policy of the course which we have pursued. It is undoubtedly the fact course which we have pursued. It is undoubtedly the fact that they have not followed our example. But look at the state of our export trade. You have defled the regulations of other countries, and your foreign trade has greatly increased. This is owing partly, perhaps, to the smuggler, whose daring and ingenuity have penetrated the triple cordon which was established to exclude your manufactures; and partly, perhaps, to the circumstance that the inhabitants of the countries to which I refer have not the advantages which enable you to enter into competition with them. But your exports, whatever the traffic of other countries may be, are a clear indication that the trade of this country with foreign countries is increasing. You have defied your competitors in the market, and, notwithstanding hostile tariffs, the declared value of the exports of this country has increased to the extent of 10,000,000% during the period since the reductions in our tariff have been made. I any, therefore, that you may depend upon it that the example which you have set will ultimately be followed. When your example could be quoted in favour of restrictions upon commerce, it was quoted and acted upon, and you may rely upon it that when your example can be quoted in favour of relaxation of restriction, it will not be without its effect. It may not act at first upon foreign governments or boards of trade, but ultimately the true interests of commerce will prevail and in spite of the desire of foreign governments and boards of trade to raise revenue, the voice of reason will at last be heard. I see some symptoms already of an adherence to the principles by which we have been guided. Look at the report of the secretary of the treasury of the United States, Mr. Walker. That shows that your example has not been unavailing. The report made by him, containing many enlarged views on the subject of commerce, speaks thus on the question of foreign trade: - " By countervalling restrictions we injure our own fellow-citizens much more than the foreign nation at whom we purpose to aim their force, and in the conflict of opposing tariffs we sacrifice our own commerce, agriculture, and navigation. As well might we impose monarchical or aristocratic restrictions on our government or people, because that is the course of foreign legislation. Let our commerce be as free as our political institutions. Let us with revenue duties only open our ports to all the world, and nation.after nation will soon follow our example. He says also, "If the question is asked, who shall begin the work of reciprocal reduction?—it is answered by the fact that England has already abated her duties upon most of our exports. She has repealed the duty upon most of our exports. She has repealed the duty upon cotton, and greatly reduced the tariff repealed the duty upon cotton, and greatly reduced the tariff upon the breadstuffs, provisions, and other articles; and her present bad harvest, accompanied by a reduction of our tariff, would lead to the repeal of her Corn Laws, and the unrestricted admission at all times of our agricultural products." Here is a direct homage to the course which you have already pursued. Here is an admission that without any preliminary stipulation you reduced the duty on cotton; and the United States has now admitted that the time is come when she must follow your example. In other parts of Europe, where the form of Government is totally different from that of the United States, I could give you proof that your example is producing a considerable effect. I gould quote he instance of a State, as different from the United States as can be, where your commissional principles are growing into favour. In Naples, liberal views on commercial subjects are beginning to provell (hear, hear). I must say, in justice to the Sovereign with now rules over that country, and who takes a

past in the administration of that branch of affairs, these I have seen decuments on commercial subjects from his new, in which the principles of commercial subjects from his new, in which the principles of commercial intersourse are exemiciated with as much correctioness as if he had been a grodience of political commercial has containly urging upon his ministers the relaxation of duties; and I sin equivalent that at an early period we may look for a reduction of the duties levied upon articles of our manufacture. I see peacon to think that he same course will at no remote period so followed both in Sweden and Norway. Austria has shown nome disposition at least not to follow the eventies be followed both in Sweden and Norway. Austria has about some disposition at least not to follow the example get her by neighbouring countries; and Hanover, also, has taken her own course in commercial legislation. I do not despair, therefore, that the time will arrive when your countries. I trust that the improved intercourse which will ensue from it will constitute a new bend of peace. I do hope that the lovers and friends of peace between all nations will derive material attength from the example which I advise to be followed, by the removal of impediments to commercial intercourse. But, observe, that the continuance of peace will expose us to greater competition. The greater the certifuty of the continuance of peace, the greater will be the efforts which you must make to maintain your commercial position. During the last war we commanded the means of supplying every nation, but peace has produced not only new consumers but also for-midable manufacturing rivals. It is of great importance to us to maintain the position to which we have reached. Now, I do firmly think that the abundance and cheapness of provisions is one of the constituents by which the continuance of commercial pre eminence may be maintained. You may may that the object of these alterations is to foster the love of gain, and to minister to the desire of accumulating money. I advise these measures on no such grounds. I believe that the accumulation of wealth, that is to say, the increase of capital, is a main element, is one of the means by which we oau maintain the pre-eminent position which we have long hold. But I have attempted to show that the abundance of provisions and the security-which is a main guarantee for the continuance of that abundance-not only contribute to the accumulation of wealth, but that they are directly conducive to the alleviation of public burdens by the increase of revenue—to the alleviation of local burdens by diminishing the pressure of local claims; but, above all, that they are conducive to the spread of morality, by diminishing those temptations to orime which arise from poverty and distress (hear). I usk you, therefore, to give your consent to these measures, not on any narrow view or principle connected with the accumulation of wealth, but I ask you to give your consent to them on far higher grounds—far higher principles. Encumbered as you are by heavy burdens, solicitous as you are to provide for the public credit, depend upon it the true source of increased revenue is increased comfort and increased taste for luxury. Thus, I say, are the interests of the revenue promoted by that unseen and voluntary taxation which arises from the enlarged consumption of articles of general use. I ask you to consent to the scheme you have ust heard, on the proof which I have adduced, that abundance and cheapness lead to diminished erime and to increased morality (loud cheers). These are the usual, may, the -morality (loud cheers). These are the usual, may, the almost necessary effects of that cheapness and that abundance. I could bring before you many examples. "But why?" I bear it asked, "If there be no actual scarcity, and no danger of scarcity, why interfere?" (Tory cheers). Now what is scarcity? It is a relative term (hear, hear, from the Opposition). That which is not scarcity to us may be secretary to others. searcity to others. But searcity is a relative term in respect of times as well as persons. Remember this, that the lapse of three years of plenty brings us to an important era in a nation's history. The late abundance of provisions, and consequent comparative cheapness, have altered the character and the feelings of the people (hear, hear). That which was not sparoity in the hard winter of 1812 would be searcity now (hear, hear); that which would not have been then a denial of comforts almost equal to the necessaries of life would be severely felt now (hear, hear). There would be much more real suffering sustained in 1816, after the enjoyment of three years of comparative abundance, by the people now being put upon anything like a short allowance of food. than there would have been under similar circumstances in 1843. Now, I advise that we do not check the genial current of prosperity which has so long prevailed. We have had three abundant harvests. Now, do not mistake me. I am not insensible to the advantages of plenty arising from the abundance of home produce, which the bounty of Providence may favour us with. I do not say that any importation of corn from foreign countries can supply or compousate for the advantages we derive from abundant harvests of our own. But I ask you to consider whether or not such a consideration forms a reason why, if there be danger of a deficient supply at home, we should not remedy the cyll as well as we can, by permitting importation from abroad (cheers)? I was told the other day that, in the instance of a battalion of the Guards, quartered here, a great increase ications for the furlough granted to in the number of applications for the furiough grantest to private soldiers had taken place within the last three years. I inquired what was the reason. The house may think the anocdote trifling, but I confess it made a great impression upon my mind. I was told, I say, that the reason for the rapid increase in the number of applications for furlough—in fact, for twice the number of soldiers applying in 1845 for the miviliage than had sought for it in previous years—and the privilego than had sought for it in previous years—and the number of applicants is still on the increase—I was told, I way, sir, that the reason was this-that the friends of these soldiers were at present in such comfortable circumstances, that the men were constantly receiving invitations to pass some time in the country with their relatives, and that it was in this manner that the increase was to be accounted for (hear, hear, and some laughter). Sir, honourable members may think the matter trifling, but it seems to me a striking instance of the moral advantages produced by the command of an abundant supply of food. We see abundance here facilitation the intercourse of kindly affection. We see it facilitating the intercourse of kindly affection. We see it permitting those who are divided in periods of difficulty and distress—permitting the soldier to revisit his home, and then so return. I hope, imbued with feelings which would qualify him for the still better performance of his duty than quality him for the still better performance of his duty than those with which he had for a time left it (cheers and laughter). Now I was maked the other night why I am disposed to disturb this state of prosperity to which I allude (Tory obserting). I was told the other night that I had admitted that during a period of three years there had been contained and comparative prosperity—that that abandance and prosperity had co-existed with the Command allude, and where then was the necessity for disturbing the grantenent then made (Tory cheering)? Sir, my makes is the had an appearing in question did exist; but that indications of the prosperity in question did exist; but that indications of the prosperity in question did exist; but that

during that month, and for the two or three which have classed since, there has been an apparent sympathy between the prosperity of the manufacturing districts and the price of wheat (hear). One of the circulars issued from Manchester, containing an account of the state of trade in that town, and dated the 22d of the present January, contains the following passage:—"The anticipations which we ventured to make in our last annual circular, as to the prospects of the war we had just then antered mon, were fully realized. the year we had just then entered upon, were fully realised for the first nine months, during which we emjoyed not only a continuance of the prosperity of 1844, but it had reached to a degree unexampled in our manufacturing history—extanding to every branch, and acting powerfully on the social condition of our terming population. The causes which com-bined to produce this state of things were, as in the former year, steadiness of prices, with a demand constantly keeping pace with the supply; low rates for the raw material, abundance of money at a moderate rate of interest, with a discriminating and careful management of our banking institu-tious; regular and full employment for all classes of our operatives, with cheap and abundant food, and the absence of any political event threatening either our domestic peace or foreign relations, to which may be added, the wise and comprehensive fiscal measures of the last session of Parliament. Unhappily, we have latterly experienced a reverse in several of these elements of prosperity, which, acting on each other, led to a state of embarrassment under which we laboured for the last three mouths of the year, and are still labouring, though in a mitigated form. Our home trade demand, up to the end of September, was on an unprecedentedly large scale, but from the causes above mentioned, an almost total suspension occurred for the two succeeding mouths, which has been followed since by a moderate business only. are not, therefore, to conclude that up to the time at which I am speaking these indications of prosperity continue unabated. The events which have passed since the month of October, 1845, have certainly constituted one of the grounds on which I have come to the conclusion which I have arrived at (hear, hear). And now, Mr. Greene, these are the proposals which, upon the part of her Majesty's government, I offer for the adjustment—for the ultimate adjustment—of this great question. I cannot appeal to any ungenerous feelings of fear—to anything which can unduly sway your minds-as a reason for your listening with patience to my propositions. There may be agitation, but it is not agitation which has reached the great mass of the labouring community. There has been a total absence of all popular excitement. I admit, therefore, that it is possible, without danger to the public peace, to continue the existing law; I cannot therefore, appeal to your fears. But I tell you that there has occurred a great change in the opinion of a vast proportion of the community on the subject of the Corn Laws (loud Opposition cheering); that there exists between the master manufacturers and the operative classes a common conviction, which did not prevail in 1842, or in any previous year, that it is for the public advantage that these laws should be altered (loud obsers); but I believe that although there undoubtedly does prevail that union of sentiment on the subject, I cannot say that there is co-existent with it anything but general contentment, general loyalty, and a deep seated confidence in the justice and wisdom of the decisions of this house. So far as I can judge, the example which you have set in taking on yourselves great pecuniary burdens, in order that you might relieve the labouring classes from the taxation to which they were subject, has produced the deepest impression and the most beneficial effect. I repeat that I believe there exists a perfect confidence in your judgment and your wisdom." confidence in your judgment and your wisdom. But although this is a time of peace and plenty—although there prevails a perfect calm, excepting so far as agitation among the principal manufacturers may interrupt it - (hear, and a laugh)-although you are now not subject to any coercion, I entreat you to bear in mind that the aspect of affairs may he changed-that we may have to contend with worse harvests than that which we have lately gathered, and that it may be wise to avail ourselves of the present time for effecting an adjustment—an adjustment which, I believe, must ultimately take place, and which cannot be long protracted without engendering deep feelings of animosity between dif-ferent classes of her Majesty's subjects (cheers). From the sincere belief which I entertain that that settlement must be brought about—from the sincere hope which I feel that, coupled with the precautionary measures to which I have referred, it will not inflict injury on the agricultural interes from these convictions, and with these feelings, I should deeply lament, on public grounds exclusively, the failure of the measures which, on the part of her Majesty's government, I have on the present occasion recommended to your calm and dispassionate consideration; and recommended, mind, with no feeling, with no interest in the ultimate issue, other than that it may prove, in the words of the Royal Speech, conducive to the maintenance of friendly feeling between the different classes of the community, a security for the permanence of peace, and an assurance for the contentment and loyalty of all classes, of all ranks of her Majesty's subjects, by increasing the comforts and bettering the condition of the great body of the people. The right hon, baronet re-sumed his seat amid considerable Opposition cheering. His speech occupied three hours and twenty-five minutes in the

The resolutions brought in by the right honourable baronet were then read pro forma, as follows:—

"That in lieu of the duties now payable on the importation of corn, grain, meal, or flour, there shall be paid until the 1st day of February, 1840, the following duties, viz.:—

If imported from any foreign country—

WHEAT.
Whenever the average price of wheat, made up and published in the manner required by law, shall be for every quarter

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21s. 22s.
22s. and upwards.
20 From and after the lift of February, 1849, Clere shall be had the following duties:—Wheet, barley, bear or biggs, &c., is, paid the meal, barleymeal, ontmeet, &c., is revery cost. 4 d. wheet.

After the reading of the resolutions, a discussion took place as to the most appropriate time for resuming the subject. Mr. Miles and Mr. S. O. Brien recommended delay; and notwithstanding Mr. Hume's remon-strances, it was ultimately fixed that the subject should not be resumed till Monday week, to allow due fine for deliberation, and for ascertaining the opinion of all parties. The right honourable baronet stated that, so far as Government was concerned, he should then feel it to be his duty to proceed de die in diem. Several members then addressed the House, but, of course, their speeches are comparatively uninteresting in present circumstances Mr. Liddell dissented toto coelo from the course which the right honourable baronet had thought fit to slopt Captain Rous promised his cordial support to the measures which had that night been proposed. Mr. 8 O'Brien was of opinion that before coming to a decision on so momentous a question, the country should be consulted. Colonel Sibthorps read a letter, expressed in the most courteous language, which he had that morning received from the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and intimated at the same time that the letter was private and confidential. The eccentric Colonel succeeded, as usual, in contributing to the amusement of the House. The other members who gave atterance to their sentiments, in the shape of questions and remarks, were Lord March, Lord Ingestre, Mr. P. Scott, Lord G. Bentinck, Sir J. Tyrell, Mr. S. Herbert, Mr. P. Howard, Mr. Wodchouse, Mr. Wakley, Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Aglionby, and others. In conclusion, Mr. Greene, the chairman of the committee, reported progress, and it was moved and agreed to that the House resolve again into the same committee on Monday, the 9th of February.

The other orders on the paper were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at 12 o'clock.

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MONTROBE.—The following is a copy of a letter, addressed by Joseph Hume, M.P., to Provost Jamieson, of this place, in acknowledging the receipt of a memorial from Montrose, for the repeal of the Corn Laws:

"Bryanstone square, January 3, 1×16. "MY DEAR SIR,—I am quite aware that Sir Robert Peel has been considered a slippery hand by his own supporters, because he has become an unwilling convert to the enlarged principles of Free Trade; and at the risk of offending his supporters, he has not only assumed those principles, but has carried them out to a greater extent than under all the existing influences I could have expected As the Whige refused until the eleventh hour to acknowledge those principles, as expounded in my report on Import Daties in 1810, you will excuse my placing some confidence in Sir Robert's doing as much as he can in the right direct tion. I am satisfied, when he frightened his colleagues, and made them all resign, that he then intended a large measure; but no person has hinted at its execut now; and we may be at a loss to guess even what he will propose on the 22nd. But of this I am satisfied, that he will not stultify himself swith a milk and water measure. I recommend that 1000 of the entries in the British Turiff should be abolished out of 1150, and those articles admitted free. Sir Robert himself, in 1811, abused me in the House as an Utopian and visionary, to think of, or to recommend such s clean sweep of the tariff as I had done; but he was not one year in office before he had adopted every one of my principles, and, up to the end of the session, had actually struck out of our tariff 500 articles and entries. After that, all in my way, you must allow I have good grounds for hopes of something large. I send you his answer to your address; and every such paper will tend to strengthen his hand against the protectionists.

"Joseph Hung." EFFECT OF THE CORN LAW REPBAL OF THE VALUE OF LAND.-With respect to the real value of land as a marketable commodity, indeed, a measure to determine the relative worth of all realised property, there can can be no doubt that any legislative enactment which would remove the shackles from trade, and thus give an impetus to the reaction of wealth, must greatly benefit the landed proprietor. He would be a richer man, because he held what an increasing number of rich men would be auxious to purchase from him-In other words, he would find a better market for the commodity he had to sell, and would thus receive his full proortion of the developed resources of the country happens it that the possession of two or three thousand acres of land in England makes a man a potent squire, while in Russia or Germany a similar extent, though suprior in its productive qualities, is altogether insufficient to meet the wants of their lowest standard of nobility. The answer is plain enough. Lingland is a rich country, -made rich by her commerce, and the land and its owners participate to the full in the wealth which every wind of heaven is daily wasting to her shores. We have no fear, then, that a repeal of the Corn Laws will seriously affect the country contlement gentlemen. Come what may, the great landowner may still be, as he is now, the centre of moral and political influence in his neighbourhood,—foremost among the aristo-erney of the empire,—the friend, the example, the support of those who have harderfight to win their bread from earth's bosom than himself. Realising to its full extent the principle that "property has its duties as well as its rights, will not shrink from giving his assent to a measure which the admitted exigency of the times demands, simply because that measure which the strength of the times demands, simply because that measure involves the times demands, simply because that measure involves the bars possibility of pecuniary less to himself. He will easist in developing that commercial greatness which has already benefited him so much, not doubting but that trade and agriculture, when left to themselves, will be found sharing in the same prosperity.—The Balance Balance.

The Anti-Corn-Law League, that great intalligent, and truly national confederacy so much manufactured by many, and therefore so much nearly as lief it is a trumphed. The discovery has at length been made in the trumphed, that it is not merely a handled of the law but the nation, which is in a case of the law and that it yould be all the law and that it yould be all the law and the law and that it yould be all the law and law and the law and law a

AGRICULTURE.

FACTS AND FIGURES FOR FARMERS. Farmers have long been told by the monopolist landowners that the object of the Corn Laws was to keep up the price of corn. The unlimited supply of grain with which this country was to be "inundated" from abroad, formed a standing topic with protectionist orators, from Lord Stanley downwards. But it seems now that this was all a mistake. Landlords think nothing of ronts-not they. They have no intention of advancing the price of grain by means of the Corn Laws; they never had any such intent; they only meant to provide food on easy terms to the consumers, and to "protect the manufacturers of the country" against foreign competition. Thus, at the meeting of the "Central Agricultural Protection Society," at Willis's rooms, on Monday last, the Duke of Richmond said. "We never asked for protection to ourselves from any selfish motives;" and Lord Beaumont wished it to be "distinctly understood" that, "if the Corn Laws were intended, or if their operation had only been, to onhance the price of corn, and to diminish the supply of food, it was a most unhallowed cause in which they were engaged." It is true that these landed monopolists have only just discovered-or, at all events, disclosed-these disinterested intentions. Yet they may be real, for all that. Now, whether the cause in which Lord Beaumont and his co-monopolists are engaged be or be not an "unhallowed" one, we shall, for the present, leave the bread taxers to settle with the consumers, for whom so much tender, though latent. regard has been entertained. But, in the name of common sense, let us ask, why have the farmers been so earnestly called upon to stand by the Corn Laws, if those laws be not "intended to enhance the price of corn?" It may be unwise for farmers to love 00s, and upwards a quarter for their wheat; it may be that in relying upon high prices they are grasping at the shadow and losing the substance of profit; it may be-we believe it is-best for them to grow agricultural produce for a well-fed population; but farmers needed no "Central Protection Society" to tell them that. On the contrary, it is because farmers feared Free Trade in corn would "pull down" the price of corn, that they have been induced or seduced to support the monopolist landocracy.

Why was Sir Robert Peel so roundly abused by farmers in 1842, but because his Corn Law and Tariff of that year were supposed, rightly or wrongly, to have lowered the prices of grain and meat? In fact, if protection does not mean the enhancement of prices, then all the agitation, on paper, of the monopolist landowners, is much ado about nothing; or it has some other objects which cannot be conveniently avowed to the farmers.

Now, though the broad taxing landowners are trying to cover their own injustice by the plea that there are other classes equally unjust, and by protending that they only desire to protect all domestic articles against foreign competition, the artiflee is too shallow to deceive any one. The public know that the object of the Corn Law is to "enhance prices;" and the farmers know that it is only under the belief that such would be the "operation" of the law, that the yeomen of England have struggled to retain it.

It is certain that many farmers have lately become very indifferent, or adverse, to the continuance of the Corn Laws, because they have observed that when they do "enhance prices" the benefit goes to the landlord, and when they do not the loss falls on the tenant. This is contrived by calculating the rent according to the Act of Parliament price—that is the price the Corn Laws affect to secure; and when prices are lower by making some eleemosynary and inadequate reduction of rent, to be put on again the moment prices reach the Corn Law level. The following instance of this is recorded in the Cholmeford Chronisls of last week, where it is said:

We understand that my the west and it of Lord Maynand, in Tanaday last, including other the partie of its beauty of the beauty of the said of the partie of the parties of

Here we have at once an illustration of the instantaneous appropriation to the landlord of the benefit of high prices, and of the "unschish" obsracter of the landowner's demand for protection. Let Farmers in every district contrast the sayings at protection meetings of the landowners they know, with their doings at home, and the patriotism of landlordism will become wonderfully like solfishness, and that of the meanest sort.

Whilst penning these lines, we have had brought before us a practical instance of the interest the "farmers' friends" have in high prices, and the way in which they have screwed up their rents by means of the competition, the unnatural competition, produoed by the Corn Laws.

Doubtless our roaders are aware that there is a gentleman of the name of Chetwynd, member for Newcastle-under-Lyne, who has figured at protection meetings in Staffordshiro as a protectionist of the first water, and a flaming "farmer's friend." That gentleman is, we believe, the son of Sir George Chetwynd. On the estate of Sir George Chetwynd, there was, in the year 1805, a tenant farmer named Thomas Henney, holding a farm upon lease, at the yearly rent of 130%. The following is a verbatim copy of the receipt for his half-year's rent in that

"Received the 12th of January, 1805, of Mr. Thos. Henney, the sum of sixty-five pounds for half a year's rent due to Sir George Chetwynd, Baronet, at Old Michaelmast last,
Rent 265 0 0

Deduct a year's Property tax 6 10 0

£58 10 0 JOHN COLLINS."

In 1812, Thomas Honney's lease expired. Prohably he had made some money, for prices had been high, far higher than either landlord or tenant anticipated at the commencement of the lease. Then came the competition screw, and Henney's rent was advanced from 130l. to 210l. per annum. And lost the landlord should not clutch all the advantage of rising prices, there was no renewal of the lease; but Henney went on as a yearly tenant. This is his receipt for rent in the following year:

"Received the 3d of July, 1813, of Mr. Thomas Henney, the sum of one hundred and five pounds, for half a year's rent due to Sir George Chetwynd, Baronet, at Lady Day

10 10 0 Property tax.

194 10 0 Cash received. John Collins." As the landlord expected, prices did rise in 1813,

and Thomas Honney experienced the advantageto the landlord-of a yearly or "mutual confidence" holding; for by Michaelmas, 1813, we find him standing at the enhanced rate of 312l. a year.

Here is the evidence under the hand of the landlord's own agent:

"Received the 15th day of January, 1814, of Thomas Henney, the sum of one hundred and fifty-six pounds for half a year's rent, due to Sir George Chetwynd, Baronet, at Michaelmas lust.

.0156 0 0 10 10 O One-half Property tax.

JOHN COLLINS."

The reader will remark a slight but significant alteration in the terms of this last receipt, which marks the degradation of the tenant-farmer into a kind of political retainer of the landlord's, which was then just commencing. In the two former receipts the tenant was designated "Mr. Thomas Honney," now plain "Thomas Honney" was deemed the proper designation of the yearly tenant vassal. Shortly after this time the tenant died, and his son succeeded to his farm at the still further "enhanced" ront of 345%.

This is one of his receipts.

"Received this 7th day of December, 1820, from Mr. Thomas Henney, the sum of one hundred and seventy-two pounds ten shillings, being half a year's rent, due at Michaelmas last, to Sir George Chetwynd, Baronet.

2172 10s. "Robert Hoare, Jun."

This last advance was made upon the strength of the Corn Law of 1815, and the price of 80s. a quarter for wheat thereby promised.

The fallure of such promise was fearfully felt by the tenant, who found the capital his father had accumulated under his lease rapidly undergoing absorption by the landlord, and with due humility he remonstrated with Sir George. Whereupon Sir!

George said, "I must maintain my atetion in society: I have a large family, and must get the highest rents I can from my tenants." To this Honney raplied, "Then, Sir Goorge, to keep up your station, I am to be ruined." Wherepon Sir George rejoined, "If you don't like to continue your farm, your next neighbour will take it at the same rent." To this application of the screw the tenant could offer no resistance; and, having had his capital squeezed out of him by the landlord, gave up the farm to his next neighbour, and sought to obtain a livelihood as an eating-house keeper, in the new palace yard.

Lot farmers road and mark this history, one far more true than any thing they will hear at "17, Bond Street," or at the "Protection Societies" of the provinces.

It forms, too, evidence of the "unselfish" charac ter of the landowner's demand for artificially high prices. Is there a single landowner amongst those who assembled at the "Central Society's meeting" on Monday, whose acts would not furnish similar ovidenco?

Let those who know them at home answer.

A MONOPOLIST WITNESS.

A humorous and eccentric monopolist clergyman of Dorsetshire, Mr. Huxtable, thus bears testimony against monopoly. At the Starminster Agricultural Association

"I am more and more convinced, that of all mistakes that "I am more and more convinced, that of all mistakes that can be committed; that of growing hay is the greatest. (Loud laughter and applause.) Well, now hear me out. Pasture land is let in this country of a poor kind; I am not speaking of watering meadows, or of those rich meadows watered by Stour, and let at 2l. or 3l. an acre; but, speaking of the average of lands, I say that a greater robbery never was committed on a nation than that of keeping these lands in pasture. An acre will cut one and a half ton of hay; now what will three acres do? They will keep a cow summer and winter. I am prepared to say that two and a half acres and winter. I am prepared to say that two and a half acres keep a cow, but then the cows are kept in the straw yard for three months, and to produce the food for them during this time I allot the other half acre. Let it be broken up. First of all it is thoroughly drained, and then if you have Sweden, he must be a bungler who cannot grow 25 tons an acre; and what is the worth of Swedes an acre? Let that be reserved for the present, and be pleased now to allow me to suppose that they are worth 15s, a ton, exclusive of the dung. (Mors, Moss.) Now you have got 25 tons at 15s.; exclusive of this come the tops. If a cow gets hold of the tops the butter will raste, but the great quantity of phosphates they produce will tender milk abundant. You have got then the first year 25 tons of Swedes, the gross proceeds of which will be 181, presume that you cut off this; then you will produce out of that five or six tons of manure fully equal to manure that land. Then the next year you grow wheat. You will grow at least on that land nine sacks of wheat per scre; or you will grow 15 tons of green clover an acre, and in the next year nine quarters of oats. I pledge my word that you can grow these crops, because I have done it myself. Now look at the nation's benefit from this. You have grown nine sacks of wheat an acre, 25 tons of Swedes, and nine quarters of oats. And now I ask you, what has the cow been doing? She has made 200lbs. of butter, and 212lbs. of cheese; and the nation can feed from the arable land 240 more mouths than the cow can feed. I say it will not do to depend upon protection to keep foreign corn out. We ought to come before the country and say, 'We are doing all we can to feed you; but we cannot give you English corn at foreign prices, with English burthens.' Loud cheers. But are we doing that the transfer we do not be the content of the c we doing that ! Do we come with clean hands to ask for

And after giving a very graphic account of growing Swedes upon some very poor land, giving a return of 300 per cent, he said :

"You see I want you to be enthusiastic. If you will only be as enthusiastic as I am, you may laugh at these Free

Now, in soher seriousness, it may be said that there is in the land a latent power of increased production, far more than sufficient to enable the farmer to "laugh at Free Trade;" and the only "lion in the path" is the semi-feudal system on which landed property is managed.

THANKFULNESS FOR SMALL MERCIES. What good easy people some of the agitating protectionists are! they seem to be extremely thankful for any exhibition of sympathy for their cause, though the manner of exhibiting it be ever so damaging to that cause. For instance, at a protection meeting at Malton, in Yorkshire:

"It was also resolved, that the unanimous thanks of the meeting be given to E. S. Cayley, Beq., M.P., for the two able letters he had lately addressed to Lord John Russell on the subject of the Corn Laws, and for the universal support he had given for the maintenance and protection of the interests of the agriculturists."

Well done, Maltonians! We wonder you did not by the same vote thank Mr. Cayley for his lineary interpidity in falsifying Adam Smith. Again, at some other place a formal vote of thanks was passed to the Morning Post, for its strenuous advocacy of protection! Hanoy that, Free Trade readers! Why, the League would not have had all its power of exposing the cvils of the Corn Laws, but for the nid of the Morning Post in reducing protectionist theories to absurdity. If the Langue did employ any "secret service money," which It does not, the editor of the Past might have been fairly suspected of having largely participated.

REJECTING THE PLEDGE.

It is a sign of the times which farmers should note as significant, that protectionist members, in all parts of the country, make it a point of honour to refuse to "pledge" themselves to vote for the maintenance of the present Corn Laws. Mr. Sotheron, and his colleague in North Wilts, talk against all change in the law, yet they won't "pledge" themselves to oppose, that is to vote against such a change. Mr. Kemble, in East Surrey, won't "pledge," and monopolist members, who are adherents of the Government, in all directions echo the cuckoo cry, "we won't pledge." "Pledges are unconstitutional;" which means, we suppose, that they are uncomfortable to pledge-breakers. Now, after the speeches these non-pledging members make, such refusals seem to us. as they do to the farmers, to be intimations of intention to shirk from implied pledges if the Minister wants a majority. Lord Worsley, at the Horncastle meeting, put this matter on the right ground:

"He (Lord Worsley) would repeat that he would give no pledges, although he contended that when a public man made a declaration he was bound to carry out his views as he described them, or if he saw grounds for altering them, then either to explain to his constituents his reasons, or resign his trust into their hands. Upon some subjects new circumstances might arise, and a doubt would exist as to the policy of refusing a change; but upon a matter like the Corn Lawsthere could be no doubt of the opinions enter-trined by the representative on the one hand, or the constituents on the other. His (Lord Worsley's) constituents could never be in ignorance of his opinions on these matters, nor could he be unmindful of theirs. If then he went into the House of Commons and voted for any alterations in the Corn Laws, even though he had given no positive pledge on the subject, he would not be acting the part of an honourable man. (Checrs.)'

FIGURES OF FANCY versus FACTS.

Nothing can exceed the fervent vehemence with which the monopolists everywhere declare that there was no deficiency of crops last harvest, and that an average, and more than an average produce was obtained. Such are the figures of fancy wherewith the overgrown schoolboys of the squirearchy imagine they can gull the intelligent men of business of Great Britain. Hear however, what those who write for the information of real men say on the subject. The following is from the last Mark Lane Express:

"There has been a buoyancy about the trade in grain, indicative of a rise in prices; and, from present appearances, we certainly incline to the opinion that, in whichever way the Corn Law question may be settled, the settlement will be immediately followed by an active demand for bread stuffs. The law fall in prices of wheat was (as we have on former occasions remarked) caused wholly by political events, and the settlement was considered to the settlement will be settlement with the settlement was considered to the settlement with the settlement with the settlement was the settlement with the settlement was the settlement with the settlement was the settlement with the settlement will be settlement with the settlement will and not by any alteration in public opinion respecting the and not by any alteration in public opinion respecting the result of the harvest. The crop, though certainly not so bad as represented by those connected with the League for party purposes, must nevertheless be considered as decidedly below that of average years. That there really is a deficiency in the yield, is admitted on all hands; but so variously is it estimated, as to render it almost impossible to determine with any degree of sources to what extent. Coupled how with any degree of accuracy to what extent. Coupled, however, with the falling off in the quantity of food, in consequence of the disease by which the produce of potatoes has been so greatly decreased, quite sufficient grounds are afforded to conclude that wheat cannot long remain at present

REVIEW.

STUDIES OF ENGLISH LIFE-(Etudes de l'Angleterre.) By M. LEON FAUCHER. Paris: Guillomen;

London: Dulau. "To see ourselves as others see us" is not less advantageous to nations than individuals; the revelations of England contain full as much of novelty and of exciting interest for Englishmen as the revolations of Russia; for in this country, above all others, men are so absorbed in their individual pursuits, and so engrossed by their special occupations, that each knows almost as little of the social life in spheres or classes remote from his own as he does of Siberia or Kamschatka. During the last ten years, commissoners appointed to investigate the conditions of existence in the lower grades of the population, have brought to light grave evils and dangers which society had long neglected, but which had reached to a fearful intensity that menaced perilous consequences. But the information thus accumulated is entombed in Blue Books, and would have been almost unknown to the mass of readers had practice collected some of the most striking ristics, and interwoven them into the brilines of Sybil. The sketches of M. Leon rive no aid from the graces of fiction; minutely true to life as the pictures of id, like them, not unfrequently exhibit

sical anatomist must conquer the disgust of the discoting from, so the moral anatomist, who searches into the causes of social disease, must not shrink from the investigation of its types, even under their worst aspect.

M. Leon Faucher is a decided Free Trader; he is in consequence an advocate for peace, and anxious to have the bonds of amity between England and France drawn closer together by mutual interest and mutual respect. Faithfulness of delineation has been his first object, and this he has generally attained. There are, however, peculiar phases of English polity and social life which have not a little perplexed him, as they have all other foreigners. The complicated details of our local administrations were not viewed with unprejudiced eyes by an observer trained to centralization; and the peculiarities of dissenting bodies appeared often trivial or repulsive to one who had come from a land where what is properly called secturianism is utterly unknown. His investigation of our crowded cities and towns, London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Leeds, were pursued with the zeal of a philanthropist and the skill of a philosopher. His descriptions are as vivid as those of a novelist; and his reflections, even when a little erroneous, are characterised by good feeling and sound sense. We shall take a sketch of a part of London as little known to the inhabitants of the West End, and even of the City, as the interior of New Holland:

"In Whitechapel, were it not for the perpetual fog of this climate, one might imagine himself in some town of the south. The countenances you observe have no characteristics of the English type. The habits of life are those that you find in the street of Toledo at Naples, in the quarter of St. John at Marselles, or in the Rue Mouffetard at Paris. Englishmen live secluded in their houses, which they deem the castles of private life: but the gypsey population of this district lives in the open street. Merry women sit at their thresholds, or work at their open windows, to have a better view of the crowd. Venders of eatables exhibit their cooking apparatus in the open air. The smell of vegetables and fish frying on the pan infects the lanes and alleys. Applewomen and old clothesmen stop the passengers. The cries women and old clothesmen stop the passengers. of the various traffickers, the noise of conversation across the pavement or from window to window, the quarrels of children, the songs heard from the gin palaces, make an aggregate of sounds, the southern gaiety of which bewilders the spectator to such a degree that he cannot believe himself within two steps of the Tower, and on the very verge of the

City.

"To judge of this population when employed, it is necessary to visit 'Rag fair.' The custom existed of old, and the place was well known 160 years ago, for it is there that Daniel de Foe describes the arrest of Colonel Jack, one of his heroes, by the police. In fact, the scenes which pass there seem far removed from the civilisation of our age. The market is held in a space cribbed from heaps of rubbish, to which two narrow lanes give access. A covered shed occupies the centre, but the crowd besieging it is so great, that the greater number of bargains is effected in a flying camp. About 4 o'clock in the evening Rag fair begins to be animated. Three or four thousand laws account he place by turns house and laws. thousand Jews cover the place, by turns buyers and sellers of the same objects. Without seeing them, it is impossible to form any notion of the serious air and pompous terms in which they puff their miserable merchandise. 'Here is an excellent coat, of superflue quality!' cries one, exhibiting a coat, worn at all its seams, and which has passed from master to servant, before falling into the hands of the old clothesman. 'A splendid bonnet, a beautiful gown,' says another, exhibiting a faded silk, which has already done services for three governments. Prices are obtained for these vice for three generations. Prices are obtained for these rags, everything finds a purchaser, and such merchandise is deemed worthy of being stored in the cellars of the neighbouring houses, which serve as magazines. Rag-fair has its alternatives of rise and fall, like those of the Stock Exchange. There as elsewhere, price depends on the proportion of supply to demand; the purveyors for the market arrive every moment, bending under their loads; the amount of disposable stock varies at every moment. Trickery is not much practised; the Jews who frequent the fair are too well acquainted with each other to attempt cheating.

The descriptions which M. Faucher has given of Liverpool and Manchester have been very copiously extracted into the English journals, and need not, therefore, be here repeated. We must, nowever bestow some notice on his account of the agricultural classes of England, in which he has fallen into very serious mistakes. In opposition to Messrs. Baines and Hickson, M. Faucher carnestly contends that agricultural districts must be more moral than manufacturing districts. This is not a question to be decided by the mere statistics of criminal returns; there are two other elements to be taken into consideration—the amount of temptation, and the vigilance of police; and both these circumstances tend to swell the returns of criminals from towns and manufacturing districts. M. Faucher triumphantly states, that in the department of the Isere, there is only one arrest annually to every thirteen thousand of the population; but, before admitting this fact to be decisive, we should determine what are the temptations and opportunities in the locality. It would puzzle a confined thief to find any means of gratifying his propensities in the department. Petty thofts of fruit and vegetables, &c. are rarely prosecuted by agriculturists; they endure the loss rather than have the trouble or annoyance of law. A boxing match in the fields is rarely brought under magisterial congnizance; the drunken man in a hamlet has every chance of escaping the stationhouse; in fact, there are many rural depredations hd like them, not unfrequently exhibit and acts of violence which are passed over by a hd painful portraitures. But as the phy-kind of general consent; while acts of the same

kind are never allowed to escape in a town tion. Towns and maintacturing districts ject to the perturbating influence of an immi population; the rejected of the country front to hide themselves in the growd. An of the criminal returns of Manchester would abundant proof that the county of Inches been made responsible for a vast amount orime which is not properly its own,

Two chapters are devoted to the history.

Corn Laws and of the League formed for promise their abolition. Having glanced at the history

the Corn Laws, he says:

"When we have studied with attention the argument the two parties in this debate, we remain convinced if the landed proprietors wished seriously to devote and capital to the amelioration of their cetates, they was have no need of the precarious assistance of laws to the augment their income. The noblemen best years or augment their income. The noblemen best varieties, Lords Spencer, Ducie, Fitzwilliam, and Discount on this point the same language as Cobdes, worth, or Villiers. But the question presents a path element of which we must not lose sight, and which incomplicate the calculation. to complicate the solution. The landed proprietors which have high rents, but they are at least equally anxious to their farmers so dependent on them as to find them with instruments at the time of an election. Rich and arise farmers would not suit them; for these, before in large capitals in the cultivation of the soil, would leases as a security; but farmers who had thus placed the selves beyond the reach of any abuse of power would found independent electors Farmers who contain till the ground without a lease cannot expect to realisprofit; it is, therefore, necessary to offer them the of a protective system. Thus the maintenance of the De Laws is not for the aristocracy so much a question of mor as of political influence, and hence arises the difficulty of obtaining any concession."

We shall now extract the conclusion of this chanter, because it states the causes which render the doom of the Corn Laws-inevitable; even-if the line vest had proved favourable, and potatoes had escaped the murrain:

"The condemnation of the Com Laws is written in any page of commercial legislation. The more they are decussed, the more apparent does the weakness of their porters become. The mediating party which proposed a fail duty as a compromise has disappeared; and the Governor refuses to plodge itself to the maintenance of the last modification. cation of protection which it accorded."

But since M. Faucher wrote, the advent of the repeal of the Corn Laws has been greatly accelrated by the conduct of the leading pretestionis their booby bluster has done more to dismissible thinking part of the nation with monopoly than could have been effected by the most eloquent an nunciations of the Free Traders. No cause soul stand the advocacy of the dukery; or, to been irreverently tormed, "the donkt,"
Faucher could not have anticipated the lamental forces enacted at agricultural meetings within the last few weeks. In his estimate of the strength the English aristocracy, he has omitted to make set off for the negative elements of weakness whi dukes and squires have taken such pains to dete lope. Dogberry was grieved that he could the one "to write him down as an ass;" the Remonds, and the Clevelands, and the Norfolia has taken care that their asinine qualities should be faithfully chronicled. The country has not be slow in forming its judgment. The verdit we nounced out of doors must ere long be ratifed by Dowling and the Country has not be some and the slow in forming its judgment. Parliament.

The great success of this work on the Continue is among the many gratifying proofs we dilly ceive of the progress of Free Trade opinion Europe. It is everywhere felt that our structure commercial freedom in England involves the compression liberty and civilisation throughout the world.

BRADFORD.—As regards the borough election.

During the week, fifty names have been added to sition to Mr. Busheld and Colonel Thompson, number of good men and true attached to the seven handred and fifty! This is the guaranteering that triumph; but a triumph in which the vanqual equal gainers with the victors.—Bradford Older Ray. Thomas Spences.—We hould the has been lecturing in this ofty and in New hould the presence and the Corn Laws. He is with known in Great Britain as the active and the life of the section and the corn—Anti-Corn-Law. universal summers. BRADFORD.—As regards the borou

all reform—Anti-Corn-Law, universal sunctible Church, &co. How far his has ever hand there with the anti-slavery party, we cannot have always understood him to belong to it; hear that he makes the alightest allusion to of his addresses here, or manifests yet any with himself with the great anti-taver, northern forms. We trust that his hitherto honoured come to be added to the list of these and the problems and here to be added to the list of these and the problems and here to be added to the list of these and the problems and here to be added to the list of these and the problems and here to be added to the list of these and the list of the list of these and the list of the list of these and the list of these and the list of the anti-slavery seal has been quenched.

Atlantic—who have been flattered.

Atlantic—who have been flattered.

whose reformatory courage and fault deadler struggle which marks our day at cause here most especially. Stundard.

LEAGUE. THE

No. 124.—Vol. III.]

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1846.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the LEAGUE FUND will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weakly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their

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

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

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

> By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

PETITION! PETITION! PETITION!

At a numerously attended meeting of the Council of the League, held on Thursday, the 29th ult., Mr. Wilson in the chair, the proposed measures of Sir Robert Peel wore discussed at some length. Con gratulations were exchanged at the progress which the great question has made in the minds of the most distinguished statesmen of all parties. With respect to the measure itself, several parts of it elicited expressions of satisfaction; but the feeling of regret at the re-enactment of the sliding scale was universal. The meeting was addressed, among others, by Mossrs. R. H. Greg, Alderman Kershaw, J. B. Smith, A. Prentico/J. Heywood, H. Rawson, J. Whitaker, W. Bickham, T. Woolley, &c. All were of opinion that the League and its friends should stand firm to the principle of immediate and total repeal; and the following resolution, recommending universal petitioning, was unanimously passed:

"Resolved,-That the announcement of a new Corn Law renders it desirable that the friends of Free Trade through out the kingdom should originate petitions for the total and immediate abolition of all laws imposing duties on foreign corn and provisions."

We have received numerous applications from different parts of the country requesting to know to what members petitions to Parliament should be forwarded for presentation. As it is impossible to reply specially to each particular case, we beg to announce that all petitions emanating from boroughs should be forwarded to the members thereof, with a note, requesting them to support the prayer of the petition. In all other cases, they may be sent per post, open at the ends, and marked "Petition," to any well-known Free Trade member of the House of Commons. The only address necessary in such cases will be the name of the member, House of Commons, London.

WHAT WILL THE LEAGUE DO IN

PARLIAMENT? As we believe our protectionist friends are rather curious on this interesting question, and are in some danger of answering it very mistakenly, it seems but fair to remove any doubts and errors that may provail. What will the League do! We reply, the League—that is, those members of the league who are also members of the House of Oramons—will do nothing that ean, directly or intodly, strongthen the hands of the monopolists ng that can impade or delay the passing of classive measure calculated to give greater to commerce, and to increase the remunerative employment and exchangeable value of labour. The Leaguers will take excellent care, so far as they are concerned, that the country shall be put in possession, on the earliest possible day, of at least that very large amount of commercial freedom which is comprised within the scope of Sir Robert Peel's plan of commercial reform.

We beg the protectionists particularly to under stand this. The error as to the views and intentions of the League, which, we know, exists to some extent in protectionist quarters, and which is, porhaps, more widely diffused than we are aware of, may as well be at once corrected. It may save those gentlemen a good deal of trouble, and some disappointment, if they clearly comprehend that, however strongly the Free Traders object to certain portions of the Ministerial scheme, the objection will not take any form that can be made available for the uses of landlordism. No opening will be given for the concurrence of monopolists and Free Traders in a joint anti-Ministerial vote. There will he no playing the enemy's game; no cross of parties; no unnatural or ill-assorted alliance of antagonist extremes. The League will offer no factious or fanatical opposition to Sir Robert Peel's measureor to any other measure for liberating commerce from even a portion of its fetters, and bringing the trade in food nearer to the laws of nature and the principles of common sense.

At the proper time, Mr. Villiers will, we doubt not, press for the sense of the House on the question of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Law,-and no effort will be spared to reinforce the old, familiar motion, not only with the old, familiar arguments, but with those special considerations suggested by the present state of the Free Trade question, and the obvious interests of the class now more particularly concerned in a total and immediate settlement. Everything will be done that can be done to convince Sir Robert Peel-or rather (for we are sure Sir Robt. Peel is sufficiently convinced already) to convince the landlords themselves—that the proffered concession to agricultural alarms, prejudices, or supposed convenience, is absolutely needless—and not merely needless, but injurious and deeply dangerous to all agricultural interests. Should these efforts be successful in currying conviction to the landlord mind, so as to elicit declarations of landlord opinion that will make it easy to Sir Robert Peel to give full effect to his and our principles, we shall most heartily rejoice, as we are confident Sir Robert Peol will rejoice too. But, again we say, nothing will be done that can for a moment put in hazard the vast substantial benefits which the Ministerial proposal offers to the country. The motion for total and immediate repeal will be so shaped, as to place it utterly out of the power of any man to vote in the same division with its supportors who does not really desire total and immediate repeal. Sir Robert Peel's bill, or a better bill, with Sir Robert Peel's approval (of which we see no reason whatever for despairing), must and shall become law, with the least possible loss of time.

There will be no "compromise." The League oannot compromise the question, even if it would: The League has parted with its free agency in this matter-or rather, it never had any. "No compromise" is the very essence of the League's organisation, the fundamental principle of its constitution, the source and condition of its power. The question of compromise-whatever be the shape which it may practically assumewas finally disposed of, so far as the League is concerned, seven years and some months ago. The Parliamentary Leaguers will do with corn, in 1846, exactly that which they did with

House, in assertion of their own sound and broad principles; and, should they fail of obtaining a majority, they will then give their united support, in all subsequent divisions, to any measure which proximately realises their principles. Sir Robert Pool's measure is not the Lengue's measure. Ifthe Longue could throw it out, and replace it with their own, they unquestionably would. Butso much of Free Trade as there is in Sir Robert Peel's monsure, the League will support, with heart and soul, against a monopolist opposition.

We trust, meanwhile, that our friends out of doors will firmly and vigorously maintain, without waver ing or abatement, the great and plain principle for which we have all struggled through so many pain: fully toilsome years, and our adherence to which, in all its integrity and simplicity, has placed our question in its present strong and hopeful position, Free Traders have nothing to do with agitating or petitioning for anything less than Free Trade -total, immediate, and unconditional. There must be no relaxation of effort and watch. fulness-no distruction of aim -no division of strength. And there need be no fear of "embarcassing Sa Robert Peel" by any possible amount or number of "total and immediate" potitions or petitioners. Sir Robert Peel will not be embarrassed, but relieved of an embarrassment, by such a demonstration of carnest national opinion as shall enable him to give full and instant effect to his own convictions of justice and sound policy. The matter cannot be put too strongly. The more firmly and decidedly opinion expresses itself, both in and out of Parliament, in favour of the immediate and unqualified legislative adoption of Free Trade principles to their fullest extent, the greater will be the probability that the Ministerial measure may eventually pass in a shape thoroughly acceptable to the country-the stronger will the Premier feel himself against the landlord opposition—the more hopelessly chimerical will be the notion of any effective protectionist resistance, even in the protectionists' own House of Parliament—and the more palpably certain will it become, that an "appeal to the people," should their lordships be suffi ciently chivalrous to bring it to this, would end in the instant, total, root and branch destruction of monopoly. We emphatically ropeat our last week's counsel-Petition, Petition, Petition! Potition, not in opposition to the Government, but in opposition to the vicious principle and power with which the Government is now engaged in mortal conflict. Petition, not that Sir Robert Peel's bill may not pass, but that it may pass in a shape more completely satisfactory to the country-more exactly consistent with Sir Robert Feel's own views and principles-and more conducive to the real and permanent welfare of that class which is the most deeply interested in the abandonment of its objectionable provisions.

A LORD CHIEF JUSTICE'S VIEW OF THE COUNTY QUALIFICATION MOVEMENT.

"To seek to acquire and secure a vote is not against the law—it is not against morality—it is not against sound public policy—it is neither a malum in se por a malum prohibitum. On the contrary, it is held by many high authorities, that it is highly beneficial to the constitution that there should be an extension of the elective franchise; and certain the averaged and real chiest of the reform not went to tainly the avowed and real object of the reform act was to increase, as a thing expedient, the number of electors throughout the country."-LORD CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL.

The judgment of the Court of Common Pleas, in the case of ALEXANDER versus NEWMAN, which we briefly adverted to last week, and of which our readers will find a full report in another column, is a most important event in the history, not only of the League movement, but of Englishmen's constitutional liberties. It explicitly and once for all sugar, in 1844. They will move and divide the ratifles, in the amplest terms, the legality of all

bona fide purchases of freehold property, whether made sointly or individually, although the Express AND ANOMED object of the purchase be the acquisition of the franchise incident to that description of property. Only let the pecuniary consideration be hona fide and real, and the law is satisfied. Nay, more—the law is pleased. The law not merely confirms the transaction as legal, but gives it a passing word of eulogy as laudable and meritorious, useful, moral, and constitutional. Law and constitution, morality and public policy,-all are here agreedall ratify the acts, and applaud the purposes of the League. The "extension of the elective franchise," in the mode adopted by the League, is both indisputably legal, and "a thing expedient," " money BENEFICIAL TO THE CONSTITUTION."

We suppose we now really have heard the last of " the unconstitutional machinations of the League." Sir Nicholas Tindal is, we have always understood, deemed by the profession to be every way as sound and "constitutional" a lawyer as Henry, Lord Brougham; and we dare say the learned (by courtesy) ex-Chancellor himself will not be overanxious to recall public attention to his recent extrajudicial and very injudicious escapade. The remarkably ingenious distinction between "legal" mwl "constitutional," will, we think we may venture to predict, not be again presented for public ridicule. Our friends in all parts of the country roay now work away quite freely, and "Qualify qualify, qualify," to their hearts' content. Not a jougue will dure to wag against him, from ex-Chancellor Brougham's down to that of the humblest protectionist attorney in the registration The highest registration tribunal in the empire has formally-and more than formallysanctioned and legitimated the League's reading of the law and constitution

As the protectionists talk, or did talk a little while ago -we dare say, however, they have forgotton it-of "fighting the League with its own weapons," we may take leave to recommend them very carefully to study the whole of the Lord Chief Justice's judgment in this case of Alexander versus NEWMAN, that they may know precisely what the Angue's weapons are, and receive a cautionwhich, it may be feared, they much need-against the use of another description of weapons, with which, we apprehend, some of them are rather more familiar. The same high authority, they will please to observe, which affirms the legality, constitutionality, expediency, policy, and morality of the League's mode of extending the elective franchise, is equally clear and decided in condomning cortain other modes of extending the elective franchise. As the judicial disputation on electoral law is not very tempting reading for our protectionist friends, and they may possibly be inclined to skim, we may do well to call their especial attention to a few of the more choice and significant dieta. There must be "no fraud or covin," says the Lord Chief Mustice. "The law hates covin." The law sots its face very strongly against "fraudulent, and fictitious, and colourable conveyances-things that are nothing more than matters of form without substance-things in which the only real matters are the parchment and seal." The law positively "Almors those conveyances professing one thing, but made with a secret intention and design to carry out another." It is only a bona fide interest in the soil, with an actual pecuniary consideration, passing from vendee to vender, to which the law and constitution annex the franchise. We trust that when (if ever) the monopolists really begin "fighting the League with its own weapons" they will particularly boar this in mind. Should they be so unfortunate as to forgot it, they will find thomselves most disagreeably reminded that " THE LAW HATES COVIN."

We cannot leave this subject without expressing the lively and earnest satisfaction with which we shall ever review that portion of our labours which has had for its immediate object the extension of the suffrage among the trading and industrious classes. We have no desire to trespass, in these columns, on what, by the fundamental constitution

of the League, its organ is bound to respect as noutral ground; but we are sure that we may, without jarring on the political feelings of a single Leaguer, advert with heartful pleasure to the circumstance, that the struggle for one popular right has incidentally strengthened the basis of all the restrevived from practical desuctude the oldest, simplest, and most easily accessible of all the constitutional franchises of Englishmen—and laid the foundations, wide and deep, on which the people may hereafter erect the superstructure of just and good Government. The League will one day pass away, and be dissolved into its original elements; but this precious fruit of its existence and its labours will remain-a renovation of forgotten popular rights and powers—a new reading of old electoral lawsconstitutional franchises made easy to the humblest capacity-enlarged, purified, and emancipated constituencies.

IRELAND AND THE CORN LAWS.

No part of the empire has suffered more than Ireland from the operation of the Corn Laws. They have enabled the landlords of that country to grind their tenants to the dust, and to reduce the food of the agricultural population to the lowest point at which existence can be maintained. But for these laws, Ireland could not so often have exhibited to the world the melancholy spectacle of a country export. ing provisions, when its own population was perishing from famine. An artificial stimulus was given to production, but the benefit of it never came to the producers, for the wheat grown, the cattle fattened, and the pigs reared, were exported to be sold in the English markets to pay the rents of proprietors, of whom a large proportion were absentees. The peasant was allowed to rejoice, or to pine, on potatoes; the corn which he raised ontered not into his home consumption. There was a forced export of that which was most wanted in the place where it grow, and there was a forced production which prevented any attempt at agricultural improvement. The advantages of a coun try, under any commercial system, must be measured by its imports and not by its exports; just as the wealth of a tradesman is determined, not by the amount of goods sold, but by the amount of money received. It is idle to tell us of the number of bushels of corn, or head of cattle, which were sent from Ireland to English markets; the real question is, what did the Irish producers get back in return? Let the answer be sought in the tenant's farm and in the labourer's shed. Let us look for it in the clothing, food, and dwellings, of the corn and cattle producers of the sister kingdom. This is the true test of the advantages that the Irish have derived from the Corn Laws; and what does it exhibitrags, starvation, and misory.

The price of protected corn in the English market stimulated the production of corn on the Irish soil. What then? We want to know how it remunerated the producers? It raised rents, it fucilitated mortgages, it enabled proprictors to employ agents instead of personally superintending their estates, it encouraged absenteeism, it offered a premium on bad management; but it ruined the farmer and the labourer. An artificial system affords opportunities for unfairness and oppression in contracts which could not be obtained under a natural system. The prædial disturbances in Ireland would long ago have righted themselves had not the Corn Laws denaturalised the markets, and prevented home consumption from becoming the measure of domestic

There are some Irishmen who call themselves patriots, and yet advocate the maintenance of the Corn Laws: it is all but possible to credit their sincerity. They demand that exportation of provisions from Ireland should be artificially stimulated, at a time when they declare that Irishmen are starving for want of provisions. With the sad proof before them that potatoes are the most uncertain of crops on which a population can depend for food, they insist that corn should be sent out of the country, and sumption. Ever prating about the evils of absence relies to the production of production of british and they require that the most stringent means should be the production of british all the most stringent means should be the production of british all the most stringent means should be the trick and their procession in

ever declaiming against the abuse of the landlord power, they resist the emancipation of industry iton the trammels with which it is fettered by landlord made law.

We only do justice to Mr. O'Connell when we gladly declare that he is not to be ranked in the class of these pseudonymous patriots. In the present crisis of the question, he has come over to plead the cause of the Irish producers, and to demand that the profits of their toil should no longer be intercepted by legislative artifice. There are people who reason as if industry were its own 16. ward, and argue that labour should be sought simply forits own sake. We care not to refute such palpable nonsense. Industry must be rewarded from its results; labour must be paid from its productions. How are the Irish labourers rewarded and paid? This is the question which Mr. W. Smith O'Brien is bound to answer satisfactorily before he can reconcile his loud professions of patriotism with his silent support of the Corn Laws. It is in different to the issue to tell us how many quartors of corn are exported annually from 1 merick, unless accompanied by an account of the proportion of purchase money of that corn which finds its way back to remunerate the producers. Do the Irish peasants profit by the Irish exports? Just about as much as the bees smothered in winter profit by the honey that has been stored in the hives-not so much as the slaves in Brazil prelit by the diamonds which they raise from the mud of the streams. Never were the natives of the Mohie. cas so miserable as when the greatest quantities of spice were exported from those islands, for the profits went to the few proprietors of plantations, and their factors or middlemen, while the actual collectors of the spice received the most miscrable pittance, scarcely adequate for the mere support of life. Such is now the condition of the Irish peasant, and such it is the anxiety of Mr. W. S. O'Brien that the condition of the Irish peasant should continue. We, on the contrary, are anxious that the Irish producer should benefit by his produce. that the Irish farmer should retain a fair share of his crop, and that the Irish labourer should be adequately remunerated for his toil. We know that this cannot be done when labour is artificially fostered, and import artificially prevented; between both lies a fraudulent balance, a part of which is shared as spoil by the protectionists, and for the sake of this part they are not unwilling that the rest should be abstracted from the farmers and the farm labourers of Ireland.

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We are not surprised that the members of the Trades'-Union in Old Bond-street should fraternise with the members of the Trades'-Unions in Spitalfields; both are combinations, formed to secure unjust profits at the expense of the rest of the community, and both have wrought immense damage to the classes which they affect to protect. The unionists of Spitalfields, by their combinations to fix a high tariff of wages, have driven a large por tion of the silk trade from their locality w northern districts, and have rendered the Spitalfields weavers one of the most distressed classes in the metropolis; the competition by which they are crushed is not with Lyons and Paris, but with Manchester and Macclesfield; their meeting on Wednesday night was directed against manufacturers at home, rather than producers abroad, and the speeches for the most part were levelled against capitalists.

The protectionists of Old Bond street have entered into a combination to raise the price of food: the system of protection which they have established has proved as injurious to the farmers as the silk protection to the Spitalfields weavors; but they look to the rents which delusive pretances anable them to extort from agriculturists, as the leaders of trade-unions do to the subscriptions which they raise from their deluded dupes.

England now exports silk goods; but no export took place previous to the remotion of protection

The worst distress in Spitalfields was in the year 1816, when protection was at its highest. There is distress indeed now in Spitalfields; but it is caused by the perseverance of the operatives in an artificial system, which places them at a sad disadvantage in competing with the productions of the North of England. It is one of the illustrations of Colonel Thompson's aphorism, that "all protection means robbing somebody else." The real complaint is not against the competition of foreigners, but of their own countrymen.

Have the Spitalfield weavers flourished under the system of protection? The records of distress in the metropolis abundantly prove that they have not. Thevery petition adopted by these dupes of the pro tectionists on Wednosday night declares that their wages are decreasing, and the rental of their mise-

rable hovels increasing.

We have so often exposed the miserable absurdity of connecting cheap bread with low wages, that we fear to weary the patience of our readers by returning to the subject. But we should like to ask some of the Spitalfield orators whether the amount of silk goods consumed in years of abundance does not vastly exceed the amount consumed in years of scarcity? The reason is obvious; the more that families have to spend in the purchase of necessary food, the less they will have to spare in the purchase of necessary clothing. Neither cheap food nor dear food arms master-manufacturers with the powers of oppression, nor with any powers whatever; the relations between the employers and employed are determined by the proportions between demand and supply in the labour market. "When two masters are looking for one man wages will be high,-when two men are looking for one master wages will be low." The only way in which operatives can obtain an increase of wages is by the extension of trade and the consequent increase of a demand for labour. In proteeted trades there is generally found a hopeless and perverse system of endeavouring to maintain a high rate of wages by limiting the supply of labour and dictating to the manufacturers the conditions of employment.

If the proposed reductions of the tariff were likely to be injurious to the silk trade generally, we should find the manufacturers foremost in resisting the change; they have most capital vested in the trade, and they have, therefore, the deepest interest in its conservation. There is something suspicious in a demand for protection coming exclusively from those who have the least staked on the issue. But without dwelling on the circumstances of suspicion which attach to the meeting, we think that a very little reflection will convince the weavers themselves that the protection on silk has been the bane of their industrial pursuits. They have not pros pered under the system; they have not kept up the rate of wages to which they laid claim; their trade is uncertain, fluctuating, and precarious, and they would not be better if a yard of foreign silk inever came into the English market.

It is imposssible to protect a trade. If foreign competition be prohibited, domestic competition is invited. If the manufacturors realise high profits, they will soon find themselves surrounded by rivals in a land where means of investment are so eagerly sought for redundant capital, as in England. If weavers obtain unnaturally high wages for a brief period, they run the risk of having them brought unnaturally low by the number of new hands on

ticed into the weaving trade. They cannot prevent this result by sticks, strikes, and combinations. There is no law, and there could be no law, to confine the silk trade to any particular locality. If combinations intercept the fair gains of the capitalist on the banks of the Thames, there is nothing

to prevent him forming an establishment on the banks of the Mersey or the Shannon. This is the precise error into which the Spitalfield protection. ists have fallen; to prevent foreign competition, which they have no reason to dread, they are trying to encourage domestic competition which they are

utterly unable to resist.

Bra R. Prest's Communical Schming

THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

The Council have, we believe, determined upon advertising upon a somewhat extensive scale the promised subscriptions to the Longue Fund, and to continuo the same at intervals, in order to show the progress of the fund towards completion. To do this offectually, they seek the assistance of the local committees and treasurers, who have been requested to send a list of all the subscribers up to the present period, and to continue the same from time to time till all have appeared.

These lists, it may be well to state, are to contain only the gross amounts promised, and have no reference whatever to the instalments, which should be forwarded separately.

A few additions to the list of treasurers have been made since last we published it, which we

Andover—James Baker, Esq., Prospect House. Ashton-under-Lyne—Thomas Mason, Esq. Aylesbury—J. P. R. Payne, Esq. Almwick—Thos. Duneau, Esq. Ayı—J.Kinross, Esq. Annan—Alex, Dounie, Esq. Amershand—E. West, Esq. Beaminster—Mr. Jos. Tite, Clenham Mill. Bath—Admiral Gordon, R.N., Nelson-place, Norfolk-cres-Barnsley—J. S. Parkinson, Esq., Linen manufacturor. Belper—Mr. J. W. Hancock. Bromsgrove—W. A. Greening, Esq. Bridgewater—William Browne, Esq. Burton on-Trent—J. N. Hanson, Esq. Bristol-George Thomas, Esq., Great George street, street. Burnley-Geo. Holgate, Fisq., jun. Bridport—J. P. Stephens, Esq. Barnard Castle—Mr. Wm. Raine, Horse Market. Brighton—Isaac Gray Bass, Esq.

Bury—James Kay, Esq., woollen manufacturer. Boston-Mr. Robert Stevenson! Cleckheaton—Geo. Anderton, Esq.
Clambridge—Class. Newby, Esq., 55, Regent-secot.
Cradition, Devon—Edward Davy, Esq.
Crayford, Kent—Henry Gould, Esq.
Carlisle—J. Forster, Esq., Caldewgate.
Colne—Mr. T. T. England.

Carmarthen—Henry Norton, Esq. Chapel-en-le-Frith—J. Carrington, Esq,

Congleton—J. Broadhurst, Esq., Carnaryon—William Turner, Esq., jun. Devonport—Samuel Oram, Esq., Market street, Dundee—Edward Baxter, Esq. Doncaster-Mr. Robert Milner. Dunbar-James Wilson, Esq., Belhaven.

Dartmouth-Nonh Clift, Esq. Darlaston-Churles Green, Esq.

Dunfermline-Mr. R. Robertson, Draper. Edinburgh-Messrs. Arch. Thomson and Co., 255, High-

Exeter—Mr. Samuel Maunder. Eynsford, Kent—Mr. H. Rogers. Falkirk—John Smith, Esq., Writer. Forfur—Mr. Wm. Sturrock. Gateshead—Geo. Crawshay, Esq. Garstang—Dr. Bell, Chapel street. Glossop—John Kershaw, Esq.
Glossop—John Kershaw, Esq.
Gloucester—Samuel Bowly, Esq.
Horsham—James Agate, Esq., North Parado.
Halifax—Mr. Thomas Denton, Old Market.
Hinckley—Mr. Thos. Payne.
Holywell—Thos. Mather, Esq., Glyn Abbot.
Hastings—Mr. Thos. Ross, Jun.

Hastings—Mr. Thos. Ross, Jun.
Hazel Grove—Mr. T. Wharmby
Huddersfield—Foster Shaw, Esq.
Hawick, N.B.—Mr. George Easton.
Idle, near Bradford, Yorkshire—Mr. Wm. Russell.
Inverness—Donald Frazor, Esq., jun.
Jedburgh—Geo. Hilson, Esq., Manufacturer.
Kondal—Geo. Charnley, Esq.
Kelso—Mr. Alexander Dodds, Grocer.
Knarosborough—Mr. Thos. Addyman, High-street.
Keighley—J. Orayen, Esq., worsted spinner.

Keighley-J. Craven, Esq., worsted spinner. Kirkaldy-Mr. Robt. Bryson.

London—A. W. Paulton, Esq., at the offices of the Longue 67, Fleet street.

Luton—James Waller, Esq., merchant.
Luton—James Waller, Esq., merchant.
Leek—Thos. Birch, Esq.
Lancaster—George Jackson, Esq.
Lelcester—J. D. Harris, Esq.
Leighton Buzzard—Thomas Price, Esq., Newtown.
Leominster—Mr. J. V. Chilcott.
Landart & Mr. Thom Bees.

Leominater—Mr. J. V. Chilcott.
Landport, &c.—Mr. Thos. Ross.
Lichfield—Dr. Rowley, M.D.
Liverpool—Jas. Mullineaux, Esq., John Taylor Crook, Esq.
Leeds—Samuel Birchall, Esq., woolstapler.
Maesteg, near Bridgend, Glamorganshire—Mr. Jos. Crayne.
Manchester—Mr. James Jones, at the offices of the League,

b, Newall's-buildings, Market-street.

Maidenhaad—Mr. Thomas Woodcock, draper.

Maidstone—Richard Nelmes, Esq., 100, Week street.

Maidston—G. W. Digby, Esq.

Middleton, near Manchester—Mr. Daniel Burton.

Mottrain—Mr. Sanii. Olübam.

Nawcastle-upon Tyne—George Crawshay, Esq., and Mr. Daulel Liddell, Carliol-street.
Nantwich—Mr. Phillip Barker.

Nantwich—Mr. Philip Barker.
Newcasqle-under Lyne—Mr. Elias Shaw.
New Mills—John Yates, Esq.
Olinam—John Platt, Esq., Hartford Ironworks.
Olinam—John Platt, Esq., Hartford Ironworks.
Olinatt, near Wateslad—Mr. Frank Fearnsillo.
Polle—G. R. Panney, Esq.
Pondered:—Mr. W. Killä. news agent.
Panaletti Mr. W. Killä. news agent.
Panaletti Mr. M. Riderlar.
Proportion Mr. M. Martiar.
Proportion Mr. M. Martiar.
Proportion Mr. M. Martiar.
Proportion Mr. Memory Boot., 57, Queen-street.

Salisbury—Ino. Lambert, Esq. Sevenoaks, Kent—John Clark, Esq. St. Columb—Mr. W. Brown, 3, Fuir-street. Scarborough—Isaac Stickney. Esq. Sheffield—William Hargreaves, Esq., Merchant. Bkipton-J. B. Dewhurst, Esq. Southport—Richard Johnson, Esq. Stockport—Mr. J. Heginbotham, Millgate. Sirhowy, Monmouthshire—Roy. Richard Jones. South Bhields—Mr. James Bell.
Stourbridge—Mr. E. Baylie.
Strood—Mr. John S. Cobb.
Swafflam and West Norfolk—Arthur Morse, Esq., Swaff-

Swansca---Mr. Joseph Rutter. Stroud -Mr. T. Parsons. Stirling, Robert Smith, Esq. Sunderland—Mr. Edward C. Robson, Frederic street,

Bishopwearmouth, Shepton Mallett-W. Richardson, Esq., Woodbourne Cot-

tage. Staleybridge—Henry Bayley, Esq. Sudbury—Colonel Addison. St. Austell—The Rev. Jns. Cope. Todmordon-W. Haworth, Esq., North View. Tewkesbury -- Mr. Benjamin Hurris. Thetford -- Mr. Henry Brown Warminster—Mr. H. Bastings Wednesbury—Benjamin Round, Esq. Warcham—J. Pike, Esq., Merchant, Wostbury—N. Overbury, Esq.

Wigan—Thomas Taylor, Ess_b, Spinner, and Mr. Thomas Wall, Bookseller. Wirksworth-Mr. B. Street, White Lion 1nn. Wakefield-Charles Morton, Esq., Whitwood Colliery.

Whitehurch-Mr. Richard Thomas. Weymouth-Mr. Charles Pope. Westbromwich—I. Spittle, Esq. Wolverhampton—Honry Walker, Lsq. York—Thomas Swalos, Esq., Lawrence street. Yarmouth -Mr. Jno. Fish, Denes.

The following address has been sent to the Chairman of the League by the Economic Society of Paris, a body which includes many of the leading philosophers and philanthropists of France. We may well be proud of the sympathy and approbation of such a body, and we may also form well grounded hopes that its labours will procipitate the downfall of Continental monopolies.

THE ECONOMICAL SOCIETY OF PARIS TO THE PRESIDENT AND ORATORS OF THE ENGLISH LEAGUE FOR THE GENERAL FREEDOM OF TRADE.

GENTLEMEN,-The Economic Society, which shares the truly social, sentiments by which your League has shown itself to be animated, which has several times manifested a lively and legitimate interest in your labours, and which watches with eager and ardent attention all the phases of the great struggle in which you have engaged, deems it right to address to you directly, through the medium of its President and principal leaders, its thanksyits congratulations, and its well grounded encouragements.

Our society, gentlemen, believes that it forms a just appreciation of the end proposed by the League, - the means it employs to obtain its objects, and the results that may reasonably be expected from success when it regards that end, those means, and those results, as equally worthy of the warmest approbation.

There is not in your agitation, as you have often ex plained, the struggle of one envious and avaricious branch of industry against another branch of industry. You began by abandoning for yourselves all participation in the iniquitous system of that monopoly, the abolition of which you sought. You directed your attack against the protection accorded to the landed interest, because the chief strength lies there, it being the bond which unites and conserves all other monepolics; and because you hope, by destroying the key-stone of the system, that the rest of the edifice will crumble to ruin ccord. You desire perfect freedom you begin by offering it to all, and demanding it from none. You propose to set the example. You do so, doubtless, with the hope that you will be imitated, but without demanding or waiting for reciprocity. May God inspire and aid you in your enterprise; may His providence guide you to a prosperous termination! You must in a fast-approaching future obtain the gratitude both of your fellow-citizens and of the civilised world. You will have accomplished what nothing olse has been able to effect, free commercial relations between all the nations of the earth; and the mitual interests thus created will annihilate the last vestiges of those international jcalousies and animosities which religion and philosophy linve hitherto failed to destroy.

The measures you have adopted for obtaining this ohject appear to us not less worthy of approbation than the object itself. You have adopted the course that should always be adopted in effecting great changes when it is desirable that they should be permanent. You have abstained from all violence of passion, and from all puerile impatience. You have won your way by fair discussion, and have advanced in proportion to the progress that your arguments have made in the public mind. In asking your Government to realise the great reform that you contemplate, you have not pressed it to grant its indispensable concurrence until you had secured for it the support of public opinion, which is always the stronger in proportion to the care bestowed upon instruction, and the discretion with which conviction is spened. Buch a course assuredly holds out an illustrious

example, calculated to ensure a happy futurity, and to which it seems to us very difficult to refuse homage.

Finally, gentlemen, we have a deep sense of the results which a course of conduct so firm and so prudent must render inevitable. We believe with you, that in proportion as the principles of freedom enter more deeply into the relations se foreign commerce, it will produce among nations a divisice of labour more and more intelligent, and more Normal -that is to say, more and more in accordance with the special conditions of each; that capital will be distributed by its natural laws; that production will be more fruitful because it will be better organised; that increased produc. tion will lead to increased consumption; that the distribution of the products of industry will be more equitable; and the peace of the world infinitely better accured.

We are auxious to communicate to you, gentlemen, the lively sympathy which the operations of the League have begun to produce in France, and our society cannot longer delay in transmitting to you, with the warmest expression of its sentiments towards you, its immovable adhesion to the economic doctrines which you continue to diffuse with a perseverance so rare, an activity so astonishing, and a generosity so well calculated to excite the gratitude of every other Indion.

We entreat you, gentlemen, to accept the homage of our sentiments, and the assurance of our high and affectionate consideration.

> Signed, on behalf of the Society, CHARLES DUNOYER, Member of the Institute, and Acting President; HORACE SAY, JOSEPH GARNIER.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE PREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE BESSION OF 1846.

Third Week, ending Saturday, February 7.

Repose has been the characteristic of the past week in Parliament. There was an adjournment of both Houses from Thursday week till Monday; and on Monday each House disposed of its business briefly. In the House of Lords Lord Monteagle asked the Government if they were willing to produce a copy of the report on the tariff of the United States, and on fiscal regulation generally, by Mr. Walker, the Secretary of the United States' Treasury. The Earl of Aberdeen said that the request was an unusual one, but that, as a copy of the document in question had been furnished to them, and as it was a very remarkable one, well deserving the attention of their lordships, it would be laid on the table of the House. | The attention of the readers of THE LEAGUE has been already called to this document.]

On Monday, in the House of Commons, Mr. Bright, without observation, moved for, and obtained, the reappointment of the select committee on the game

Sir Robert Peel, on Tuesday, stated the nature of the reduction which is proposed to be effected in the Timber Duties -- a statement which he had postponed, when he made his speech on Tuesday week, expounding the general plans of the Government. The following is the Government proposition:

Sir Robert Pert.—We propose, sir, to make, ultimately, a reduction in the differential duties upon foreign timber, so that the duty shall remain, after the reduction has been effeeted, at 15s. instead of the present amount. On hown timber the duty is at present 25s. We propose to reduce it to But with the view of insuring to the consumer as much benefit as possible from the proposed reduction, we shall effect it in the manner I am about to explain. With regard to timber from the Baltic -in consequence of the very great demand for it, we do not propose that the reduction shall be immediate. We propose that it shall commence on the 5th of April, 1817, considering that period as one most suitable. We propose that on the 5th April, 1847, the duty shall be reduced to 5s, and on the 5th April, 1848, we propose to reduce it by another bs. Sawn timber we propose to reduce by 6s. on the 5th of April, 1847, and by 6s. on the 5th of April, 1819/ With respect to the small timber, such as laths, spars, and other sorts, we propose to make a proportionate reduction; but whother or not the reduction, having regard to the interest of the consumer, should be immediate, is a subject for consideration. Whether it should be effect ed without any more gradual reduction, we should wish to reserve for further opinions, as it may be a question whether the reduction might not be absolutely made on the 5th April,

On the same evening, Tuesday, the subjects of monopoly, Free Trade, tariffs, and other topics, were revived lo Mr. Wonenousk, well known as a not inactive member on the protectionist side, but latterly made a little famous by announcing to the "House of Richmond," at 17, Bond Street, that he would meet and defeat Mr. Cobden, at Norwich, and then, on the appointed day, coming to the field, but declining the contest. Mr. Wodehouse has the air of a respectable country gentleman, and certainly, in manners, address, and style of speaking, is fur superior to the more Squire-

legal profession, a man of ability, who was one of the assistant commissioners appointed to enquire into the condition of the hand-loom weavers in 1838, and who, in 1843, was appointed by Lord Stanley Chief Judge of the Supreme Court at Wellington, New Zealand. In his reports on the condition of the hand-loom weavers, Mr. Chapman adduced some striking illustrations of the effects of restrictive laws on the condition of the humblest and most depressed portions of the working classes. Mr. Wodehouse read extracts from Mr. Chapman's reports, and, seeing that about three years ago the assistant commissioner had been made a colonial judge, he gravely drew the conclusion "that the Government of this country had deliberately entered into a league with the League. (Laughter and cheers.) He repeated it advisedly, that the Government appeared to have formed a league with the League-(great laughter) -in a manner as, if they were indifferent to the future prospects of the land."

This silly nonsense was the reason assigned by Mr. Wodehouse for the production of a copy of the warrant under which Mr. Chapman had been appointed to his office. But this was not enough. Mr. Wodehorse passed on from Free Trade, tariffs, and so forth, to as paltry a personal allusion to Dr. Bowring as can well be imagined. Here is a portion of a Parliamentary speech by an intelligent agricultural member! Alluding to Dr. Bowring, Mr. Wodehouse said :

" That hon, gentleman had played a distinguished part in Egypt; but he (Mr. Wodshonse) had received information upon that subject, as to the appearance of the honourable gentleman when there. The interpreter could hardly keep from laughing. He (Mr. Wodehouse) had the information from a source on which he could implicitly rely. It was from a friend—from a particular friend—a person on whom reliance could be placed. The friend was a lady (laughter)—a married lady (rours of laughter)—a lady whom he was in the habit of—(the conclusion of the sentence was drowned in the torrent of laughter which it brought down). She was not an actual eye-witness (great laughter), but there could be no doubt of the authenticity of the information; and she assured him (Mr. Wodehouse) that those who saw the learned gentleman now in every-day life beheld him shorn of his beams. (Laughter.) If honourable gentlemen had only seen him as she saw him (shouts of laughter), with a large straw hat, nearly as big as the clerk's table, a full flowing beard and moustaches (laughter), and, for the best was me, with a pair of wide Circussian trousers"—(great laughter, which again prevented the conclusion of the sentence from being heard).

If this be the style in which protection is to be defended next week, we may say of the protectionists, as the bragging Frenchman, in Henry the Fifth, says of the English at Agincourt, before the battle had begun-"Foolish curs! that run winking into the mouth of a Russian bear, and have their heads crushed like rotten apples; you may as well say, that's a valiant flea that dare eat his breakfast on the lip of a lion."

Dr. Bowring was not in the least disturbed by the personal allusion of the protector of home-grown barley. He replied, not only good-humouredly, but sensibly, in the following way:

Dr. Bowning might perhaps be allowed to say a few words, as the honourable member had done him the honour to make a direct personal allusion to him. In the first place he would inform the honourable member that the lady he had mentioned had practised greatly on his credulity; she had been very desirous to try the effect of an Oriental tale upon him, and, as ladies usually do, had perfectly succeeded. (Hear, hear.) The honourable member had swallowed the whole of her narrative without the slightest difficulty or hesitation. He (Dr. Bowring), when in Egypt, had been honoured with several interviews by the Pacha, and had had a long controversy with him on the subject of the Corn Laws, the Pacha arguing with rather more power and sagacity than even the honourable member. He fancied that he could provide food for his people by Corn Laws, but, as in this country, they had exposed his Government to great inconvenieuce. While at Cairo as commercial commissioner, he (Dr. Bowring) had received communications from various parties who wished him to use his influence with the Pacha, who had issued a decree against selling corn at more than a certain price. In the course of the friendly intercourse with which he had been honoured, he had represented to the Pacha the impolicy of this decree, and had told him that it was likely to produce extensive and enduring distress. His delikely to produce extensive and enduring distress. His decree was against selling wheat and beans at above a fixed price in the bazaars, and against selling bread at above a certain price in the shops. The consequence was that the producers of wheat refused to bring it to market, and the bakers refused to make or sell bread. Thus the inhabitants of Cairo were exposed to the danger of famine; but he (Dr. Bowring) had had the good fortune to convince the Pachs that his averent was injurious and untenable, and he there. that his system was injurious and untonable, and he therefore issued a counter-decree, declaring that the export and import of grain should be free. (Cheers.) The effects in Egypt had been what they would be in England, and he (Dr. Bowring) received thanks for the advice he had given. The honourable member had also referred to his (Dr Bowring's) reports, and he had no doubt that if then his recommendations could have been adopted, and the Corn Laws repealed, as they were now sure to be, patronised as the cause was, the result would have been the opening of a new and wide field for British manufactures in the north of Europe. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He had been commissioned to ascertain the disposition of northern states. but Government had then no power to diminish restriction on the free importation of corn. (Hear, hear, hear.) Had they been able to relax the system our commercial Westerns of the House. Yet one was puzzled to see the precise drift of his aimless motion of Tuesday night. It was a more piece of very foolish absurdity. There is a gentleman of the name of Chapman, a member of the became Great Britain to lead the way and set the example,

leaving others to follow it. When abroad, urging this risciple, he had been met by the statement that Great Britis ought to heal her own diseases before she called upon other to heal theirs—she ought to reform her own tariff before the oulled upon other nations to reform their tariffs. This are ment he had not then been able to answer; but by the meaning adopted by the right honourable baronet an interest west be created throughout the world in favour of British many. factures, of which we should soon feel the benefit. (Cheen, He begged to tender to the right hon. baronet his most grateful thanks; it was impossible to value the amound advantage Great Britain would derive from the removal of prohibitions and the repeal of restrictions. She was now taking the position she ought to hold in the eyes of the work that of a teacher; and she would soon find numerous and willing pupils. (Cheers.)

No farther discussion took place; and the House agreed to give Mr. Wodehouse the documents he asked

Some remarkable changes have taken place in the House of Commons, and the "Stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds" has been in great request. Protection. ist members converted to Sir Robert Peel's Free Trade views, and yet, feeling the restraint of their monopolis pledges, have been busy resigning their soats. Of course, the render is aware that a member cannot directly resign the trust of a representative. If he wishes to retire, he must accept some place of honour under the crown; and, for this purpose, the stewardship of the Chilten Hundreds is retained in the gift of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for the purpose of facilitating the disburdenment of Purliamentary obligation.

Sir Thomas Fremantle, the Chief Secretary for Inland, has resigned for Buckingham. Lord Arthur Lennox, brother of the Duke of Richmond, and a Lord of the Treasury, has resigned for Chichester. Lord Jocelyn, the eldest son of the Earl of Roden, and Secretary to the Board of Control, has resigned for Lynn, Mr. Gladstone, the Secretary for the Colonies, has not yet got a sent in lieu of Newark, and Lord John Manners offers his resignation, as does Mr. Mainwaring, for Denbigh. Lord Lincoln, the eldest son of the Duke of Newcastle, and Chief of the Woods and Forests, refuse to resign for Nottinghamshire. Lord Ashley has asked for a re-election, or a dismissal from his constituents in Dorsetshire; and the Hon. Francis Charteris, who moved the Address at the commencement of 1845, has made a similar appeal to his constituency of East Gloucestershire. All these are Converts; it remains to be seen what progress has been made in the conversion of constituencies. The Hon. Mr. Dawnay has retired from Rutland, and a protectionist takes his place.

THE PUBLIC PRESS AND THE MINIS TERIAL MEASURES.

Had our limits permitted, we should have added considerably to the following series of extracts, taken indiscriminately from the liberal and leading portion of the public press, as we think it of supreme importance, in a crisis like this, to exhibit to our readers, at one view, the general tendency and tone of the various local representatives of the public mind; those, however, which we have given will suffice to manifest the sense of the nation on Sir I. Peel's measure.

(From the Leeds Mercury.) The Free Trade plant, grafted on a foreign stock, has shot forth such a growth, that we may almost characterise it by the sublime description of the tree in Nebuchadnezrars vision-"The tree grew, and was strong; and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the eight thereof to the end of all the earth; the leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heavendwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it." So com-prehensive and far-reaching, so beautiful and beneficent. sheltering and fruitful, do we deem those principles of Free Trade which Sir Robert Peel has seized upon, and which "with ambitious aim," to immortalise himself, he has here carried out to an unparalleled extent.

"Protection" is becoming "small by degrees and besut-fully less" in the hands of Sir Robert Peel. Arguing the necessity of amputating this diseased member of the body fiscal, he lacks nerve to remove it at once. To use Mr. Bright's apt and amusing illustration, he prefers cutting of the dogs tail by inches.

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Let us not be misunderstood. We accept Sir Rober's of the good cause, both in and out of Parliament, will re double their efforts for immediate repeal. If the President should prove obdurate, they will still have the alternative which he now and the state of the st which he now proffers, and may then embrace it with a clear conscience.

Shall this repeal of the Corn Law be gradual or inner diste? This is a question which just now demands the diste? This is a question which just now demands most serious consideration. The Corn Law is given by the Premier. But what he is unable to defend the manent law, he yet proposes, shell he continued the years. It is not pretended that the country representations of the proposes of

abolished without any preparatory measures. The Premier's object is, then, to conciliate the landed interest. This the delay has failed to do. The Duke of Richmond declares that immediate abolition would be less mischievous than the ministerial scheme. Yet if it was meant to please anybody, the Duke must have been the man. Again, the Free Traders agree in regarding the delay as the only thing which the country has to fear. Mr. Cobden puts the matter in a very clear light as regards the farmer, in the admirable letter we insert in another column; and the hon, gentleman's view has been taken by Earl Grey, Lord Kinnaird, and Lord Monteagle, and by the friends of Free Trade generally. Neither the protectionists nor the League being satisfied with this part of the plan, it is just possible that the Premier may be induced to abandon it for a more final step. This no doubt depends upon the extent to which the people respend to the League's call for petitions.

(From the Bradford Observer.)

The above is an outline of Sir Robert Peel's great measure. We repeat, it is greater than could reasonably have been ex peccel from him, though short of what has been demanded, and justly, by the League. It will in all probability be furiously opposed by the protectionists, and therefore we trust it will receive the cordial support of the Free Trader as a great instalment of their demands. The fact that it embraces total repeal is its best recommendation; and though we should far rather have had that repeal immediately than three years hence, yet the difference in point of time is more apparent than real: years in a nation's affairs are less than days in those of an individual. Far rather would we have a repeal of the Corn Laws at the end of three years even with no abatement of the present duty, than the imposition of a fixed duty of but half-a-crown at present, with the prospect of its being a fixture. And in mercy to the fallen protectionists, let us give them these odd peuce for the three We shall soon be quit of them. As the Times remarks, "For this short remainder England will be fit for dukes to live in, and they will have time to arrange their affairs before they set out on their long and melancholy exile from the land of cursed abundance.

(From the Preston Guardian)
To show the great difference between the proposed scale of duties and the one now in operation, we subjoin the fol-lowing tabular comparison, as respects wheat:

Present Proposed Average 208. h0g. 208. 88. 19a. bls. • • • • • • • • JNs. 68. Dis. 188. 53s. 5s.

The reader will at once perceive the great diminution of taxation upon the nation's food which the new measure will effect; and when he considers also that in three years from the present time, even this diminished taxation must disappear before the pledged and total repeal of the Corn Laws we feel certain that he will sympathise with us in our congratulations upon the present approximation to, and prospective consummation of Free Trade principles.

It may here be asked whether Sir Robert's new scheme will anticipate the necessity for further agitation on the part of the League. We think not. That body has yet a duty to perform, to which it stands pledged before the world. It must yet see that perfectly Free Trade is attained for the people—if not before the expiration of the three years during which the new scale is to continue, at least immediately again the expiration of that term. We know that the Income Tax was imposed for three years only, and yet we now find it renewed for another period, with the probability of a permanent imposition. The pledge of the Premier is but as a promissory note to the nation, which he may or may not take up when it falls due, and the nation must now see to it that the engagement is scrupulously and unreservedly honoured.

(From the Carlisle Journal,)

Sir Robert Peel has lost little time in announcing his measures to the country. He has commenced the work like a man in carnest, and we doubt not he will carry his labours to a successful close. The proposition he laid before Par-liament on Tuesday night is of a "mingled yarn," varying in its colours, but good in its general effect. There is a mixture of boldness and timidity in it; a dash of the desperado, and a whine of the snoak, that are at least curious to behold. He deals boldly with principles; presents correct views, but fails to act up to what are evidently his own notions of right. He shows what should be done, but admits he has not the heart to do it.

While we say this, however, of the general bearing of his an, we must admit that a broader, a bolder, or a more sweeping measure, one more clearly founded in justice, or better calculated to most the wants of the times, has rarely been broached by any minister in this country. It is a declaration of rights, marred only by timidity and want of self-

The great object of the measure is a total and immediate repeal of the present Corn Law. But here the timidity of which we have spoken is most conspicuously displayed. For the present law a new sliding scale is to be substituted to last for three years; and that again is to be superseded by a total repeal of all duty whatever!—except such nominal sum as may serve to record quantities at the Custom House. This is the blot on the measure. The repeal is to be total—it ought to have been immediate; for more injury will accrue to the farmer by the uncortainty which this three years' probation will produce, by the fears and alarms it will create, by the fears and alarms it will create, by the fears and alarms it will create, by the false rumours of an inundation of foreign corn and consequent ruin, to which the interested will give currency, than if repeal had come without notice at all. The worst would than have been because and it would soon would then have been known at once; and it would soon have been found, as in the case of cattle, that "the worst" was by no means so terrible a thing as the imagination had

(From the Cheltenham Free Press.)

Well, we will not quarred with him as to the mode in which his has introduced the measure. Suffice it for us to know that the Conservative Government of this country has proposed to Parliament and determined to carry out the abolities of the restrictive system and the adoption of Free Trade principles in its fatton commercial policy. Although I. propose a completely continued of protection, said Sir-

Robert, " yet I do propose that the bill shall include a distinet enactment that after the lapse of a certain time, foreign grain shall be admitted duty free.'
Ohd words of four-

Displeasing to a landlord's oar!
And is this the end of all the Tory boasting at the advent
of Sir Robert Peel to power when Lord John Russell proposed an eight shilling fixed duty and failed to carry it. The
work was only delayed that it might be done the more effectually-that the public mind might be more fully matured upon the subject. For this abandonment of "protection, he landlord class, headed by the duke of Richmond, brand Peel as a "traitor" and talk of turning him out of power. Why, if they could succeed in such an attempt, it would be the worst day's work they over accomplished. Do they imagine that if this mode of settling the question is refused, the people of England will be induced to rest satisfied with anything short of a total and immediate repeal? If they do they must be infutuated indeed. It is all very well for the landowners to attribute the popular feeling against the Corn Laws to the "machinations" of the League, but they cannot got rid of the fact that a popular and enlightened feeling gainst the Corn Laws does exist throughout the masses of the country.

(From the Economist.)
The speech of Sir Robert Peel has not disappointed us. The Right Hon. Bart. has frankly avowed an entire change of opinion. He remains at the helm of the State, but refuses to navigate it by "observations taken in 1812." He defers to the new light which argument and, above all, experience have thrown around these subjects; and that is not the least gratifying part of the Minister's speech, in which he cuters into a recital of his own observations of passing events, and the facts connected with our social, commercial, and economical condition, on which his new convictions have been formed. Whatever be the precise measure proposed by Sir Robert Peel on Tuesday next, we are now certain that it will at least contemplate the entire ultimate repeal of the protective laws. The old principle of protection is for ever abandoned; the new principle of free competition is embraced as the basis of all future legislation. It is, however, essential that the country should not under estimate the difficulties which will be encountered before the intentions of the Minister can be hoped to be realised. By the concluding paragraph of Lord John Russell's letter addressed to her Majesty, we are led to infer that his support will be given to such a measure as Sir Robert Peel intended originally to propose, though in one respect it differed from that which the noble lord would him self have proposed. In respect to the difference in ques tion, whether the measure should be "immediate" gradual," we have already fully expressed our opinions. But suppose that it be so good a measure, that while the Free Trade party record their votes for an immediate repeal of the law, they will still support the plan of the government then we take it for granted that it will pass the House of Commons by a considerable majority. But then comes its difficulty-addifficulty which, we regret to say, our observation during the last few days has rather tended to magnify than diminish. Our fears that such a measure as the House of Commons will pass, will not be accepted by the House of Lords, have rather increased than diminished. And, moreover, the grounds on which the determination of the Lords appear to be based, are such as are not likely to be removed should even a greater majority of the House of Commons support the measure than is at present expected. It is contended, that it would be a dangerous and unwise course for the House of Lords to place themselves in opposition to a large majority of the House of Commons. This is admitted -admitted frankly by many of the noble lords, who are never-theless determined to oppose this measure. For, say they, this House of Commons does not represent the country; it was elected five years ago, on principles directly the opposite of those on which it now seeks to act. It might be impolitic—it might be unwise for us to oppose a large majority of the nation; but we deny that such a decision of the present Parliament can be taken as the true exponent of public opinion. Dissolve the Parliament; let the people declare their opinion; and if a new Parliament shall confirm the decision of the Government, it will only then be just to expect us to yield our own opinions and views, and adopt the decision of the House of Commons.

(From the Dublin Pilot.)

There is evidence of a change of feeling in England on these measures. The Chronicle regards them with less favour, and the cry is becoming louder for a total and immediate repeal. A very remarkable letter has been published by Mr. Cobden, in which he exhibits the mischicyous tendency of the sliding principle still adhered to by the Premier.

* * * * * Ou the whole we think the Premier's position is becoming more critical. There does not appear as great a probability of a decided majority as there was, and if the majority he not decided there can be little doubt that the Lords will resist, and force on a dissolution of Parliament. Our letters assert that the expectation of a dissolution was stronger in London on Saturday than previously.

(From the Hull Advertiser.)

In the earnest hope that the landlords will see the importance of giving up the Corn Laws, now that their doom is irrevocable, and that the shred of remaining protection can be of no roal benefit to them, we unhesitatingly approve of the Premier's grand and comprehensive scheme; and we trust that meetings will generally be held to support the policy of the Government. Bir Robert Peel has consigned to the tomb of "all the Capulets," to know no future resurrection, the time honoured and respectable fallacy of reciprocity. In fact, during the last seven years, the League has had no more zealous disciple than the Right Hon, Baronet. Well; we predicted that it would be so. At the list public meeting in the Town Hall of Hull, we stated then our solitary, but not the less our firm, conviction that Sir Hobert Peel would repeal the Corn Laws, and that there was not a more decided Free Trader in the House of Commons. It is no longer doubtful that we neither deceived ourselves nor the public. Froe Trade, not only in corn, but in all the products of the earth, and of human industry, is now the policy of the Peel administration. It is for the country to ratify by its cordial approval, as we have no doubt it will do, the excellent scheme of Free Trade policy, so ably, so completely, and rodistinctly propounded by the Right Hon, the First Lord of the Treasury.

(From the Maidstone Gazette.)
The question now comes, whether the scheme may not be amended; so as to suivine interests of both parties better then

at present? The Pree Traders complain that the question will still remain unsettled for three years; and a letter of most sound, and, as it scoms to us, conclusive reasoning (which appears in another column,) has been addressed by Mr. Cobden to the tenant farmers of England; in which that gentleman contends that Free Trade at once would be better for the farmer himself, than Sir Robert's scheme of three

years' longer vexatious and anxious procrastination.
We feel convinced that Mr. Cobden is right, and we do hope that our agriculturists will not allow their feelings of common sense to be blinded to the force of the reasons which Mr. Cobdon adduces in support of that conclusion. For three years longer the farmer is to be kept in a state of paralysing apprehension. With total repeal at once, he would have a chance of making some improved arrange. ment, wherever such ought to be made, with his handlowl. He will be still in doubt during these three years as to what he ought to do, or ought not to do. He will be able to lay down no plan, because he cannot possibly know what diffi-oulty he may have to deal with in three years. Now, he knows what he has to contend with, and what calculations will enable him to meet it. He knows that, from this time, whatever change takes place must come on gradually, the foreign grower being altogether unprepared to take advantage of the chance.

(From the Glasgow Examiner.)

The blow is struck, and the death knell of monopoly reverberates throughout the strongholds of the protectionists! The Premier has declared himself a Free Trader in principle, and he anticipates the cortain and speedy triumph of that principle.

It is the easiest thing possible to find fault with a measure such as Sir Robert proposes—a measure which entirely revolutionises the whole political and commercial interests of the nation -but consurers should be aware that, com-pared with his knowledge of men and measures, theirs must, from their inferior facilities, be sufficiently scanty. far from supposing the ministerial scheme perfect. Formed chiefly by one who believes only in what he sees and individually experiences, the marvel is, not that it displays so much weakness, but so much strength. We deny not but the measure, had been bolder had the Premier proposed immediate abolition, without aught of his pultry compensation; but the state of the country, and its present position relative to foreign powers, make caution more meritorious than Those saying most regarding the paltriness of the compensation, seem not aware that the more paltry so much the better, if it prove a bait to greedy protectionists a bait which, while they are swallowing. Sir Robert drags them to land, and leaves them to splatter on unprotected soil.

(From the Sussex Advertiser.)

It is undoubtedly a large scheme, but it just falls short of ing a great one; and the more one contemplates it; valie provisions, the more one reflects on the power of these convictions which have wrought so wonderful a change in the views of the Premier, the more one is constrained to admit, that the mischievous symptoms of expedien y, which here and there may the beauty and brightness of the conception, are just those which show Sir Robert to be essentially emof the "video, meliora proboque, deteriora sequor" selicol.

The blot on the scutcheon is the miscrable attempt to preserve an emasculated and attenuated sliding scale, too contemptible to be accepted by the protectionists as a beon, but fully mischievous enough to be rejected by the Free Praders. It has not even the doubtful medit of permanency. In every probability, under the circumstances which do and which must prevail for many months to come, this scale, as a sliding scale, will not even come into operation-it will, on the contrary, simply involve a fixed duty of 4s, per quarter, Viewing the present position of surrounding countries there is no prospect, may, hardly a possibility of any importation of foreign corn which could influence the English mark ts till after next October, and Peel's nursling, or as it might more truly be termed his starveling, would not come to life for months, even if it ever contrive to struggle into existence. For any good purpose it is powerless, but for bad it may prove all powerful.

(From the Norwich Mercury.)

In another part of our Journal, we have given both in summary and in detail, the entire plan; it is impossible not to admit that it is drawn with consummate skill, and with all that fact of which Sir Robert Peel is so perfect a master. But although we are ready to admit that upon the whole there is every appearance of a desire to do the agriculturist instice in the transfer of the local and other burthens we have noticed, and the reduction of the duties on various articles, we still look upon the continuance of the sliding scale, even for a short period, as the perpetuation of the descate, even for a short period, as the perpetuation of the de-lusion to which the farmer's have so long been a proy. It is a system which rests upon what Lord John Russell has called "a vicious basis," and in retaining this evil principle of the Corn Laws, Sir Robert has retained a portion, whose inefficiency, and worse than inefficiency, has been exhibited throughout all the phases of the Corn Law. Now, looking at the new scale proposed by Sir R. Peel, will any one be-lieve that it can be of the corn to the agriculturist. lieve that it can be of use as a protection to the agriculturist. Nay, does not Sir Robert Peel himself indicate throughout his ontire speech, that the tonant must look to increased production from highly improved cultivation of waste lands, and the labourer for increased employment rather than from any continuation of or even a probability of high prices. Why, then, except it were for an absurd wish to appear consistent, continue a system of delusion " more honoured in the breach than in the observance"—a delusion which must be injurious to the occupier, and is calculated to render the arrangements between landlord and tomant a matter of greater difficulty. Far better would it have been, in our humble opinion, to have proposed immediate repeal.

As a whole, however, the measure is one of an onlarged character; and although there he, in the compensating portions, evidence of a great love for small expedients, and a too nice halancing of alvantages, it is still worthy the calm consideration of the nation, whose flut will in the course of the next few days determine its doom. To all it is a matter of the deepest moment, and however differences may arise on some points, it is still a scheme which ought neither to be lightly, hastily, or inconsiderately opposed.

(From the Carnarvon and Denbigh Heral L.)

We are not, however, without fears. He tus not he misun-derstood. We have no fear for Lord John Russell. His supe-iority to mere party rivalry, has been often and magnant-

mously shown: nor should we fear much the dereliction to the encoles' camp of the the future members, if it were not for the madimus of presumed class and trade interests in some of their constituents. They must, we fear, make up their minds to stand not a little fire upon the occasion of their adhesion to the new tailf. The tariff touches upon too many interests to be received all at once, as it deserves. There are many men who cannot for the soul of thom recognize a principle when made to apply to their own case. There are thousands of men who, in one and the same breath, recognise the right of a Free Trade in corn, and every branch of trade—except the very branch in which they thomselves have been taught that there is some latent intorest and benefit in protection. It is in vain to reason with such men, for nothing is so blind us the selfishness of ignorance. Time, in this case, is the only teacher; but the presont crisis does not permit much time on the matter. Our Parliamentary members will soon be called upon to act; and we adjure them, one and all, to remember that their votes will be recorded on the page of history for ever, in culogy or m reprobation.

(From the Monmouthshire Merlin.)

The commencement of the present Session has been looked for with deeper interest among the millions than that of any for several years past, in consequence of there being better ground for expecting substantial changes in the commercial legislature of the country. Nor has this expectation been disappointed in the main; for, whatever deficiency may ap pear in the ministerial measures as compared with the various and, in many cases, unfounded anticipations which have prevailed, there is obviously set forth a more glorious amount of sterling good, as well as of promise for the future, in the opening of the present empire, than has been offered to the people of this kingdom for many years past. Tille Premier has holdly declared that all the grounds upon which protection to native industry had been advoested, are untemble; and in his comprehensive and gratifying exposition, has declared the final obliteration from the Statute Book, of the Corn Law, in three years.

(From the Oxford Chronicle.)

Our columns this week will excite no common interest in the minds of those of our readers who have not had access to the metropolitan journal). There can be no class which has not felt some degree of anxiety as to what would be the measure proposed by Sir Robert Peel to meet the present cases a crisis which he had felt to be of so abaraing and pressing a nature as to have induced him to surrender the high credentials with which he had been entrusted, into the bands of the Queen in December last. We are persuaded that there are many who will say that in the plan which the Premier has laid before Parliament and the country, he has not gone for enough; while a numerous party will say that he has gone too far. Taking the measure as a whole, per-bups it will not be denied that it is hold and discriminating, and a step in advance towards the great object for which the country has been agitating for the bast seven years.

+From the Dover Chromele.)

We have thus stated the impression to our readers which Sir R. Peel's new plan has made on us; and, in doing so, have somewhat entrenched on the usual space to which we in general circumscribe ourselves for a leading article. This the importance of the subject excuses. Although we are inclined, at present, to think favourably of the proposals submitted to the House on Tuesday night, we would call upon the League not to relax in their exertions as it regards the registration. It is not likely that " protection" can possibly be re-enacted, if the present measure pass; but the attempt may be made in the Parliament which, in the course of two Sears, must succeed the present one. For such an attempt the League must be prepared. The progress of their registration must not be checked till the arrival of the time when the food of the community shall be as free and bountiful as Providence will youchsafe.

(From the Whitehaven Herald.)

In the absence of information respecting the intentions of the great National Anti Corn Law League we seriously, entrestly, and solemnly call upon the Free Traders of our country to keep upon their watch tower—not to trust a vanquished for till he is beyond the power of doing harm. If agitation ceases the measure will as surely be burked in its passage through the house, or have a tider stuck upon it, which would have the same effect, as ever it was proposed. We would urge upon the Liberal readers of our columns to lose no time in petitioning Parliament for not only a total, but an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws.

(From the tinernsey Comet.)
The auxiously looked for announcement of the intention of Government, respecting the changes in the commercial policy of England, took place on Tuesday evening. The alterations proposed are great and important, and may be said to be the first great step towards the abandonment of protective duties. They have been received, generally speaking, with satisfaction.

(Franthe Norfolk News.)
Whatever may be thought of the Premier's new project; whatever of hope or of four may be excited by its vast design and its almost innumerable details-one thing is certain, Sir R. Pool is still himself. He has fulfilled in this respect the expectations, however much he may come short of the wishes of the country. Consistent in inconsistency, stendfast in ravolving, resolute in shirking principle, he adheres to the last to his wonted obliquities. Crab-like, he cannot go straight. He has an orle alsority in wriggling; or, to use a more noble simile, his progress is as retatory as that of

If I'ree Trade is so good a thing to the country; if it is to advance the progress of manufactures and the prosperity of agriculture; if it is to unite rival nations in the bond of brotherhood and peace; and all this Sir Robert Peal affirms, why should we for three long years be deprived of any part of such glorious results? If, as Sir Robert Peel declares, the present sliding scale be a follow, and a fixed duty be an intelerable unisance, why are we for three years to be saddled with a wretched impost, which—as if for the very purpose of uniting in itself the opposite mischless of a fixed duty, and of a sliding scale—is fixed at 10s, whenever the quarter of corn is worth less than tes., and at is. whenever the quarter is worth more than 5'ts., and which slides all the way between? If the quantity of food is fearfully soanty, as Bir Robert Peel profuses to believe, on what pretence are we called on to submit to any limit to an immediate supply?

(From the Wiltshire Independent.)

Well, the murder is out; Peel's new plan is before the public, and the farmers now know what they are to expect from their "friend." In three years the Corn Laws are to be entirely repealed; in the mountime the beloved slidingscale is to be maintained, but the slide itself is to be cut so short that it will only serve to annoy the public who may happen to step upon it, while it will full to afford those for whose use it was designed that advantage which they fancy is their right. Whether the Premier will be able to carry his proposition this session, is questionable; that he, or some one clee, will carry it, ere the year expire, we have un doubt. So far as it goes we approve of the plan; it is a bold move, and whoever may be disappointed we are not of the number. We expected less, therefore we cannot but be pleased with what is offered, however short it may full of what we demand. But will it satisfy either party? We think not. It gives the protectionist little more than a shadow, affording him scarcely any real advantage, while it annoys and harasses the Free Trador, who will still continue his agitation to get rid of the maisance before its now ap-pointed time shall arrive. Better far to have settled the business at once than to prolong an agitation which the protectionists themselves admit is worse to them than aught else that can happen.

(From the Liverpool Albion.)

The measures which Sir Robert Peel has proposed for the adoption of Parliament have taken the nation somewhat by surprise by their bold and comprehensive character, and certainly entitle him to the thanks of all who desire to see the commerce of the country free and unrestricted. This grati-tude, however, which arises rather from the feeling that the measures are brought forward by one all of whose previous career has been in an opposite direction, and from whose projudices and aristocratic predilections little was to be expected, must not blind us to the fact that, after all, practically, they are rather a recognition of the principles of Free Trade than a full and fair application of them. It is believed by all who have been actively engaged in the struggle that the minister has taken as bold a course as his view of the circumstances warranted, while, at the same time, the feeling is generally prevident that he has sacrificed his own convictions of the desirableness of an immediate adoption of a thoroughly Free Trade policy, in the hope of thereby conciliating the protectionist party. Under those circumstances the leaders of the League and their adherents are placed in a position of considerable difficulty. are fully sensible of the importance of something being done at once to relieve the pressing necessities of that large portion of the people whom the Premier has himself stated to be in imminent danger of starvation, but they are not prepared to abate their claim for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. For that they have pledged themselves to contend until every vestige of monopoly of the people's food is removed, and that pledge they will redorm. They do not wish to defeat Sir R. Peel's measures: they only require him to carry out his convictions without delay. In doing this they cannot fairly be charged with being men of extreme measures. They are only asking now for what they have been agitating for seven years back. If it were right two months ago to demand a total and immediate repeal, nothing has occurred within that period to make such a demand wrong at the present time. We know that it is urged by some that such a course of proceeding is impolitic, that it would embarrass the Minister, and endanger all that is good in the measure which he has proposed. This we do not believe. If it were so, we should be extremely reluctant to encourage any such step. We are convinced that an agitation for a total and immediate repeal now, so far from weakening, will strengthen the hands of the Minister. It will be to him an intimation that the country will give him a hearty and enthusiastic support in carrying out his own convictions in opposition to those whom he has vainly hoped to conciliate by retaining the "mockery of protection," as the Duke of Richmond has called it, and who will, we firmly believe, offer as strenuous an opposition to the present measure as they would do to a complete and final settlement of the question.

(From the Glasgow Argus.)
The measure of Sir Robert Peel is before the country. Long before this it has been studied, and studied again, by all the great interests of this great nation; and public opinion, at first agreeably startled by its vastness, has had time to form itself, and consider it in all its proportions. Though it is the most splendid movement in a right direction ever made by any man who has hold the reins of power in this country; though if carried in its integrity, as the Minister has proposed it, results the most beneficial to our power and happiness as a nation must ensue; and though Sir R. Peel by his courage and his wisdom in bringing it forward has carned for himself a high place in the list of nublic benefactors, still it is impossible not to object to it as an instalment of of a justdebt, instead of a full satisfaction. It is but 17s. in the pound, when he could have paid us the full 20s. To abolish the Corn Laws at the end of three years, when they ought on every principle of right, as well as expediency, to be abolished now, is a shortcoming—which, though to be expected of a man in the position of Sir Robt. Peel—is not to be approved of by those who have fought this battle, while he opposed it. Neither can the great Free Trade party accept, with thorough enthusiasm, a scheme which does so little for our neighbours of France. The French have abundance of wines, slmost excluded from our markets by high duties, but which might be brought within the reach of our middle chases, to the great benefit of trade, and thereby of the poorer classes, if the duties had been reduced.

With every desire to aid and not thwart Sir R. Peol, the

press, and we regret that we have not space enough to insert a variety of excellent articles, conceived in the same spirit, from the following, and from many other papers which have passed through our hands -The Manchester Guardian, The Manchester Times, The Manchester Examiner, Scotsman, Liverpool Mercury, Dundee Advortiser, Dumfries Standard, Bolton Free Press, Devonshirs Chronicle, Bristol Mercury, Strathmore Journal, Northampton Mercury, Liverpool Times. Ips. wich Express. Blackburn Mercury, Reformer's Gazette, Guernsey Star, Worcester Chronicle, Brighton Guardian, Tyne Meroury, Bristol Gazette, Dublin Evening Past Kilhenny Journal, Cheltenham Examiner, Cambridge Advertiser, &c. &c. &c.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PETITION! PETITION! PETITION!

Belper, Feb. 3d, 1846.

DEAR SIR,-We are setting to work with petitious for immediate and total repeal.

We shall try to get a separate petition from the tenant farmers, and recommend this course to your consideration for general adoption.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly J. W. HANCOCK.

George Wilson, Esq., Anti-Corn-Law League, Manchester.

Yealand, 2 mo., 2, 16, RESPECTED FRIEND, Thy letter of the 20th inst., re. questing petitions to be sent off to London, desiring inna-diate repeal of the Corn Laws (as per form given) was duly

Three petitions were forthwith put in motion in the several townships of Burton and Holme, Warton and Yealand, Preston, Patrick, and Stenton, in one of which there are already 800 signatures.

We shall forward them as soon as completed to Henry Warburton, M.P., and Thomas Green, M.P.

There are the names of many tonant farmers on the petition.—Am very respectfully, George Wilson, Anti-Corn-Law League, Munchester. R. WAITHMAN.

Thougsbridge House, near Holmfirth, February 2d. 1816

MY DEAR SIR,-I have received your letter, urging upon us to petition Parliament, without delay, for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws; and although we are rather busy making preparations for a contest, in the event of an opposition to Lord Morpeth, yet you may rest assumed that not a single township in this polling district shall be without its petition.—I am, yours very truly,

GEO. ROBINSON.

George Wilson, Esq., Anti-Corn-Law League, Manchester.

Nottingham, 2nd February, 1816. DEAR Sin,-In reply to your favour received yesterday, I beg to inform you that a requisition is going round to day to beg the Mayor of this place to call a public meeting, with a view to promote the object named in your letter, viz.—to petition Parliament to immediately adopt measures abolishing all restrictions upon the importation of food of all kinds.

Yours respectfully,

G. Wilson, Esq.

Yours John Place.

Mallon, Feb. 2nd, 1846 DEAR FRIEND,-I have received the circular from the Council of the League, dated, January 20th, and in reply, am happy to say that, we have a petition in the course of signing, which shall be forwarded for presentation as early as

Pray get Cobden's Letter to the Farmers circulated as extensively as possible. If you are intending to print it, please to let us have a thousand or two.—Truly, G. Wilson, Esq. Jno. Hopkins.

High Wray, 3nd Month, 2nd, 1816. RESPECTED FRIEND,—The committee of the North Lousdale Free Trade Association have originated within the district three petitions;—for Nolestone and vicinity—Conistone and ditto—Ilawkshead and ditto, which will be for warded with all dispatch possible. We presume a similar course will be adopted with the House of Lords when the bill is introduced distance. bill is introduced there. Any suggestions from the League

will be acceptable.—I am, very respectfully, Geo. Wilson, Esq. WILLIAM WILSON. Geo. Wilson, Esq.

Cheadle, Feb. 2, 1816. DEAR SIR,—We have little chance of aiding the great came of repeal by petition in our parish, being in the midst of the strongholds of the miscalled protectors of the native agricultural strongholds. cultural labourers, whose wages have been reduced since the cultural labourers, whose wages have been reduced since the passing of the Corn Law, in 1835, more than one-third during which time, in some instances, the land has doubled its rent, and the whole has (with very few exceptions) considerably advanced throughout the parish; so that it easy to calculate who has had the advantage of projection. If it were not for the trade employing a part of the families of the agricultural labourers of this parish, and thereby increasing their means of anheistence, the whole of such increase having three children or unwards (with very few exceptions) would become inhabitants of the workhouse and as the guardians do not take into the workhouse a part It cannot dissolve itself till the Corn Law is ablished; its machinery must be continued, and its energies must be brought into play as long as there is a sliding scale, or any other form of Corn Law to operate against. Is the perfect ation of such a condict desirable? Strange as have been the events of the last few months, we are not without strong hope that an event still stranger is about to bappen, and that Sir R. Peel will not upon the sensible views taken by Mr. Cobden. If he do, there is every probability that the protection and ill-feeling than they have already exhibited to his three years scheme, so kindly meant, but so likely to be mischievous.

Extracts embodying precisely the same sentiments: might have been multiplied indefinitely from the public.

time, and for ever hereafter, of the greatest possible benefit and advantage to the nation at large.

I am, Sir, your obodt. servant,

To George Wilson, Esq. JOSEPH ILIGHAM.

Dimple Matlock, Feb. 2, 1846.

My DEAR Sig.—Yours of the 29th inst. came duly to hand this morning, and I beg to assure you that immediate steps shall be taken to get a petition signed as numerously as possible in the course of this week.

I may just observe that a petition in favour of the present Corn Law, headed by the clergyman of Matlock, has been hawked about four days, and received the astonishing number, not of 8000, but of eight aignatures. How we, the working men, shall outstrip them in number, will be seen by the end of the week. I doubt not 1000 signatures in two days. Excuse my scribble, and believe yours faithfully,

To Geo. Wilson. WM. SMITH.

Wekefield, Feb. 1846.

DEAR Stu,—Previous to the receipt of your circular, urging upon us the necessity for petitioning for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, we had convened a meeting of the inhabitants of our borough, and agreed upon a petition something very similar to the one you suggested, and it is now being signed.

JOHN NETTLETON. Dear Sir, yours truly, To Geo. Wilson.

Westbury, 31st Jan., 1846. MY DEAR SIR,-I have just received your letter; but we had already taken almost precisely the steps you recommend. We have this day presented to our mayor a requisition very respectably signed to call a meeting early next week to pass an opinion on the measures submitted to Parliament by her Majesty's Ministers; at that meeting we intend proposing resolutions for immediate repeal. As we shall have the support not only of the Free Traders here, but of the largest and most intelligent farmer in the parish, we have little doubt of carrying them. We have also a petition signed ex-clusively by the woollen manufacturers, praying not only for the reneal of the Corn Laws, but for the removal of protection on the articles of their manufacture. Most of the farmers see that the game is up, and are anxious for immediate repeal, unless the law can be kept as to now is.

I remain, very dear Sir, yours truly,

To Geo. Wilson. N. OVERBURY.

Annan, 2nd Feb., 1846.

My DEAR SIR,—In reply to your favour of the 29th ult., accompanied by a plan of the petition, I beg to inform you that the necessary steps for procuring petitions from the magistrates, town council, and inhabitants at large of this town, to both Houses of Parliament, will be taken without delay; and also to inform you that you may rely on their further co-operation in forwarding the measures of Free Trade. 1 nm, my dear Sir, yours very truly,

To Geo. Wilson.

JOHN SAWYER, Provost.

LABOURERS' WAGES IN SURREY.

London, 21st January, 1846. Sir,-The other class of supporters claimed by the protectionists for the Corn Laws, are the agricultural labourers. Let us inquire in what respect their interests are identified with the maintenance of these laws?

In the part of Surrey bordering on Hampshire, the wages given by some proprietors and the wealthier class of farmers is 10s. to 11s. per week; but the average wages to labourers is lis, per week.

It is a favourite assertion that wages rise and full with the

price of wheat.

A labourer informs me that "on one occasion when wheat A labourer informs me that "on one occasion when wheat fell to 10%, per load (or 40s, per quarter), he knew wages as low as 8s, per week; but that, for the last four years, he has seen no change made by the principal farmers." We all know how much, within the same period, the price of wheat has fluctuated. The uniform reply I have had from labourers in this quarter is, that when the price of corn falls considerably, farmers are apt to lower the wages from 1s. to 2s., according to the rate given but that when the price of corn cording to the rate given, but that when the price of corn riscs, it is long before wages tend upwards—and then only is a week more is allowed to meet, as at present, a rise of id. per gallon on bread. The universal reply is, "We are always best off when corn is low. With bread at 10d. per gallon, more of our earnings is expended on bread than when is, per gallon; and the additional is, a week does not make the difference. The attenuent made to me by two in the difference. The statement made to me by two labourers, receiving Ss. per week from the parish, for working on the road, both with families depending upon them, was "some days we come to work with a bit of bread in our beat in the statement was the statement when the statement was the statement with a bit of bread in our beat with a bit of bread in our beat was the statement when the statement was the stateme locket—some days with none. In the winter season the farmers turn off a great many hands till the work in the hopgrounds (to which they devote much attention, often to the neglect of other crops) begins. If any of us want a piece of land, they won't give it us under 4l. or 5l. the acre, though land; they won't give it us under 4l. or 5l. the acre, though few of them pay above 20s. for it." It is worthy of observation what variety of crops and abundant produce these small bands. affording evipatches of land yield in the labourers' hands—affording evidence that by stirring the soil to a greater depth, and by more manure, the land will yield a larger return then it now does under the system at present purplied by the farmers of this country. It also leads us to inter that more labour could be employed upon the land with a profit to the farmer.

The labourers look wish homefulness to a change of sys-

The labourers look with hopefulness to a change of system, by which an impetus shall be given to various branches of trade. They know full well when trade is brisk, young and unmarried men find employment elsewhere, and thus lessen the competition for agricultural labour.

The bishop of the diocese of Winghester was lately much commended, because he evaluated a number of hands in

The bishop of the diocese of Winobester was lately much commended, because he employed a number of hands in trenching some waste land; but, as he thereby reduced the rates, part of which fell to his share to pay, and got land hitherto valueless redeemed at a cost of 41. 13s. 4d. per acre, we may question if he is entitled to high preise. It is alleged that the land ought to have been "taken in 100 years ago." May we not infer that seems proprieters, asseing the leading-strings of protection slipping from under their arms, are using increased exertions to make their land yield a return, and thus reply to the destruction of many admirers of the Corn Laws, that poor land will in out of cultivation?

A great evil of the present Corn Laws, to which I have seen no allusion made, is, that they being the interests of the labourers into direct college with that of the farmers. They see the farmers struggling to faithful at the which raises the price of their break break increases. They know, as alove stated, the rates.

when these very farmers defend the Corn Laws as a " labour" ers question?" Ask a labourer who holds the franchise whether he would vote for a Free Trade candidate; his answer is, "We would; but we should be turned off from our work." Will such an interference with his rights as a British subject repair the breach already made? Let us, then, hope that Government may be led, or, if not, may be that "bane of agriculture," and thus, in the simple but beautiful language of Dr. Chalmers, "sweeten the breath of society."—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A Properieton of Land in Scotland, on a

VIOLT IN SUBBRY.

AGRICULTURE IN NORFOLK.

To the Editor of The Leadur.

London, 5th February, 1846.

SIR,—Had Sir Robert Peel, either personally, or by deputy, visited Norfolk since the promulgation of his neasure, he would have found that the most intelligent farmers

there would much prefer an immediate repeal to the conti nuance of the graduated duty for three years longer.

One of these gentlemen, who occupies a farm of 1,000 acres, and manages another of equal size, intormed us that he dreaded the effects upon the market of the Government nicasure as now proposed—that dealers, millers, and mali-sters would avoid purchasing, except only for present necessities—looking for no such impetus to trade, as will cause a rapidly increasing demand—that thus the grain markets will be in a state of comparative stagnation, and that the farmer will be disheartened. On the other hand, this gentleman's opinion is, that if the ports are opened at once, no quantity of grain large enough seriously to affect our markets can, for many mouths to come, be imported—that dealers in grain, anticipating a greater activity in trade, will be ready to purchase—that then the prices will have a tendency to keep up, and that by the time any foreign grain can be brought into the country, the increased and increasing demand will absorb all that can be brought in, without causing a glut in the home market, and thus suddenly depress the prices; and that thus the real demand and supply will be the cause of the markets being affected, and prices either lowered or raised, instead of a sudden and injurious change by the transactions of speculators, who will wait till the expiry of the duty before they enter the market.

Our informant himself expends on labour on one farm of 1000 acres the sum of 28s, per acre, and his system of cultivation and the comparation of t tivation, and the appearance of his stock, shew that he hopes for a good return, not from prices maintained by Act of Parliament, but from farming. An observation made by this gentlement shows that he is above the ignorant prejudice often existing against machinery. Speaking of the mode of threshing their grain in East Lothian, where he had lately been, he remarked "that instead of thereby employing less manual labour, the farmer was enabled to employ, in other channels, a greater amount of labour, and was also ready with a sufficient quantity of grain whenever the market was favourable, instead of having hardly enough to supply his cattle with fodder and litter, as constantly happens by the present mode of threshing the corn." The example shewn to the tenantry by the Earl of Leicester's present bailiff, in a most improved system of cultivation, is such as to stimulate their industry; and as long as such manure heaps and tanks for collecting all the liquid manure are to be seen on a farm, as may be seen on the home farm at Holkham, the agriculturist of this country need not fear competition with the starving Poles, or other producers of foreign grain. -I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A PROPRIETOR OF LAND IN SCOTLAND/ON A VISIT IN NORFOLK.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

Darlaston, Jan. 26th, 1816.

Str,-At the commencement of your formation of the League pack, I entered, with my poor abilities and triffing subscription; and now we have, under your admirable instruction and guidance, hunted the vermin Monopoly through all his windings, stopped all his earths, and driven him into a corner, till he is fairly at bay, I feel anxious to be "in at the death." For that purpose I beg to subscribe 10% to the Quarter of a Million Fund, and forward you the first instalment of 20 per cent. Although a small tenant farmer, paying a high rent for my land, and to my labourers double the wages paid in Dorsetshire and Wiltshire, I believe I shall be as well able to pay that rent and those wages when the Corn aws are repealed as I am now; for I feel convinced that. through their repeal our manufacturers will have a constant and steady good trade, and that consequently there will be such an incalculable increase in the consumption of furning produce as must keep it at a fair price. I cannot hide from myself, that upon the manufacturers and artisans of the country. farmers are principally dependent; they are the great, the ruling consumers of our products; without them, we—all her Majesty's subjects (and the number would be but small in with the present population ro Bhould poverty-stricken and miserable as the inhabitants of Russia or Poland; as ignorant and uncultivated as the Ojibbowa Judians; as, independent of their being our best customers, of their finding employment for our surplus population, which we cannot possibly do without them, every inhabitant of our island would be compelled to rudely cultivate the soil for his subsistence—would be utterly unable to procure one single foreign production, for we should have nothing to give in exchange to foreigners, except that which foreigners have already more than enough of. If farmers and laudlords would calmly and dispassionately reflect on these facts, they would soon properly estimate the paramount value and importance of trade to the well-being and prosperity of every individual and class in the empire, and give up at once the nonsensical clap-trap of "independence of Are we not now to all intents and purposes irremediably dependent upon foreigners for every luxury, nuy, every comfort (above those of savage life) which we enjoy?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES GREEN.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE. "I was naked, and ye clothed me."

Jan. 27, 1840.

Sin,—I am requested to say, that I have received the second and last parcel of smock-freeks from friends in town. Yos, Sin, I have received in all 80 good frocks for the use of the poor and more than helf-naked peasantry. I have given thirty freeks to the needy siready; and I am now prepared to clothe forty more labourers in a few days with good senock-freeks. A thousand thanks to those Free Traders who constants to respond so nobly and liberally to my appeals. I geology solemnly, carnestly, and emphatically, Jan. 27, 1810.

that were it not for the steps which I have taken from time to time to defend, feed, and clothe the insulted and cruelly oppressed peasantry in my own neighbourhood, come of them would have been consigned to the silent tomb before now. And I do not healtate to assert that there are those in the country who would like to see the patient some and dalighters of toil thinned by the withering blust of death. It wils' stated by one of our county magistrates, while sitting on the bonob, and in my hearing, this week, that there are a hundred men in the neighbourhood of Bicester, Ozon, who would be glad of a day's work but cannot get one? My dear wife and myself are kept hard at work during twelve or fourteen hours every day, with the exception of Sunday, at tending to our wretched and degraded neighbours. Of all the sufferers; many of them cannot get a day's work, and they seem resolved to die rather than enter the mion workhouse. Depend upon it, Mr. Editor, it is not an enviable task to stand between the living and well fed and the starving and half-frd, to stay the plague which "protectionists" food and keep alive: Here are young men, 25 years of age, able and willing to work for Sd. a-day; but, alas! for them, no man will hire them! Sir, I femicarly assert that this, our land of boarded prosperity and of Evangelical faith, is guilty of opprossive cruelty to such an extent as to arm against us the hand of God and the hand of man. And if those who care not to know the real state of the country will but persevere a little longer in their stern opposition to those men, and to their measures, who are andcavouring to bring about a better state of things, they must all look for a terrible retribution.-Lam, yours very faithfully, W. PERGUSON, Minister of the Congregational Church, Bicester, Oxon. Sir, yours very faithfully,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE VERSUS GOATACRE.

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir,—I beg to send you the following facts relative to the wages carned by the operative classes of our town, which our landowners may compare, if they like, with the wages of the Gontaere and Dorsetshire labourers. If the statement does not remove the prejudices which they entertain towards the Lancashire cotton lords, it perhaps may shame them into an allevia. tion of the sufferings of their serfs:

Wages per week.

Most of the cottages of mill hands are exceedingly well furnished, with mahogany four-post bedsteads, chests of drawers, and clocks, panelled oak-back couches, &c. Many of them have their rooms handsomely papered. At a recent public dinner here several of the operatives sat with pint decanters of wine before them, and drank to the various toasts with all the nonchalance of gentlemen. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Ashton, Jan. 12. A COTTON LORD.

10, Woodbridge Street, Clerkenwell, Jan. 28, 1846. MY DEAR SIR, Seeing by the reports of the various protection meetings that that party are endeavouring to alarm the manufacturers of protected articles with the removal of their individual protection, I beg to state for myself, as an individual whose sole means of subsistence are derived from the manufacture of one of the protected articles chiefly alluded to, namely, watches, that I have long felt the utter absurdity of any reliance upon such a rotten staff; and as the best evidence I can offer of the sincerity of my views, I beg to hand you the inclosed 51. in furtherance of the great object you have in view, the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and with them of all protective duties.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully, To GEORGE WILSON, Esq. JOHN JAOKHON.

SCARBOROUGH, JAN. 31 .- The particulars of the Free Trade measure were not generally known in this town until Thursday, when it was resolved, by some of the more active parties in the liberal interest, to have a meeting to consider what steps should be adopted in reference to it. A meeting of electors, including several members of the corporation, was accordingly hold yesterday, (Friday,) at the Temperance Hotel, at which a petition to the House of Commons was agreed upon, and a committee appointed to put it in course of signature. The petition recognises the measure proposed by Sir Robert Peel as an important approximation to the carrying out of the great principle of commercial freedom, upon which the social and moral wolfare of this nation, as well as the peace and happiness of the world, so essentially depend; but it expresses regret at that part of it which proposes to strone the total repeal of the Corn Law for a period of three years, as incompatible with the principle on which the measure professes to be based, and as highly injurious to the interest of the tonant farmers. It, therefore, prays for the immediate as well as total repeal of the Corn Law. It is confidently expected that this petition will receive the signatures, not only of a majority of the electors of the borough, but of many of the neighbouring farmers, and a large number of the inhabitants. When signed, it is to be placed in the hands of Mr Cobden for presentation.

SHETLAND.—Letters dated Lerwick, January 21, announce that a patition to the House of Commons, praying for the immediate and total repeal of the Corn Law, was in active course of signature in Shetland; that the petition states, that those islands cannot produce corn sufficient for the adequate subsistence of more than half of the population that the only means the juhabitants have of procuring a further supply is by exchanging for it the produce of their fisheries—that this produce is chiefly exported to foreign countries from whence the islanders could obtain cheep bread or corn in exchange for it, but that the Corn Law prevents that exchange, and compels them to purchase their bread from the home com growers at a greatly enhanced price. And they further offer to produce proof, that in this manner the Corn Law has; for a period of thirty years, unjustly deprived the inhabitants of those islands of half-thiely means of supporting existence. This petition, it was calculated, would be signed by nearly the whole of the electors, and by several thousands of the inhabitants.

PROGRESS OF THE POTATO DISEASE.-With the despest sorrow we are compelled to state that the potato disease is approaching its raveges most fearfully, and that fever is making its dread appearance in every locality affected by the slight of the people's food, —Corn Enaminer.

THE SPEECHES OF R. COBDEN, ESQ., M.P., and T.M. Gibben, Esq., M.P., in P. in the High as early as possible after delivery. Price One Penny each. 66 nor 109. Cochrane, James
Bateman, James, Low Moor
Bateman, James, Low Moor
Blateman, James, Low Moor
Hillingsley, Tankard, and Co
Thistlethwaite, J. Cheapside, woolstapler I
Woodhead, W. H., Westgate
Wilson, Thos, Sun Bridge
Tankard, Benjamin, Bowling
Dale, John, bookseller
Watson, W. Kirkgate
Wright, John, Wibsey
Bottomley, Jonathan, Calledonian Mill
Norton, Geo, Clayton West, near Hud *Sinclair, Martin, 1, Worcester-street, Hulme, do **Pente, Henry, 9, St. James's square do Goodwin, Geo, 10, Swan street, Manchester Warburton, Jno, and Sons, Withy Grove, do Stanley, Thos. 11, Cross-street, do Adams, Jno, 265, Deansgate, do Broadfald Jahn Cathatan and do Broadfald Jahn Cathatan and do TIE PHEIPHED as early as possible after delivery. Price vine: even, on per less.

Le voir office, 17, Fleet street, London, J. Gadaby, Newall's Buildings, nin's, Old Millgate, Manchester.

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Just pinithabed, price one Penny, or 'a per 100,

VERISATIM REPORT OF THE MEETING OF AORICULTURAL LABOURERS AT GOATACIES, printed in a finite torin, 12 pages.

Sold at the Lasocy Office, 07, Pacet street, London, and by J. Gadaby, Mewall's Buildings, and 3, Old Millgate, Manchester. Bradford. Yorkshire. *Browlfield John, Cuteaton-street, do ... *Goodwin, Josh, Heaton Norris, Stockport *Hobson, Abel, Wharf street, Portwood, do *Bottomley, Jonathan, Calledonian Mill 1 0 0

*Norton, Geo, Clayton West, near Huddersfield

*Norton, J, Clayton West, near Huddersfield

*Norton, J, Clayton West, near Huddersfield

*Hydo, Wm, Barnsley

*Blaws, Mossrs, Dodworth Green, near

Barnsley

*Sykes, Matthew, do 1 0 0

*A Friend, per Mr, Harvey do 1 0 0

*A Friend, per Mr, Harvey do 1 0 0

*Blox, Mr, Clayton West, nr Huddersfield 0 10 0

*Blox, Mr, Clayton West, nr Huddersfield 0 10 0

*Blox, Mr, Clayton West, nr Huddersfield 0 10 0

*Ward Jermas Green *Hailwood, Josh, 52, Spear-street, Manchester ... *Kershaw, Jus., 40, Stretford New-road, do *Kershaw, Thos, Butler-lane, Oldham-road, Man-CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND. Barnsley While we congratulate our readers on the pro-District . Kershaw, John, junr, Sladen Mill, Littleborough, gress of the subscriptions to the Quarter of a Milnr Rochdale *A.M. F., Falkirk, N. B. lion Fund, and on the offect that they have obvi-* Atkin, Henry, Bheffield ously produced without and within the walls of *Evans. Thomas, Stretford New road, Huling, (*Ward, James, Green

*Rider, Thomas

*Craven. Wm, Buck Mill

*Dibb, Christopher

*Walker, Thomas, Albion Mill

*Russoll, Wm

*Rushforth, John

*Andalor, Francis Parliament, we must impress upon them the neces-Munchester *Wedderburn, Jno, Belhaven, Dunbar, N. B.

*Lamb, Samuel, 12, Fennel street, Manchester

*Holland, Jno, Sandy Well, Salford

*Edge, Mr, 60, Bridge street, Manchester sity of not relaxing in their exertions, now that the crisis of our great struggle has arrived. The Metory is not yet won; all the resources, and all *Bage, Mr. 10, Dringe-street, Manchester

*Bardsley, Jno, 43, Ridgway-street, do

*Lowry, Jacob, 3, Bond street do

*Sinter, Moses, Carbrook, near Staleybridge

*Day, Edward, 172, Deansgate, Manchester

*Booth, Edward, 79, Union-street, Ardwick, do

*1111 Wm. 11. Histograph, non-Mathematical *Russiorun, John
*Audsley, Francis
*Rycroft, Benjamin
*Stringer, J., Rev
*Vint, G and Brothers
*Oldfield, Geo
*Dawsen, Ldm the energies of the League, will be required, before complete success can be achieved. A dissolution of Parliament appears to be imminent; and the battle *Oldfield, Geo
*Rawson, John
*Rushforth, James
*Craven, Wm, Buck Mill
Booth, Wm, Eller Carr
Hutton, Edwin
Exley, Benjamin
Stansfild, Geo
Hargreaves, John
Smith, Wm
Wilson, James of Free Trade will leave to be fought inch by inch *Hill, Wm, Hollingworth, near Mottram !
*Owen, Thomas, Mrs, Hedlock street, Manchester ! on the hustings. We are anxious to arge on our *Owen, Thomas, Mrs, Fredock Street, Mandacker *Ridmayne, Matthew, 113, Medlock street, do *Bardsley, Jno, 13, Ridgway-street, do *Beardsley, W. and J., Pomona Gardens, Manfriends the importance, not only of subscribing freely, but of subscribing early. The manifestation of strength will often decide the course of the Salt, Juo, 72, London-road do wavering and the doubtful; but, above all, our sub-Taylor, Alexander, Hume-street, Arbroath Wilson, James Wright, James, Park Hill *Taylor, Alexander, Hume-street, Arbroam *Fairweather, Jno, King st, Huline, Manchester *Orr, Matthew, Greenock N.B, Cranstone, G, Ware, Herts *Marshall, J. 30, Broughton pl, Edinburgh *Saxon, Benjamin, 133, Chester-road, Hulme, scriptions are the best proof that we are thoroughly Upton, C Pawson, H in earnest, and that we shall not cease to labour Pawson, H
Knowles, John
Sandbrookes, Geo
Smith, Thomas
Cowell, John
Alred, Geo
Sowden, Wm
Booth, Wm
Mitchell, John, Eccloshill
Bland, Benjamin
Nott, John until every link of the fetters imposed on British industry is struck off, and every restriction on the Manchester supply of food to the people completely annihilated. do do 1 0 0 *Bradley, Joseph, Bamford-arms, Stockport *Lampard, G, Longbridge Deverill, nr Warminster Subscriptions received during the week ending Nott, John Ward, John and James, Simpson Green 0 *Sowter, George, Keddleston rd, Derby Wednesday, Feb. 4, 1846. *Cooper, Thomas, Brook-st, do *Bakewell, Mrs, Medlock-st, Hulme, Manchester N B.- As the Subscription List is made up from Stone, John Rastrick, Joseph Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Lee, John Clark, Thomas Banister, Thomas Booth, James *Gretton, J. 8, Rosamond place, do *Litherland, Wm, Dock-yard, Hulme, do Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, *Boardman, Jas, 56, Bloom-st, do but are included in the list of the week following. *Rothwell, Thomas, 96, Worcester st. Hulme, do 0 5 0 Jowett, Nathan Watson, John Ackroyd, Wm Walker, Wm As the regulations of the Post Office require that *Haywood, Jno, 170, Deansgate, do the Christian Name of the party to whom Post *Pascall, Wm, 164, do do *Machin, Jno, 211, do do *Poole, Edward, 67, Medlock-st, do Office Orders are sent should be given in full, sub. scribers are respectfully requested to procure their Amicus Parkinson, R
Green, R
North, Benjamin
Booth, David *Fielden, David, 81, Gt Jackson st, Hulme, do . . Orders in future for Grouge Wilson, Lengue *Two Friends *Douglas, Daniel, 91, Medlock-st, Mauchester ... Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, *Sharples, Henry, 158, Medlock-st, Hulme, do ...
*Trayls, Mrs, 11, Stretford New-road, Hulme, do 67, Fleet-street, London. Small Sums (*Hale, Matthew

*Tong, Thomas, Earlshoaton, near

*Hall, Geo and Son

*Todd, Thomas

*Rhodes, Wm, Earlsheaton

*France, John

*Brearey, Geo

*Brady, Wm

*Walker, Joshua, Bank

*Clay, Joseph and James

*Blakely, Robt and Geo

Whitworth, J. and Sons, Earlsheaton *Keal, John, 12, *Barlow, Samuel, 21, do do .. *Barlow, Sanniel, 21, do do 0

*Fletcher, Richd, 15, River st, Huline, Manchester 0

*Bromley, Wm, 16, Medlock st, do 0

*Birkheck, Juo, 160, Deansgate, do 0

*Lees, W, 8, Gt Jackson st, do 0

*Williamson, Mrs. 52, Gt Jackson st, do 0 •Reyner, A & F. Ashton under under Lyne ... 200 0 0 *Booth, Thomas, Rochdale •Hoyle, John 200 0 0 · Hoyle, James · Hoyle, Thomas *Hays, T, 17, Stanley-st, Hulme, do *Small Subscriptions 17, Stainley-st, Fluime, do
18 of 7, Stainley-st, Fluime, do
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10 of 8, Swinburne, Joseph, do
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18 of 9, Turner, J, Rev do
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*Buckley, James Smith, Ashton under Lyne

*Stuart, Robert, Manchester

*Barnes, T and R, Manchester

*Helliwell, Wm, Frith Mill, near Todmorden *Clay, James and Son
*North, Wm, dyer
*Crawshaw, Simon
*Hemingway, James, Dawgroen, near
*Oldroyd, M
*York, Henry
*Ward, R & Sons
*Milnes, Matthew, Battley Carr, near
*Hirst, M, Meadow Cettage
*Oates, Sam
*Porritt, Oates, Battley Carr, near
*Greenwood, John do
*Fox, John, carpet manufacturer
*Gleyne, Thomas H
*Weeks, E H. Rev
*Fearnley and Hinchliffe
*Hemingway, Joseph, Earlsheaton, nr
*Rhodes, Daniel do
Spence, F
Horsfield, John, Dawgreen, near
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*Thornton, David
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*Eastwood, Wm
*Ward, Thomas, innkeeper .. 100 : 0 = 0 Grundy, John, Belle Vue, near Bury, Lancashire 50 *Greig, Watson, and Greig, Manchester Summer, Francis, Glossop *Martin, Peter, Bolton *Remshaw, William, Sulford • Higginbothum, George, Ashton under Lyne • Syddall, Benjamin, Manchester Downbury *Stewart, Thoras, Stockport / Kay, John, Salford 7.. 10 0 0 1.. 10 0 0 *Hollins, Henry, Bolton *Ormerod, O and W. Rochdole Acton, Mr. cotton spenier, Wigan Moore, Robert R R, Manchester Hawkshead
*Gibbons, John, 12, Beckwith street
*Graham, R. 1, Gt Nelson street, North
*Richards, Wm, 14, Bath-street
*Bennett, John, Lord-street •Crosland, Joseph, Bolton •Farrar, James & Brothers, S, New Brown street, *Ridgway, M
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*Shephord, Lowis A
*Johnson, Chas
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j	*Naylor, Jeremiah, butcher *Duffleld, Richard *Gaunt, Reuben, clothier	the Anti-Corn-Law League at the pre- sent crisis:—	• •	
l	*Turner, John do	Capel, W, Watford *Lattimore, C H, Wheathampstead Per C H Lat-{ *Manser, Wm, Hertford \	5 ()]]]] .	0 0
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scriptions.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE WILTSHIRE LABOURERS. "The Opinion of Labour" 🐍

ERBATA. In League No. 121. In the fist of Subscriptions at the great meeting at Leeds, for Francis Noble, 500, reset, Francis Hook. In League No. 122.—For O. Ainsworth, Holland-street, Roch. dale, 200, read George Ashworth. In League, No. 123. For Henry Wood, Goree Toeteth Park, read Gorce Putznas,

LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. LVI. TO RICHARD COBDEN ESQ., M.P.

Str,-The end of your mission of agitation is th sight. When Sir Robert Peel named the 1st of February, 1849, he fixed a date which the Corn Law will not survive. The period of its existence may be diminished, cannot be extended, --- He may amend his own scheme, or others may amend it for him. The ensuing debates may issue in various changes of measures or of men. We may witness, in the interval, new Parliaments and new administrations. The political world is entering a temporary chaos, and who can foretell the exact point at which it will emerge? But when, for a doomed law, the day of execution has been thus named, the hypothesis of its prolongation becomes in the highest degree improbable. Not to die by that time will be to live for ever; and this, for the Corn Law, is an impossible alternative.

At latest, then, on the 1st Feb., 1849, your foot will be on the corpse of the monster which you have fought as manfully as St. George did the dragen. Perhaps much sooner. The keenness of your cyc is not abated, nor the vigour of your arm; and if home thrusts, wisely directed and ceaselessly repeated, can more promptly rid us of the desoluting misance, it will not live out its little span. You will stay the contortions of its dying agonies. We shall behold you foremost in the struggle of principle, which will precede that of political expodiency; and you will prove to the Legislature, as you have proved to the farmer, that not only justice and humanity, but prudence and policy, call for the immediate, rather than the protracted, abolition of the Corn Laws. In the approaching and final confliet men's eyes are on you, in the assured reliance that you will neither compromise any sound principle nor forego any public advantage.

You have brought us to the beginning of the end. The confessed impossibility of a protectionist Ministry; the adoption of total and immediate repoul by the Whig party; and the stammering petition for only three years' delay, by the (new) Conservative repealers; these facts are decisive of your sucsess; nor can all the dust raised by ducal bluster. : 0 2 6 obscure their significance. Your car of triumph may

be prepared. The laurels will not have time to lose their freshness.

Iteadily will the confidence you have inspired respond to any call the occasion may require for public co-operation. Petitions for hastoning, and bringing on at once, the termination of the evil, so long and loudly protested against, are daily receiving their multitudes of signatures. In the observance of your part of the work, we have guid ance and motive to the fulfilment of our own. Seeing you so watchful, we cannot sleep; seeing you so active, we cannot be inert. By whatever co-operation is desired now, we carn our title hereafter to express the just appreciation of your services.

Those services have been rendered by the sacrifice of all that constitutes life to many; by the large invasion, and at times, the entire absorption of your hours of profitable occupation and domestic enjoyment; by exertions in which both the physical fatigue and the mental activity seem beyond the ordinary standard of human endurance; and by the yet higher qualities of extended sympathies, conciliating sympathy; of calmness indomitable by the roughest and rudest assaults; and of a beneficence of spirit ever in harmony with the beneficent principles you advocate. And there is attached to them a yet more important value. The moral of your success deserves the people's study. You have purchased no party aid by compromise. You have fawned for no titled patronage. You have stooped to no popular delusions. By no sinister arts have you sought to aggrandize a power that might be wielded for your own purposes. Faith in the might of knowledge and of truth has been your talisman, un. polluted by foreign admixtures. Hence the influence which you, heretofore an obscure tradesman of Manchestor, superciliously assailed on your entrance into public life, given over for crushed and annihilated by the devotees of party connectionhence the influence which you have exercised towards achieving a revolution in the commercial policy of the country, a bloodless and blessed change, alike resplendent either in comparison or in contrast with all recorded revolutions.

Let the trading and middle classes of England revolve that lesson in their inmost souls.. It is a revelation to them of their own capabilities. It bids them "venerate themselves" and deserve their own veneration. Servility, inertness, and sordid ness; the juggle of care for a family into neglect of the community; the keeping a conscience for private use, I and not for publie duty; the waiting for Providence in the shape of aristocratic guidance or popular sanction; the faith in great men rather than great principles; and all the thousand sophistications by which people become their own degraders, and reconcile themselves to degradation and uselessness, are for ever shamed by your example in this agitation. All such may learn now how to do something, and to be something, worth being and doing in the world:

Enough may still remain of the strife with monopoly to bring these qualities into exercise. The means of maturing them, even in the quietest times, can never be wanting. Whatever sustains them is the "daily bread" of intellectual and moral life. In the final efforts to be now made, and for many a long year after, they will not fail to be invigorated by the study of this agitation; and eminently by your share of its conduct and its triumph. Posterity will have the means of blending the moral lesson with the material benefits. Your name is safe for history.

A Norwich Weaver Boy.

BICESTER.—FREE TRADE SYMPATHY WITH AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.—On Thursday evening, a public meeting was held in the Congregational Chapel, in this town, at which a large body of agricultural labourers and others attended. Many of the toiling sons of labour were relieved through the members of the Chapel and the liberality of Free traders, who had sent sums of money or smock frocks to be distributed amongst them. The Rev. W. Ferguson, the minister of the Chapel, who has taken so much interest in the sufferings of the poor in this locality, addressed the assambly on the benefits to be anticipated from a Free Trade, and was listened to with deep attention.—Oxford Chronicle,

Depression of Tenant Farmers.—At a meeting of the Magistrates, held in this town, on the 17th inst. Alr. Abraham Coutes, the overseer of Chalgrove, solicited the Bench to lane warrants of distress against two farmers in his parish, for arrears of poor rates—the one amounting to 13k 1ds.04d., the other to 6k.2s. St. Poverty was the excuse, which the overseer said he believed was the case.—Warrants granted.

THE NEW ERA.

A WORD OF CAUTION TO FARMERS.

The decree has gone forth. The principle of protection is from hencoforth repudiated by the British Government. The Minister has proposed a total, though not an immediate, repeal of the Corn Laws, an absolute but not unconditional Free Trade. Whether he has gained friends for his measure amongst the monopolists by the complications which so mar its completeness and detract from its usefulness, remains to be seen. With that more general view of Sir Robert Peel's plan we do not here propose to deal. Sufficient for our purpose is it to consider it with reference to our own class—the tenant farmers. Well, then, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom has proposed a measure, which, with more or less of drawback and compromise, will make trade free; will ultimately enable the industrious of these realms to carry their industry to the best market. Will the monopolists dare to stand between the British people and their food? Will the oligarchs venture, for their own sordid gain, or for the maintenance of their own sinister influence, to reject that mea-

Of themselves, they dare not; and their only hope of resistance lies in the chance of exciting the farmers by imaginary fears. We farmers know how little heart and reality there is in a protectionist meeting, where the real farmers look on, whilst lords, squires, law agents, and bailiffs bellow forth the silliest and most incoherent absurdities. Of these absurdities the Cabinet has disposed for ever. They will scarcely be again produced at the monopolist meetings which will be got up during the next fortnight. Now, let us offer a word of caution to the farmers. Let them abstain from attending such meetings altogether, or else let some one of their body, in the name of the tenant farmers of the Kingdom, declare, that they want to see an end of this strife, and that the only petitions they sanction will be for immediate as well as the total repeal of the Corn Laws. We, the tenant farmers, are, above all classes, interested in immediate repeal. Some of us may have hoped for, some of us may have feared, some of us may have doubted the policy of Free Trade in corn; but hopes, fears, and doubts, are now vain: the thing is inevitable. For good or for ill, protected agriculture-most of us feelingly know that, at all events, it is trammelled and unprotitable agriculture—is at ond. A new-era-has commenced; and, like it or like it not, we, the farmers of Britain, have to show whether we are so inferior in intelligence, skill, and industry, that with the best market, the best labourers, and the most abundant supply of capital in the world, we cannot compete and compete successfully with the world's husbandmen. Free us from landlord imposed burdens; let the "peculiar burdens" half defunct foudalism has left on us be removed, and we laugh to scorn the puling nonsense of lords and squires. And this brings us to the point of a practical consideration of Sir Robert Peel's plan as it affects agriculture. In the aunouncement of the principles which guide him there is little to be desired; he says—as we have

"I have already spoken of that most important department of agriculture, namely, the fattening of cattle. Now, I believe it is impossible to over-estimate the importance of promoting the fattening of cattle, as instrumental to an improved system of agriculture. The restoration of fertility to the soil by means of manure is one of the most ce autiful of the dispensations of Providence; and I believe that there is no manure, bring it from where you will, which, in respect to its fertilising qualities, can enter into competition with that which has been directly derived in this way from the soil. I believe that you cannot conduce more to the improvement of inferior soils than by encouraging the feeding and fattening of cattle, and thus promoting the application of the manure to the increased fertility of the soil. I propose, therefore, that an article of grain, which I believe will be mainly applied to the futtoning of cattle, shall hereafter be admitted duty free. It is an article, however, of immense importance—I mean the maize, or Indian corn. Now, I don't consider that by removing the duty upon maize I am depriving agriculture of any protection. Maize is generally used, I believe, in the United States; it is certainly there used parily as human food: and I believe that even its utility as human food is very much disregarded in this country. But I do bolieve that, by promoting the free import of maize, so far from doing any disservice to agriculture, it will promote the feeding of cattle, and that advantage to agriculture, rather than disadvantage, will be connected therewith. I propose also that an article called huckwheat should be subject to the same rale to which I propose to subject maize, namely, that maize and buckwheat, and the llour of maize and buckwheat, shall be admitted duty free. And I propose also that the meal shall be

if any gentleman will ascertain the enormous sums which are now paid by many of the best farmers in the country for the purpose, or in the purchase of linseed-cake and rejectace, I think they will agree with me that increased facilities for the import of articles that may be used for the fattering of cattle will be of no small service to the agricultural interest. The demand for this linseed-cake is so great, that it is rising in the market, and the consumption is immensed it is rising in the market, and the consumption is interest. On some farms I believe that the chief object of consumption is to provide manure for the better cultivation of the soil. The price of linseed-cake per thousand in the year and in 1816, the price has risen from 121, to 121, 5x. In the case of rape-cake, the price per ton in 1848 was 51, 5x.; in 1814, it was 41, 5x. to 41, 10x.; in 1815, from 51, 5x.; in 1814, it was 41, 5x. to 41, 10x.; in 1815, from 51, 5x.; in 1814, it was 41, 5x. to 41, 10x.; in 1815, from 51, 5x.; in 1814, it was 41, 5x. to 41, 10x.; in 1815, from 51, 5x.; in 1814, it was 41, 5x. to 41, 10x.; in 1815, from 51, 5x.; in 1814, it was 41, 5x. to 41, 10x.; in 1815, from 51, 5x.; in 1814, it was 41, 5x. to 41, 10x.; in 1815, from 51, 5x.; in 1814, to 51, 17x. (d., or 01, or 01

No farmer in this country, who deserves the name, will gainsay a word of that. And in a latter part of his speech, in reference to a part of the plan for advancing loans to landowners for draining their estates, he said:

"I do not limit the progress of that improvement to the outlay of the actual advance from the national resource. I look to the spirit which would be engendered throughout the agricultural community. I believe that the neighbours of him who improves his property would be stimulated by his example; that they would desire to improve their estate also; that they would commence works of a similar character; and that the consequence would be a general improvement of the land, and a great onward progress among the agriculturists."

Now, this is just what we say of the farmer. Where is the farmer who cannot "by spirit" and activity, when he stands on the firm ground of Free Trade, largely increase the produce of his farm?

In fact, the free access to the markets of the world for all his cattle food will, by itself, turn the balance of many a farmer's book from the wrong to the right side.

What we, as farmers, complain of in Sir R. Peel's measure is, the postponement of the hour of freedom. We are to be subject for three years to a sliding scale of duties on our wheats, our barleys, oats, and so forth, which may, and probably will, sometimes be in practice prohibitory, and must at all times disturb the natural state of the market, and prevent the farmer from making safe calculations and per manent arrangements. For instance, agreements for long leases must be put off till the years 1849 and 1850 shall have disclosed to us what is the natural price of grain in this market; and who can tell what may happen in the meantime? Who will give us a guarantee that we shall have no frantic Richmonds and foolish Mileses deluding sections of the farmers with expectations of the reestablishment of "protection?" Then all the wheat growers of this world will be making an exaggerated estimate of the capacity of our market after the transition period of three years, and they may, perhaps, then send in quantities so large as to produce a depression of prices, and go far to realise some of the evils the monopolists have foretold. But were the trade at once made free, there would be no mistake about it. The capacity of our grain market would be felt load by load, and quarter by quarter, so that instead of a temporary glut we should have a gradual and natural supply. This would be the condition of the market most favourable to us farmers. We farmers seldom get the profits of the up; though we commonly have to bear the losses of the downs of our trade. A regular steady trade is the grand thing for the farmer.

Then, again, without undervaluing the imagediately free importation of Indian corn, which we know to be an immense boon to tenant farmers, why are oats, rye, beans, and peas to be excludedfor, recollect, the now sliding scale will be practi cally exclusion—for three years? The same argument, used so forcibly by Sir Robert Peel with reference to maize, is strictly applicable to pulse, oats. and rye. Even upon the principles he has laid down as governing his reductions, namely, that where he admits the manufactured article duty free. he will also admit the raw material used by our home manufacturers of the same article. Now, he has admitted pork and bacon of all sorts free. whilst he only allows us pig breeders and pig feeders the single raw material maize. That admission is a bonefit, and we are grateful for it; but every farmer knows that in rearing and fattening pigs, beans, and poss form the staple, and, from their possilar qualities, the cheapest, food. Let us farmers, then, loudly demand immediate, as well as total, repeal of all duties on all grain; and, if we can't get that let us require, as an act of common fatmen, on bir Robert Poel's own showing, that outs, are beaut, and peas shall be at once admitted duty in

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WEST RIDING ELECTION.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF LORD MORPETII.

On Wednesday Lord Morneth was elected for the West Riding of Yorkshire. He walked the course. Mr. Ferrand, Riding of Yorkshire. He walked the course. Mr. Ferrand, after all his incendiary harangues and blustering demonstrations, was not visible on the hustings. There was nothing to excite the feelings or to attract multitudes but the tranquil dignity of the triumph of a great national cause. And yet the crowd was immense. The number present was estimated at fully 30,000, and Wakefield was a scene of unparalleled gaiety and bustle as the multitudes poured from all quarters to the point where the hustings were erected. Cheap trains, coaches, waggons, carts-in short, every species of vehicle, and all means of locomotion, were in requisition. Many of the leading manufacturers in Leeds and other places had given their people a holiday; and seldom has Wakefield witnessed such a vast concourse of people. The animated scene was still further enlivened by the ringing of bells, and the marching of processions gay with solours and devices, and each preceded by its own band of

Shortly after 10 o'clock, Lord Morpeth appeared in a court dress. His Lordship was, of course, enthusiastically received. After the usual formalities, Mr. W. H. Fawkes, of Farnley Hall, proposed his lordship in an eloquent address of considerable length, which was loudly cheered. J. Il. Marshall, Esq., seconded the nomination.

The Under Sheriff then came forward and said-Has any other elector any other candidate to propose? if so, let him come forward, and he shall be heard. (Cheers and great

No response having been made to this appeal, Loun Monreru stood forward and was received with loud and reiterated bursts of enthusiastic cheering. When silence was partially restored, he said: Gontlemon—electors of the West Riding, and let me add old friends (reiterated cheers)—it is not, it could not be, without varied and very deep emotion, that I find myself here again before you. (Cheers.) Yes, even here in Wakefield, before a constituency of the West Riding do I, the beaten and rejected candidate of 1811, now come forward in 1846, without having offered myself, without having canvassed, and, as it now seems, without being opposed. (Loud cheers.) Not that we have not had some rumours and some demonstrations of opposition. (Hear, hear, and laughter). There has been plenty of blowing of trumpets; at least, there has been plenty of braying (Loud laughter.) We first heard of the pretensions of Mr. Archer Gurney, from Rock Vale, in the county of Devon. (Laughter.) That sounds very picturesque; but I believe that this gentle stranger has returned to his sequestered home (Laughter.) I am told that he appointed a meeting in Wakefield, and that he was met there by four prote tionists and seven reporters. (Loud laughter.) All I hope is, that he did not convert the reporters, because I rate their intelligence sufficiently high to be persuaded that, whatever their employers may be, they at least are on the side of Free Trade. (Cheers.) Well, next to Mr. Archer Gurney, came (A Voice in the crowd: The Bingley Bull)—(Loud laughter) --next to Mr. Gurney, I say, we had a gentleman who, as i am reminded, spoke in somewhat harsher accents. He was not so much a candidate himself as the godfather of candidates (Laughter); only, indeed, his godchildren did turn rather rusty. He first hit on two gentlemen, both bearing names -long highly respected in the West Riding. (Cheers). But the first object of his affections chose to go and fight the battle of native industry in the particularly independent and self directing borough of Ripon. (Laughter.) Now that seemed somewhat cruel in him to his godfather (Laughter); but I think that Mr. Ferrand himself it was who exercised the cruelty endured by the next candidate, because, if I am rightly informed, he has sent a certificate to state that he is not well enough to perform the duties of high sheriff. High and oncrous, however, as these duties may be, I dare, from personal experience, to assert that those of a representative of the West Riding are still more trying to the health-(Hear, hear, and laughter.) The result however is, that this day, when the question has been put to you, no opponent has come forward to dispute your choice. (Hear.) And how is it that this has come to pass? Will you, for a moment, in my anxiety to account for the phenomenon—will you let me refer to the last occasion of my meeting you in this town, and then take some credit to myself for having ox hibited something of the spirit of prophecy in the remarks which I then ventured to make? (Cheers.) I said on that occasion "that the opinions and the measures of which I am the advocate are now moving in their onward though unscen truck, and hastening to their accomplishment;" and I added, if there be one subject more than another in which a nation is most likely ultimately to see itself righted, it is on that which concerns its food." (Cheers.) And it is on the of England to its inmost depths—that I now come again to -that question which has stirred the mind ask for, and as I believe to receive, the recovered suffrages of the West Riding. (Loud cheers.) But I further said, on the last occasion of our meeting, the "the triumph of our opponents is the most signal and declaive which has yet been attached to the car of Conservative reaction." May I not, then, now say with equal truth that my return this day—my unsolicited, uncanvassed, unopposed return, will lay the corner stone of a great electoral reaction, on which other con-atituencies first, and finally Parliament itself, with the sanction and sympathy of the highest of all—the Sovereign hertion and sympathy of—the highest of all—the Sovereign nerhalf (cheers)—will erect the finished temple of perfect Free
Trule? (Loud cheers.) For I do feel, gentlemen, that often as we have met, and fully as we have sympathised already,
there never has yet been an occasion on which our opinious
and our hopes have been so much in unison as at present.

(Cheers.) I do flatter myself that the great mass which I
see around me consists of men boasting honest and simple
hearts, wound up to one common aim; and I not it to you. hears, wound up to one common aim; and I put it to you, what object can come so closely home to your interests, to what object can come so closely home to your interests, to your bosoms, to your every day life, as those laws which profess to regulate the admission of corn, and which do in fact regulate your daily meals—(hear)—which concern every main regulate your daily meals—(hear)—which concern every main whom I address; and not only that, but every one of your whom you have left beside the kitchen oven, and every one of your children, whorthough they may not be able to ask for food, yet can very well cry for it? (Cheers.) I have already referred to the past; and while I certainly shall think it my day to address myself mainly to the great question now at issue before the nation, I hope you will not think that I nuddily deall upon any tonic merely relating to myself; for, gentlemen, when a cannidate comes to present limited to

the choice of a constituency, some degree of egotism is almost rendered necessary by the circumstances of his posi-tion. (Hear, hear.) In addition, then, to what I have already quoted from former sayings of mine, you may remember, when I was last before you, that I also stated that I did not think I could reconcile it to mysetf, for the present, to occupy any other seat, or represent any other men, than the seat and the men of the West Riding. (Loud cheers.) Now, it is true that a great number of the inhabitants of this Riding, is an address which they were good enough to present to me, absolved me from all that could be considered binding in that engagement, and although it is true that the time had come when I might have considered it my duty again to embark in the struggles of public life—yet, gentlemen, how I do rejoice now that I have not entered into any other sorvice (cheers), that I have called no other men my masters (loud cheers), that I have reserved myself for this cause and for this hour (tromendous cheering), and that, should you shortly confirm my election, I shall go into the House of Commons as the member for the West Riding, to vote for—(An enthusiastic burst of cheering drowned Lord Morpeth's voice. When it subsided, he exclaimed)—I think you must be aware that the sentence was intended to have concluded with "the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws" (Repeated cheering.) You will bear in mind that this was the main point on which I sustained defeat, and the Liberal party in the Riding sustained defeat with me, at the last ge neral election. I was then opposed, and then beaten (cries of "shame") by the exertions of the great body of the landed interest (cries of "by bribery"), and by other friends of monopoly, because they said I had adopted a very violent and revolutionary course in recommending a fixed duty of 8s. per quarter. (Laughter.) I think they would be slightly obliged to me now if I could secure them the rejected 8s. duty. (Cheers.) But that scrip has gone down in the market, and no efforts can get it up again. (Laughter.) However, the revolutionary Whigs were got rid of; but, in the meanwhile, a youthful League had sprouted up. Oh, but they did not mind that—not they. On the contrary, they brought in an amended Corn Law of their own, scale, with some additional features, which they termed "rests." (Laughter.) "Restal" which preserved most of the muchinery of the old sliding "rests." (Laughter.) "Rests!"—most delusive word!
Whatever may be the beatitudes of the Com Law now-adays, rest is not an element in which it seems destined to breathe. (Cheers and laughter.) However, there were two or three good harvests in succession, and matters went on with comparative smoothness for a year or two. But then came the events of the last autumn, with which most of you must be sufficiently familiar. The average price of the quarter of wheat was thirteen or fourteen shillings higher than it was the year before. the best wheat in the market was fully 20s. higher, and in addition to this the potato crop was afflicted with certainly a considerable and still unknown and mysterious degree of pestilence, in Fingland, Scotland, and Ireland. Under the circumstances, all we know of the movements of Government was, that several Cabinet Councils had met, and broken up, and made no sign. Now, in this state of things the League came down to dine at Leeds, and I wrote them a letter there. (Hear, hear.) I am aware that I have some fustidious friends who told me, and still tell me, that it was all very well to express myself as warmly as I pleased in favour of the repeal of the Corn Laws, but that I had no business to give my money to the League. (Laughter, in the midst of which a voice cried out, "It is that 51, note which has secured your election;" renewell laughter.) His lord-ship continued: Well, if that was the case, at any rate I have bought it cheaply. (Cheers and laughter.) At all events I feel that any connection I have formed with the League will not be looked upon as a very grave offence in your eyes (no, no); and I need hardly trouble myself with any lengthened apology on that score. (Hear, hear.) But as on an occasion like this there is no objection on the part of any portion of my well-wishers which I should not wish to meet. I will say this, that, in the first place, the very little bit of money which has been mentioned was given to promote the local registration of the West Riding, and as a poll taken on the former list of electors turned me out, I can't be held much to blame if I co-operate with others to rectify what, in my opinion, was a mistakon judgment, and to enlighten future constituencies. (Cheers and laughter.) But further than that, with reference to the League generally, I could not look back to the events of the last few years, and at the same time dissemble from myself that, although many members of the League may have said things in which I could not agree, and although the League may have done things to which I could not subscribe, yet that the question of the repeal of the Corn Laws owes its present position mainly to the League (cheers), to its unmeasured exertions, and to the energy and ability of its leaders. (Loud cheers.) (A voice here exclaimed, "Three cheers for Cobden," which were given heartily.) His lordship resumed: And besides, I confess I do not like the notion of reaping the fruit of other men's labour, without assigning the reward which is due to the work. I think that it would be reversing, and not following the parable, if it was the labourer who objections to the wages assigned to him who had worked from the first. And although I do not think large self-constituted bodies, whether you call them Leagues or associations, are desirable modes of, or machinery for, working out legislative measures and changes, yet there are objects of such importance as to necessitate even objectionable modes of overcoming the obstinacy of the resistance with which they are opposed. Knowing, then, how powerful and multiplied are the interests combined—I may say leagued against a repeal of the Corn Laws—feeling this, and viewing the Corn Laws as we all do toppling to their fall, I could not—such were the sentiments in my bosom—I could not withhold that without which good wishes are but hypogray. and what Sir John Tyrrell (laughter) would call "humbug, and what Sir John Tyrrell (laughter) would call "humbug," my acknowledged and avowed support. (Cheers). Next in order came all the Ministerial changes and the changing and crashing of Cabinets. That, gentlemen, has now become rather an old story, with which we have not much concern. You will remember that Sir Robert Peal, though at the head of large majorities in both Houses of Parliament, felt it his duty to resign the Government, and Lord John Russell was honoured by a commission to form an administration in its stead. Now, all with which I have to concern myself is this:

I consented to saccept office in a Government avery member of stend. Now, all with which I have to concern myself is time: I consented to accept office in a Government every member of which had unanimously agreed to the proposition for a total and immediate repeal of the toro Laws. (Immense applance.) Well, that endeavous that glory-giving such a plance.) Well, that endeavous that glory-giving such a voter, was not even made. It was interrupted by causes would interend an effect angetting. They do not conserve up now that angetting. They do not conserve up now that angetting their consideration,

though I have a strong opinion about them; and I never will conceal my wish that my pure and high minded friend, Lord John Russell—the atatesum who had proposed the abolition of the Corporation and Test Act—the statesman who had introduced into Parliament the Reform Billshould also have been the person to have proposed to the legislature of his country the final abolition of the Corn Laws. (Enthusiastic applause.) However, I certainly my-self should feel, and I can sure that he would feel, any in-dividual or any party disappointment as compensated, and more than compensated, if it should turn out that this great question itself—a question of Free Trade—had more change of being brought to a satisfactory and triumphant issue with the Government in the hands of Sir Robert Peel rather than in his own. (Loud cheers.) And more, gentlemen, I think that the dispersion of the Whig leaders would have merited still greater reprehension. I think their hesitation would have degenerated into cowardice, and their caution into treason, if they had not felt that they had reason to believe that a Government of which Sir Robert Poel was at the head was prepared to do great things for Pree Trade. (Loud cheers.) That expectation has been borne out. (Cheers.) I think none of us will dony that in the recent proposals submitted to Parliament Sir Robert Peel Ins done great things for Free Trade. (Cheers.) I reserve for myself the consideration of the precise details; but I may say that I cordially approve of the great feature of that measure. rejoice in the instant admission, free of all duty, of colonial oorn, of Indian corn, of meat walt and fresh, aid live cattle. I am not sure, though I know that therein I differ from many of my friends, and from many ardent Free Traders in general—I um not sure, I say, that I shall feel myself called upon to dissent from the differences which he still wishes to retain between the admission of slave grown and free-grown sugar. (Cheers.) My doubt is, whether he can in practice realise that difference. But if he can, great as are the lengths I would always go in behalf of Free Trade, I must ever disconnect from all fellowship with that glorious cause the blood-red flag of the slave trade. But, with respect to his measures. I wish above all to avoid the three years' delay before we arrive at the totally free admission of corn. (Cheers.) I object to it as much with reference to agriculture as to any other interest. I am not sure whether it would not in the end tell more projudicially on them than any other class of the community, and in any amendment or motion which may be brought forward I shall be ready to vote that that which he wishes to take place three years hence shall be immediate and at once. (Lond and protracted cheering.) Gentlemen, if you send me to Parliament, I shall then, as I have explained, be on the whole prepared to give my cordial assent to the measures just submitted to the legislature, (Applause.) And in this state of things, whilst this great proposal has been just launched into the House of Commons, whilst the whole mind of the country is intent on the reception it is there to meet with, it happens that, by the will of Providence, and by the sudden and unexpected death of Lord Wharncliffe, to whom and to whose race I have been ever opposed during my whole public career, but to whom no one of his most determined opponents could refuse the just praise of being an upright, high-minded, and most useful public servant—it happens that by the vacancy occasioned by his death, the consideration of the proposal of the Prime Minister is just at this important and critical moment submitted to this constituency, which is not only the largest in the kingdom, but which, in company perhaps with one other, has a greater interest in having it solved than any other in the realm. (Lond cheers.) Yes, gentlemen, the West Riding of Yorkshire, comprising Leads with its woollens, and Bradford with its worsteds, and Huddersfield with its funcy goods, and Halifax with its piece goods, and Sheffield with its cuttery, and Rotherham with its fron, and Barnsley with its linens, besides the far and fair domain of agricultural enter prise—this riding has reason to say "aye" or "no," shall there be a total repeal of the Corn Laws; (loud and outlinsiastic applause); for that, gentlemen, is the banner which we have planted in our van, and which we engage to support against all assailants. (Cheers.) I cannot be sorry, though Free Traders, as such, recognise no party, and though they are glad to onlist supporters from every party in the state, yet I cannot be sorry to see before me so prevailing a com-plexion of our own old colour. (Cheers.) I remember in one of our former contests having christened it the "sun's own colour." (Loud cheers.) To day we will call it "the colour of the golden wheatshout," which the same sun is now ripening on a thousand shores, but which the legislation of man has hitherto kept from our ports and markets. (Vociferous applause.) They may talk of a black cloud in the west, but the harvest sun has a ray warm enough to scatter it. (Renewed and enthusiastic cheering.) I know that on the other side of the Atlantic they are uttering big words about Oregon, and we hear that the inhabitants of the western states of the American republic talk particularly loud on that subject, and that they are anxious to have a brush with us; whilst it seems that the inhabitants of the castern states are more pacific in their disposition. Why is this, gentlemen? It is not in the natural order of things that men should grow more warlike as they live further west. No-it is because the inhabitants of the eastern states have a long sea bound coast, large manufacturing towns, and ships, and harbours, and commerce. They do not like to risk those things, and therefore they say, naturally and very landably, they are inclined for peace (hear, hear). But it is different with the western states. In the first place, they cannot be very casily got at; in the next place they produce nothing but agricul-tural produce, and they know that if besides living 0,000 or 0,000 miles away from us, the quarter of wheat which they might be inclined to send over shall have to pay a duty of 20s. when it arrives, they would not be able to get rid of a single bushel of it, and therefore they iling up their caps for war (Loud cheers). But give them the same motives for peace which the full abitants of the castern states have, and being New York, and Philadelphia, being the sons of puritans and broadbrims themselves, they will be sotuated by the same motives as their more sedate and sober fellow-ditzens, and instead of wishing themselves to go a thousand miles further, where they would meet more new tribes of Red Indians to contend against than draughts of water by the way; and when they arrived there to go to war with us for a number of uninhabited pine swamps, they might think it more desirable to bestow a little more skill on their own rioli clay cottons, if you would only give them the means of taking your oottons, your woollous, your worsted, your hardways in emphange for what they can send us, whether it be wheat or Indian corn—a food hitherto but little known amongst us, but which, from experience, I can safely recommend to you whenever you can get hold of it. You will

find that some of their cakes, which they call Johnny cakes, to hard to rival some of our far-famed Yorkshire cakes. (Chaers.) What I have said of the present state of America applies still more strongly to those parts of the American republic which have more intercourse with us, and still more to the countries of Europe in proportion to their proximity; and I rejoice to think that in extending and encouraging universal commerce, we take the best means of extending and encouraging universal peace. (Loud cheers.) I was much struck a year or two ago on conversing with a neighbouring farmer of ours over in an adjacent county, as to the prospects of agriculture, when he said to me, "Ay, there never was a friend to the farmer like ——" Now, like whom do you suppose? Like the Duke of Richmond, or the Duke of Buckingham, or Mr. Hudson, the railway king? Not but like Napoleon Bonaparte. "There never was," said lift, such a friend to the farmer as old Bonaparte." (A laugh.) I thought I had never heard put in such close but unconscious connection the genius of monopoly and the genius of war. (Cheers). What was the state of the world then with wheat at 136s, a quarter, as it was in 1812, the quartern loaf 1s. 64d.; war all over the world, and at home nothing but Orders in Council, as our Saddleworth friends will well remember? (Loud cheers,) (live me then, I say, the com merce-not the conquest of the world-overflowing garners, and not an empty horel-open ports, and free produce, not a decrease of intercourse and the substitution of an embargo a dependence - I will even use that obnoxious word-a dependence on foreign countries, instead of independence and an isolation from them. (Lond cheers.) Dependence on foreigners! Why that is the favourite bughear with which the sleek soft tongued monopolist tries to bamboozle his gaping crowd of rustic auditors (Loud cheers.) Why, I ask him, how he would do himself without depen pence on foreigners? I need not ask whether his wife and daughters do not rustle along in the silks of France, the velveis of Italy, and the lace of Florence? but I would ask himself whether he does not procure his ten from China, and his collectrom Brazil—whether he does not wear the fleeces of Suxony, ay, and perhaps smoke the cigars of Havannah? (Loud cheers.) And if he does that, ask him in your turn by you may not have wheat from the Elbe and bacon from the Chid? (Lond cheers.) I believe that it is not in diminishing, but in increasing our dependence on foreigners, that we shall heat follow out the laws of nature and the will of Providence, and thus enter into the strongest recognizances for the harmony, the peace, the civilisation, and the prosperity of the world. (Hear, hear.) For let me put it to you, what is the case with those manufacturers of which the mistaken friends of the landed interest sometimes present us with so unreasonable and unfounded a jealousy? (Lond cheers.) What are all the manufactures furned out, whether woollen, worsted, or silk, but so much Work to sell? Where there is work, there must be hands and where there are hands there must be mouths, and those mouths are filled with the beef and mutten and beer and bread which are raised from the soil by the landlords and farmers of Eugland. But they say I want to transfer that supply from the native to the foreign grower; and I have just talked of wheat-from the Elbe, and havon from the Ohio; well, but the foreigner will not give his bread and bacon for nothing. He may have a very good opinion of the manufactures of Yorkshire and of England generally; he may love a better opinion of you than Mr. Busfield Ferrand has. (A laugh, and a voice, "He has as good an opinion of haz as we have o' him.") But still, though he may think them year time fellows, he will not be likely to supply them gratis. He will ask a fair, and what he considers a remuberative price for his corn; because if he does not get that ho will not send his corn, and there is an end to all the alarm about the transfer of supply. But I hope he will send a large quantity, and that he will receive a fair price for it, which he must receive either directly in your manufactures, or else in money, for which you will previously have exchanged your work. (Cheers.) Well, to turn out fresh work you must have fresh hands. Fresh hands again, bring fresh mouths; and the fresh corn which the foreigner sends over will be available for additional food, and I believe the additional hands will pretty nearly absorb the additional food; consequently, the demand on our native rural soil will be very bearly the same as at present, and any fall in price would, I flatter myself, be compensated by the demand for the different kinds of produce, and for the food which is produced on our native woil, and it would be compensated further by the withdrawal of the superfluous hands from the old rural districts into the new and improving fields of manufacturing industry. (Cheers and hear.) What I am tempted to look forward to an the result of an entire repeal of the Corn Laws would be much the same in effect as a perpetual sucecsaion of good barvests. There would be more to cat in the land, and when there is that, you may depend upon it there will be plenty of mouths to take it. (Loud and longcontinued applause.) I cannot but suspect the motives, or, rather, I will say I cannot but object to the reasoning which shrinks from abundance. (Cheers.) The blessing of heavon cannot be the bane of man. (Cheers.) It is not so much to me the absolute diminution of the price of corn which I look to as the result of the operation in the law, but it is to the uninterrupted steadiness of trade—to increased supply following increased demand - more to do and more to eat. (Cherm.) Such are the unblest consequences of the Corn Laws. Why, supposing, as a more matter of fancy, that some foreigners were to be so violently smitten with love for us, as to send over every year large cargoes of provisions geatts, as a mere token of their respectful regard and consideration for the British people, are we to say, "Oh, no, not by any means; we are much obliged, but really we have plenty, we would rather be excused?" Why, as I have tried to prove, this extravegant supposition, is not much more in favour of the British corn grower than the present state of things. Of course foreign corn growers will have money's They must be paid in manufactures, and more mugrown food. And now let me ask you, gentlemen, whether these are all crude and unsupported theories—will they stand the test of facts? Why, our more recent experience and the test of facts? sufficiently shows, that in saying what I have said I am only speaking the words of truth and soberness. We have recently had periods of dear and cheap years. This point was very fully stated in the House of Commons by Sir Jas. Graham at has been demonstrated also by Sir Robert Peel, and nowhere more fully or more ably than in our excellent weakly instructor the Levels Mercury. (Loud cheers.) Well, if you remember, there were two periods of commerce; diminished home trade, diminished wages, dimissished revenue, with an increased amount of poor rates, turbulence, and crime; while the cheap years have as uni-formly and regularly exhibited an increase in wages and

employment in every branch of industry: they have reemployment in every branch of the amparatively speaking, set cruited the public revenue; and, comparatively speaking, set order the doors of the workhouse and prison. (Loud open the doors of the workhouse and prison. (Loud cheers.) In the summer of 1842, which closed the last peflod of dear years, who does not remember the state of affairs? Every manufacturing town inveded, every mill barricaded; while last summer, which for the present, but I hope not ultimately, has closed the period of cheap years, what spectacle did it exhibit? Why, every man, from the Premier to the navvy, turning up the sod for new railways, while the great difficulty was that of preserving people from throwing away their good money too fast. (Cheers.) Now, I wish to observe that we have been charged with reckless, almost with revolutionary conduct in suddenly proposing to subvert long-established protection, and to upset deemy-rooted habits of industry. Well, with respect to the deeply-rooted habits of industry. Well, with respect to the suddenness of the proceeding, I think that the events of last autumn will sufficiently acquit us. I have told you of the rise in the averages of wheat, and in fact the irribes of wheat have varied in the same market from 30s. to 72s. practical view of the results of such variations, let me refer to an agricultural paper, the Mark Lanc Express. That journal stated last autumn that "the very inferior quality of a large proportion of the wheat of this year's growth has hitherto prevented the duty from receding more than a step or two ; and from present appearances it is questionable whather the article will be for some time admissible below twelve slillings per quarter." And again, "Had the quality of the new produce been only tolerably good, the duty would undoubtedly ere now have fallen to ten shillings per quarter, or even lower, in the regular course of things, the finer sorts of red having been for some time selling at 70s, and upwards, while choice samples of white have realised as much as 80s, per quarter at several of the principal consuming markets. It may be conceived, therefore, how had must be the quality of the common runs to have kept the general average below 60s, per quarter, such, however, having been the case, the last weekly return for the kingdom being only offs. 2d. per quarter. (Hear, hear.) So you see the rates of duty founded on the averages are no indications of the real quality of wheat in the market. (Hear, hear.) Then we had the failure of the potato crop, respecting which I may as well read one of the resolutions of the Mansion-house Committee, which sat in Dublin to investigate this melancholy subject—" We are, unfortunately; able to proclaim to the inhabitants of the empire, and in the presence of an all-seeing Providence, that in Ireland lamine of a most hideous description must be immediate and pressing, and that pestilence of the most frightful kind is pertain and not remote, unless immediately prevented. (Hear, hear.) Now, however Protectionist societies may celaim and protest, I appeal to you whether a Prime Minister could lay his head on his pillow, had he not first taken every means in his power to augment the stock of the nation's food, without the risk of being awakened from his sleep by the sharp cry of a nation's funine. (Hear, hear.) With respect to the more prominent and general charge that there is anything revolutionary in our proceedings, I say, that whilst there are many things in the constitution of this country, in the modes of thought and bubbts of feeling in terwoven with the framework of society, which I should wish to be enduring and eternal, (hear, hear,) yet there is one feature, one painful and pervading feature of our condition, which any one who, like myself, has visited the younger world across the waters-at the same time that he saw many things which he might not wish to copy, would carnestly desire to see removed—an abiding plague spot which he would be ready almost to give up the wealth of both nations to wipe away (hear, hear); what I allude to, is the striking and painful inequality between the two extremes of society—the extreme of wealth and the extreme of poverty. (Hear.) Do not mistake me, I am not declaiming against wealth; wealth we must have to feed our millions; neither am I trying to stir up your minds to repine against poverty. While such numbers continue to cover such space, poverty we must have. But I confess I should not much lament any change which would have a tendency to reduce the extreme inequality of the balance. For what is it I see among my countrymen-what is it I see among the inhabitants of the West Riding, who, in the wonderful multiplicity of their employment, are a very apt and complete representation of the community at large. (Hear, hear.) Why, see industry without limit and without parallel-lining the valleys, swarming up the hills-plying on the rivers, choaking even the railways-an extent and variety of active production calculated to warm, to clothe, to arm, to defend the whole world if they could but be our customers. But what is it that in this boiling, swarming, struggling mass of life and energy alone seems wanting? Why, more to eat (cheers)—a large louf, a fuller meal. (Cheers again.) Why, I sometimes feel that the very strength of our case constitutes my weakness. I sometimes feel I could willingly shrink from putting it in its full outline before you. (Hear, hear.) I almost wish I had made a mistake in reckoning the extent of the injury which I conceive has been brought about by restrictive and exclusive laws. (Hear, hear.) But is it not so? Taking our whole population together, can it be said that we have all of us enough to live on? (Cries of "No.") And is there, then, not reason to believe that by the removal of restriction—by the admission of foreign corn—by the downfall of monopoly—we can get much more to live on. (Loud cries of "Yes," and cheers) I know that it always bears the appearance of invidiousness to quote or rely on any religious grounds as the means of enforcing a political question, and I quite agree that it is most invidious and objectionable if we assume that we are more guided by conscientious and religious motives than our appearance. (Hear hear) But still I motives than our opponents. (Henr, hear.) But still I think the person who discards all the religious considerations which can be brought in favour of our view of this question of Free Trade, shows himself strangely wanting in his estimate of the real importance and urgency of the healing measure which we would propose. And though I will not dwell or insist on any such ground, I cannot, before closing these remarks, retrain from asking why, in the face of such ovils as we have experienced, and in the face of such advantages as we may hope to realise—why may not human legislators sometimes endeavour to act in the spirit of that blessing which the national church repeats on every Christmas morning-" I will bless her victuals with increase, and will satisfy her poor with bread." (Hear, hear, and loud obsers.) And if I am asked whether the chosen people of old, in reference to asked whether the chosen people of old. whom these words are used, were confined to the limits of their own rocky and barren Judea, I would quote again in reference to the foreign supplies which might be poured in upon them..." The kings of Tarshish and the isles shall bring presents; the kings of Arabla and Saba shall bring

gifts. There shall be heaps of corn on the earth, and big on the hills" (cheers). I may be told that those were refer to a still higher fulfilment. They may so; but I contest that the highest and most spored ministry of faith and of pro-phecy may be faithfully copied and adopted in every set of disinterested benevolence, in every exercise of comprehense charity, in the cup of cold water, and in the crust of dry bred to the meanest disciple (loud cheers). I will not venture to recommend the great cause we have in hand to any means consideration; I will not let my argument stoop from the height to which it may fairly be raised; but I commend the whole question—the question of free corn, of free food, and of Free Trade-I commend it to the reason, to the feeling and to the consciences of mankind. (The noble lord as down amidet the most overwhelming applause.)

Mr. R. WALKER (of Bradford) said, that as an elector of the West Riding, and as a person employing a vast number of operatives, he wished to put a question, which he regarded as one of the greatest importance to the noble lord. (1) oh, and cheers.) His lordship having participated in the views of those who had stated that they could not communicate a ten hours factory bill whilst restrictions continued to be imposed on corn, he wished to ask the noble lord whether, now that those restrictions were likely to be removed, be would support that humane measure for limiting the hours of factory labour to ten in a day for all young persons between 13 and 21 years of age?

Lord Monperu said: I think that, in accordance with words of my own which have been quoted, the repeal of the Corn Laws will give an opportunity for a fresh consideration, and I hope for satisfactory adjustment of the question of the hours of labour. I ardently wish that the question could be settled by agreement and adjustment, between the employers and the employed. (Cherrs, and a voice "No one else has ought to do wi' it.") If it cannot be so settled, I shall be willing to be a party to some legislative enactment, I comder that in the subject I may very likely go against the opinion of some of the masters-against some of the men but I will leave myself at liberty with respect to both as I think the circumstances of the time and the real interests of both shall at the time require. (Loud cheers, and cries of ' We'll trust you with it.")

Mr. WALKER having thanked the noble lord for the courtesy with which he had answered the question.

The Under Sirenier came forward and said-Has any other elector any other candidate to propose? any such elector let him come forward and he shall be heard.

No other candidate having been proposed, The UNDER SHERIFF said; Those freeholders and other electors who are in favour of Lord Morpeth, hold up your

In an instant a dense forest of hands was exultingly displayed.

THE UNDER-SHERIFF continued: Those freeholders and other electors who are against the election of Lord Morrell et them hold up their hands

We could only distinguish seven hands held up against the noble lord:

THE UNDER SHERIFF then said: The electors present being unanimously in favour of the election of Lord Morpeth, I do declare that George William Frederick Howard, commonly called Lord Viscount Morpeth is duly elected to serve in Paillament for the West Riding of Yorkshire. [Vociferous applause and waving of hats and handkerchiefs. The example was set by those in the immediate vicinity of the liustings, and was immediately taken up by the vast crowd extending the whole length of Wood Street. The enthu-

siasm and unanimity which prevailed rendered the scene strikingly imposing. Lord Monreyu, M.P., then presented himself and said, Gentlemen, I may now again say, constituents, ("hurral,") not for the first time. This is, indeed, like the old times. (Cheers.) This recalls many stirring memories. We have, gentlemen, as I remember Sir Robert Peel to have said (and we are now able to quote Sir Robt. Peel) (cheers)-as that right honourable gentleman said, in talking of our last vic tories in India coming after reverses, "We have efficed the memory of our shaine on the field of our previous disaster." (Loud cheers.) The West Riding, I am told, has its own again. (Cheers.) There is no title in the gift of the mo narch, the minister or the people, which I should be so proud of as "The West Ridings Own." (Loud and con-

tinued cheers.) And, gentlemen, it is no selfish or personal victory that we have won to-day. Broad as this Riding is, multiplied as its intorests are, the effects of our struggle and of our triumph cannot be confined to any local boundaryit cannot be confined to any single county in its ultimate effects-I hope that it cannot be confined to any single ustion, or any quarter even of the round globe we live on; but I hope that the shout of our triumph will go over the broad fields of England-that it will find an echo within the walls of the Imperial Legislature, and that it will be stamped, and ratified, and blessed to all future times, in the confirmed intercourse and the increased plenty of nations. (Loud and continued cheers.) You see, gentlemen, I do not lightly estimate the efforts you have made, the front you have shown, the good will with which you have silenced at once the hiss of monopoly, the firm tread with which you have allowed at once the hiss of monopoly, the firm tread with which you have allowed at once the state of monopoly. which you have planted the glorious banner of Free Trade; and I hope whonever we meet again, it will be to congratu-late each other on our consummated triumph. (Lond cheers.) I have now, gentlemen, after the singular patience and indulgence with which you have heard me, no longer to tresposs on your kind attention—that attention to which I never yet appealed in vain-that kindness which did not fail me in the moment of defeat, and which I rejoice to see today renowed and accumulated in the glorious shout of our finished victory. (Immense applause in the midst of which Lord Morpeth resumed his seat.,)
Three cheers were then given for the League, for Lord

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Morpeth, and for the Queen.
Mr. Charles Wood, M.P., moved a vote of thanks to the Under sheriff, and after it had been carried by scola mation, the proceedings terminated, and the crowd slowly

dispersed. The friends of Lord Morpeth, to the number of pearly Exchange Rooms. His lordship was himself present. The afternoon was spont very pleasantly.

LEIGESTER.—The Committee of the local Anti-Good Law Society mot on Monday, and, after mature deliberation mined to petition for immediate repeal, and petitions are now in course of signature. The subscription to the Question a Million Fund has been commenced by the two manufacturing firms, Mesers Biggs to Sons, and Harris & Sons, promising 5007. each. GREAT MEETING AT LIVERPOOL, TO PETITION FOR THE IMMEDIATE AND TOTAL REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.

(From the Liverpool Times.) A public meeting of the friends of Free Trade was held last night in the Concert Hall, Lord Nelson Street, to support a petition to the House of Commons, now in course of signature throughout the county, praying that the repeal of the Corn Laws, proposed by Sir Robert Peel, should be the collapsed instead of proposities in its county bearing that the repeal of the contraction of the contrac the Corn Laws, proposed of prospective, in its operation. An extremely limited notice of the intention to hold this meeting had been given; but, nothwithstanding this circumstance, the room was well filled in about a quarter of an hour after the time fixed for the commencement of the prohour after the time fixed for the commencement of the pro-ceedings—namely, half past seven o'clock. Amongst the gentlemen present we noticed the following:—William Brown, Esq., William Rathbone, Esq., Eyre Evans, Esq., James Mulleneux, Esq., Alexander Brown, Esq., Richard Sheit, Esq., Robert Mather, Esq., Charles Holland, Esq., Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., Thomas Blackburn, jun., Esq., Samuel Bulley, Esq., Isaac B. Cooke, Esq., James Harvey, Fsq., Samuel Seward, Esq., Charles Robertson, Esq., John Tatlor Crook, Esq., Joseph Dawson, Esq., C. E. Rawlins. Fsq., Samuel Seward, Esq., Charles Robertson, Esq., John Taylor Crook, Esq., Joseph Dawson, Esq., C. E. Rawlins, jun., Esq., Samuel Thornley, Esq., James Cooper, Esq., John Mather, Esq., P. E. Weber, Esq., Samuel Stitt, Esq., John Finch, jun., Esq., Jas. Mellor, Esq., Daniel Mather, Esq., James Ryder, Esq., Samuel Tomkinson, Esq., J. W. Mulleneux, Esq., F. Boult, Esq., &c.

Wm. Brows, Esq., whose entrance, with the leading gen-

themen above named, was hailed with very warm applicuse was called to the chair by acclamation.

The Chairman expressed his regret that the notice which had been given of the meeting had been so short, and that the Amphitheatre could not be obtained, so us to afford more ample accommodation. Having glanced at the important events of the past month, he proceeded to say that when the Free Traders of Liverpool last met, they were gratified by the letters of Lord John Russell and Lord Morneth, giving in their alliesion to Free Trade; but they were now gratified by the fact of the Prime Minister of England having announced to the whole world that he also and his cabinet had adopted the same views. (Cheers.) For this Sir R. Peel was entitled to their thanks; but at the same time, they could not but express their regret that he had not gone a little further (Hear, hear, and cheers.) They had been the advocates of total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and they must conscientionsly and faithfully stick to their principles. No doubt the Prime Minister was in his heart as good a Free Trader as any pers n 'n that room; but he had in some measure been obliged to succumb to the Opposition. (Hear, hear.) He (the chairman) hoped, however, that when the measure about to be brought forward came before the House of Commons, very li tle difficulty would be experienced in amouding that part of it which they considered defective. (Hear, hear.) fact was, that the rabid protectionists were such perfect gluttons that they did not seem to know when they were beaten in argument. (Laughter and cheers.) They travelled in a circle, round and round and round, and the Free Traders must follow them till they made them fairly bolt. (Applause.) And when this came to pass, the protectionists would find, that, though they had lost some wind in the race, they had not been very materially damaged, and that the Free Traders had won the contest. The country had yet a very hard battle to fight; for, though the Commons might support the Premier, there was some doubt whether his measure would sucered in the Lords, and therefore it was necessary to take every opportunity of supporting him, and of demolishing the stereotype fallacies which the protectionists placed before the country from time to time. Were he not afraid of occupying country from time to time. Were he not afraid of oberly run
too much of the time of the meeting, he would briefly run
over some of those-fullacies, and show upon what slight
grounds they rested. (Cries of "go on.") Well, they spoke of
a one-sided trade: they spoke of the great injury that the
country would sustain by the loss of its gold; they spoke of our being overwhelmed with Polish corn; they said that we should derive no advantage from reciprocity treaties; that by admitting foreign corn we should make ourselves & pendent on other nations: and they told us that we should make ourselves to the pendent on other nations. be making very great sacrifices, and receive no correspond-Now, he thought he could prove that every one of those assertions was a perfectly groundless fullacy. With respect to the loss of our gold, he could easily despatch that. Whence did we draw our gold? Did we not get it from the mines of Peru and Chili? And did not the Perform the mines of Peru and Chili? ravians and Chilians receive from us, in exchange for it, what in their estimation was more valuable than gold? We sent to them the products of our industry, what we considerable dered less valuable than gold, and they gave us in exchange their gold, which they considered less valuable than our products. (Cheers.) Having got that gold, what were we like do with it? Were we have a second to the England? Not Were we to accumulate it in England? No; to do with it ? it was only valuable to us as a means of obtaining the onvemences, and necessuri wished to keep 1(K) guineas in his pocket, if he could get something more valuable for it, either in his own country, or from abroad. It was exchanged for an equivalent—gold for machine for gold, each next got for merchandise, or merchandise for gold; each party got something which he considered more valuable than that which he parted with, and that was the only kind of trade carried on in the world. (Cheers.) There was no onesided trade. No one gave anything, not even gold, without
receiving an equivalent. (Renewed cheering.) Mr. Alison
had told them that if the ports were opened, we should be
overwhelmed with corn from Russia, Poland, and America.
The Chairman proceeded at some length to show that this asertion was also unfounded, and that the mistake arose from looking only at the cost price of corn in the interior of those countries, without taking into account the cost of transit over difficult roads to the ports, and then of convey ing it hither. His fear was, not that we should have too much corn, but that we should have too little. Another of the fallacies put forth at the protection meetings, and by the writers on that side of the question, was, that England had already made very great sacrifices without having received any reciprocity or advantageous concessions from other countries—that, in fact, they had become more stringent as we had gone on relaxing our commercial policy. Now, what was the fact? Norway, in consequence of our measures, had given us a Free Trade tariff, and had enabled us to double our exports. Sweden had natther moved one way her the other and has avanta had committed the assure. The nor the other, and her experie had remained the same. The Under with Russia (on whose bemp and flax we had made some little reduction, although we had not given the concessions or relaxations which we ought to have given had increased from 1,700,000k in 1886 to 2,100,000k in 1844; and if we were to admit her own and tallow on easy terms, she was prepared to give its a relaxation of her tariff.

(Cheers.) The trade with Prussia told precisely the same story. Owing to the slight relaxations we had made in her favour, dating from the last ten years, our exports thither had trebled. (Hear, hear.) Then look at the German Confederation, where our Government had sent Mr. M'Gre-gor to confer with the Zollverein. Their answer, as laid before the House of Commons in 1839, was, "Don't talk to us of commercial treaties, so long as you remain what you are. Take off your corn and timber duties, and we are prepared to negociate with you. Yet, notwithstanding this unsatisfactory state of our relations, our exports to Germany, had increased from 4,400,000/. in 1885 to 0,100,000/. in 1841. As to Lubeck, Hamburgh, and Bremen, we had nothing to complain of—their duties fluctuated from one to 113 per cent. Holland had a Free Trade tariff. Belgium had been slightly inoculated by France, and had laid extra duties on some of our goods; but we had nevertheless made considerable progress in our exports to that country. We had increased from 800,000l, in 1835 to 1,400,000l, in 1814. Then as to France: by having reduced the duty on her wines, we had more than doubled the consumption in England, and increased very much the revenue. In addition to that, our exports, which in 1835 were 1,500,000% in the face of a restrictive tariff had reached 2,000,000% in 1844. In the north of Europe the tariffs were more restrictive than in any other parts of the world. In 1835, our exports amounted to 10,000,000%, and now they had increased to 14,800,000%. This demonstrated, without the possibility of contradiction, that every relaxation which we had made had given additional employment to the industry of the country, and added to the wealth, the comforts, and the luxuries of the people. (Henr, and cheers.) We were also told that we had no evidence of the advantages of Free Trade. In disproof of this assertion he would point to the Channel Islands, where land was higher than in England. The chairman next referred to Spain and Portugal. Spain, he said, was prepared to meet us with a Free Trade tariff if we would take her colonial sugar, her fruits and her wines. (Cheers.) had always considered that Spain had been treated with injustice; and he trusted that although the Prime Minister had not said much relative to sugar in his budget, that he had something in view so as to make an advantageous arrangement with Spain. Portugal held the same language as Spain. She was prepared to admit the products of our industry, if we would admit her wines and fruits at something less than the present rates. Gibraltar was a barren rock. Our exports thither amounted in 1835 to 700,000/.; in 1814 they were 1,000,000/,; and yet that was a spot possessing no earthly advantage except Free Trade. Sardinia had as free a tariff as she could have. Genoa was a free port; in Tuscany the duties were very light. In the Papal States, the duties had been lowered very greatly, so as to admit the cottons and woollens of this country; and the King of the Two Sicilies had given a very liberal and encouraging tariff, so as to continue and extend our commerce with his domi-Venice was a free port. Austria, to meet our reductions, had since 1838 gradually reduced her tariff; and she says that if we will go on and reduce our duties on the import of corn, she will make still further reductions. Greece, when raised into a kingdom, adopted in the first instance a very liberal tariff. It had since been raised somewhat; but owing to the capidity of the officers, the tariff had been made rather higher than it ought to be for a revenue tariff. (Hear.) The duties probably amounted to about 20 per cent. Turkey was as free as could be desired. Egypt was the same. Persia was in a very peculiar situation. Its Government, as was well known, was despotic. custom houses were let to farmers, to make as much as they could. Yet those farmers were agacious enough to see that it was not wise to lay on heavy duties, and those imposed probably did not amount to more than five per cent. He wished that the same sagacity was exhibited here. In Arabia, the import duties were five per cent., including all charges. China had a very good tariff. There merchants paid five per cent., including transit duties. But, owing to our inebility to take a sufficient quantity of tea from China, we had only been able, in the course of the last ten years, to increase our exports to that country from 1,300,000. to 2,300,000%, and this, not withstanding it contained 300,000,000 of people, whose powers of consumption were illimitable, if they had only the means of payment. In Chili and Peru, the tariff fluctuated from 10 to 25 per cent.; in Buenos Ayres and Monte Video, it was about the same, but the probability was that the duties there did not, in fact, bear on us at a higher rate than from 10 to 15 per cent. He had the pleasure of informing the meeting that a new tariff had just ar rived from Mexico, and that a most liberal reduction had been made in it. As respected Brazil, however, he was sorry to say that we were placed in a very different position, owing to our exclusion of her sugars; our exports had been reduced from 3,000,000*l*. in 1835 to 2,400,000*l*. in 1844. To the United States, unfortunately, our exports had been reduced from 12,000,000*l*. in 1835 to 8,000,000*l*. in we relaxed our tariff, they we theirs. Mr. Walker, the present Secretary of the Treasury, was disposed to act in a way highly advantageous to the trade of this country, and he (the chairman) hoped that the cessation of our Corn Laws would enable him This would not only have the effect of increasing the commerce between the two countries, but he had no doubt that it would have the still further happy effect of preserving peace. The extent of the trade between England and the United States might be almost boundless, provided we remained in harmony and peace with one another, and both countries liberalised their tariffs. (Loud cheers.) He would now take a glance of the effects of what had been done to protect the colonies of British North America and the West Indies. In 1835, our exports amounted to 0,400,000l.; in 1844, they were 8,800,000l. Geylon and the East Indies had made up for this decrease; our exports thither had increased from 4,200,000l. in 1835 to 7,500,000l. in 1814. He had now carried his audience round the globe, and he had no place to allude to but the little island of St. Thomas's, which was flourishing and prosperous because it was a Free Trade port. The chairman then proceeded to show, by reference to the measures adopted in Autioch in the time of the Emperor Julian, and in Bombay only recently, that the natural and free operations of trade were the best relithe natural and free operations of trade were the best relisize for a country in a time of scarcity. He concluded by
stating that the principal object for which the meeting had
been convened was to submit to its consideration a petition to Parliament, approving, of course, of what Sir Robert
Peel proposed to do, but expressing regret that he had not
thoroughly adopted Free Trade principles. Mr. Rathbone
would move the first resolution. (The Chairman concluded
amidst general and warm applicate.)

When RATHBONN, Enq., then proposed the first reso-

lution, as follows:-" That we have seen with considerable satisfaction that Her Majesty's Ministers have proposed to introduce into the House of Commons a bill to reduce and roped the duties on various articles imported into this country, by which greater liberty will be given to commerce and manufactures. At the same time we regret that the proposition with respect to the chief articles of human food is not such as at once to give that freedom to their importation which the necessities of the country require, and which is imperatively necessary in the present alarming condition of the people of Ireland, owing to the

failure of the potato crop."

Mr. R. addressed the meeting in support of the resolution, which was seconded by James Mulleneux, Esq., and the motion being put was carried unanimously.

CHARLEN HOLLAND, Esq., then proposed a second resolution, to the effect that "the meeting were strongly of opinion that now, more than ever, any duty on the importation of grain was undesirable, and alike unjust to furners, labourers, and every other class of the people; and that they, therefore, were anxious to sign a county petition to the House of Commons that trade should be free." Mr. H. was succeeded by CHARLES ROBERTSON, Esq., who expressed his cordial approval of Sir Robert Peel's measure; but while he was willing to regard it as a very large instalment, he desired the meeting not to forget that it was neither total

C. E. RAWLINS, Esq., next read a copy of the county petition, which he strongly urged every Free Trader to sign; and after Mr. Lynch, an operative, had addressed the meeting, and a vote of thanks had been passed to the chairman, the assembly, which was very entineinstic throughout the whole of the proceedings, separated at 10 o'clock.

ANTI CORN-LAW MEETING AT EDIN-BURGH.—DEFEAT OF THE CHARTISTS.

On the evening of Thursday, the 29th ult., a meeting of the working classes of Edinburgh was held in the United Secession Church, Cowgate, to consider the propriety of petitioning Purliament for the immediate and total repeal of the Corn Laws. The meeting originated at an assemblage of delegates, representing forty of the principal workshops in the city. The church, which is one of the largest in Edinburgh, was crowded to excess.

Mr. Charles Ross, an operative, was called to the chair. He introduced the subject in a very excellent speech, expressing his conviction that Sir R. Peel's measure, however satisfactory as a great step in advance, was by no means calculated, as a whole, to meet the exigencies of the country. Mr. Sarjent, journeyman hatter, proposed the first resolution in an admirable, able, and pointed speech. He began by denying that the repeal of the Corn Law was a partyquestion, and in the course of his speach he national some of the absurd statements made at the agricultural meetings in England. He referred first to Lord Ingestre's advice to the farmers of Liebfield "to keep their powder dry," next to the Duke of Norfolk's famous "curry powder" recipe—and last of all to the threat of the Duke of Richmond to leave the country if the Corn Laws were repealed. There was something truly amazing in the very supposition of this beautiful trio emigrating from the country, with the farmers of Lichfield arrayed in procession under the hereditary Grand Marshal of England, the Duke of Richmond's piper playing the " Rogne's March," with a banner bearing the well-known

"True patriots we; for be it understood We leave our country for our country's good."

(Great laughter and applause.) But he would warn the aristocracy to beware. Let them remember that one of the first causes of the French Revolution was the scarcity and

dearness of provisions.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Buchanan, when a serious interruption was attempted by some Chartists, one of whom denounced the League as a blasphemous combination to thwart the designs of Providence as manifested in that mysterious visitation,-the potato-blight. Amidst hisses, grouns, laughter, and confusion, the leaders of the Anti-Corn-Law League were declared by one of these intelligent Chartists to be "a set of deep, designing, money-mongering regues." One of them maintained and reiterated with inperturbable gravity, that the League itself was a flendish caper,-a cunning device of the evil one, to multiply bread in the wilderness, and to work mischief.

The Chartist orators were ultimately pushed off the platform in the heat and climax of their elequence, and the great mass of this large and intelligent assemblage, were unanimous and enthusiastic in support of the Eree Trade resolutions. The meeting broke up about half-past eleven o'elock.

FREE TRADE TRIUMPHANT .- On Friday evening, Jan. 30th, a large and respectable meeting of the working chascs of this town and vicinity took place in the Flowery-Field School Room, for the purpose of adopting a memorial to her most gracious Majesty, praying for a total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the present corn and provision laws. The first resolution, which contained the opinion of the meeting, "That all restrictions on the free importation of corn is unwise, unjust, and a grievance," was proposed by an Irishman, and seconded by an Englishman (which shows the unity that exists between all classes on the present subject), and was ably supported in a speech of great longth by a Mr. Brewer, from Bolton, who declared himself a repealer since the days of Peterloo, and showed how the system of protection and the Corn Law acted on the farm labourer, and enlogised the conduct of Messes, Colden and Bright for their exertions, and sat down amidst loud applause. The resolution was put from the chair, and passed unauimously. The next resolution for the adoption of the memorial was moved and seconded, and passed unantinously. Several working men addressed the meeting, after which a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Thomas Ashton, manufacturer, for his kindness in lending the use of the school room, another to the chair, and the meeting quietly dispersed.

The Rev. W. Forguson, dissenting minister of Blocstor, Oxon, begs to inform his friends, through the medium of The League, that he has received the following sums and gifts, for the poor peasantry and starving mechanics in his neighbourhood:—From J. Bell, Esq., Wandsworth, 101.; a Friend in Reckney, 10s.; J. Bunting, Esq., and others, 10 smook-fronce; W. 51.; L. of Yarmouth, for J. Hubbock, of Oakely Bucks, 10s.; A. Muiriteed, of Falkirk, 10s.

REGISTRATION APPEALS.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

DECISION ON THE "APLITTING ACT," WEST BIDING OF YORK.

ALEXANDER V. NEWMAN.—The case was heard last Mi-

Cass.—At a court held to revise the list of voters for the parish of Lockwood, Joseph Bottomley, and thirty-four other persons, claimed to have their names inserted in the register of voters, as owners, each respectively of one undivided thirty fifth part of freehold land and buildings at Lockwood. The facts of the case are as follows:-Joseph Bottomley being desirous of obtaining a qualification to vote in the election of members for the West Riding of the county of York, some time in the month of January, 1845, called upon an agent of a political association, in the town of Huddersfield, and requested him to obtain a vote for him. Joseph Bottomley wished to obtain a qualification as cheaply as he could, but did not care about the nature or situation of the property, provided it would confer the right of voting, and did not occasion an outlay of money beyond what would give a qualification, the same time securing the ordinary rate of interest. His motive in applying to the agent was not, however, for the investment of money in land or buildings, but only to acquire the right of voting. Some time in the month of January, Mesers C • • • , manufacturers in the neighof January, Messers C • • manufacturers in the neigh-bourhood of Huddersfield, authorised the said agout to sell for them certain lands and cottages for the sum of £1400., their only object being to increase the number of voters for the West Riding of York. They were not in want of money, and would not sell any portion of their real estate, but it was only for the reason before mentioned. The agent that Mesers C, employed in this transaction was not their general attorney, but was only the agent of the before mentioned Association; he had publicly caused advertisements to be placed in the newspapers inviting parties either to sell or purchase small frecholds for the purpose of qualifying them-selves, and referring to himself as an agent, in consequence of such authority from Messes. C.; and from instructions received from Joseph Bottomley and many other persons similarly disposed, he arranged the purchase and sale of the said lands and cottages to Joseph Bottomley and thirty-four other persons, as tenants in common, for the sum of 14001. conveyance was accordingly prepared by the agent, and duly executed by Joseph Bottomley, on the 22nd day of January last, on which occasion he paid his portion of the purchase money, viz., 401., to the agent, on behalf of Mesers. C., and 17. towards the agent's bill of costs : on the same day a lease of the land and cottages was executed by Bottomley and thirty four other tenants in common, to the vendors, Messus, for the period of fifteen years, at an annual rent of 70%, which rent had since been duly paid. The land and cottages are within a very short distance of Mesars. C.'s mill, and were before, and at the time of the purchase, and are still in the occupation of persons employed at their own mill. The conveyance was bona fide, and the purchase money was the money of Joseph Bottomley, and the several other purchasers. There was no secret trust or reservation in favour of the sellers, nor any agreement as to the mode in which the elective franchise should be exercised by the 35 purchasers. or any of them; nor had any of them any communication with Mesers C. They, and the 35 purchasers entertained the same public opinion: and though there was no immediate consent between them, the only objects of the transactions on both sides was to multiply voices in the election of members of Parliament, for the West Riding of York. Upon these facts, the claim of Joseph Bottomley, to have his name inserted facts, the claim of Joseph Bottomicy, to have insumme inserted in the list of voters, was opposed on the ground that the case came within the statute 7th and 8th Wm. 111., chap. 25, commonly called the Splitting Act" as being a conveyance made in order to multiply voices, or to split and divide, the interest in houses, or land, among several persons to enable them to vote at elections, and, therefore were void, and of mone effect. The revising barrister decided that the statute did not amble to this case, and that the claimants were entidid not apply to this case, and that the claimants were entitled to have their names retained on the list.

This was a consolidated appeal, and nine other names were to abide the decision of the court in the foregoing case, AUDOMEST. - CHIEV JUSTICE TINDAL. - This appeal against the decision of the revising barrister for the West Riding of the county of York, raises the distinct question whether a conveyance to a body of purchasers as tenants in common is void under the 7th section of the statute 7th and 8th of Wm. 111., chap. 25, such conveyance being made on the part of the vendor and the vondees, with the avowed and only object of multiplying voices at elections, and gain the franchise; it being at the same time a bona fide convoyance, made on a contract of sale, where the purchase money had been paid and possession of the land really taken, and kept under the conveyance, and where there was no search, trust, or reservation in favour of the seller, nor any stipulation as to the way in which the elective should be exercised? The question derable importance, not only as it involves the general prin ciple of election law, but as it applies to a large number of the cases reserved for our determination. It has been argued before us, both on the present and other reserved cases that will depend upon a proper construction of the statute above referred to, taking into consideration at the same time the statutes subsequently passed and relating to the same subject matter, that if the conveyance in question was not a void conversuce then that the several persons claiming the right to vote under it were entitled to have their names retained on the list of voters for the West Riding of the county of York. Even if the statutes 7 and 8 Will. 111, were the only statutes passed upon the subject, and if that passage were to be construed strictly by the very letter, we think its provisions cannot be held to extend to the case of any conveyance made on a really bona fide contract for the sale and purchase of land, but that the statute was intended to apply to fictitious conveyances that had nothing more than the form and appearance of a conveyance, the parchment and the seal only—the parties thereto having lawfully agreed and intended that no interest should actually pass thereby. The first observation that arises upon the statute of William III. as to the provision now under discussion is that the clause is declaratory simply of the common law. The first branch of that section creates a new law. It is thereby enacted, "That no person shall have a vote at elections by reason of any trust, estate, or mortgage, unless such truston or mortgage be in actual possession or in receipt of the routs and profits of the same estate; but that the mortgage or cessuique trust in possession shall and may were for the same estate; but the second branch of the section, which is not now under discussion, is framed very diffletitious conveyances that had nothing more than the form tion, which is not now under discussion, is framed very differently, and by this latter branch, "all conveyances, in order to multiply voices and split and divide the interest in any

houses and lands among several persons, to enable them to vote at elections of members to serve in Parliament are hereby declared to be void and of none offeot." portant distinction proves incontestibly that the latter fact was intended only to declars the law as it atood, giving to it the greater weight and sanction of a legislative declaration. the first question, therefore, is, what conveyances made in order to multiply voices at elections would be void at common law? The right of voting for knights of the shire, given by the common law, is acquired by the two statutes, the 8th & 10th of Henry VI., being given to such people dwelling and resident in each shire, whereof every man shall have freehold in the same county to the value of 10s. by the year, at least, clear of all charges, and there was no restriction or prohibition by the common law against any man's purchasing fresholds within the counties of a sufficient amount to qualify him to vote, nor on the other hand against any man's telling the same to one or any number of pur-chasers, although the object of the seller and purchaser might be that the purchaser would acquire a vote; and, consequently, that the number of votes should be thereby increased. By the common law, therefore, no conveyance really and honestly made for the purpose of carrying such contract into effect was void. But by the common law, from the earliest times, a conveyance, however perfect in point of form, notwithstanding that it had been originally intended by a secret act or understanding between the parties never to have any legal effect, as a convoyance, was always held to he vold, whatever the secret object and purpose of the parties in making such conveyance might be. The old text writers have laid it down as an axiom, that "the law abhors covin, and any coviner's act shall be void;" and it is on that principle unquestionably that a conveyance, made in order, or for the purpose of giving a qualification to vote at elections, or for any other purpose, if made with the secret intention and design that it should fail to be evidence of any contract between the parties themselves, shall pass no interest and have no effect, would be fraudulent, and void at common law. Lord Somers, and it is impossible to name an authority of greater weight on a subject of the nature of the present, is express to this point in an observation made by him on the trial of the case of Onslaw v. the Bailiff of Haslemere, for miscouduct, as the returning officer, on which occasion it was proved that many of the voters claimed, under conveyances, of very many insignificant parts of burgage land that had been lately made, and fraudulently contrived to make votes against the election. He lays it down thus-" this case should be a caution to places having rights of election against making votes, by splitting burgess freeholds by such fraudulent conveyances, all such fraudulent conveyances as are not clearly made bona fide, a good consideration being in that case held to be void by the common law."—(See Lord Somers's Tracts.) He thus draws a very marked distinction between conveyances made to give qualifications where they are really honest, and where they are fraudulent and fictitions, making the latter only void at common law and as this trial took place only about fifteen years before the passing of the statute of William the Third, the language of Lord Somers affords strong evidence of how the common law stood at the time of passing that act. Again, the very language of the statute of William seems to point to the necessary conclusion that real and bona fide conveyances were not intended to be abolished, although the motive and purpose of the parties night be that of multiplying voices at elections, but such conveyances only made for that purpose, were fraudulent and fictitious. The statute says, "All conveyances in order to multiply voices" are declared to be void: it names a "cononly, and makes no reference whatever to any contract for sale on which a real conveyance was grounded, nor seeks to deal in any manner with the estate and interest on the land affected by the contract of sale, nor provides for the reverting of the hand which passed into the possession of the purchaser under a consideration, nor for the repayment of the purchase money to the purchaser: all which provisions might well be expected if the conveyance on a real bona fide contract of sale is not a fictitious conveyance, only was intended to be avoided on account of the motive on which it was entered into. And this is the more striking, as in the very same section provision' is made as to the estate of trustees and mortgagees, so that the mind of the legislature must have been awakened to the distinction between pretended conveyances which conveyed no estate, and one which was the completion of a real contract between the seller and purchaser. According to the distinction laid down by Lord Thurlow, that if the jus disponendum remains in any other person it is no longer in the person who conveys a right to transfer an estate that remains in another; and if the words of the statute do not in their strict and necessary construction compel us to hold a conveyance made for the completion of a bona fide contract of sale to be bad on the ground that the object of the parties was to multiply voices at an election, there is no willon those words aught to be ex-The object of increasing the number of freeholders at a county election is not an object in itself against the law, or morality, or sound policy; there is nothing injurious to the community in one man saying to another, "Buy that land for the direct purpose of giving or acquiring a qualification. The object to be effected is neither malum in sc, nor malum prohibitum; on the contrary, increasing the number of persons enjoying the elective franchise has been held by many to be beneficial to the constitution; and it certainly appears to have been the essential object of the legislature, in passing the late Act for the registration of the people of England and Wales. What ground can therefore exist for extending to real and honost proceedings the words of the statute, which may be fully satisfied by giving them the force of avoiding public conveyances only. It is further the force of avoiding public conveyances only. It is further to be observed, that holding the statute of William to extend to a conveyance made, or real sale, would be productive of much inconvenience and injury to all claiming under the purchaser. The object and purpose which this is intended to effect, cannot be displayed on the face of the conveyance bill, is altogether concealed in the breasts of the parties themselves, so that by the larger construction of the statute contended for on the part of the appellant at any future time, and between other parties than those to the original convoyance, this illegal motive, if brought to light by accident or otherwise, might destroy the title to an estate in whose some hand to might be for a new really hald an exhaust these ever hands it might be, for a sum really paid, or where there were two parchasers; or it may be perhaps even the conveyance of part of the sellers land to one other person, if the object was that above monitoned, must be held so be void on such a construction of the Act as this. A landlord of an estate could not sell any part of it bond file, and for a full consideration in money, to two different purchasers, or the laste to one only, if the object of such sale was to give the

purchaser a vote for the county, for the ofeation of the or perhaps one only, is equally within the principle, though an perhaps one only, is equally within the principle, though an in an equal degree of multiplication of views at one election. and splitting and dividing the interest in houses and land, amongst several persons. Taking, therefore, the literal construction of the words of the statute of William, to make only bona fide conveyances absolutely void, would very meet fetter the full and free enjoyment of landed property, and create insecurity in the sale of estates. Upon these various grounds, and for these considerations, we think the sounds construction of the statute of William, taken by itself, is, the by conveyances made in order to multiply voices which are thereby declared to be void, are intended, such conveyance, only as at the time of the passing of the act would have been held to be void by the common law; that is, converances intended by the parties not to transfer any real inteest in the land, but made for the purpose of multiplying voices at elections, and for that purpose solely. And as to the observation made in the course of the argument, that if they would be void by the common law, there was no necessity for making them so by the statute, it may be a sufficient ansage that it was thought desirable when such baneful practices a those described by Lord Thurlow, were in daily practice, to promulgate this doctrine of common law to sherifts' and other officers, upon whom the duty of conducting an eletion was cast, and to give to it the additional weight and solemnity of a legislative declaration. If, however, and doubt existed on the construction of the statute of Wei. III. when considered by itself, such doubt will be removed when the subsequent statutes made upon the same subject to effectuate more fully the same object are taken into consideration. The next statute to which reference is made in the 10th of Anne, c. 28, which is not so wide in its operation as the statute of William; for whilst the former statute by its general terms extends to all elections where the right of voting depended on the ownership of lands in counties or borough, the statute of Anne is confined exclusively to multiply votes in the election of knights of the shire. This statute is en titled an act for the more effectually preventing fraudulent conveyances, in order to multiply votes for electing knights of shires to serve in Parliament," the very title of the Act leading to the inference that it is directed not against all conveyances for all purposes, but against fraudulent converconveyances for an purposes, but against framement conver-ances only. The Act then begins by reciting the 7th agestion tion of the 7th & 8th William III., in which this question arises, and it then further recites, "That many fraudulent practices have been used of late to create and multiply votes." The recital, therefore, is more as a title, not pointing out the distinction in the creation of votes by fraudulent and fie titious means, and the making real votes, the latter of which could not be considered, in the language of the recital, to be injurious to those persons who had just rights to elect; and the lat section goes on to enact that, "all estates and conveyances whatever made to any persons in any fraudulent or collusive manner or purpose to qualify him to give his or their votes at such elections of knights of the sing (subject nevertheless, to conditions or agreements to defeat or determine such estate or to reconvey the same), shall be deemed and taken against those persons who executed the same as free and absolute, and be holden and enjoyed by all and every such persons to whom such conveyance shall be made as aforesaid, freely and absolutely acquitted, exonerated, and discharged of and from all manner of trusts, conditions, clauses of re-entry, powers of revocation, provises of relem-tion, &c., and all devises whatsoever shall be null and void; and the act then goes on to enact that the securities given for the performance of snoh trusts shall be void, and it im poses a penalty of 10% on every person executing such con veyances or writings under him. And we consider this latter statute to be a legislative exposition of the clause of the statute of William therein set forth. The avoiding conveyances, made in order to multiply voices at elections, was meant by the other statute to be confined to such conveyances only as were fraudulent and fictitious—to conveyances which are such in form only, and never intended to pass, or except such as were accompanied by some sevent trust for the behefit of the granter; and not to extend to bone fidconveyances made in completion of an actual contract of sale and purchase of land; for the statute of Anne is expressly limited to fraudulent conveyances, and it cannot be understood that a statute passed to render the former statute of William more efficacious as to the county elections, should be less comprehensive in its provisions than the former statute, or that the former should comprise within its provisions bona fide conveyances. and the latter be restricted to fraudulent conveyances only The statute of Anne meets the evil intended to be mel. though by a very different provision to that contained in the statute of William; for, whilst the statute of William is contented, by simply declaring the fraudulent conveyance void, thus leaving the grantor and grantee as if the conveyance had never been made, the statute of Anne, on the contrary, provides that a fraudulent conveyance made to give a qualification, shall be deemed and taken against those persons who executed the same, as froe and absolute, and be holden and enjoyed by all and every such person, or persons, to whom such conveyance shall be made, as aforesaid, freely and absolutely discharged from any manner of trusts or ton ditions, for the benefit of the grantor; at the same time, if precludes the grantoe from putting it in force, by making his liable to a penalty of £40 to the common informer; the legislature, probably thinking the practice of granting fraduction and collection. lent and collusive conveyances would be effectually obecked by making them good against the grantor, and frustrating the object of the grantee. But this provision never soak, in reason and sense, be meant to apply to a conveyance of a real sale of land where the seller already had received the purchase money, and consequently had always intended the grant to be good against himself. The statute of Anne spicars conclusive as to the distinction between franchist and real conveyances to create votes. The next statute the concept the consequent to the distinction between franchist and real conveyances to create votes. and real conveyances to create votes. The next status touches the question is the 18th of Geo. 11., ohap. 18, sec. 5. The enactment contained therein makes a distinction so often adverted to. The statute enacts that no Person shall often adverted to. The statute enacts that no person shall vote in respect of any right of any freehold estate which was made or granted fraudulently for the purpose of qualifying him to give a vote. Therefore there is the statute of Anse prohibiting and voiding not in every case where the enact is conveyed for the object of enabling him to vote, but in case only where it is fraudulently made to him to take the propers on the face of the granter of an assets, where it is accompanied by a second trail of the granter. In the course, the propers on the face of the grant to take the propers of the granter of an asset of the propers. In the course, the propers of the granter of the granter of the granter of the granter of the granter.

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the statute of William III., and after reciting that doubts had been ontertained whether derises by will, made in such cases and for such purposes as those mentioned in the formar statute were within the true intent and meaning of that act, the statute then enacts that all devices by will made in such cases and for such purposes, as by the set of William are described, are and shall be taken to be conveyances within the true intent and meaning of the said act, as if the same had been therein specially mentioned." In the agreement it was thought somewhat singular that the 53rd of frenge 111, should refer to the statute of William and not to the statute of Anne, unless the statute of William was in full operation, notwithstanding the stattute of Anne; but to this it may be answered, that a reference may well have been made to the statute of William because the intention of the Legislature was that a devise to give a fraudulent qualifica-tion should be altogether void; whereas, if reference had been made to the statute of Anne, it would have been good against the devisor or the heirs of the devises. The object of the statute was to write the word "devises" with the statute of William, and devises are to be dealt with in the same manner as the law is applied to conveyances. If the devise was fradulent, and never intended to pass the land by means of the secret contract of the devisor, nor left so that the heirs of the devisee could not take or convey, the statute of George the Third would hold that devise in the same predicament as a convoyance; but if by will a father devised to his son an estate of 40s. a year, intending to qualify him to vote for the county, and the son entered and took possession of the land without any secret understanding or reservation on his part, that devise would be in the same predicament as a convey-ance for that purpose, and would be good. Therefore, on the whole state of the case, considering the statute of William by itself, and with reference also to the latter acts, we think a conveyance made in completion of a bona fide contract of sale. where the money passes from the buyer to the seller, and the possession also from the seller to the buyer, and where there is no secret reservation or trust on the part of the seller, is not avoided by reason of the object or motive of the purchaser and seller being to multiply voices of au election, and as the revising barrister has by his finding trought the present case within that distinction, we think the decision by which he retains the names of the purchasers

on the list of voters was right, and ought to be affirmed.

RILEY, APPELLANT, v. CROSSLEY, RESPONDENT.—
CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL.—This case turns upon the same point in reference to that which we have just decided on the appeal from the West Riding of the county of York, in which Alexander was the appellant, and Newman the respondent. The facts differ in some particulars, but they do in substance bring this case within the same principle as that which we there laid down, namely, a conveyance made to carry into effect a bonu fide contract of sale, when the purchase money is paid, and the possession taken without any secret reservation or trust whatsoever, by the purchaser or seller, is not such a conveyance as is intended to be made void by the statute of William the Third or the subsequent Acts, notwithstanding it has been made an order and for the purpose of multiplying voices at an election, or splitting and dividing the interest, but that the statute intended to avoid such conveyances only made for the purpose, as were in themselves fraudulent and collusive; so that as in this case the revising barrister has found no fraud in fact, but has held the conveyance to be in other respects good, and only void because made in order to multiply voices at elections, and has therefore struck out the names of the 25 claimants entered in the case from the list of voters. We think the decision wrong, and that the same must be reversed, and the claimants restored to the list. Decision reversed.

CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL.—As to the five remaining decisions of the revising barristers that stood over to await the determination of the case of Alexander v. Newman, in all of which, it was stated by the learned counsel engaged, that they were not distinguishable in any main point from that, it becomes unneccessary to say more than that we think the

BESWICK, APPELLANT, V. ASHURCH, RESPONDENT.—We think the same was properly decided that the names of the respondents should have remained on the lists, and we affirm the decision accordingly. In the case of

BESWICK, APPELLANT, V. ARED, RESPONDENT, We think the dacision of the revising barrister, by which the names of

the respondent and thirty-one others, claimants, have been retained on the list, is right, and the decision should be In the case of TAURNLEY, APPELLANT, V. ASPLAND, RESPONDENT, the

decision of the revising barrister that the names of the nine claimants should be retained on the list of voters, was right, and affirm the same. In the case of

NEWTON, APPRILANT, v. HARGREAVES, RESPONDENT. We think the decision of the revising barrister, that the names mentioned in the case should be retained on the register is a right decision, and we affirm the same. This case is to far distinguishable from all the former ones, that this transaction is not a purchase or sale for the consideration of money, but this is a conveyance by a father to his two sons, in consideration of natural love, and effectual; inasmuch, however, as the law acknowledges the consideration of natural love, and affection, in the case of father and son, to be as good a consideration to raise a use, as a pecuniary consideration, between strangers, and as there is no fraud in fact found by the barrister, and we are not to infer it from any circumstances stated in the case; and the question reserved, being, whether conveyance is void by reason of the statute? we do, on this boint think the decision of the sentiative burglator about he point, think the decision of the revising barrister should be But in the case of

RAWLINS, APPELLANT, v. BREMNER, RESPONDENT, in which, the revising barrister held the conveyance made under circumstations and the last age. under circumstances substantially the same as the last case, to be void by reason of the statute of Wm. I.I., we think the decision wrong , and reverse the same accordingly.

Powerful. Political Prejudice Against PotatoPerle:—A Conservative, of the very first water, in Ipewich,
has given the imporant present to the stock not in the state of the stock not in the table in fature with the peaks on; although
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TO THE LANDLORDS OF THE UNITED

GENTLEMEN,-Ought you to adopt immediate or delayed epeal of the Corn Laws?

In determining this question, you will be influenced by vo considerations :-

What is your duty? and What is your interest

I will confine my remarks to your duty to yourselves, and

those dependent upon you, and your joint interests.

It has been repeatedly stated by "farmers' friends" that
the change produced by a repeal of the Corn Law will be so grout, that no reduction of rent, not even its total abandonment, will enable the farmer to carry on his business with a fair profit. On the other hand, some who found their opi-nion upon actual prices in different parts of the world and actual expenses of furning in England, think that a reduction of 25 per cent, upon the rent of arable land, and a still smaller reduction upon that of meadow and pasture, will enable the farmer to carry on a more profitable business than he line done for the last 20 years.

Others, again, believe that if liberal leases are granted, or the landlord performs his part in removing all obstructions to good farming, the tenant may continue to pay his rent under a Free Trade with more case than he has been able to do under the absurd restrictions and heavy drawbacks

which have accompanied monopoly.

Which of these is the correct view, is a question of immense importance to your tenants and yourselves.

To those of you who believe that the whole rent must be

ibandoned, and that the farmer will still be unable to subsist, I can only recommend a careful analysis of the farmer's xperses to show how unfounded are your fears.

To those of you who think that some rent will still be fairly paid by the land-but whother one half, three-fourths, or the whole of the present rent, you consider doubtful-I would urge, how important it is that this problem should as

soon as possible be solved by experience.

You are the father of a family, having land which now affords a rental of 5000%, a year, which you will leave to your heir, with a provision for your widow and younger children secured upon it. Let me ask you, how can you make this arrangement without the probability of doing great injustice, when you do not know whether the rental of your estate is to be 50001., 30001., or 20001. a year? You know the uncer tainty of human life—will you, for the sake of a larger income for the next three years, risk the great probability of doing an injustice, which will be felt for generations, by making an unequal will?

How important is it that you should know with what expectations and for what station in life you should educate your children! It is not very material to your and their happiness whether you possess 2000% or 5000% a year, but it is of immense importance that they should not be unfited for the enjoyment of the smaller income by being edu cated and prepared only for the larger one.

Then consider your tenants. How are their minds racked and harassed by suspense !—uncertain whether they shall be able to continue the occupation of that dwelling and of those fields to which they are attached by so many ties, or whether these inevitable changes must drive them utterly ruined from their home

You know that these fears are groundless. Come forward then, and at the risk of sacrificing some present income learn as soon as possible what will be a fair rent by learning what will be, the price of corn when you have thrown open the markets of the world—then make your arrangement with your tonant, and allay his exaggerated, but most distressing

The consideration of the question, How will delay affect your own and your tenants' interests? will at once show your duty to the labourer; the state of transition will be one of deep distress to him, because it will be a state of suspended demand for labour,

Now, is not an immediate repeal your true interest? What will be the nature of the preparations for a change to take place in 1849? Your tenants will have the strongest in ducements to obtain the largest possible produce from the land with the least outlay-to scourge the soil with exhausting crops, and to do as little as possible to enrich it, or keep it clean-and why? Because he knows that at the end of three years a fresh arrangement must be entered into with his landlord—that the fertility and cleanliness of the soil will be the measure of its value and of the rent he must give; and that although this exhaustion of the land will be a heavy loss to his landlord, it will be some small gain to him. I know the tenantry well. Some, with professional pride, will withstand these inducements, and rely, as they have hitherto relied, upon their landlord's fairness; but others, after a severe struggle with their feelings as farmers, will yield to a sense of duty to their families; and the prepara-tion for competition with the world will be, roads gone to ruin—fences dilapidated and uncared for—drains obstructed and ineffective—and the soil choked with filth, and ex hansted.

In cleaning land, a little timely care saves great subsequent expense; and your tenant's saving, by this process of terioration, will not amount to the tithe of your loss.

Believe, then, one who is deeply interested in agriculture—one who has devoted 20 years of his life to its active pursuit, that your own interest, your duty to the tenants and la-bourers on your estates, and your affectionate care for those dearest to you, all plead with a powerful voice for an immediate repeal of the Corn Law.

I am, gentlemen, your obdt. servant Ruddington Grange, Nottinghumshire. C. C. PAGET.

To the Editor of the Western Times.

Barnstople, Jan. 14, 1840. Sin,—Knowing that your columns are always open for the benefit of mankind in general, I hope you will pardon me for informing you and the readers of your valuable and widely circulated paper of the helpless condition of an agrioultural labourer, his wife, and family (named Gregory), in the employment of --, of Sticklepath Farm, about a mile from this town.

Ills wages are 7s. per week, and every pay night he has to allow 1s. for rent; leaving 0s. for the maintenance and support of himself, wife, six children, and daily expecting the seventh. His two eldost are stone deaf, for which they require two small loaves from the parish. Certainly this family must have

Malletwie of books, of the value of 0 6

Total 8 8

Then there is only 2s. 9d. left for eight individuals to live on for seven days, or not one furthing a meal for each. I would could fare much worse? Were the Duke of Richmond or any of the party to see and hear their distress, it would make the tears fall from their checks, and I should hope to hear them alter their tone, and stand up for the repeal of the Corn Laws. I would advise individueds to petition! petition! or else their fellow-creatures will be found dying in heaps. Hoping that when Parliament meets, the members will turn their thoughts towards ameliorating the condition of the poorer classes of this kingdom; and relying on their hu-

mune dispositions, I am, yours respectfully,
The Poor Man's Priend, and an Enemy to the CORN LAWS.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE WANTS OF THE PROPER. The Poem with this title, read at the Free Trade meeting of the working-men of Liverpool, on the 23d of January, and inserted in our last, appeared origithe sixt of sanuary, and innerted in our same, appeared originally in the first number of the Daily News; and is the production of Mr. C. Mackay, already well known to all lovers of poetry. The whole of the poems in the same Journal, under the title of "Voices from the Crowd," are, we understand, the production of the same author.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, February 7, 1840. WEST RIDING ELECTION.

No moral victory achieved in our generation transcends, either in significance or importance, the unopposed return of Lord Morpeth for the West Riding of Yorkshire. It is a triumph in which tho cause is worthy of the man, and the man worthy of the cause. Justice, tardy justice, has been rendered to a noble principle and a noble character. The largest and most varied constituency in the British Empire has retrieved with unanimity what was lost by a considerable majority. Prec Trade has triumphed, and the glory of success is enhanced by the importance of the field on which the battle was won, and the virtues of the here who is hailed as victor. In 1841 Lord Morpeth was defeated; he acknowledged himself vanquished in terms of sorrow for the present failure, but expressed confidence in his good cause, which drew tears from those who had been most active in his rejection. He withdrew from public life with that firm reliance on the ultimate triumph of sound principle which characterizes the Christian philosopher, and with that unchanged affection for his former constituency, which had been too pure and too ardent to be chilled by repulse. Five years are a long interval in the life of a public man; but his retirement for that space of time did not effice the memory of Lord Morpeth's virtues and talents in the heart and mind of the nation. As the evils of the protection to which he had been sacrificed became more and more apparent, the regrets of the Yorkshire electors for having caused so painful a parting, became deeper and kegner-to him they came back with all the fervour of a return to first love; during the period of separation, their hearts, which had not gone with their

Still to their Morpeth turned with ceaseless pain, And dragged at each remove a lengthening chain.

He, who resesuperior from defeat, has stood equally unmoved by the contingencies which have produced sudden victory. On both occasions he manifested a noble oblivion of solf, and a firm assortion of principle. He has not shrunk from avowing the obligations of all Free Traders, himself included, to the exertions of the League, nor shall we shrink from acknowledging the importance of the adhesion to our cause of one who, as a statesman and philanthropist, has won not merely the approbation, but the affection of every enlightened friend of humanity at each side of the Atlantic.

The West Riding of Yorkshire is the constituency which most fully and fairly represents public opinion in England. It is the most numerous, the most varied, and one of the most wealthy. Historical associations have connected the representation of Yorkshire with the greatest political and moral revolutions of our age. Yorkshire returned Wilberforce to destroy slavery, and Brougham to win Reform. It now sends Morpeth as the herald and pledge of success in an equally glorious cause; and there is not among all our public men one whose advent on such an occasion would be more acceptable to the British Empire. In England admired, in Scotland respected, and in Ingland admired, in section respected, and in Ireland beloved, his re-appearance in public life satisfies a universal design, and gratifies a national graving. It is raisly that the choice of an electoral body, affords squal satisfaction to the reason and the reclings; but I lord Morboth is one of the few estatement whose circum has obtained the suffrage of conscience and the tribute of affection.

TEW MUSIC.—New Editions of the FREE TRADE QUADLILLER and WALTZES, dedicated by portlesion to it. Tobden, Eaq, and Earl of Radner, to be performed at all Prest rade mastings and balls, now ready in the FIANISTA, No. 68, price 1s by gent, eighteon stamps. Mr. Cobdes's subgraph permission has been ractived, and may be seen at the Planista finds, of, Tatermoster row, one door from Chespetic; where may be had No. 69 Planista; containing the whole opera of Sonnambula, for 2s; and No. 67, Fra Diavolo, 2s.

". This Proprietors of the Planista caused the Fre-trade in Maste. Nvery good Free trader will therefore have a copy of those beautiful quadrilles and Waltzes—Unronicio.

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No. 125.—Vol. III.]

- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1846.

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By order of the Council

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

TOTAL AND IMMEDIATE REPEAL.

In reply to numerous inquiries from all parts of the country, we are authorised to reiterate the assurance given in our columns last week, that the earliest opportunity afforded by the forms of the House will be taken to submit the usual motion for IMMEDIATE Repeal to the decision of Parliamont.

THE DEBATE.

We cannot say that the interest of the Parliamentary discussion of the past week has been commensurate with the transcendant importance of its subject-matter. On the whole, we are constrained to confess, the affair has gone off rather heavily. Nor could it well have been otherwise. The best intellect of the House is all on one side—on the other, there is little beyond a gentle (or angry) dulness, relieved only by occasional digressions into the realms of absurdity and paradox, or by outbreaks of personal and party spleen. The interest of novelty, and that of curiosity, are both wanting: All the arguments, or pretences of argument, are of the stalest—and the result of the whole business is already foreknown. The bill will pass; nothing remains to be ascertained, except by how large or how small a majority, and in what particular week of this or the ensuing month. There is really little or nothing to be said, at this time of day, except on the mere personal or party questions, whether this or that set of public men have the best "moral right" to do right, and whether Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues were sincere, or insincere, last year, or four, five, or seven years ago-questions which nobody is just now particularly anxious to hear answered. The whole care of the protectionist defendants is narrowed into "abuse of the plaintiff's attorney." And the world is so much in the habit of hearing plaintiff's attorabused, and so little inclined to join in the abuse, considering that plaintiff's attorney is in the very act of rendering the world an invaluable service, that the abuse might just as well be spared, and the defendant's counsel would lose nothing by reserving their vituperative resources for a fitter occasion. On the whole, we scarcely recollect a Parliamentary debate, on any subject of first class mement, that presents, comparatively speaking, so few selient points of public interest.

The personal and party recriminations which have filled hitherto so large a space in this discusdon, have certainly not been devoid of eleverness. They have only the fault of being utterly beand beneath the occasion. Lord Worsley it deal of derivative and derivati O THE SHOE BOOK INTO HOLD TO THE STATE OF TH

nisters hold exactly the same opinions now that they did some years ago, and whether they can fairly lay claim to the character of consistent politicians, the Hansard reports would be really invaluable. But, as it happens, this is not the question. Ministers "frankly avow" that they have " changed their opinions"—that their present opinions are most decidedly inconsistent with the old Hansard opinions—and that their own Corn Law has failed-" signally failed," as was manfully said by one of them, and claborately shown by another. They tell us they are inconsistent—and there is an end of the matter. They do not pretend to hold the Hansard opinions—they maintain that the Hansard opinions are all false together; and with this one broad and plain avowal, they "dispose of" the whole of that logic and rhetoric which have been so superfluously lavished on this particularly uninteresting and insignificant topic.

The only question is, Are Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues right now?—not, Wore they right, four, five, or seven years ago? The question now is, How are the people to be fed? How is Irish famine to be averted, or mitigated? How are commerce and manufactures to be saved from the revulsion which experience has shown to be invariably consequent on scarcity and dearth of food? How are agricultural interests and relations to be placed on a sound and stable footing? How are the scenes of 1842-the miseries and horrors of Stockport and Paisley-to be prevented from recurring, when the causes that produced them have already commenced their operations? How is the great wages-fund to be kept up? How are distress, pauporism, crime, and mortality to be kept down? How are we to maintain that diminution of 18 per cent. on the criminal commitments which, as our Home Secretary tells us, has resulted from low prices of food and high wages? shall we take security against the return of those days, when combinations, strikes, political discontent, turbulence, and midnight burnings, alarmed and torrifled the responsible guardians of the public neace, and when regiments were hurried off to Manchester, by railway, to suppress anticipated commotion in the manufacturing districts? The question is, How shall "the greatest error ever committed by legislation" be repaired—now shall the COUNTRY BE GOVERNED? To inquire, with one of our protectionist orators, "Upon what principles parties in this country are to be kept together," is a piece of trifling for which the public are not at present in the mood.

We must do Ministers the justice to say, that they bear themselves well and worthily in this matter. They rise to the height of their great argument. They give the go-by to all secondary and non-essential matters, and keep their own and the public attention steadily fixed on the one great question of questions, of which they have undertaken the solution. Nothing can be better, in tone and spirit, than the speeches of Mr. Sidney Herbert and Sir J. Graham. The speakers, it is plain, are in earnest —thoroughly and intensely in earnest. They know they are right. They speak like men irresistibly forced upon an unwelcome and highly inconvenient conclusion, which they cannot and dare not blinkurged by a necessity which they must and will obey. They speak with a strength, a clearness, a cogency, a self-consistency, which we have not observed in ministerial oratory for this many a day. Their language in effect, "Think of us as you please, say of us what you please—but pass our bill, for thoughpire needs it; never mind whether we were Fight or wrong, some years ago we are right now, and for wrong to the ministry we have the ministry we must be ronger the question of saving, that they

have been true to the exigencies of this great occasion, and to the public interests entrusted to their charge. By a generous oblivion of party, and a wise avoidance of all irritating party topics, they have given moral weight and force to their enunciation of those broad principles of public policy and justice with which they are identified. All vulgar political considerations are merged and lost in an all-absorbing anxiety for the success of a great public measure; great, both in its immediate results of practical amelioration, and in its prospective assertion and realisation of sound principles. The speech in which Lord John Russell, while emphatically warning the Government of the evils and dangers inherent in their three years' sliding scale, avowed his determination to throw no obstruction in the way of a measure presenting so many and so large substantial advantages to the country, adds much to the claims which the Free Trade representation of the City of London had already established for himself, on public honour and confidence. And the powerful and carnest manner in which, on Thursday night, Lord Morpeth addressed himself to those higher social aspects of the question, which he so felicitously and impressively exhibited in the light thrown on them by his recent observations of other social institutions and modes of life than our own; the warning to Protectionist lords and land. lords, that no aristocracy is safe which " props itself on special interests" at variance with those of the great mass of the community, and that, if aristocratic institutions are to keen their ground, they must be "administered and worked out in rather more of a democratic spirit than heretoforo"-in the spirit of sympathy with the people, and respect for the people;-this is a dtting recommencement of the Parliamentary life of the man whom the foremost of English constituencies have judged worthy of their confidence. The Free Traders of the West Riding are rewarded.

One other feature of the week's debate calls for notice. We allude to the strong and steady undercurrent of Free Trade destrine which runs through the whole of the protectionist argument and oratory. Either by direct assertion, or by incidental and un conscious admission, nearly every speaker on the monopolist side has affirmed some one or more of the leading and fundamental maxims of the Free Traders. The mover of the amendment ascribed, the extraordinary prosperity of the last three years to "a succession of good harvests"-which is procisely what we have always said; - and his seconder, with a happy obliviousness of the great first dogma of landlordism, boasted, that " the provisions of the people have been outear and regular, in proportion to the protection afforded to the growth of corn;" that is to say, cheapness of broad is a national good, worthy of being expressly and carefully legislated for-cheap bread does not mean low wages—it is all nonsonso about the "Polish serfs," and "Pomoranian peasants." Another speaker, on the same side, " believed, from the bottom of his soul, that THE AGRI-CULTURAL ART WAS AT PRESENT ONLY IN ITS IN PANCY "-which is also exactly what we have always said. The "agricultural art is at present only in its infancy;" and in its infancy it will infallibly, remain so long as agriculturists are treated like infants swaddled all round with protection, and not suffered to run alone. Mr. Stafford O'Brien olinches our argument for us with an illustration. to which we can only do justice by quoting, the honourable member's words:

"He wished to apply the system of the now philosophy to the tenant fermers to be apply furner game to his lending and faid; Signi hope you yell; allow me an abginish of my reat. I nevy not understand draining quite as well as property of the property of

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your colours, and I should be very sorry to go snywhere else.' The landlord might reply— My good fullow, I sin worry for you; you invested your espital, and so did I, on the faith of former legislation; but we see told now that we must buy at the cheapest and sell at the dearest market, and there is a gentleman from a manufacturing district with abundance of money, who is ready to spend it upon my land. I must look to the interest of my family; and as to your talk about found times, and wenting my colours, that is all exploded, and under the new system there is no true blue now. So that unless the landlord acted with better faith and kindlier feeling than the legislature, the tenant farmer must go, a new and rich tenant must be put in passession, and the land might, by improvements in agriculture, be made to bear five quarters per acre instead of three."

No, according to this zealous and eloquent protoctionist champion, the "new philosophy" is, after all, a perfectly true philosophy. Landlords will get higher rents under the Free Trade regime than under protoction—more capital will be invested in the cultivation of the soil—and more produce will be extracted from the soil. Free Trade crops will bear to protection crops the proportion of five to three. There will be two-fifths more of corn grown under Free Trade, than is grown under protection by Act of Parliament.

We have nothing more to say. What more could we say This is our case. Mr. Stafford O'Brien perfectly understands the whole question—and he puts it so well, that all the world can understand it, too. The landlord's Corn Law is a law against the growth of corn—against the fertility of the soil—against agricultural improvement—against the application of capital, skill, science, and labour to agriculture. It is a law for growing three quarters of wheat where there might be five. It is well for the interests of truth, when so much force and justness of thought are combined with so happy a vivacity of expression as nature has allotted to Mr. Stafford O'Brien.

PROTECTION TO MANUFACTURES

There has been no response to the appeal made by the protectors of agriculture to the operative classes, save from their natural allies, the funatics of Trades' Unions. Indeed, the absurdity of proteeting manufactures which defy competition in foreign markets, is so potent and so palpable, that we are surprised how ever county members could expect to excite sympathy on the subject. There is, however, another fallacy, which has been recently put forward in Spitalfields-the great importance of the home trade to the manufacturors of that district, and the comparative unimportance of the export trade. As there is a considerable export of silks from this country, we can see no reason why the manufacturers of Spitalfields should not have as large a share in it as the manufacturers of Lancashire; if they have not, it must be their own fault. If they are unable to compete with Manchester, the sooner they change their system the better. But, taking their special view, we are ready to show that the home market will afford them greater remuneration under a system of Free Trade than under a system of protection. They must either compete with the fair trader, or the smuggler. In the world of fashion, articles excluded by a system of protoction acquire an artificial value from their being difficult of attainment. French silks, independent of all comparison of pattern, and material, are more sought after than English silks, because they show, or are doesed to show, a higher rank in the weater. Without at all detracting from the merits of the Spitalfields manufacturers, we state a fact which they thomsolves will readily acknowledge, that until within the last few years these patterns, both in design and execution, were decidedly inferior to those of Paris and Lyons. They have recently made great improvements in both respects, and have reaped some rewards from their ingenuity; but still these fubrics have not won the sauction of fushion. The protectionists advise them to ask for more stringent laws against smuggling, but they forget that even without smuggling large quantitles of French silks must continue to be brought over by the multitudinous British families that visit the Continent. We can state with corprinty that in every large silk-warehouse of Paris it lias been found necessary to employ English clorks in consequence of English visitors forming in all cases a large proportion, and in many the majority, of

their customers. Now, under Free Trade, French silks would lose their factitious and fashionable value; English producers would compete with French producers on equal terms. Had English silks been unprotected, a public opinion would never have been formed against them; but the fact of their being protected is the main source of the general belief that French silks are cheaper and better.

Protected trades are always those of least progress and greatest complaint. We believe that the weaver of Spitalfields can compete with the weaver of Lyons; if he cannot, neither can he compete with the weaver of Manchester, who does not hesitate to meet French producers in foreign markets. If he cannot, it is a proof that the system of Spitalfields is had, and that we are asked to continue one evil for the sake of perpetuating another.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Fourth Week, ending Saturday, February 14.

The Parliamentary week opened with an anticipated yet significant event. On Monday, after the Speaker had taken the chair, Lord MORPETH was introduced, and at the table of the house took the usual oaths as representative for the West Riding of Yorkshire. His appearance was marked by cheering, which was again renewed, when, during the time for the presentation of petitions (of which there was a large number, though not at all so great as have been exhibited on other stirring occasions) the noble lord rose to present several from the West Riding. Mr. Ferrand thought proper to manifest himself after his usual fushion. He rose to ask a question-"Were the signatures to these petitions the free and unbiassed acts of the parties themselves? because he had been informed that ___ " Here the SPEAKER interposed. The honourable member might ask a question relative to the petition, but could not, according to the rules of the house, make a speech. The discomfited Ferrand sat down; and Lord Morpeth quietly answered, by saying, that "to the best of his belief and the entireness of his conviction," the signatures were really the free and unbiassed acts of the parties themselves.

The petitions, as we have said, though considerable in number, presented no such formidable array as might have been witnessed on some former occasions of interest. Still, there were some remarkable ones, as those presented by Mr. Mark Philips from Manchester, and by other members from other places. Those in favour of Free Trade, and of total and immediate repeal, preponderated very considerably, both in number and in character, over those which the protectionists had to present.

The house was crowded: but before the debate commenced, Sir Robert Peel made a somewhat important statement. He had, on a former evening, in reply to Lord John Russell, informed the house and the country that the Government intended that the remission of the duties on the articles contemplated, including those on conx, should take place from the day that the resolution, affirming the reduction, had been confirmed by the reception of the report on it. This is a preliminary stage in the proceedings. When duties are to be altered, either imposed, increased, or reduced, the first step is the proposition of a resolution, or a series of resolutions, in a committee of the whole house. If this passes, the resolution, on a subsequent day, is "reported" to the SPEAKER, by the chairman of committees; and then leave is given to bring in a bill, which must go through all its subsequent stages. Of course, when duties are remitted from the day that a "resolution" is affirmed, the Government take precaution that the importors shall give security for the payment of the higher duties, in case the bill should not ultimately become law. Sir Robert Peel now informed the house that the Government would adhere to the practice in previous cases, of not remitting the duties on corn until the Act had received the royal as ent; but to obviate, as much as possible, the inconvenience which the delay would cause, they would proceed with the Corn Bill to the exclusion, in the meantime, of other public business.

The "order of the day" was then moved, that the house should resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, on the commercial propositions of the Government! The SPEARER put the question: "That I do now leave the chair," upon which up 1989.

Mr. Philip William Skinner Miles, one of the mema hers for Bristol, and younger brother of Mr. William Miles, the well-known member for Somerce Mires. Mr.

Philip Miles moved as an amendment, that the house should go into committee on the Government propotion w that day six months." This, of course, is a direct negative. The speech in which Mr. P. Miles supported his amondment was delivered with calmuess, and somewhat easy fluency; his manner gave an air of respectability to his arguments. But the arguments themselves were of the stock kind, and not unfrequently self-contradictory. He saw no sufficient ground, either in the price of wheat or in the failure of the potato crop, for the sweeping propositions of the Government. The law of 1842 had worked well; under it Sir Robert Peci hoped to maintain a price about 58s. the quarter; the actual price at the time he proposed to open the ports was only 56s. 2d. Increase of exports was no test of commercial prosperity, for India, China, and other markets were glutted with our goods. Engaged alike in commerce and agriculture, he was no enemy of any interest; but he dreaded the unnatural expansion of our manufacturing system, and in the adoption of Free Trade saw ruin to all, beginning with the humbler classes, whose wages it would reduce, until it reached the higher, whose incomes it would diminish. Then Free Trade would destroy our shipping, and sweep away navigation laws and reciprocity treaties. colonies would cease to be of value to us, for they, too, must have equal liberty to trade freely with the foreigner; and thus anticipating universal disaster from the adoption of the Government scheme, he progness ticated that its adoption would neither allay the appetite for change, nor repress agitation. He asked if the Anti-Corn-Law League would now be induced to "retire into private life:"-a question which provoked much laughter. If it did, said Mr. P. Miles, other assortations would arise, to agitate for other objects. He concluded by proposing his amendment, which was seconded by

Sir William Heathcote, one of the representatives for North Hants, who expressed his confidence in the Government, while opposing their propositions as ruinous. He was for Free Trade in grain with the colonies, but not with foreign countries.

The Hon. Mr. Lascelles, brother of the Enri of Harwood, and member for Wakefield, rose, immediately behind the Treasury bench, and advocated the commercial policy of the Government. Though Mr. Lascelles is a Conservative, he is not a turn-coat. Before the general election of 1841, he supported the commercial changes of the then Whig Government, and has, therefore, consistently supported the policy of the present Government, from the tariff of 1842, down to the present greater scheme. But a reference which he made, praising Sir Robert Peel as a greater financial Minister than any of his Whig predecessors, called up Lord J. Russell at a later period of the evening, in vindication of the consistency of his party, and their steady adherence to principle, whether in or out of office.

Lord Norreys, son of the Earl of Abingdon, and one of the representatives for Oxfordshire, next expressed his dismay at the sweeping propositions of the Government; which, however, were defended by

Mr. A. B. Cochrane, one of the members for Bridport, who ridiculed the idea that members were never to change their opinions, and quoted the witty saying of a remarkable individual, who had remarked that the advocate of an unalterable law must be an unalterable fool! Mr. Deedes, a new "agricultural mind" representative from Kent, took, of course, the protective side; and was followed by

Sir John Walsh, who represents Radnorshire. This gentleman endeavoured to raise the question to the disnity of debate. He quoted statistics, expounded the theory of rent, and tried to break a lance with the political economists. The rental of Great Britain, according to the income-tax returns of 1842, was 45,750,000L, to which add 15,000,000L for Ireland, and we had an annual rental of \$0,000,0004, or double the annual amount of the interest of the national debt. The landed proprietors were at least 200,000 in number; and he warned them against touching their rental by changes which would throw the loss on its actual recipients, the tradesmen, and other people in the country upon whom the landlords expand their incomes. Again, he told the political economists that they were ignorant of the theory of rent, and unaware of the fact that a fall in price would touch, not rental, but the profits of the tenant farmer, who thereby would be ruined, and his tuin would descend on the labourers whom he employed

Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope, mamber for Malifishes, and youngest son of the life author of Anathrica made a speech characterized by manbling hymoslytes, little, buffconeny, and touches of satural common the staple of which however, was an attack in the staple of which however, was an attack in the staple of which however, was an attack in the staple of which however, was an attack in the staple of which however, was an attack in the staple of which however, was an attack in the staple of which the party place things in the staple of the staple o

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tween two bundles of hay. He spoke strongly against the measure, and as strongly expressed himself determined to support it. After pointing out what he thought would be the misory which Free Trade might produce, he gave the go-by to his fears, by expressing himself, not merely going to vote for Free Trade, but his belief that under Free Trade England would be as great as

No member had yet spoken from the Opposition side of the house, but now

Lord John Russell rose, and told Lord Sandon that he was going to give his vote on the same side with him, but he trusted with more of heart and hope! The noble lord's speech deserves perusal.

Sir Robert Harry Inglis followed Lord John Russell, with some stock arguments for protection; and the night was wound up by a very remarkable speech from Mr. Sidney Herbert, half brother of the Earl of Pembroke, and one of the representatives for South Wilts.

Mr. Sidney Herbert, as is well known, is Secretary at War, and a member of the Cabinet. He it was, who in the early part of last session told the agriculturists not to come "whining" to the House of Commons for relief. (In the present occasion he gave the history of his conversion to Free Trade views, and certainly spoke with much ability in support of the measures of the Government of which he is a member. The law of 1842, he frankly avowed, had fuiled; and the state of the agricultural population showed that protection had done nothing for them. The remarkable assemblage of labourers, at Goatacre, in Wilts, who, at night, had met to proclaim, in painfully-affecting statements, their social wrongs and sufferings, had made a deep impression on him. Knowing the country as he did, he felt that no change could make their position worse than it was. Then he warned the landed interest that tenant farmers and agricultural labourers were all coming round, with the rest of the community, to the conviction that the Corn Law was simply a laudlords' question; and concluded his speech by an earnest appeal to the country gentlemen to avail themselves of the present opportunity to REPAIR the "great error" which had been committed in 1815, when the first of the series of modern Corn Laws had been imposed.

When he had concluded, the debate was adjourned; and on Tuesday was resumed by

Mr. Augustus Stafford O'Brien, one of the representatives for North Northamptonshire, and well known as one of the most active members of the Central Protection Society. He addressed himself mainly to the speech delivered on the previous evening by Mr. Sidney Herbert; and taunted him with want of originality in offering to the country gentlemen the opportunity of "repairing" the "great error of 1815." Mr. Stafford O'Brien felt much obliged to Mr. Sidney Herbert for the offer, but the country gentlemen had been repeatedly offered similar opportunities by Mr. VILLIERS, and had been backed by the Government in their refusal to accept them. The speech of Mr. Stafford O'Brien was delivered with fluency, and had several ad capbandum points which were vociferously cheered by the agricultural members around him. The staple of his speech, so far as argument is concorned, was simply this:-The poor man's labour is his property; the Legislature is mainly occupied with the protection of property; but if we permit the rich man to go abroad for his silks, his paper-hangings, and his carriages, there will be no work for the artisan, and consequently the labouring man, deprived of his property, will covet that of the rich, and in wrath and hatred overthrow the established relations of society. This was really the gist of a somewhat showy specch.

When Mr. Stafford O'Brien had concluded, Mr. Sharman Crawford rose, and in language as plain as his mild and amiable nature would permit, told Mr. O'Brien, that however amusing as a fancy, there was not a particle of fact in the "dissolving view" he had exhibited. Mr. Sharman Crawford is an Irish landlord of considerable property and experience; and his opinions on the question of the Corn Laws are deserving of great respect. He showed that their repeal would be of the greatest possible advantage to Ireland—an opinion which was corroborated by Lord Clements, who represents Leitrim, and young Mr. Gregory, who is one of the members for Dublin,

With the exception of two speeches,—one at the opening, and the other at the close,—the whole of the debate of Tuesday night was exceedingly flat. The opponents of the Government were Mr. Lefroy, inember for Longford, the Marquis of Granby, the eldest son of the Duke of Rutland, Lord Brooke, who was recently elected for Warwickshire, and Lord Cilve the added son of Earl-Town, and who represents Rock and the state of the latest son of the log.

gentleman who made them declared his intention of voting for the Government measures. This member was

Mr. II. Baillie, who said that the reason why foreign nations fonced themselves round with customs houses and prohibitory duties, was the fact of their being aware that our superiority in manufactures, by means of our iron, coal, machinery, and facilities of transit, would enable us to overwhelm their domestic industry. Again, the reason why we protected our domostic agriculture from foreign competition, was the fact that our climate was inferior to that of other countries for the production of grain, which could only be produced here at a risk from which warmer countries were free, and which, therefore, gave foreigners an advantage over us to the extent of at least twenty per cent. If it was said that our soil was better adapted for pasture, he admitted it; but then this raised the question of dependence on foreign supply. He illustrated what he considered would be the results of Free Trade, by a reference to the cotton manufacture. When we went first to India, we found a vast population engaged in the domestic manufacture of those fabrics, which have been since wholly superseded by our machinery and skill. Yet, dreading the results of Free Trade, he thought he had no alternative left but to vote for the Government propositions.

Lord Worsley, the eldest son of the Earl of Yarborough, and one of the representatives for Lincolnshire, quoted some of the former speeches of Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham, in praise of protection-especially a famous one by the Home Secretary, in which he deprecated the "change from the breezy call of incense-breathing morn' to a painful and grievous obedience to the sad sound of the factory bell; with a number of fine epithets about the "thatched cottage," "blooming garden," "rural walks," "village green." "foul garret," "dark cellar," and other things too numerous to mention, including a threat that if England were made the "workshop of the world," it would be the last country he would wish to live in. This reminiscence created much laughter, and brought up Sir James Graham.

Lord Clive finished the discussion on Tuesday night; and the debate was then adjourned to Thursday.

On Wednesday there was a short day sitting of about two hours; and even in that interval the "agricultural interests" in the house could not resist the temptation of getting up a miniature Corn Law debate. Lord G. Bentinck, (second son of the Duke of Portland) who has carned more laurels on the turf than in the House of Commons, moved for a return of the number of importers of foreign grain, and the quantity in bond, with a view of showing that any reduction of duty would be a benefit, not to the consumer, but merely to the importer. Mr. Escott sarcastically advised Lord George to add to his motion a return of the number of people who were to EAT the grain ! This provoked his gallant lordship to tell Mr. Escott that he wondered how he could, consistently, with his personal honour, retain his seat for Winchester, seeing he was elected on protection principles, and was now an advocate for Free Trade. Mr. Escott, however, took the matter very coolly, hoping Lord George felt more comfortable after his discharge! and informing him that he was wholly ignorant of all the circumstances connected with his election.

Before the adjourned debate was resumed, a characteristic scene occurred. One of the laborious compilations of Mr. Macgregor, of the Board of Trade, on the Commercial Regulations of America, has just been issued; and Mr. Stafford O'Brien, holding up the huge Blue Book, said it was full of disgraceful blunders, adducing an instance of what he considered to be one. This attempt to damage the reputation of Mr. Macgregor turned out an utter failure. Though Mr. Stafford O'Brien had not given any notice of his question, and therefore expected that his charge would have an uncontradicted run for twenty-four hours, it luckily happened that Mr. Macgregor was within hail; and through Mr. Thomas Duncombe, the house was informed that the supposed astounding mistake was caused by a simple typographical blunder!

Mr. Colquhoun resumed the adjourned debate, and made a long speech; and a curious speech it was. The opinions of Mr. Colquhoun hang on the very confines of the principle he opposes; almost he is persuaded to be a Free Trader; he would take a fixed duty, if he could get it; and during his speech, his arguments were like nine-pins, which a man sets up that he may have the pleasure of knocking them down himself. Besides, Mr. Colquhoun, though a fluent, is really a very shallow speaker; after listening to his fluent mass of verblage for an hour, you could put all that he has

of verblage for an hour, you could put all that he has of verblage for an hour, you could put all that he has said into a possible for minutes duration.

Mr. Wynn followed. This gentlamen has been in Parliament for a length of time—nearly church to that of venerable Mr. Brig. that is, it should half a childry. He has long that the best could be had contained to the head could be head could b

opinions therefore are always treated with respect. Owing to infirmity in his limbs, he addresses the house sitting; but his head is still clear. He made an excellent speech in favour of the Government measure, showing that all our past commercial legislation was a compound of ignorance, folly, and intermeddling, and that the second we could arrive at a sound system the better for the country.

Later in the evening, Mr. Wynn's son-in-law, Mr. Milnes Gaskell, who flung up his lordship of the Treasury in horror at the propositions of the Government, made an attack on Sir Robert Psel, for having betrayed his principles, and broken up a "splendid party." His assault on the Prime Minister was vociferously cheered by the "agricultural members;" though Mr. Rosbuck, in reply, put the question on its right footing, by asking what they meant when they talked of a great party being broken up? Was it anything that would prove injurious to the people?

The other speakers on Thursday evening do not require special notice, unless we remark that Mr. Wykeham Martin, member for Newport, Isle of Wight, produced a series of calm statements, to prove to the agriculturists how groundless were their fears of some terrific flood of foreign grain. But the two main orators of the night were Mr. Thomas Barmg and Lord Morpeth.

Mr. Thomas Baring, who contested London on the principle of "Free Trade in the abstract," against "Free Trade in practice," was true to his former reputation. Trying to steer his way between rock and whirlpool, ho at last came to the conclusion that the time was now come—only now come!—for a compromise. He implored the house to adopt a middle course, and accept a fixed duty. Well was he answered by

Lord Monperu, whose rising excited the general attention of a full house. The noble lord reminded Mr. T. Baring that a "compromise" had once been offered, but the time was now gone by. The whole of Lord Morpeth's bold, frank, manly speech, deserves the most serious attention. The conclusion was one of the most emphatic warnings ever delivered to the aristocracy by one of its most honourable and conspicuous members. His travels in the United States have enlarged the sphere of his observation, and Lord Morpeth, therefore, spoke with authority, when he told them that no aristoeracy which claimed excessive and peculiar privileges ever escapeda downfall. The question of the Corn Laws, if not settled with their aid, would be settled in spite of them. Let them, then, he said, throw in their influence with a thinking middle class, a toiling population, and a busy press, and in the onward march of civilisation be the leaders, and not the laggards of the people. This conclusion was like a trumpet sound.

The debate was adjourned to Friday.

THE CORN LAW DEBATE.

Continued from Page 336 of our Supplement.

had by no means prepared the house or the public for the course which he now takes, and he referred particularly to a speech made by my right honourable friend in 1830. Allow me to read a short extract from that very speech, My right hon, friend, then a leader in Opposition, and a candidate for power, said, "I consider this statement, that the condition of the labourer has been rendered worse by the operation of the Corn Law, a most important one; and I have no hesitation in saying that, unless the existence of the Corn Law can be shown to be consistent, not only with the prosperity of agriculture and the maintenance of the landlord's interest, but also with the maintenance of the genoral interests of the country, and especially with the inprovement of the condition of the labouring class, the Corn Law is practically at an end." That was the declaration of my right honourable friend, as early as the year 1830 (hear, hear). It may seem prosumptuous in me to refer, in addressing the house, to what has fallen from myself in a former debate, but after what my noble friend has stated, perhaps in fairness the house will not refuse me permission to do so (hear, hear). On the occasion when the hon member for Wolverhampton (Mr. Villiers) moved for going into committee on the Corn Laws, in June last, I said, "It is decidedly my opinion that the prosperity of agriculture must always depend on the prosperity of the other branches of the native industry of this country, and that the public prosperity of the public prosperity of the country and that the public prosperity of the country are considered to the country and the country are considered to the country and the country are considered to the country and the country are considered to perity is on the whole best promoted by giving a fair and uninterrupted current to the natural flow of national industry. I will go farther and say, that it is my opinion that, by safe, gradual, and cautious measures, it is expedient to bring our laws, with reference to the trade in corn, into a nearer relation with the sound principles which regulate our commercial policy with respect to every other branch of industry. I will go still further, and say I am not satisfied with the plan, and can be no party to it, of setting up a separate interest for the landlord and the farmer of this country; I believe that their prosperity will, 'in the main, be found to depend on the wealth, the comfort, and the case of the great body of the people of this comfort.' Those were the principles which I evoked upon that occasion (hear, hear). This house, I think, will also remainiber the manorable motion of the noble lord opposite, on it's condition of the working classes. It then sately to the house, many facts which had come before the which the donors many facts which inall come before the whole with the manorable motion of the policy of the sound of the working classes. It then sately to the bounds many facts which inall come before the which the donors in the problem, and the same that it is a supplied to the condition of the working classes. It then sately to the manorable many facts which inall come to prove that the connection will be supplied to the donor and party that it is the connection will be a supplied to the connection will be supplied to the connection of the manorable which the connection which we have the connection when the constitution of the manorable which the connection which it is the connection of the manorable which it is the connection of the connection to bring our laws, with reference to the trade in cor

by high prices (hear, hear). I frankly avow, that if the urse of events had not been interrupted by circumstances which it was impossible to foresee, I should very gladly have adhered to the policy of gradually and progressively diminishing the protection to agriculture, but steadily keeping in view that desirable period when the protection might altogether be removed. But this brings me to the point of the utmost importance to the consideration of this case, namely, the unforcesen circumstances which did occur after the ter-mination of the last session. First, with respect to the harvest of this country. It was a harvost, as was truly stated by my right hon friend the Becretary at War, of a peculiar character. In point of quantity it was not a deficient haroldest farmers, there never was so great a variety; and the effect of that has been to point out and to establish the great imperfection of the averages under the existing law. I will not press this further. It was distinctly stated last night by my right hon. friend, that in no former years, I believe. lias there been such a variety of quality in the corn brought to market, the price varying from 40s. for the worst, I believe, up to 70s., or 75s. for the best. An alteration was made in the law in 1812, in regard to the averages, which had a very decisive effect in one respect; it altogether prevented fraud. By extending the period, and multiplying the towns, in respect to the taking of the averages, fraud was prevented; but as relates to the interest of the consumer, this had a very reverse effect; for fraud, whenever it had been exerted, was always in favour of the consumer, and for the purpose of dpening the ports; and in my real opinion, the general defect of the measure of 1812, though it was not so intended, was that it rendered protection more stringent (hear, hear) This was demonstrated. I must say, by the operation of the scale regulating the duties in the course of last autumn. Prices were rising; the price of the quartern loaf in this metropolis was 01d., and approaching to the war price. the quartern loaf had so rison, the duty indicated by the sliding scale was 14s. or 15s. per quarter (hear, hear). In point of fact the sliding scale would neither slide nor move (cheers). And that was its condemnation (renewed cheers) I do not wish to go into an historical statement respecting the Corn Laws, or I might mention that from 1773 to 1702 the importation of corn was in point of fact free in this country; and it was a remarkable coincidence, which Adam Hmith points out when, without marking the cause, he mentious as a time when there was a great start in our manufacturing and commercial prosperity-exactly that period, from 1773 to 1792, when the importation of corn was free (hear, hear). I will also observe that really change on this matter was not a change of any fundamental principle. The corn law had been changed and altered five or six times, and yet its avowed object had never been answered (hear, hear). I will now return to the point from which I digressed. I was speaking of the imperfect operation of the sliding scale, and I may add, that together with that, there did arise that which human foresight could not anticipate, the general fallure of the potato crop throughout the United kingdom. This failure was by no means limited to Iroland. - The destruction of the potato crop began in the south of England, and I believe that it was more fatal in the southern part of England than in any part of Ireland. In many parts of the southern counties of England the working population, though not altogether subsisting on potatoes, yet are in a great measure dependent on that article for their daily food. With respect to Scotland we have the most accurate information; and from the parochial returns, we know positively, that in the south of Scotland one-third of the potato rop was destroyed as early as the mouth of November last, I will not go through all the precise details as to the extent of the failure of crop in Ireland. Suffice it to say, that in November Hovernment received the report of Messrs, Lindley and Playfair, by which it appeared that one half of the whole crop, though not greater than an average, had been destroyed that one eighth of that crop must be preserved for seed; and that, consequently, not more than three eighths of the whole crop remained at that time for the consumption of the year in Ireland. I had been at that time resident in the North of England, and had almost daily communications, in writing, with my right bon friend at the head of the Government; and it did appear to me that this matter of coming scarcity, if not of famine, to be apprehended in Iroland, did have an immediate and indissoluble connexion with this question of the Corn Laws. The noble lord the member for Liverpool said last night that he could not see that connexion; and the hon, member for Northamptonshire, following the same track, has also said that he did not see the intimate connexion between the two questions. Will the house, then, allow me to state what was the effect produced upon my mind by this inevitably coming scarcity in Iraland (hoar)? I foreast, and I am afraid rightly, that it would be indispensably necessary to give to the suffering community in Ireland aid from the public purse of this country to meet this great calamity. Already some advance of the public money arraid that further advances may still be necessary. Then this great question presents itself—Can in fairness any Minister of the Crown propose to the people of Great Britain to take out of the taxes of Great Britain public money to aid in the sustenance of their follow countrymen in Ireland, while artificially, by laws so designed, the price of the food of the people of Great Britain is enhanced (hear, hear)? Other persons may be bold enough to make such a proposition; but I confess that no power on earth should have induced me to be responsible for such a proposal (hear, hear). I told my right hon. friend that if such a course should be necessary, I strongly advised the suspension of the existing law (" hear, hear," from the Protectionist benches), and that suspension I find is now generally approved of on this side of the house (hear, hear). The humane, the generous feelings of the landlords of England could not tolerate for a moment that distress, such as that likely to visit Iroland, should not be met (hear, hear). But to give this aid to the Irish people and at the same time to cubance the price of the food of the great community who contribute towards the taxes of England, and who by their hard industry are only able to pay shose taxes, living in some instances on potatoes—is a pro-position which I never could have maintained as a Minister (hear, hear). But it has been intimated that, under these circumstances, hou, members generally on this side of the house would be glad to open the ports. Then arises the passion—if you once suspend the present law, what is the passion—if you once suspend the present law, what is the resolution which, at the termination of that suspension, is a first a law to the told you that I am satisfied, that even the price of the quartery lost to have the price ought to have theen the price ought to have then the self-operation of the soals, that soals the self-operation of the soals, that soals the self-operation of the soals, that soals that the price of the soals that soals the self-operation of the soals.

present an unsatisfactory law, and according to my opinion, I could not, after its suspension, have supported its re-imposition. I have always stated that my objections to a fixed duty as a fiscal duty are insuperable; because I think that whenever the duty should be high, it would be impos-sible to exact it; and whenever the duty should be low, it failed for the purposes of protection, and the agricultural interest would then incur all the obloquy of maintaining protection without deriving any advantages from it. might have proposed some small remnant of the sliding scale, and such a reduction of protection, which it would have been unworthy of the agricultural interest to accept, and still more unworthy of the Government to offer. these circumstances the abolition of the Corn Laws was inevitable on its suspension. It was, as it appeared to me, absolutely necessary to suspend the operation of the law and I foresaw the necessity, if you suspended the law, of its abolition; and I again repeat that, in my humble view, our duty was, charged as we were with the responsibility of office, to meet this immediate necessity and suspend the law. Nothing could have more gratified me than to see the general arrangements of this question respecting the Corn Law conducted by the noble lord opposite (hear, hear). The question has been asked, "Have you any reason since 1842 for changing your opinion? I say that since 1842 those who were charged with the administration of affairs, and who have watched the various circumstances which have occurred have had experience, not to be mistaken, leading to conclusive consequences. We had, first of all, the painful and lamentable experience of 1842 itself, a year of the greatest distress, and, since it had passed, I may say, of the utmost danger (loud cries of hear, hear, hear) What were the circumstances of 1842? Allow me just to glance at them. We had in this metropolis, at midnight, Chartist meetings, assembled in Lincoln's inn-fields. Almost for nearly three weeks there were assembled in all the environs of this metropolis immense masses of people, greatly discontented, and acting in a spirit dangerous to the public peace. What was the condition of Lancashire, the seat of our great staple manufacture, depending for its pros-perity on an uninterrupted tranquillity and labour? Such was the madness of the people on that occasion, that a great combination existed to stop machinery, and to put an end to the source of the labour, on which they depended for sub-mistance (hear, hear). What was the duty of the Government under these circumstances? It was my painful duty to consult with the Horse Guards as to the precautions that were necessary for the maintenance of the public peace; a large force was marched to Manchester, and the troops were actually called on to enforce public tranquillity. I can safely say that for three months the anxiety which I and my colleagues experienced with reference to the public peace was greater than we ever felt before with reference to public concerns (hear, hear). Those were the days of high prices and scarcity (hear, hear). I am certain from what I have since observed, that that turbulent disposition, that dangerous disposition, mainly arose from the want of adequate sustenance, combined with low wages (cries of hear, hear) What has been my experience for the last two years? don't take credit to her Majesty's Government for the altered circumstances. Our measures may or may not have conduced to that great end; but by the bounty of Providence we have had abundant harvests; with abundant harvests we have had cheapness and full employment; and what has oc curred? I can safely say that for the last 12 months I have not had a single interview with one of the commissioners of police with respect to the maintenance of the peace of this metropolis; I do not believe that for the last 12 months I have had one interview with the Horse Guards with respect to the movement of troops for the maintenance of the peace of the country (hear). Perfect tranquillity, comparative happiness prevailed; and that is a contrast between scarcity with discontent, and plenty with social comfort, more strik ing than any I ever before witnessed (loud cheers). I will not trouble you with many statistics. The document I am about to read is short, but still, as an analysis with reference to crime, it is pregnant with instruction. I have taken the six counties which, may be said to be the seat of our manufacturing industry; I have taken the county of York, the county of Lancaster, the county of Warwick, the counties of Gloucester, Cheshire, and Staffordshire, and have compared the commitments for trial in these counties in 1840, 1841, and 1842, when the prices of wheat were 66s. 4d., 61s. 6d., 57s. 8d., with those which took place in 1813, 1811, and 1815, when the price of wheat was about 50s. Now, observe, in Yorkshire the committals were, in 1840, 1087; 1841, 1895; 1842, 2,598. The scarcity then ceased, abundance with low prices begins; and we have committed for trial in 1843, 2304; 1844, 1091; 1845, 1417; showing a decrease of commitments in the last as compared with the previous period of these years of 14.9 per cent. In Lancashire the commitments in those years were respectively 3500, 3987, 4197, 3677, 2898, 2892, exhibiting a diminution of 21.4 per cent. In Warwickshire the commitments were 1001, 1046, 1003, 1045, 894, 769, a decrease of 11.2 per cent. In Gloucestershire, including Bristol, the numbers were 1045, 1236, 1252, 1186, 1071, 020, showing a decrease of 9.8 per cent. In Cheshire the commitments were 1042, 913, 1086, 1018, 777, 688, a decrease of 19.1 per cent. In Staffordshire the numbers were 923, 1059, 1485, 1176, 880, 717, a decrease of 19.9 per cent.; exhibiting an aggregate decrease of 17 per cent. (loud cheers). Upon the whole of these six counties, comparing the years 1812 and 1840, there is a diminution on the aggregate of 18 per cent. I am convinced with the right honourable baronet, the head of the Government, that it is a fallacy to contend that wages fall with falling prices, and rise with rising prices hear, hear, and loud obsers). It was my noble friend the member for Liverpool, I think, who last night contended that it was true in the agricultural districts that wages did rise with rising prices; but he admitted that the proportion was not always equal. Now I beg you to observe, that to the labouring man the equal proportion between the price of food and the rise of wages is a matter of life and death. But it was necessary to observe that the proportion should be concurrent as well as equal. If the rise in wages should lag behind the rise of prices life itself might belin danger. But I have the experience of Sir John Walsham, who long had the charge of the districts of Norfolk and Suffolk, himhad the charge of the districts of Norfolk and Suffolk, himself an extensive lauded proprietor in the county of Hereford, and who, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, assisted the Poor Law Commissioners, and he tells me that his has never known that wages have risen beyond from Sa. to 10s. and 11s. in certain counties, and from 9s. to 13s. in other counties; the utmost rise being 25 per cent.; while he has seen at the same time the price of corn rise from 45s. to 16s. It is in necessary to say. The reservices to this point, that the rise of wages in those districts in not at all counties.

rise in the article of first necessity (hear, Acar). But, a truly stated by my right hon. friend the Secretary at War, whatever may be the case in the agricultural districts, the converse of the assertion is true with respect to the manufacturing districts. facturing districts. Invariably in the manufacturing district you will find low prices accompanied by high wages, and high prices by low wages. I mentioned some circumstance which occurred in the month of November with reference to Ireland; but I have not the whole of the case with respect to that time. From a report which I have received from Mr. Sanders with respect to the West Riding of Yorkshire, I file! that at that time there was not merely a rise in prices, but a strong apprehension of still higher prices in several para of the West Riding, particularly in Bradford, and that several works were put on short time. In several of the cotton districts, also, I learn the mills were about to be put on short time. When, therefore, we looked to the circumstances of the whole country in the months of November and December, we had no option left, as the general guardians of the condi tion of the great body of the community, but to pursue the course which we have pursued. We have been told of the danger of being dependent on foreign States for the supply of food; but when we consider that the population of Great Britain in 1815 was 18,000, and that at the present moment it is 23,000,000, it seems to me that the time has arrived when it may well become a question, not whether Great Bri tain can alone supply the amount of food necessary for the population, but whether it will not be difficult at a moderate price to secure food for the whole of that population, even with the aid of foreign countries (hear, hear). For myself, I have no apprehension of any great fail of prices from the abolition of the Corn Laws. I think that both the hopes and fears of many people on the subject are greatly exaggerated. I do not believe that the abolition of protection, as matters now stand, will materially lower the price of com; but I consider that to the great body of consumers it will be a security of inestimable value against high prices when the harvest happens to be deficient in this country (hear, hear). That is my view with regard to supply. With regard to the commercial principle there can be no doubt whatever. The hon, member for Northamptonshire described a state of things where a certain individual has the walls of his house covered with French paper hangings, furnished with articles of German hardware, and who rides in a Brussels carrisge, while workmen are crowding the market with nobody to bite them. How does the hon, gentleman think those carriages are to be obtained? Whatever may be the form of the trans action by which they are obtained, that transaction of necessity resolved itself into a bargain. Directly or indirectly there must be an exchange of commodities, and you must in the long run export some of your own home productions to pay for what you have got from abroad. I am quite satisfied, if you extend the sphere of your commerce, and do not attempt by fits and starts to force its expansion, that the property of all classes will steadily advance with the increase Your exports. The hon, member for Northampton, 1.M S. O'Brien) referred to the case of a farmer, whom he de scribed in the most pathetic terms, for the purpose of illustrating the consequences which the hon, gentleman presumes will flow from the measures of her Majesty's Ministers. But another picture was given last night by the noble lord the member for Liverpool (Lord Sandon). The hon, gentleman represented the farmer as petitioning his landlord in vain for a reduction of rent. The noble lord considered the condition of the farmer as eculiarly helpless and exposed. He said this unhappy man had constantly held out to him the expectation of prices which he had never realised—prices which were made the basis of calculation, when he agreed to pay a fixed rent; then he comes to the landlord with "bated breath" and most lumble demeanour, seeking an abatement of rent The landlord grants somewhat less than the farmer requires: an abatement of 10 per cent. is found quite inadequate; and at last the farmer is forced to take refuge from all his diffculties in some lower occupation. Such are the results, sa described most accurately by the noble lord himself, of this system of protection and of disappointment (cheers). The abundant crop, the diminished protection, and the fixed rent, have been a failure (no. no, and hear, hear). From the very spot where the hou, gentleman stood when he addressed the house I heard such a representation given of the condition of the farmer; and I am quite satisfied that the great back of that class are more likely to be injured by the continuance of the existing law than by its repeal. I have no apprehensions whatever that the abolition of that law will render this country dependent upon any foreign country. But, as a landlord - and on this point I agree with the noble lord the member for Lincolnshire-I am certain that the settlement of this question is with reference to the interests of landlords of paramount importance (cheers). How can we have a settlement? with the feeling of the great bulk of the community on the subject as at present, there is but one settlement. There are various classes whose interests are involved in this question, and their views have undergone a change on the principle of protection. I will not dwell upon the meeting in Wiltshire. It may have been suggested, but still that meeting is a remarkable fact. I pass, however, from that, and appeal to every gentleman in this ever, from that, and appeal to every gentleman in the house who has had opportunities of observation, whether he can contradict me when I assert that till lately the opinion prevalent among operatives was, that low prices would invariably lead to low wages. I say they have changed their opinions (cheers). The experience of the last three years has not been thrown away upon them; and if that he so—if the masters and the men are quite of one mind on this point, they will settle—and I may tell the hon, member for Knuresborough so—they will casily and amicably settle those questions which are likely to casily and amicably settle those questions which are likely to arise between parties placed in such a relation to each older. I can very well understand how those working men should overtax their industry, and even call on their wives and daughters to work, that they may obtain subsistence. Necessity might drive them to such resources. But if they can understand that by a change of your law they may be able, without working so long themselves, without requiring their wives or daughters to work as they so now, to live in greater comfort than they have ever known. I have not the smallest doubt that arrangements will be made between masters and man as to the period of which and so every ground or prefer for lagislative interest of the most pleasant and happy day that the finding when on accompliance attention in the derivative to parchase the common of the most pleasant and happy day that the common derivative that the common of the most pleasant and happy day that the common derivative the common of the most pleasant and happy day that the common derivative parchase the common of the most pleasant and happy day that the common derivative products the common of the most pleasant and happy day that the products the common of the most pleasant and happy day that the products the common of the most pleasant and happy day the products the common of the most pleasant and happy day the products the product arise between parties placed in such a relation to each olier.

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I am glad to see that the noble lord the member for the West Riding of Yorkshire (Lord Morpoth)—with whom I have Riding of forkables (Lord historpoin)—with whom I have often differed, but whose absence from this house I never ceased to regret—expressed on the hustings sentiments closely akin to those I have endeavoured to convey (obsers). As to the agricultural futerest—the interest with which I am myself connected—I would say, let us have certainty with reference to the value of our land. That certainty you will have, as far as it can possibly be given, from a change in the law. But, in addition to certainty, you will have peaceful enjoyment. You will have that ponceful enjoyment without exciting the jealousy of your poorer neighbour. And I do not think that kandlords will have to make any very great sacrifices; but, entertaining the opinions which I do, founded on the experience I now possess. I say, were the sacrifice ten times greater, I for one, sconer than that it should be said of myself, or any of the class to which I belong, that our object was to secure for ourselves an increase of rent, and not to promote the welfare and hap-piness of the great body of the community—sooner than feare any room for such a suspicion, I should say, speaking for myself, that I would descend to a lower estate, and abrogue my inheritance (cheers). It is said a great party has been dissolved. It is said old political ties have been severed. It has been said that social relations have been disturbed. It is anticipated, and it is probable, that an Administration may be dissolved (cheers). And, though I should regret the former part of those consequences, on my conscience I blieve this proposition will save a great and powerful nation from anarchy, misery, and ruin. (The right hon, gentleman resumed his seat amidst great cheering.)

Lord Crive briefly expressed his intention of voting for the amendment of Mr. Miles, and of opposing the commercial action of the transmission of the commercial action of the transmission of the commercial action of the commercial act

cial project of Government.

On the motion of Mr. Corqunoun the debate, after a short discussion, was adjourned till Thursday next. The house then adjourned.

ADJOURNED DEBATE.-THURSDAY.

The adjourned debate on the question "that the house do e de into committee on the Customs and Corn Impor

tati n Acts." w s c mmerced by

Mr. Colquioux, who entered into an explanation of his vote in 1838, in support of Mr. Villiers' motion for a com-native to inquire into the propriety of repealing the Corn Laws. Sir Robert Peel had entirely mistaken both his past and his present opinions. He had never entertained the opinions so consistently entertained by Mr. Villiers; and he had never passed from them to the doctrines of high protection. He had always considered the question of the Corn Laws a most auxious and perplexing question; and in 1841, not being in Parliament, and having much leisure time, he had studied it with all the diligence and impartiality he could command (hear, hear). He had come to the conclusion that protection was necessary for the interests of agriand having come to that conclusion, he had de lared himself an advocate for a fixed duty on corn. After the occurrences of the last few months, it seemed probable that his notion of a fixed duty, had it been adopted, would have now been deemed preferable to that of a siiding scale. Mer applying himself to refute Sir R. Peel's arguments respecting prices and wages, he proceeded to comment on the Sir James Graham had then disposed very summarily of all his former arguments on this subject; and had said that as he confessed that he had changed his opinions, there was an end of his former reasonings (hear hear). No, there was not an end of them; for a statesman who spoke like Sir J. Graham, with eloquence and genius, ought to recollect that his words were winged shafts which s it k deeply in men's hearts. They had made many converts, and had influenced and were influencing thousands of bis follow-countrymen; and the (Mr. Colquboun) was of opinion that Sir James's explicit recantation of his intuorial words would not convince the country that h could raise wages or exalt the financial condition of the latenting population by his present measures. He was afraid that those measures would bring on the country evils of a kind to which its attention ought to be, yet had not been collect. When we have the country that the result of the country when the country we have the country when the country when the country we have the country when the country we have the country when the country we have the country when the country when the country we have the country when the country when the country we have the country when the country when the country we have the country when the country we have the country when the country when the country when the country we have the country when the ciled. What would be their effects on the colonial interests? The protection on timber and sugar would soon survive the potection of corn; and then the manufacturers of England would find themselves no longer in possession of the advariages which they now possessed in the colonial market. the country if, in addition to a fulling parvest, it should have to struggle, as in 1810, against a falling revenue? But what teason was there to induce the house to give its assent to a ommercial code which even Mr. Villiers could not recomhered to his constituents as a perfect code, as it still enforced Protection on silk, on sugar, on timber, on copper, and various other articles? If, then, protection were left on some fabrics, why was all protection to be taken from that manufacture—for corn had been justly called by Lord F. Egerton a manufacture—which was of all others the most precarious in its accuracy. precuious in its course, and the most uncertain in the seat turns? He regretted that ever since he had taken his seat protection had never on the Ministerial bench agricultural protection had never received from Sir R. Peel anything like a sincere defence. Last year Mr. Villiers had called Sir Robert's speech on the on Laws a dexterous evasion of the whole question, and lad warned the country gentlemen that they would soon be had warned the country gentlemen that they would soon use talled upon to surrender the protection they enjoyed. Howas work to observe that on all the great institutions of the country Sir R. Peel followed a similar course of dexterous exasion. He had no antipathy to him, and a very sincere breard for many of his colleagues; but his opposition to Sir R. Peel's Administration would in future be openly avowed and steadily adhered to; for as long as Sir Robert declined discussion on all the great questions which agitated the discussion on all the great questions which agitated the minds of Englishmen, so long the should not promise him the silvation, nor repose in him any confidence.

Mr. C. Wynne was sorry that be differed in opinion on this question from his constituents, but was consoled by

this question from his constituents, but was consoled by the reflection that he differed from them on honest and constituents. relections grounds. There was no portion of our law which relected so little honour on the wisdom of our ancestors as their commenced. related so little honour on the wisdom of our nacestors as their commercial regulations. Our statute book was filled with instance after instance of their impolitic interference with mutters of trade. So long as there was protection extended to other articles, it would have been unfair to take it show he longer bronght for and it in isolated measure with the protection of the protection

to carry out the system of Free Trade fully; for the claims of the revenue unfortunately interfered. He trusted that on a future occasion this measure would be carried out to a still greater extent. He should have been better pleased had it been so carried out now; but he was afraid that such a proposition could not have been made to Parliament with any chance of success at the present moment. He had no apprehension that if we repealed our Corn Laws we should fail in obtaining a supply of corn from foreign mations. So long as they could raise a superabundance of corn, they would be as anxious to sell as we should be to buy it.

Mr. HEATHCOTE did not come forward on this occasion to attack the consistency of others, but to maintain his own. He had resisted a measure similar in principle to the present when proposed by his own political friends; and he felt bound to offer the same resistance now, when a measure ten thousand times more mischievous in degree was proposed by his political opponents. He explained at some length the reasons why he considered this measure a rash, ill-timed, and hazardons experiment, and observed that it was not recommended to his mind by being accompanied with changes of opinion hitherto unparallelled in the annals of political tergiversation. They had turned out a Government for proposing a fixed duty of 8s. a quarter on corn; and they were now themselves proposing a fixed duty of is, a quarter, to expire at the end of three years. The compensation which they proposed for the injury which they were thus going to inflict on the agricultural interest was utterly inadequate and disproportionate. Monarchical Europe and Republican America had both their Corn Laws. Why was England to deprive itself of a similar code? Holland had once made the experiment of abrogating such laws; but the experiment had altogether failed, and Holland, like ourselves, had now the benefit of a sliding scale. No case of public necessity had been pleaded as a justification of the proposed change. Public opinion was not in favour of it even in the large towns, if any conjecture could be formed from the last elections for Wigan, Birmingham, and Sunderland. Foreign countries had not called upon us to make it, for as we were putting off our armour they were covering themselves with the full panoply of restriction. As to the allegation of famine in Ireland, he believed it to be little better than a mere pre text. Famine might exist in Iroland in the speeches of Cabinet Ministers, and in the paragraphs of newspapers; but he believed abundance was to be found in its markets. If he was mistaken on that point, he was willing to meet the emor gency by an ample grant from the public treasury; but he was not prepared on account of local distress and temporary mischief to alter entirely the permanent laws of a mighty

Mr. C. W. MARTIN felt compelled, after the observations of the preceding speaker on the political tergiversation which had been displayed on this question, to explain the reasons which had induced him to abandon the opinions which he ad formerly entertained of the Corn Laws, and to support the propositions of Sir Robert Peel in favour of Free Trade. He then entered into a review of the circumstances which had occurred in the last autumn, and contended that there was no ground for supposing that the agricultural interest would suffer injury from the reduced price of corn in consequence of the changes now proposed. The prices of corn in the Channel Islands were not unworthy of the attention of the house. The trade in corn was perfectly free, and yet corn bore a high, and, what was more material, a steady price. Little apprehension was to be entertained for many years to come from those corn-growing countries which it was said would inundate England with grain. He looked forward with confidence to the measures now proposed, and was certain that they would place the agriculture and com-merce of the country on a sound and healthy footing. Mr. T. Baning expressed his deep regret that he was compelled to give his vote on this question in opposition to a Government which he had hitherto supported, and in whose patriotism he still trusted. The experience of the last three years was not a sufficient justification for adopting, without hesitation or reserve, a great experiment, which would shake the security of all interested in the prosperity of agriculture, and which would open a future to the whole country of which no man could foresce the result. After alluding to the allegation of Ministers, that famine was impending over Ireland, and after contending that casual distress ought not to induce us to change a permanent law, he proceeded to express the surprise which he felt at hearing Sir James Graham assert the other night that he would not be the Minister to propose, and that this would not be the Parliament to consent to, the imposition of a tax for the purpose of supplying the starving people of Ireland with food so long as the price of corn in Great Britain was enhanced by artificial regulations. Talk of want in Ireland! He believed that the greatest want under which the country laboured at present was the want of ministers, and the most appalling scarcity was that of statesmen, who would consent to sit to-gether in the same Cabinet. Neither in the effects of our previous relaxation of protective duties nor in the present circumstances of the country, could be see any justification for the execution of protective duties. for the sweeping change now proposed. There were three parties on the subject of the Corn Laws at this moment—the agriculturists, who required the protoction of a sliding scale: the Anti-Corn-Law League, which repudiated all protection; and those who advocated a fixed duty. The present settlement would not satisfy any of the three. If ever there was a time when a compromise could be made by conciliation and concession, this was it, and he recommended the three par-ties, laying aside passion and prejudice, to submit their claims to friendly arbitrement.

LORD MORPETH, having been loudly called upon, rose to address the house. He said: If the question had been a less important one, and the moment less critical. I might perhaps have been a less into the moment less critical. critical, I might perhaps have hositated, at so short a period after I had resumed my seat within this house, to present myself again to its notice, especially when I to present myself again to its notice, especially when I rise for the purpose of taking that view of the question, which, in my humble judgment, at least, has received almost all the illustration of which it is capable, from everything that the most consummate ability, the most industrious research, and the most protracted discussion could bring to bear upon it (hear, hear), not to mention the still more useful assistance it has lately received from—official countenance, and reform—many illustrious adhesions (cheers). The honoturable member who has just sat flown was, we know, the friding of free Trade in the state that are called for the friding of free Trade in the state that are called for the friding of the protesses, the first and that he is a triangle to the friding of the protesses, the first and rise for the purpose of taking that view of the question, which, in my humble judgment, at least, has received almost all the illustration of which it is capable, from everything that the most consummate ability, the most

has not told us how far he would go, or where he would stop; and I imagine that, with reference to the great interest which has been specially brought forward in the course of this debate, the large agricultural interest of this country, if there be any one course more than another to which we should object, it is to make it the subject of constant, gradual experiments, being for ever tampered with, and never let alone. The hon, member (Mr. Baring) has told us that the great want in the procoding autumn-upon the circumstances connected with which most of the ministerial proposition is sustained and has been founded—was the want of a ministry. Now, I certainly think that want is most sonsibly folt by that great and important party in the state and in the country of which the hon, gentleman himself is an ornament (laughter). We hear of their being backed by the voice of the country (hear, hear)—we hear of their contesting successfully every vacant seat (hear); but still it seems to be as lamentable as it is unaccountable, that they are without leaders and without a head (cheors and laughter). If this be not the case-when they have displayed the full force of their numbers. when they have made the echo of their own opinions heard throughout the country-why do we not see a successful and suitable Government formed upon the principle of undiminished protection to agriculture (cheers from the Opposition benches)? Indeed the hon, mamber for Huntingdon (Mr. Baring) has told us that the present time would be eminently suitable for a compromise (hear). I don't know whether he comes here entrusted with any message-I don't know whother he comes here the bearer of any overture to propose a ministry founded on the principle of compromise. If his compromise, indeed, was founded upon the commercial circular he read himself, I think he would find that he would depart very little from the actual line of conduct of the right hon, gentleman Sir Robert Pool (hear, hear). But I apprehend that it is now universally felt, both in the country and in this house, that the time for compromise is gone by (hear, hear). A compromise, indeed, was once offered (loud cries of hear, and cheers from the Opposition benches,) by the party, and by the leaders of the party with whom I have the pride and satisfaction of acting (cheers). And the hon, momber cannot forget that the party which is now so glad to hail him and to cheer him as an honourable auxiliary summarily and immediately rejected all notions of that kind (hear, hear, from the Opposition benches). I feel, sir, that the best excuse I can have for offering myself to the affention of the house, on this long discussed and widely-stretched question-which, as I have already said, has received almost all the illustration of which it is capable-will be, first, that I shall compress what I have to offer into a very moderate compars; and next, that I mean to confine myself to what may seem to me most special and particular, so far as my own opportunities and position quable me to form an opinion with respect to it (hear). Since I had the honour of having a seat in this house, I have myself happened to be a traveller upon the North American Continent. I have, for an uninterrupted period of two years lived in the heart of a purely agricultural district, and I have lost and gained the representation of the West Riding of Yorkshiro (choers) The last circumstance is naturally the freshest and uppermost in my own mind; and it is one of wisdom in itself. I feel it may intelligibly and sufficiently answer for itself (cheers), because, brought about as it has been, it tells its own moral, and conveys its own meaning (loud cheers). And if my predecessor in the seat which I have now recovered justly adduced, in the opening debate of this Parliament, his return as a most significant reply to the inquiry which had been submitted to the country with respect to the budget of the year 1841, I feel that I may still more expressly appeal to my own recovery of that seat as the most significant and signal verdict that could be given upon the measure which now, under happier auspices, has been submitted to the country in the year 1846 (hear, hear). But there is only one circumstance that seems to me to require remark from me with reference to the bearing of the late election in Yorkshire on the question before the house. We know that the project of the right hon, baronet includes a variety of articles, corn, and provisions. His scheme has justly earded the title of comprehensive (hear, hear), and it meddles almost as much with manufactures as it does with agriculture (no, and cries of hear, hear). With many leading branches of manufactures it meddles with them just as much as it could, because the withdrawnl of protection with respect to them, unlike that of corn, is immediate (hear, hear, and laughter). I was proceeding to say that the constituency, by whose choice and approval I have been ho-noured, represent, as is familiar to every one, a great variety both of manufacturing and agricultural interests. It comprises the largest woollen, the largest worsted, the largest steel manufactures in the empire (hear, hear). It comprises, I believe, the largest linen manufacture in England, and it comprises busides very large fron, and considerable cotton manufactures. Now, as I have just said, the withdrawal of protection from most of those articles is immediate and complete, and with respect to

of protection, yet not one of the persons connected with them during the whole of the fortnight which was spethally exacted for the consideration of the measure by the friends of protection, expressed a wish that it should he continued, even during the excitement of some rather volument appeals that were made to them in the prin-'cipal cities, and in the very heart of the manufacturing Matricts; and again, when many of those manufacturers were assembled in great numbers last week before the hustings of Wakefield, from no one of them was h single murmur or whisper of murmur or disapprobation heard, nor a single hint or wish to continue protection. Competition may come, they said, but we are prepared to meet it all we ask is a fair field and no favour (cheers). And let me ask, why may not that interest which so often plumes itself upon being the most important, the noblest, the most English in the countrywhy, I say, should not that interest take a leaf out of the book of those begrudged manufacturers (hear, hear)? Now, with respect to what is meant by the agricultural mind and the impressions derived from it, we have not heard for the first time to night in this debate that it is evident that the landlord pursuades himself in this question that he is not induced to take the course which he does from any regard to his own interests, but to that of Others; it must be confessed that with this comfortable opinion he could not regard it as injurious to his interests. The landlord assumed that he did not take the course which he did with respect to the Corn Laws from any regard to his own advantage, but with a view to the interest of his tenants - and above all, to the agricultural labourers - and to the wounds which he thought would be inflicted on them by repeal. Now, valuable as I admit the services of the agricultural labourer to be, and neknowledging, as I do, that it is the duty of individuals to honour, and of the state to cherish them; yet in a country where trade and commerce contribute such important elements, it is not proper to say that in any one interest, exclusively or principally, resides the source of individual wealth, or of national Arrength. I think that it is only natural justice to all not to select one class to honour, or, as its friends are not ashamed to term it, protect (hear, hear). I really question whether protection is not miscalled, and among those exposed to This mistaken system no class is so much injured as the agricultural tenants and labourers. The hon, member for Northamptonshire presented to the house the other night the picture of a scene between a landlord and furmer, where the latter had been turned out of his holding because he could not give the same rent for the farm as an enterprising member of the Anti-Corn-Law League (no. no. from Mr. Stafford O'Brien). I thought that the honourable member represented the competitor as a person of more capital, more enterprise, and more intelligence.

Mr. Severond O'BRIEN: Hear, hear; but it does

not necessarily follow that he was a Leaguer. Lord Monektu.—There was previously an allusion to the hon, member for Stockport in connection with agriculture, and from the statement of the hon, member for Northamptonshire I thought that he intended the competitor to be a member of the League. But this is an occurrence which night happen every day, if you had a landlord who would not give a lease, and who did not scruple to deal summarily with his tenants, and when, as the hon, member said, he could get a tenant who would make each acre bear six quarters where hitherto it had only borne three (hear, hear). But putting out of consideration the effect on the agricultural labourer, the truth is not less justly recognised that the interests of all classes must really be identical. It is merely begging the question for any one to say that this is for my interest, and therefore it is for yours. \ The welfare of agriculture must depend on the well being of the whole community, and above all, on the efficient demand of the working classes. Now, has not this demand been more efficient when corn is cheap than when it is dear (hear, hear)? The hon, member for Huntingdon said that cheapness of bread did no good, if it was not accompanied with a larger demand for labour; but has not this been universally the case in practice (no,no, and hear)? As far as practical experience goes, I say that with a cheapness of bread there is an increased demand for labour (obsers and cries of "No") The hon, member opposite said that they might talk of the three years' experience of the right hon, baronet at the head of the government on this point, but the fact 'was, that the prosperity and activity of three years was not to be imputed to the working of the tariff, but to yarious causes, and above all, to the activity of the railway system. But I ask whether this activity of the railway system occurred while bread was cheap, or while it was dear (cheers)? The hon, member for Rutlandsbirs, upon this point, said that in 1839, when there was great prosperity in manufactures, bread was dear, and he quoted some observations of the late lamented member for Kendal on the subject. But I beg the hon, member to recollect, that this was only the commencement of that cycle of bad seasons and dear years which proved so injurious, not only to the manufacturers, but to the whole country. Now, I find in a statistical report on the woollen trade of Yorkshire, in 1889, a statement which bears directly on this point:—"Ou a careful comparison of these, it appears that the amount of employment is less by at least two-fifths now than on the average of 1838 to 1841 with that period, full one third less. Combining the two elements of a depre-ciated rate of wages and a diminished amount of employment, ice just stated, it would appear that estimating the former at of the wages of the operatives of this district is about ninetwentieths, or nearly one half, a fact which, coupled with the enormous rise in the price of flour and butcher's meat, painfully and foreibly indicates the severe privations which the operative chasses are now enduring." Why this is as the operative chasses are now enduring." Why this is as plain as can be, and shows the effect of the demand on the plain as can be, and shows the effect of the demand on the onstom-house of the working classes, namely, the agricultural markets. But I will put the case in another light:—Suppose a miller, regardless of the produce of cattle, of wool, or of hides, or of any protection for them, insists that all, cornings, or of any protection for them, insists that all, cornings, or of any protection for them, insists that all, cornings, or of any protection for them, insists that all, cornings, and he might therefore any to them, as you do not that the affective demand of the working strates shall be received. But what advantage was this to the agricultification for the working strates and the infinite abodier—how do you intend to boliter up him and the

farmer and what share do you give them of the polla opima of legislative protection (hear)? The noble lord the member for Liverpool stated, in the course of the debate, that the rate of wages varies with the price of provisions. Now it was clearly proved by the light honourable Secretary for the Home Department that it never varied in the same ratio, that is, that wages never rose in the same proportion as the price of provisions (hear, hear). He had a proof of that in his own neighbourhood, for in that district wages never va-ried at all. In Northamptonshire, he was happy to say, they were as high as 12s, a week. If the agriculturists fixed the wages at 12s., and there was no variance in the price of corn, it would be very well, but this would not stand for an instant the test of fact. Some time ago a stone of flour was 1s. 0d.; it was now 2s. 6d. Under those circumstances, a labouring man's command over the other comforts and necessaries of life must be materially diminished. Now, taking 12s. a week as the rate of wages, it would give 31!. a year. Suppose a case of a family, six persons in it, that they consumed ten stone of flour a week, the rise in the price from la. 9d. to 2s. 6d., would make a difference of 6l. 10s. in the year (hear, hear). I put this to rich men-to men (to use an expression used the other night) of two meals—they would not think it a trifling thing to have to give two-fifths of their income, in addition to the income tax; and must not a man who gets his bread by the sweat of his brow feel most keenly this great additional charge thrown upon him for the daily food of himself, and family (hear, hear, hear, and cheers)? I have before me a paper which has been drawn up giving some statistics respecting an agricul-tural town near which I reside, showing the proportionate expenditure on the several articles of food in three families in respective classes of society, namely—the tradesman, the professional man, and the working man's family. I will not trouble the house with going into details respecting butcher's meat, or butter, or cheese, or milk, or other articles, which, however, I could give, but shall confine myself to flour. Each of the families which I take consists of six persons. 1 will take the tradesman's family first. I find that the tradesman's yearly bill for flour amounts to 121. 18s. 10d. being 15 per cent, of the whole of his expenditure for food. The annual charge of the professional man for flour for his family is 81. 18s. 2d., being rather more than 10 per cent. of his whole expenditure for food, while the working man pays 131. 4s. for flour for his family, and not 16 per cent, as the tradesman, or 10 per cent, as the professional man, but 48 per ceut. on his expenditure for food (loud cries of hear, hear). Now is it not apparent that such a state of things must sorely detract from the few comforts of the labourer, and prevent him obtaining many articles, such as clothes, and that it must infinitely more press upon him than upon those more easily circumstanced in society (hear, hear)? I find that a professional man, living economically, expends about one-third of the total amount of his income. I find also, that the expenditure for food by a careful tradesman is short one-half his income, while the food of the working agricultural labourer is about threefourths of his income (loud cries of hear, hear). What he actually spends in food out of his whole carnings is 73 per cent., while the other 27 per cent. is left for rent, clothing, shoes, and education for his children; therefore, is it not clear that this rise in the price of a stone of flour from 1s. Od. to 2s. Od. must deprive the working man of most of the little comforts of life, means of clothing, and of edu-cating his children (cheers)? I have sometimes thought that the whole logic of the question is so complete in its force, and the syllogism of it so simple, that I have been surprised how any one could dispute it; for instance, that there is not more than a sufficient quantity of food produced in this country for the supply of the people. I believe there is hardly a man who will dony this—that there is daily added to the population an increase of 1000 or 305,000 in the course of the year. Then I make hold to assert that you do not year by year, having this annual addition of 365,000 to the population, grow a proportionate increased quantity of wheat. Therefore, does it not result that it is most imperative upon us to get a supply of food from abroad, and should we not do this at the cheapest possible rate (hear)? I challenge any one to point out a fallacy in this syllogism. I do not say that the agriculturists have less humanity than any other class, but, for our part, I think it a matter of humanity as well as of duty, to get frid of that system which prevents a due supply of food for an increasing population, and which, in spite of long cherished feeling, I feel I could not cling to without something like infatuation, and wrights the system and could be the system. tuation and cruelty (cheers, and ories of hear, hear). I do not impute blame to her Majesty's ministers that they did not act till they were appalled by the events of last autumn. An hou, member opposite asked, "What had the fallure of the potatoe crop in Ireland to do with the repeal of the Corn Laws, as England had nevershown any want of sympathy towards Ireland, nor hesitated to afford ample relief in times of necessity?" But I ask is it fair to tax the community of England because there is a wish to fly to the community of England because there is a wish to fly to the relief of the distress prevailing in Ireland? There is an old maxim, "Be just before you are generous." I say, give generously to the people of Ireland, but at the same time be just to the collective community of England (hear, hear). The hon, member for Hantingdon said that you should not apply a permanent remedy for a temporary evil, but does the hon, member forget that this state of things might arise every year (hear, hear)? and with the risk of being expected to such a state of things, arefwe to be mooked with a sliding-scale, which will not slide, and which will not stand the fest of trial (hear, hear)? I think it is one of the best proofs of the truth of the doctring of Frag Trade, that it does not justs. the truth of the doctrine of Free Trade, that it does not interfere with the laws of nature, and that its success is not dependent upon seasons. I recollect reading some lines addressed to an emperor, which I consider applicable to this point, and I shall endeavour to quote the Latiu more correctly than did the honourable member for Newcastle this evening.
"Tibl mittit ab antris

Acolus armatas hyemes; tibi militat æther Et conjurati veninit to clitatica venit." Yes, sir, I think it rather a confirmation of the truth of that principle, that the stars do not fight against it, but that their principle, that the stars do not fight against it, but that their combinations would seem to be in its favour (cheers and laughter). But with respect to this argument, I believe it is established by those who give their special attention to the variations of the weather, that the same circumstances of sold or hot, wat or dry, weather are not found generally to prevail over or to affect the produce of a large surface, so that bread, in seasons when prices are high in London may be cheaper in Paris or Vienna: but, on this contrary, I believe it will be found that a wet or dry seasons in this country. I believe the will be found that a wet or dry seasons in this country. I believe parts of the world; for initiation, spon the Contrary. I believe parts of the world; for initiation, spon the Contrary. In this hamerica. Every one will recoilect, for example, that the

beason of 1842 was remarkable in England for a war be even temperature. Now, during that year, I happened to travel on the Continent of North America; and we have weather of the most variable character. Much as I had beard of the extreme heat of the American summer, I screen experienced "a hot day;" and every one told me that it was the coldest season almost ever experienced in the United State; the very reverse of this occurred last year. Last summe, it will be remembered, was peculiarly wet and unseasonable in England, whilst, on the Continent of America it was I understand, peculiarly hot—so much so, that I remember reading, in one paper, of a man who died, in one of the larger cities, from the effects of the excessive heat. Now, what is the inference to be derived from this? That not merely the periods of sunset and of sunrise are different in different parts of our globe, but that there is the same system and compensation as to the season, as there is in the return of darkness and of light; so that when our pan of the world is afflicted with untimely rains or colds, and the attendant bad harvests, we may take comfort in the reflection if we repeal the Corn Laws and open our ports to foreign produce, that the rays which have been denied to us have ripened distant harvests, and that just at the moment of need, the superfluity of their growth will be wasted over the ocean to stone for our deficiency (cheers). With reference to the Continent of America, on which I just now found m self, I do not wish to allude so much to any statistical deductions which my residence there may have induced and enabled me to make, because these have been subjects of frequent discussion, and can be calculated as closely and appreciated as clearly at a distance as on the actual spo: though I have felt sometimes that the real site, the actual presence of our own faithful eyes, bring the truth better home to one, than the most laborious collection of docu-ments (hear). He had felt this most emphatically when placed in full view of those mighty prairies of the west, which, almost totally without an inhabitant, seemed in ther luxuriant fertility imploringly to invite the agriculturistwhen in view of those vast forests above the prairies, which promised (and all experience had verified the promise) that as soon as the axe of the woodman had once rung among them, as soon as the log cutter had put up his cabin, and the smoke from its chimney ourled up into the wire fertile crops would take the place of tall trees (hear, her. He felt this in sight of the immense and and cheers). wonderful valley of the Mississippi-that valley which the accomplished De Begueville has described as the most man nificent abode ever formed by nature for man; I have felt this, on the St. Lawrence, that mightier volume of fertilizing waters than the whole world else presents. In all these grand scenes, I have felt that while the distance between them and us must necessarily prevent those extraordinary imports which the panic in the breasts of our protectionists anticipates, yet that still, as a very long time must clare before that same valley of the Mississippi can number its 200,000,000 of inhabitants, of which it is said to be capable. as a very long time must clapse ere those woods can be cleared for the cultivation of what they are susceptible, or for a very long time the traffic to be looked forward to on the lines of communication there, as the prescribed Cans dian Railway, and others, must be good for more passenger. I have felt it, I say, most extraordinary and deplorable, that we have not availed ourselves of all these advantages for the transmission of food to our own little island, which seems adapted to supply, even to overflowing, every article of necessity, of utility, except that certainly not unimportant one We have heard repeatedly, of late, representations made respecting the social and political condition of the people to whom I am now referring. I am ready to admit that much of what I witnessed whilst I was amongst them, and more of what has reached my knowledge since I quite their shores, have not tended to give me the most favourable impression of their pacific or their moral tendencies; and the particular specimens of their good faith which have been seen to arise out of a pure democracy, are such, that I did not on my return home, feel any increased repugnance (loud luighter). I meant to say that I did not feel, on my return to England, any diminished attachment either to the en tocratic or monarchic elements of our constitution (loud cheers). But, notwithstanding, I have felt whilst I was in that country, a most powerful conviction that we are not in a position to confront the general case and abundance that prevail generally throughout the United States. The longurable member for Northampton has referred to the two meals a day of the wealthier classes as a test of ease, and we are all familiar with the case of the Irish emigrant, who refused to write home to his relatives in Cork that he had three meals a day, because he was sur that nobody would believe what he said (hear). But what I assert is, that we are not in a condition to confront the growing convictions of our own people (hear). We cannot confront the sympathies, the feelings, the determination of tocratic institutions by which we are surrounded, and which have gradually sprung are have gradually sprung up around us, in a more democratic spirit than we have shown a disposition to do. I costed that there is no wildown a disposition to do. have gradually sprung up around us, in a more democratic spirit than we have shown a disposition to do. I control that there is no aristooracy resting on exclusive principles, which our own does not (hear)—that could be maintained or tolerated for an instant. Such an aristooracy, placed is a community such as ours fortunately is, could not escape a certain and a speedy downfall (hear). And not even as aristooracy so old and so distributed as that of Great British could sustain Itself when concession comes to be prohistor. That would be an effort which the bldest title deeds would like the state of the british make to age for protection seek bibley and solely to provide the cases for protection seek bibley and solely to provide the cases in the state of individually. Still they are the interests individually. Still they are the interests in the highly of individually in the provide they like best in the highly of reciping which belongs to white the strength and the which they like best in the highly of feeling which belongs to white terms which they like best in the highly are the strength and the course of reciping which belongs to white terms almost that also it sells for fall mattyrdom. The strength and the s

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derailed of this great ensition (hear, hear). I grudge to sicir side, I grudge to them the adhesion of those who bear such names as the Marquis of Granby and Lord Clive (laughter), for I feel that our aristocrasy has marched with the general progress, and identified itself with the struggles of the country. Well, then, let them not refuse to bear their part in an adjustment which, if not adjusted with them, must be adjusted in spite of them (loud chasts). They bear a part, I allow a distinguished and a prominent part, in our social system, but that system comprises, besides themselves, the irrepressible energies of trade and industry, the order and determination of our middle classes, the hard working perseirrepressible energies of trade and industry, the order and determination of our middle classes, the hard working perseverance of the immense masses of our working classes, the most powerful agencies of a talented and enlighted press, and all the great stir and progress of a generally advancing age. Let them, then, throw all their energies into the cause; let them make it as much their pride, as it is their station, to be the leaders, and not the laggards, in the onward march of the British people. (The noble lord resumed his seat amid loud and protracted cheering.) his seat amid loud and protracted cheering.)

Mr. GASKELL observed, that in spite of the speeches of Sir J. Graham and Mr. S. Herbert, he had yet to learn what new circumstances had arisen to induce this Parliament, elected on protection pledges, to consent, not to a suspen-sion of the Corn Laws, but to a total departure from their general principles. During the last four years he had op-posed every motion for the repeal of the Corn Laws under the guidance of those in whom he had hitherto placed confidence. He had always been a friend to a moderate protection to agriculture, and in those opinions he had been confirmed by the authority of Mr. Canning, Mr. Huskisson, Lord Grey, and Sir R. Poel. The force of that authority could not be swept away by a single sentence even of so able a statesman as Sir R. Peel; and the more he reflected on this subject, the more he was convinced that gentlemen on his side of the house should not propose, and that this Parliament should not sanction, the repeal of the Corn Laws. In the course of his public life Sir R. Peel had made great sacrifices to his sense of public duty, but the first sacrifice which he had made was not so great as his present. By the first he had lost the representation of the University of Oxford; by the present he and destroyed a noble party which was once his pride. He then expressed the regret with which he had contrasted the votes with the speeches of Lord Sandon and Mr. Baillie. Though he differed from Sir Robert Peel with pain, he dif-fered from him without hesitation; and he should, therefore, with a clear conscience give his vote in favour of the amendment of Mr. Miles.

Mr. ROEBUCK observed, that when passion had passed away on this question, posterity would wonder how it had contrived to raise such a storm of agitation. He differed from most of the speakers who had preceded him; for he had nothing to retract—nothing to defend—but everything to assail. He was surprised that the High Torics on the other side of the house should have given encouragement to the notion that a member ought to resign his seat whenever his opinions were in opposition to those of his constituents; for that doctrine, which degraded the representative into a mere delegate, was contrary to all their former dogmas on the subject. He also wondered what they would say to those representatives who had resigned their seats, not on the demand of their constituents, but because they were the nominees of certain influential proprietors of close boroughs. He lectured Sir Robert Peel and Lord John Russell on their recent change of opinion on the Corn Laws, and observed, that he who gave them credit for sincerity must do so at the expense of their understandings. The real meaning of "protection" was that the find of the people should be produced at a higher price at home by certain individuals for their own benefit than that at which it could be procured abroad if the trade were free. It was said that such a system was necessary to promote the agricultural class, which consisted of labourers, farmers, and landlords, all with different, if not conflicting; interests. He showed that it was more injurious than beneficial to them all. After a long argument on this subject, he concluded by expressing a lone that the measure of the Government would pass, and by recommending the house to accompany it with some measure for the general education of the people. This measure, if carried, would give a stimulus to the population; and as the population increased, its condition, unless it were educated, would deteriorate rapidly.

The adjournment of the debate was then moved by Sir H. Douglas.

Mr. Hoddson Hinds in speaking to that question observed that as he had always been an advocate of protection to native industry, he could not give his vote against the pro-position of a Government which he had hitherto supported without briefly explaining his reasons for it. The impatience of the house rendered his explanation very inaudible, but he concluded it by declaring his opinion, that after the present session Sir R. Pecl must be prepared to give up the Government to those who had been the early supporters of this liberal matter.

Some formal business was then disposed of, and shortly afterwards the House adjourned.

Fare Trade Marking at Toothy. On Wednesday evening a Free Trade meeting was held at the spacious room attached to the Rising Bin, Tooting. There were about 600 persons present, many of whom with well-dressed ladies, and who assemed to take great injected in the great ceedings. Mr. Barter having been called to the olar, opened the meeting with thire abfordible to the olar, opened the meeting with thire abfordible to the olar, opened the meeting with thire abfordible to the olar, other called on Mr. Richard Alken, who moved, after a suit able speech, a resolution approving of the ministerial mean of the Gorn Laws. The resolution is the last abolition of the Corn Laws. The resolution having been seconded by Mr. Rolt, the chairman called on Mr. A. L. Baut, of the Lasque, who explained the general software of the Peel meaning, and congranistic that he marked as a large of the ministerial mean of the free Trade special points in the street trade special points and the collection that the indoored historial balled by Mr. A. L. Baut, of the Lasque, who explained the general points and the collection the meeting which much amused and interested the analysists. He was still be peaked by Dr. Epperhole to the farmer. He was still be peaked by Dr. Epperhole to the farmer. He was still be peaked by Mr. A. L. Baut, of the collection the meeting broke up.

The Queen's Free Trade special with the meeting which much amused and interested the analysists, which much analysis of the collection the resolution of the Corn Laws, and in the collection of

WESTMINSTER.

On Thursday night a numerous meeting of the Committee of the Westminster Reform Society was keld at Standard's Hotel, Charles-street, Covent-garden (at which the previous evening it was remotived to support the election of General Sir De Lacy Evans, as the representative of the city of Westminister) for the purpose of taking prompt and immediate measures to carry out that object. There were present some of the most active and tried reformers of Westminster, among whom wore Mr. Prout, Mr. Trott, Mr. Coppock, Mr. Pouncey, Mr. Charlwood, Mr. Childs, Mr. Lewis, Junior, Mr. Hocken, &c. The gallant general also entered the room previous to the commencement of the business

Mr. Prour having been called to the chair, directed the

stiention of the meeting to the circumstance of the High-Bailiff having appointed Tuesday next as the day of nomi-nation, and the following day (Wednesday) for the election. He impressed upon them the necessity of the utmost energy being exercised by the Reformers of Westminster upon the present occasion, to ensure the return of General Evans and stated that the Central Committee room would be opened on Friday at the Ship Hotel, Charing Cross. He then announced, that the following noblemen and gentlemen had consented to act with the committee chosen to promote the election of General Evans, viz.,— the Hon. E. P. Bouverie M. P., Chairman of the Central Committee; the Hon. G. 8. Byng, M. P.; the Hon. W. Cowper, M. P.; the Earl of Shelburne, M. P.; Lord Duncannon, M. P.; the Ron. W. R. Colborne, M. P.; Sir J. Easthope, Bart., M. P.; the Hon. H. Elphinstone, M. P.; the Hon. G. Fitzwilliam, M. P.; Mr. C. P. Villiers, M. P.; and Mr. T. Duncombe, M. P. They had also been promised the support of the Marquis of Tavistock, M. P.; Lord R. Grosvenor, M. P.; Lord Marcus IIII, M. P. the Hon. E. J. Stanley, M. P.; the Hon. F. Maule, M. P.; and Mr. E. Ellis, M. P. It was most cheering to their cause to receive the support of noblemen and gentlemen, members of Parliament, and of such high respectability and influence

It was unanimously resolved that the names of those offering themselves should be added to the committee.

Several gentlemen from the various parishes stated that active exertions were being made to promote the election of

the gallant General. It was subsequently arranged that a meeting of the electors should take place on Friday evening at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Strand; another on Saturday night at Willis's Rooms, Brewer street, St. James's; and on Monday a third and last meeting at Pimlico, for General Evans to meet

the constituency.
Thanks were then voted to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

BRISTOL.

On Monday evening a tea meeting was held at the large public rooms, Broadmead, in aid of the Quarter of a Million League Fund. The attendance was numerous and highly influential, several of the leading merchants of the city being present. The chair was taken by George Thomas, Esq., merchant, and a liberal supporter of the League. When tea was concluded,

The CHAIRMAN said that a petition had been sent from this city, signed by 18,000 persons, for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. It was sent to Mr. Berkeley, one of the members for Bristol, with a request that he would pre-sent it to the house and support its prayer. A similar request was also made to Mr. P. Miles, the other member. Letters had been received from each of those gentlemen, the former agreeing in the sentiments of the petitioners, the latter saying that he could not give his vote in favour of total and immediate repeal.

The Rev. Gronge Annerrong (Unitarian minister) followed the chairman. He congratulated Colonel Thompson and the Tree Trade advocates upon what he might call the successful termination of labours extending over a pe riod of twenty years. It was gratifying now to find men of all parties agreeing that Free Trade is the only measure which can work advantageously for this great empire (chcers)

Colonel Thompson then rose, and was received with loud cheering. He said that they mot under very altered circumstances from what they were in twelve months ago. He could truly say that their enemies were made to be at peace with them; let them, then, lay aside all unfriendly recal-lections and hostile feeling, let them make the utmost of the bounty which Heaven bath bestowed upon them, and take all reasonable care that none of the advantages slip away from their own carelessness, that they would do their en-deavours to carry forward the fruits of their great success wherever the condition of mankind should open the occasion. He rejoiced that the trust of executing this great object had fullen where it had. He should be glad if they would throw aside all remnants of party feeling, throw aside all recollection of what had passed, and, as honest men, all recollection of what had passed, and, as honest men, know and feel nothing except that they were seeking the improvement of the condition of the country (cheers). Col. Thompson concluded by extolling the conduct of the Premier in respect of the Oregon question, stating that his promptitude had had the effect of subduing the warlike spirit which had begun to manifest itself in the United States, and prognosticating that his (the Premier's) measures would have the effect of averting the war altogether (hear hear).

sures would have the effect of averting the war altogether (hear, hear).

R. R. R. Moors, Esq., was next introduced, and was received with loud cheers. Having addressed the meeting at some length, with his usual elequence, he concluded by announcing the subscriptions, observing that at prosent only 20 per cent. would be called for:—George Thomas, Esq., 2501.; Joseph Eden, Esq., 2501.; Edward Thomas, Esq., 2501.; Villiam Tothill, Esq., 2001.; Edward Kente, Esq., 1001.; Naish and Co., 1001.; Jumes Charlton, Esq., 1001.; Thomas Sanders, Esq., 1001.; William Wills, Esq., 1001.; H. O. Wills, Esq., 1001.; S. S. Fry and Son, 1001. There were several 501, and 251., and smaller sums, and we believe the collections amounted to about 30001.

THE QUEER.—PREE TRADE.—We liear, from a source which leaves no doubt of the truth of the statement, that the which leaves no doubt of the truth of the statement, that the most illustrices personare in the kinglom takes a lively interest in the repeal of the Corn Laws, and has, on more than the Gosalon, warmly divocated the measure, against the dividual of contain mobile lottle, who are as strongly opposed to the property of the contains a strongly opposed to the property of the contains a strongly opposed to the contains a strongly opposed

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CORRESPONDENCE:

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

Brighton, Feb. 10, 1810, 10 o'clock.

Sin,—Mr. Falvey and myself have just returned from Chichester, after having achieved one of the greatest victories over known in that city. We arrived at Chichester about 4 o'clock last evening, and after dinner, proceeded to the rooms that had been taken for the purpose of Mr. F.'s lecturing.

After a post elegency address to the elegtors, who turing. After a most eloquent address to the electors, who had assembled in great numbers, so much so, that there was a complete crowd outside the doors, Mr. Muldon proposed thanks to Mr. F., and dovotailed with it, " That he was a fit and proper person to represent the electors of the city of Chichester in Parliament," which was received with dealouing applause. After the meeting, we adjourned to the Dolphin, and prepared the address to the electors (a copy of which I enclose, which please to take great care of, as it is the only one left). We sat up till past one, getting it out, and making arrangements for posting and distributing it. This morning the town was in the greatest state of excitoment in consequence of the opposition. At half-past ning o'clock we proceeded to the Town Hall, which we found had been proviously "packed" by the monopolists with labourers at ten o'clock. The mayor took his sout; and after the precept was read, Lord H. Lennox was proposed and seconded, after which Mr. Fullagar proposed Mr. Falvey in a very eloquent speech, and was seconded by Mr. Maldon. Then Lord Leanox rose to address the electors, but he was very poorly received, and was in a very nervous state, for his knees knocked together as if he had fullen. He merely said, that he should feel it great honour to be returned as M.P. for their city, and stated that he thought that we ought not to be dependent upon foreigners for our daily bread, and ended his address in about five minutes. He was interrupted many times during its delivery with hisses and groans, so much so, that at last he said, he hoped they would give hint a hearing, and allow him to proceed without interruption. Upon Mr. F.'s rising, there was a simultaneous burst of ap plause, which lasted for a considerable time; and, after an address from Mr. F., of about one hour and a quarter's duaddress from Mr. F., of about one hour and a quarter's duration, the Mayor called for a show of hands for Lord II. Lennox, which was complied with. "On the contrary, and in favour of Mr. Falvey," was put, when the large body of heads in front of the Mayor, seemed on an instant to be changed into hands! The Mayor then said, that it was his bounden duty to say, that the show of hands was in favour of Mr. Falvey! (Lord and any malanged changes.) Mr. Falvey!! (Lond and prolonged cheering.) Lord H. Lennox immediately demanded a poll; the usual notices were then given, that the poll would commence at eight o'clock next morning, and a vote of thanks to the Mayor about to be passed, when Mr. Falvey came for ward and said, that as his noble opponent had had the start of him in the canvass, it was not his intention this time to go to the poll; but at the next election a Free Trader would be ready to fight the seat with the noble lord, who was then returned duly elected. The meeting broke up with three cheers for Free Trade, and three groans for protection. Then we had to go home, and we were accompanied by a mob who continued shouting, "Palvey for ever!" "Free Trade!" and "Down with protection!" The place was in the greatest excitement when we left, as such a thing as the candidate of the duke's having to demand a poll has nover before taken place. They sadly want some one to come and look after the registration here, which ought to be done.

Yours, &c.
P.S. I should state that the whole of the men paid by the monopolists, as if completely paralysed with Mr. F.'s eloquont address, held up their hands for him; and a great number followed us home. There was a large staff of London reporters down for the Times, Herald, Chronicle, Daily News, Advertiser, &c.; and it is the opinion that this is the greatest blow the Duke of Riehmond has ever yet had.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

SIR,—As a working man, I beg to offer you the following remarks for your consideration. This time last year the potatoes were 1d. per pound, just now they are 1d.; almost all small families use three pounds per day, that makes an extra outlay of 9d. a week. The bread was 6d. a loaf last summer, now it is 8d.; if we consume three loaves a-week we pay an extra 6d., and that added to the 9d. makes 1s. 3d. Now, if our wages last summer were barely sufficient to find us in food, shoes, and cloth s, this year we must go without something to the amount of is. 3d. a-week; and what will that something be? not food, I am sure. No! the tailor and shoemaker may starve, but food we must have. Our old clothes and shoes must last us some time longer, and in the meantime the master tailors and shoemakers, finding their trade falling off and workmen pressing them for work, reduce wages. There is only one party who prospers, and that is the landholder; he will this year pocket the tailor and shoemaker's 1s. 9d. On the other hand, if we only earned enough last year to find us food, we will be abled this year to give up the use of tea and sugar to the obliged this year to give up the use of tea and sugar to the amount of is. 3d., these being articles we can easier spare than bread, and by these means we lessen the revenue of the

country by at least 0d. a week. 88, Coleman-street, Woolwich John White, Journeyman Carpenter.

The following letter has been forwarded to the Rev. Mr. Forguson, of Bicester, by a few friends of humanity in the

city:

22, Swan-street, Minories, London, Jan. 10, 1846.

Dear Sin,—Your very affecting appeal on behalf of the agricultural labourers of Bicester and its neighbourhood, as contained in Tie League of Dec. 27, has been responded to by a few warm-hearted Free Traders of the Ward of Portsoken, in this city. The contributions placed in my hands for this purpose will oanble me to send you between 80 and 40 good smock-freeks, a portion of which were forwarded yesterday by waggon, and the remainer shall follow so soon as the quantity can be made up at the warphouse. I feel honoured in being made the medium of communication with you, Sir, whose untiring exertions and introduce of humanity shall so bright a labour on human nature, and beautify and adorn the Christian character which you so well sustain. ter which you so well sustain.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

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*Lunual Andrew A

THE WPIECHTS OF R. COBDEN, ESO, M.P., R. PUBLISHED AS CARRY OF SECURITY BY PROBLEM RESERVED TO THE OLD PRINTERS OF PERSONS OF PERSON
Land a Critice, 67, Prest street, London; J. Gadaby, Newall's Buildings, and S. Oki Miligate, Manchester, Where may be had,

A VERBATIM REPORT OF THE MEETING OF A VERBATIM REPORT OF THE MEETING OF AGRICLITURAL LABOURERS AT GUATAGRS, printed in a load time, 12 pages.

Mold at the Leauts Office, 17. Picet street, London; and by J. Gadsby, Nowall's Buildings, and 3, Old Millgate, Munchoster.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

While we congratulate our readers on the progress of the subscriptions to the Quarter of a Million Fund, and on the effect that they have obviously produced without and within the walls of Parliament, we must impress upon them the necescity of not relaxing in their exertions, now that the crisis of our great struggle has arrived. The victory is not yet won; all the resources, and all the energies of the Lengue, will be required, before complete success can be achieved. A dissolution of Parliament appears to be imminent; and the battle of Free Trade will have to be fought inch by inch on the hustings. We are anxious to urge on our friends the importance, not only of subscribing freely, but of subscribing early. The munifestation of strength will often decide the course of the wavering and the doubtful; but, above all, our subscriptions are the best proof that we are thoroughly in carnest, and that we shall not cease to labour until every link of the fetters imposed on British industry is struck off, and every restriction on the supply of food to the people completely annibilated.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, Feb. 11, 1846.

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

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, subscribers are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for Grionge Wilson, League

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ERRATA.

IN LEAGUE, No. 123.—In 11st of Subscriptions at Preston, for George Smith £225, read £255.

CHICHESTER ELECTION.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10 .- Last night a Free Trade lec-

TRIUMPHANT SHOW OF HANDS FOR MR. FALVEY. (From the Times.)

ture was delivered at the Fountain Tavern, by Mr. Falvey, of the Anti-Corn Law League, to an audience of from 400 to 500 people. The lecture was listened to throughout with the most profound attention, and at its close a resolution was carried, unanimously and enthusiastically, that Mr. Falvey should be put in nomination to-day as candidate-for the representation of Chichester.

The meeting showed a strong determination to resent the unwarrantable interference of the Duke of Richmond with the freedom of the city, and a keen sense of the degradation they were incurring in the eyes of the country by their subserviency.

In consequence of the resolution adopted last night. Mr. Falvey's address to the constituoncy was issued this morning. I annex a copy of it:

"TO THE BLECTORS OF THE CITY OF CHICKERTRR.

"Gentlemen,—Having this evening been requested by a
unanimous vote of a large number of citizens to allow myself to be put in nomination to-morrow, for the representation of your city in Parliament, I beg leave to inform you that I shall comply with such request, as the unqualified advocate of industrial freedom. I am in favour of the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the corn and provision

laws.

"His Grace the Duke of Richmond is reported to have said in his place in Parliament, that the measures proposed by her Majesty's Ministers should be discussed at the hustings. The electors of this city will now have an opportunity ings. The electors of this city will now have an opportunity of there hearing the arguments that can be adduced on each side of the great question which at present occupies so large a portion of the public attention. I am, gentlemen, yours very respectfully, "T. FALVEY."

"Delpin Hotel, Monday Evening, Feb. 0."

At 10 o'clock this morning the nomination took place, in the Old Town-hall of the city, which was, of course, the Course of the Course o

in procession to the Town-hall in the usual electioneering style, with a brass band at their head that made horrible discordance, the usual forms having been com-

Mr. Rapen, the mayor, stood forward, and said that the meeting had heard from the erier the object for which they were then assembled together, and he was quite sure that they would proceed to the business before them in the spirit that they had displayed on former occasions, and that they would give to every person, whatever his political opinions might be, a fair, candid, and impartial hearing (cheers).

Mr. Henry, an extensive brower in Chichester, then rose and said that the connection had been accounted.

rose, and said that the connection between the citizens and their late representative had suddenly been dissolved, and he was sure they all regretted extremely that such was the case, but it now remained to be seen whother they could not find a worthy successor. The connection between them and Lord Arthur Lennox had subsisted for 13 years, and he believed that it had ever given satisfaction to them all-that each year had strengthened their mutual regard, and even political opponents had heard of Lord A.'s retirement with regret. He was sure that the citizens would now proceed to find his successor with perfect good will. There had existed between them and the house of which Lord Arthur was a branch, a connection that had lasted many year, and where could they look for a representative of their city with a greater chanco of success than in some other branch of that family? In introducing to them Lord Henry Lennox as a young candidate for the honour of representing them in Parliament, he considered that great trust was to be placed in his lordship (cheers and groans). There was about him certainly an uncertainty which in the case of their noble friend, the late member, did not subsist; but he felt well assured that if the constituency elected Lord Henry Lennox, their trust in him would not be belied. The connection which had existed between their city and his grace of Richmond, was not that which bound a stern landlord to a servile tenantry; but it was that which influenced the heart and the affections, which sprang from the love which the exalted integrity of the Lennox family must create (cheers and grouns.) He introduced the noble lord as the upholder of true Conservative principles, as a warm supporter of the ancient institutions of the country, both civil and ecclesiastical, as determined to promote whatever may conduce to the welfare of the country, and to oppose such measures as he may consider dangerous to its prosperity. But the noble lord would himself have an opportunity of addressing them and explaining his views; and he now therefore begged to nominate Lord Henry Lennox as a fit and propor person to represent the city of Chichester in Parliament. (Cheers and groans, mingled with cries of "Free Trade for ever.")

Dr. M'CAROGHER said that he had much pleasure in seconding the nomination of Lord Henry Lennox. Though only about to commence his political career, he felt sure that his lordship would imitate the conduct of his illustrious predecessors by the zeal and ability he would display not only in advancing the interests of his own constituency, but also that of the country at

Mr. FULLAGAR, a Unitarian minister, thon stood forward and addressed the meeting. He said that it was the custom sometimes in the hereditary house of the Legislature, in which the noble duke, the father of the noble lord then present, sat, to enter a protest against the proceedings of the house, when these were disapproved of by any peer; and he suspected that unless his grace very speedily became a convert to those opinions which were now very generally expressed by Parliament, his only resource would be to enter his protest against the proceedings of the house in which he He thought the noble duke would find himself in a minority if he still clung to his opinious, and that those who thought with him would have the poor satisfaction of entering their protest against the proceedings of their fellow peers. Now a protest did not stop the progress of a measure, for it was only an advantage as a satisfaction to the party making it, and as a record to posterity in all time coming of the views which he had taken. He (Mr. Fullagar) was there to protest against the proceedings of the day, as managed by the friends of the noble lord and himself, and against those proceedings which had preceded that meeting (loud cheers). He held in his hand two papers, the one purporting to be from Lord Arthur Lennox, and the other from the noble lord who was then soliciting their suffrages. He must confess that he strongly suspected if they were to search the whole annals of election proceedings, they would not find two more curious productions than he then held in his hands (cheers). He could not tell if they emanated from the same pen, but he had a strong presumption and sus-picion that they did (laughter). There was a very general similarity in their character. Their score and meaning was perfectly inane and unsatisfactory, for they declared hardly anything (cheers). He did not pretend to say that these addresses had any direct or indirect connection with the noble lord's father, because that would be a very unconstitutional interference with the liberty of elections (laughter). But if they did not procoed from the same pen, then he hoped that Mr. Freeland would prove to the satisfaction of the meeting that his suspicion was groundless (cheers). All he could my was, that if those addresses did not proceed from the was, that if those addresses did not proceed from the same pen, then there was a very strong family likeness between them; more, indeed, than could be anticipated between the style of an uncle and his naphew. Lord Arthur said, in his address, that the feetings under which he then inhoured were such as he could not possibly express. And, why? Because he felt himself placed in a more difficult and painful situation has a treather reflection. For all the second and the

opponents were as sorry that Lord Arthur had resigned he my of his friends could be; but his lordship's re-Manation did seem so very curious, that the question very naturally suggested itself-What, in the name of common sense, was the nature of the dilemma into which he had got? He was unacquainted with the courtesfes of life which regulated the intercourse of men associating in the ranks of the noble lord, but he should have thought that had he himself represented a city in Parliamont for 15 years, and at length had felt himself uncomfortable in that connection, he should have come down to the citizens, and explained to them frankly the causes of his discomfort (cheers). Lord Arthur had merely talked to them of his painful feelings, without deligning to give them the least insight into the reasons for which he was about to withdraw (cheers). It appoared to him most extraordinary and most unsatisfacthem on the subject. Probably the noble lord would see the propriety of giving some explanation with respect to the conduct of his noble relative (laughter). But when Lord Arthur Lennox had withdrawn from the representation, the constituency had not once been called together to consult to whom they should entrust the affairs of the city, and yet in so momentous a business one would suppose that some step of that kind would at least be taken. The noble lord, their late re-Presentative, had withdrawn, and then another noble lord came and told them that he was ready to supply the vacant place. Lord II. Lennox told the electors that he was quite aware that he had "but slight pretensions to so great a distinction as that at which he aspired" (hear,) and he therefore expressed a hope that he should not be considered presumptions in doing so. Now, he did not pretend to be the scholar the noble lord might be. His lordship might have studied many languages, and the English language among them, but he did not see how his fordship was to be acquitted of presumption in coming forward to solicit so important a trust, while he admits at the same time that his qualifications for assuming it are so slight (cheers). He suspected that the noble lord was not acting on individual feeling and principle, but that he was a mere automaton, whose motions were regulated by the pulling of some secret wires (loud cheers and laughter). These were the horns of the dilemma on which he should fix his lordship, because, as the matter stood, he thought the constitution had been wounded in one of its most vital parts (cheers). The noble lord told them in his address that he was auxious to preserve those institutions under which the country had attained its present prosperity. , what were these institutions? There were two of the greatest importance to the interests of the country and he liberties; one of these was the trial by jury, and the other, the liberty and duty of returning as member to Parliament the fittest person they could find after due consideration, and of returning him on free, unbiassed, independent principles (cheers). Now, instead of his lordship's saying what his capabilities were, he merely told them that individually he had but slight claims on their support. Mr. Henry had introduced his lordship as entitled to become their representative because of the long connections that had subsisted between the city of Chichester and the Goodwood family. But, if Mr. Henry wanted a coachman, would be choose him on such grounds (laughter)? If he did, and the conchinan pulled one rein when he should have pulled the other, very few people would be found who, however much they pitied, did not blame Mr. Henry for the accident (laughter). Such was the case of the noble lord. He did not mean, when he said so, however, to say anything hard of the noble lord personally. He had intended to come there that day, not from any feeling of personal liability to his lordship; for if he had it in his power, he would be ready to serve him, but to protest against proceedings which were reducing a most important duty to something worse than child's play. Since, however, he had seen the noble lord, circumstances had arisen which had given him an opportunity of introducing to the citizens a gentleman of the Anti-Corn-Law League; and he embraced the opportunity presented for two or three reasons. In the first place, he thought that free and unrestricted trade in everything was not only most important for the country, but proper and fitting, according to the Creator's arrangement of the New World. He would, therefore, put it on his opponents to show if there were any circumstances in the state of the country-mything rotten in the state of Denmark—to require such an interposi-tion in the dispensations of the Delty as protection intorposed. His second reason was, that he was a minister of the gospel. When he considered that Free Trade was what the Deity Intended; when he considered that that illustrious person (the reader must remember that it is a Unitarian minister who thus speaks of our Lord), whose minister he was, had directed his disciples to do all in their power to ameliorate the condition of the poorer classes, he certainly was astomshed that the esta-blished clergy had not come forward on this subject (cheers). Having, however, been at the Corn Exchange the other day, he was still more astonished to find that some of them could come forward on the opposite side of the question. In an old book, which he had in his of the question. In an old book, which he had in his possession, the author, in describing the conduct of the Christian hierarchies, said, that the instruction given them was, "feed my sheep," whereas their conduct had been as if it was "fleece my lambs." As the Duke of Richmond had expressed his desire that the question of protection should be discussed at the hustings, he would not be surprised if his Grace should make him a hand-same measure for allowing his son to have an amount in some process for allowing his son to have an opportunity of Alisonssing the subject there to-day (laughter). He would wish to please his Grace if possible, and as this while was to prouse its critice it possitie, and as this was the first or only time in which such discussion had taken place, and if the quanton was not soon site. The discussion was not soon site.

thrown into the stream of truth; yet they were only like the pebbles which children cast into the brook, which were powerless to stay the flow of its waters. The rev, gentleman then proceeded to state his objections to Lord II. Lennox, as a member of the aristocracy, entering the lower House of Parliament. He then continued by saying that it was asserted that Sussex had been distinguished for sending incapables to the House of Commons, that the brains of the people required as much working to make them profitable as the clods of the soil itself. After culogising Captain Pechell, whom he excepted from this category, and condemning in strong language the principles of the new Poor Law, the rev. gentleman concluded by quoting the following lines, altered from those on Burke, with reference to the trial of Warren Hastings:—

"Of it has been remarked that Bussex ground,
"Produced no sonators of thought profound,
"That taunt at Sussex shall no more be hurled—

"Cobden, her son, appears to teach the world." (Cheers.)
Having proposed Mr. T. Falvey, as a fit and proper
person to represent Chichester in Parliament,

Mr. Malbon seconded the nomination. He said that he was one of those who regretted exceedingly that Lord A. Lennox, their late representative, had not rested satisfied with the office which he had obtained a little before he last came down there to stand upon the hustings, but that since then he had been ambitious of another office, viz., that of the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds. He regretted that Lord Arthur had vacated his sent for Chichester. Not that he could agree with the noble lord then present that Lord Arthur's retirement was unexpected by him. When he read the able speech of Sir R. Peel, developing the plan of his great commercial revolution, he did expect that Lord Arthur would either quit the ministry, depart from Sir R. Peel or vacate his seat in Parliament. His lordship had chosen to do the latter, and he thought that his lordship had shown himself very wise in his generation (loud cheers and laughter). By so doing he had pleased his noble brother; he had accommodated his noble nephew; he had shown his gratitude to his patron, his friend, and benefactor-Sir R. Peel; and also some consideration for his noble self and the wife of his bosom (loud cheers and hughter). 1200/. a-year was no joke it appeared. Lord Arthur had chosen to keep his office, with its emoluments, and he had thought proper to give up the representation of their city, which would not after ail be worth to him more than about a year's purchase-or the value of a warming-pan (cheers and laughter). It was merely a question of time with his lordship, after all, for he might be sure that as Lord George Lennox was compelled to vacate the west division of Sussex for the accommodation of Lord March, so surely would Lord Arthur be compelled at the close of the present session to vacate his keat for the noble candidate who was then before them (cheers). He had always received a great deal of civility from Lord Arthur Lennox, and he rejoiced therefore that he intended to retain his office, as it would make him independent of his brother the Duke of Richmond (hear, and cheers). His Grace had been a very fortunate man in providing for his children (cheers). It was said in a very old book, that "he who would not provide for his own had denied the faith, and was worse than an infidel" (laughter). He (Mr. Muldon) believed that the sort of infidelity thus spoken of did not belong to the Duke of Richmond (continued laughter). All this was quite true, but was it not a serious thing that a peer of the realm should thus interfere in the election of members serving the lower house of Parliament. Was it not a serious thing that he should thus violate the express terms of an Act of Parliament on that subject (cheers). But if they, the inhabitants of Chichester, being so ill-treated, returned his Grace's nomineo to Parliament, they would become abettors of his crime. The duke had expressed his anxiety that the Parliament should be dissolved, and the doctrines of Free Trade discussed at the hustings. His Grace had taken care that Parliament should be dissolved as far as Chichester was concerned; and to accommodate his grace, he, Mr. Maldon, was there to hear it discussed, and he had very great pleasure therefore in seconding the nomination of Mr. Falvey, of Manchester, because he know him to be a man of talent and information, of high moral and intellectual worth, and well able to discuss with the poble lord the great great tion which was then absorbing the public attention Lord H. LENNOX, then, on presenting himself, was re-

Lord H. Lennox, then, on presenting himself, was received with cheers from his own party, and groans from his opponents, in the midst of which a voice was heard, "Let the lady speak." His lordship said that he presented himself before them as a candidate for the honour of representing the city of Chichester in Parliament. He assured them that he felt deeply the extent of the honour which he solicited at their hands, and he must take that opportunity of expressing the gratitude which he felt in the course of his canvass during the last four days. There was one point which had been alluded to that day, and with which he had been repeatedly questioned in the course of his canvass. He begged distinctly to state that Lord Arthur Lennox had resigned his seat of his own accord. The Duke of Richmond did not dictate that step; but he resigned of his own accord. (Cheers and groans, mingled with cross of "Turned out.") He of course felt some delicacy in approaching a subject which had been discussed by the greatest men in the kingdom—that subject which engrossed not only the attention of England, but that of the whole civilised world. Nevertheless, he was unhesitatingly in favour of protection, not only to agriculture, but to British industry in every branch. He hoped that he should never live to see England dependent on the foreigner for her daily bread. The cry of the Langua was gheen bread, while their avowed object.

of wages fell in proportion? (Hisses.) He considered that the result of the proposed Ministerial measure would be to employ the foreigner, and to allow the condition of the native mechanic and labourer to become much worse than it then was. He did not see why the landed interest, who had peculiar burdens pressing on them, should have protection to their industry taken away, while the manufacturers, who had no such burdens, were still to retain a half of theirs. The best proof that protection should be preserved was to be found in the fact that it was, as a principle, approved of by the whole world, and that every country abroad was now adopting the system under which England had attained its present flourishing position among the nations (cheers and groans). They had heard his opponents without interruption, and perhaps now, therefore, they would allow him to explain his views. There was no use, he thought, for any change in the existing corn and provision laws, as England was at present in a very flourishing condition. He agreed with the present Secretary for the Home Department when he said, some years ago, that it was at any time most dangerous to interfere with the laws that regulated the price of food, and of all periods for doing so, the worst was, when a report of scarcity in the returns of the seasons had inflamed the ignorant passions of the people (loud cheers). The reverend gentleman opposite had stated that he expected a brilliant speech from him, and he saw that the Anti-Corn Law League newspaper (the Times) of yesterday had said that as this was "his first appearance on any stage, it was anticipated some other members of his fatmily would be present on the occasion as prompter. It was his first appearance on any stage, and if he failed in realising their hopes they must excuse him, because it was his first fault (cheers). He trusted that, should they elect him to Parliament, they would find him not only ready to vote for all measures which might tend to the benefit of the country at large; but, also, more especially, for those that would be of benefit to the local interests of the city (cheers and hisses). And he would consider that he had been elected as member for the city, not on account of any merits in himself, but to advocate that principle of protection to native industry which the farmers required. Now, the city of Chichester was dependent on the farmers of the neighbourhood, and if they were ruined, what would become of the city? The organ of the Anti-Corn-Law League, the Times, on Wednesday last, said that Chichester was dependent on the labouring farmers around her, and if it was so, the prosperity of the one must rise or decline with that of the other. He would not then detain them any longer, but conclude by informing them that, should he be elected, he would support the Guildford Junction Railway, as that best adapted to suit their interests. He tendered his best thanks to those who had promised him their support (cheers and hisses). He trusted that his friends would fight out the question of protection at the hustings. He did not mean that they should discuss it, because discussion would not sendtheir member to Parliament, but he repeated that he hoped they would fight it out at the hustings (cheers and groans).

Mr. FALVEY then rose and said, that he appeared before the constituency of Chichester that day in order to offer his opposition, not to the person, but to the principles of the noble lord who had just been soliciting their suffrages. He came before them, also, in a great measure owing to a challenge thrown out by the Duke of Richmond in his place in Parliament, that her Majesty's Ministers should dissolve Parliament, that the question now before the public might be openly discussed, for that was the point. Whatever might be the result of that day's proceedings, it was satisfactory to the friends of Free Trade to know, that it was as vain for the noble lord, his opponents, and his relatives, to stem the tide of public opinion on the question of Free Trade as it was for Madame Partington to attempt to put back the ocean one fine morning with her broom (cheers). He came before them with perfect confidence, because he felt from the experience which he had had in the agricultural districts, that both friends and foes were resolved to hear fully and fairly what was to be said in favour of the engrossing question. He trusted, therefore, that the noble lord would believe him if he spoke severely of the principle advocated by his lordship, that he meant nothing personally offensive, but was merely mon sense, and justice (cheers). The noble lord had denied, and he was bound to believe that his denial was true, as far as he was concerned, that Lord Arthur Lennox was requested or commanded to resign his seat for Chichester. He (Mr. Falvey), however, would ask what Lord Arthur meant by saying that he would be placed in a painful situation if he continued to represent the city in Parliament? Was the language of his address, intended to have a weather with the electors. dress intended to have any authority with the electors, or was that address intended to be anything more than a childish form? No one could read the address without coming to the conclusion that Lord Arthur had been obliged to give up his soat by an unseen power not known to the constituency (cheers and laughter).
There was not a more tender point to touch upon than the privileges by which the Commons returned their representatives to Parliament. It had been declared a high crime and misdomeanour in a page of Parliament high crime and misdomeanout in a paer of Parliament to interfere either directly, or indirectly in the election of members to the other house. Yet, in the face of all this the representatives for Buckingham, for Woodstock, for Newark, and for Chichester had been allendy turned out at the dictation of the neighbouring noblamen, and he should not have solicited at their hands the houser of representing them that day had a their hands the houser of representing them that day had a fine the of free Trade being examined.

arens he could desire if he had his selection. For such an areus no question could be better adapted than that. Have the Corn Laws done well for their country-has protection answered its objects? Have the farmers those profits to which they are entitled on the outlay of their capital? Has the labourer been paid in proportion to his requirements (vehement cries of " No, no")? He did not blame the noble lord for conscientiously following in the footsteps of his relative. He had no fear, however, that if the question was not now finally settled, his lordship would no more remain a protectionist than Lord Arthur had continued so (cheers). Lord Arthur was said to be an honourable man and an excellent representative. Lord Arthur had kept his eyes and cars open. He heard the Free Trade declarations of the Prime Minister-he had listened to the argument adduced in favour of Free Trade by the greatest men on both sides of the House of Commons. He had felt that protection could not be maintained, and the result had been that he had stuck to his situation of 1200l. a-year at the hands of a Free Trade Minister (cheers and laughter). He did not despair of seeing the noble lord himself become the advocate of Free Trade; but if the great measure was carried before his conversion would be completed, then he would see the lands still in cultivation the farmers prosperous—the labourer better paid and better fed—England worth living in still: and he will find, too, that his noble father has not run away and left it (cheers and laughter). He would put it to them as to any intelligent assembly, were not all Sir Robert Peel's personal and political predilections in favour of things as they were? He had a large majority in the House of Commons. He had been selected to lead the armies of protection; he had every reason to continue a protectionist; but he saw a blight coming over an esculent upon which (shame be it said) a large portion of the population of the land depended. He saw want in the distance by Government commissioners reporting the facts of the case, and then he went to Parliament, and though the Minister of a party, opposed to such a policy, declared that he would not take upon him the responsibility of keeping the ports shut, and that as the Minister of the Crown and the people he bade defiance to the aristocracy, and threw himself upon the support of the country (loud cheers). The consequence was that large meetings were preparing and sending petitions to Parliament to support him, while the protectionists were hiding themselves in holes and corners, and assembling in numbers so small that there were few present besides the reporters, and getting up petitions without allowing discussion upon them (cheers). With respect to the Duke of Richmond taking on his shoulders the Government of the country, his Grace might think himself very clever, but he (Mr. Falvey) would as soon expect to see a child wielding a thunderbolt as his Grace occupying such a position (loud laughter). The duke, who was Lord Lieutenant of the county, was reported to have said that if a Free Trader came to address the people of Sussex he would not answer that he would not get pinched by them. Now this was a most unwise suggestion, for, as the head of the magistracy, his Grace should not thus, by innendos, have hinted at violence. But expressions of that sort pass for nothing, because the labourers, when they met to declare their opinions, entered heart and soul into the cause of Free Trade, and protested against a system which had not protected them. Mr. Falvoy then proceeded to address himself in detail to the different points of Lord Henry Lennox's speech, meeting each assertion with the usual and wellknown arguments which the Free Traders have employed against the fallacies of monopoly. He concluded by complimenting the citizens upon the candour and impartiality of the hearing which they had given both

to him and his opponents. When Mr. Falvey had sat down, a gentleman named Barlow made an abortive attempt to gain a hearing.

The Mayor then proceeded to take a show of hands. the result of which he declared to be in favour of Mr.

A poll having been demanded by Lord Henry Lennox, Mr. Falvey pleaded the want of a fair start in the canvass as his excuse for retiring from the contest, and again thanked the constituency for the kindness with which they had received him.

Lord H. LENNOX, in returning thanks for his election, on was duly declared by the mayor, said that if Mr. Falvey had expressed his high sense of the honour which they had done him in giving him the show of hands, how much more creditable was it to him that so many of the electors had promised him their support, that Mr. Falvey would not go to the poll. As long as he lived he should not forget the favour which they had that day conferred on him (cheers). His endeavour would be to promote the best interests of the city, and he hoped they would not find him so bad a bargain as they thought for (cheers and launchers). The could not they thought for (cheers and laughter). He could not quite conclude without thanking his opponents for the good humour and kindness they had evinced towards him.

A vote of thanks to the Mayor having been put and carried, the farce of an independent election at Chichester closed, as it had opened, with a disorderly procession, and the noisy discordance of wind instruments.

IMPORTANT TO SHREP FARMERS AND OTHERS.—A correspondent carnestly recommends the sowing of rye grass and clover among headler. He observes, "I have seen betten patches of heath land converted into the most beautiful green sward, morely by sowing rye grass and clover among the heather in the hyportion in which there are generally sown together, without paying any attention to the souls. In the instance in which have also that they want to heather the heat state of the heat state of the heat state of the heather the heat state of the heather the heat state of the heather the heat state of the heather heat state of the heat state of the heat state of the heather heat state of the heat state

CITY OF LONDON—COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.

THE CORK LAWS.—After an ineffectual attempt made by several members to proceed to the consideration of petitions, the subject of the total and immediate abolition of the Corn

Laws was chiered upon.

The clerk of the Court read the requisition, which was signed by the following gentlemen:—David William Wire, Thomas Watkins, William Dawson, F. Bennoch, James Hoole, Charles Barnard, John Last, Benjamin Brown, W. H. Ashurst, J. M. Barnard, J. Anderton, J. Prendergast W. Johnson, T. H. Hall, W. S. Pilcher, James Prisby, W. W. Johnson, T. H. Hall, W. S. Pilcher, James Frisby, W. Stevens, J. R. Carr, J. Bennett, R. Ashby, R. Thomas, W. Tozer, G. Wright, J. R. Thompson, J. Parker, J. Collingwood, J. Killby, W. Christie, S. H. Jutsum, T. J. Holt, T. J. Salter, A. Freeman, J. Jerran, E. Fisher, T. Young, T. Tagg, N. Maughan, R. Westwood, H. Prichard, H. Blake, S. Ridley, R. Williams, H. L. Tuylor, W. Lister, E. Hickson, W. Groucher, J. Robarts, L. Redhead, T. Sidney (alderman), T. Hall, J. Phillips, F. Sadler, T. Eldred, S. Read, S. Sharvood, S. Maw, S. Gilbert, W. B. James, G. Bracher, J. Curtis, G. Selson, T. Joyce, D. Cook, J. Law, W. Muddell, T. T. Lott, J. Jolliffe, T. Rowley, T. Sprague, W. Tyler, T. Marsden, S. Lepard, J. T. Bedford, R. Taylor, J. Bailey, W. M. Williams, R. Norris, G. Stacey, W. Harding, J. Whiteside Whiteside.

Mr. Wine said, that in rising to propose the resolution which he should afterwards submit to the consideration of the Court, he would best have consulted his own feelings if, after thanking the Lord Mayor for the readiness and courtesy with which his lordship had complied with the requisition in thus calling the Court on an early day, he had been permitted to submit the resolutions without any remarks, But he had understood that the resolutions would be opposed by gentlemen on the ground that the policy of Sir R. Peel and already gone for enough, and that to ask for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws would be to endanger the success of measures which, apart from that question, were considered beneficial to the country. He should, in a few words prove the immediate necessity for the concurrence of the Court in his propositions (hear), Happily the Court had not, like the members of another house, to retract opinions formerly enforced, nor had the individual members placed themselves in the unenviable position of being suddenly converted to Free Trade doctrines (hear, hear). For a series of years that Court had recorded its conviction of the impolicy and injustice of the Corn Laws, and had denounced the imposition of prohibiting duties as alike injurious to the commerce and industry of the country, and it was matter of congratulation that opinions so just in themselves, ratified and confirmed as they had been by experience, of the benefits arising from the relaxation of import duties, had been gathering strength every day, and necended from the lumints of commerce to the halls of legislation. The publication of the evidence taken by the House of Commons some years since, the report upon that subject made to the Houses of Parliament, the agitation of the Corn Law League, the speeches at the hustings, and other assemblies of the people, find carried conviction to the minds of all that extension, and not exclusion, as free interchange of the commodities of one country for the productions of another was the true basis of a sound commercial policy (hear, hear). One class, however, of the community remained unconvinced of the justice by selfishness or misled by prejudice, steadily resisted any change in the protection afforded to agriculture. It seemed as if it required, in addition to reason and experience, the visitation of Providence, in the shape of famine, to convince them of the folly and wickedness of withholding food and employment from the people. Sir-Robert Peel, seeing-the terrible prospect which awaited the greater part of the population of heland, in the destruction of their usual food, could no longer uphold the system of protection, and he had won for himself a nation's gratitude by announcing the change in his opinions, and by proposing those liberal, just and necessary measures which he had submitted to the House of Commons (loud cheers). It was to be regretted that, apparently awed by the clamour of the monopolists, he had not proposed the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. If it were right that they should expire in three years, why should they not immediately cease (hear, hear)? Why, with an impending funine, should we go on continuing those obnexious laws? Why should an important branch of commerce be deranged by a sliding important branch of commerce of deranged by a sating scale which all parties have pronounced to be a failure (hear, hear)? It had increased the price of corn. It had filled the pockets of speculators. It certainly had not hone-fited either the tenant-farmer, the commercial man, or the labouring population. On whom then, while it inflicted great ovil, had it conferred any substantial advantage? Surely not on the landlord, who on letting his farms had been unable to calculate upon the sure payment of rent without subjecting the tenant to ruin by the fluctuation of prices and the uncertainty of obtaining a remunerating profit for his capital and labour (hear, hear). Apart from these considerations, there was another and most important one, which was the injury done to commerce in general. Poor countries, which had no money, but great agricultural capabillies, were prevented from pouring their abundance into the land, to feed its millions of population; and we were unable to find a large market for the exportation of our manufactures. Ascending still higher, he could not but look upon the subject in a moral and religious point of view, and asking the Court to be consistent with itself, with its former resolutions, and to send up its unanimous prayer to Parliament to abolish that most hateful of all monopolies in the sight of God and man—the monopoly of food (loud cheers) He concluded by moving the following resolutions:

"That while this court is desirous to record its cordial and entire approbation of the comprehensive, just, and wise measures introduced to the Comprehensive, has, and wase measures introduced to the Commons House of Parliament by the first Minister of the Crown, for the revision of our commercial policy, and is gratified to learn that a repeal of the Corn Laws is also proposed, although at a future time, it cannot but express an emnest hope that the total and im-

mediato repeal of those laws may yet be proposed, instead of deferring such a positive good for a period of three years.

"That this court is of opinion that the removal of all prohibitory duties upon the importation of food and other necessary articles is eminently calculated to promote the agricultural of the agricultural of the comments and an extending the comments. tural, commercial, and social interests of the people by improving their physical condition, and thus advancing their interests of the people by improving their physical condition, and thus advancing their intelligental and potally by:

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agricultural improvement, and thus prevent the application service to the better cultivation of the land by which the English farmer, without protection, will be able successfully to complete with the foreign grower.

"That a petition be presented to Parliament founded upon

these resolutions, and praying for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws.

"That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the representatives of this city in Parliament, with the expression of the hope that they will support the measures introduced by her Majosty's Prime Minister, Sir Robert Peel, for the repeal of the Corn Laws and the remission of taxation, and avail themselves of any opportunity which may present itself, and which, without prejudicing or impeding the passing of the measure of Sir R. Peel, may yet afford an opportunity to obtain a total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the

Mr. Duncan scrouded the propositions. He anticipated great advantages from the immediate abolition of the Corn Laws, and pointed to the disposition already evinced on parts of the Continent to assimilate their duties to ours as proof of the liberal commercial policy springing from the example of this country. After entering into some details on the benefits naturally arising from unrestricted trade, he stated that one of the great effects of the policy would be the complete settlement of the question of war, which was only for barbarians (cheers). A war with France would drive the people ten years back in civilisation, and would destroy the improvements which would be disseminated by the abolition of the abominable Corn Laws. Three years, in fact, would not clapse before the vast bonefits derivable from immediate repeal would exhibit themselves, and the country would appear in a most flourishing condition (hear, hear).

Alderman II. HUGHES said it appeared to him to be extremely inconsistent in the court to support the Government in the measures they brought forward, and then turn round suddenly and require the Government to propose a total

Mr. PHILLIPS said it might be reasonably imagined that Sir R. Peel would be the best judge as to the time for the abolition (hear, hear). The Minister had fixed the time for the total removal of the restrictions, but the supporters of the resolutions, who did not seem to think at all about the consequences of immediate abolition to the agriculturists, were for hurrying on the measure. He thought that a concession had been made to the agriculturists to which they were entitled.

Mr. LAWRENCE said he considered several of the resolutions founded on reason and good sense, but he could not reconcile himself to the idea of calling for immediate repeal, at the same time that the portion of the resolutions he admired, pledged the Court to the support of the Ministers in the plan for fixing a future period for the total abolition (hear, hear). There was something strangely contradictory in the introduction of the paragraphs, and, in his opinion, the Court could not do better than adopt the former, and exclude the latter. A person would imagine that the opinion of such a man as Sir R. Peel, as to the time adopted for removing the restriction, might be considered as entitled to some weight; but there were some people, who if the stream ran in any particular line, were determined to go along with it. Mr. Lawrence then proposed an amendment to the effect described.

Mr. W. Jones supported the amendment, and remarked upon the inconsistency of the proposers of the resolutions. Lord John Russell had expressed, at a meeting of his friends, an opinion that it would be injurious to the measure of the Premier to advocate immediate abolition; and it might be reasonably admitted that such an authority deserved to be respected (hear, hear). He would then ask why the court considered such a suggestion unworthy of regard? It was well known, that the citizens were accused of too frequently meddling with political matters (hear, hear, and laughter). It was said they were afraid to go to Parliament upon any subject connected with their local interests, because they endangered their interests by meddling with politics. He believed that to be the fact. But the supporters of the resolutions knew that the immediate abolition could not be carried. If they thought it would, why did they not con-denn Sir R. Peel? The terms of praise in which the Minister was lauded in the court, after having been subjected to very different sorts of compliment upon previous occasions must be very flattering and gratifying to his cars (laughter). He (Mr. Jones) believed that it would be an act of great injustice to the agriculturist to adopt the course advocated by the mover of the resolution, and no inconvenience of any consequence was likely to arise from the three years' continuation of the small duty proposed by Sir Robert Peel. If the Corn Laws were repealed at once, money would be put into the pockets of the monopolists, but food would not be put into the bellies of the poor. He was an advocate for the measure proposed by the Promier; and he hoped the court would see the necessity of supporting that

Mr. Bowkn said the Corn Laws could not be repealed other way than in that

in any other way than in that proposed by Sir Robert Feel. If immediate repeal were to take place, it would throw money into the hands of individuals or foreigners; but it would not at all afford any benefit to the poor.

Mr. Normas supported the original resolutions. Those who advocated the proposition were anxious to express their approbation of the new feature in Sir Robert Peel's domestic policy; and to show their approval of it, they wished to make it known that they wanted it now instead of three years hence; but they also plainly exhibited a desire not in the alleritest degree to emburrass him in the excellent mea-

years nence; but mey also plainly exhibited a desire not in the slightest degree to embarrase him in the excellent measures lie was carrying into effect.

Mr. Bennoch very ably supported the resolution. He condemned all protecting duties as always delusive, never protecting those thay protended to protect.

Mr. Wing replied, and the question was put. The amendment was negatived, and the original resolutions were carried by a large majority.

ried by a large majority.

Petitions to hoth Houses of Parliament, grounded upon the resolutions, were proposed and carried, and after the transaction of some unimportant business, the court ad-

CORN LAWS.—A meeting of agriculturists took place at Totnes, ou Tuesday, for the purpose of portidering the financial scheme of Bir Robert Peel, and schoping cartain resolutions with reference thamps. The meeting was called by the protection party, and resolutions condemnatory of Bir Robert Peel's proposed alteration of duling were proposed, but, strange to say, the whole of them were defeated with greet majorities, and an amendment suppression of an immediate reseal of the Poin Associated to with abolaisation. This was tarning, the laws, agreed to with abolaisation. This was tarning, the laws, agreed to with abolaisation. This was tarning, the laws, agreed to with abolaisation. This was tarning, the law agreed to with abolaisation. This was tarning, the law agree in a looking unalterable thing. Detone port Independent.

AGRICULTURE.

THE "PROTECTED" LABOURERS.

Of the many impudent pretences put forward by the monopolists as apologies for the Corn Laws, perhaps the most impudent is that which asserts that the agricultural labourers have an interest in the maintenance of artificial scarcity. In fact, nothing but a thorough reliance upon utter want of knowledge on the part of the public of the real condition of the rural population, and of the causes of that condition, could have induced the monopolists to venture on those statements. If there be one demonstrative proof of the impolicy of the Corn Laws, it is the state of the English peasantry in connection with the state of English husbandry. The land is imperfectly cultivated, producing little more than the half of what it might easily be made to produce by the employment of more labour, while labourers are unemployed, or starving on a pittance of 7s, or 8s, a week. A mine of wealth exists in the soil, which only waits to be sought to be obtained; yet the means of its attainment, the muscles of the English peasant, are resting uselessly by in the form of a redundant and helf-employed population. And this, after 30 years of that " protection," which we are told has been maintained for the especial advantage of the agricultural labourers !! Away with such nonsense! Ask the labourers themselves how they have fared under the fostering care of high rent seeking and monopolist landowners. Look at Wiltshire, where the monopolists muster in great force,-where, if anywhere, protection must have benefited the labourer; for, with very trifling exceptions, the county is now exclusively agricultural. Yet what said the thousand labourers assembled at Goatacre? What said the 1500 collected on Bremhill Green? Why, with one voice, they declared that protection has been the bane of agriculture, and the destruction of the agri-

Probably none of our renders need be told of the effect the simple and touching statements of the poor mon and women who spoke at these meetings have made upon the public mind; everywhere there is but one opinion upon the subject. Men least affected by rural sympathies or Free Trade arguments have said, " If this be the state of the protected labourers, there must be some error in the system; such things must not be." The monopolists, too, purblind as they are, could not avoid seeing what a docisive refutation of their favourite pretence these meetings afforded; and, accordingly, we find the most flagitious attempts have been made to misrepresent the Gontacre meeting, and its carnest and humble speakers. Thus, we learn from the Wiltshire Independent - a journal of unflinching integrity, and well worthy of its name -- that, amongst other false. hoods put forth by the local organ of monopoly, it was stated that Burchell, one of the speakers, and his family earn 24s. a week. Now, what is the fact ?-and, we refer to these statements mainly for the purpose of showing what is the real state of the labourers, the "protected" labourers of North Wiltshire, and as introductory to some notices we shall give of the state of husbandry in those parts:

"Burchell is a married man; and his family, at home, a girl, is out at service; she is, however, no assistance to her parents, but, at present, the contrary, the cost of fitting her out at Michaelman last, having obliged them to deprive themselves of many necessaries, and even to run into debt. Here, then, are eight persons in one family. Their earnings, we have stated, were, at the time of the meeting, 10s. 6d. a-week, and the following are the items composing Burchell bluncht ...

His eldest son, 10 years of age, who acts in the capa-city of shepherd, so Mr. Healey, Burchell's master, and works seven days in the week And his second son, 17 years of age, who also works for Mr. Healey, as milker, de.

5.

Since the meeting, and in order to make out a case against Burchell, by awelling the amount of his family earnings, the third bay has been employed by Mr. Henley, at Rd. a day; but with that we have nothing to ile, and only mention it to prevent our being hereafter charged with any

" Now the two rider some absorb, in better clothing and in better food than the rest of the family are obliged to put up with, nowly the whole of the henefit of their wagos, so that, in fact, Burchell, his wife, and four children were living on Bs. a-week, their sole dependence."

Here we flud an adult, an intelligent labourer, working at 8s. a week; his sou of 19, who is to all intents and purposes an adult labourer, and en-

trusted with the responsible duty of shepherd-a duty which requires attendance seven days in the week, and at certain seasons of the year a good deal of night work also—earns 6s. a-week, or about tenpence farthing per day; and another son, who also is competent to the post of milker on a large dairy-farm, has wages of 5s. 0d. a-week. Now let us ask any one whether such wretched wages do not indicate a low state of husbandry? And this is not a populous district. One may ride through the North Wilts Vale, of which Goatacre is the centre, and meet with nothing but a few scattered cottages and very small hamlets-they can't be called villages; while so few are the people at work in the field, that a traveller, having missed his way, may often go for several miles before he can most with a human being to direct him. Yet he is wandering for the most part amidst good though neglected land. High rude hedges, full of timber, surround him on every side; ditches and water-courses are very imperfectly scoured, while the land universally wants that first necessary to good cultivation, - draining. Cows, sheep, and oxen, are feeding on the natural pastures, for which high rents are paid, though they afford but small profits to the farmer, and to the labourers such wrotched wages as are received by Burchell's family; and who, be it observed, for a vale country labourer, is "well off." How is it with those, the majority, who are confessedly not "well off?" Now, without saying the whole, or even the greater portion of the land of this district, ought at once to be converted into tillage,-though we believe it might be so converted with great advantage,-inasmuch as that would imply an entire change of system, and almost a complete change of tenants, we do not hesitate to assert, that by converting certain por. tions of the least valuable pasture of each farm into arable land, the amount of the total value of the produce might be doubled.

There is not a tenant far mer in the vale who will not assent to that statement. All of them are always auxious to have more tillage land, but the landlords will not consent. The landowners like the nomadic husbandry, because they believe it can be carried on by men of less capital, and of more supple politics than would be required for a mixed husbandry They believe also that they get as high rents from dairy farms as they would do from a more improved system of mixed cultivation. And it is the high rent derived from rude and primitive cultivation which the Corn Laws are especially calculated to But what of the labourers? If no more than one-third of the pasture were broken up, and if all the land were to be drained even by the slowest conceivable degrees-say ten acres in every hundred yearly—it is absolutely cortain that labour in this district would become scarce, and that wages would at once rise fifty per cent. And while wheat and beans might be produced in considerable quantities, more cattle might be actually kept than are maintained on the present system; for, first, the pastures being well drained would carry more stock than at present, and the use of roots, the supply of straw, and the adoption of house and yard feeding and rearing of stock which should result therefrom, would enable the farmer to milk his cows longer and keep more dry stock than he does now. Then again, a cheap supply of pulse, Indian corn, and so forth, would be of singular advantage to the dairy farmer, who always has or ought to have a largo stock of swine, which feed with great rapidity on corn and milk. It is not that these things are unknown to the farmers who occupy this district, but they have been compolled by their landlords to follow one beaten track, and have been taught to lean on the delusive support of protection. Now protection is coming to an end, it will be for the advantage of all parties, and especially of the "protected" Wiltshire peasantry that there should be no delay of absolute freedom.

We shall add a few passages from the Wiltshire Independent, illustrative of the present condition of the Wiltshire labourers. After refuting some of the misstatements of his monopolist contemporary, the editor says:

"The destitution of the Wiltshire peacentry is denied;—
78. or 88. a week for a large family to subside on is a thing not to be credited; but on the converse instance, where thirty or forty shirings a make page from him in money to

the members of one family, besides 2s. or 8s. more of occathe members of one family, besides 2s. or 8s. more of occasional perquisites, are known to the editor. Now we anhabitational perquisites, are known to the editor. Now we anhabitationally assert, without fear of contradiction, and we will prove it if necessary, that 7s. and 8s. a-week is the general rate of wayes for the best able-bodied labourers in the county; it is true a few get more, such as carters or shepherds for instance, who occasionally get nine, and perhaps one in a bundred, ture shillings a week; but in these cases all the amount above 8s. is for extra work; for their labour on the Sabbath day, and for over hours on other days."

He also thus refers to another district of the county, Pewsey Vale, which is deep strong arable land, needing nothing but spirited culture to be one of the most productive tracts in the kingdom;

"Cases of general destitution have also been sent to us in great numbers, and from various parts of the county; and among other places from Entord, where, at the late meeting of the Protection Society, Mr. Bethell spoke of the labourer as being happy and contented, but where, we are informed, the common necessaries and common decencies of life are sadly wanting. From Pewsey, too, we have had most dis. tressing accounts; there honest, able-bodied men are to be seen yoked to carts, like the brute beasts, and drawing loads of stones to repair the roads; and for this degrading work, men, with wives, and three, four, five, and even six children, are paid only six shillings a-week! and on this sum they have to depend for their subsistence. Nay, more, one case is reported to us where a man with his wife and one child, and whose rent is £3 a-year, is employed at this work at four shillings only!!

Again he says:

"Were work as plentiful, and wages as good as the Guzette asserts they are, would such scenes as we have described at Pewsey exist, and would the independent labourers of the county be flocking into the Union Houses as they are? Last week upwards of flfty persons were admitted into the Devizes Union, and among them fourteen able-bodied labourers, some of them with wives and children, from the parish of All Cannings."

Vines, one of the speakers at Goatacre, on whose statement of his condition, the monopolist print under the guise of a correspondent, affected to throw a doubt, thus writes to the Independent:

"It is false that I received 10s, for the job. And here I stand at Christian Malford (not at Sutton as the Gazette says) ready to prove the truth of what I said at Gostacre, and thither any man or any party of men from any part of England, is welcome to come to question me, and I, with my wife and also my children of age enough to have knowledge will prove to them that the situation of myself and family at the present is really appalling. It costs me neer Vs. a-week for read, not having one potato I can cat. I do not deny that I had a place at 10s. a week, but it is a falsehood that I came away; I was discharged, about four months ago, and with a good character as I went to the place with. As I said before, my distress is too conspicuous to be denied, therefore, sir, I submit this to you for publication as a testimony of my readiness to prove that the words stated by me at Goatacre are nothing more than bare facts, and not fulsehoods."

Mr. H. Gale, of Malmesbury, who is well known for his hearty support of Free Trade, gave the following statements of the average case of Wiltshire labourers in his own neighbourhood:

"Incob Chappell has a wife and seven children, oldest 13, (none of them employed) has been working at 184, a week, but is now out of constant work; his wife went to the relieving officer on Saturday last, as he could not curn enough to buy food, but he could get no relief and he left home in scarch of work. He gives ol. a year rent for a cottage and twenty lug of ground; pays poor rates which leaves (after deducting for house rent and firing) os. for 0 persons, or 60d. for one hundred and eighty nine meals, or about 1d. a

day each to live upon. Nothing for clothes and groceries.

"Thomas Hillier, of Westport, has a wife and "children, works at Cobwell at 8s. a week; rent £1 a year withoutland. which with rate is nearly 2s. a week. Firing 1s., leaving

os. a week for food, clothing, soup, candles, and all the little &c.'s of housekeeping for eight persons
"Richard Lea, of Westport, has a wife and b children. oldest 11; works for Mr. R. Milsome at 2s., and two quarts of table beer a day; rent 3l. 10. for a very bad house without land; pays rates.

"Thomas Shallum, of Garsdon, works at Mr. Backlands, at 8s. a week, has a wife and five small children; no other

"Charles Tanner, of Corston, works for Mr. Whale at 7s. a week, has a wife and four children; rent 3/. 10.; garden small.

"Richard Fry, of Filands, works for myself at 0s. a week, and as much milk as he requires to drink; has a wife and children, one at service, and another has her food at her grandmother's, and three at home. Rent 5l. 10. for a coltage and twenty lug of land; pays poor rates, which makes the rent equal to 6l.; garden at 8l. an acre worth 1l. Deduct 3s. 2d. a week for rent and a hundred of coal, leaves 5s. 10d. for b person's food, groceries, &c., and b persons' clothes-less than enough to purchase three small loaves a day for fifteen menla."

The monopolist organ also said the Wootton Bassett labourers are fully employed. Hear what correspondent of the Independent mays thereupon:

"I beg leave to give you a brief statement of the real condition of the inhabitants of this town. They never were worse off than at this time. Some of them are, as I well know, at present in a state of starvation; and were it not for the benevolence of a few well-disposed individuals, they made inevitably perish. They go from house to house, begans, which seems to be their only resort. The other day, a frame who called on me said he had given a meal of rictuals to one of his noighbours who was in a most distributed by verty. Another person whom I was in conventing the stated that her britter in law had been out of small stated that her britter in law had been out of small actually been two or ince day to the stated that her britter in law had been out of small actually been two or ince day to the stated that her britter in law had been out of small stated that her bri

ms, there are about thirty able-bodied so situated. Pointons are scarce and very dear; and what the poor men will do to plant their land I cannot tell. The highest rate of wages of the labouring men here is 8s. per week; but there are many, who are out of employ; who would be glad to work for less; indeed there are several instances where they do work for considerably less than 8s. One case I will mention, that of a working man at a quarry; he is digging stones at the rate of 5d. per yard; and he says, he can only dig two yards per day. The master of this person is a protectionist farmer."

We could increase these extracts, but we have already exceeded our limits. It is well, however, to place on record the decisive contradiction which the actual state of the rural labourers affords to the assertions of the monopolists.

THE LEAGUE AND THE ANTI-LEAGUE.

The following paragraphs, from the Wilts Independent, place in strong contrast the desire for Free Trade and the affection for monopoly, as existing amongst the "protected" labourers of Wiltshire. We learn:

"OGBOURNE ST. GEORGE.—A public meeting of labourers was held in this village on Monday evening last, at 7 c'clock, for the purpose of considering the best means of supporting the labourers' petition, for the northern division of the county, for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, unwards of 300 people were assembled, and the business having been explained to them, a resolution in favour of Free Trade, and to promote the object of the petitioners, was manimously agreed on. The petition received nearly 100 signatures before the meeting broke up."

A medical friend in that neighbourhood informs us that "the typhus fever always prevails at Ogbourne." This arises from the wretchedness of the population.

Again;

"A Contrast.—In the little village of Ogbourne St tieorge, the protectionists have been doing all they could the week before last against the Anti-Corn-Law advocates, and after a hard struggle have got their petitions to both Houses of Parliament signed by eight persons! The second signa ture was that of an old woman! On the 26th inst., about six o'clock in the evening, the rain falling in torrents, notice was given, by the bellman going round the village, that a meeting would be held that evening at seven o'clock, near the Shoomakors' Arms, to sign a petition to Parliament for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws; when not less than 300 people assembled, and after being addressed on the subject, sixty-six labourers, out of a total of eighty-eight living in the village, signed the petition."

This needs no comment. The same indifference to protection also exists in the western part of the county:

"The protectionists of Colerne have been engaged for the last two or three days endeavouring to procure signatures to some of their hole and corner petitions to Parliament. The gantlemen who received this document from their Unippenham friends, not liking to be seen taking an active part, employed the police constable, as it was thought the importance of his effice might influence some of the small freeholders. Their expectations were, however, disappointed, as he was obliged to return the petitions with something less than twenty names to them; not one-fourth of the signatures they obtained were electors, and three or four of them declared they thought it was some parish business or they would not have signed them! The parishioners think the holice constable would have been better employed looking after the property of those who are forced to find the money to pay him, than running about with pro-corn-law petitions. It is reported that some of the new police, for want of better employment, officiate as understrappers to the game-keepers, and are nightly employed in watching game."

We recommend the following example to all farmers who may be pressed to petition for protect tion:

"CALNE.—How to sign Pro-Corn-Law Petitions.—A laughable circumstance occurred last week at the Market Table of the Lansdowne Arms Inn, Caine. A worthy farmer, residing in the neighbourhood, having been entrusted with petitions to the Houses of Lords and Commons, in favour of protection, handed them across the table to receive the signature of a brother farmer, who, however, instead of signing them, as was expected, very coolly twisted them up, and, having lighted his pipe, threw the remains of both petitions into the fire, to the very great dismay of the protectionist, and to the great amusement of all the company pre-

This farmer must have been a practical wit, for he thus plainly intimated his knowledge of the fact that these protectionist effusions are nothing busmoke!!

FREE TRADE AT BAMBER BRIDGE,—Mr. Totell, of Bamber Bridge, has this week caused great excitement in the neighbourhood, by fixing a large lost, stuck on the end of a pole, and labelled 3d., outside of his shop. Mr. T. had also poated up two large placards, with the following:—"Sign immediately the Great County of Lancashire Petition for the total, immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn and Provision Laws." He has immediately the free Trade petition. Several simplement driving on the Free have pulled up to look at so singular a device of the road have pulled up to look at so singular a device of the county, the county, the source of the laws of the look of the look at so singular and one pales in the county, the source of the laws.

REVIEW.

Poems. By Thomas Hood. London: Moxon. Among those who have devoted their-lives to the service of their fellow-men, and employed the high powers with which they were gifted to relieve misery, expose hypocrisy, and resist oppression, there has been no one who has surpassed the late Thomas Hood in zeal, carnestness, and fearless expression of opinion. While these volumes ensure for his name a high and permanent place, in the list of British poots, they equally establish his claim to the title of an enlightened philanthropist and a genuine patriot. His services to the great cause of truth and justice, for the advancement of which the League has been established, deserve the gratitude of every Free Trader; and we trust that all who can purchase books, will make a point of adding these volumes to their library for the sake both of the deceased bard and his surviving family. Even in his lightest pieces of wit and humour, Hood manifested an under-current of deep philosophic thought, combined with the finest sympathies of humanity. While the jest wreathed our lips with smiles, it suggested reflections which employed the intellect and roused feelings which touched the heart. In his more serious compositions he evinced an extraordinary power of deducing from external nature an entire creation of thought; every detail not only gave its image, but its train of imaginings. We may take, as an instance of this peculiarity, part of his description of "The Haunted House; no one can read it without an involuntary shudder.

The wren had built within the Porch, she found its quiet loneliness so sure and thorough; And on the lawn,—within its turfy mound,—The rabbit made his burrow.

The rabbit wild and gray, that flitted through The shrubby clumps, and frisk'd, and sat, and you

The shrubby clumps, and frisk'd, and sat, and vanish'd, But leisurely and bold, as if he knew His enemy was banish'd.

The wary crow,—the pheasant from the woods—Lull'd by the still and everlasting sameness,

Close to the Mansion, like domestic broods, Fed with a "shocking tameness."
The coot was swimming in the reedy pond, Beside the water-hen, so soon affrighted; Aud in the weedy most the heron, fond

Of solitude, alighted.

The moping heron, motionless and stiff, That on a stone, as silently and stilly, Stood, an apparent sentinel, as if To guard the water-lily.

No sound was heard except, from far away, The ringing of the Whitwall's shrilly hunghter, Or, now and then, the chatter of the juy, That Echo murmur'd after.

But Echo never mock'd the human tongue; Some weighty crime, that Heaven could not pardon, A secret curse on that old building hung, And its deserted Garden.

The beds were all untouch'd by hand or tool; No footstep marked the damp and mossy gravel, Each walk as green as is the mantled pool, I'or want of human travel.

The vine unprun'd, and the neglected peach, Droop'd from the wall with which they used to grapple; And on the canker'd tree, in easy reach, Rooted the golden apple.

But awfully the truent shunn'd the ground, The vagrant kept aloof, and daring Poacher; In spite of gaps that through the fences round Invited the encroacher.

For over all there hung a cloud of fear, A sense of mystery the spirit daunted, And said, as plain as whisper in the ear, The place is Haunted!

Similar skill in the aggregation of minute circumstances is shown in "The Song of the Shirt," that unrivalled picture of the wretchedness produced by the operation of the cruel restrictions imposed by selfish monopolists on human food. It would be useless to quote a poem which is imprinted on the memory of all who can read, wherever the English language is known. We shall, therefore, quote its companion-piece, which, though equally meritorious, has obtained less celebrity.

The lady lay in her bed,
Her couch so warm and soft,
But her eleep was restless and broken still;
For turning often and oft
From side to side, she mutter'd and moan'd,
And tosa'd her arms aloft.

At last she startled up,
And gaz'd on the vacant air,
With a look of awe, as if she saw
Some dreadful phantom there—
And than in the pillow she buried her face
From visions ill to bear.

The very curtain shook,

Her terror was so extreme;
And the light that fell on the broider'd quilt

Kept a tremulous gleam;
And her voice was hollow, and shook as she cried;

"Olime! that awill dream!

"That weary, weary walk,"
In the churchyside dismal ground!
And three koving times, will allow wings,
That county to fill the times, to there co

"And oh! those maidens young,"
Who wrought in that dreary room,
With figures drooping and spectres thin,
And cheeks without a bloom;—
And the Voice that oried, 'For the pamp of pride,
We haste to an early tomb!

"'For the pamp and pleasure of Pride, We toil like Afric slaves,
And only to earn a home at last,
Where yonder cypress waves,'—
And then they pointed—I never say
A ground so full of graves!

"And still the coffius came,
With their sorrowful trains and slow;
Coffin after coffin still,
A sad and sickening show;
From grief exempt, I never had dreamt
Of such a World of Woe!

"Of the hearts that daily break,
Of the tears that hourly fall,
Of the many, many troubles of life,
That grieve this earthly ball—
Disease and Hunger, and Pain, and Want,
But now I dreamt of them all!

"For the blind and the cripple were there, And the babe that pined for bread, And the houseless man, and the widow poor Who begged—to bury the dead; The naked, alas, that I might have clad, The famish'd I might have fed!

"The sorrow I might have soothed,
And the unregarded tears;
For many a thronging shape was there,
From long forgotten years,
Ay, even the poor rejected Moor,
Who rais'd my childish fears!

"Each pleading look, that long ago
I scaun'd with a heedless eye,
Each face was gazing as plainly there,
As when I pass'd it by:
Woe, woo for me if the past should be
Thus present when I die!

"No need of sulphureous lake,
No need of flery coal,
But only that crowd of human kind
Who wanted pity and dolc—
in everlasting retrospect—
Will wring my sinful soul!

Alas; I have walk'd through life
Too heedless where I trod;
Nay, helping to trample my fellow worm,
And fill the burial sod—
Forgetting that even the sparrow fulls
Not unmark'd of God!

"I drank the richest draughts;
And ate whatever is good—
Fish, and fiesh, and fowl, and fruit,
Supplied my hungry mood;
But I never remember'd the wretched ones
That starve for want of food!

"I dress'd as the noble dress,
In cloth of silver and gold,
With silk, and satin, and costly furs,
In many an ample fold;
But I never remember'd the naked limbs
That froze with winter's cold.

"The wounds I might have heal'd!
The human sorrow and smart!
And yet it never was in my soul
To play so ill a part:
But evil is wrought by want of Thought,
As well as want of Heart!"
She clasp'd her fervent hands,

And the tears began to stream ; Large, and bitter, and fast they fell, Remorse was so extreme; And yet, oh yet, that many a Dame Would dream the Lady's Dream!

The legend of Miss Kilmansegg and her Golden Leg is one of the most extraordinary mixtures of whimsicality and philosophy which exists in any language. This favoured daughter of Mammon exhibits the misery of wealth, when riches are sought for their own sake, and gold made the end and object of existence. Even as a baby Miss Kilmansegg was brought under the dominion of gold.

When she saw the light—it was no mere ray
Of that light so common—so everyday—
That the sun each morning launches—
But six wax tapers dazzled her eyes,
From a thing—s gooseberry bush for size—
With a golden stein and branches.

She was born exactly at half-past two,
As witness'd a timepicee in ormolu
That stood on a marble table—
Showing at once the time of day,
And a team of Gildings running away
As fast as they were able,
With a golden God, with a golden Star,
And a golden Spear, in a golden Car,
According to Grecian fable.

Like other babes, at her birth she oried;

Which made a sensation far and wide,
Ay, for twenty miles around her;
For though to the ear 'twas nothing more
'Than an infant's squall, it was really the roar
Of a Fifty-thousand Pounder!
It shook the next heir
In his library chair,
And made him cry, "Confound her?"

Her baptism affords an opportunity for some claver-satire, equally marked by brilliancy; force, and truth.

كاونتكادلها

It would all a Court Gazette in name.

Le Chai East the West Lind people came
to The Court of any
to The Court of the Cour

His Lordship the May'r with his golden chain, And two Gold Sticks, and the Sheries twain, Nine foreign Counts, and other great men With their orders and stars, to help M or N To renounce all pomp and vanity.

To paint the maternal Kilmensegg
The pen of an Eastern Poet would beg,
And need an elaborate sonnet;
How she sparkled with gems whenever she stirr'd,
And her head niddle-noddled at every word,
And seem'd so happy, a Paradise Bird
Ifad nidificated upon it.

And Sir Jacob the Father strutted and bow'd,
And smiled to himself, and laugh'd aloud,
To think of his heiress and daughter—
And then in his pockets he made a grope,
And then, in/the fulness of joy and hope,
Seem'd washing his hands with invisible soap,
In imperceptible water.

He had roll'd in money like pigs in mud,
Till it seem'd to have enter'd into his blood.
By some occult projection:
And his cheeks, instead of a healthy hue,
As yellow as any guines grew,
Making the common phrase seem true.
About a rich complexion.

The loss of her leg by an accident, and her firm determination to have the artificial substitute of gold, are described with great felicity; we are told,

"I'was a splendid, brilliant, beautiful Log,
Fit for the Court of Scander Beg,
That Precious Log of Miss Kilmansegg!
For, thanks to parental bounty,
Becure from Mortification's touch,
She stood on a Member that cost as much
As a Member for all the County!

We must not omit the exhibition of this precious leg at a fancy-ball, and the jealousy with which it inspired ladies who stood on their proper limbs.

Twas hard they hinted for flesh and blood, Virtne, and Beauty, and all that's good, To strike to mere dross their topgallants— But what were Beauty, or Virtue, or Worth, Gentle manners, or gentle birth, Nay, what the most talented head on earth To a Leg worth fifty Talents!

But the men sang quite another hymn
Of glory and praise to the precious Limb—
Age, sordid age, admired the whim,
And its indecorum pardon'd—
While half of the young—ay, more than half—
Bowd down and worshipp'd the Golden Calf,
Like the Jews when their hearts were harden'd.

A Golden Leg! what funcies it fired!
What golden wishes and hopes inspired!
To give but a mere abridgment—
What a leg to leg-ball Embarrasament's serf!
What a leg for a Leg to take on the turf!
What a leg for a marching regiment!

A Golden Leg!—whatover Love sings,
"Twas worth a bushel of "Plain Gold Rings"
With which the Romantic wheedles.
"Twas worth all the legs in stockings and socks—
"Twas a leg that might be put in the Stocks,
N.B.—Not the parish beadle's!

The foreign fortune-hunter who won this prize in the matrimonial lottery, is thus described:

Savage at heart, and false of tongue,
Subtle with age, and smooth to the young,
Like a snake in his coiling and curling—
Such was the Count—to give him a niche—
Who came to court that Helress rich,
And knelt at her foot—one needn't say which—
Besieging her Castle of Sterling.

With pray'rs and vows he open'd his trench,
And plied her with English, Spanish, and French,
In phrases the most sentimental:
And quoted poems in High and Low Dutch,
With now and then an Italian touch,
Till she yielded, without resisting much,
To homage so continental.

There are so many clever hits in the description of the wedding, that we should gladly have quoted the entire, but have only space for the conclusion:

Away! away! they rattled and roll'd,
The Count, and his Bride, and her Leg of Gold!
That faded charm to the charmer!
Away,—through Old Brentford rang the din,
Of wheels and heels, on their way to win
That hill, named after one of her kin,
The Hill of the Golden Farmer!

Gold, still gold—it flew like dust!
It tipp'd the post-boy, and paid the trust;
In each open pain it was freely thrust;
There was nothing but giving and taking!
And if gold could ensure the future hour,
What hopes attended that Bride to her bow'r,
But alas! even hearts with a four horse pow'r
Of opulence end in breaking!

The specimens we have extracted are so likely to induce our readers to produre the work; that we shall not unticipate the catastrophe. But we cannot quit these volumes without recording our tribute of gratitude to the publisher for having given us an opportunity of returning to poems which the world will not allow to die so long as genius is valued, or philanthropy reverenced.

EFFECTS OF SIE ROBERT PRUI'S ANNOUNCEMENT.—In Ireland, bacon has fallen is, and ham 2s, since Sir Robert Pesi's new tariff arrangements, in unticipation of the reduction of duty on those arricles.—Presson Guardian.

THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.—ANOTHER SMOCK-FROCKED MEETING IN WILTSHIRE.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)

The farmers and landlords of Wiltshire have met and spoken—the labourers are holding their assemblies in turn. On Tuesday night last, a mosulit meeting of the "protested" hewers of wood and drawers of water in the agricultural county of Wilts was held at Bremhill, an unheard-of little hamlet, lying between the Great Western Railway and the quiet rural town of Gaine.

the quiet rural town of Calps.

These meetings of the peasantry—originating with themselves—springing from no ducal pints of beer—and at which labourers speak what they actually feel—at which they tell their own stories, interchange the sad history of their slow starvation—are very curious signs of these changing times. Who would have thought, a year or two back, of men in smock-frocks—the hedgers and ditchers, the wielders of spades and hoes—meeting together; not, unhappily, over good dinners, but in the bleak air of a winter's night—to denounce protection—to accuse it of keeping them hungry—to call the Corn Laws "accursed?" And on Tuesday night women spoke as well as men. It was no ordinary public meeting that. Those who composed it knew nothing of the conventional rules of such assemblies. Hunger was the requisition which brought them together. Women were hungry as well as men, and they did not see why they should not try to bring about better times—fuller dinners.

The meeting originated entirely with the working men. Every influence was brought to bear, first to prevent its taking place, and then to keep the labourers from attending it

ing it.

The reverend incumbent of the parish did his best to put the affair down. I speak from hearsny—if I am wrong, the reverend gentleman may correct me; but I was informed that he first applied to the superintendent of the rural police to know whether the people could not be prevented from gathering; that, failing in this, he succeeded in procuring the attendance of a great number of constables in private clothes, to be ready to disperse the meeting should the slightest confusion take place; and finally, that he told the man who went about with the bills announcing the affair, that he (the parson) would get him sent out of the country. These were the stories I was greeted with on every side at Bremhill. I may add, that the reverend gentleman is a fox-hunting successor of the apostles.

Not a bit behind the clergyman were the farmers in their attempts to gag the unfortunate labourers. Strenuous efforts were made to keep them back, and threats freely used. I know, on the best authority, that two tenant farmers were particularly active: Mr. Jeffreys, of Side-row Park, told his labourers that he would dismiss every one of them who went to the meeting; and Mr. Henry, of Preston, threatened his unfortunates with dismissal if they did not sign a protection petition now being hawked about. They refused to a man;

and to a man attended at Bremhill.

The character of the speeches was peculiar; they were simply statements; little or no argument was used. Each labourer and labourer's wife told the details of their domestic economy. There was little or no variation in the story. l'amilies of from four to twelve persons, wages at an average rainines of from four to twerve persons, wages at an average of 8s. a-week for the father, eked out in some cases by the "twopenees a-day" received by his boys. As for food, all they had was potatoes, and, as one of the speakers strikingly phrased it, "stark naked bread." The proceedings went off very quietly. One attempt there was to create a disturbance was the attempt there was to create a disturbance with the large from I conton who made by a man, a Chartist, I believe from London, who called himself Gale. He claimed, as a working man, to be heard, and commenced a long tirade against machinery, full of the usual crade, half-understood positions usually taken up by men of his way of thinking. His exhortations, however, to charge, not the Corn Laws, nor any laws, but the threshing and dressing machines with their misery, was grouned down by the multitude with a promptness which did them very great credit, and the Gale got down as suddenly as it had arisen. One of the speakers afterwards charged this man with being the agent of the monopolists sent down to disturb the meeting. No reply was made to this imputation. But one spirit pervaded the speakers and listeners—down with monopoly! The women absolutely shrieked out, and the alluminast they now and then reads to hungary equitors. the allusions they now and then made to hungry, crying children, produced the greatest sensation. The crowd kept up a running fire of comment and sympathetic remarks, speaking in more of a conversational than an oratorical character. The labourers generally expressed themselves tolerably well, of course with a strong Wiltshire accent and abundance of provincial selecisms, but by no means in a dialect akin in the extent of its patois to what one hears in Yorkshire or Somerset. At all events they were easily made out. I shall try to preserve something of the simplicity of the st le, to which, however, the pronunciation gave a character I cannot convey.

I have said that Bremhill is a petty hamlet, lying not far from the town of Calne. Around it stretches a rich, gently undulating country; meadow and field, hedge-row and clump of trees, spreading far away—a fair expanse of greenery. Here coppies wood crowns the ridges of the hills—there they merge into breezy upland downs. Farm houses and cottages cluster in the hollows; and now and amon yon observe the spire of the village church rising from its old embowering trees. Altogether, it is a pleasant and right English scene. Would that those who live upon it should share some little of the apparent riches of the soil!

Brembill is a mere cluster of houses. You enter a narrow straggling street, or rather one which would be straggling were it long enough. The cottages which form it seem comfortable, their walls cleanly whitewashed, their roofs snug thatch. The place is very quiet, and a passing vehicle draws many a curious face to the little-paned windows. Proceed some score of paces along the street, and it spreads out into a species of oblong square, or what, if there be a market held there, would be the market-place. An old stone cross rises in the centre. The cottages, most of their with their gable ends turned to the way, are clustered irregularly round. A foot-path leads you across a style, through the church-yard and by the church, with its square old Gothic tower and buttreased aisle, clad in green festoous of ivy. From among the graves you have a far-extended view of the swelling ridges about Marlborough and Devizes, enclosing the Vale of the White Horse. Close to the church, in a neat Elizabethan cottage, dwells the Rev. Mr. Bowles, of the English-Bards and Scotch Reviewers memory. The "gentle sonnetteer" is now, of source, a vetaran one. Retracing our steps to the main and only street of the hamlet, we find it narrowing again into a continuation of the grocked lane by which we entered, statishing days a rather agap declivity, and losing itself amid hedges and clumps of trees.

It was already night when I arrived at Bremhill—an intensely cold, but heautifully clear and serene night. The sky was cloudless, not a breath stirred smid the leafast branches, and the full moon showed the vast panorsins of fairly undulating country around, dimly sleeping in its radiance. It was a splendid night for out of-doors work "Providence," said a labourer to me, "Providence be with us surely — it was just such a night when we were at Gostaors."

In the centre of the open space before mentioned, close to the stone cross, a rude tent—the canvass stretched upon stakes roughly out from the hedge—was prected for the reporters. A bench for the speakers stood before it; and when I arrived, I found both surrounded by a group of peasantry—men, women, and children. Every moment firsh parties arrived from different farms. Some of them had trudged ten or twelve miles, and this after a hard day's work in the fields. It was curious to see the groups—the men with their smock-frocks showing like white moving patches in the moonlight—making their way from all sides—appearing from the narrow streets—gliding across the churchyard—to the place of meeting. The women, generally, wore closks and bonnets. The men appeared a gaunt, raw-boned set—the women pinched and care-worn.

The proceedings commenced soon after seven, when there were probably about 1500 persons present—clustered in a dense mass round the stone cross and the canvass tent. A labourer, Job Gingel, took the chair—that is to say, pended himself on one of the higher stone steps which supported the cross, thus forming a sort of apex to the pyramidal group which clustered round it. Then by the flicker of a morsel of candle, held by himself, he proceeded to read the bill calling the meeting together.

calling the meeting together.

This had a novel effect. The swarthy, strongly marked features of the man—his white smock-frock, and oddiventures of the man—his white smock-frock, and oddiventures of air stirring, caused the flame to wave and flicker—made up quite a novel picture of a chairman. The crowd around listened with attention as he read, with some little hesitation, the following placard:

"DISTRESS OF THE PEOPLE—FREE TRADE.

"A public meeting will be held at the Dumb Post, Brem hill, on Tuesday, 10th February, 1816, at half-past seven o'clock in the evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the distress of the people, and of petitioning Parliament for a total repeal of the Corn Laws. It is earnessly hoped that all who are distressed will attend, that their con-

dition may be made known." Perhaps I may mention here that Mr. Edwards, of Marlborough, was kind enough to help the rustic chairman in the official part of his duties-of which of course the poor man had no more notion than a Hindoo of icebergs. Mer reading the placard, he spoke somewhat as follows: "My friends-I be a labouring man, I have a wife and seven children in family. My wages at the present time is 8s. a-week (loud cries of "You can't live on that—you can't"). In the beginning of December last I only got 7s. But one week with another I get 8s. That comes, I think, to 20l. 16s. a-year, allowing my wife the corn old a week which certain he more than also did for earn 9d. a week, which certain be more than she did for the last three or four year, and seeing that two of my sons earn 2s. a-week, and one of them 1s. 0d., which, if I don't mistake, make together 9l. 2s. a-year, you see we may say we carn altogether 3ll. 17s. Now, how do we live on that First of all I should refer to the expenses of house-rent, that be 31. 10s.; we can't live without firing, and that be 1s. a-week more; then, friends, there be the shoes bill-shoes for myself 14s., and mending, and my wife 7s. 6d. and mending, and my eldest daughter 7s. and mending, and my cldest son 8s. 6d and mending, and my next son 7s. 6d. and mend ing, and the next 6s. and mending, and the next daughter 3s. 6d. and mending, and the next son 3s. and mending and the next daughter 3s. and mending, and the youngest daughter 2s. and mending, which comes in all, my friends, to 2l. 18s. 6d. ("yes, full that—full that, to all ous"). Next thing I refer to be clathing. A smooth freek for myself 3s. thing I refer to is clothing. A smock frock for myself, 3s.; a shirt, 1s. 8d.; a pair of stockings, 1s. 3d.; a smock-freck for my eldest son, 1s. 8d.; his shirt, 1s. 3d.; his stockings, 1s. Id. My next son has a smook-frock; I pay 1s. for it, besides his stockings. Then my eldest daughter has a frock, 1s.; a pinnafore, 4d.; a petticoat, 8d.; a garment (probably a gown), 1s. 6d.; and so on, friends, for stockings and garment, 1s. 6d.; and so on, friends, for stockings and garment. ments for my other daughters and my poor wife. Now, all this makes 21. 12s. The next thing, my fellow labourers, will be soup; I pay fid. a-week for it, and perhaps about 3d. a-week for candles, soda, thread, pins, and needles. All this make about 1l. 5s. 11d. a-year. The whole I pay for these articles—and we can't do without them—is about 13l. 13s. td. -that is, if I make no mistake—if I do say anything wrong then I will admit to any man a contradiction ("no, no,-you be ant wrong—you be telling us the truth"). Then, friends, there is left 181. 4s. or thereabouts, and I ax you if that be sufficient to the support of eight people for one year ("ob, sufficient to the support of eight people for one year ("Oh, no, no—certainly not—we have no more, and we have hungry bellies")? I say, friends, if you take the 30% days, that will only give 14d. a-day for us each to live on all with the exception of 1s. (shame, shame). If 14d. a-day be sufficient to support a labouring man, then I admit any labouring man to come for ard and be answerable (renewth. ories of shame)—and I made no account for breeches, hats, and leggings, which every working man is supposed to find; but I'm very ill off for such clothing (cries of "poor man"), therefore, friends, I do ask you what the Wiltshire labourer has done, or what crimes he has committed, that he has a denrived of propagation, that he has committed, that he be so deprived of necessaries—that he be worse off than the convicts on board the hulks (loud cheers)? I have this to tell you, if any person do say that what I have described be sufficient for food for a hard labouring man, or clothing either or it? I have man be the continuous content or it. either, or if I have made an extraordinary charge, then I am ready, friends, to be answerable (loud cheers, and cries of "There be plenty more of the same mind"). This I am ready to discuss the ready to discuss with any protectionist or monopolist (renewed shouting); for I believe there is nothing as will bring newed shouting); for I believe there is nothing as will bring a man sooner to his recollection than hunger (true, true). Then let the Duke of Buckingham rise against this as he may, or Mr. Benett, with his patitions, do what he likes; there is a general distress in this country (hear, hear). Only refer, friends, to the ta's of the "Brodige! Soon" after washing his substance in rictous living, he said, "how many him servants of my father have enough and to spare!" Oh, friends hunger and distress brought him to his senies, but the hunger and distress which we have been living funder to low owing to the Corn Laws (sheers.) That should be likely owing to the Corn Laws (sheers.) That should be housers!) be presented but the extension of the likely him to the likely had now let any oblice likely man one.

bis belief that it was hungar which brought that meeting together, and asking whether their boasted protection had benefited them (cries of "no, no").

Here Mr. Gale's episode commenced, by that gentleman

informing the meeting that they were starred by the operation of threeling machines. His interference was met by a general chorus of groaning, and ories of "We come here to speak of the Corn Laws, not of machinery," in the midst of which Mr. Gale disappeared, and was no more seen which Mr. Gale disappeared, and was no more seen.

which Mr. Gale disappeared, and was no more seen.

JOHN BATCHELOR, of Permsy, a labourer, was the next speaker. (The speeches, sa I have said, partake of the same character; I need, therefore, after having reported the chairman's at length, only give the distinctive points of the other addresses.) For the last formight he had only received its a week. He knew many men with four children mandal only fig. a week and fig. (alumn). For himself, he who had only 0s. a week and 5s. (shame). For himself, he did not know what to do. He expected to be discharged when he got home for having come to the meeting (a voice : "Come to me, and I will give you 10s.")—(cheers.)—was only one labourer at Pemsy earning 8s. a week. was only one tabouter at realisy earning as, a week. Well, those with many children—what were they to do? (Oh, what can they do? they be half-starved.) It be them Corn Laws, them cursed Corn Laws, which made bread dear. The poor man must labour, and the farmer could not afford to pay, all through the Corn Laws (hear, hear). The repeal and small farms for large ones—that was what they wanted. He had been employed like a horse in drawing a cart (shame). Yes, but he had; he had pulled it more than twelve miles a day, and it was fully a tou weight (shame, shame). He was one of five men yoked to the cart. That was the way protection used them. Let them hold up their hands, then, for its destruction, root and branch. This was the resolution he proposed (I give it et literatim): 1. "Resolved that this meeting is sattisfied from experience that ore general distress prevails among the laboring classes that the Corn Laws have failed to give employment to the agricultor laborers and in the opinion of this meeting they ought forthwith to be repealed" (loud cheers greeted the re-

GEORGE CHIVERS, of Winterburn, seconded it. He did it because he had not bread enough to eat (" there be many like you.") He had sometimes 0s., and sometimes 7s.

The resolution was duly carried.

HENRY DREW, of Lockeridge, in the parish of Overton, proposed the next resolution. His speech was, omitting resetitions, nearly as follows: I am a labourer myself, and have four children, and my earnings be 8s. a-week, that is when I am in constant work; that is the rate of wages in the neighbouring villages generally. Some of my neighbours and relatives have three, and four, and five, and six children in family, and how they live, and how we all live, I can't tell. (Bul enough bad enough.) Let us have Free Trade. (Nes, yes.) Let us pray to Almighty God to influence the Queen and the nobility to utterly destroy the Corn Laws, which make breed dear to us poor! If all the miscry, friends, was put in three lots, the Corn Law misery would be the biggest (Aye, aye). I say it is the worst; I feel it. I have not had a bellyful of victuals now for these seven weeks (loud grouns). I say that the state of things is so, that a poor man can get nothing more—if he gets that -than a piece of stark naked bread, and perhaps a few 'tatoes thear, hear). It was God's mercy which sent a mild winter for us to have a few greens-that kept many from dying of hunger, for the 'tatoes are gone. I do say that we be in a sad state. What is for us to eat? (a voice: There should be Polish wheat and wheat from Ohio—(cheers). The speaker concluded by reading the following resolution: 2. "Resolved that this meeting pledge itself to do all in its power to promote the petition of the agricultural labourers of North Wilts for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws.

CHARLES KINGELL, of Preston, parish of Hillmartin, se-conded the resolution. 1 am, he said, one of your protected labourers. I have seven children; the eldest is 10 years of age, and he earns 8d. a day. This is protection (cries of "shame"). Well, he gives it to me—but it don't pay all his keep-1 have to give him washing and lodging. I have a wife and six other children. I have a lad 10 years of age, working for twopence a-day. I labour myself for 8s. This is my condition (cries of "down with protection"). The speaker here entered into a detail of his domestic expenses, which was nearly similar to that given by the chairman. Whoever says that the Wiltshire labourer is well fed and well clothed says what is not true (hear, hear). The pro-tection they talk of is no protection to us, or to the farmer. Many a night this winter I have lain awake for hours, and tumbled in my bed for want of food. ("There be many like you. There's many a man the same." A female voice: Aye, and woman, too.") Friends, I second the resolution. It was carried by acclamation.

A female then stood forward to speak. She was a middle-

aged woman, dressed in a long grey cloak, and old bonnet, and she partly read what she had to say by the light which the chairman held—partly spoke it fluently enough.

My name, she began, is Lucy Simpkins. I am from Preston. I am the wife of a labouring man. I, have had seven children all hours in Landth models. There are fluently madels and the state of the seven children all hours in Landth models. even children, all born in lawful wedlook. There are five living-two I buried. I have a boy seven years of age. He works for 3d. a-day; but he can't keep himself entirely on that, and the rest of the family must be supported from my husband's wages. No boy, friends, of seven years of age could keep himself on 3d. a day (cries of 'It be ant likely'). Well, we can't do with less than seven gallons of bread, and we pay 8d. for it, and that is a little allowance for eight beoble to live gaven days on (free). We are farred to go people to live seven days on (true). We are forced to go about on hungry bellies after we rise in the morning, and know anything about the protection that makes bread dear, erving for food and you nothing to give them (hear, hear). Yes, and when I was confined last, I had nothing to eat them. from one o'clock one day until four o'clock the next day a poor labouring woman like myself came in, and said, "I a poor labouring woman like myself came in, and said, "I have brought you something to eat—bread with sugar on it. I had no cheese, or I would have brought that" (shame). And recollect, neighbours, this is united a protecting lay (a voice—if a m a witness to the truth of what slie says). My husband is not a droukard, nor aprilling of the kind, but a good husband to me, and a good faither to his children, but he can't make his money go faither than it will (her, hear). Many a Monday morning I say to him, wall, how be we to get through this wack, we have no food how he do get through this wack, we have no food how he we to get through this wack, we have no get thought and we have no set thought and we have no set thought and we have no set thought.

Yes indeed I was; but if Free Trade will make bread cheep, then I want Free Trade (loud cheers).

MARY FREEIS, of Charlett, Brembill, here stood forward with a resolution to propose. It was a somewhat singular one, but, nothing danuted, she read it as follows (I again one, but, nothing damied, she read it has follows (I again copy verbatim):—"That a public meeting of families he held to give the wives of the agriculture labourers an opportunity of making known the distress which they have experienced under the Corn Laws" (loud cries of "Free Trade for ever!" greeted this extraordinary resolution). The proposer went on: We poor women do suffer much. I have been forced to go and out nettles to boil for my children (shame). I have picked sacks of challuck (or some such name—the long term for a species of wild plant) to give my name—the local term for a species of wild plant) to give my children to eat (grouns). Somebody told me that challucks would kill my children; but I thought to myself that it would be as well to die with a bellyfull, as to famish for want of a hellyfull ("So it be"). We have eight to feed in family, and when we get our money, that is, 8s. a week, there are ten things to be done with it (hear, hear, hear). Then, may God bless the Queen, and give us cheap food. It is not the dressing machines, but the dear bread that we complain of. We be very bad off indeed; and I ax any one here to say if what I spoke is false (No, no). I will stop now to let others speak.

Here the resolution, although it had not been seconded,

WM. Cole, of Calne, said a few simple words in the strain

of those who preceded him, and JACOB WILKINS, of Goatacre, spoke next. There were no less than "seven folks lying about Goatacre" (that is, out of work), and those who were in work only got 7s. a week. He had nothing to do at all, because the farmers had nothing to do. He had been to the whole of them.

was no work, and very little food. JOHN HILLIBR, of Goatacre: I have a wife and seven (or five, we could not make out which) children. I could not support my eldest son, and I put him in the union (shame). The young lad he was willing to go, for he knew our distress; but I did not like him leaving us, and oh, his mother was terrible loth to part with him (here was one loud general groan). I have had very much distress. We want protection done away with. It does us no good. Let a man protect himself (cheers). After the Goatacre meeting our steward came round to us, but instead of asking us poor how we lived, he went to ask at the farm-houses (groans). What is the good of that? Why didn't he come to ourselves, if he

wanted to know the truth (hear). Mr. Edwards again shortly addressed the meeting with reference to the discomfited Mr. Gale, charging him with "having been sent down by the Duke of Richmond or other monopolists to disturb the meeting." The labourers would meet Gale if he chose, and discuss the machinery question on Calne Green on Tuesday evening. Here was a challenge to him, and to anybody who chose to accept it.

W. Cole reiterated the challenge; but Mr. Gale mani-sted no anxiety to pick up the gauntlet; and Cole went on to propose a vote of thanks to that portion of the public press,

which had advocated the people's right to cheap food.

This vote having been carried, with a friendly hint to the Devizes Gazette (the local Tory paper), that there was no use in falsifying the proceedings, three hearty cheers were given for Cobden and Bright, and the meeting was declared over; those who formed it quietly dispersing to return to their scattered habitations.

Thus ended this very remarkable labourer's meeting.

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.

A. W. Paulton, Esq., Richard Potter, Esq., William Leavers, Esq., William Wilson, Esq., R. G. Welford, Esq., Sidney Smith, Esq.,

Bamuel Harrison, Esq., Dr. James Carlisle, John Gadshy, Esq., H. Hull, Esq., Uxbridge, Richard Burnet, Esq., J. Matson, Esq.

Richard Burnet, Esq.,

Sidney Smith, Esq.,

TRUSTEES.

Dr. Thomas Price, 7, Highbury terrace, Islington. George Thompson, Esq., 6, Waterloo place.

Captain Cogan, Upper Mill, Hammersmith.

BANKERS.

Messrs. Proscott, Grote, & Co.

solicitor.

Josh Ivimey, Esq., 29, Chancery-lane.

1 wkton.

Mr. Fredorick Parrand, Priory Villa, Peskham.

SECUTARY.

Mr. Alfred Lench Saul.

Prospectuses may be obtained, graft, on application at the Society's Offices, East Temple Chambers, Whitofrians-street, Fleet-street. The Ruius (6d. each) are now ready, and may be shad as above.

Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application immediately.

The Society's Offices will be open for receiving subscriptions and the general transaction of business, every Tuesday and Friday evenings, from its 9 o'clock.

THE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.—
A Public Meeting will be held on Thursday ovening next, the 19th inst., at the Assembly Room, White Conduit House, Pentonville, when the principles of the Society will be explained, and addresses delivered by GEO. THOMPSON, Eas.,
DR. THOMAS PRICE, and SIDNRY SMITH, REAL The Chair will be taken at half-past Seven o'clock. Persons wishful to

join the Society, may give in their names, and pay the entrance fee at the close of the meeting.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, Pebruary 14, 1846. While the debate in the House of Commons drags its slow length along, two resistless enemies of the Corn Laws are giving fearful evidence of the dangers that will result from any delay in their abolition. Famino and fover,-advocates more formidable than any monopoly has yet encountered, have commenced their ravages in the South of Ireland. The perilous consequences of protection, so often predicted, are manifested to an extent already great, and rapidly increasing. We have received the report of the Mansion House Committee on Fover, and Dr. Corrigan's very able pamphlet on the fevers which are always found to follow-a deficiency of food in Ireland; and we have elso beloto us letters from the principal districts of Minutes, and, Connaught, describing the steady spread of disease and destitition, with the featful prospect of five months during which this double

pressure must be borne. It is a heavy aggravation of this dire calamity that the protective system stimulates the export of food from this starving people. Stores and warehouses are crammed with grain, for export to England, while multitudes are perishing for want of sustenance in sight of these plenished granaries. Rolief must be immediate, or ruin will be complete. Under such circumstances, the public may well be weary of protracted discussion, when the visitations of Providence have predestined and necessitated the ultimate decision. Proprietors of boroughs, and traders in the votes of their tenantry, may "do what they like with their own,"-may dismiss members of Parliament as they would their scullions, and select representatives with as little ceremony as they hire grooms; but there can be no trilling with the sufferings of a starving people,—there can be no compromise with the pangs of disease, and the presence of death. Mr. T. Baring, the rejected of London and choson of Huntingdon, stands alone in his proposal of compromise; he is the only person who deems it possible to have a capitulation with Famine, and to negociate terms with Pestilence. Ho proposes to stand between the living and the dead; not that the plague should be stayed, but that some bargain should be struck to regulate the amount of future victims. What are the lives of a few thousands. more or less, when compared with the value of mortgages and settlements? In vain do the piercing cries of the labourers of Wiltshire strike the car of Mr. Thomas Baring. Were the fearful vision described by Famino, in Coloridge's Eclogue, realised before his view-

" A buby beat its dying mother, I had stary'd the one and was starying the other,"

he would propose a compromise, and offer the demon half its prey, rather than allow the behests of Protection to remain unsatisfied. Lord Morpeth justly declared that the time for compromise has gone past for ever; it would not be endured by the people of England-it would be destruction to the people of Ireland. The ground on which the protectionists stand is crumbling beneath their feet, and nothing but a procipitate retreat can save them; a step in advance would harl them into the abyss; a maintainance of their post would only last until the sap reaches the ground beneath their feet. In either case their fate must be the same—they full never to rise again. Defeat is no longer to be dreaded; all our danger now arises from delay; what is to be done must be done quickly. Imperfections must be endured when time is to be gained. There will be leisure for discussing amendments when the imminent peril is averted. Save the patient first, and then discuss the regimen by which his health may be preserved for the future.

We have given reports of the most remarkable speeches as yet delivered in this long debate, but we feel that they lose much of their interest when compared with the more elequentary of distress which daily swells londer and deeper on the wind. The arguments of misery are not to be misunderstood; hunger is a sharp logician; the reasoning of fover conducts very rapidly to a conclusion. It was said of an obdurate generation, " If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persunded though one rose from the dead;" but we live when men require millions of their fellow-countrymen to be added to the dead before their minds can be open to tardy conviction. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.!"

Mn. Conden.—The numerous inquiries addressed to us from every part of the country, rouder it necessary that we should inform our readers of the recovery of Mr. Cobdon from his recent and severe indisposition. He is now so far convalescent, that he will probably resume his Parliamentary duties next week, though it is still doubtful whether he will be able to take a part in the present debate. His illness arose from his having fullen asleep in a railway carriage, the window of which was open, on his return from Manchester last week. The exhaustion of his powers produced by the recent labours increased the predisposition to illness; he was attacked by a severe earnche and nervous pains in the side of the held. which terminated in an abaccas. This has yielded to mefficial treatment, and is now almost completely reduced. It might almost compansate for such suffering to observe the advicate concern evinced by the public when the feet of his alokness became known; the sympathy was not confined to any party missing the description of the property of the party of the description of the land of the la

ORIGIN OF THE LEADUR.

THE MANCHESTER TIMES of this Day contains a History of the Anti Coru-Law Movement prior to its being joined by Highland Collidad, Eaq.

The Paper will be sent per past on the rescipt of four ponny stamps.

Office, Daele-place, Manchester.

NEW MUSIC.—New Editions of the FREE TRADE QUADRILLES and WALTZER, dedicated by permission to the Country, and Rari of Radsor, to be performed at all Free-Trade meetings and balls, now ready in the FIANISTA, No. 63, price 1s: by performed statistics, and the Read of the FIANISTA, No. 63, price 1s: by performed statistics in the Fianista Office, 97, Fatermoster row one door from Cheapide; where may be lead No. 55 Figsian, centaining the whole opers of Sonnemula, for In., and No. 67, Fra Diavolo, 2s. ". The Proprietors of the Planista caused the Proce-trade is Music. Every good Free trader will therefore have a copy of these beautiful Quadrilles and Waltzes.—Chridnick.

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Or a "Stop" to Rumour—not to Payment.
Two gentlomen were seen to range
The area of the New Exchange;
They'd often met each other there,
On business and the like affair;
And oft while pacing to and fro
They'd have a "Bt of ohit, you know.
Sometimes the themes on which they'd fix
Were Church affairs and politics;
At other times discussion turn'd
Where trade and commerce were concern'd.
Twas thus upon the day in question,
They'd many topics for digestion,
But that which form'd the greater part
Was MORES' selebrated Mart.
The part where we were staying at

They d many to pics for digestion, But that which form'd the greater part Was MORES elebrated Mart.
The part where we were staying at Lasbed us to hoar the chat, And as we think it worth narration We'll let you know "THE CONVERSATION." I say (said one, the first who spoke). I'm told, without a word of joke. That MORES' house—that Mart for raiment, I'm told, without a word of joke. That MORES' house—that Mart for raiment, I trust 'tis some unfounded notion, For, sir, 't will cause a sad commotion. What for your thoughts upon the matter?" THE RRE'LY.
"What! (said the other, rather "popp'd,") MORES and BON, the tallor's, stopp'd! Don't name such stuff to me sir, don't! I won't believe it—that I won't! I won't believe it—that I won't! I give at once a contradiction. For instance—MORES' deal with me—And purchase most extensively; I ve bargain'd with that house for years, And never found the least arroars. No—as a merchant, I can say 'They've always ready with the "tin." Excuse my joke—I can but laugh At such a piece of artful "claff." This rumour, doubless, came from lips liclonging to pretended sanlps," Who would rajolee, with all their hearts, To "stop" outright the Mart of Marts. The tallors find such competition. And finding that they can't compete With things so mighty—so complete—They spit their spite in sore vexation, And finding that they can't compete With things so mighty—so complete—They spit their spite in sore vexation, And finding that they can't compete With things so mighty—so complete—They spit their spite in sore vexation, And finding that they can't compete With things so mighty—so complete—They spit their apite in sore vexation, And finding that they can't compete—I'd put the cane about their backs.

It tell you what—I'd stop thole "clacks"—I'd put the cane about their backs.

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 125.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1846. GRATIS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

DEBATE ON THE CORN LAW.

It is unnecessary to observe that ever since Sir Robert Peel's memorable statement of the 27th ult. the present parliamentary week had been looked forward to by all parties with no ordinary interest. The subject, indeed, had already been discussed in all its bearings, and it was not expected that new light could be thrown on the real merits of the question; but still it was regarded as the opening up of the concluding scone—the commencement of the last stage of a great national movement, to which every circumstance—even the comparative tranquillity of the preceding week-conspired in no ordinary measure to direct the undivided attention of all classes of the community. No startling revelation was expected, but still as the hour drew near when the House was at length fairly to launch out on this important question, it was manifest that the excitement which pervaded the metropolis had increased; and multitudes might be seen in the vicinity of St. Stephen's, whose interest in the proceedings of that evening was not less intense than that of the crowded assemblage of members and spectators within the walls of the House. It was known and felt throughout London, and throughout the kingdom, that a great legislative question was on the eve of being finally discussed and adjusted, the settlement of which, in accordance with the wishes and with the hopes of the nation, would usher in a new era in the commercial policy and in the social circumstances of this country.

The reader will remember that Monday, the 9th inst., was the day appointed for resuming the consideration of this great question. When the House of Commons had met, the quietness of the usual routine of preliminary proceedings was enlivened by the entrance of Lord Morpeth, who, when taking the usual oaths, was cheered. The same mark of attention was paid to the noble Lord when he was called on to present petitions from Yorkshire, praying for the immediate as well as the total repeal of the Corn Laws.

Mr. FERRAND asked if the noble Lord could assure the House that the signatures to these petitions were the free and unbiassed acts of the parties themselves, for he had been assured—

The Speaker informed Mr. Ferrand that he might ask a question, but could not make a speech.

Lord Monretu, in roply to the question, declared that, to the best of his belief and the entireness of his conviction, the signatures were the free and unbiassed acts of the parties,

Amongst various questions and answers, and other preliminary business, the topic of the evening was introduced in the following manner, by the right hon, baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government.

Sir R. PEEL-I am anxious to take the first opportunity of referring to a question which was put to me the other night by the noble lord the member for the city of London. The noble lord (J. Russell), following his colleague (Mr. Pattison), asked me whether it was the intention of the Government to remit the duties on foreign corn immediately after the resolution of this house should be reported? That question, Sir, was put to me at once by the noble lord without previous no-tice; and, under the impression that the Treesury had dealt with the duties on corn in the same way as other duties, I answered the noble lord, that the Treasury would remit the duties on foreign corn on the report of the resolution in this house. I gave that answer under the impression, as I have said, that the Treasury had dealt with the duties on corn as with other duties. I dealt with the duties on corn as with other duties. I find that impression is erroneous. In every case when the corn duties have been dealt with by Parliament the reduction of duty has taken place from the passing of the readily has taken place from the passing of the readily has taken place from the passing of the readily has passing the residual passing the readily in wild have been said by any lines to said the readily in wild there was a pression of the readily in the said because it is this case because the readily of the readily of the readily of the readily in this case because the readily of the readily of

tion of that authority for the first time would have a tendency rather to prejudice than promote a satisfactory settlement of this question (cheers). It is the intention of the Government, therefore, to adhere to the course which has been uniformly pursued in all former periods of alteration in the Corn Laws, and make the reduction of duty, if the measure should meet with the sanction of Parliament, take effect from the passing of the Act. I believe there will be no inconvenience or delay as to the taking of corn out of bond at the duty of 4s, dependent on the passing of the Act; but, at the same time, it is of so much importance that the decision of Parliament on this subject should be known as soon as possible, and that the trade should have an assurance as to the principle which is to govern our conduct, that her Majesty's Government propose to give preference to the corn bill over all other proceedings. So far as we are concerned, we will propose no other Government business until the decision of this branch of the legislature with respect to the new Corn Law shall have been taken (cheers). That bill will, therefore, be proceeded with before any other measure connected with the tariff; and, provided it meet with the sanction of this house, will be sent at once to the House of Lords (cheers).

Mr. Christopher presented several petitions in favour of the continuance of the existing Corn Law.

Mr. Bankes presented 23 petitions from Bridgert and other places to Dorsetshire praying for a continuation of protection to British agriculture, at least until the sense of the country should be taken on the question. He also presented several petitions from different places in Hampshire.

Mr. Hawks presented a petition signed by 72,000 inhabi-

ants of Lambeth, in favour of a total and immediate repeal

Mr. Plumptre presented several petitions in favour of the existing Corn Laws.

Mr. J. T. CLITTON presented several petitions from places

in Northamptonshire in favour of protection to British agri-

Sir G. GREY presented a petition from Devenport and Stonehouse, praying the house at once and for ever to abolish the Corn Laws.

Mr. GISBORNE presented a petition from the Isle of Wight in favour of the total and immediate repeal of the

Mr. MACAULAY presented a petition from the Lord Provost, magistrates, and town-council of Edinburgh, expressing their general approbation of the measures of the right hon, baronet (Sir R. Peel), but regretting that the repeal of the Corn Laws was not to be immediate.

Mr. DUNCOMBE presented a petition from the paper-hangers of the city of London declaring themselves favour-able to the principles of Free Trade, but wishing them to be equally applied, and complaining that the duty on the impor-

tation of foreign paper-hanging was to be reduced five-sixths in place of one-half.

Mr. Bright presented petitions from Stockport and 30 other places in favour of the total and immediate repeal of

Similar petitions were presented by Mr. Christie, from Weymouth; by Sir B. Hall, from Marylebone; by Mr. Warburton, from Bridport, and from Ambleside, in Westwarburton, from Bridgort, and from Ambieside, in west-moreland; by Mr. Strutt, from Derby, and seven other places in Derbyshire; by Mr. Ross, from 1400 inhabitants of Belfast, and from 150 inhabitants of another place in Antrim; by Lord J. Russell, from South Devonshire; by Mr. Bouverie, from Salisbury and five other places; by Mr. Hume, from the magistrates, town-council, and inhabitants of the Borel humbs of Montages. Advantage of the Port. of the Royal burgles of Montrose, Arbroath, and inhabitants of the Royal burgles of Montrose, Arbroath, and Forfar, from the merchants and shipowners of Arbroath, from the guildry of Arbroath, from the inhabitants of Forfar, Letham, Lunanhead, &c.; by Lord A. PAGET, from Lichfield; by Mr. W. Cowper, from Hertford; Sir W. Clay, from the Tower Hamlets; by Sir W. Molksworth, from 44,600 inhabitants of Southwark; and by Mr. Aglionby, from Whitehaver

Mr. BENETT presented a petition from Saliebury, praying that no alteration should take place in the Corn Laws until an appeal should be made to the different constitu-

Mr. M. Philips presented a petition from 314,520 merchants, bankers, landowners, farmers, traders, and others, in the county palatine of Lancaster, expressing their general approbation of the measures of the Government; declaring their opinion that they would be much more appropriate and much more valuable to the country if they had dealt with the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, instead of leaving that as a prospective measure; and praying the house immediately to proceed to the abolition of the Corn Laws. The hon, member also presented a similar petition from the Manchester Commercial Association. The latter body also expressed their hearty concurrence in the proposed change in the law of settlement.

The Attorney-General _presented_a_petition_from

Abingdon in favour of the measures of Government.

Mr. W. Mills presented a number of petitions from parishes in the counties of Somerset, Monmouth, Glamorgan, and Glougester, all in favour of protection to British agriculture, and expressing a hope, that should it be the determination of her Majesty's Government to propose an alteration in the Corn Laws, an appeal should in the first instance be made to the country.

made to the country.

Lord Duroan presented a petition from Bath, which had in four days received the signatures of 6700 inhabitants, which Tories and Badleats, unlayour generally of the Covernment measure; but lumbly praying that advantage might be taken of the practic season of society at ones to remail all duties which tended to diminish the supply of the people's fold. North Ruling of Yorkships in revous of protection to life-

Mr. WAKLEY presented a petition from 83,000 of the inhabitants of Finsbury, expressing their regret that the promed total repeal of the Corn Laws was not to be immediate, and praying that, as the protectionists desired an immediate repeal, if at all, their wishes should be complied with. The hon, member also presented a polition from Newton, in Montgomeryshire, in favour of a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. The hon, member then proceeded to state that he had another petition of an important nature to present on the same subject. It was from It labourers in Wiltshire, and was as follows:

TO THE HON. THE COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND

"The petition of the undersigned, inhabitants of Pewsoy, in the county of Wilts, showeth,—That your petitioners are agricultural labourers, members of that class for whose especial protection and benefit the Corn Laws are said to have passed, and are now sought to be maintained. That, so far from having received protection and benefit, the condition of your petitioners is one of destitution and of degradation. being obliged to submit to the work usually assigned to beasts of burden, namely, to be harnessed to carts and to draw them, laden with stones, from place to place, in order to earn, not the fair wages for labour, but a miscrable pittance, a sum nicely calculated as being just sufficient to keep them from starvation, and to prevent their availing themselves of that refuge which the law of the land has provided for them, and which the poor-rate is levied to ensure to them. That, although some of your petitioners have as many as eight in their family, in no one instance does the payment for their labour amount to more than 6s. a-week, out of which sum rent, fuel, and other necessaries, as well as food have to be provided; that being thus reduced, under the Corn Laws, which do not enable the occupiors of the soil to give them employment for fair wages, and which clearly do not afford them protection, or conduce to their benefit, your petitioners are strongly of opinion that those laws are in-jurious, rather than advantageous to them; they therefore humbly implore your hon, house immediately and entirely to abolish those laws, and all others the tendency of which is to make food scarce and dear,—a state of things that is always hurtful to the labouring classes. (Signed by 14 labourers, having 14 wives and 48 children, altogether amounting to 70 persons, subsisting on 4/. 2s. a-week, or 13d. each person, being less than 2d. a-day each."

Sir R. PEEL presented a petition from the Lord Provost, magistrates, and town-council of Glasgow, in favour of the conmercial policy of Government. The right hone baronet presented similar petitions from Hawick, Thirsk, in Yorkshire, and Pollokshaws.

Sir G. STAUNTON presented a potition from the town of Cosport and parish of Alverstoke, in Hampshire, for the total repeal of the Corn Laws.

Petitions were also presented in favour of immediate reposl, by Mr. Milner Ginson, from the Mayor and Corporation of Manchester; by Mr. Oswald, from Glasgow; and by Mr. B. Escort, from a place in Winchester. The petitioners in the last-instance prayed also for an equalisation of

the sugar duties.

CORN-LAW DEBATE. The question having been put that the Speaker leave the chair, that the house might resolve itself into a committee

on the Corn Importation Acts,

Mr. P. MILES rose to move his amendment, that the committee be postponed until this day six months. He did not wish, he said, to expose the Speaker to the infliction of a tedious debate, but the present seemed to him the most fitting time to take the discussion (hear, hear). He was resolved to treat the question calmly and dispassionately, and no expression calculated to excite any angry feelings should drop from him: the question was too important—too comprehensive in its details—to be debated upon party grounds, for it affected equally the merchant and the manufacturer, the landlord and the tenant, the operative and the artisan (hear, hear). He trusted, therefore, that the house would give it the fullest and most anxious consideration. It was a greater question than the Reform Bill, because it involved a change of policy which from the enriest times had been the ruling principle of government, under which Great Britain had risen to her present eminence, and which all nations had long followed, and still continued to follow. Whether the country were prepared for the change, and the constituency disposed to sanction it, remained to be proved (hear). He did not hesitate to say that upon such a question the constituency ought to be consulted (hear, hear), and it was indisputable that the majority of the bouse had been returned upon table that the majority of the house had been returned upon protectionist principles. Notwithstanding the explanation given by the right hon, baronet, he (Mr. P. Miles) must concur in the expression of the late Secretary for the Colonies, and at one time of the greater number of the colleagues of the right hon, baronet (hear, hear), that there was no special necessity for the measure (hear, hear). No one could more deeply deplore the undoubted failure of the potnet or in Treland than he did, but there was no real ground for apprehending famine. The out and barley cropind been unusually large; and by a return now on the table, it appeared that between the bit July, 1845, and the 5th January, 1846, nearly four million quarters of grain had 5th January, 1810, nearly four million quarters of grain had been imported, and more than a million owts. of meal. Did been imported, and more than a million owts. of meal. Did this look like famine? At the very moment, the right hombaronet wished to open the ports the price of which wishedly obe. 2d. per quarter, which in 1842 the right hon, baronet had considered a fair remuneration to the grower (bleek). He had considered a fair remuneration to the grower (bleek). He could determine the trusted that the house would not look upon him as inclined to undervalue the responsibility of a Minister. He did not wish to taunt the right-hon, baronet wish being alarmed without cause—fit from it. He could well understand and allow for the anxieues of a Prime Minister, and be knew how much they must be infortable by life the life that the life of famine (hear). He was aware what reports reached him from various quarters on this largering the right hon, become had made from the new papers did not produce the state inverse on the life.

The law of 1842 was, he believed, admitted by all parties to

have worked well (oh, oh), as far as any Corn Law could go. It had produced atcadiness of prices, and it had given the farmer a fair price for his corn. Under the lass of 1842 the right honourable baronet estimated the price of 56s. as a foir amount for the farmer to receive for his wheat, but he should be glad to know what price the right honourable gentleman considered a fair price for the farmer now (loud cries of hear, hear, from the protectionist members)? The right honourable baronet offered the farmer what he called compensation, but did he suppose that the advantages which he offered in return for the protection which he took away would compensate the farmer for a loss of ten or fifteen shillings a quarter upon wheat, which was the amount to which the right honourable gentleman opposite expected it would fall? The right honourable gentleman's opinion was that the farmer would not lose by the change introduced by his mensure; but if that opinion were correct, what became of the argument of the right honourable gentleman opposite which was founded upon the certainty of a cheap loaf (hear, hear)? He believed that there was a vast difference between a cheapness produced by good harvests and a cheapness produced by a free importation of corn. He was afraid that the right honourable gentleman had been mistaken in his calculations, and that he had overstated the prosperity of the country in consequence of the good law vests with which Providence had blessed us (hear, hear). It was the opinion of Mr. Huskisson -- none the worse for having been pronounced many years ago - that "cheap ness produced by the importation of corn from abroad was the sure forerunner of sea city, and that a steady home supply was the only safe foundation of steady and moderate prices" (hear, hear). He (Mr. P. Miles) was of the same opinion. No state was so critical as that in which a country was regularly dependent on a foreign supply. What the result of these changes might be no man could at present foretell. He thought himself that they would lead to great fluctuations in prices, and that before long hon, members would see the right hon, buronet come down to the house and propose some new measure for the regulation of the trade in corn. (Cheers from the protectionist members.) The principle of free made for which hon, members opposite contended, if rightly understood, meant this that every other country should be allowed to inumbre as with their goods, without offering us any corresponding advantages in Now, he must say, that he thought it would be very dillicult for the manufacturer to compete with life rival in the foreign market unless he reduced the rate of wages. (Hear, hear.) The Swiss, the Germans, and the French competed with us at present most successfully in many articles of monufacture. If the important item of wages were excepted, the Unelish manufacturer would stand in a position equal, or perhaps superior to the foreigner; but hon, members all knew what an important item that was to manufacturers. Hon, members might be told that cheapness of provisions would not affect the price of wages, but let provisions be as cheap as they would, the manufacturer here could not compete with the foreigner unless wages were re-The house had beard the stress which the right hon, bart had on the withdrawal of protection from the manufactur ing interests. Manufacturers, however, had a great advantage over the agricultural interest. He much doubted whether agriculture and manufactures, although they depended on each other, could be said to be governed by the same laws and principles, but he knew that if the agriculturist did any thing with his farm, he must task his labourers to the utmost. Again, the manufacturers had an advantage when the hurdens were considered which both must bear. He held in his hand a return showing how unequally these burdens pressed upon the manufacturers. The returns of one manufacturer's business amounted to 170,000%, and the wages which he paid to 30,000%; but upon looking at the burdens which he bore, he found that they only amounted to 530%. When he looked to the compensation which was offered to the landed interest in repurn for the changes about to be introduced, he was surprised to find how slight it was. A compensation of 300,0002, or 100,0007, spread over all England, would hardly be felt. He thought that the agriculturists would have been better pleased if the right-hon, baronet had had offered them nothing at all (lond cries of hear, hear, hear). The honourable member, who was heard but imperfeetly in the reporters' gallery during the latter portion of his speech, in consequence of his dropping his voice at intervals, then formally moved, as an amendment upon Sir R. Puel's motion, that the house do resolve itself into the said

committee on that day six months.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE begged leave to second the amendment, and in doing so he asked the right hon, buronet as the head of the Government to believe that he disclaimed any imputation of unworthy motives to him. It was true that he thought his measure both daugerous and delusive, that the grounds upon which it was based were insufficient, when taken separately, and inconsistent and self destructive when combined. He thought the right honourable buronet had not sufficiently appreciated the violent shock to which confidence in public men was exposed, when their opinions were suddenly changed without any apparent change of circumstances, on matters upon which the public mind had been long expressed (hear, hear, from the protectionist members). To say, however, that the right hon bernnet pretended to outertain opinions which he did not hold, or that he had not the best interests of the country in view when he introduced his measure, appeared to him (Sir W. Heathcote) to be a gratuitous assumption. He must give, therefore, the supporters of the Government measure the advantage of the argument which was derived from the good intentions of its author; but he nevertheless intended to oppose it, because be considered the measure mischiovous in itself, and not justified by reason or experience.

He (Sir W. Heathcote) had supported the right honourable baronet upon the Canada Corn Bill, and he would have been prepared to support him in a similar boon to Australia (hear, hear). But in the measure before the house there was a boon to no colony (hear, hear). On the contrary, for the first time, an anti-colonial policy was openly avowed (hear, hear). Entertaining these views, he could not consent to go into any question of terms or conditions of comments. He thought it his duty generally to oppose the amendment (hear). There was presided somideration which he had no doubt had not be proposed to the house with the first hear population, gentlemen on his side of the house the ministerial proposition—the ministerial proposition—the ministerial proposition—the midst of the discussious and arise from their taking a different trundstrate the importance of that continues in the midst of the discussious and arise from their taking a different trundstrate the importance of that

honourable baronet and those with whom he acted, or whether the noble lord the member for the city of Loudon and his friends, sat on the Treasury bench. He had supported the right honourable baronet because he, generally speaking, agreed with the course taken by his Government, and it was ot because he differed from him on one important point that he would be led away to a transference of that support to those with whom he had little in common, and on a point on which he disagreed from the views of the noble lord as much as he did from those of the right honourable baronet. That right honourable gentleman took power not to carry out private ends but for great public purposes. But if, on account of their disagreeing with a particular measure, he was induced to throw up the Government which they still wished to see confided to his hands, why then upon him, and not upon those who generally supported him, must rest the responsibility and the blame (loud protectionist cheering). The honourable gentleman concluded by seconding the

amendment (hear, hear).
The question was put from the chair, and Mr. W. LASCELLES (who was at first almost inqudible, and often indistinctly heard) rose. He was understood to say, that the honourable gentleman who had just concluded his address seemed to think that the country had attained the prosperity which had been its lot, entirely in consequence of the restriction on trade which had been so long imposed upon it. He owned that the honourable gentleman seemed to him to have read very incorrectly the history of the empire. In his view, ever since the commencement of the time when restrictive policy began to be applied, they were visited with a series of fluctuations in the price of food which could not be otherwise than detrimental to the country (opposition cheers). He must deny that upon the reconstruction of the Conservative party after the Reform Bill, its commercial principles were those founded on a restrictive policy (hear, hear). He for one had never considered such a policy as the test of the Conservative party. On the eve of the general election be had considered it necessary to assert that no such principles as those of restriction were neces-sarily those entertained by the Conservative party, and with this view he had voted for the noble lord opposite, as he would have supported him had he been able lately to form a cabinet (hear, hear). He had watched the course which Government had taken with respect to this matter very closely, and when honourable gentlemen spoke of the danger which would accrue from the Government proposition, he replied to them that the very first act of the Government implied and involved the very principles now on the eye of being carried out (hear, hear). thought it impossible to listen to the speeches with which the fariff had been prefaced, and not to have seen that they inculanted the full principles of Free Trade (loud Opposition cheering). And there was proof that these speeches were so understood by honourable gentlemen on his side of the house, or why, in every successive session of Parliament, were so many questions put to the right hop, buronet, inplying that, from the principles, which he had questioners believed that he was about to alter the Corn Laws, and requesting to know whether or not he actually and really did (Opposition cheers). Well, an answer was given, which they were obliged to deem satisfactory (hear, hear, and a laugh). The right hon, baronet told them that he had no intention of repealing the Corn Laws at the time, but that he did not regard the corn question as one on which a minister, responsible for the welfare of the nation, was for ever to pledge himself (hear, hear). Now, that was the full amount of the charge which could in fairness be brought against the right honourable baronet. He was willing to do both the honourable mover and seconder of the amendment the justice to acknowledge that they had not followed the course which had been taken with respect to this subject out of doors. They had rather addressed themselves to the actual merits of the case, than the personal topics mixed up with it. The hon, seconder of the amendment had told them that the country had prospered in consequence of the Corn Laws. Now, let them look at what had been the immediate effects of relaxation wherever the principle had been carried out. He did not merely rely on the result of the measures of the right hon barouet, but he would take as instances of the good effect of commercial relaxation the cases of silk, of sugar, of wool-in short, with respect to all the articles which they could possibly bring to mind; and the fact which the advocates of a protective policy would have to refute was this-that the result of all experience, without one single exception, had confirmed every theory which the wisest mon had attered upon the subject thear). To this rule, he repeated, there was no exception. He did not believe that when it was applied to agriculture, there would be any exception in that case more than in others. There might be some suffering and distress before the sound system was established, but that constituted no reason why the change to it should any longer be deferred (hear, hear). He had a very strong feeling on this subject. Painful as it was to do anything to break those party ties which so often cemented help expressing the satisfaction that he felt in reflecting that he had laboured to place the right hon, baronet in the position in which he stood, in the full confidence that he would apply his great knowledge, his undoubted powers, to the satisfactory settlement of the question before them. That right hon, gentleman had acted as he anticipated, and without wishing for a moment to diminish the merits of those hon. gentlemen opposite who had so long, so ably, and so consist ently argued against commercial restriction, still he did think that, practically speaking, the right hon, baronet had done more than any one else for the-to his mind satisfactory-adjustment of this great question (loud opposition cheers). LORD NORREYS rose with pain, not only to oppose the

LORD NORREYS rose with pain, not only to oppose the measure, but also to withdraw his confidence from the right hon, baronet (Sir R. Peel), with whom he had acted on every occasion, in and out of power, from the year 1830 to the present period (hear, hear.)

If the right hou, barenet had refused to resume office until a noble duke (the Duke of Richmond) had been offered the government (cheers and laughter)—that would have opened the eyes of the agriculturists to their actual position. Every one knew what would have been the result, and the agriculturists being then made awars of their actual position, a measure for more favourable to them might have been carried by the right hon, barenet (hear, hear.)—But could be (Sir Robert Peel) be surprised that they had stood out for no alteration? They were only following the advice given by him in 1839. He (Lord Norreys) could not have expected that he who gave that advice in 1889, who so damaged the fixed duty in 1841 that that mode of protection had been abandoned, who professed a actilement

in 1812, who objected to an Ss. permanent duty, could have proposed a 4s. duty to end in total repeal (hear, hear). He did not believe the right hon, baronet acted dishoneatly, but it was clear, from his former conduct, that he had been wanting in political foresight, and was therefore unworthy of the considence of public men. Whatever the result of opposition might he, he held the right hon, gentlement responsible, who had risked this state of confusion without any sufficient cause, and who had so unhandsomely driven his opponents from power on that question in 1841 (hear, hear).

Mr. B. COCHRANE.—He was compelled to differ from the opinion expressed by some honourable gentlemen at recent meetings of the agricultural societies, and he could not agree with them that the Corn Laws involved a Christian and religious principle. On the contrary, looking through the whole history of the Corn Laws, he could not discover any principle at all, a principle being something immutable not taking its colour from the impulse of the moment, and beyond the influence of the circumstance and the hour. & far from a fixed principle, he found that for five centuries posterior to the Conquest importation was free; but ugricultural protection, which dated from Henry VI., gradually is creased until the Revolution, when a bounty of its. Was given to exportation; and importation, totally forbidden total the price of wheat was 51s., was subject to a duty of 8s, between that price and 80s. This, with occasional variations, remained in operation until Lord North's Act, in 1773, reduced the protection to 44s.; but in 1791 the agricultural was again the predominant interest, and greatly favoured until 1815, when the duty amounted to a prohibition. Then followed the Act of 1822, and afterwards Mr. Grant's reso lutions in 1828; in 1812 the present measure was passed which he for one supported, and which it was now proposed to overthrow altogether. Where, then, was the lucking place of this principle, if it did exist? Through what strange scenes and changes had it passed! If there was a Corp Lawfaith. it admitted of every diversity of heresy (hear, hear, and a hugh). If he might be permitted the opinion, he thought the agriculturists were requiring too much, when they claimed a Corn Lawprinciple. He would rather adopt the language of the honourable member for Shrewsbury, and term the Corn Laws an accident or an expedient, subject, as all expedients must be, to the influence of time and encoun-

The right hon, gentlemen at the head of the Government had been accused of gross inconsistency. But when he looked back to the histories of other public men, he did no: find any greater consistency. Why, Lord Ashbutton, the now protector of protection, in 1820, presented a petition from the merchants and traders of the city of London, praying for total freedrade. Facies non omnibus una. There was scarcely one public man who had devoted his attention to the corn laws who had not been compelled to change his opinion, and what did this prove? That all public men were dishonest, and that public virtue had no existence? This thought, on whichever side of the argument, would be an unfair assumption; it rather proved that the question was one full of difficulties, ever varying with the sessons and the times; that there might be some truth in Mr. Sydney Smith's dictum, " whoever talks of an unalterable law, is an unalterable fool" (a laugh) -- that events in politics were not like equal quantities in mathematics, always the same, or like the great abstract truths of morality, eternal and invariable in their nature (hear, hear). He (Mr. Cochrane) was one of those who did lament those hursh necessities which hurried men on from change to change; but to lament was not to prevent, and for God's sake let them look at the state of the world as it is and was, not as it should be. Let them look at the movements which had taken place within the last 16 years: the development of industry, the progress of invention, the extended intercourse-America brought within 12 days, China within two months, goods conveyed 40 miles an hour, letters sent from Penzance to Caithness for one penny. With all this movement upon the waters, could the mind of man alone remain unchanged? And then let them regard the great fact of the population doubled within 100 years, and increasing half a million annually-increasing through the expansion of that trade which broke the alliance between Napoleon and Alexander, and which had extended our colo nial intercourse to the furthest quarter of the globe. Above all, could they ever forget that the Reform Bill had passed? That reform which the honourable baronet the member for Cornwall truly styled a revolution. The consequences of that measure never could die-and who were the Ministers who passed it? Why, among others, the noble duke at the head of the agricultural societies, a noble lord who had deceded, and a noble earl who, it was supposed, would seceil from her Majesty's Government (hear). These were the Ministers who compelled the Crown and the aristocracy to yield to clamour, and these noble lords, who threatened "to swamp" the House of Peers, now stand up in defence of the landed interest of this nation.

r, (said the hon, gentleman,) I vote for this measure be I have confidence in the financial policy of the right hon. gentleman. I vote for this measure because I prefer legis lation to agitation; moreover, because I am a sincere advocate for protection (hear, and a laugh). Yes, sir, for protection not to one class, to one interest, however important; but protection to all classes, to all interests, foreign and domeatic-protection in hours of darkness and trouble, which, I pray God, may be far from us, but which, we cannot concoal from ourselves, may depend on the life of one man in l'rance, or on party cry in America—protection when another Borthern confederacy may have threatened our shores, and hostile fleota threaten our colonial empire—the protection of a strong and vigorous administration;—but above all, I vote for this measure because, in the beautiful language of the prayer which we hear each day, I would set aside all private interests, prejudices, and partial affections, and lend my humble but most allowed the property of the pro humble but most sincere endeavours to any settlement who those whose peculiar province it is to rule the destinies of this great country may judge conducive to the comfort and welfare of the poorer, but not less loyal, classes of my fellow. subjects (cheers).

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Mr. Deedes hoped he should be allowed to transact the time of the house for a short period, as this was first time he had ever appealed to them for a similar is a genos (hear, hear). He was much tempted to expend dissent from the right hon, gentleman at the head dissent from the first night on which he who the great measure, but he was deterred from the beginning of the merits of the question was not be understood the merits of the question was a district to the partial of the contract of

condition of the country during the last three years, but it sense not be forgotton that the empire had been under the esperation of the revised law of 1842 during the whole of the paids. The right hon baront now called on the house to expunge that law. He (Mr. Deedles) could not go along expunge that law. Are the results of the local not go siong with him, or give him a support which would be contrary to the best judgment he was able to form (hear, hear). He feared very much that the abolition of the Corn Laws would have the effect of throwing the poorer soils in the kingdom out of cultivation. Without passing over in review those measures which might be called an offset to that abolition many of which he believed good in themselves, he could not but express his opinion that they ought not to have been added to a revision of the Corn Laws. Entertaining those views generally—dreading above all things the dependency of this country on foreign nations, in the event of any scarcity in so important an article as bread-fearing that specie must necessarily go out of the country to pay for corn, that a consequent reduction of specie must take place in the Bank of England, which supplied the other banks in the countryfearing the results of that restriction on the community, and bearing in mind the language of the right honourable baronet in introducing the measure in 1812, he could not allow him-self to vote against his convictions. Having thanked the house for the indulgence with which he had been heard, the honourable member concluded by saying that he sat down with the fervent prayer that it might please God, who had raised this country to so high a place among the nations of the earth, to continue her therein—to guide and direct her rulers, and to make her an example and pattern to the rest of the world (hear, hear.)

Sir J. Watsu, on rising to address the house, was met by eries of "spoke, spoke," which were silenced by the Speaker. The honourable member proceeded to say that the agricultural party in that house had every motive to arge them to speak; and, he would add, every claim on the justice of the house for a patient and forbearing hearing. That party must be allowed to be the representatives of great and important interests. They must be recognised as the organs of opinions which, if they had lost some important leaders and champions recently in that house, were still the opinions of the great mass of the population of the kingdom (hear, hear.) He thought they must present themselves likewise to defend their motives from charges and imputations almost of a personal character which had been levelled against them throughout the length and breadth of the land (hear, hear). Those hon, members opposite, who had refrained hitherto from taking any part in the discussion, and had preserved that stubborn silence which was remarked on another occasion (hear, hear), had held up himself and his friends as the champions—or rather as the weak and impotent advocates—of an odious and selfish monopoly, and had represented them as persons actuated by no other motive or aim than the maintenance of the landlords' rents, in opposition to all the interests of the mass of the country (hear, The agricultural members might also present them selves under circumstances of great disadvantage, deprived, as they had been, by the endden change of the right hon. baronet, of that powerful advocacy of their cause on which they had been accustomed to rely (cries of hear) The right honourable baronet had accompanied his present proposition with some measures of amelioration and compensation, and it might be of some value to the agricultural interests that he had by his defection placed them in a situation to defend their opinions and vindicate their characters (hear, hear.) On behalf of that interest he first of all bagged to deny, in the strongest and most emphatic terms, that they considered this question as one of rent and rent only (hear); and he denied that it could possibly be looked upon in that light (hear, hear). But before he addressed himself to that point, he would ask the house to consider, if they were to argue that question upon the narrow basis upon which their opponents endeavoured to place it, whother it would not, even in that point of view, be a question of sufficient importance to engage their attention? It appeared from the return made on the motion of the hon, member for Wolverhampton in 1842, that the landlords' rental of the kingdom was assessed at the sum of 45,750,000l., exclusive of Ireland. There was no return respecting that country from which her rental could be ascertained, but they could not err in assuming it to be 15,000,000% or 20,000,000%. He was sure, then, they were within the mark in assuming that this narrow question of rent was one involving no less than 60,000,000/, sterling annually—a sum which was double the interest of the national debt, and exceeded the amount of our annual export trade, and which could not but be considered as involving the wealth and prosperity of the

There was another subject that had often been discussed in that house, and on which they—the protectioniats—were wont formerly, in great measure, to rest the strength of their case, the paculiar burdens affecting the land. For some time past honourable gentlemen opposite had taken upon actually were any peculiar burdens on land. The hon, member for Montrose (Mr. Hume) was the first to advocate that position, and deny that there view, and he had been supported by the hon, member for Shaffield (Mr. Ward). He, however, thought that both honourable members had fallen into a great error in this metter. The hon, gentlemen, he conceived, argued that from the official accounts it appeared that a great amount of the local taxation fell upon other sorts of real property than land, such as houses and mines, and therefore was not an exclusive burden upon the land. To that his reply was, that they did not pretend it to be an exclusive burden, but that it was one which fell with particular weight upon agricul-ture, and that those connected with the landed interest paid more than those engaged in traing and manufacturing

The right hon, baronet rested the adoption of his measure unen the experience of the last three years (hear, hear, from Colonel Sibthorn); but he (sir John Walsh), was sure that pablic opinion would decide that another cause had been in passic opanion would decide that another cause had been in operation, which had had a most powerful effects producing the resolution of the right bon. baronet. To the organized efforts, and the vast finds raised by the Anti-Corn Law Lague; the patric would be induced to sorble in a great measure; the great commercial revolution which had now been anneaucad (hear, hear). Within the course of 25 years, the course of the induced to sorble in a great semiconary that had had been acceptable to the induced to sorble in a great semiconary that had had been acceptable to the induced to sorble in a great semiconary that had had been acceptable to the first semiconary that had been another than the first semiconary and then or; for the cheering with which this

sentiment was greeted from the Tory cenches rendered the conclusion of his sentence nearly innudable) and to endanger the monarchy? This was an evil which must be grappled with by some minister or other—this was a system which must of its nature be destructive of the independence and utility of representative government (cheers). He opposed this measure, then, because he believed it to be a dangerous experiment upon the resources of the country-he opposed it doubly because he believed it had been very much brought about by the influence of that association, which he considered every lover of order and good government was bound to oppose (Conservative cheering). He did not oppose the measure on the narrow ground of class interest—he did not oppose it because he believed rent, and rent only, to be concerned-but he opposed it because he was convinced if they made a mistake in this matter-if the calculations of the right hon, baronet proved erroneous-the result of that mistake would not be the sacrifice of the interest of a class, but the destruction of the prosperity of the empire (loud cheers from the protectionists).

Mr. A. Hork said that the right hon, baronet at the head of the government had, as the leader of the opposition, led a struggle against the noble lord the member for London; and the Whig government, after ruling England since 1830, had by the natural course of events become cflite (hughter); and when the noble lord had brought forward free trade measures, the right hon, baronet had opposed them and compelled the noble lord to appeal to the country (hear, hear). The country then returned a Parliament as a protectionist Parliament, to crush free trade, and they chose the right hon, baronet as a leader because they believed him to be the leader of the protectionist party (cheers). And now the members of that house were called upon to pass a far stronger and more sweeping measure than that which their constituents returned them to oppose (cheers). A Conservative government had come forward now at the beginning of 1816 to accomplish free trade, and the reason they assigned was, that it was consistent with the principles of true Conserva-tive policy (hear). It might be true Conservative policy, but it was not a policy which would conserve the affectionof his own party. There was a very powerful minister who in times when the House of Commons had not attained its present position, swayed his Sovereign with as potent an influence as that exercised by the right honourable baronet in that house; and that minister was said to have used the expression, Ego et rex mens. The right honourable baronet might with equal propriety use the expression, "I and my party" (hear). 841 honourable members were elected upon strong protec tionist principles. Now so much were they expected to follow their leader, that they were brought down to that house as they had been last Tuesday week, without the common courtesy which always accompanied measures of much less importance -- of having some inkling of the nature of the measure to be proposed (hear, hear). He (Mr. Hope) load been one of the members who in 1811 knew something of what was to be brought forward, but now a total change in the commercial system which had prevailed for centuries was considered a bubble-a mere fleu-bite (laughter)-a nothing greater than a turnpike hill. Such a policy was truly Wolseyan. This, which was literally one of the great ost revolutions the country had ever seen-a revolution in commerce, trade, and manufactures, calculated to produce results more serious than even a revolution in the constitution or government of the country, was brought forward in the course of an almost effete Parliament, and members were expected, as a matter of course, to support it. If there was any glory to be derived from this achievement, most assuredly it belonged to the noble lord and not to the right ho nourable baronet, and he could not help thinking that the right honourable baronet would have acted a more glorious part, and one of fur more advantage to his fune than that which he had adopted, if the moment he found "a change coming over the spirit of his dream"— he had gone to the noble lord and said—"I now find that you all your life were right, that I all my life was wrong, and it is but right that I should now resign to you the reins of Government, in order that you may not be deprived of the glory of carrying into operation those measures which you have so zealously, and I must say so properly, advo cated" (hear, hear, hear). Had the right honourable baronet done this long, long ago, he would have avoided the reproach of arraying himself in borrowed plumage, and he would have nursued a course which gentleman at both sides of the house -however they might differ from him in opinion-would have commended as a heroic and magnanimous attempt for the well-being of the country (hear, hear, hear). Besides, it would have been nothing more than an act of justice to those who in bygone days were the adversaries of the right hon, baronet. The right hon, baronet was now their fellow co operator and fellow labourer; but why should he not allow them the merit to which in his heart he must feel they are entitled (cheers, and cries of hear, hear, hear, from Sir Robert Peel)? The hon, member concluded by expressing his determination to uphold the protective system as far as in him lay by voting in favour of the amend-

Lord Sandon next addressed the house; but spoke in so indistinct a tone of voice as to be for some time almost inqudible in the gallery. He was understood to say that he felt himself called upon to explain and vindicate the course which he was about to take with reference to this great question. He had an opinion of his own to represent and illustrate, and it was very possible that it was not an opinion which was shared by any other member of that house. The fact was, he was about to support the Minister's measure, although he disapproved of it (laughter). The arguments which Sir R. Peel had used in reference to this question appeared to him in many respects untenable, and very many of the grounds which he had assigned as the basis on which he had founded his change of opinion seemed to him to be deserving of little or no consideration. They had little if any weight with him (Lord Sandon); for they constituted, in his opinion, too narrow a foundation on which to establish such startling changes se those which were now in contemplation. They did not furnish an adequate protext by which to justify the overturning of institutions which had been sauctioned by the experience of many years (ories of Hear, hear). The right honourable baronet at the head of

of corn did not to a certain extentinfluence the rate of wages. No one could persuade him that the price of corn did not exercise a very decided influence upon the wages of the a cultural labourer, and upon those of all classes of unskilled workmen, though it might be very true that the effect would not be at all as sensibly felt in the case of artisans and tradesmon.

Having argued to show the right of the farmer to protection, his lordship then proceeded to observe that after making this exposition of his views, it was only right that he should now give some explanation of the somewhat anomalous course he was about to adopt in recording his vote in favour of the minister's monsure. He found that this country must be governed (hear, hear); moreover he felt that great questions of this kind had no chance of long maintaining their ground unless they were sanctioned and supported by great masses of enlightened opinion; and whatever his own views on the matter might be, he could not be blind to the fact that this question of repeal of the protective system was, in truth, thus sanctioned and supported (hear, hear, and cheers.) He looked around him and saw that opinions hostile to protection had been cordially adopted and fearlessly enunciated by the great leaders on both sides. He saw that a great and a wonderful change had taken place both in that house and out of doors. All the members of her Majesty's government with the exception of two, had given their acquiescence to this measure, and were prepared to justify that acquiesconce and to persevere in it. In fact he could not conceal from himself that the fate of the Corn Laws was sealed. The question was no longer a matter of discussion. The protective system was doomed, and the only questions now to be decided were, when and how it was to die (hear, hear). Ho looked upon the question as entirely settled, out of the palo of argument. There might have been different opinions with respect to free trade; but no matter what discrepancy of feeling might exist, this must be admitted on all hands, that the country must be governed. It was impossible that the present system of agitation could continue. It was convulsing society in these countries, and the sooner the question which gave rise to it was settled the better (hear). The present state of things could not continue without great and manifest injury to the country, for the agitation of this question disarranged our social system, and inevitably gave rise to bitterness of feeling. His friends around him might vote as they pleased, but their votes would not work salvation for the Corn Laws (hear, hear, and loud cheers) They might speceed in "staving" off the destruction of the pro tective system for a few months, or it might be perhaps for a year; but eventually the same result which was now impending must be realised, for the downfall of the fabric was nevitable. Abolished it must be, and the only question now was, how was it to be done (hear, hear)? For his part, he held it to be unwise, and in the last degree inexpedient, to permit the country to be convulsed any longer by (hear, hear.) Those being his feelings, he would vote with the ministry. He had declared that in his opinion the experiment about to be tried was a hazardons one; but he wished it to be understood that he did not feel the same degree of apprehension respecting it that some of his friends did. He believed it to be a perilous experiment-he knew it to be an imprecedented one; but while he made this admission, he was far from thinking that it would be found to be fraught with consequences quite as disastrons as many honourable gentlemen in that house appeared to apprehend (cries of hear, hear). He was not one of those who anticipated that a million of labourers would be thrown out of employment by it, nor did he fear that the cultivation of the land would be in any material degree interfered with. He remembered a period when market prices fell from 105s, to 65s., but no large proportion of the labouring population were deprived of employment, nor did any large tracts of country go out of cultivation (hear, hear). He was of opinion that the measure now contemplated was a rash and a perilous one—he knew that much individual misery must result from it; but he did not anticipate a great national calamity (hear, hear, hear). He had faith in the country, and he was sure that the vessel of the state would gradually right herself, and escape the breakers (hear, hear, and cheers). In the abstract he was for protection, but having regard to the present circumstances of the country, and bearing in mind that the Corn Laws, however much to be commended, did not involve any question of faith or morals, he felt himself quite at liberty to take, in reference to this subject, whatever course he considered most conducive to the interests of the English people (hear, hear,

Lord J. Rushell .- I believe, Sir, that I am the first member who has risen on this side of the house on the important, the very important, question now before us; and, while I shall give my vote on the same side with the noble lord who has just addres ed the house, I can say that I shall do it with better heart and hope than that noblo lord (cheers) asto the task we are about to undertake. I will not attempt to underrate the importance of this question. Hon, gentlemen whom we have heard speak on the opposite side of the house, and who object to the propositions made to us by her Majosty's Ministers, seem to consider that they have said what is quite conclusive when they say that for centuries a system of protection has been the system of legislation adopted in our public policy (hear). I am not at all terrified; Sir, by that denunciation. We know that for conturios the system of religious disabilities was the system of legislation adopted in this country; we know that for centuries the want of security for the liberty of the person was the legislative system adopted in this country; but happily we live to acknowledge the great bonefits which have flowed from the destruction of those systems (hear, hear); and I hope that we are now at the commencement of the destruction of another system. which has been most injurious to the country, and that we shall hereafterfeel proud that we have participated in laying the foundation for a new and a better order of sauctioned by the experience of many years (creas or lifear, hear). The right honourable baronet at the head of her Majeaty's Government attempted to justify the change in his policy by a reference to arguments, and facts, deduced from the experience of the last three years, but that experience was a superficial one, resulting from peculiar circular principle of protection, from the country, been widened to the Corn Laws, which in formative confined to the peculiar quantities of country, been widened in the country, been widened by the whole maintenance of the country to be protected (choors from the ministhings (chears). It appears, Sir, that the question with respect to the Corn Laws, which in former years was almost exclusively confined to the particular question.

terial banches); but the hon, gentleman who seconded the amendment this night seemed to confess, at least he was sensible that protection to all native inducty was a mere plausible word, that it rested on no solid foundation, because he asked, how could protection be found for many great interests in the country? The great cotton manufactures of this country, the great woollen manufactures, the great linen manufactures of this country are sent abroad to compete in markets at a great distance from us; they are sent to the markets of America and of Asia to compete with the fabrics of other countries; we therefore want no protection for them in Bussex or in Lincolnshire (hear, hear). If that he the case, and if the great branches of our industry want no protection, they are not benefited by the trifling and the trumpery protection which remains on your statute-book. and they are not benefited by that protection which scems to give to one particular class of industry an advantage. The great general argument of all writers on political economy, with regard to protection, applies to each particular class. In the first place, it interferes with the due current of trade on behalf of one particular class; in the next place, it lays a tax upon the rest of the community for the benefit of that particular class; and in the third place, that this particular object is not attained, and that the very classes it seeks to benefit lose by this pretended protection. Indeed, these propositions have now been so clearly proved, that they have become axioms in political science. (Cheers.) L was induced the other-day, in consequence of the praise bestowed upon it by the hon, member for Norfolk, to read a pamphlet, in answer to another pamphlet published by Messrs. Morton and Trimmer, written by Mr. Halesworth, who says that every quarter of corn is raised 17s, in price by the protection afforded by the Corn Laws. If this be so -though I believe it in fact to be a great exaggeration-if corn and bread be thus raised in price, an enormous amount of protection is given to agriculture. Suppose the fact were so, if 20,000,000 quarters were raised 17s, a-quarter, a tax of no less than 17,000,000/, a vear would be paid by the people of this country for this protection to agriculture. I believe that this statement is most exaggerated, but still the principle is correct; it does raise the price, and while we give protection, as it is afforded by the present law, we give, what I will not call an advantage, but an apparent advantage, to a particular class, which is injurious to the other classes. The hon, gentlemanthemember for Hampshire, who seconded the amendment in terms which were so temperate and so unobjectionable (cheers), stated that a difference ought to be made between those In whose occupations more manual labour is employed and those in whose occupations there is less manual labour, and in which machinery is more employed. Now, I do not see the foundation for any such distinction. Suppose 5,000,000 are employed in a trade in which machinery is used, and others are employed in a trade where there is little machinery, that is not a good ground why one should receive the protection of the Legislature, and why the other should not enjoy that protection. Well, then, Sir, if it be the case that the system of protection be in itself an evil, as the great writers have laid it down, the question comes to be, "What course ought we to take to get rid of this protection?" And here I must say that the writers who have written most ably on the subject—I refer to Adam Smith, and to Ricardo, and to Lord Grenville and Mr. Huskisson as statesmen—have not pointed out in what way we are to get rid of this protection, how we are to cradicate this vice. On this subject they have thrown little light, possibly because there was little which a theoretical writer could throw upon it. I confeas that I agree with the noble lord who last spoke, that a great transition cannot be made without incurring the risk at least of considerable suffering. (Cheers from the Ministerial side.) Circumstances may be so prospeyour that we may avoid it, but I do not wish to risk the prediction that if we get rid of protection, though we promote eventually the welfare of the country, we shall not for a time incur a considerable sacrifice. I think that this admission has been made by all who have thought upon the subject. Some may speak of a panie; others, as landlords, of the difficulties of making arrangements as far as different classes are concerned; but all will admit that there is a material, a considerable danger, of some loss of capital and of some diminution of profits. I come then to the mode in which the right hon, gentleman opposite, the first Minister of the Crown, proposes to treat this question. I agree with the noble ford that I do not think he has laid his grounds broadly and extensively enough in point of time (cheers). It appears to me that there are measures to which he might have ulluded. He could have had no difficulty in referring to them, because I believe he was a member of the Cabinet by which those measures were introduced. I allude to the measures of Mr. Huskisson, which in many cases substituted a moderate duty, and did away generally with prohibitory duties. I will not make any statement of figures, but I will say, generally, that I think the duty on silk having been made a moderate duty from prohibition in 1825 or 1826, in 1837 and 1838 we found the import of raw silk had increased more than 100 per cent.; with respect to French gloves, with regard to which there was a great alarm, the increase in the article of hides and skins noocssary to make gloves, was 57 per cent. in the course of about ten yours after those duties were reduced; with regard to wool, the reduction to 1d. a-pound produced a great increase in the price of the article, an article, the produce of the British agriculturist; the French wool being introduced at that low duty, think there are instances among many that may be quoted from the history of the last and the present contains, showing the benefit of at least reducing duties (hear,

hear). But, then, the right hon, gentleman has proposed a plan which goes beyond the mere reduction of duties to a moderate amount, thereby increasing the import; he has proposed, with regard to the duties on corn, that after three years they shall altogether come. Now, I am of opinion that if the right hon, gentleman had undertaken this task in 1842 in a different spirit, and had made a far greater reduction in the duties on corn than he then made, it would have been better for the agriculturists as a body, and better for the country in general; but as matters stand now, I am ready to say, seeing the contest that is going on—seeing the struggle that would go on if you attempted any intermediate step either of a sliding scale over a few shillings or a small fixed duty I am prepared to say, as indeed I have already said in public, that I think the abolition of the duty is the most expedient course for a Government to propose to Parliament (cheers.) Considering the plan of the right hon. gentleman as a great measure, as a measure that is to lay the foundation of a completely new principle with regard to our commercial legislation, that principle being neither to foster one trade nor the other, neither to attempt to promote agriculture nor manufactures, but to leave them "to flourish or to fade" according to the energies and skill of the people of this country, and believing that is the sound principle, I am prepared to give every support I can to the plan brought forward by the right hon, gentleman (cheers). But, Sir, I think it incumbent upon me to say, with regard to the mode in which he has introduced it, that of having a new system of corn duties for three years, that the opinion I had formed in December has been more and more strengthened by everything I have heard since the right hon, gentleman made his plan public in this house (hear, hear). I hear from all parts, from Devonshire, from Roxburghshire, from various parts of Scotland, and from various of the midland counties of England, that the farmers who have been consulted upon this subject say everywhere-" If we are to have the system of Free Trade instead of the system of protection, let us know at once what that system is to be (hear, hear); we would rather have the duties immedintely repealed, than take the chance of this new Corn Law which you propose, as breaking our fall, and as intended for our benefit "-(hear, hear). Sir, I think there is great reason in that. In the first place, I think the tenant farmer will be better able to arrange with his landlord as to the particular sums that he will have to pay, if he knows at once what the state of the law is, and has not to wait till February, 1849, to take the chance of what may then happen. In the next place, I think there is some danger to the farmer-but it is according, of course, to what the seasons may be-that in 1848, if the price is low, there may be a very considerable accumulation of corn, and that a glut which would not happen if trade were free, may happen if there is a sudden reduction of 10s. to 1s. in 1849, not owing to the price of corn, but owing to your previous legislation. In the next place, I have always thought, that if there be a danger of competition to the English farmer, the danger will be far greater after the lapse of two or three years than it is at the present moment (hear, hear). It so happens that, in the present year, we know, owing to the bad harvest in some of the countries in Europe, there is very little stock of corn remaining at Dantzic or Humburgh, or those parts of the Continent from which corn is usually introduced, and there is no reason to suppose that there is any great stock in the United States; there is therefore no apprehension on the part of the farmer. I think the way in which the immediate prospect of the duty being reduced to 4s. has been encountered in the market—for I believe the price of corn has generally rather risen than otherwise-is a proof that there is no great danger at the present moment (hear, hear). If there be any danger to encounter, it is when, both on the Continent of Europe and in the United States, preparations are made, the ground has been cultivated, and the seed has been sown, with a view to send in large supplies to the English market, and then at that very moment the duty is to cease. It is as if the right hon, gentleman were to furnish the furmer with a greatcont, provided he only were it in the summer; and were to make it a condition that he should take it off when Christmas arrived (hear, and a laugh). The provision, I think, may expose the agricultural interest of this country to a danger which it would not otherwise en-counter. But I would put it to the right hon, baronet whether he will not reconsider that part of his plan? (Loud cheers.) The right hon, baronet has frequently alleged, when bringing forward subjects of this impor-tance, that it would almost be impossible to know the exact effect of the duties proposed, until they had been by himself stated in this house, and the opinions of those who would be most affected by them taken and collected. It does appear to me, as far as I have heard, that with respect to this, which the right honourable baronet intended, no doubt, as an advantage to the cultivator of the soil, the general opinion is that it would not be that advantage. I hope, therefore, that the right hon. gentleman will reconsider this part of his plan. But, as I have already said, I wish the plan of the right hon. gentleman to succeed; I wish to see his measure with respect to corn successful in this and the other house of Parliament, and no vote of mine shall tend in the least to endanger a measure of such a character (cheers). It, therefore, when we come into committee the right hon. gentleman tells me that he has considered the representations made from various parts of the country, but that upon the whole he considers the delay of three years, and the duty to be imposed in the meantime, an essential part of his plan, I for my part shall go out with the

to sugar, it will not be necessary for me at this time to make any observation whatever. With regard to me. nufactures, I should say, generally, that if the comduties are to be abolished, the taking away protection from manufactures, unless where there is an impos which gives a considerable revenue, is a clear duy to the agricultural body (loud cries of hear, hear). I think you are bound to show them that you abandon protection altogether as a principle, as a principle viciou in itself, and injurious to the country, and not that you are about to subject them to any peculiar experiment which is so hazardous that you will not subject other parties to the same experiment (hear, hear). I own I doubt if in some instances the right hon, gentleman has acted upon that principle : but, however, that will be matter of detail when we come to consider the various duties (hear). But there is another part of the subject which I certainly cannot approach with any great sainfaction, from the difficulty of treating it. The right hon. gentleman has proposed to give certain relief with respect to local burdens, and especially with respect to the expense of prisons and of prosecutions. I think those amendments in the law are upon their own grounds just; I think they are improvements upon the existing law; I did not hear the right hon, gendeman say that they were offered as compensation, and I do not think any compensation of that kind could properly be offered (hear). But I confess I do not feel But I confess I do not feel sure that with respect to the general burdens of the country, the landed interest, the owners and occupiers of land, may not have more than the share that properly belongs to them (hear, hear). It is a point upon which I feel difficulty, because, although my opi. nion certainly was that they were thus unduly burdened I found that whenever a proposition was made (cheers from the Opposition benches)—when my hon. friend, the member for Sheffield, (Mr. Ward,) making a statement adverse to that opinion, asked for a committee, none were so ready as the agricultural gentlemen to op-pose inquiry, and to declare that they would not sub-mit the question to investigation (renowed cheer). An hon. gentleman, the member for Radnorshire, gave us rather a long comparison or analogy; he has said that if the shoemakers of this metropolis were ordered alone to pay the police rate, they might well state that they could not sell their shoes so cheap as other persons could sell the different articles they produced, and they might complain of the unjust burden upon them, and that might be so; but if the shoemakers happened to form a majority in this house (a laugh), and if the shoe makers were to say, "We will not have this subject inquired into, we will not let you know whether we do pay more than you or not for the police," I own I should very much suspect those shocmakers of thinking that their case would not prove so right when it came to be sifted as it was plausible in appearance (laughter and cheers). But there is another difficulty in this question. When, about a year and a half or two years ago, there was a very large surplus of about 3,500,000% in the Exchequer (or indeed more, for there were increased estimates afterwards), I suggested that it might be worth the while of the agricultural interest, if they could at all perceive what was coming on, to have their case as to burdens investigated, with a view to obtaining relief with regard to some taxes,-I mentioned the malt tax, for instance, which I thought pressed heavily upon them; but they would not hear of such a proposition; they said, "Protection must be kept just as it is" (hear, hear). When the right hon. baronet came to distribute those 3,500,000%, he distributed them no doubt advantageously to many interests of the country, very advantageously to the trade of the country, but with no peculiar regard to the agricultural interest (hear, hear); and I for one felt no sympathy for them. could not vote that they ought to have even the 250,000l. which the hon. member for Somersetshire proposed they should have granted to them, because I thought, as long as they clung to this protection and insisted upon having what I considered an unfair advantage against their fellow-countrymen, they had no claim for having a peculiar relaxation of burdens. But, as the right hon, baronet now proposes the matter, he really would have little more surplus to give. I do not know that he has fairly so much as the 500,000% or 600,000% which he proposes. I confess freely that if I had had to propose a scheme upon the subject, it might have differed from the right hon. baronet's scheme, but that there would not have been any more very material relief. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) For the right hon. baronet has this alternative,-to take what there is of surplus in the Exchequer, to endeavour to lay butdens more equally which are now unequal, or to propose an increase of taxation more severely on the landed interest. Now, that increase of taxation, I think, would be a most inexpedient course; I believe it would expose the landed interest to very great unpopularity; I believe nothing they could gain in point of money would be equal to the odium which would attach to them, if it was to be said that the taxes of the country were to be increased in order to provide a compensation for the abolition of the Corn Laws (hear, hear). For these ressons, therefore, I say at once that I concur in the general sheme of the right hon, gentleman. I wish that the repeal had been immediate instead of deferred (cheen); but in the present state of affairs, seeing the tachment there is on the part of a large portion of the community to this protective system, I think the advantage so great of a state of a sta tage so great of getting rid of that system as respects
corn in three years, and of almost every other protection
giving way improved that giving way immediately afterwards, unless it be talk some case which will bear argument, that

said, that without meaning anything (I am sure he did not) discourteous to those who sit here, he thought the right hon, gentlaman more able to carry these measures successfully than we were likely to be. that is an observation which compels me to state, that I do think that measures of the same kind would have been successfully carried, if the right honourable gentleman and those who sit with him had supported plans brought forward by those who are his political opponents in the manner in which we support plans brought forward by ours (cheers and counter-cheers). This matter of Free Trade and Protection, as it has been very justly stated, I think, by the hon. member himself, is not properly one of those questions which come within the domain of party. When Mr. Huskisson brought forward his plan, many of those who sat on his own side of the house were opposed to him; many of us who sat opposite to him gave him our support. Plans of moderating duties, and introducing a tendency towards Free Trade, are not properly Whig plans; they are not exclusively Tory plans (hear, hear). The right hon, gentleman opposite, when Home Secretary, as I have always understood, and as he himself has stated, acted most cordially with Mr. Huskisson in the promotion of those measures. But when the Whig party were in power, and Lord Althorp attempted a reduction of the timber duties, he was met by a party opposition (hear, hear). In 1830, when we all of us who were then in office, two Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Presidents of the Board of Trade and the Board of Control, voted with the hon, member for Wolverhampton (Mr. Villiers) for going into committee to consider the Corn Laws, with a view, as we all stated, of proposing a moderate duty, we were met, then, by a party opposition, which prevented us going into committee (hear, hear). In 1841, when we came forward as a government to propose reductions with regard to corn, and sugar, and timber, we were met by a united party, containing many members who represented commercial places -many, who, I believe, if they had not been bound by a party tie, would have acted according to their convictions that it would be for the benefit of their constitucuts that more free principles of commerce should be adopted. The hon, member for Wakefield is an honourable exception to that remark (hear, hear). He voted .- I believe he frequently has, -with my hon. friend the member for Wolverhampton, when he proposed those motions for the repeal of the Corn Laws, of which he is now about to see the triumph; and I congratulate my hon, friend on that prospect (cheers). But I think it is to be lamented that the right hon, gentleman opposite, and those who with him had learned sound principles of commercial freedom, who had been colleagues and friends of Mr. Huskisson, who could not be ignorant of those principles by which the trade of nations ought to be governed, who did not share in those principles which I think totally unsound and erroneous which have been expressed by the Opposition to-night; it is to be lamented that they did unite in party votes in order to detent plans founded on those sound principles (hear, hear). My opinion is, that if that had not been the ground of opposition, if the Government of that day had been defeated in any other manner, and those measures had been allowed to pass, much of the sufferings of 1842 and 1843 would have been avoided (hear, hear); the right hon, gentleman would have avoided for himself much of the invective and the reproach now cast upon him, as having betrayed somebody or other (hear, hear), when he has been, if not consistent with the course which he took in 1841, true to the interests of his country (cheers). But, Sir, when the hon. gentledmen, the member for Wakefield, tells me that the right lion. gentleman opposite will be more successful in carrying these plans than we should, I say again that it is by our aid (cheers), and in consequence of the conduct that we shall pursue, that the measure will attain its success (hear, hear, from Sir R. Peel, and some other members). I think myself bound to say so, in justice to those who act with me (hear, hear). And if the right lion, gentleman has the glory of adopting plans of coinmercial freedom which will benefit his country, which will enable the poor man to get a better reward for his labo:r, which will increase the demand for all the productions of this country, and which, after these questions are settled, will, I hope, open the way to the moral improvement of the people of this country, hitherto prerented by their want of adequate means of comfort (cheers),-if the right hon, gentleman has the glory of carrying a measure fraught with such large and beneficial results, let ours be the solid satisfaction that, out of office, we have associated together for the purpose of aiding and assisting the triumph of the Minister of the Crown (loud and continued cheering).

Sir R. INCLIS said that he was not astonished that his noble friend who had just sat down felt gratified that the be thing at each other (hear, hear). He felt some surprise at the course that the debate had taken, and at the apparent reluctance of hon members to address the house. He was not surprised that his honourable friend (the member for Wolverhampton) rested under the laurels which he had acquired by the success of the cause which he had so long advocated; but what had become of the new converts to Free Trade opinions on his (Sir R.Inglis's) side of the house (bear, hear, and laughter). He did not wish to say any thing ankind or likely to excite angry or personal feelings, for he was happy that the debate had hitherto been conducted with so much calmness; but he could not help remarking that the debate had hitherto been conducted with so much calmness; but he could not help remarking the market and the same than the s remarking that when those honourable gentlemen were so long silent, his noble friend came to the rescue (hear, so long silent, his noble friend came to the rescue (hear, hear). His noble friend objected to the statement of his honourable friend the member for Hampshire, as to the difficulties which affected labourars engaged in agriculture, in comparison with those suggest in mainfactures, but the objections were metally assertions, and doubt not be termed spinsons. When his noble friend, the member for Liverion was the comparison with the mobile friend, the member for Liverion was the comparison of the member for Liverion was the comparison of the member of the comparison was the comparison of the compariso

with the reasons adduced throughout the speech of his A more able speech he had noble friend (hear, hear). never heard even from his noble friend himself, and he agreed in all parts of it, with the exception of the statement at the close of it, that he should vote for the measure (laughter). He would now detain the house for a few minutes while he went into the general question. He be-lieved that it was the duty of the Minister to endeavour to procure an adequate supply of food at the most equitable and moderate price. Now, he would take the protective system, and he would appeal to any dispassionate person whether under it, in this country, moderate and regular prices were not general? (Hear, hour, and no, no.)

He was aware that some persons looked upon the noble lord the member for London as if he were an ogre (laughter), and imagined that there was nothing too bad for him to do (laughter); but all he would say was, that he preferred an honest enemy, who would say what he meant to do, than one-it was not for him to say an enemy (a laugh) than one who would not at once take that open course. A great party had been broken up by this latter course, and however he might deplore that occurrence, it was not his intention to say anything which could create an unpleasant feeling, but he could not avoid remarking that he would ra-ther see a measure of this nature carried by honourable members opposite. At what time was this measure brought for-At a period of profound peace in Ireland, not when, like the period of 1708, there were 200,000 armed men in that country (hear, hear, hear, from Sir Robert Peel)—not when, as they had witnessed three years ago, that country was dis-turbed by monster meetings (hear, hear, from Sir R. Peel). How was England situated when this measure was brought forward? England was in a state of almost unexampled prosperity in every department of industry, and that prosperity, he it remembered, had grown up under the system of protection. There was no breach of trade in England which had been at any period so flourishing as in 1846. Why, then, was this measure brought forward? Quieta non movere was a good motto. Let well alone. If we were well, why take physic and die (cheers from some county members)? He saw nothing in the circumstances of the times in which this measure was proposed which could be any justification of such a change, and he would, therefore, cardially support the amendment of his honourable friend the member

Mr. FITZMAURICE next rose, but he spoke in so low a tone as to be nearly inaudible. He expressed his decided advocacy of the system of protection, not only for agriculture, but for every other branch of industrial employment, all of which had long flourished under the system of protec tion. Free Trade would, in his opinion, throw land out of cultivation in exact proportion to the quantity of foreign corn imported. It had been said that America would take our manufactures in exchange for her corn; but suppose instead of taking our manufactures she should insist on having gold, would not the consequences be most disastrons to this country? And he was putting no supposititious case, for be would ask the right honourable baronet at the head of the Government whether he did not know that nearly threefourths of the whole of the shipping which came into the port of London, during the last quarter, laden with corn, had left England in ballast; or, in other words, with English gold in exchange for their corn. He thought that an efficient change would be secured in the present Corn Law, if they would take the averages by weight, instead of by measure. Bread and wheat would then be at corresponding prices, and the great monopolies in Mark lane would thus be destroyed. It was not surprising that at present the farmers of England were in great doubt and anxiety. No thing could be worse than that eternal change from which they had of late suffered so much, which interfered at once with the process of farming, and with the regulations of labour. No wonder that they were in doubt, when the highest in the land were changing their opinions every six months with respect to the law which ruled the farmers' destiny (hear, hear). As to the farmers of England, it was much the same to them in the end whether they were killed by the puncture of 10,000 needles or by the deadly thrust of one sword: they might as soon die by the manly open thrust of the honourable member for Stockport, as by the minecmeat, ladylike interference of the right honourable baronet. But the right honourable barouct having been placed in the high position which he now occupied by the exertions of the farmers, could not be surprised if they now turned round, and in the bitterness of their feelings, said

" Blow, blow thou winter wind, Thou art not so unkind

As man's ingratitude." (cheers.)
Mr. S. HERBERT.—If I were called upon to cite authority in confirmation of my opinions, and in favour of the expediency and justice of the course which her Majesty's Ministers are prepared to adopt, I think, of all the speeches I have heard this evening, I should select the two last speeches of my two hon. friends as those which furnish the strongest arguments against the conclusions which the announce as their convictions, and against the course which they intend to take on the present question. An attempt has been made to show, in a speech mixed up with much hostile feeling and prejudice against the conduct of her Majesty's Government, that there are no circumstances existing in this country which call for legislative interference -still less that there are grounds for interference to stop the usual course of law—that nothing has occurred, either in this country or in Iroland which could have justified all parties in stepping out of their previous course, and announcing a great change of opinions—a change of opinions forced upon them by different circumstances, which no one by possibility could have contemplated. I wish I could agree with my hon. friend that there was not in Ireland any such cause for interference—that there was no cause for anxiety, none to justify any extreme step taken by the Government, none to justify Ministers in proposing to change the laws which regulate the importation of food. The hon, gentleman tells us—and he selects an electoral district in illustration—that there was a larger crop than the average sowed in Treland, and therefore the loss was not so great as the increase which the unusual fertility of the fields produced. (A voice, "Yes, but potatoes.") Yes, but potatoes are a prime article of food in Ireland; and it is impossible to are a prime article of food in Ireland; and it is impossible to disconnect the failure of the potato crop from this question of food. It is not ascessary for me to expatiate upon the misery of a population depending upon that kind of food exclusively. We have this year a signal instance of the state to which a population may be reduced when it depends on subtle kind of food for subsistence, and when that food is not recomplished years one list which a food for subsistence, and when that food is not recomplished years one list which is another, The commissioners, referring to the opinion that upon the whole

the notate crop this year was a very large one, saidregret to add that we have been unable to obtain any proof of this, on the contrary, we have seen that the crop was small, and we have it in evidence that it is below the average; but we have also seen it to be heavy, and we therefore conclude that it may, perhaps, be an average crop." From first to last I must say that the reports which the Government has received from the constabulary and from the stipendiary magistrates were most creditable to their judgment in this respect, that as they never gave in to the panic at first, they never gave in to the fool's paradise at last. They never gave in to the statement that there were no sound potatoes left. They never misinformed the Government, and they never in that reaction of the public mind—to which perhaps they are more subject in Iroland than in other parts of the empire—fled to the other extreme, and told the Government that no danger was to be apprehended. So far as the failure of the crop in Ireland is concerned, I wish I stood here in the position of being obliged to state the reports by which we have been guided fallacious, our judgment erroncous, our precautions unnecessary. On the contrary, I fear that any inquiry you may institute will give a fearful and melancholy corroboration of the facts on which we have acted, and that our judgment will be proved true in a manner and to an extent which none can regret more warmly than we do. Polatees are also a staple article of food in the west of Eugland; their use has increased there almost as much as in Iroland. No man has put more strongly than the noble lord the member for London, the paradoxes of a scarcity of food with cheapness, owing to the inferiority of what is produced. So the averages of corn were depressed last season by the inferior quality of the grain I do not stand on a point of consistency when frankly avow that I think the law of 1812 has failed (cheers) -that the first time it was tested by adverse circumstances it failed, and signally failed. For short harvests the law of 1812 would have worked, for it was a mitigation of the principle of protection (cheers). Hon, gentlemen forget that the whole object of the Corn Law enacted in 1815 was to effect the transition from the high prices of war to the low prices of peace. Every statesman altered it. How? To increase protection? No; but to carry out the principle in the same spirit in which it originated. Seeing the existing state of matters, seeing the law had failed of its purpose, that food was deficient in quantity and inferior in quality—that the deficiency was common to the whole of Europe—that in consequence of that deficiency other countries opened their ports for importation of grain-while Turkey, Egypt, and others had closed theirs against exportations of grain-that other countries on which we haddepended for supplies had become competitors against us for the purchase of grain —under these circumstances I thought, with others in her Majesty's Government, that it was necessary to take steps for meeting the difficulties under which the country was labouring. I am glad to hear from the hon, member for Somerset that he s not one who was adverse to opening the ports-that he was not prepared to oppose such a measure if its necessity were absolutely shown. I regret, even now, that the course we then contemplated was not adopted. I think that in we then contemplated was not adopted. cases of public emergency, promptness and vigour ought to be exercised ("hear, hear," from the Opposition benches). I thought, under these circumstances, that if the Government at once took upon itself the responsibility of these measures, the battle would have been half won (hear, hear). I knew this, moreover, and say what gentlemen may in this house they will not persuade me to the contrary-that the gentry and agriculturists of England were not men to set up their pecuniary or other interests in opposition to the public advantage (hear). My noble friend, the member for Liver pool, (to whose speech, though it has been claimed by the hon, member for the University of Oxford, I also may lay-claim, because I think it proves the accuracy of our anticipations of the results of Free Trade), expressed with some carnestness his regret that this measure should have been proposed by the Government of the right hon, baronet (Sir R. Peel). I have no healtation in saying that I held the same opinion; and that I strongly advocated the necessity of this measure being entrusted to other hands than ours. The noble lord opposite (Lord J. Russell) has spoken in terms of some bitterness of past differences on this subject. But those differences did not relate to the question of protection or no protection, but to the relative advantages of a fixed duty and a sliding scale. The noble lord is a recent convert to Free Trade; but I think that, as latterly he has, from his party connexions, been so much mixed up with the cause, he had a better right than we had to bring forward this measure, and I, for one, should have been heartily glad if he had undertaken its conduct (hear, hear). I regretted to hear the noble lord (Lord J. Russell) use an expression—whether inadvertently or not i am uncertain-intimating that if we had offered to support him, as he is about to support us, he would have been able to carry this measure. I observed that the expression to which I refer was received with a cheer by hon, gentlemen on the other side, as if they thought there was a wide difference between the conduct of the two great parties in this house on the question now under discussion; and I must say that I think no distinction could be made more unfair. than that which is thus attempted to be drawn. The noble lord said, in allusion to the speech of the hon. member for Wakefield, who questioned the power of the right hon. baronet (Sir R. Pael) to carry this measure, that if we had offered him the same support he is prepared to give us, he would have been as well able as we are to pass this propo-

Lord J. Russell.—I alluded to the year 1841. I did not refer to anything that has occurred recently.

Mr. S. Herman continued—Then I have misunderstood the noble lord; but I must say that the support we volun teered to him was spontaneously and cordinly tendered, and we stated to the noble lord the grounds on which we felt that a private concert between the leaders of parties would have been resented by the House of Commons as an infringement of their rig ts of free deliberation. The poble lord admitted the truth and soundness of those arguments; but I will say, for my right hop, friend and myself, that no support could have been more cordially and heartily given, than that which we tendered to him. When I hear assertions as to the effect the measure suggested by her Majesty's tions as to the circuit the measure suggested by her Majesty's Government is to produce upon the agricultural interest in this country. I wish hon, members would show us how yo are to be ruined by a more extended dommeroe, and from what countries the abundant supplies of wheat they anticipate are to be imported. I heard an hon, gentlemant say, a short time since, that wheat could be imported into London from Poland at 50s, per quarter. Such a thing certainly his not yet happened. If you go to Dantsie you may buy Pollah wheat, but I doubt whether you would get it at anything like

so diske a rate as the hon, member anticipates. I am afraid, if he enters into any contract of that description, that min will fall upon himself rather than upon the agricultural in terest. In Pantzie the prices of wheat are now as high as they are in London; and whenever there is, in that place, the eliginant demand for wheat, the price rises rapidly. It must be remembered that in these producing countries the fimounations in price arise from two different causes; from the nature of their harvests, and from our demand. One place from which a very large supply of corn is expected, which might, it is supposed, interfere materially with our own produes, is Odessu. I have made inquiries as to the state of the markets there, and I find that the price has frequently been 30s., 31s., and 32s. per quarter. At Malta, which is supplied with Odessa wheat, the average price is about 32s. or 33s.; and the cost of the transit of that wheat to this country would bring it to a price at which it could scarcely enter into competition with our own. (The right hon, gentleman here spoke for some moments in so low and indistinct a tone, that it was impossible in the gallery to collect the purport of saveral of his observations.) You will find it impossible that any great quantity of corn can be brought here from Dantzie or Odessa to compete successfully with our home produce; and those are the two great continental ports from which importations are expected. Spain, where corn can be produced cheaper perhaps than in any other country, receives large importations from America. Great apprehensions are also entertained of the extensive importations of corn anticipated from the United States. I find that in Ohio, the largest and most fertile state in the Union, the population increases much more rapidly then the production. The population has increased from 15,000 in 1800 to nearly 2,000,000 at the present time. The total exports of flour and wheat, from the United States, have been gradually dimin shing for the last 15 years. It is time now that we should allay the apprehensions which exist on this subject; that we should prevent the agriculturists of this country from being seared from their propriety by alarms which are founded in delusion. I found, in considering the present circumstances of the country, that a state of things existen which promised a succession of high prices for one, two, or more years. I saw that a great change of opinion had taken place in the public mind on this question. I found that a great change had taken place even in the opinions of the agriculturists themselves; and that among the tenant-farmers there was an impression, which I have heard them express frequently in strong language, that this is a landlord's question. An hon, gentleman who has spoken to night, has said be considers that any depreciation in the value of produce must be divided between the faudlords and the tenunis -that it must affect the rent of the one as well as the profits of the other. The tenants had taken leases on what was called the Act of Parliament prices. The market price was below the Act of Parliament price, and the landlord got the benefit of the difference. Sir, fult that if these opinions were prevalent among farmers holding large quantities of land, it would be impossible to maintain the existing system. The supporters of that system said, "Let us be quit of that which is so uncertain, which depends on Parliamentary majorities, the caprices of members of Parliament, the turns of public affairs; let us trust to our own skill, capital, and industry, and then we shall have nothing to complain of. At all events it will be better than a state of uncertainty." These were the opinions of the occupying tenants; and as to the feelings of the labourers, I appeal to every agricultural gentleman whether they do not entertain similar opinions (bear, bear, from the Opposition side). Sir, a meeting took place in my county (hear)—a meeting which has been alluded to in a different wense by different parties in this house (hear, hear). Now, I am not prepared to deny-indeed, I think on the face of the resolutions agreed to at that meeting it is obvious that these resolutions were not drawn'up by working men, that the proceedings were pre-organised and contrived by others (hear). But this I am bound to state, that the statements of those working men as to the difficulties they labour under were correct (hear, hear). I live in the midst of a population as to whom I sourcely know how they exist (hear) That is a question which has disturbed more men's minds than mine. Sir, honourable gentlemen, my colleagues, have thought, and thought painfully, on these things, have said, "I don't care what change you make. I defy you to make their condition worse." I am not one of those who would say, as hon, gentlemen opposite would, attat this state of things is the effect of the protective sys som. But, at the same time, although it may not have been the cause of these things, it does not follow that it may not help to remove them. I will read to the house a letter I received to day from a man of great intelligence, who farms what is called " high farms," who manures his hand highly, what is cancer input ments, who intuities his mad inguly, and is thoroughly master of the subject :—" I am quite sure that if the Wiltsbire hills were failed as they ought to be, and as under the proposed measure I hope they will be, you would not find a labourer unemployed in the whole county. Light land farmers attach too much importance to their t grops; they grow corn on too large a proportion of their farm, and do not consume half enough on their land by stock, viz,—they ought to produce more beef, muston, and pork, and less grain. I can, Sir, give you an example how the good and high farming permanently improves the soil. There was a common field in Berkshire which was occupied by several persons,—one of whom was a baker who had three acres in different parts of the field. He used to futen a great many pigs, which made much very rich manure; this he applied very liberally to his land—and, although it is 10 years since the field was divided, yet the baker's acres may be discovered at this day by the most casual observer, from their increased and surpassing fertility,—thus proving not only the advantages of this high system of cultivation, but the necessity of a long tonure to enable the farmer to obtain such a full return as his energy and capital so well merit. By compliance with the conditions I have above mentioned the laudioris' rentals will not be decreased, but their tenants will be prosperous, and their labourers employed at good wages. Another argument which is used by the opponents of Free Trade is, the reduction which it will cause in the wages of the agricultural labourer, founding this opinion on the fallows that the price of labour engine with the reduction of labour engine with the reduced to the fallows that the price of labour engine with the reduced to the fallows that the price of labour engine with the reduced to the fallows that the price of labour engine with the reduced to the fallows that the price of labour engine with the reduced to the fallows that the price of labour engine with the reduced to the fallows that the price of labour engine with the reduced to the fallows that the price of labour engine with the price of the control of the price of the control of th lacy that the price of labour varies with the price of wheat. Now, my own experience fully controverts this statement; for since I have been in Wiltshire, I have sold wheat as for since I have been in Wilishire, I have sold wheat as high ma 78s, and as low as 40s, per quarter, and have only paidwed whose of wages, i. c., 9s, and 8s, per week, a variation by me means commensurate with that of the proposed standard; and I cannot but think, if the condition P have spakened? Parker water completed with that the increased demand the latenary and the safer employment of more capital on the safer capityment of more capital on the safer capityment of more capital on the safer capityment of the capital of the capita

them, will more than counterbalance the slight difference in wages which so large a variation in the price of wheat may There has been much misapprehension on have caused." this subject, because hon, gentlemen will draw deductions from what falls under their own eye rather than from a general view. It is incontestible in the manufacturing districts, and we have lately had additional proofs of it, that so far from wages fluctuating with the price of food, the price of food rives while wages full. When a full in the price of wheat takes place wages will full, but when the price of wheat rises, wages do not rise in proportion (hear). Well, sir, for these reasons, and seeing these changes of opinion among the very classes who profess to support those laws, I first thought that they were not maintainable, but still more, I considered that they ought not to be maintained, because being no longer accepted by the community they became That this was a time for making the change with the least prospect of the infliction of suffering was an additional reason why it should take place. But I confess other reasons more cogent than these, than a desire for the extension of commerce, or to avoid scarcity; I felt that it was more consistent with honour (a lond cry of Oh, oh! from the Ministerial side). The right hon, gentleman, after a short pause continued. Hon, gentlemen may have a difference of opinion from myself on these subjects-(the rest of the sentence was insudible) I was speaking not of the honour of the Government, nor of my own personal honour I hold that, as far as my personal honour is concerned, I did that which was consistent with the conduct of an honest man. After much doubt on a question on which I had entertained fixed opinions, reluctantly, slowly, I changed my opinions; I did not make light of party engagements; I saw these exils; I know the intimidation that would arise; I knew of the threats that would be held out of what I should experience if I visited my constituents, because I had choser, in the exercise of my duty, to follow the dictates of my conscience rather than of personal interest; -I speak in no tone of brayado, for if such a punishment were to be inflicted on me it would be to me a matter of the deepest mortification but I counted the cost of these things (hear, hear). knew that my duty to the country required that I should not stand here as the delegate of a mere local interest, to make a scramble with other delegates to get as much as I could from the general pickings; I thought that such a po sition it would be disgraceful in me to hold, and one which my constituents never dreamt of imposing on me, and, there upon I acted as I have done. (Hear, hear.) So much, sir, for my personal honour. (Hear.) The honour I spoke of was that of the landed interest only. (Hear.) I say. now is the time to concede with hodour, when there is no appearance that your concession is extorted by violence There is no danger from agitation at your doors. Arguments you have had which I confess have great weight in my mind; but the amount of the agitution of the League, led though it has been, by men of the greatest ability, has been much overrated. Like the armies we see paraded on the tage, the same men have served for the same parts many times over. The agitation of the League has not been that of masses, such as we have seen in the case of former agi tations. It has been an agitation not of force, but of reason. If you do not now yield to reason, to that agitation some day force may be added, and then you will yield, not as now, with honour, but with loss of station, influence, and character. I now come to a ground I wish to touch upon, and which I frankly avow to you is with me a stronger motive than all why we should set ourselves free from the continuance of this law. The public mind is not in the state it was in in 1815. At that time these matters were so little understood that those gentlemen who were the heads of the party who brought forward this question, Lord Liverpool and the men of that time, brought it forward as an exception to a rerognized principle. It has been so dealt with ever since. In 1841, when the noble lord opposite brought forward his budget, I frankly avowed my complete adhesion to the principles of Free Trade, but I objected to the mode of their application to corn. I said that corn was an exception from them on account of the rapidity with which they would be applied. But now the public mind is enlarged upon the subject (loud cheers). You have men of all classes, of all shades, and ofall colours, and engaged in all domestic pursuits, beginning to think that one portion of the community has a benefit over another. Then, if we are to stand upon anch ground as that, we stand upon a mine, upon a rotten footing, and we cannot maintain it (hear, hear). party, the hon, gentleman says that the party is broken up. I do not admit that this party, Conservative party or Tory party—call it by what name you will—is bound together by no greater object than a Customs' duty upon the importation of foreign corn. Look at the intention of these laws. Was it party intention? We have had Corn Laws ever since the reign of Charles II., and why were they granted? For the purpose of regulating the importation of foreign produce. I could show you cases when the duty was no higher than 6d. a quarter,—when the laws were suspended, and the ports were opened. But it has been said that passe is of our constitution. I think it is contrary to the whole spirit of our constitution. Then, hear). I am not one of those who wish to see the constitution of this country ren dered more democratic than it is. I cannot think that the public mind wishes it to be more democratic than it is. I think late events have rather shown that the mantles of despotic kings who disgraced the world have fallen on democratic ratherthan on temperate and mixed Governments (hear), I wish to see the aristocratic element preserved in our cou stitution; and therefore I say, do not peril it on a question in which your motives may be impugued (hear, hear) when once you are convinced, as I am, that these laws are not for the good of the community. I say that, with that opinion, no earthly power can induce me to rise from this bench to defend them. They may say that the country gentlemon are a party having great power and influence; that that power and influence have been given to us to be exercised for the public good; but that we have used it for the increase of our incomes. I cannot deny that those laws have that effect; but I say I should sit with shame upon my face were I to liear such an acquisation made, and were I unable to rofute it (hear). Hbn, members must recollect that great changes had taken place in the last 00 years in the social constitution of this country; that the manufacturing power had increased to an enormous degree; you may dislike the nan increased to an enormous degree; you may dislike the effect of it—you may think it congregates together great: masses of men—that you have less security for their morality and welfare; but depend upon it, it is a power you can not check or country; it has become a parmament element in our scolety; it has great wealth, and offers great employment; it is assured of that commerce which has meanwhined. our collegial complement given us the distribution we nose throughout the world, coll must recollect, the title se

as it has always been, the great source of our maritime power, and you must also recollect that if you intend to maintain think on I do that it is mounts. this great empire, and think as I do, that it is possible to carry its free institutions, and temperate liberties, and its carry its free institutions, and the globe, it is by time to carry its free institutions, on the globe, it is by three ing. formed fuith to other parts of the globe, it is by three ing. ble means that you are enabled to do it—it is by extending your commerce that you are able to carry your institutions into every part of the world, and to civilise and exalt the remolest and the wildest regions (cheers). You make recollect, too, that men who give you these benefits are retitled not only to a full share of what they contribute to posterity, but to a full share also of the advantages of the State (hear, hear). My noble friend who opened the dicussion at the meeting of Parliament, in one of those elequent and graceful speeches so characteristic of him (bear) pointed out how if your interest is a commercial interest, if your ir terest be to have peace, security, and the maintenance of your institutions, that is most likely to be secured. You must recollect that those gentlemen whose pursuits depend so much upon public tronquillity are the best auxiliaries for maintaining those things under which this empire has so long flourished—those institutions which do not depend upon customs' duties, but which have grown with the growth of this country, that require to be constantly amended, but with a tender and reverential hand. I wish to see the two with a tender and reverential mand, when to see me two interests of agriculture and manufactures united. If there has been a fault of legislation it is not a fault on either side; but I wait to see these two knitted together. I believe the proposals of the Government have a tendency to cemen the two. I believe that the proposals of the Government being involved in a large and comprehensive scheme, will produce a change in such a way as to produce little loss of suffering to the interests affected; and I believe further, that when the country shall have maturely considered them, and when the constituencies more exclusively agricultural shall have calmly considered them, they will think that those proposals offer a means of escaping from that protection which they no longer require, that they have the means of attach ing to themselves large masses of men who have been taught by circumstances to be almost hostile to them; that they may follow their pursuits without doubt and uncertainty, and the loss attendant upon them from which they have hitheresuffered, (hear, hear). I should lament, inorcover, to see the class to which you and I balong, and which I consider to be one of the noblest spheres of usefulness that exists in private life in any country in the world-I mean a class of English country gentlemen—debased in any way, or lose its natural influence, and I know no way in which that influence can be so weakened as by your maintenance of a law, from which, in my conscience, I believe you derive no advantage whatsoever, but which I consider to be unjust and impolitic, and must lower you in public estimation, by giving to those who watch your proceedings false, but I almit, most injurious, notions as to the motives by which year are actuated. You have now an opportunity of repaining the ever committed by any body of prentest error cheers from the Opposition.) I may assert that the gentry of this country have been distinguished from those of all other countries in the world as having never been the advocates of disgraceful immunities; while other aristocracles have been the sycophants of courts, they have borne the chief burdens of the State; they have given to the State their service and their blood and treasure, and from them have spring some of the most eminent men in the field, the church, or in the walks of science, this country has ever produced. I am anxious that our character should be maintained (hear, hear). Honourable gentlemen laughed just now, but I do thinkthat the law of 1815 was a great error (hear, hear). We offer you the means of repairing it. I trust you will accept it. For myself, my own mind has for some time been firmly made up to it. I believe the measures we propose will be for the interest of all classes of the community. I have confidence in their success in this house; I have confidence in the results that will follow from them; and I leave them in your hands, with the carnest and sincere hope that without previous bias, without party or resentful feeling, and believing that they are for the interest of yourselves, as well as of the community at large, you will sanction the measures which the Government have proposed to you for the public good, and for the public good alone (loud cheers).

On the motion of Mr. Stafford O'Brien, the debate was then adjourned.
THE ADJOURNED DEBATE—TUESDAY.

On the motion of Mr. CARDWELL the order of the day for resuming the adjourned debate on the Customs and Corn Importation Act was agreed to.

Lord EBRINGTON presented a potition, as we understook from tenant farmers, in favour of the repeal of the Corn Laws.

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Mr. S. O'BRIEN was reminded by the petition now presented by the noble lord of the statement put forth late night by the noble lord the member for the city of London, that the farmers of this country were now in favour of a immediate repeal of the duties on corn, if they had not previously made up their minds to that extent; and that the moble lord pressed upon her Majesty's Government to take the propriety of immediate repeal into their serious consideration, now that the Government measure had been laid before the farmers and the country, and that a general opnion had been expressed in its favour. Now, whether there was a general opinion among those farmers to whom the noble lord referred in favour of that measure he would not take upon him to take not take upon him to say, nor would lie pronounce any opnion on the matter; but he would only say that the parties to whom the noble lord referred did not express the opinion of the farmers generally upon this question (hear). He had some hope of directing the attention of the house and the country to a full explanation of their views on this sale ject. He had not changed his opinions upon this matter; und what he had said before he should probably say now What the documents were to which the hon m Bolton alluded, he was not aware; but at all events biased timents remained the same as they were last year. His has friend (Mr. S. Elerbert); who spoke last night, had not only felt it his duty to amounce the charge of his opinionals are ference to this great-question, but had uttered a saminant the end of which was drowned by the cheers from that his process that he have a that he have that the same terms from that the same terms from the same that the same that the same terms that the same that the same terms the same terms that the sam of the house; that the law of 1815 was the greatest growth of the house; that the law of 1810 was the greatest procethe country over saw (hear, hear). That law might be use greatest error over perpetrated in this country, but he leads to that side of the house, and asked, if it was the error, who were those who had been billianted in landed interest of thus country, not to revein the arror, is it and maintain is (hear, hear)? I hom, gantleman said this power to gave the gave the error of the revein the gave the error of the region in the country of the region is and the same that the error of the right them, gas above.

to repair that error, if error it was. The hon, member for Wolverhampton had often afforded them that opportunity, hat they had always refused to avail themselves of it; and the most powerful and skilful reasons why they would not avail themselves of it were the reasons that had been given by the right hon, gentleman (hear). Now, though it might be extremely distasteful to his friends of the Government, to whom he was prepared to address himself, he trusted he might be permitted to do so for a few moments. The right honourable gentleman had said, that if he changed his oninions he should be ashamed of himself if he did not rise and declare so. Now, he (Mr. O'Brien) should be ashamed of him also if he fully and truly believed that he was capable of taking any other course. But, what he wanted to know was, on what principle parties in this country were now to he held together (hear). It might be said this was the old story, and that they were attacking the right hon, gentleman, and making their defence on a bad cause by personalities; but he was as far as any man from imputing other than the most patriotic motives. In this country they had hitherto been governed by party, and it might be a prejudice, but he was not ashamed to own himself a party man (hear, hear). It had hitherto been the custom in this country to uphold, by the discussion of questions of party principles, the distinct enunciation of those principles having always before them the expectation that they were in this way best eliciting the truth and conducing to sound legislation (hear, hear). It might be observed, that not only had the Government changed the principles upon which they came into office, but they had taught the Jesson that protection, as a distinct principle, should henceforth cease to be a bond of party altogether (hear, hear). He (Mr. S. O'Brien) was not in the house before the present Government came into office; the first vote he ever gave was to place them there; but he could only say, as he had laboured and worked for them in the country, that if ever there was an opposition conducted upon party principles, upon party factics, and for party ends, it was the opposition marshalled, headed, and led by the leaders of her Majesty's present Government (loud cries of hear, hear). The disappointment was too bitter, too great, and too general to be disguised any longer from a fear of personal offence. It was too bitter, too great and too general, to permit him, even from feelings of private friendship, to refrain from distinctly reprolating it is that house (hear). The right hou, gentleman (Mr. S. Her bert) had said the preceding night, and he really thought that was the sum and substance of his speech, that imasmuch as the law of 1812 had failed, therefore he was prepared to abandon entirely those protective principles upon which he The right hon, gentleman had said that the law of 1842 had failed; but the word "failure" might be understood in two ways; and when he remembered what the right hon, gentleman was, in February, 1845, when he solicited and obtained the suffrages of the electors of Wiltshire, and when he saw what his right hon, friend now was when he made the announcement of his being a convert to the principles of Free Trade, he '(Mr. O'Brien) must ask him, when he said that the law of 184? had fuiled, whether he meant it had failed to the Sydney Herbert of last year, or the Sydney Herbert of this (hear, hear)? He must usk the right hon, gentleman also how he could hope it was possible by any ingenuity, that the members of the Legislature could so frame a law as to answer both the one gentleman and the other (cheers and laughter)? The right hon, gentleman of 1845 would find the law of 1812 a failure if it let in corn too freely, whereas the right hon. gentleman of the present year would find it to be a failure if it restrained the free importation of corn (hear, hear). The right hon, gentleman expected too much if he expected the law of 1812 could succeed with gentlemen of every opinion and of every time. His right hon, friend should remember that even if he were obliged by the failure of the law of 1812 to give up the stiding scale, there was still the principle of a fixed duty to full back upon (laughter)—that there was still a middle point between a sliding scale and entire Free Trade, of which he might have availed himself if he had chosen. He (Mr. S. O'Brien) thought that the right hon, gentleman judged too harshly and too severely of a law which was passed only three years ago, and which he had declared had answered for two of these years and had failed in only one, if he had no better arguments than these to induce him to give up the principles of a life (hear, hear). The right hon, gentleman had also stated that this was not a question upon which he could consent to stand there as the delegate a mere local interest, or to make a scramble with other delegates for the general pickings. He (Mr. O'Brien) presumed the right non, gentlemen did not mean to charge those who stood on that side of the house, whatever might be their opinions on the controverted question then before them, with being more auxious for the pickings, or more inclined to act as delegates of mere local interest, than the right hon, gentleman himself; but if he meant to describe the present contest as a mere scramble for pickings, or the Persons who opposed the Government as the mere delegates interests -if he said that the or party could not, and ought not, to be split asunder or bound logether by no greater object than a customs duty upon an article of importation, he (Mr. O'Brien) must say that that was talking too lightly of a great question like this. If it was merely a question respecting a duty on the import of only one article—if it was only such a small change as this, how was it that such passions had been agitated and such a panic raised concerning it? It was not merely a question of a duty on the import of only one article when they put out the Government of 1811 (laughter and cheers from both sides of the house). It was not merely a question of a customs' duty on only one article when the present members were sent to that house by the constituencies of the country. It was not merely a question of duty on one article of import when the Conservative party were returned by a triumphant majority. It was not merely a question of duty on one article of import when that party placed the present Government on the Treasury beuches fracture the present Government on the Freasury ventions (foud cheers). Let them say, if they pleased, that they had changed their opinions on this question; let them say so freely and manfully, and they (the protectionists) might respect their motives, although their confidence in them might be impaired, has been not represent it as an integral in be impaired; but let them not represent it as an insignificant question (bear, hear). Let them not say that the gen-tionen opposite, who had laboured so long and so zealously tionen opposite, who had laboured so long and so zealously to bring about this measure, had done so merely on a quastion of duty on one article of import. Let them not attempt by such phraseology to disguise the magnitude of this great question. It might be for good, or it might be for svillner were strong antagonist opinions conserring it; but he had noted beautiful than, and he wished he had perfect the lague, and provided presents to a service the service of the lague, and provided presents.

charged the hon, member for Oxford with saying that there was no necessity for moving in a question like this, because the potato rot in that country was not so bad as had been stated. Now, he (Mr. O'Brien) had no wish whatever to under rate the luminence of the evil now impending over Ireland. He was rejoiced that the hon member for Cork was to bring the subject under the special consideration of the house to-morrow (Wednesday); but he must say that his right hon, friend the member for Wiltshire bad greatly misrepresented—he had almost said, except that such a term would not apply to the right hon, gentleman, unfairly misre-presented—the hon, member for Oxford. He (Mr. O'Brien) understood him to say, that for a particular evil there should be a particular remedy—that he should be the last person to refuse to open the ports in the case of a fa-mine in Ireland but that he did not remember the fair mine in Ireland, but that he did not see how the exigencies of the case could be met by an alteration in the corn system—that his objection was that the Government were announcing a new principle for what he hoped was only a casual disaster, and that they announced this new principle without attempting to trace the connection between the existence of the Corn Laws and the continuance of the fa mine in Ireland, or to show how the total abrogation of those laws could possibly relieve the threatened distress thear hear.) And he (Mr. O'Brien) might remark, in passing that while the Government were bringing forward the question of Free Trade for the relief of Ireland, all the letters he had from that country—and he might also add the hon. member for Limerick, whose influence was only second to that of the hon, member for Cork-had all prenounced against the scheme of Government; they all asked employment for the people, they all prayed that the railways imght be forwarded; they all said that great difficulty would be felt in obtaining seed for potatoes next season; but at the same time they all said that if Government wished to rain them, their plan was to destroy their agriculture (bear, hear). He (Mr. S. O'Brien) begged also to remark, with reference to the potato disease, that three months ago he had been in Ireland and came over to England, but was soon called back to Ireland again by the reports of the failure of the potato crop and its alarming ravages. The disease was making such rapid progress then that he did not believe there would remain one single vegetable in Ireland, and, therefore, he set about examining people of practical experience on the subject. In a short time he learned that the disease, instead of progressing, began to mend, and after taking all the precautions he could against the disease, he again returned to England, yielding so far to the "fool's paradise," as the right hou, gentleman (Mr. S. Herbert) had called it, that there was no cause for alarm. He regretted to say, however, that since then the rot had set in again, that continued wet weather, or some other mysterious cause, had occasioned an increase of the rat, and, therefore, he did not hesitate to say that there never was a country woich called for more urgent measures than Ireland now did; and he had great satisfaction in being able to say that he firmly believed there never was a Government more anxious for the welfare of that country than the Government which now occupied the treasury benches (hear, hear). But he thought it fair, both to the bon, member for Oxford and himself, to remark, that it was difficult to see how the famine in Ireland could be met by a change in the corn system; that it would be necessary to alleviate the misery of Ireland much more rapidly than they could bring the proposed change to bear upon it; and that he did not see, if the ports were open tomorrow, how one quarter more of wheat, or one hundred weight more of meal, would reach one poor person in Ireland, unless they were accompanied by other measures (hear, hear). The right hon, gentlemen had said that he lived in the midst of a population as to whom he scarcely knew how they existed, and he cautioned the opponents of the Government measure to beware how they resisted the attempt to remove the misery of the labourers to whom he referred. Now, he (Mr. O'Brien) would say, that it would be generally found that the poverty in the agricultural districts was greatly attributable to the owners of the soil (hear, hear); and that there was this great advantage which the agricultural districts had over the manufacturing districts, that when they saw a parish destitute, when they saw cottages wretched and the labourers half starved and half clothed, if they inquired who were the landowners of the district, they would generally be able to bring the cause home to them (cries of hear, hear, hear). thought it right to say, however, that he had had a conversation that morning with a Wiltshire farmer, who had borne testimony to the fact that the distress in that country was not attributable to the right hon, gentleman (hear, hear). But he (Mr. O'Brien) must say, on the other hand, that if the right bon, gentleman brought forward the cause of distr'ss in Ireland as a reason for the proposed change, he had totally failed, inasmuch as he had failed to show how the repeal of the Corn Laws would remedy the evil. The right hon. gentleman had read a letter from a farmer in Wilishire, to the effect hat if agriculture were conducted on certain improved inciples, which he blated, the Tabourer would be better off This was just saying, in other words, that employment, and the wages of employment, tended to the happiness and morality of the labourer. But if he had followed up his argument and shown how the repeal of the Corn Laws would tend to the cultivation of the poor soils, he would not only have made out his case completely, but would have furnished an argument in favour of the abolition of the Corn Laws which had never yet been given on the other side (hear, hear). As the right hen, gentleman had declared his inability to show how the labourers in Wiltshire lived, it might not be wholly unsuited to the occasion if he referred to the manner in which the labourers of Northamptonshire lived (hear, hear); and he could tell him that their wages were 12s. and 14s. a-week, and that if the right hon, gentleman would favour him with a visit in that part of the country he would show him speci-mens of cottage comfort and agricultural prosperity which he was sure would gratify his benevolent heart. The noble lord, the member for London (Lord John Russell) in his speech last night laid down three propositions which he assumed to be incontrovertible, the long and short of which was, that protection to British industry was no longer tena-ble, and that the legislature ought in future to foster neither agriculture nor manufactures, but leave them to "flourish or fade" according to the energy and skill of the people of this country. Now, he (Mr. O'Brien) thought he was not quoting the noble-lord-unfairly, matther think that he was quoting the right hon, haronet at the head of the Government and state the state of the down ment unfairly, if he assumed that the principle so laid down was in future to be acted upon by the legislature of this country. The noble lord seaumed that the propositions were true because all political enonomy had agreed upon them. Act, retwillustanting that he might thereby expose himself to the charge of bigotry and old-fashioned prejudices,

and "clay intellect," he ventured to dissent from the noble lord's propositions, and to say, that even if political esoupmists had agreed upon them, there were other considerations which would require him to outer into a statement of the question before he could give his unqualified assent (ories of licar, hear). Writers on political economy, he (Mr. O'Brien) thought, were too upt to confound the science of political economy with that of legislation (hear, hear). His notion of political economy was, that it was a science re-ferring to the accumulation and the distribution of wealth, which he held to be only one among many elements which entered into the science of legislation. But he would proceed to notice the question of protection to British industry — a question which the noble lord the member for London said had recently been interwoven with the question of agriculture --not recently, however, he would have the noble lord to know, for it had been interwoven before the existence of the protection societies. But it was said that labour was the property of the poor man. Very well; assuming this do finition to be true, the parties making it must not, unless they wish to be misunderstood, stop there. They must, while they were mostly there are any discounter than were must be for while they were meeting there every day for six mouths, for the protection of their own property,—they must tell the poor man that his property, his labour, would not be protected, but that it must protect itself; that they must be left to fight it out with foreign competition; and that they (the legislature) were to sit quietly above, and watch whether they triumphed or not. The axiom of buying in the cheapest market and selling in the dearest, and that the property of the poor man needed no protection, was a very plausible one; but see how it operated. Suppose an individual to buy his paper hangings in Paris, his carriages in Brussels, and his hardware in Germany; and suppose, while he was looking out of the window of his smart house, or his elegant carriage, he saw the labourers all idle because of the new law which had passed in favour of the introduction of these articles; and suppose he said to them, My good fellows, I have done my best to make you poor and wretched, but I have not done so from any selfish motive. On the 27th of January, 1846, it was propounded by the head of the Government that the property of the poor needed no protection, and that in future we should all buy in the changest market and sell in the dearest, and I have only a wish to promote my own interest by acting upon those principles." What prove consolution this would be to the poor workman. He begged the house also to think not only of the amount of poverty which these proposals, if carried out, would occasion, but of the amount of alienation and disaffection which they would occasion. In that hous they were all rich men (a laugh), more or less he assumed that qualification (cheers); how, gentlemen who had it not might bugh at the notion of laving it. Comparatively they were all rich. They all had had a breakfast that morning and they all would have a dinner before night. But there were millions in the country who could not say so (hear). He might assume, considering the frightful con trust between tich and poor, all in that house were rich. How, then, did the matter stand? The doctrine they had announced was a most selfish doctrine. It was not a question of cotton against corn—But when they spoke of always buying in the cheapest and selling in the dearest market, he would ask how they reconciled their principle with that of a poor law? Could they explain why one man's industry was taxed to relieve another man's poverty? In showing that their principle struck against that of a Poor Law he was only arguing against a clumsy, hard, and impracticable dogma on which they never could act; which, if reduced to practice, would alienate the affections of the people, and only increase their own dangers. He was sorry to hear that dogma promulgated in that house, the members of which could not call themselves in any sense the representatives of the poor man (hear, hear); but because, while they talked of respecting the rights of the poor, they had hitherto been acting so as practically to diminish and destroy those rights, they should be careful how they, the representatives of the people, announced that they were no longer able to protect the property which millions of their fellow countrymen said was all they had in the world. Dr. Adam Smith had specified two exceptions from this rule of Free Trade; and if a state chose to protect corn with the view of securing that regular supply which was conducive to the health and longevity of the inhabitants, to their physical and moral well being, that State would not act wisely. The amount of the duties was not the question. That which was protection 10 years ago might be more than protection now; to continue it at the same amount might be unjust; it might be fatal to the producer himself (hear). He (Mr. S. O'Brien) protested against any change such as was proposed in a complex state of society like that which existed in this country; and he agreed with the noble lord the member for London (Lord John Russell) in thinking that it would have been better had a single change taken place in 1812, instead of one then and another now; the transition would have been thereby rendered easier—the shock would have been broken. He had not been carcless in at dying the operation of the Corn Law during the last four years. If he could not agree with those who now thought the protection excessive, he must acknowledge a change of opinion produced by so studying the operation of the law. He had believed that this was a landlord's question, that a sudden repeal would throw a large quantity of fund into the market with the effect of deteriorating the price. But, from what he had read and seen, he doubted very much whether such would be the result. If it were a landlord's question, it was only a question of the small landed proprietor (hear), who can the faith of weather leads to the result. who, on the faith of previous legislation, might have charged his estate to an extent beyond the means which an altered state of the law would leave available for his extrication. But he (Mr. S. O'Brien) looked on this as a tenant farmer's question, and, so far from abandoning his opposition because he so believed, on that ground he took his stand, and refused to assent to the proposed alteration. He might take the opportunity of applying the new philosophy to this tenant furmer's question. The tenant furmer came to the landlord and said—"You see the change that has taken place; you know its effects, and I hope you will allow an abatement of rent. My family has held under your family. We have weathered the storm in difficult times. I have worn your colours; and I shall be very sorry to go anywhere else." (cheers.) The landlord would reply—"My good follow, I am very sorry for you. You have invested your capital in those drains; I too have invested my capital. You invested yours on the faith of legislative ensuments; but so did I. We are told to buy in cheap and sail in dear mistrict. A gentleman from the manufacturing districts is largely titlet, so you farm. You talk of sails times, of days long, you described notions; but as to colours, I talk you, my cold exploded notions; but as to colours, I talk you, my fellow, there is no true blue now." (Great cheering from assent to the proposed alteration. He might take the op-

Mr. S. Chawronn considered that the cloquence of the last speaker was much greater than the power of his arguments; for though he professedly took great interest in the welfare of the working man, he showed the value of hisproframions by refusing to give that working man cheap food. Nothing would promote the prosperity of the country so much us cheap corn, and therefore it was that he wished to repeal every tax which was imposed on its importation from foreign countries. He then entered into a discussion upon the social and domestic condition of Ireland, and upon the bearing of the changes now proposed upon the labouring population of that country; and after warning the house that the danger of famine in Ireland was not visionary, but actual and substantial, concluded by declaring his intention of giving his cordial support to the proposition of Let Majesty's Govern-

ment on this occasion.

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Mr. H. BALLER lamented that this question should have been made the war cry of a party, as it rendered it more difcult to discuss with columness and without nerimony one of the most difficult questions within the whole range of poli-tical economy. After pointing out the fatal results produced by free trade in India, where the free importation of British manufactures had destroyed the native manufactures, and had caused greater numbers to perish by famine than had ever perished under the sword of any conqueror, he asked whether we could be surprised that foreign Governments, witnessing such results, should refuse to try the experiment of free trude thou their own people, and should impose bar-riers against the free introduction of our goods into their dominious? He did not, however, conceive that this deter-mination on their part ought to induce us to try that experiment upon our own countrymen. It was an old axiom, that there was an intimate counexion between agriculture and commerce, and that any measure which injured or benefited the one must also injure or benefit the other. As our master manufacturers had made greater profits during the last year than during any year previously, it would not be irrelevant to inquire into the causes of that prosperity. Were those causes to be found exclusively in the new tariff? No; they were also to be found in three good harvests which had successively followed each other. Then it was clear that the prosperity of agriculture had been most conducive to the prosperity of commerce; and such being the case, the question arose how could we best promote our agriculture? Was it by affording to it a moderate protection, or by permitting it to meet unmitigated competition with countries which, from their climate and fertility, enjoyed advantages over our own country for the growth of corn? He thought that if we adopted the latter course, a portion of our wheat land must be thrown out of cultivation, and we must become dependent on foreign countries for a large portion of our supply. It was his opinion that free trade would increase our population, on the one hand, and would decrease our natural means of subsistence on the other. This question, not be decided on its own me we come to a conclusion upon it we must take into our consideration all the circumstances of the country, and, above all, the mischief of the continuance of that struggle in which the interests of the great masses of the people were arrayed against the interests of a few. We must also take into consideration that besides the two classes in the country now pitted against each other, the leading men of all parties in that house were united in the doctrine that some great alteration in the Corn Laws was necessary, and that those who opposed that alteration were themselves unable to form a Government. We have, therefore, only the choice of two alternatives -- we must either accept the compromise now offered to us, or throw out the present Administration to make room for another equally pledged to the abolition of all duties on the importation of foreign corn. Under such circumstances, he should support the proposition of the Government, from a conviction that in so doing he was supporting the best interests of the British empire

Mr Lurnoy commented on the speech of Mr. S. Crawford on the wretched condition of the population of Ireland, and asked how this measure was calculated to improve it, or to raise the capital of the landlords and farmers of Ireland, who were the employers of labour? He declared himself compelled. as an Irish member, to oppose the proposition of the Governmont, which he denounced as a most rash and hazardous

experiment. Lord CLEMENTS had no hesitation in meeting the challenge of the last speaker, and in contending that this proposition would not be injurious either to the population or to the landlords of Ireland. He wished bon members would inquire how far the Corn Laws had benefited the agricultural population of Ireland. Nothing could be more destitute or deplorable than the condition of the peasantry of that country.

It was forcibly depicted in the report of Lord Devon's Commission, and still more forcibly in the spirited communications of the commissioner of the Times. He have the highest tending of the accuracy of that commissioner's statements, and asserted that there was not a single syllable in the sightest degree exaggerated in his description of the calamitous state of the Irish peasantry. What, then, was, or what would be, the benefit of protection to a population in such deplorable misery? Had it been, or would it be, of the slightest use misery? Had it been, or would it be, of the slightest use elther to the tonant farmer, or had it prevented, or would it prevent, the labourer from standing idle in the market place? No such thing. He should, therefore, give his support to the Government proposition for the alteration in the Corn Laws. He then expressed at some length his opinions on the other parts of Sir R. Peel's scheme relative to the payment of the police and of the cost of prosecutions in Ireland.

The Marquis of GRANBY believed that Sir R. Peel was actuated by the most pure and honourable motives; but if he had premulgated in 1811 the same opinions which he now entertained, he would not have proposed them now as a Minister of the Crown. It was not a fair way of putting the question to say that the labourer, if the Corn Laws were repealed, would be enabled to buy cheaper bread. The question was, would be be able to buy and to est more bread? He was afraid that the labourer would not be able; for where subsistence was cheap, labour was cheap also, and the condition of the population most miserable. Sir Robert had told the house that he could not hold out hopes that foreign nations would follow our example or relax the regulations of the tariffs. But even if they did, you might increuse your exports, but in the same proportion your home consumption of manufactures would full off, as your agriculturists would be deprived of funds wherewith to purchase them. 110 should support the principle of protection, which had mainly conduced to the greatness, the happiness, and welfare of Great Britain.

Mr. GREGORY contended that agriculture had flourished hitherto in this country, not through, but in spite of protection. He derided the fears of the agriculturists that land would be thrown out of cultivation, and that we should become dependent on foreign nations for supply, if we acceded to the proposition of Government. He hoped that the house possessed too much true conrage to be afraid of the imputation that this measure was granted as a concession to agitation. The only mischlef which he anticipated from it was that which would arise from continuing a portion of the existing duties for three years, instead of abolishing them entirely at once. He gave his cordial support to the commercial policy of Sir R. Peel.

Lord BROOKE, as the representative of a large and important county, explained the reasons which induced him to give, on this his first entrance upon public life, his decided opposition to the commercial policy proposed by Sir R. Pecl. The change in that policy was, no doubt, conscientious on the part of the right hon, baronet; but he must say that the conduct of some of Sir Robert's supporters in agreeing to the same change was not equally straightforward, for it was so sudden as to be almost miraculous. He pointed out the inconsistency of Lord Sandon in supporting a measure which he had denounced as unworthy of approbation, and amused the house, now approaching from its age to a dissolution, by comparing it to a decrepit old man, who from the length of his life had lost his memory, and with it all the recollection of his former pledges. He was afraid too that it was imitating the same old dotard in its mode of making its will, and in defrauding its lawful heirs by bequeathing its property to strangers and aliens. He then handled with considerable tact the usual agricultural arguments against the repeal of the Corn Laws, and declared his intention of voting against the Government proposition.

Lord Worseley observed that this measure was not brought forward by her Majesty's Government as a measure which they deemed right, but as a measure which peculiar circumstances had rendered expedient. At the last general election no cry was so general as that of "Peel, the farmer's friend;" but now "Peel, the farmer's friend," was introducing a measure which almost every farmer in the country considered as prognant with ruin to himself and his property. Noticing the observation of Mr. Sidney Herbert, that the country gentlemen of England were entertaining apprehen sions of the proposed change not very creditable to their good sense, he asked who were the parties who had first oured those apprehensions into the agricultural mind? They were no less personages than Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham. Having read until the cheers and laughter of the House extracts from their speeches in direct contradiction to the many advantages which they now proclaimed as likely to result from free trade, he observed, that with the recollection of these speeches fresh in their memories it was impossible that the farmers would not at the next general election choose such representatives as would enable them to demand a revision of the Corn Laws-(hear)even if they were defeated in their present opposition to the new-fangled scheme of Government. The question, therepassed; but he hoped that it would not be passed even by the present Parliament, which was elected as a protection Parliament; for it was neither wise or equitable to enact a permanent law to meet a mere temporary evil. He urged upon the Government the propriety of appealing to the country upon this subject, and of taking the opinion of the constituencies whether they would or would not abandon protective duties. If they did not, they must remain in their present painful position, in which they were dependent

on their opponents for support. Sir J. Chanan-Sir, I have risen to address you at this time chiefly in consequence of the able and powerful speech of the hon, member for Northamptonshire, who addressed the house this evening, and in whose sentiment I most cordially concur, that we ought not to allow this discussion to degenerate into a mere fiscal question (hear, hear). When a great party is on the point of being dissolved, the question, though in itself even insignificant, becomes a great national one (bour, hear). I think that no leader of a great party, such as that which has placed its confidence in my right hon, friend, can be justified for one moment in treating this great occasion, in any other light, except as one of immense national importance, and one that needs the frankest expla-This is a question that I hope also may not be treated altogether as a question of mere personality (hear). I cannot at all blame my noble friend who has just set down for the reference he has made to my former declarations on this subject. I admit that the past declarations of opinion made by a member of this house, who either leads, or aspires to lead a party, and declarations made by a First Minister of the Crown, if at variance with the course he now adopts, are subjects not unworthy of reference, and which call for explanation. The hon member for Northamptonshire

made a direct appeal to the Government, and challenges we had changed our opinions, manfully to own it. I as swer that challenge. I do frankly avow my change of opinion, and by, that avowal I dispose of all the special (loud cheers from the Opposition, with counter-alternative the Protection benches, rendered inaudible the rest of the sentence). Upon the advice given by the hon. mention wentence). Upon the advice given by the hon. mention is in my duty to do it: I now make the avowal, and I make the avowal, and I make the avowal. it is my duty to do it; I now make the avowal, and I say ask the house to exercise patience, and indulge me with point to the reasons of that change (hear). And that I may stand in the position of a man worthy of confidence, I will only glance at a few considerations explanatory of the come I now pursue, instead of leaving the matter to rest on the individual honour of the person who makes the avowal, you look at the teats by which change of opinion must be tried, on the part of a particular member, you would find that the first which should be applied is this—does the change of opinion promote his personal interest? Perhaps, under the circumstances, I may be allowed to glance at my personal position. All that I possess is as a laudlord. I have nothing to hope for except from the possession of landed property. I have inherited by that property a large tractor land, of inferior soil; and I congratulate myself that by my position as a landlord, if the proposed change be dangerous, it exposes me to as great risks as any landed proprietor in the country. So much with respect to my personal position. Nov. us a Minister of the Crown, allow me to ask you to apply a test equally conclusive. Does a change of opinion on the part of a Minister of the Crown increase his strength or conce lidate his power? Can there be a doubt, after the unhappy scene which we have witnessed during the two last evening in the conduct of the deliate on this side of the house, that my right hon. friend, before the commencement of this session, being (as is allowed) a leader of great talent, possession, ing the confidence of a great party, and of powerful and immense influence out of the house, has lost—has, as it is now said, almost dissolved that party, by the conduct which he, from a sense of public duty has pursued (cries of hear, hear)? I will try another test upon that subject, and it shall be the last. Has the Minister, by a change of opinion, neted unfairly towards his political adversaries, and system himself of that change of opinion to exclude them from office? I think it is not expedient, at this time, to tone further upon that subject; but my right lion, friend, with my ontire concurrence, frankly tendered to her Majesty the office which he held as the head of the administration. I certainly concurred in that resignation; and I can truly and sincerely say, it was my carnest desire that this messure should have been brought forward by the noble lord opposite, in whose hands I think it would have been more properly placed (hear, hear). I state that, unfeignedly and frankly, I thought, after all that has occurred, it would have been better for the public, better for public men (hear, hear, and I am stating my sincere opinion-I think it would have been more for the public advantage, and for the credit of public men, if what has been proposed, as it has become our duty now to propose it, had been brought forward by the noble lord opposite; and I may say, and I am sure the noble lord will bear testimony to the truth of what I am saying, that both in writing and verbally I assured the noble lord that if he, as a Minister, brought forward a measure such as was indicated in his letter to the constituents of London, I, as a private member of Padisment would have given to that measure my frank and sortial support (cheers). Now, having disposed of that which more personally related to myself, I may perhaps be like mitted to refer to some of the points touched upon by the hon. member for Northamptonshire (Mr. S. O'Brien), and the noble lord (Lord Worsley). The noble lord asks measure brought forward merely because we think is expedient? He appeared to doubt whether we thought in that we being forward this measure not become right. I say that we bring forward this measure, not be we think it expedient, but because we think it right, and because we think it necessary (hear, hear). Then the node lord proceeded to state, that the time had arrived when the question must be settled. I perfectly agree with him, and I join in the alternative he put; he said it could only be settled in one or two ways, either by absolutely refusing to go into committee upon this question, and to entertain any further proposition in relation to agricultural protection, else that you must proceed as the Government new advisery you to proceed, to the total abolition of protection to agricultural committees. ture (hear, hear). An hon, member has put the question, as I think, shortly and fairly; he said, the question to be decided is, is the abolition of protective duties adverse to the poor? The noble lord the member for Stamford (the Marquis of Granby), who addressed the house also with green ability, put it in terms equally distinct; he said, the quadion is, will this alteration in the Corn Laws, not only give sheet bread, but give a greater quantity of cheap bread to the westing classes? I must say that this is the issue which I think ye have to try—this is the great question we have to describe thear). The hon, member for Northamptonshire education much admity, to to hear him, even in a passing sentence, speak contain onear nim, even in a passing sentence, speak containing outly of political economy; he said that the object of cal economy, in his opinion, was the accumulation of had always understood that the great object of collection of wealth. (Mr. 8.) The conomy was the distribution of wealth. (Mr. 8.) The collection of wealth of the manufacture of capital to industry of wealth, and the application of capital to industry of capital to industr tion of wealth, and the application of capital to under principles which acience and experience shall have to be conducive to the happiness and welfare of number (hear, hear). The question, then, which to determine is, is the maintenance of the existing to the conductive of the existing to the existing the conductive of the conductive conducive to the interests of the greatest number of munity? Will it insure them an ample supply of cheapest and best kind? The noble lord was a down rather apologised for reading extracts not a local state of the uown rather apologised for reading extracts for because he thought they were not vary palatable to be I must say, that the extracts he read appeared to moans unpalatable (laughter). Will he allow feet fairness, to read just two extracts? The puted to my right hon friend that not intention out intention, what had fallen from him on form.

* For Remainder of Debate see our Regula?

THE LEAGUE.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

IMMEDIATE REPEAL.

Our readers are already prepared for the announcement which we have now the pleasure of making, that Mr. Villiers has given notice of his intention to move, in the Committee of the House on the Ministerial Corn Bill, an AMENDMENT for making total repeal of the Corn Law IMMEDIATE.

After the very satisfactory and ereditable intimation given by Sir Robert Peel, on Monday night, that he will acquiesce in the sense of the House of Commons, whatever that may be—that, if such an amendment be carried, he will accept the amended bill, and still regard it as his own—we cannot doubt that ALL Free Traders will be at their posts, prepared to express their opinion—in a unanimous vote. The most sensitively and scrupulously timid of our Parliamentary friends can now be under no apprehension that the success of the amendment will endauger the bill. Opposition to the Government on this point will not have the spirit nor the effect of opposition. To outvote Sir Robert Peel will not be to defeat him.

This is a most wise determination on the part of the Government. To insist on the three-years' delay, as an integral part of the Ministerial measure, would have been a blunder which we were all along convinced Sir Robert Peel would not and could not commit. It is no essential element of his plan. It stands in no relation whatever, except in that of direct contradiction to the grounds on which the plan, as a whole, is based. All these demand immediate repeal. The great Free Trade principle, to which he has now given his full and unqualified adhesion, and conformity with which is announced as the rule of our whole future legislation, demands immediate ropeal. The frightful emergency which has suddenly resolved all doubts, and ripened half-formed opinion into prompt and vigorous action, demands immediate repeal. So far back as the 1st of November, Sir Robert Peel judged it imperatively necessary to open the ports to the unrestricted importation of food; and, as he said, the other morning, "the necessity which existed for the adoption of this measure on the first of November, 18 NOW ONLY INCREASED."

The three years' delay was never adopted on its merits. It was only meant as a compromise—a concession to please the landlords, and smooth down andlord opposition. As such it has failed. The tadderds one and all repudiate it. The Duke of channed will have none of it; he says that immercially be objection—

his honour," that both the farmers and himself would "infinitely prefer" immediate repeal; and he gives precisely those reasons for the preference which are so forcibly urged in Mr. Cobdon's Lotter to the Farming Tenantry. The protectionists of Dorsotshire (who regard Mr. Cobden as the "father of lies," and Sir Robert Peel as something a good deal worse), say the same—so does the Standard. So does everybody, without a single exception, in Parliament, and out of Parliament. If "what overybody says must be true," there never was a truth so indisputably and overwhelmingly authonticated as this. One might, with the most perfect safety, offer a thousand pounds reward to the discoverer of any man out of Bedlam who denies, or doubts, the preferableness of immediate to delayed or gradual repeal of the Corn Laws.

Nothing now remains to be done, but that every body should say, in regular Parliamentary form, that which everybody thinks—and then the Government say it, too. We are sure that the very happiest day of Sir Robert Peel's life will be that on which he is forced, by the agreeable compulsion of a nominally adverse, but really friendly majority, to clear the greatest and noblest act of his political career of a flaw utterly inconsistent, both with its general principles and its special and temporary grounds, and—as we have shown on a former occasion—most perilous to its practical well-working.

In the unrivalled ability and constancy with which, year after year, under every conceivable circumstance of discouragement, Mr. Villiers has urged on the reluctant attention of a hostile House of Commons, the motion which is so honourably identified with his name and fame, the Free Traders of Great Britain have a sure pledge, that now—when the cause of total and immediate ropeal of the Corn Laws is all but triumphant—the most strenuous exertions—that zeal can prompt, and wisdom and experience direct, will be put forth to render the triumph complete and final.

THE PROTECTIONISTS AND THE PREMIER.

We have, of course, nothing to do with that mere party\question between Sir Robert Peel and his "Conservatives," on which such an infinity of landlord rhetoric has been expended during the past fortnight. We must, however, say, of the protectionists' quarrel with their Premier, that if it had been these gentlemen's express purpose to justify him in cutting the connection, they could not have managed the matter better. Their own case is their own condemnation. Their impeachment includes and suggests his defence. Their accusation of "treachery" recoils with crushing weight on their own sordid and miserable selves. Their charge against him of "perfldy" and "breach of compact" is, of itself, a confession of their own fuithlessness to the highest duties of logislators-of their utter incapacity even to understand the fundamental moralities of the legislative trust. They quarrel with Sir Robert Peel, not as a bad statesman for the empire, but as a bad steward of their private concerns. He has broken faith with them. They had hoped he would look after their interests, and never mind the empire-and they are disappointed. Their hired "counsel"—to use the similitude which Mr. Francis Scott regards as most expressive of the moral relation of a Prime Minister of England to the landlords-throws up his brief, and stops the cause. They had actually sold the empire to their Peel, by private contract, for a "consideration"and they are outrageous at not getting value reocived. Well might the Premier speak of " servile Cours!" He judged wisely, the other night, in

waving them and their indictment contemptuously aside, and going at once to the business of the country, without more words—though we do think he might, in common charity, have spared the cruel side-hits at the "British lion," the "flag of protection," and "protection in its integrity." The country asks no apology for the breach of a compact so palpably of the feedus lattronum class.

We have nearly done with these men now. Their power for mischief is pretty well at an end, and it is hardly worth while to trouble ourselves with monopolist absurdities, and impertinences that have lost the significance they once possessed, as indi cating the purposes of an irresistibly dominant faction. On the whole, we are willing to let the landlords' speeches alone, and leave them to make their own impressions on the country. One excoption must be made. We cannot refrain from holding up to the indignant reprobation of all just and Christian minded men, the almost incredible selfishness and sordidness, so andaciously avowedobviously with the most perfect unconsciousness of offence against God or man-by the protectionist leader in the House of Commons. Should the oratory of a Miles find its way to posthumous remembrance, the future historian will be at a loss for language to express his amazement, that in the nineteenth century of the Christian era, a reputable British legislator could be found to give attermed to the sentiments expressed last Friday night by the member for Past Somerset. Mr. Miles is, it seems, perfectly aghast at the idea of the earth being properly cultivated. He abhors the notion of deserts becoming fruitful fields. The cannot speak ill enough of "the supply of corn which they were to expect from America." "It was not alone to the quantity of corn now grown in that country that they should look"-though the matter wears already a sufficiently monacing "spect. But we do not half know the worst yet. "The cultivation of the teening and fruitful land of the United States was rapidly advancing-the population was increasing at the most extraordinary rate, and that population, active and industrious, occupied a vast and boundless territory; containing some of the richest land in the world. They only wanted a profitable market for the excess of their produce to raise an infinitely greater quantity of grain than they had hitherto grown." Then there are the Polish provinces, and Novogorod, and all Tamboff, with absolutely fright ful "capabilities" of food-production-expabilities at present happily suppressed, but now about to be developed into a sort of venomous activity. "All he could say was, that there was un immense acreage in those provinces; they were known for their fine rich loamy soil, and for their vast production; and, immediately the markets of this country were thrown open, a ready opening would be afforded to the different nations of the Continent; in that instant would all these vast and productive lands be cultivated, and just so much as they were cultivated, would the fair lands of our own country be blighted. HE COULD NOT CONCEIVE A PROSPECT MORE DISMAL."

This defies comment. The blinding, perverting force of a sordid interest can no further go. When the inspired prophet of old would depict, by the liveliest and most impressive imagery, the joyful effusion of divine blessings on mankind, has ummed up all in those beautiful words of hope and promise—"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad, and the desert shall rejoice and blessom as the rose." Were Mr. Miles a biblical commentator, he would, we presume, subjoint in a footness."

I cannot conceive a prospect more disnigl."

We turn with delight from these ravings of a fatuous folly, and a fanatical soldshness, to the wife and generous utterances of a statesmanishment. Bir Robert Peel's speech of Monday night has been

characterised as a "speech more powerful, and more to be admired than any which has been delivered within the memory of any man in that house." The onlogy thus pronounced by Mr. BRIGHT will, we believe, he very generally responded to by every reader who is capable of appreciating noble truths nd sontiments worthily expressed. Of the special topics of this musterly vindication of the course which he has pursued, as responsible ruler of the capire, during the past eventful four months-this Jucid and eloquent exposition of the principles that are henceforth to govern all British legislationwe need not speak in detail. That speech will be read, and read again, wherever the English langauge is known. What most strikes us in it is the any heart, energy, and eloquence with which Sir Robert Peel seems to be inspired, since he has sunk the party politician in the statesman and the man -emancipated himself from the debilitating and degrading bondage of the "servile tenure"--- and won the liberty of speaking the truth. Now that he has coased to be the advocate of a class, the counsel for a class-interest—and has resumed power, not as a landlord over his under bailiff, but as the servant of the Crown and country - there is an exgansion in his thoughts, a force and life in his spaceh, that are altogether new. He can now do justice to himself and his own powers. Never was there a more triumphant exposition of a great truth -triumphant, not in point of logic only, but in vigorous fearlessless of its tone and spirit-than that of Monday-evening, when the Premier wound up a Juminous argument, by challenging all gainsayers to "took back to the commercial lastory of the country For the last thirty years, whether as regards our cologies or our home transactions, and point out one stugle instance when either producer or consumer was mineral by relaxing the prohibitory system," und scornfully usked, " Is it not strange how gentlemen can forget historia facts, and ALLY THEMSLANES TO THEIR OWN INFATUATIONS?" And never did a Prime Minister, of this or any other country, speak words more instinct with power-more certain of finding their way to the heart and soul of a great nation than those in which he appealed to Englishmen, to improve the magnificent opportunities that God and nature have given them, proclaimed industrial progress as England's destiny, and industrial freedom as England's law:

"The question you have to decide is simply this-will YOU, IN THIS ENLIGHTENED AGE, ADVANCE OR RECEDE Remember, the eyes of the world are upon you. Oh, act a part worthy of yourselves and of your country. Will you advance or recede? Which is the policy best suited to a great commercial empire? Remember your position-remember your great national reputation. LOOK TO THE ADVANTAGES WHICH GOD AND NATURE HAVE BESTOWED UPON YOU. Look to your geographical position; on the confines of Western Europe, the connecting link between the North of Europe and the Continent of America. Remember that the Improvements of navigation and the applications of science have brought you within ten days of Petersburgh, and within ten days of New York. Look to your physical advantages-the nerves and sinews of manufacture -from and coal-which abound throughout your country. Look to your acquired advantages, possessed as you are of a capital tenfold greater than that of any country in the universe. Look to the inexhaustible mine of wealth that is to be found in the unwearled perseverance, the indomitable skill of your people; look to their talent—their ingenuity—their great mental power. Look, too, to your free institutions; your unshackled press; your glorious constitution, which, though it prohibits licentiousness, affords rational liberty to all. Look, I say, to all these things; think of the glory England has acquired from the equator to the pole, and tell me, is your's a country to deed competition with any country on the face of the Earth." in or your people; look to their talent—their ingenuity

This is a "great fact," indeed—a speech like this—from a statesman, who has a majority ready waiting to make his word law. It is worth having toiled soven years, to hear such words from the lips of the first Minister of the British Empire; to hear them with the certainty that they will be read and pendered over by tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands of Englishmen—that they will sink into the national mind, be embedied in national law, and become part and parcel of the national history—that they will reach to the remotest ends of the earth, be translated into every language the public opinion of the world.

THE KING OF SPADES.

Charitable persons who so good-naturedly contest that a successful railway specula-

tor must needs make a wise lawgiver—who indulgently excused absurdity by the plea of ignorance, and were surgaine enough to hold that a man who extemporised nonsense in July would study, reflect, and become rational by February—are now undeceived. The oracle of the railway world, the idel of the great stag interest, has spoken again—and mankind know, once for all, what is in him. Mr. Hudson has given us his true measure. His protensions as a politician and man of sense are now made level to the meanest capacity.

Mr. Hudson has "deeply reflected and thought upon the question in its various bearings "-and the result is before the world in general, and his proud and delighted constituents in particular, in his superlatively silly speech of Tuesday night. The representative of one of our greatest industrial interests -a man pledged, by the fundamental necessities of his position and relations, to the cause of commercial and industrial progress, and to large and bold views of all commercial and industrial questions a man prominently identified with one of the grandest social revolutions known to history--is not ashamed to endorse and circulate the vulgarest and stupidest fullacies of a rotten cause, and an expiring and disgraced faction. All the antiquated and exploded nonsense of landlordism finds a ready advocate in the Railway King. Platitudes which disgraco the very dukes themselves, are mouthed with the most stolid selfcomplacency by this representative of the cause of industrial science and national growth. He seems to like the trash, as if it were his own. He, too, has the ineffable silliness to talk of " land thrown out of cultivation" in consoquence of the increase of everything that makes land worth cultivating. A man who has seen land rise live, ten, or twenty fold in value, through the extension of trade and manufactures and the opening of new markets, "believes" that without the artificial stimulus of Parliamentary prices, "the farmer will not be able to cultivate the land, even if it were let without rent"-in other words, land in England is naturally and intrinsically valueless. And a man whose life is passed in the presence of the most startling and splendid achievements of the industrial genius of Englishmen, has the almost incredible poltroonery to deprecate competition, and " believe that English labourers cannot contend with labour from abroad."

A precious legislator we have got, truly, in this railway king! For Irish famine, the simpleton would prescribe a public subscription !! the said public subscription to be expended (if we rightly understand the royal logic) not in bringing more food into Ireland for the Irish people to entthis would only make matters ten times worse. His Railway Majesty is as frightened as a duke at the notion of food coming into the country. An "extensive importation of foreign corn" knocked up his railway schemes, some years ago; and so, extensive importation is to be dreaded as one of the plagues of Egypt. This accomplished thinker never troubles himself to ask why an extensive importation of foreign corn need be more embarrassing to railway enterprise than an extensive importation of foreign tea, foreign sugar, or foreign cotton. He stops at the "extensive importation." There is the mischief. That's where it is, gentlement The harm is in the supply, not in the siege and the famine.

Sunderland really deserves all this. The humiliation of having so unspeakably empty-headed and conceited a representative is the fit retribution—we own it is a severe one—for the electoral dishonesty that bartered away public rights, for the beggarly bribe of "local interests."

QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

As the time for the final struggle approaches, the exertions of the Free Traders must be increased, and every effort made to establish our principles in their full integrity. The necessity for fresh seal and fresh vigilance increases every day, and the expediency of strengthening the League for the desisive translations more and more apparent. Mo-

nopoly will only yield to the resolute determination of the entire people, and this resolution will be best manifested by exhibiting how widely and hex deeply the importance of the great cause is fit through the length and breadth of the land. Sir Robert Peel has declared that he will not abanden his scheme, even though he should be forced to sigh stitute immediate for deferred repeal. The Westmins ter election has shown that the delay of three year, is not acceptable to the country; the crisis has therefore, arrived, in which it behaves us to ϵ_{Xegt} all our strength, and put forth all our resource. The moral effect of the great Quarter of a Million Fund is even of greater importance than its financial amount, at this poculiar juncture. It is felt to be an expression of opinion which admits of no mis take or misrepresentation. It has struck terror into the protectionists, and broken the harmony of their camp. The demonstration must be continued in order that its effects should be complete and de cisive. During seven ardnous years, the appeals of the League have been eagerly and nobly responded to by the people of England; and with unabate confidence we now call upon them to make still more vigorous efforts for a final campaign. Victory is not yet won; there are many signs which intimatthat our cause has yet to encounter many perils and many hazards. The battle will not be won for us by any combination or derangement of parties. Never yet was any great boon won for the people which was not achieved by the people A dissolution of Parliament is menaced, and what over may be the fate of the measure now under the consideration of the legislature, we believe that the period for a dissolution is not far distant. Free Trade must be represented on every hustings, and its voice heard in every polling-booth. Bribery and intimidation will be marshalled against पर क they were before, and we must meet them with overy legal means which the constitution places at our disposal. The contest with which we are no naced will be arduous and expensive, but it will also be final. Providence, in its wise dispensations. has brought round a combination of circumstances. the most favourable for the perfect establishment of those sound principles of wisdom, justice, and true charity, which we have so long supported; but we shall be deservedly the mockery of mankind if we allow the opportunity to pass unimproved.

It is not to be expected that such another combination of circumstances can be expected in the course of a generation. The repeal of the Corn Laws may be effected totally and immediately, without disturbing a single existing interest. The state of the Continental markets liberates the British farmers from all the possible evils that may be dreaded in a period of transition; employment is prepared for labour so soon as the food is free by which labour must be supported. The doom of the present Corn Law is scaled; but there is great danger of our being subjected to a more insidious system, and one which it will be far more dif ficult to remove. When the breach is made, and the storming parties formed, it would be sheer cowardice and sheer folly to listen to proposals of compromise and capitulation. Let us nerve our solves for the final effort; let each contribute ac cording to his means his share in achieving a conplete triumph. Half a victory under present eircumstances would be worse than a defeat, for we can never again expect to hold so favourable a posi tion in a fluld of battle.

Under these circumstances, we appeal to our countrymen. Come forward and help us freely, promptly, and largely, ere the great opportunity by lost for ever. What you have done before will be rendered unavailing if you hold back now. The vessel is in eight of port; but there are breaker a-head between us and the harbour. In the brief interval between us and safety, every one of the crew must be watchful, and must be active. Our fund, consecrated to advance the great cause of fund, consecrated to advance the great cause of fund, consecrated to advance the great cause of the great

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but if we fail at the crisis of our fate, our certain doom is disappointment, aggravated by the consciousness that it has been occasioned solely by our own coldness and neglect.

MR. STAFFORD O'BRIEN'S CHARGE AGAINST MR. M'GREGOR, OF WILFUL MISSTATEMENTS.

Mr. S. O'Brien, in his speech on Sir Robert Peel's measure for the repeal of the Corn Laws, took occasion to make a most unjust and unfounded charge against Mr. McOregor, the Secretary of the Board of Trade, accusing that gentleman of having in his work, "The Commercial Legislation of England and America," made statements to suit the arguments of the Free Traders, not founded on facts. Mr. S. O'Brien is the chairman of the publication committee of the Protection Society, and in his accusation has been too for ward in measuring Mr. M'Gregor by his own standard. That society has not scrupled to make wilful misstatements to advance its own objects; and our readers cannot have forgotten our frequent exposures of its disgraceful garbling of quotations from Adam Smith. We do not wonder, therefore, that Mr. S. O'Brien should think others capable of the like unworthy proceedings. But let us see how a few plain words can put down the charge:

Mr. O'Brien states that Mr. M'Gregor has given the amount of our excise duties received on spirits for the United Kingdom, as 1,241,456%, whereas it ought to have been 5,241,456%. Mr. M'Gregor did no such thing. In the corrected sheet (which we have before us), the account stands

For Great Britain £1,226,951 For Ireland 1,014,505

.. 45,211,456 How, then, could such a mistake have been made by such a profound Pundit as Mr. O'Brien? We will tell him.

He had the uncorrected sheet to go by (which we have also at this moment before us), where the account stands

Received for Great Britain .. £1,266,051 Ireland

Mr. O'Brien stated that such an error would be disgraceful to a school boy who so drew up accounts; whereas the man who could not see that such an error in an uncorrected sheet is not attributable to the author but the printer, must be worse than any school boy, even at "Do-the-boys Hall." There is another alleged "disgraceful misstatement" as to the Malt Tax-it is of a similar kind, the misplacement of a figure b in the uncorrected sheet, which is placed right

What a mountain in labour is this!! Lastly, Mr. M'Gregor has been charged with bringing before the public his dull romances! Mr. M'Gregor wants no defence on this score from us. His "dull romances" have enlivened the present generation to their true interests; and, with his predecessor, Alr. James Deacon Hume, he will be remembered as a man who did good in that generation when the stupid misapprehensions of the whole school of which Mr. O'Brien would fain be an ornament, will not only be forgiven-but forgotten!

MR. BRIGHTS SPEECH ON TUESDAY MIGHT.

(From the Sun) The great feature of the evening—the feature by which it became conspicuous amongst its predecessors-was the circumstance of the League having at length mingled in the conflict of tongues, having at length broken its "sullen silence," having at length descended among the rhetorical gladiators of the Commons. And this first thrust, as it were, of their intentions within the echoes of the Parliament House was allotted to Mr. Bright, owing to the unfortunate indisposition which has excluded the hon, member for Stock, port just as his earnest and unmitigated exertions were driving matters to a consummation. Still, maugre the crushing and solid reduplication of facts by which Mr. Cobden's oratory acquires such extraordinary influence, the opening speech of the Anti-Corn-Law Leaguers could scarcely have been more chivalrous, more imperative, more dignifield, and honest, and magnanimous, than it proved to be under the anspices of Mr. Bright. In it that honourable gentleman excelled himself) the singularity of his position, as he rose to address the (miscalled) Oppositionists and Ministerialists, seemed to animate him to an unwonted pitch of rhetorical excellence; his periods were, as usual, silroitly and elegantly turned; but, in addition to this, they alternately glittered with satire, and burnt with energy, and thrilled with a tone even occasionally pathetic. Nor was there anything forced or conventional in his speech; he became effective without apparent labour, and never appeared to strive for the attention of his auditors. And indeed this very aspect of being spontaneous and unaffected lens to each opinion its principal interest. There is something absolutely noble, there is something admirable, there is something great in the pure and generous eloquones with which the bonmember culogised his former antagonist, the courageous, the large spirited, and now popular Sir Robert Peel. "I watched the right honourable baronet go home last night," said Mr. Bright, " and I confess I envised him the ennobling feelings which must have filled his breast after delivering that speech - a speech, I venture to say, more powerful and more to be admired than any speech ever heard in this house within the memory of any man in it." This was no idle compliment, it was no similition of sycophancy, it was no favour-surrying laudation; it was full-hearted, it was unstudied, it was most strictly deserved. And in a subsequent pussage we discover a death-Now to the incomment reordination hipford of the develop-hand of the Preside a few simple syllables, in which the true, of Manufacture, the Protections in an administration

over. "When the right hon, baronet resigned," said he, "he was no longer your minister; he came back to office as the minister of the Sovereign, as the minister of the people. and not again as the minister of a class, who made him such for their own social and private objects." As such, namely, as a statesman actuated simply and ostensibly for the good of his country, for the just maintenance of the constitution for the integrity of the empire, the confidence of the monnichand the general happiness of all classes of the people, we honour the heart and admire the intellect of the Prime Mi nister; while as a man animated with purely liberal senti ments, and as one ready to acknowledge justice in whatever garb she may assume, Mr. Bright has no insignificant place in our estimation.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE BESSION OF 1846

Fifth Week, ending Saturday, February 21.

Our notice of the great debate, last week, terminated with Thursday night, which, but for the speech of Lord Morpeth, would have been very dull. Friday night however, transcended it. Four speeches were delivered, three of which were of excessive length and excessive tediousness; the exception was an excellent speech from Mr. Ward, at once telling and pithy. But for some little characteristic occurrences, nothing could have been more exhaustive than the protective oratory of that

Mr. Miles, the Aristarchus of Protection in the House of Commons, made his "great display" on Friday night, loaded with an unwieldy and undigested mass of documents, which were expressly prepared for him at No. 17, Bond-street. The reading of them was one of the most dreary and monotonous things imaginable. As parchment after parchment was taken up, the sight of each formidable document called up a suppressed moaning sound, which we do not imagine to have proceeded from any excess of pleasure. Mr. Miles at last became so excited by his own arithmetical frenzy, that he was fairly on his way to the middle of the floor, when good Sir Robert Inglis rose and gently pulled him back by the skirt of his cont. The honourable member for Oxford then resumed his seat, looking more sleek and demure than ever, and Mr. Miles pursued his dismal argument. One incident, and only one, enlivened his speech of three hour's duration. Reading statements of the extent, capacity, and population of different distriets in Russin, which the document he held described as being able to supply all Europe, he came to the province of Tamboff, covering he said, an acreage of twentyfive millions of square miles. This blunder, associated as it was with the recollection of Lord Stanley's famous adoption of the blunder about Tamboff fertility, raised most extraordinary laughter and cheering, some members, in cestacy, actually clapping their hands. Mr. Miles corrected himself by substituting thousands for millions; and he concluded a long speech, by telling Sir Robert Peel that the country was not prepared for his proposed changes; and assuring the House that when the various interests affected understood their own interests, they would rise unanimously against them.

But we have forgotten Mr. Francis Scott, one of the sons of Lord Polwarth, and the representative of Roxburghshire. He, as did also Sir Howard Douglas, occupied the early portion of that evening with long speeches as tedious in their delivery as they were contemptible in style and argument. Mr. Francis Scott, however, proved the truth of the adage, that he who is his own counsel has a fool for his client. He compared Sir Robert Peel to a lawyer, who, after taking a fee for advocating one side at the assizes, took to the other side when the case came to be argued on appeal; and was, of course, imitated by "juniors" and the attorney. Some time afterwards, he admitted that improved facilities of locomotion, and other causes, enabled the farmer to carry on cultivation at a very reduced cost. The House, at the time, was very quiet, for it was the important hour that lies between seven and eight o'clock, the hour of dinner. Sir Robert Peel, who was sitting immediately below Mr. Francis Scott, turned round, and, in a good-humoured under-tone, asked him, "Whose counsel are you now ?" This put Mr. Scott into a terrible passion. He could not see the joke; and absolutely stormed away, as if Sir Robert Pool had insinuated that somebody had given him a guinea to plead the cause of protection! He protested in loud tones that he was counsel neither for the agriculturists nor the mercantile interests, nor for the foreigner, but for the interests of Grent Britain. He then proceeded to admit that the theory of Free Trade was a beautiful one-colook hung with brightly sparkling dew-drops, but it was unfit for practical use. The honourable member delivered his oration from the bench bahind the one on which Sir Robert Peel was signing, in a sibilant amphatic tone, which did not however intich scom to affect the norves of the France.

The dulf night of Friday did not pass over without a small "scone," produced by that accomplished contlaman, Mr. Ferrand. Lord Northland, the oldest son of the Earl of Ranfurly, and representative for Dunganon. made a short speech, in which he avowed his intention of supporting Sir Robert Peol, because he had more confidence in him than in Lord John Russell. Now, the story goes (it was originally given on the authority of the Dublin Evening Mail) that at the time of the passing of the Maynooth Act, Lord Northland was caught he the house, as it was going to a division; and being unwilling to vote either for or against the Bill, he hid himself in a small recess, which had been formerly used as a coal-hole; and some mischlevous "friend" having observed it, told the Serjeant-at-Arms, and Lord Northland was compelled to come out, and vote. Mr. B. Fign-RAND, who is invariably distinguished for his lofty souso of public duty, and who reckons the amenities of private life as of little importance when compared with the discharge of his high functions, recalled this circumstance to the recollection of the noble lord, amidst upronrious laughter. "What confidence," he bellowed, "had you in the right honourable baronet, when you were drugged out of the coal-hole to vote for him?"

On Monday the general question was debated in both houses. In the House of Fords, the question of "peculiar burdens" was raised by Lord Beaumont, who moved for a select committee of inquiry. On this occasion, Lord Stanley gave a tolerably distinct intimation that he will oppose the measures of the Government. The Duke of Richmond glorified Lord Stanley, and throw out a coaxing kind of invitation to him to devote him noble intellect to the protection of "native industry." After a discussion, the motion was agreed to, and the committee has been since appointed.

On Monday night, the adjourned debate was re-

The Earl of March, eldest son of the Duke of Richmond. This noble lord bids fair to be as sagacious and intelligent a Duke of Richmond as his father, should be succeed to the title. He added nothing whatever to an exhausted debate; and it was, therefore, with pleasure that we noticed, amid the crowd of members contending for the "possession of the house," that Mr. Milney. Ginsos had caught the eye of the Speaker. The clear, easy, fluent, and agreeable style of the member for Manchester always secures for him the attention of the house; and on this occasion he received and he repaid attention. His speech was excellent, both in matter and in manner. The great distinction between the advocates of Free Trade and the advocates of protection, during this protracted debate, has been the important fact, that while the one-have addressed themselves mainly to the question, the others have indulged mainly in vituperation. Mr. Milner Gibson kept, the attention of his auditors to the subject in hand; and the lond, hearty cheers with which he was greeted, showed how welcome was the relief afforded by the speech of an intelligent gentleman, raising up faculties all but laid prostrate by the unconscionable duliness of protection oratory.

After the excellent speech from Mr. Milner Cibson, Sir William Clay, one of the representatives for the Tower Hamlets, discussed four or five of the opinions at issue largely and clearly; and Lord Alfred Churchill read such a speech as the nominee of Woodstock might be expected to read. Mr. Wm. James, member for East Cumberland, also addressed the House, not very unnaturally, in somewhat of a self-laudatory strain, as having been through a long course of years the steady advocate of the measure which was now about to receive the sanction of the House. Lord Harry Vane, too, spoke in favour of the measure. He is the brother of the monopolist Duke of Cleveland. We had also a "maiden" speech from Mr. Halsey, the new member for Hertford, who spoke in a bold strain against the Government; and a similar course was adopted by Mr. Buck, one of the Members for North Devon, though his manner was mild and gontlemanly. But the Government was supported by Mr. Dickinson, one of the Members for West Somersetshire, who frankly avowed that he was a convert to Free Trade principles.

ert to Free Trade principles.
Sir John Tyrrell took the opportunity of coming out. on Monday night, as clown in the pantonime. Basex baronet is a perfect treasure to the Mouse of Commons. Were it not for the presence of one of two such members, honourable gentlemen would sink under the weight of dullness which seems necessary to legislas tive discussion. After the human intellect ling been puzzled for three or four hours with solf-contradigtory theories, polted with statistics, exacerbated with invective, rendered torpid by prose in its very worst form, to see a good dry joker rise to address the House is such happiness as is rarely giron to man. Bir John had nothing particular to say about flax, no now light to shed about any of the disputed articles in the taring but he held a will paper in his hand, which, for the moment we

the state of the Essex fens. Nothing of the sort-it was a fragment from the works of a gentleman lately deceased, a reverend divine, a doctor in divinity, the lute Dr. Arnold. Although Sir John Tyrrell was aware that honourable gentlemen would not unfrequently smile at observations of his, yet he was sure that the House would lend him their attention while he read to them Dr. Arnold's opinion of the Premier. This was to the effect that the Interlamented Dr. Arnold would trust Peel in a question of currency-he had an idea about that, and he was sure that upon that subject he would not unduly yield to popular clamour; but upon any other point-the Church, for instance-he was sure Peel did not care a straw about the matter, and would yield at the first summons. The right honourable baronet, continued the member for Essex, is always talking about his having an eye to posterity, and he was sure that there was but one feeling in the House on this subject, and that was that posterity might have him all to themselves without any further delay.

But the great speech of Monday night was the one delivered by Sir Robert Pres. The First Lord of the Treasury rore about a quarter to ten o'clock, and spoke till near one o'clock -- for nearly three hours arresting and enchaining the house by the most emphatic, the most powerful, the most earnest speech which perhaps he ever delivered. The crowning merit was its curnestness. Yet, though impassioned force and truthfulness constituted its main characteristics, it was not devoid of playful assault on his antagonists, and good-humoured raillery. It was quite edifying to hear Sir Robert talk with playful scorn about "rousing the British Lion," "True Blue," "the Corn Law in all its integrity." Altogether, he made "mineed ment" of those who have charged him with "treason," "apostacy," and so forth. First, Mr. Thomas Baring, then Mr. Francis Scott, the member for Roxburghshire, who, as he had been the most furious and polemical, so his turn came among the first-Sir Robert called him Anacharsis Clootz, laughed at his assumption of the office of "Attorney General for the whole human race," confronted his sentences with each other (and Mr. Scott's sentences cannot stand this test), and trotted him up and down the house, much to the amusement of honourable gentlemen, for some con-Aderable time- "all in good humour," as Sir Robert said. He certainly appeared in an admirable typiper himself, but Mr. Scott, who is of a belligerent and disputations nature, appeared not quite to relish the joke. Mr. Miles was the next victim to the Premier's jocularity; he had risked an assertion about the cultivation of flux in the parish of Chizzleborough, and had talked about acres being thrown out of cultivation in consequence of the removal of the protecting duty two or three years ago. Sir Robert recalled to his recollection that the duty had been really removed in the year 1824, and that so he must seek some other cause for the agricultural distress which the honourable gentleman had quoted as existing in Chizzleborough. There was something in the sound of the word Chizzleborough which seemed to give the Premier an innocent satisfaction a for he would continue to repeat the word in every possible Intonation; and furthermore, a little pleasantry about Mr. Miles taking his stand upon grease. Describing the great grease debate, the First Lord of the Treasury provoked roars of laughter, by exclaiming "Grease you shall not touch -- hence, avaunt, 'tis holy ground!" Then there was an onslaught on Mr. Colquboun. Sir Robert playfully inquired if any hon, gentleman had laboured under the same misfortune as himself, that of perused Mr. Colquboun's pamphlet'? He gathered from that publication that the honourable gentloman's views were favourable to Free Trade. Now he expressed himself determined to/maintain protection; at another time he was for a fixed duty; then he had voted for Mr. Villiers' motion. "How," inquired the Premier, " can one tell how to hold such a man? There is nothing like consistency in his conduct."

All this, however, was only the "light artillery" of the speech. Sir Robert Peel had business of too weighty a nature in hand to spend much time on trifles. We, therefore, commend to the patient consideration of our renders a speech which produced an extraordinary effect OF the house, as it has since done on the country. The conclusion of it, especially, is all that the most ordent Free Trader can desire; it was delivered with remarkable face ; and on sitting down the First Lord of the The stury was preceded by a burst of cheering as sincere and spontaneous ps ever honoured the eloquence of a momber of the legislature.

On Tuesday night, the resumption of the adjourned dabate was retarded for a short time by a motion which was brought on by Mr. O'Connect, on the impending famine and discess in Ireland. The appearance of Mr. O'Connell, we regret to say, was feeble; he appeared to be labouring under general debility; and his round, full-toned voice was subdued to an almost ideadible

whisper. He confined himself chiefly to statistical documents. Sir James Graham, in reply, described the precautions which the Government are taking, in order to mitigate the effects of the impending calemity; and after a short discussion, Mr. O'Connell withdrew his motion.

Lord John Manners then resumed the adjourned debate. This nobleman has got a little farther in conviction than his brother, the Marquis of Granby, but both are going to give their votes against the Government measure, thereby evincing the animus of the Rutland family. Lord John Manners thinks that the time has come for a settlement of the question; but wishes Parliament to be dissolved previously, so that the "constituencies" may express an opinion. Altogether it was a very strange speech. He neither feared Free Trade, nor hoped much from it; but at present he declines having it. Notwithstanding his amiable character, and his "chivalrous" feelings (though what is meant by that is not very clear) there is a misty, confused, indefinite character about the intellect of Lord John Manners, which would indicate that his politics have been imbibed under some mystic political Dr. Pusey. Whatever amiability there may be about such intellects, there is little in them either of grasp or force.

After a dashing) speech from Captain Layard, member for Carlow, in favour of Free Trade, and a long prosy address against it from Mr Robert Palmer, one of the Berkshire representatives,

Sir Charles Napier rose, and made one of those characteristic speeches, which, from their blunt style, and sailor-like manner, always provoke the merriment of the house. But the gallant commodore spoke much excellent and appropriate common sense. He told the house how he had changed his sword into a ploughshare; and had converted a worthless farm of 40 acres into a profitable one. Agricultural members laughed at his 40 acres; but the commodore told them that what was good for 40 was good for 400. The speech of Sir Charles Napier was a capital contribution to the cause of Free Trade.

Then came Mr. Shaw, Recorder of Dublin, and one of the representatives of its University. He has always been considered not merely a personal friend, but even a toady, of Sir Robert Peel. That he is a disappointed man is a common belief-he has long looked for a higher judicial post. He came out, on Tuesday night, with a bitter attack on Sir Robert Peel, charging him with treason, faithlessness, instability, cowardice, trickery, and all other sins against the "great party." Then, as if to exhibit the lickspittle spirit of the man, he expressed a hope, in a whining tone, that Sir Robert Peel would still permit him to call him his "right honourable

Mr. BRIGHT came next, in a speech which was a "blister" to the "great party." His cordial admiration of the speech of Sir Robert Peel; his taunts of the Protectionists as to their utter inability to form an administration; his appeals to fact-all told upon the House. It was certainly the most powerful speech delivered during this debate, with the single exception of the Prime Minister's.

Mr. Hudson followed Mr. Bright. Never was there a more marked failure. The self-satisfied air-the pompous indication of conscious self-importance; the vulgarity of the style of address, breaking Priscian's head in every sentence; and the ludicrously inconclusive logic, were all in keeping. The House of Commons worships rank and mammon; but the House of Commons is also an admirable school: and however shrewd the "Railway King" may be in companies, gradients, and lines, if he ventures to speak on general topics, he will assuredly find his level in the legislature.

Before the debate was resumed on Thursday night, Mr. Collett, the member for Athlone, called the attention of the house to the open, undisguised influence exercised by the "Dukes"—those of Newcastle, Marlborough, Buckingham, and Richmond-in the boroughs of Newark, Woodstock, Buckingham, and Chichester. He charged the "Dukes" with unconstitutional practices, involving a violation of the rights and privileges of the commons of England: but as he did not bring forward any specific act, merely alleging the notorious belief, it was easy for Sir Robert Peel to show that the house could not act on surmise, and so the motion was withdrawn.

Lord Duncan opened the adjourned debate in a smart speech, in which he told an amusing story of a Warwickshire grazior, who once believed, on the authority of Mr. Miles, that they were building a great ark at New Orleans, in which to carry over a swarm of cattle and pigs-thousands of them-to be landed at Bristol. Having sold his cattle at a loss, by the fear of such an importation, he was lately asked what he thought of the account given by Mr. Miles respecting Tamboff. "Ah!" said he, "I was gammoned by that gentleman afore, but, I won't be gammoned again!"

Mr. Alderman Thompson followed; and the roph - (hear)

tation which he has acquired for commercial shrewd. ness, as well as his great wealth, caused his opinions to be watched with some anxiety. It was curious to observe how the earlier feelings of the man, who has ploughed his way from a humble to a high position. were neutralised by his later associations, in the capacity of a landlord. He admitted that he had signed the celebrated petition of the merchants of London in favour of Free Trade; but he has since become a landowner in his native county, Westmoreland, and, also, by favour of the Lonsdale interest, one of its representatives Therefore, though many parts of Mr. Alderman Thomp. son's speech might have been spoken in favour of the Government measure, his conclusion was that he must oppose it.

Sir William Molesworth, who, like Lord Morpeth, has now, for the first time, had an opportunity of raising his voice in the present Parliament in support of his old opinions, made an excellent speech, which was clovely and almost mathematically reasoned out, in support of Free Trade. This one speech alone, if the closeness and consecutive character of its logic were noticed and felt, would be conclusive of the whole question.

Mr. Benett, the notorious senior member for Wiltshire, made a long prosy speech, marked, however, la an audacity which caused inpudence to pass for spirit. and nonsense for agricultural wisdom. He told the house that he had always treated the poor, forlorn, broken-down, starved, and crushed labourers of Wiltshire as his particular "friends!" Nay, more, he admitted that Free Trade would benefit landlords and large farmers, but he opposed it for the sake of the small farmers and the poor labourers ! Every quarter of corn imported displaces twenty-five shillings worth of agricultural labour-the real English of this being, that the more means the nation possesses, the poorer it must become.

Mr. Thomas Duncombe made one of his smart speeches, in which, after hitting the agriculturists very hard about their opposition to Sir Robert Peel, he contrived to obtain agricultural cheers, when he began to hit the manufacturers, and to enforce the necessity of securing for the workmen the proposed alteration in the law of-settlement, by which industrial residence for five years in a manufacturing town will give a claim to

The only other speech (with the exception of minor orators) was a terrible long one from Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, one of the representatives for Devon, and father of Mr. Thomas Acland, one of the Somersetshire members. The manner of the worthy baronet was very energetic, but his matter was singularly poor; the most forcible argument he exhibited was a stick, with which he-belaboured the floor-of-the-house. But there were clear indications in his speech that he only votes against Sir Robert Peel to please his constituents, and that he will not be displeased if the Government measure is carried by a large majority.

THE CORN LAW DEBATE. Continued from Page 366 of our Supplement,

ADJOURNED DEBATE-THURSDAY Lord Duncan, in resuming the adjourned debate, said he had always been an advocate of Free Trude, and though he had not taken part in the present debate, he was not deterred by any arguments he had heard from the hon. member opposite. Heremembered the prophecies of the hon. member for Somerset (Mr. Miles) in 1842. That hon, gentleman said that New Orleans was situated in a territory spread over 460,000 square miles, and its international distance of the control miles, and its inhabitants were prepared to pour into this country flour, corn, heasts, and pork. He (Lord Duncan) happened at that the state of the present the p happened at that time to be in Warwickship gentleman, a friend of his, a great grazier in that county. riding along at a fearful rate (a laugh). He asked his friend why he rode at such a pace? "Oh, I am going to sell my beasts, for Péel and the rest of you have ruined us all (representation)." newed laughter). Have you read," he continued, "Mr. Miles's speech? He is the great orator that we agricultur sts always helicants. always believe in, and he tells us that 5,000,000 people are building a sort of ark, in which pigs, eattle, and corn are to be brought over to Bristol" (much laughter). Now, I have lately seen my agricultural friend, and have asked him, "Have you not seen what your of Camboff." you not seen what your friend Mr. Miles says of Tamboff Ah," said lie, "I was gammoned before by that gentleman, and I don't mean to be gammoned again" (laughter). Now if the honourable gentleman's former prophecies were not fulfiled, he must excuse him (Lord Duncan) if he trusted more at the present time to the predictions of the right honourshie gentleman at the head of the Treasury (cheers). Now, he must refer to the read of the Treasury (cheers). must refer to the speech of the hon member for Sunderland. That gentleman of iron nerves was surprised that the Government should be in such a panic. "There are only nine millions starving in Ireland," said he, "that is nothing, I could get rid of it at once."

Mr. Hunsow and—"That is not what I stated these, hear,

Mr. Hudson said—That is not what I stated (hear, hear,

from the protectionists).

Lord Dunoan—Well, he should quote the honourable gentleman said, he gentleman's speech. The honourable gentleman said, he conceived the repealing of the Corn Laws had nothing to do conceived the repealing of the Corn Laws had nothing to with the calamity in Treland (hear, hear, from Mr. Haison) with the calamity in Treland (hear, hear, from Mr. Haison). If the famine which was dreaded occurred in Irela he was anxious to alleviate it by public subscription. He was the more amprised at the honorrable subscription man as no relative to the honorrable subscription in the bound of the bridge of the subscription of the bound of the bridge of th

said he recollected that 1841 was a year of extreme distress in this country, but that in 1842 the state of things was completely changed. And this was owing, he said, to the over-production of corn in this country thear, hear, and a laugh). The honourable gentleman also told them that he himself had bought foreign corn at 20s. a quarter, though he had not specified where. If that was so, he honourable gentleman was contained. the honourable gentleman was certainly a good political eco-nomist, "for he bought in the cheapest and was resolved to sell in the dearest market" (bear, bear, and laughter). Then the honourable gentleman went on to say, "You are not to look to Sussex as a proof of the benefit of protection, wherein men are working for 8s. a week, but take a special train, and come with me to Yorkshire (where, by the way, the duties on cotton, wool, and silk have been of late years abolished) and I'll show you peace and plenty." This was important testimony, for he never hourd a manufacturer, or a friend of manufacturers, get up in that house, and maintain that the poor were better off in their districts than in purely agricultural counties, that it was not attempted to cry him down. (Hear, hear.) All those on his side had a great respect for the name of the honourable gentleman, and they were really auxious not to see it in the provisional committee of the Great Bubble Protection Society. (Laughter.) He confessed, that as a landlord he had no objection to high rents; but he thought it most lowering to the class who received them, that they should be raised by artificial means. [The noble lord then went over the history of the different Corn Law measures, which had been repeated over and over again in this debate, and referred to the speech of Mr Robinson on the bill It was, in his opinion, a mean, base, and paltry principle to tax the people in their-food, that the aristocracy might receive a larger sum for their produce. That aristocracy had been accustomed to lead, not to follow. He hoped they would continue to direct, but not to coerce public opinion (hear, hear). Should the natural leaders of the people hold back when the whole country was preparing for foreign competition? The landlords and tenants in that part of the country in which he was born were acting very differently from those in Somerset. They were already buckling on their armour for competition with the foreigner, and were little afraid of him as to the growth of corn, hemp, or flax. There was an exclusive burden on land, which he was surprised he had heard nothing of in that debate-he meant ducation. The Prussian and Scotch farmer could educate his son at a cheap rate. The English farmer had not a practical school to send him to (hear, hear). He stood there today to act up to the pledges which he had given on the hustings. He then said he should vote for any measure he thought beneficial to the country; and believing that the right hon, gentleman's measure was a measure intended for the benefit of trade, and of the commercial and working classes, and beheving also that their interests could not be promoted without advancing those of the class to which he had the honour to belong he gave it an humble but an honest support (cheers) dr. Alderman Thompson contended that it was a delu sion to maintain that wages could be maintained at their

present rate if the price of food were diminished, as the advocates of the repeal of the Corn Laws maintained that it would be by that measure. Sir Robert Peel had proposed his present changes in our commercial policy, because they would improve the moral and social condition of the labouring classes; but he was convinced that if those changes in jured agriculture, as he was certain that they would do, they would turn the scale of national comfort and prosperity quite the other way. If a Free Trade in corn were made the law of the land, further changes must follow, and amongst the earliest must be the abrogation of our colonial system, and the repeal of the navigation laws. For one, he could not consent to go along with such extreme measures. What statesman, even in Europe or America, had ever advocated perfect Free Trade :

Sir R. PEEL.—The merchants of London advocated it in their petition in 1820, which you signed.

Alderman THOMPSON admitted that he had signed it but he had not been speaking of merchants, but of statesmen with enlightened minds. Mr. Webster, the most eloquent man in America, had denounced it, no longer than November last, as an impracticable scheme of commerce, which must be ruinous to all engaged in it. Replying to Sir R. Peel's question on a former night, he observed that he was not disposed either to retrograde or to stand still on the road of commercial relaxation. On the contrary, he was prepared to go forward, but not on the road on which Sir R. Peel was advancing. Instead of reducing the duty on corn, he recommended the Government to reduce the duties, on tea to 0d. n lb., and to lesson materially the duties on soap and tabacco. By such a measure he would confer the greatest boon on the labouring classes. In conclusion, he expressed his regret that a sense of duty should compel him to differ on this question from the political leader whom he had hitherto followed with pride during the whole course of his political leader.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH: I will not trespose patience, sir, by discussing the general principles of Free Trade. I will content myself with replying to some objections which have been urged against this measure by honourable gentlemen opposite. They have repeatedly asserted that it would be injurious to the labouring classes, that Free Trade would cause low prices, and that low prices would be followed by low wages. The right honourable baronet, on the first of the session, stated his conviction that there was no connection between low brices and low wages. He has been repeatedly and violently assailed both for this opinion, and for having arrived at such a conclusion from an experience of only three years. I think, however, if it were necessary, it would be easy to confirm that position by a much wider experience. Just before the dissolution of the last l'arliament, I gave notice of a motion for a committee to inquire if any connection could be traced between the amount of the wages of labour and the price of food. If I had been able to bring that motion before the house, I think I could have shown, from a series of Parliamentary returns embracing a period of more than 30 years, that there was no connection between high wages and high prices, and low wages and low prices; on the contrary, it appeared to me, from a careful examination of these returns, that generally speaking the wages of labour, especially of manufacturing and skilled lahour, were higher when the price of food was low, than they were when the price of food was high.

And the reason appeared to me to be this. When
the price of food I low the about a low, and
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expend a larger portion of their earnings on the purchase of articles of clothing, dress, and other the stuple manufactures of the country. Consequently, when food is cheap, there is a greater demand for those articles, and a greater trade in them. There is therefore increased activity amongst the manufacturers, increased employment for their workmen, and as a necessary consequence, the wages of labour, especially of manufacturing and skilled labour, tend to rise. On the other hand, when food is dear, as the labouring classes must first and before all things obtain the means of subsistence, they are compelled to expend a greater portion of their earnings on the purchase of food, consequently they are compelled to diminish their consumption of articles of clothing, dress, and manufacture. There is therefore a diminution in the demand for those articles, stocks of them accumulate in the hands of the dealers. trade becomes dull and stagnant, the manufacturers employ fewer workmen, and, as a necessary consequence, the wages of labour, especially of manufacturing and skilled labour, tend to fall. Thus, reason and experience show not only that there is no connection between high prices and high wages, and low prices and low wages, but that, generally speaking, the wages of labour are higher when food is cheap than when it is dear. In fact, the amount of the wages of labour depends upon the relation which exists between the supply of labour and the means of employing it. If there be no alteration in the supply of labour, wages rise or fall according as there is more or less employment for labour. Now, the means of employing labour are in proportion to the capital of a country, to the extent of its trade, commerce, manufactures, and other industrial operations of its inhabitants. But it can hardly be doubted that Free Trade would augment the commerce, manufactures, and capital of this country. It follows, therefore, that with Free Trade the means of employing labour would increase, the wages of labour would rise, and the condition of the labouring class would be improved (hear, hear). Some hon, members are apprehensive lest a large number of agricultural labourers should be thrown out of employment by a repeal of the Corn Laws. It cannot be denied that if the repeal of the Corn Laws were to produce a panie amongst the agricultural classes, that if in consequence of that panic a large quantity of land were thrown out of cultivation, there would be a diminution in the demand for labour for agricultural pur-Now this might prove, under other circumstances than the present ones, a serious though temporary evil. Fortunately, however, if the Corn Laws were immediately repealed, there are causes at work which would fully counteract the effects of any such panie. The railroads which are now making, or about to be made, will create a great demand for that very description of labour which it is supposed the repeal of the Corn Laws would throw out of employment, and long before those railroads are completed the apprehensions of the agricultural classes would be dispelled. As far, therefore, as the agricultural labourer is concerned, it would be difficult to find a better opportunity than the present one for repealing the Corn Laws (hear, hear). Most of the honourable gentlemen who have spoken against this measure, have expressed their opinion that the repeal of the Corn Laws would chiefly affect the tenant, and not the landlord. I cannot agree with them. It appears to me that if Free Trade makes any alteration in the value of land, or of agricultural produce, the chief gainer, or the chief loser, must be the landed proprietor. nourable gentlemen possess landed property. They have let estates. What, I ask them, does a farmer do before he offers to take an estate? Why, he considers the nature of the soil, the vicinity of the estate to markets, and the general value of agricultural produce, and, according to these particulars, he offers a greater or less rent for the estate. The landlord or his agent does precisely the same thing: he takes into account precisely the same particulars, and demands a rent accordingly. a bargain is struck between landlord and tenant for a definite or indefinite number of years (hear, hear). Now, suppose any event occurs which alters the value of the estate, as, for instance, if its fertility be improved. by drainage or other means, if it be rendered more accessible to markets by new roads or railways, or if the general value of agricultural produce be altered by leslative enactments, or other causes, then, at tion of the period for which the original bargain was made, either the landlord demands a higher rent, or the tenant offers a lower one, according to the circumstances of the case. Thus a new bargain is struck, in which the landlord generally takes good care to obtain the full value of his estate, and the tenant is equally cautions not to offer more than that value. Thus it appears to me certain that if Free Trade diminish the value of land, rents will fall; if, on the contrary, as I expect and believe, Free Trade will increase the value of land, then we shall have the pleasant task of raising our rents: in either case, it will be the landlord, not the tenant, who will ultimately lose or gain (hear). In one point of view, however, the farmer will be a gainer by a repeal of the Corn Laws; for a repeal of the Corn Laws will be a final settlement of the corn question. During the last half century there have been I know not how many Corn Laws, with the professed object of regulating the price of corn. Now I may assert, without fear of contradiction, that under each Corn Law the price of corn has been much less than was calculated upon or intended by the framers of those laws. If farmers, therefore, acted upon those expectations of higher price in their bargains, with their landlords, they must have been repentally and grievously disappointed. A repeal of the Corn Laws will dispel all doubt and anxiety on the subject. The farmer will soon know what he is about, and what bargain he count to make with his landlord (hear).
I must acknowledge, however, that these observations chieff apply to those farmers who possess sufficient capital and shill the offer their estates in the best

manner; for only such farmers are really independent, and can make an equal bargain with their landlords. There is, however, another class of farmers, who possess little capital and less skill, the tenants of small estates, which they cultivate in the worst possible manner. many of which estates have been in the same family for successive generations; of this class of farmers the hort. gentleman the member for North Northamptonshire gave a pathetic description the other evening. He portrayed in forcible terms their impending ruin, and attributed that ruin to the Free Trade measures of the right honourable baronet. It cannot be denied that the class of farmers in question will cease to exist. In many parts of England, especially in the west, with which I am well acquainted, they work harder and fare worse than the agricultural labourer. It is a mistake, however, on the part of the honourable gentleman to attribute their present condition or future fate to Free Trade. Whether the Corn Law be repealed, or its provisions be rendered more stringent, their doom is inevitable. What is the cause of it? I answer, it is their want of capital and of skill. It has been discovered that in agriculture; as in every other branch of industry, by the combination of capital and skill, production can be carried on more cheaply and profitably than in any other manner. Of late years agriculture has ceased to be a mere empiric routine : it has become an art founded upon chemistry, vegetable physiology, and other kindred sciences. For the successful cultivation of this art, much capital and skill are required (hear, hear, hear). By these means the agricultural produce of certain portions of England has been greatly augmented, and the produce of the remain-der might be equally increased. Indeed, it appears to me that some of the honourable gentlemen opposite have scarcely been guilty of exaggeration when they asserted that if the whole of England were cultivated in the best manner, we might raise an amount of food sufficient for a larger population than the present one, and at as low a price as it can be imported (hear, and cheers). But to do this, the land must be cultivated by furniers who possess sufficient capital and skill. And what, then would be the fate of the small farmers without capital or skill? Sir, the large farmer, with abundant capital, and acquainted with the best methods of agriculture, can produce more cheaply, can afford to pay a higher rent, and at the same time can obtain a better profit than the small farmer without capital. The former can and does undersell the latter in the market. He can and does outbid him with the landlord, and he prospers, whilst the condition of the other daily becomes worse and worse. In proportion; therefore, as agriculture improves, in proportion as more enpital and more skill are required in the cultivation of the soil, the doom of the small farmers, who have neither capital nor skill, becomes more and more certain, more and more imminent (hear, hear). They are the hand-loom weavers of agriculture, and their fate is the necessary consequence of the competition between capital and skill on the one hand, poverty and ignorance on the other. We may sincerely deplore the sufferings of the individuals, but neither as individuals nor as legislators can we prevent the result (hear, hear). For in order to prevent it we should have to stop the accumulation of capital, to check the advancement of knowledge, and stem back the tide of human progress. Though most of the honourable gentlemen who have spoken from the opposite side have declared their belief that the repeal of the Corn Laws is only a farmer's question, yet I know that many who sit on that side of the house firmly believe that Free Trade will diminish the value of land, and that the landowners of England will be ruined. As an owner of land, and of no other description of property, I do not entertain any such apprehensions (hear). For some years the principles of Free Trade have evidently been gaining ground, and every year the repeal of the Corn Laws has become more and more probable; yet has the value of land decreased in this country? Certainly not. Land sells better now, and for a greater number of years' purchase than it ever did before (hear, hear). Upon what, I ask, does the value of the land of a country depend? It does not depend entirely, or even mainly, upon its fertility; for in some places a few acros of inferior soil are much more valuable, and fetch a higher price in the market than thousands of acres of l in other places (hear). The value of lane depends mainly upon the wealth and numbers of the surrounding population, and upon its vicinity to good markets. Now, when I reflect on the enormous population, the vast trade, and the great wealth of this country—when I calculate the stimulus which will be given to population, the additions made to commerce and wealth, by a system of Free Trade;—when, on the other hand, I consider the narrow extent of the land of England, and the increasing demand for it which must arise from any increase of wealth and population. I laugh at the notion that the landlords of England can be permanantly injured by a repeal of the Corn Laws (cheers). It is my firm belief that the value of our lands is augmenting, and will augment, and I contend that we owe that augmentation to the accumulation of the manufacturing and commercial classes (hear, hear). For example, a great revolution seems to be about to take place in our means of internal communication. If this country con tinue prosperous-if commerce and manufactures thrive, before long England will be covered with railroads-railways will exist between every town of any importance, and extend into overy district possessing other mineral or agricultural wealth. Great Britain will become like one vast city, our remotest agricultural dis-tricts will be brought, as it were, into the vicinity of the metropolis, and a few hours will convey their produc-tions, their corn and cattle unispured, to the best markets of the world. To whom shall we be indebted for these religence, which in many cases will double the value of our land. Not to the capital of the landowner, but to the secundularities of the commercial and manufacturing

classus (cluering). More than any other set of man the landowners of England are interested in fostering the commerce, angineuiting the wealth, and increasing the population of this country; for, in proportion to that commerce, wealth, and population, will be the demand for our land, and in proportion to that demand will be its value in the market, and we shall be rich. Therefore, sir, if I were not netunted by noble or better motives, self-interest alone would induce me, as a landowner, to give my cordial support to the measures of the right hon, baronet (much cheering).

Mr. Bakerr had never changed his opinion respecting the propriety of standing by the principle of protection, but whatted that he had moderated it with respect to the amount of protection to be offorded. He controverted the theory that chenp food would not produce chenp wages, and declared that the meetings at Contaere and Bremhill were not meet rings of agricultural labourers, but were got up, and addressed by paid crassories of the League. He opposed the present measure for the sake of the labourer and the little farmer. He or sould it also on account of the landowner, as it would fend to a large confication of their property. Sir Robert Peel's bill for the re-amption of cosh payments had almost costroyed the handed interest. It was just beginning to recover from that wound, when Sir Robert Peel came for ward with his present bill to strike it another blow almost as

mortid.
Mr. HENRY BEHERMAN said: I might have been Sowiffing to obtrude myself upon the house in this pro-Freeded debate had it not been for the very prominent perition in which my honourable colleague has placed muself by moving the amendment. I find myself Salled upon to make some remarks on the subject, and material to confine my elf as much as possible to the line of argument adopted by my honourable colleague, My honourable colleague has thrust himself into the front of the protectionist army. Whether he has achieved this greatness willingly, or it is greatness thrust upon him, we have no right to inquire; but there I find him pleading the cause of protection sternly and stiffly. My honourable colleague argues, "There was no special necessity for the measure." My honourable colleague observes, "Even the honourable member for Wolverhampton must be astonished at the miraculous conversion of some of his new condintors, who were now prepared to substitute for their own the opinions of the member for Stockpart;" and my honourable colleague winds up his determined protectionist speech in these words: "He believed that he was acting for the benefit of the country and the colonies also by advocating protection for every branch of British industry." so, the astonishment my honograble colleague evinces conduct of others may be somewhat abated if my honourable colleague will only take trouble to sean his own. On Monday, the 9th, my honourable colleague made the speech, from which I have quoted extracts; and on Tuesday, the 10th, having been asked by a most respectable constituent to support the prayer of a petition, signed by 18,000 of his constituents, approving of the ministerial plan, but preferring immediate abolition, my hon, colleague ever having voted against the annual motion of my hon, friend the member for Wolverhampton ever having been a sturdy protectionist having on the 9th made a protection speech, thus writes on the 10th: -

" London, Feb. 10, 1846. " Dear Sir-I received your letter this morning, and re gret that I cannot give my vote in favour of the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, as I am opposed to the measure introduced by Sir Robert Peel, when considered as a whole; but though I cannot give my vote in favour of the immediate repeal, I do not besitate to say that I think that it would he better for all parties that the repeal should be immediate; and, entertaining this view of the question, if the motion should be made, I shall not oppose it.

"My speech of last night will, I hope, sufficiently explain to you my reasons for not being able to come round to a sud-

PRILIP W. S. MILES."

Now this is consistency with a vengeance (hear, hear). Why, if the honourable member for Wolverhampton be astonished at the conversion of any one, he may well be astonished at the conversion of the member for Bil tol (hear, hear, hear). Has the proposition of the right honourable baronet to deal with the Corn Laws had the wonderful effect of disarming the honourable momber's objection to total abolition (cheers)? But, no, he will not now oppose the instant abolition of the Corn Laws. Then, if not, why not (hear, hear)? Because the right honourable baronet has brought forward a scheme for a sort of modified abolition of the Corn Laws; can that be a pretence for the hon, member for Bristol giving up all defence for protection? and how are we to reconcile his speech of the 9th with his letter of the 10th (hear, hear, hear)? Really, when gentlemen opposite talk of inconsistency, it would be better to remove the mote from their own eye before they look after the beam in the eye of their neighbour (cheers); and I would just ask my hon, colleague if the Conservatives of Bristol are inclined to be hypercritical, whether they might not think that his determined oppo-Altion to his own political leader might savour of faction, coupled as it is with the surrender of his opinions to those of a political opponent (cheers)? I now turn to that great commercial city, which we have unitedly the honour to represent, and I tell my hon. colloague that he does not speak the opinions of the majority of the Inhabitants of the city and county of Bristol (cheers), nor of the constituency, nor of that portion of the constiruoney which sent him to Parliament (cheers). 1 pallore most decidedly this to be the case. The petipality most decreted that to be the case. The petition which I presented contains 18,000 signatures, and it of the signatures of Conservatives equally with the signatures. Now, if my hon, colleague spoke note that his opinion, if he claims the weight which a nition of description who speaks the voice of a powerful that the weight where were his positions? Not a single

one did he or sould he produce (cheers). The opinions of the hon, mamber on this question are the opinions of a more clique (hear, hear). Bristol has suffered too much from the principle of monopoly not to teel disgust at the very mana (cheers). Monopoly has been the evil genius of the city (hear, hear). Whatever strength protectionists may have in other parts of England, it exists not in Bristol (hear, hear). I have heard loud boasts from hon, gentlemen opposite of an appeal to the people. An appeal to Bristol, I most decidedly believe, would prove that the constituency fully recognise the principles of Free Trade (cheers); and I fear my hon. friend would find that his supporters in that city would not sanction a secession on his part from her Majesty's present minister (hear, hear). In short, since my hon. colleague cannot understand the signs of the timescannot read the writing on the wall, the people of Bristol will read it for him. They will discriminate between obstimey and consistency; and if my hon. colleague stands still, his constituency will follow the right hon, baronet in his onward course. And why should they not feel and yield to the pressure of the times, and following the example of the two first statesmen of the age, give up foregone conclusions-abjure bygone errors - and uniting heart and hand, do that tardy justice to their country, the necessity for which has forced itself on their reason (cheers)?

Mr. John Tollemache, in expressing his determination to vote against the Free Trade scheme of ministers, took secusion to declare that the Anti-Corn Law League owed all its importance to their feeble and vacillating policy

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE -- Cordially concurring, as I do, in the measure before the house introduced by her Majesty's ministers, and believing as I do this measure not only to be honourable to the minister who introduced it, but that it will reflect credit on the Parliament which shall adopt it (hear, hear)-believing also, after the speech of the right hon, baronet, that by public opinion, and through the influence of public opinion alone, he can hope to overcome, the difficulties in his way, notwithstanding the obloquy the bigotry and ignorance with which he is assailed (cheers)—I think that it behoves those who do not owe their seats in this house to the nomination of peers, and therefore must vote as they are directed, but who are sent by the free and independent choice of the people to vote for such measures as they can approve of-not to give a silent, lukewarm, and jealous support to it (cheers). Far be it from me, in the few observations which I shall make, to say anything which will lead hon, gentlemon opposite to believe that I am insensible to the false and painful situation in which they are placed. I can make every allowance for those gentlemen who cannot keep pace with the change of opinion with those who sit around them (hear, hear). No doubt great changes have recently taken place in opinion on the part of public men on both sides of the house, and in conformity with the advice of the right honourable buronet to the cabinet in November last. It does not become us on this side of the house to eavil or quarrel with this change of opinion; it is sufficient for an humble individual like myself to be satisfied with this change of opinion, and to the results to which it will lead, and to the ability with which it is carried out (hear, hear, hear). But those honourable gentlemen for whom I have expressed some sympathy do not understand the change which has taken place in the opinions of those who sit with them, and they certainly do not take a wise or the right course to extricate themselves from the false position in which they are placed (hear, hear, hear). They make every kind of attack on the right honourable gentleman and his colleagues, and then conclude with some hypocritical and canting observation. They said that they were sure that the right honourable gentleman and his colleagues had acted upon the most honourable and the purest motives, but that still they had no confidence in them (hear, hear, and laughter). The learned Recorder of Dublin went further than any other gentleman in this respect. What did he call the ministers of the Grown with whom he was in the habit of associating? Why he called them political cowards (hear, hear). After praising the right honourable baronet and the other ministers with whom he was in the habit of associating, and stating that they were constrained to pursue the course which they did from a sense of public duty, the learned gentleman turned round, and said that he had no confidence in such political cowardice (hear, hear). If this was the case, why not at once come forward and move a vote of want of confidence in the Government (loud cheers). Why not at once come forward with a vote of censure on the Treasury bench (hear, hear). Such a course would be monly, intelligible, and parliamentary (hear, hear). I say that it would be a parliamentary course, because you in vote of want of confidence in the then government, and why did you vote it? It was then proposed to introduce some measure like the present concerning the commercial interests of the country (hear). What was the nature of the amendment that you then proposed? That a Government which proposed to legislate on the commerce or the revenues of the country should possess the confidence of that house..." We assure your Majesty that we are deeply sensible of the importance of these considerations to which your Majorty has been graciously pleased to direct our attention in reference to the commerce and revenue of the country, and to the laws which regulate the trade in That in deciding the course which it may be advisable to pursue with reference to such matters, it will be our earnest desire to consult the interest, and promote the welfare of all classes of her Majesty's subjects. That we feel it to be our duty humbly to submit to your Majesty that it is casomial to the antialactory results of our deliberations upon these and other matters of public concern, that your Majesty's Government should possess the confidence of this house and of the country; and respectfully to represent to your Majesty that that confidence is not reposed in the prosent advisors of your Majesty." (hear, hear, hear). That was your opinion in 1841, and was a manly, intelligible, and parliamentary course (hear, hear). You now say that the Government opposite has not the confidence of the country and of the house-why not, then, move a similar resolution now (cheers)?
Sir John Tyannic: Will you give it your support (hear,

hear, and languter)? Mr. T. Duncombu: How do you know which way I shall

vote (great laughter)? Why not try this konest proceeding, vote (great taughter);
and bring the matter to a test?
Sir John Tyanar: Will your party vote for it?
Dir. T. Duncomas: I am of no party, but the party of my

country; and I only vote for those matters which I believe to be favourable to my country (hear, hear). Gentlemen would do better by acting thus, than heaping all sorts of of loquy on the Covernment, and bringing charges of treates (hear, hear). Treason against whom (hour, hear)? What was the right hon, buronet to do in the peculiar circumstance. in which he was placed in November last? What had be told them? They had been told by the right hou, barone in the explanation which he made, and which was so satufactory to the country and honourable to himself (cheers) of the conduct which he pursued on that occasion then hear). He resigned office; were you prepared to take it (loud cheers)? Mr. Gladstone, in his address to the elector. of Newark, said that those who were against any relaxation of protection were not prepared to take office (hear, hear The noble lord had an opportunity of taking office, but be did not succeed in forming an administration. You wantel confidence, the Whigs wanted concord (hear, hear). You must admit that the country must be governed, and for that purpose there must be a Government. There must be some Government, and how was this to be but by the course takes by the right hon, baronet, who, as was stated chewhere, we determined, if he stood alone, that her Majesty should have the opportunity of meeting that Parliament with a confider tial and responsible adviser (hear, hear, hear). I wish the the noble lord had done the same (hear, hear), and if he had only ten more to follow him, I am sure that public on nion would have supported him as it does the right hou. is ronet (hear). As for the charge of treason brought again t the right hon, baronet, was it treason to Her Majesty, trea son to the people, or treason to his own honour them, hear)? If there was treason, it must be towards somebod. That would, indeed, have been treason if the right hon buronet had forfested and sacrificed the interests of a great nation to the interests of a party (cheers). There are tree sons of which the right hon, baronet can be guilty. It would be treason to the people and the country if the right boy gentleman is guilty of vacillation in the course which helemarked out for himself (hear). This is the only description of treason which I can understand. But we were told that the people are with you. Has there been any public exhibition which will show that this is the case (hear, hear) Look, however on the opposite side (hear, hear). Was the election in the West Riding of Yorkshire nothing these, hear)? Was the Westminster election yesterday nothing (hear, hear, from the protectionists)? Where was your pretection at Westminster yesterday (cheers from the same quarter)? Why was not a protection candidate brought forward at Westminster yesterday (cheers)? For my elf. I do not think it was very material which of the two gentle men was chosen yesterday; but why, I ask, when you tell me that public opinion is in favour of protection, did you not bring forward a protection candidate for Westminster theat. hear)? Why not hoist in this city the flag of protection (hear, hear)? Your candidate might have stood up to be kneed in the feetid cabbages of Corn Law proprietors clause. ter and cheers). No doubt we may be told to look to the opinion of tenants-at-will and other farmers, and the honbaronet the member for the University of Oxford said, the other evening, that the clergy and the church stood alarmed at the effect that a repeal of the Corn Laws would have open the operation of the Tithe Commutation Act. But he did not tell us why (hear, hear, hear). It so happened that whenever anything is brought forward for the good of the people, some one is sure to stand up and exclaim, "Oh! you do not recollect the clergy" (laughter). Whenever we hear any talk of the church or the clergy, it is sure to be in some way or other connected with tithes. This is not a measure let the church—for, as I understand it, the church means religion (laughter). It should be remembered also that at least one-third of the tithes at this moment belong to lay improprintors, and this measure must as much affect them is the tithes of the clergy. My own opinion is, that the tenant far mers do not care one pin about protection, and if the vote by bullot existed, they would not support it; but, as it is they dare not vote against their landlords. With respect to this. however, they had an authority on the subject, whose opnion I will read, for the satisfaction of the honourable mem ber for the University of Oxford, which I trust will allow some of the alarm he feels. I say I am sure the authority to which I am about to refer is one to which the honourable baronet will pay great deference—it is the charge of a bishop to his clergy—namely, the charge of the Bishop of Rochester. If I understood the honourable baronet rightly the other night, he said that in passing the Tithe Commutation Act, ac entered into a compact with the church, and that therefore tithes ought not to be injured, or prejudiced, or deterior rinted, but that this act for the repeal of the Corn law would deteriorate them. The honourable baronet had that he opposed the Tithe Commutation Act at the time it was introduced. Now, I have more than once joined the honourable acceptance in the honourable acceptance. the honourable member in opposing bills in this house, but it so happened that we always did so on very diese ent grounds (a laugh). For instance, we both opposed the Maynooth Bill last year. The hon, baronet did so on lagochurch principles; whereas I opposed it, as I was opposed to all state endowments of religion (hear, and laughter). The honourable buronet opposed the Tithe Commutation Act on some ground connected with the church; but I apposed it because I thought that it would prove injurious to the landel interest, and more especially if there was a repeal of the Cort Law, for I felt sure that when the Corn Laws were repealed. certain light lands must be thrown out of cultivation, and that under the Tithe Commutation Act they would still remain chargeable with the payment. I also objected to it be cause it gave tithes a stronger claim on the land than they ever had a control of the sact, tithes were not a dimental account to the sact, tithes were not a dimental account to the sact, tithes were not a control of the sact, tithes were not a control direct lien on the laud, but now they are made a positive rent-charge. Now, this is the opinion of the Bishopef Rochester on the subject :— Taking into account he state of political parties in the country, the Title Bill may be considered to be as favourable an arrangement towards the clean of a very difficult question as could have been expected. Har pily for the oburch, a powerful and influential body of the laity were also holders of tithe property to a very large amount, and were as much interested in a fair settlement of the the question as we were; the clergy therefore, in the instance, have experienced a greater degree of instance, than has been extended towards them in the distinction of other without extended towards them. than has been extended towards them in the discussion of other subjects connected with their temporal affairs. For a person in Parliament to impute motives would be irregular; but here we have a bishop who changes legislating on this subject with being indusped by subject of self-interest, and thus they, never would have never they did but for this singuisation.

prolate went on to say, "The oriterious which have been fixed upon to determine the future value of the tithes is also considered by some persons, whose opinions are entitled to great weight, as a dangerous and delusive arrangement, which will hereafter lead to great diminution in the property of the church, and it is said that any considerable decrease in the value or quantity of the articles which may have been fixed upon to regulate the future relative value of the tithes would produce the evils here anticipated; but it must be remembered, that as the incomes of the clergy were derived under the old system from the articles of produce, they would equally have been affected by, under any circumstances, a diminution in their quantity or value. I am not therefore disposed to think that any just cause for alarm exists on this point." I think this must be satisfactory. The extracts I have read are in a charge of the Bishop of Rochester, delivered in 1837, and reported in the Times of tlet year. Unless the honourable baronet is prepared to prove that the sliding scale has the same divine origin as lithes, they cannot be affected by a repeal of the Corn Laws. I can easily understand the right honourable buronet opposite despairing and desponding of making any impression on the reasons of honourable members on his side of the house, and that consequently he appealed to their fears; but I do think that when he did so appeal to their fears, they ought to do justice to this side of the house. They ought to recollect that, in 1812, when those dreadful occurrences took place-when such great distress existed-and when there was every appearance, of disturbance and confusion-that previous to those events continual motions were made in this house by honourable members sitting on this side of the house motions involving exactly the same principles that are now put forward by her Majesty's ministers. We told these ministers, over and over again, that "if you would but give effect to those sound principles of commercial policy with which you began this session, and more especially as regards the food of the people, you will put an end to all the distresses under which the people are suffering." In the end of July, in that year, I moved an address to the Crown, founded on arguments the particulars of which I will not now trouble the house with, and which motion was, after all, negatived by but a small majority, considering the force of the party at the time by which I was opposed. The object of the address which I suggested was, A that the distress in the manufacturing districts, to which her Majesty had alluded to the speech from the Throne, still continued; and that if after the termination of the session no decisive improvement should take place in the condition of the people, her Majesty might be graciously pleased again at an early period to call Parliament together, with a view of giving fuller effect to those sound principles of commerce to which some approach had been made by her Majesty's Government in the early part of the session, and which, if fairly and impartially carried out, more especially as regards the food of the people, would, by giving an impulse to trade and industry, avert those calamities with which the country was threatened." That motion was rejected; but we are now told that the measures to which I then alluded are the very measures that could remove distress and confusion. We have therefore a right to say that the same measures would have prevented them on that occasion, and would have relieved the right honourable baronet from the painful necessity under which he found himself, but in which he seemed to glory, of sending down regiments of guards and a park of attillery among the starying operatives in the manufacturing districts thear, hear). If the right honourable baronet had sent down this measure which he has now brought forward on that occasion, there would have been no necessity for his guards and his artillery, and peace would have been restored without them (hear, hear, and cheers). I believe that if he had taken this course, it is impossible to estimate the extent of misery that then might have been prevented, the suffering that then might have been spared, and the crimes that then might have been avoided. Sir, whoever governs this country, wheever are the rulers of this empire, it should not be forgotten that they rule over a loyal, a peaceable, and an honest people (hear, hear)—and I will add, too, a forgiving people thear, hear, and loud cheers). Yes, they are a forgiving people, and they already forgive and forget the errors that you then perpetrated; and all that you can now do is to pass these measures as quickly as you can, and as honestly and sincerely as you can, and not leave the people for a moment to regret or look back to the days to which I allude (hear, hear). A question was put to the right honourable baronet this evening by the honourable member for Norfolk, and a question has been also put to him by the noble lord opposite, with regard to the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. The right hon, baronet has told them, that if it should be the wish of gentlemen here and protectionists elsewhere, that the total repeal of the Corn Laws should be immediate, why, that he and this house will be but too happy to accommodate them. But there is another part of this measure to which I beg leave to call attention, in answer to the question put by the honourable member for Norfolk. this measure was first proposed to us, we were told to take it as a whole (hear, hear). Now, let me tell you that the part of this measure that after all is, and will be most valu-shle to the operative classes, is that which makes the great, the important changes in the twice heart of the content of the the important changes in the law of settlement; and I say this, if you strike out that part of the measure; if you do and pledge yourselves to that portion of the measure, as you do to the part relating to the Corn Law, your whole meathe manufacturing districts (hear, hear). The right hon-baronet says, that he does not wish to press that part of the question until the Corn Law part—the portion referring to the relaxation of duty in the articles of provision and of clothing—is completed and concluded in the house. But if there he an idea going abroad, as I am informed there in, though I hope it may not prove true, that in some of these great manufacturing towns a great and powerful opposition is intended against that portion of the measure of her Majesty's ministers; if the language that is used in those towns be this—"Lat us get the Corn Law part of the question settled (loud eries of hear, hear, from the protectionist benshes), and then we will deal with the law of settlement (hear, hear, hear): I way again, if you the law of settlement (hear, hear, hear); I say again, if you the law of settlement (hear, hear); I say again, if you permit that course to be shopted and to succeed, there will be an agitation got up against this measure thoughout the country that will render it completely valueless; and I therefore call upon her. Malestys ministers to give us an assurance that they do someties the proposed cliange in the law of settlement as an admittal that and parcel of their measure (hear, hear). What I have a settlement to proposed this proposed of the country that the proposed of their measure (hear, hear). What I have a retrospective effect.

Sir R. Past.-That an industrial residence for five years

shall give them a right to relief. Mr. Duscomme-I mean that it shall give them a right to relief; that is to any, that these towns shall be saddled with the expense of that relief (hear). Now, suppose you had had a law of that sort in operation in 1812, do you suppose there would be half the crime—do you suppose there would be half the misery-do you suppose there would be half the distress, or half the suffering which was then witnessed in the country? Why, it is notatious that in Stockport alone there were 3000 houses vacant and empty in that year 1842. These had been inhabited by persons paying half a crown a week rent, or some trifle of that sort. But what became of these unfortunate people? sent travelling over half the country (hear, hear). numbers of them were Irishmen, and were sent back to Ire land with their families, with the greatest cruelty- with the utmost inhumanity-by those capitalists for whom they had worked for years (hear, hear). I understand there are at this moment two thirds of the operative population of the town of Manchester, who are not entitled to relief from those persons whose fortunes they had made; and what is the result?.. You send those people with their families back to their country parishes. When they arrive there what happens to Why, they are disowned by the parish, and a small sum is offered to them to go away again claewhere, and then they are left tramping over the country, nobody owning them, society seeming in fact to be conspiring to starve them; and who can be astonished if under such a system these persons should commit crimes? Can you be astonished if there should be discontent, or disaffection if you wish, or sedition if you think proper to call it so them hear)? I say, if you look to these facts, if you consider that poor persons after many years of labour in the manufacturing districts have been sent abroad with their families starving, and tramping through the country without having any hope or chance of their misery being put an end to, save by death or the hulks--if these unfortunate victims of this detestable system are thus made to suffer, then I do hope that her Majesty's Ministers will think the change of the law of settle ment as being also a most important measure. I do not ask it as a matter of compensation to the agriculturists (hear). It will be a boon, it is true, to them; but it will be also a great not of justice to the unfortunate people who are made to suffer from the existing law. Though all opposition to this question may now be in abeyance, that is no reason why you should not look after it with great care, and with a jealous eye (hear, hear). I believe, however, that her Majesty's Ministers are sincere, and are determined to carry this great and important measure (hear, hear, from Sir R. Peel), which can only be objected to by some of the great capitalists of the country. It is, I say, with these views and expectations that I give my cordial support, both in and out of this house, to the measure of her Majesty's Government-believing that it is a measure calculated not mly to extend commerce and manufactures, but that it is calculated to promote the interests of agriculture, to relieve the resources of the empire, and to advance the condition of the people; and, above all things, to enlist in favour of our common country the goodwill, the friendly feelings, and the respect of the civilised world (hear, hear). But as to that portion of this house, commonly called the agricultural inte rest, I really do believe that as soon as the protection shall have been removed, which is now so unworthy of them, and so degrading to their party—that as soon as these days of protection shall have passed away, they shall be themselves the very first to acknowledge that their apprehensions had been unfounded; and that when they see trade flourishing —when they see the reople in the provinces in good and constant employment-when they see prices fixed and rates reducedwhen they see that, notwithstanding all their fears, the value of their estates has not really been diminished-when they see all this, they will, I am convinced, be the very first to acknowledge that their alarms had been unfounded, and to regret the errors in which they had so long and so pertinaciously continued (loud cheers).

Sir T. ACLAND rose, with great warmth, to defend the agricultural interest against the charge of ignorance and bigotry which the last speaker had preferred against it. He had never been a friend to extreme protection. He had wel-comed Sir R. Peel's measure of 1812. But the reasons which Sir Robert Peel now advanced in support of the sweeping change and the further reduction, which he now proposed, were by no means satisfactory to his mind. Ploquent in language, no doubt they were, and of great excellence in debate; but convincing they certainly were not. Sir Robert Peel seemed to use every effort to put his opponents in the wrong; but took very little pains to place himself in the right (hour, hear). It was a most unjust imputation on the agricultural interest to assert that it upheld the Corn Laws because they starved the labourer for the benefit of the landlord. Believing that the existing Corn Law bad worked well for the landlord, the farmer, the labourer, the manufacturer, and the exporter, he could not accept the measure which Sir Robert Peel now offered to him; for he could not in three weeks learn to read backwards the les son which Sir R. Peel and he had learned in the same school for 30 years. He believed that the Lengue was at the bottom of all this change; but a greater agilation even than that which the League had raised, might have been put down by ministers firm and resolute, though it could not be met by ministers who, in heart and in spirit, by some process or other, had secretly arrived, at the same conclusions with the League itself. In conclusion he informed Sir R. Peel that he would not join in any factious opposition to his government. He would not even worry his measure. If parliament should pass this measure, and the crown should sauction it, Sir Robert need expect no further trouble from him; but if the division should be close on the present debate, then Bir Robert would not be able to carry his measure, and the Booner he dissolved the present parliament the better.

Lord A. PAGET had listened with a good deal of attention

to the debate as it had gone on, and he confessed he thought that a good many gentlemen had been rather hard upon the right hon, gentleman. He was convinced that nothing but a sense of public duty could have induced that right hon. baronet to have brought forward the present measure. He had been at the head of a large and united party; now, when ther he went east, west, north, or south, nothing but the renegade minister was talked about (cheers). He thought renegade minister was talked about (cheers). He thought that the right honourable baronet was one of the greptest instances of sacrifices of self-that had ever been made from conscientious motives (buar). He quite agreed that the noble lord (the member for London) would have been the proper passes to have brought forward this motion. He had had the honour of supporting the noble long that he had been in Passiances. The had been in Passiances.

have that pleasure-his undoubted bravery straightforward conduct outitled him to their highest regard (hear, and cheers). He (Lord A. Paget) should give the right honourable gentleman's measure his most cordial aupport (hear). He had belonged for several years to that forform hope which went out annually with his honourable friend the member for Wolverhampton (Mr. Villiers); but now he was glad to say that their position was alterest (cheers). He had always agreed that no law could regulate the price of wages; admitting that axiom, he said also that no law could regulate the price of food. The Corn Laws were near their end. His family derived their income, from corn, and he knew that the head of it apprehended no danger from the repeal of the law; therefore, though he should sulpport the measure of the right hon, baronet, yet he must hop? that it would not be long ere they should have an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws (cheers).

Mr. W. B. Byntso, in a voice scarcely audible amidst the noise occasioned by memilers retiring, next addressed the house. We understood him to say that protection had been granted to the British farmer when, from a variety of sir constances, he would otherwise have been utterly unable to have competed with the foreigner. Now, however, things had changed. Tithes had been commuted, cultivation had been improved; the furners admitted themselves that they could make the soil produce double what used to be an average. These, and other things combined had enabled the farmer to compete with the foreigner without protection, and for that reason he thought that protection might be dispensed This was an appeal to the justice of the landed inwith. To be satisfactory the measure must, be unanimous; and he trasted the landowners would not, as judges in their own cause, give a verdiet in their own favour (cheers).

On the motion of Mr. CUMMING BRUCE the debate was

The Debate was resumed this evening. The House was addressed by Mr. Backly (Leominster), Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Muntz, and Mr. D'Ismeli (who spoke nearly two hours and a balf against the measure;) after which the Debuto was adjourned to Monday.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of The Laure.

Sing - As the writer of the "Shoemaker," in Knight's series of Industrial Guides, and editor of the "Cordwainer's Com panion," a correspondent, in the person of a master boot and shoe maker, in an important provincial town, has sent to me to say, that he has just purchased the first named little volume in consequence of a paragraph in Tus Lexuus, of Jan. 31st, concerning the foreign and home boot and shop trade; but that he has been much dissuppointed in not find ing any mention therein of the matter he was led to expect, and upon which he was desirous of obtaining information. The passage in your Journal is this one, and which I thus transcribe for the purpose of clearer understanding th**o few** observations I would wish to add:

" In the case of the bootmakers, to which Sir Robert has alluded, protection has acted as a check and discouragement to ingenuity and economy. The author of the 'Shoemaker.' in Knight's Industrial Series, has stated that the reliance of the London bootmakers on protection has induced them to neglect several improvements adopted by their brethren in Paris, which save material and induce a better fit.'

Now, although it might be inferred that the reasons for the statement here made were to be found in the "Shoe maker, still it is not so, but in a pamphlet I had printed about eight years ago, and hence several years prior to the first great change in our commercial system of 1812. This pamphlet was also written before the "Shoemakor;" nor was it published by Mr. Knight, but may still be had of Mr. Strange, in Paternoster row, or, through him, from any other bookseller the title of it being, "The Boot and Shoe Trade in France, as it affects the interests of the British Manufac turer in the same Business." It is true, however, that in this production, I argued that "protection" had in some degree - to use your own words-" seted as a check and discouragement to ingenuity and economy," though the main scope of my proofs on this houd were more exclusively directed to the inferiority of our dressed calf-leather, as used for the upper parts of boots and shoes, than to the artistic abilities of the maker of the boot or shoe. Yet even here I likewise arged the necessity for improvement; and also stated the case as strongly as I could against the fondlylingering belief of the great impority of the trade, that the then heavy scale of "protection" might be still rendered more heavy, and that the Government ought to be memoriglised to do go.

This, then, was one of the statements advanced by the "anthor of the 'Shoomaker;" and although at the time—and as I still am to a certain degree—even vituperated in the foulest manner for the "cut-throat," as it has been called, cast of such advice, yet have I now, withal, the antisfaction to say, that since the eight years this pamphlet has been placed before my fellow-trudesmen, the British boot and shoe manufacture has not at any rate been retrograding; but on the contrary, has advanced so considerably in taxte, and in every other way, and in all places alike throughout the United Kingdom, that the French boot and shoe-ladies or gentle-men's—are no longer considered the superior articles they were some ten or twelve years ago, or even down to the time of the last change in the tariff. That change produced a greater abundance of the so much needed better dressed leather of our neighbours; and although the price of this material was still high—and has still kept high, and will, no doubt, still longer keep so, through the greater demand which the present proposed alterations will further induce, yet, in the words of my pampillat, allow every portion of our industrial population but to live as "cheap as the people of other countries" in having cheap bread and cheap taxation, and then, nor shoemaker, nor currier, nor Spitalfold's weaver, will care what customs 'impost is taken off; assured—as I feel it will be with the shoemaker—that he doffs not his "handleather" to his fellow-craftsmen of any country. In old times—to use a familiar technical phrase of our " order"—we were all "dons," vertable "prize" workers,—men who made is their degreet ambition—to be vary, gods of leather; and with a big loaf, cheap house rent, and cheap everything elso, not forgetting a cheap and broadly-expanded voice as our own due share in the choice of the Poople's Parliament," we will courageously to on, seving and singing, happy as Charles Westley, and inhibite sobbler; or reading, and learning languages, and mathorising as "Cooper the Charles was some once, also, a member of the "gentle oratio". Yours deer

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LET US HAVE IT AT ONCE.

"Let us have it at once." Such is now the common expression in farm, field, and market-town. At first, when Sir R. Peel's three years' scheme came before them, the farmers said, "Better have it at once;" but many of them added such bitter expressions as showed they were only speaking in a fit of vexation. They then said, "Sacrifice us at once!" "Destroy us if you will; but do not keep us in torture," "What be the good of being particular about we? Knock us down, and slay us, and robour dead bodies; what good be it to give us three years' notice to stand on our own defence?" and so forth.

Now, since conversation has become calmer, cooler, and reflection has penetrated into the question of Free Trade, the thoughts of the farmers going into it, and examining it on all sides, which few of them ever did before, they say more carnestly, though with less passion, "Let us have it at once."

Even the man who has no hope of good from it believes that it must come; and he says he would like to have it over. But this kind of man is day by day growing rarer. I can now see a farmer leaning over his barn-door, his face directed to the farm-yard, his score or two of pigs before him with their exploring snouts in the straw, gathering the lost grains, himself, like them, busiedor buried-in deep cogitation about maize, and beans, and outs, to feed pigs and cattle (for he has read Sir Robert Peel's speeches, and though he never read Free Trade speeches before, he begins to understand that a farmer may derive advantages from Free Trade),-such a farmer, with such thoughts in his head, so standing with arms folded on the barn door, may now be met with frequently. I have met many of them within the last fortnight. and every day they are becoming more plentiful, and his words are, "If it be to do good, let us have it at once."

So speaks the flock-master, standing beside his shepherd. "It is true," says he, "that wool sells better since there was no protection on it. It is true that we can now feed sheep, where up to a few years ago we only bred them and sold them for others to feed, we having bought foreign grown food since that time, and foreign manures to grow turnips; I am beginning to think that Sir Robert Peel must be right. The farm-yard manure, if we have enough of it, is the best of all manures; and we should import the food of cattle, to have our manure for nothing, rather than pay one million and a quarter of pounds sterling, as it is said we did, last year, for the dung of foreign birds, to grow turnips at home; but why should we wait three years to do this?"

So says the farmer, as he wake across his ploughed land, and plans what crops he shall have on this field, and what on that, and kicks the clode at he plans and turns over in his mind all that has been said about the advantage of having the lean

cattle of the foreigner admitted free of duty, and the provender to feed the catttle, also free of duty-de outs of Polund, and the beans of Egypt; and is certainly of opinion that it is greatly preferable to admit the lean beast and the food for him, than to admit the fat beast on an equality with the lean, and keep out the food; but on looking at the new scheme of the Prime Minister, he finds that the lean beast is to be immediately inported free. But the food is not to be free for three years, unless it be the article of maize, the uses of which, however, the farmer knows much less along than of the uses of barley, beans, peas, and out Whatever plans he intended for the cropping of he farm, they are now frustrated, when he comes to this hitch in the ministerial plan. He says, " $W_{\rm b_1}$ not let us have it at once;" and he adds to it some such observation as this, "Look at those $_{\rm heq}$ making the new railway; when they began work they had their shovels and their wheelbarrowsgiva to them at the same time. What use would then wheelbarrows have been alone, without their shovels to fill them? So of what use is the importation of cuttle for us to feed, if the food is not admitted at the same time?"

At the market tables, though there is some grandling—still a few murmurs of "treachery," "done for," "taken in," "sacrificed," and so on—there is now a prevailing tone of fair discussion, and that is emphatically for immediate in preference to prespective repeal. In several market-places I have heard it said by those who have been leading pretectionists, "If you can so frame a petition to Parliament, asking for immediate repeal, without committing us as seeking an abolition of the Corn Lawwe will sign that petition. We will rather have at once."

It is hardly possible to set eyes on the farmer who is favourable to the three years' scheme. Occasionally a man, from some political connection, with the Ministerial party, may be found in a market-place giving his approval of it. One of these I saw a few days ago in a certain city of the south. He was selling wheat. A well-known miller came and looked at it, and offered the price of the previous week, but the farmer wanted two shillings more. The miller said nothing, but was moving towards some other samples. "But you have not given me an answer," said the farmer, "What am I to do?"

"Friend," said the miller, "Lwill not keep yet three years in uncertainty; in five minutes them shalt have an answer."

Not the least favourable sign of progressive intelligence among the farmers, relative to the question, is the fact that they are now tolerant enough to quote the opinions of opponents, and speak respectfully of Free Traders. "Have you read Cobden's letter?" asks one. "Ah! but do you see what Mr. Cobden says?" exclaims another. And these are men who twelve months ago would not have sat at the same dinner table with a man who would mention Mr. Cobden's name.

But of all the evidences of altered opinions, the strongest, the richest, is one I heard in a market place a few days ago. The letter of the honourable member for Stockport was once more the subject. One expressed his concurrence in every word of at Another agreed with that one, and gave words to his wonder that the honourable gentleman should be so well-informed, should know so much of the world, and everything in the world. "Oh!" replied the oracle of the party," don't you know he be's a farmer's son?"

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Mn. Connex.—We have great pleasure in informing our readers that Mr. Cobdon's health is so far re-established, at to render it probable that he will be able to resume his parliamentary duties in a day or two. It is expected that he will make his appearance this (Friday) evening in the House of Commons.

DRATH OF J. P. BURNARD, Esq.—We regret to have to announce the death of J. P. Burnard, Esq., who died on Tuesday last, at his residence, Formosa Cottage, Hollows, Mr. Burnard has been an energetic and active supporter of the League for many years, and many of our resident all probably recollect the efficient survives rendered by Mn. Burnard as the superintendent of all the attanguishing for the stage and platform, during several years, it the League medings in Brary Lane, and Covah. Onder Theories, in Burnard has suffered several months, and several months are several months.

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WESTMINSTER ELECTION. THE NOMINATION.

The first public demonstration connected with the election of a member to serve in Parliament took place on Tuesday on the occasion of the nomination of the candidates ambithe result of the nomination fully proves, whatever the elec-tion may show, that the majority of the people at least give their hearty support to Sir Do Lacy Evans, the consistent advocate of Free Trade.

The Westminster nomination is notoriously one of the mort riotous in the kingdom-the spot where it is held-its proximity to Covent Garden market—the facilities which are thus afforded for the physical expression of one's feeling, through the medium of rotten apples, oranges, cabbages, and such like missiles, so effectual in electioneering warfare, which there abound—its proximity to some of the lowest localities of the metropolis, all tend to render it a noisy and boisterous affair. Tuesday was no exception to the general rule. The vast space in front of the lustings was crammed with a motley group; and though every exertion was used to Preserve order, the most discordant noises prevailed throughout the whole business, and the most disagreeable missiles were ever and anon discharged at some one or other of the more prominent individuals on the hustings.

There could not have been less than 10,000 persons preent; and though tolerably free in the expression of their opinions, a general good humour seemed to prevail, which, spite of other disagreeables, made the matter pass off more

pleasantly than usual.

Precisely at twelve o'clock General Sir De Lacy Evans entered on the platform, amidst the most unequivocal exprecions of approbation from the vast assemblage in front of the hustings. He was accompanied by Lord M. Hill, Lord C. Fitzroy, M.P., Lord Moreton, Baron de Sedwitz, the Hon. F. Byng, Hon. E. P. Bouverie, M.P., the Hon. R. Colborne, the Hon. Capt. Boyle, Colonel Fox, M.P., Mr. T. D'Eyncourt, M.P., Mr. B. Hawes, M.P., Mr. H. Elphinstone, M.P., Messis. Proutt, Berkeley, Allen, Trott, Kemp, M'Leod, Edick.

captain Rous and his party followed immediately after. Their approach was the signal for combined cheers, hisses, and groups. Amongst his supporters we observed Lord F. Egerton, M.P., Lord E. Bruce, M.P., Lord Cantaloupe, Lord W. Graham, the Hon. Mr. West, Captain Meynell, R.N., Licotenant Colonel T. Wood, M.P., Messrs, Merewether, J. C. Wood, Miller, Smith, Fitzgerald, Hedges, Wilson, Keasley, &c.

When something like the semblance of a calm had been

Mr. F. SMEDLEY, the high bailiff of Westminster, came forward, and spoke as follows :- Electors of Westminster, I have the honour of attending here to-day, as the returning officer for this ancient city. The object for which you have as embled is to return a member for this great city to Parnourable Captain Rous, having accepted an appointment connected with the Government (grouns and loud cheers); whereby he has vacated his seat in Parliament. Gentlemen, the constitution of this country requires that every member of Parliament who accepts a situation connected with the Government should vacate his sent (loud cheers, and a voice, "Good job, too"). He may come forwild again, however, to be elected (uproar, and cries of We won't have him," "Go home," &c.). Captain Rous is in that position (conflicting cheers and hisses, mingled with grouns, cut calls, and every species of noise). Gentlemen, that gives you an opportunity of expressing your opitions as to whether he shall be your member, and of shewing whether the Government measures, which he is about to support, are in accordance with your own views and Captain Rous, then, is one of the candidates who seeks the honour of being returned to Parliamentas your representative. General Sir de Lacy Evans (loud cheers and uproar), who before was your member, also seeks that honour (renewed cheers). I intrest you to give to both these gentlemen, and to the electors, who may propose and second their nominations, an impartial and patient hearing, for by such means you will be best able to judge who shall represent you in Parliament (confusion and general manifestations of imputience). There are certain forms which it is becessary for me to go through before proceeding to the more important business of the day. I ask your patience while those forms are being gone through, and I promise that they shall not occupy more time than is absolutely necessary

Mr. Owes, the high constable, then read the proclamation; and the usual formalities which have so often been re-

corled of late, having been gone through, Mr. JOSEPH CARTER Wood came forward to propose the nomination of the Hon. Captain Rous. His appearance was greated with yells and grouns, a" brave Rous" or two, and a few choers. He said, "We are assembled to-day for the exercise of the Englishman's most valued privilege; and I trust there is not a constituency who values its free and un lansed exercise more than the electors of Westminster (cheers). The results of their decisions have always been viewed with deep interest, and their influence is extensively feit. The present election takes place at a moment of pacuhar anxiety and excitement—an anxiety fult by all classes of the people, and an excitement co-extensive with the varied and important interests at stake. I must confess to you, that in appearing again on the hustings, I am deeply sous! he of the responsibility of that duty, which as a citizen of Westminster I am called on to perform (uproar, grouns, and cheers); and I trust you will believe me when I say that nothing but a prevailing sense that it is my duty would induce me to attempt it (2002). Clariforna I stand here to also me to attempt it (groans). Gontlemen, I stand here to day to nominate the Hon. Captain Rous as a fit and proper person to represent this city in Parliament (terrific confusion); but I feel that his fitness will depend very much on the part he has taken in the case constitut which how constrains the he has taken in that great question which now occupies the public attention—Free Trade, or not Free Trade—that is the question (brave). For, allow me to say, I have never heard the slightest complaint that my hon friend has been defiviext in all attention and courtesy to, and zeal for, the intrees of his constituents. I cannot, therefore, antidipate that having served you faithfully, you will consider his accommon to the consideration of the consideration reptance of an office, wherein his professional knowledge as a haval officer may render blin most useful to his country in promoting the welfare of our mays, as any disquelifica-promoting the welfare of our mays, as any disquelifica-tion for his revolvation (ob, mingled with cheers and biases). I cannot disquise from myself that oh the great question to which I have alluded there is a ballup of dissatisfaction on the part of many of his former supporters, but let me pot his case they before you, and I trust a stell find, English spirit shough in the reserve to to him in the control of the processing in a raillament as your that

Does it not appear extraordinary that at the same period of time so many minds seemed to be directing their enquiring energies towards the subject of Free Trade in corn, if at the same time there should appear no external oiroumstances, as it were, forcing that subject on their atten-But, gentlemen, those external circumstances did Not only was the alarm extensive with regard to the potato murrain; but had it not pleased a gracious Providence to suspend the falling rain—had it continued another two or three weeks—what must have become of the wheat crop, and what must have been the privations of the poor of this country? It was at such a juncture, gondemen, that the Conservative ministry, and Conservative members of Parliament, began to review their past votes on the corn ques tion, to avail themselves of the result of those Free Trade measures which had already been introduced, and thus looking onward from them to what was likely to be the fosult of more extended measures of the same characterto contemplate the introduction of that alteration in the relations of the country, a Free Trade in corn, by which the long contending parties for agricultural and manufacturing interests were to be amalgamated, new channels opened, and new sources created through which capital may flow into the agricultural districts, unequal burdons equalised, and the industry of the country relieved by lightening every weight that pressed upon it. Now, here is the head and front of my honograble friend's offending—that he was almost the first to draw the public attention to the advanced and advancing views on this subject (cheers and grouns). I candidly admit that I at first disapproved of his early avowal of these views; but, subsequently, my attention, like others', has been drawn to this matter; and though I once thought agricultural protection a sine qua non to the safety of the country, I own that the time has arrived to abandon it with safety—at least if under the guidance of her Majesty's present Government, for in their integrity and ability I feel the fullest confidence. Why, gentlemen, have we not seen the agricultural labourer reduced to wages-1 will not say wages, but a pittance, that affords no just remuneration for his services? Do we not see fertile districts half farmed, and consequently not yielding half the produce nature intended; and if these are the results of protection, is it not time we said farewell to it? Now, gentlemen, I beseach you to consider with what views, but those of deep and absorbing interest in your welfare, could my honourable friend have taken up the advanced post in the Free Trade movement? Then show him now by your votes and earnestness in his cause that you are grateful for the measure. I am here to-day to ask your support of my honourable friend, and that you will thereby testify to the honourable baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government, that you duly appreclate the sacrifice he has made to meet the wishes and promote the happiness of the people, that you will avail yourselves of the first public opportunity to merge any political differences of minor importance in the gratifying opnow afforded you of recording your value of those measures, proposed by the most able, conscientions, and decisive minister this country ever possessed But you will, perhaps, tell me I am advocating the cause of the ministry rather than that of my hon, friend. Gentlemen, they are one and the same cause. Let me, therefore, appeal to every honest Conservative to come forward and record his vote in favour of it. Let no feelings of personal interest damage so good a cause. Let the aristocracy, gallant and noble as they are, be not, as a noble lord has said, laggards, but leaders of the people. Let the middle class, honest, enterprising, and firm of purpose, rally round my honourable and gallant friend Captain Itous—whom Luow nominate as a fit and proper representative for this city in Parliament. Let every elector rise in honest rivalry, that he be once more sent from these hustings honoured by your approval, and he will still be found to do his duty with honour to himself, advantage to his country, and courtesy to all (general uproar).

Lord F. EGERTON, in seconding the nomination, said he saw the minister, unavoidably perhaps, but as he thought, unfortunately for the country, deprived of the assistance of many valued adherents (hour, hear). He was not the man, under these circumstances, to withhold from a Minister so situated the small assistance which he could bestow, and he had reason to believe that little as it was, it would be best esteemed in the shape in which he was endeavouring to give it (cheers). He thought by so doing he should best facili tate the introduction of measures involving a principle which he hoped to see henceforth embodied in our commer

vial and fiscal regulations (cheers).

Mr. Bouvenie, who was received with cheers, came forward and said-We are met together to choose a represen tative for the House of Commons, and I beg to propose Col. Evans as a fit and proper person (great cheering). Five years ago a Tory and monopolist was chosen to represent this great city. Since then we have had no vote or voice in Parliament (cheers). We have had one of our members voting one way, the other the other. tion of importance to the people, we have had one member young one way for it, and the other against it—the one sayvoting one way for it, and the other against it—the one saying yes, the other no (cheers). We have now an opportunity of redeeming ourselves from this disgrace, and of reseatablishing ourselves in the proud position Westminster used to occupy, as the first and greatest liberal constituency in England (great cheering). We have a place to dispose of; not one of emolument, though in Captain Rous's case it would seem to lead to emolument, but one of proud eminence—the honour of representing this great constituency (cheers). We have two applicants for the situation. One who has always opposed the Corn Laws, and does so still; one who has always been a reformer, and is satil; one who has who has always been a reformer, and is still; one who has always stood forward for the rights and libertles of the people, and does so still (great cheering). Did he believe Free Trade was for the benefit of the equatry? he believes it now. Did he believe that the Corn Laws ought to be re-pealed? he believes so now (loud cheers). The other appealed? he believes so now (loud cheers). The other applicant was a Tory and monopolist—what he is now I can not tell. He is nicitler one thing nor the other—a sort of amphibious animal, something like a horse-marine (laughter and cheers). Bir Robert Peal has asked us two questions: ho we approve of Free Trade? I trust we shall answer, Yes; and send tionaral Evans, a thorough Free Trader, to vote fout (cheers). Do we place confidence in Captain Rous?—I trust we shall answer, No, that we place to dependence on him, that we cannot trust him (cheers). I beg, in condition, to propose General Sir de 1800, hysne assembles for this city, (cheers).

The development of Captain, was not had every less that the purpose of second-institution of Gardell, value and had every less that the condition of the purpose of second-institution of Gardell, value and had every less that the condition of the purpose of second-institution of Gardell, value and had every less that the condition of the purpose of second-institution of Gardell, value and had every less than the condition of the purpose of second-institution of the condition of the purpose of second-institution of the condition of the condit

whether fiscal, commercial, religious, or connected with the representation (cheers)—who had ever been the stern defender of the rights of the people, even when it was not fashionable to be so (cheers). He was the consistent advocate of Free Trade principles, when the profession of these opinions was not expected to lead to place and to emolu-nient (cheers). The hop, gentleman (Captain Rous) told them he was unchanged, and let them recollect that he originally came into Westminster as the adopted child of the Tories, and the opponent of Pres Trade (cheers). He spoke on the hustings against the repeal of the Corn Laws, and he told the advocates of Pree Trade in Parliament, that the triumph of their destricts would lead the labourers and artisans of the country to the condition of being obliged to live on bread and an onion, and to take a suck at the pump (cheers). Either the judgment of the hon, captain must be defective, or he was guilty of dishoneaty, for he told them he would vote for the repeal of the Corn Laws (hear, and cheers). If at that time the continuance of those laws he believed to be good, his judgment was defective; and if he had voted for those laws believing them to be had, it was an act of political dishonesty (cheers). And in either case he was unfit to represent the electors of Westminster, and I o would leave him on either of the horns of the dilemma which he chose to select (cheers). There were many other reasons which he (Dr. Bainbridge) could add why they ought to vote on this occasion for the Liberal candidate, but he would leave them to be descanted upon by the gullant general himself, who would deal with them much better than he (Dr. Bainbridge) could possibly pretend to do (cheers). They were now called upon to emancipate themselves and their great city from the disgrace of being misrepresented by an apostate Tory - by a man whom no party could understand - who was a sort of nondescript politician—who was neither fish, flash, nor fowl (cheers and laughter), but some strange marine monster, with a log of a thousand pounds weight tied to his tail (cheers and laughter), and who stole into Westminster with the express purpose, it would seem, of getting into a good place. He (Dr. Bainbridge) would call upon the electors, by one united effort, to resuscitate their declining func, and to re establish themselves in that high and proud eminence which they had so long held in this country (cheers), as the defenders of the great principles of freedom, and the defenders also of the rights and privileges of their fellowcountrymen (loud cheers). In conclusion he seconded the

nomination. Captain Rous then presented himself, and was received with great applicates by the "roughs" on his own side of the bustings, but with a preponderating amount of growing from the other side. Amidst the utmost confusion, which prevailed throughout his whole address, and of which we should not have been able to have caught a word had he not obligingly addressed the reporters instead of the audience, he said -Gentlemen, electors of the city of West minster, no man can regret more than myself that the peace of the city of Westminster should be disturbed as it is at this moment (groups). It is the duty of every man who wishes well to the Sovereign and to the measures of Sir R. Peel to hold fast by his principles at a time when many are deserting their colours, to consider well what are, and to defend, the true interests of the country. In 1811, when 1 before had the honour to address the electors of Westminster, I well remember that at that time there was great agricultural distress—that the country was engaged in two wars—that the funds were low, and that a general despondency pervaded all classes. Sir R. Poel shortly afterwards introduced his amended tariff. The consequence was, that the funds rose, peace was restored, and universal prosperity again prevailed. If that was the result of Sir Robert Peel's measures, as it must be admitted that it was, I say, that to Sir Robert Peel alone must be awarded all the merit and all the praise (cheers and confusion). Every branch of business received a stimulus, and general advantage to all classes resulted from the working of Free Trade principles; and seeing that, I could come to no other conclusion, long ere this time, than that the adoption of free trade principles was actually necessary for the country (cheers). I therefore proposed in the House of Commons that Australian wheat should be admitted into this country on favourable terms. I also advocated a Free Trade with our colonies, and in September last I gave it as my opinion that there should not only be a Free Trade in corn, but that as the population increased the Government should give a bonus on its introduction, that the people of this country should be supplied with food. No man can say then, gentlemen, that I have changed my opinions to suit the minister of the day; for it is known to every man in Westminster that my opinions were changed long before Sir Robert Peel changed his (cheers, groans, and confusion)
—and, if there be any merit in the plans of Sir Robert Peel, I think you will agree with me that no man could carry those measures so well as himself. My Lord John Russell once tried to forward those measures and failed, and it was the opinion of all parties, including the honourable gen-เมแเ Die Wonger 1.det man to carry them (cheers, grouns, and other discordant noises). If the electors of Westminster have a y fault to find with my votes, they will please to recollect that on every occasion when their interests have been threatened or ussailed, I have been found in the van defending their privileges (loud obsers and uprour). The electors of Westininster will be pleased to recollect also that on one particular point of the utmost importance-I mean the window-tax — I seconded Lord Duncan's motion for its repeal; whilst my honourable antagenist, General Evans, though pledged to use his nimest endeavours to repeal that obnoxious tax, absented himself from the division, and never acted up to his pledge. The electors of Westminster will also recollect that I resisted the proposals which were recently made to introduce alterations in our vestry system. and there is not a vestry in Westminster but will bear testi-mony to the feeling with which I combated that proposal cheers and confusion). If then, gentlemen, during the four years that I have had the honour of representing the city of Westminster, there is no single ant of vote of mine which has been projudicial to your interests, I ask why the gallant general now comes forward to oppose me, when he knows that my sole object is to support Sir Robert Pael in carrying those measures of Free Trade which are of the interest importance to the country, and which are of the utmost importance to the country, and which no other utmost importance to the country, and which no other man in the country can carry to a successful termination (great upwoar). As regards my having accepted a public appointment, gentlemen, the question is, can I be more useful in performing an official city, than in leading a more tille. The callent, officer knows that it is absolutely necessary that the government should be a like that the callent of the callent of the country that the government should be a like that the callent of the callent

it signifies not in the least to me personally whether I am returned to Parliament or not. It is not for myself, but for the real measures which I go to support, that I ask you to return me (great uprour). The election will have a great moral effect upon the constituencies of this country, for it will then show whether or no the electors of Westminster approve of the measures of Sir R. Peel, and by its decision many future elections will be guided. And now, gentlemen, I have only to assure you that, if I am returned again, I shall, though in a public office, have no heritation in giving my best advice and assistance to gentlemen of any political persuasion who may apply to me. Such is the course I have hitherto pursued, and I defy any man to say officer than that I have taken more pains with those who differed from me in politics than with my supporters, knowing that as a gentle-juan and an Englishman I was bound to make no difference between parties when I was elected to represent all (cheers and provide). Now, gentlemen, in conclusion, whether I am returned or not as your representative, nothing shall ever efface from my mind the gratitude which I owe to the constituency of Westminster. You brought me forward and elected me in the room of the party which had represented the city for near a quarter of a century-you reposed your confidence in me, and I am not aware that I have done anything to forfeit it (cheers and uproar). To morrow I shall meet you again; In the mean time I beg you to recollect that no improper notice, no reproach of any kind, no ungentlemanlike placards have issued from me, and that I deprecate the employment of any abuse whatever. Let me ask the same good humour, and the same conduct from my opponent (uprour). I again repeat, that whether beaten or no, my only object has ever been to do my best to serve my country

(«հուս»: ուսե բլառ որթոնը): Sir Dr. Excy Evans came forward to address the assemblage, and was received with loud cheers, but owing to the noise and confusion which prevailed it was impossible to hear distinctly a portion of his observations. He spoke to the following effect: "I always felt great gratification in the horour of appearing before you on former occasions as a cambidate for your suffrages, but never on any preceding occasion have I felt more so, or more reliance in the justice of our cause, than in the present instance (cheers). Gentle, men, this election, at this unseasonable time, is none of our seeking, and I was about to go into a statement that would show you how how it came to pass, but the returning officer has relieved me from that necessity, for he stated to you in a few words that the acceptance of an office, I believe a very valuable office under the Government, by Captain Rous, has led to it (cheers). My best course to adopt is to refer at once to all that I have been able to hear of my honourable and gallant opponent's observations (hear, hear, hear). But before doing so, I must beg, in all fairness to him, to express my conviction of his excellent personal qualities There is not, I am sure, a more good humoured, a more urbane, a more manly character in society (cheers) and I wish it to be understood that in any observations make with reference to him, I solely allude to his political conduct and principles, and if I transcend in the slightest degree the couriesy and good feeling which is due to a man of his excellent private qualities, I trust and hope sincerely that he will believe it was atterly unintended on my part, and that I have no intention but to enter into a fair disquisition of our rival claims to your confidence (hear, hear, and cheers). The most marked observation that my noble and gallant opponent has made is, that there will be a great moral effect orising from this contest (cheers). A great moral effect will certainly arise from it, not only with reference to my honourable and gallant opponent, but also with reference to the Prime Minister of England (loud cries of hear, hear); and, what I esteem quite as much, with reference to the honour, reputation, and fame of this great constituency (cheers). And I confidently trust that between this and to morrow night that moral effect will be triumphantly established throughout the land (loud wheers). He made a statement which I think rather extraordinary; he seems to attribute to himself the conversion of Sir R. Peel (cheers and laughter) to Free Trade principles. He states, for sooth, that he has a long time been convinced of the propriety of Free Trade principles; but it was only the other night. I believe a few nights since -- that a great meeting of the constituency assembled at the Crown and Anchor, for the purpose of supporting the measure of Free Trade now before Parliament and my callant opponent was specially invited as one of your representatives to come to that meettog and declare his sentiments on the subject; but no application in entreaty no request ino argument, however carnest, could induce him to show himself on that important occasion (cheers). He has said that Sir Robert Peel has only one object in all his measures-namely, the welfare and happiness, and I suppose the liberty too, of the great body of the people (hear, hear). Now, gentlemen, was it in order to sustain the principles of liberty that he perseveringly opposed the emancipation of the slaves in the West India co-Onics (hear, and cheers)? Was it to further the rights of the great body of the people that for about twenty years of his life he resisted - unhappily with great power—the eman-cipation of our Catholic fellow subjects in Ireland (hear, hear)? Was it to further the rights, liberties, and welfare of the people, that throughout his whole political career he has resisted Parliamentary reform (cheers); and when beaten out of his opposition to it—as he has been beaten out of his opposition to every other measure he opposed has sought to restrict the operation of reform by resorting to all the technicalities of the Registration Court (cheers)? He, with n nativeté and innocence quite amusing, asks how is it possible I can come forward to oppose him, professing myself at the same time to be the friend of Free Wrade, and seek to deprive Sir Robert Peel of his co-operation (hear, hear) 2. I have been the advocate of Free Trade for some 20 years, and I would now go into the house not only to support the Government measure, but the full and immediate repeal (loud cheers). I wish to discharge my duty by examining into the pretensions of my honourable and gallant opponent, and the extraordinary manner in which he comes before you. He says, in the speech made by him, that he repels the insimuation that he was guided by any interested motive in adopting Free Trade principles, or adopting the course that he now pursues. I will not judge him by prejudiced opinions; but will apply to him a rule which was faid down two or three nights back by Sir James Cirilian, one of the principal members of the Government with which he is now connected. Sir James Graham states that the true test of a disinterested and conscientious conversion is to inquire whether a man's worldly interests are promoted by his conversion. Well, air, it is but fair for me to take this test, which is applied by one of the principal leaders of the Government, as applicable to his hon colleague, my tion, and gallant opponent, as a candidate who has obtained

office, and to myself as a candidate without any office. He, I think, falls under Bir James Graham's test, and it is an excellent test. He has succeeded to an excellent office with a very handsome salary. I am quite sure that, in doing so, his motives are honourable, and that he has been guided by a high and most excusable personal ambidon; but we have nothing to do with his personal ambition; our business is to inquire into the probable causes of his conversion, and here they are stated by Sir James Graham (cheer). I have been always in the opposite category. It happens that very many years before the honourable gentleman appeared as a supporter of Free Trade, I was a supporter of it (loud cheers); but I was not a supporter of it with any result of advantage to myself, but the contrary (hear, hear). I have supported it when my advocacy of it produced to me most severe professional discountenance, and also professional persecution (cheers). This is the advantage my honourable opponent possesses over me, that at the period of his conversion be succeeds to a comfortable berth, while I have been exposed to the very reverse (cheers). I now beg leave to remind you of the consequences that followed on your supineness and over-confidence at the last election (hear, hear). The first question that came before the house was this very identical question of the Corn Laws, and what did my honourable and gallant opponent say on the subject? He said, if you repealed the Corn Laws, you would be reduced to utter destitution; you would be reduced for sub-sistence to bread and an onion and a suck at the pump (laughter)—instead of the beer and gin that you now enjoy. I don't think that was a very good proof of his political wisdom, though perhaps it was a most excellent proof of his oratorical taste (cheers and laughter). The next question was one in which you and the great body of the people, and all benevolent people, are interested-I advert to the motion brought forward by Mr. Walter, with reference to the dietary system of the poor (hear, hear). I will refer you to a letter which was published in all the newspapers from Mr. Walter, a most honest and philanthropic supporter of the rights of the poor-I will refer you to that, and not to anything I shall say, with regard to myself, as to the relative conduct of my honourable opponent and my conduct with regard to the poor on that occasion (cheers). I deem it necessary here to advert to some statements made at the last election with respect to our friends the licensed victuallers (hear). It was represented that they were extremely displeased with me, because of some 10 per cent, that was imposed upon them by the late Government. I regret that cause of annoyance should have taken place, but I suggest to our friendsour impartial friends, the licensed victuallers' body-to east their eyes back through the statute book, and I think they will find a good many statutes in that book originating with the party of my honourable and gallant opponent, that are ten times worse than the 10 per cent. measure (cheers). For instance, the Beer Bill. I think the Beer Bill origi nated with them; it is not attributable to the late Government, at all events (hear, hear). I now come to speak of my conduct on several occasions. I doubt if it be not altogether superfluous to detain you by entering into detail as to my political principles, which are really unchanged, and which are quite opposed to those of the honourable and gallant captain (cheers). I have been always the supporter of civil equality, as applicable to all sects and denominations (cheers). I have at all times supported the abolition of penul laws affecting the dissenters (cheers). I have likewise been the advocate, of course, of the abolition of the laws which oppressed the Catholics of both kingdoms (loud cheers). And let me also tell you that I never failed to give my vote and support in favour of the most barbarously oppressed people in Europe—the Jews (cheers); a people respectable—as industrious—as deserving—as subjects—and as well entitled to enjoy the rights possessed by their fellow subjects, as any other portion of the people of the country (hear). Need I tell you that I shall continue to support them (cheers)? I doubt if my hon, and gallant friend will have the power to do so, even though he should have the will. His hands are now tied up; however good and excellent his intentions may be, he will be under the necessity of holding his tongue and giving his vote as the head of the Government may direct (cheers) I beg to remind you that in going to Parliament as your representative on this occasion, I go there to support and carry out to the utmost the measures of Sir Robert Peel (cheers). But remember that those measures will not be complete until a period of three years has clapsed. Recollect that for many years Sir Robert Peel was opposed to the repeal of the Corn Laws; a sudden conversion on his part has taken place, but can we be quite sure that another sudden conversion may not come over him during the next three years (cheers)? Look back to the conduct of Sir Robert Peel on former occasions (hear, hear). When beaten on the subject of the Test Act—when beaten on the subject of the emancipation of the Catholics of Ireland (cheers) when those great measures were passed, did he cordially endeavour to carry out practically the results of those measures (hear, hear)? No, up to this day the Dissenters, the Catholics, and the Jews, are practically deprived of the benefits of those laws, so far as it is possible for the Government to deprive them of it (hear, hear). My hon, and gallant friend tells you that Sir Robert Peel is entitled to the whole merit of granting those measures. Now, I ask did Mr. O'Connell do nothing for emancipation (cheers) Did Mr. Cobden do nothing for Free Trade (cheers)? Did Lord J. Russell do nothing with regard to Payliamentary Reform or the Test Act (cheers)? This is the most andscious pretonsion that ever was heard of (hear). He says Sir R. Peel is the only man who can carry this Corn Law measure into operation. If that statement had been made two months would entirely concur with him. At that time the great Conservative party was not broken up, and if Sir R. Poel was then ready to secrifice his political consistency, he was possessed of great power. But Sir R. Peel has since turned about (hear). He has laid his measures before the house, and he would not do so if he were not compelled to adopt that course. But now the Conservative party is broken up, and so far now from being the person to bring about this alteration of the law, Lord J. Russell is really the proper person to carry that measure; but you will permit me to say that the measures of Free Trade depend now neither upon Sir R. Peel, their present proposer, nor upon Lord John Russell, the consistent and honourable advocate of those principles; for the people of England have determined in favour of Free Trade, and it matters not a straw who is the minister or which is the administration (vociferous applause). Free Trade is already virtually enacted, and it is plause). Free krage is already virtually amedian, and it is no nonectase to tell you that the traitor of rather the deserter of his principles is the only parion to dairy it into effect (different and confusion). Though gentlemen, allow me to tell the another point. My humbounds opposed such that a parion another point.

of last night (and I have no doubt that he referred to me of last night (and I have no donot char he reserved to me that he was so strong in your good opinion that he could well dispense with the glitter of aristocracy amongst his sapporters. On his election in 1841, gentlemen, I think nothing of that kind fell from the lips of my honourable of my nart. I have no disposition man the ponent; but, for my part, I have no disposition upon the occasion to dispense with what he calls "the glitter of aris-On the contrary, though myself tolerably demo. cratic in my sentiments, as you know—though myselfour of you, of and from the people-yet I hesitate not to say that I am proud to number amongst my supporters many man, and illustrious families who have faithfully served the per ple's cause, and who are a pride and an ornament to the country to which they belong (loud cheers and the usual interruption). That is my answer to the charge of depending upon the glitter of aristocracy; and now let me ask to what sort of a candidate must that be who is abandoned by the aristocracy of both parties, save by that excellent w bleman who seconded his nomination, and to whom I render all personal and political respect (loud cheer, Except by that noble lord, my honourable opposed is literally abandoned by the aristocracy of this country. Then I come to the press; and again let me ask you. what sort of a candidate can he be who is not only desend by the aristocracy, but who can find no supporter amongst the whole public press of the metropolis, that great exponent of public opinion in this country (loud cheers)? Let us take the newspapers which rank first as the representative of the high Tory party of this kingdom, the Standard and the Morning Herald, and let us see what they say. The have not one idea in common with me, yet they are firmly of opinion that the honest and honourable men of all paries will vote for me (cheers). Now, gentlemen, I will men tion to you one sentence more, as an indication of the feeling of that high and respectable Tory party which returned my honourable opponent to Parliament in 1811. Immediately after announcing that I was your candidate, I met a member of Parliament of great eminence as a public man, and of the bighest character, both in political and private life. Though directly opposed to me in politics, he said, "I am delighted that you are a candidate. On the last occasion I was opposed to you, and I did my best to return Captain Rous; but now I shall give my whole support to you." I said that I was extremely gratified to hear that from a man whose sentiments and character were well known to be so sound and unimpeach able as his, and that I was the more delighted, because I reable as his, and that I was the more delighted, because I regarded it as a key to the opinion of the whole of his great part. He answered, "I hope it is; but allow me to say that it is not a key to the opinions of my party only, but to the opinions of the great mass, in fact, of the whole body of the English people, who love fair play, honour, and consist ency, and detest the contrary" (loud cheers, mingled with discourselection). One would more:—Contlemen I am sindisapprobation). One word more: - Gentlemen, I am sunply an instrument in your hands; I do not invite you to exert yourselves on this occasion on my personal account but I invite and entreat you to omit no exertions, both now and to morrow, to advance those great principles of libery and Free Trade which I have ever supported; and I enter you, in the words of my honourable opponent, to teach your representatives the great moral lesson that political rectinds can alone receive your approbation and support (loud cheers No other candidate having been proposed,

The HIGH BAILIFF called for a show of hands on behalf of Captain Rous. About 50 hands out of the whole vast assemblage, which had by this time considerably increased, and now blocked up the main thoroughfare of the market, were all that were held up for the hon, captain.

Another show, for Sir De Lacy Evans, was next called for, and amidst the loudest cheering and applause a perfect forest of hands was exposed.

The nomination was declared to be in favour of General Sir De Lacy Evans, and a poll having been demanded on behalf of Captain Rous, the assemblage soon after quietly dispersed.

RESULT OF THE ELECTION.

The polling for this election commenced on Wednesday morning at 8, and closed at 4, resulting, as will be seen, in the triumph of the Liberal candidate. At four o'clock, it having been evident for some hours previous that the fortune of the day would be with Gen. Evans, crowds of Liberal electors, and friends of the cause, flocked from all diretions to the front of the Ship Hotel, Charing-cross, to congratulate their old and gallant representative, now once more reinstated in his proper position. About half-past four o'clock Sir de Lacy Evans presented himself at the balcony of the head. of the hotel, and was immediately hailed with dealening shouts and huzzus, intermingled with waving of hats and handkerchiefs, which continued for some minutes. When silence was in some measure obtained the gallant general briefly addressed the crowd from the window. although the state of the poll would not be officially announced till to-morrow (this day) he had great pleasure in informing them that he believed the majority in their favour would be at least 800 on the day's canvass (loud cheers). He thanked there and all his fall a sciential to the day's canvass and the state of the day's canvass (loud cheers). them and all his fellow-citizens for the zeal and public spirit they had exhibited during the day, and throughout the whole of this highly important struggle. It would do honour to them (cheers). A glorious victory having been obtained, they might return home for the present. To morrow be would address them at greater length. In the meaning they might congratulate themselves that they had amply and polity vindicated the ampliant reprints the plant and gives nobly vindicated the ancient reputation of this city, and gives a loss on the Toriss and the new Government flood chaosing to the Toriss and the new Government flood cheering). He had not then five minutes breath in his. but he would do both the triumph and the true and honest Liberals who had achieved it greater justice, and address them more at length from the hustings to-morrow (cheen). Once more, he begged to congratulate them on the result of their exertious, and to thank them all from the bottom

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Three hearty cheers were then given for Sir De Lacy Evans, and for civil and religious liberty, and the crowl

The following is the hourly state of the poll throughout the day, as given by General Evans's committee:

physical more with

	Eleven o'Clock.		
	Evans	1008	
	Rous	1180	
	Hous	1100	•
	Majority		
	Twelve o'Clock.	CICHE	
	Evans	2111	
	Rous	1650	
	Rous	1000	
•	Majority	104	٠
•	Evans	2548	
	Rous	2008	
	Rotts	2007	•
	Majority	535	
	Evans	2052	,
٠.	Rous	2298	
,			
	Majority	051	
	Evans	3355	
	Rous	2035	
	Majorityl'our o'Clock.	720	•
•	Evans	8703	
	Rous		
	,		
	Majority	765	
As piv	en by Captain Rous's committee the	numbers	stoc
at the clo)8e !		
	Evans	8793	
	Rous		
•	Majority	900	
T4	he worth while to unnoud the nur	nhare nal	L haf

It may be worth while to append the numbers polled by the same two candidates at the last election, in 1811. They were us follow:-Rous, 3338; Evans, 3258.

OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF THE POLL. On Thursday, at two o'clock, the High Builiff (F. Smedley, Esq.) attended at the hustings at Covent Garden Mar-ket, for the purpose of officially declaring the final state of the

The crowd was very great, but not so noisy as at the nomination of candidates. General Evans, attended by the Hon. Mr. Bouverie, Lord Marcus Hill, and a number of his friends, arrived a few minutes before two o'clock; they were most enthusiastically cheered. Captain Rous, and a number of his most influential supporters, shortly afterwards presented themselves on the hustings. They were received with the most deafening and discordant yells and hisses, intermixed with some cheers from their friends.

The High Bailiff then announced the numbers polled for ch candidate to be as follows:

Gen. Evans 3843 Capt. Rous 2900

Majority for Gen. Evans...... 937 The amountement of the numbers was received with tremendous cheers and hisses, amidst which General Sir De Lacy Evans came forward and addressed the thousands assembled, thanking them for the honour conferred upon him.

STATEMENTS OF AGRICULTURAL / LABOURERS.

Torrington, Devon, February 1, 1846. Sin,—I have attended many of the poor which Mr. Geo. loms, our indefadgable Secretary, has reported upon, and whose cases he will send to you by this day's post; and I can confirm his statements relative to their destitution and misery. I believe there are many families in even a worse condition than those he has sketched. Trusting soon to witness the abolition of the starvation laws, I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,
G. Wilson, Esq.
T. K. Tapley, Surgeon.

T. K. TAPLEY, Surgeon.

Torrington, Jan. 31, 1846. Sin,-I beg to hand you the statement of different agricultural labourers of this district, as you requested me, and I am greatly obliged to you for the offer of some beds and bedding for them. I do assure you that the labourers in this locality are in a most deplorable state, as you will see by the statement which I have sent. Within the last week I have had application from a hundred labourers, giving me a most awful account of themselves and families. Be pleased to direct the beds and bedding to me. I will, with our friend Mr. Tapley, deliver them out as you may direct. Also, I beg to state that Pickford & Co., carriers, as a communication from Manchester to Exeter, will be the best conveyance for you to send it by. 1 beg to remain, Sir, yours, &c.,
(i. Wilson, Esc., GEO. Toms.

P.S.—The 'squires are rampant almost to think of the league's sending beds amongst the labourers, and inquiring into their state.

Samuel Perryman, of Saint Giles, aged 36 years, wife samuel Perryman, of Saint Giles, aged 36 years, wife aged 40, mother of 11 children in 13 years. I have 7 children now at home, 6 of them under 0 years of age. I have worked for 14 years with Mr. Hookway, of this parish. My wages is 7s. per week. I pay 4s. per bushel for barley, rent 51, 10s. a-year. I have no potatoes; nothing more than the penny goes for. My family is the most distressed in the whole parish. I am now under the destor's age. whole parish. I am now under the doctor's care, and I am fearful I shall be a cripple. The 7s. is all we have to live

George Hoare, wife and 5 children; of the parish of Fristlestock, wages 7s. per week. I work for Mr. John Fisher, living on his own estate. I had my goods all sold up for rent, and was obliged to go to the workhouse. I have been in great distress, me and my family.

Statement of the wife of Philip Morrish, labourer to Mr. Mann, of the parish of Relatement. The estate Mr. Mann.

Statement of the wife of Philip Morrish, labourer to Mr. Mann, of the parish of Fristlestock. The estate Mr. Mann rents of Lord Clinton.—My husband's age is \$4. I am about the same age. I have had 7 children in the whole, with a great deal of sickness. I have buried 8 children. His wages is 7s, per week. I have rented the house for two years and a half of Mr. Mann, my limband's master, but I am obliged to leave it, it being ready to fall down. My rent is 1s. 2d, per week, or one day's work. After my rent is paid I have be 10d, to live upon. My husband's master pays me in cash, and I go to Torrington market, and make the heart of it. I seeken or ever buy any meet. I have no cash, and then my stock is market, and make the heart of the labour of the l

myself, which helps us along. My husband has been ill, and has only done five and a half days' work since Christmas. He belongs to a sick club, and now he gets be per week. I have also two children ill. I am sure you can have no idea of the state of my affairs.

Statement of the wife of James Short, Great Torrington, aged 36 years.—She says that he has not been able to get any employment for some time. He served his approntice with Mr. Ward, a farmer of Great Torrington, and he is considered a first-rate labourer. We have 4 children, all very young; neither of them gets a penny. He has been employed on the parish road for some time. His work averages about 3 days a-week, for which he gets 3s. 6d. My rent, including poor-rates, &c., is is 2d. por week. I buy half-a pound of sict or lard weekly, for six of us to live upon, and the remainder I lay out in potatoes. We have very seldom any bread, or any food some days to eat. I often hour my children crying for bread, and I have nothing to give them. I seldom or over taste any animal food; I often grieve when I pass through the market and see it, and think that there is none for me. I am often without fire or food; you can well judge of my other matters.

Richard Scott, labourer, aged 41 years; works for Mr. Shopland, farmer, of the parish of St. Giles; the estate belongs to Mrs. Morrison, of Yeovil, in the parish of Peppercombe:-- He says that he has had 8 children in the whole; two are dead. I have now 5 home with me; 4 of them get not a farthing. My wages are 7s. per week. I buy my corn of my master at one stated price at all times, viz.. 78. per bushel for wheat, and 3s. tid. for barley. I settle with my masteronce a month, and then I have to allow for three bushels of corn. I sometimes settle up for months and months, and never receive a furthing, and then in debt. I have my bacon and other things of him. My rent is 51.—house, orchard, and small spot of ground, which I till my potatoes in. My family have seldom tasted fresh meat this last fortnight. I have not had anything more in my bouse for 7 to live upon but one pound of suct. I take my dry bread with me, and my master allows me one quart of cider per day. I am very short of bedding, having no money left to buy anything with. I buy a small pig, and rear it, and sell it to pay my rent.

James Vicary, agricultural labourer.—He has o children, rent 3/2 per year; to maintain this family, his wages are 7s.

per week, and seldom in full employment at that rate. The above-named labourer gave evidence of the state of his fellow labourers in this district before the League in Palaco Yard, London, and was there remarked for his intelligence. Since that time, he has suffered great privations. I have frequently heard him say he has been obliged to rise from the table before he had half sufficed his stomach, to leave the coarse food for his children.

William Bunbury, labourer, of Langtroe, has a wife and 8 children. Neither of his children get anything. Wages 7s. por week. Works for John Tucker. Believes that the estate is his master's.

William Mitchell, labourer, of the parish of Shebbear — Wife and 4 children; wages 7s. per week. Rent 21, 12s. per year. His family are very bad off.

George Jewell, labourer, of this parish; he now being a tenant of mine. In removing his goods at Michaelmas, I found him in a state of poverty. His earnings are 7s. per week. He has a hard family; his wife is shortly expecting the 8th child.—GEO. PHILLIPS, Hantshaws Jan. 28.

Statement of the wife of George Jowell, of the parish of Hantshaws, labourer; he works for Mr. George Phillips, a tenant of Lord Clinton:—My husband's wages is 7s. per week. My barley I buy of Mr. Phillips, for which I pay 4s. per bushel; and he charges us 7s. 6d. for wheat, should we at any time want any. I am daily expecting the 8th child. I am very poor; I have no change of any bedding. I have not a child that can earn a farthing. My husband's master gave me this paper to give you, to show that I am in great distress. I have 4 children living—one always ill. The parish allows me 6d. per week. My house rent is 3l, 10s,, which I pay to Mr. Phillips. The house belongs to Lord Clinton. I buy a pound of suct at 6ld. per pound, per week; some weeks we manage to buy a pound of bacon. That is all we get nor week exprinced one. all we get per week as animal food.

John Lockyer, Great Torrington.—I am a labourer in the employment of Mr. Hunt, a tenant farmer of Lord Holle. My wages is 14d. per day. One shilling we pay for rent; then we have 6s. to maintain six of us; and by the time we have 6s. to maintain six of us; and by the time we have 6s. have bought fire, candles, and soap, we have is 6d. to main pound of suct, or a pennyworth of bacon. We never cat anything but barley bread, and not enough of that; and as to our bedding, we have one blanket and one whole sheet for us all; our beds are straw, and the rain comes in in different places. We have but one small table and three broken chairs and two stools. We have had 10 children; five living; four we have at home, and one lives out; five we have buried, three of whom were completely starved to death through the means of a severe parish, and one we have very ill now, and my wife went to the relieving officer for an order for the doctor; and my wife asked the doctor if he could do anything for the child; but he said no: there was a private mark ou the order; and he could not do it at the time. I lost my three oblides. I had nothing but stones to break, and had to go nine miles a day, and work hard for os. per week; and I expect this is the last week's work I shall have at Mr. Hunt's, and I shall have nothing but the parish roads to trust to, and then I shall have but 4s. 8d. per week.

[The foregoing statement was written by John Lockyer himself. I should add that he was not regularly brought up as an agricultural labourer, although he now works at it,—Gro. Tome.]

GEO. Toms.]

William Kelly, labourer, of the parish of St. Giles, near the seat of the late Lord Rolle, states that he works regularly for Mr. William Liverton, of the parish of Beaford, for which he gets 7s. per week, and one quart of cider per day. The estate that I work on belongs to Sir Thomas Ackland, the member for the northern division of the county. My wife has had 10 children, and are all living. I have six home with me now; five of my children are under nine years of age, and never earned me a penny. My wife has been ill nome with me now; nive or my children are under nine years of age, and never earned me a penny. My wife has been ill for near 12 months, and the parish have allowed me ls. per week. I pay my master 4s, per bushel for my barley; for this last month's have used in my family one bushel per week; my potatoes are getting shorter. After my barley is paid for, I have left only 8s; to buy other things for my family. My rent is 8h Desia years it have a garden, which I till motatoes in also other sandamments. My meater. Initially of the property of the property of the corn and other things of the safety of the corn and other things of the corn and other things of the corn and other things of the safety of things of the corn and other things of the safety of things of the corn and other things of the safety of things of the corn and other things of the safety of things of the corn and the corn an

boiled some potatoes for them. I shall take my bag with me to-morrow for corn.-Jan 25, 1846.

Statement of the wife of Richard Sussex, labourer, of the parish of St. Giles's (the late Lord Rolle parish).—My husband has worked for Mr. Tanton, with his apprenticeship included, for 22 years. His wages are ts. per week. I have five children, and soon I shall have another. My children are all young, and neither of them get a penny. I have no potatoes more than I am obliged to buy. How I get through with my family I cannot tell you; we are very often in want of food. If I can use one pound of bacon per week, that is the outside for the seven to live upon. I pay 3s. per bushel to my husband's master for barley; we use one bushel per week; then I have 3s.left, out of that 1s. 2d. to pay for rent. The house I rent of Frank Squire, of St. Giles' Town. My husband's master, Mr. Tanton, tents his estate of the representatives of Lord Rolle.

Statement of the wife of Samuel Ackland, of the parish of St. Giles. My husband, when able to work, gets 101d, per day. He works the bone mill for Mr. Geo. Braginton. I have 2 children. Statement of the wife of Abraham Bright, of High Land,

of St. Giles, who says -1 have had a hard family, 10 children in the whole. I have 4 at home with me now. One of the children goes out sometimes for a bit of meat, the other 3 get nothing. My husband works for Mr. Row, and gets 6s. per week. Mr. Row is a tenant farmer of Lord Rolle's representatives. I buy a bushel of barley weekly, having no potatoes, I pay 3s. 6d. per bushel for burley to Mr. Row. My house rent is 37, 10s. a year. In addition to the rent, I am obliged to pay poor rate and tithe. I have been sum: moned many a time for non-payment. I have 50 or 60 yards of land to my cottage. If you would call and see my hedding you would be frightened; I have borrowed a blanket from the parson for three years past, and return the same again in May to the parson. I do not use half a pound of suct a week, for I caunot get it. I burn bread, and put it into the tea pot for our tea.

Mulford Judd, of the parish of St. Giles, stated - I work for Mr. Liverton, of Bonford; the estate belongs to Sir T. Ackland. I have 5 children, four of them under 9 years of I work for bs. 10d. per week, giving is, per bushel for barley; yeut, 3l, per year. I am the son of a farmer.
William Parr, living in the parish of St. Giles, working

for Mr. Liverton, tenant of Sir Thos. Ackland, works for 1s. per day; five children; 3s. per bushel for barley; rent, per year.

Richard Burd, labourer; wages, 7s. per week .-- I have 4 children: I work three days a week for Mr. Symons. The estate belongs to John Furze, Esq. The other three days I work for Mr. Tanton, who routs his estate of Lord Rolle's representatives.

John Lethbridge has 6 children; three get nothing. Wages, 6s per week. Works for Mr. Hadlow, of Robarough. His wages are as high as any in the parish,

4/. yer year; small field to my house.
Richard Belt, labourer, of the parish of Great Torrington, states that he gets 1s. 2d. per day. Sometimes he gets a few days' work from Farmer Stone, a tenant of Lord Rolle; at other tim s he gets a few days on the parish road, averaging about five days work per week. I have lad 6 children, I buried one of them just before Christmus. One of them lives out, and the other four home. My rent is 1s. 2d. per week; after that is paid I have 4s. 8d. left. I buy one pound of bacon per week, and one peck of potatoes, and half a bushel of barley; and some weeks I buy half a bushel of wheat instead of the barley, as I have no meat to cat with it; and it is a change to have a little wheaten bread with our warm milk and water. I never have any ten; I get a bit of peppermint sometimes. I am sorry to say that all my goods, ncluding bed, &c., &c., (if you can call it so) are gone; that I have nothing now to hold the straw in. I have one broken chair, and an old table; I am sure that it is not worth 5s. altogether. I am indebted to my master, Mr. Stone, 22s. for the corn. If Farmer Stone had not let me have it, we should have been starved. I had four enildren ill at one time in the small pox, about three months since, and then I got in debt for food for the children. My age is 37 years, my wife about the same. My wife fries me a piece of the pound of bacon when I return from work. I never carry any thing to work with me, but dry bread, for the pound of bacon must last all six of us for seven days, which costs 8d. I brought home my pound of bacon from Farmer Stone's tonight for the week. I leave you to judge our state.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE. SIR,-1 beg, through the medium of THE LEAGUE, to say that I have received the sum of 11. from F. Monro, Chelten-

ham, for the use of the starving poor in Bicester. Many thanks to Mr Monro. I have met, within the last fortnight, with sober and honest women and children, who have been compelled by hunger's gripes to weep frequently and aloud this winter for a piece of bread. It is a fact!

W. FERGUSON.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, The chemical lecturer of the above most excellent establishment, Dr. John Ryan, has, we are delighted to inform our readers, resumed the subject of general chemistry, which has for a considerable period been set aside for that all-engrossing subject the potato disease. The lecture was on the subject of heat, introductory to an extended series explanatory of the applicascarcely say that the lecture was attended by a crowded and most respectable audience, who 'listened to the learned professor's discourse with breathless slience. We are more and more convinced of the high-character and the moral inflatence of this splendid institution, especially when its professors take so much pains to bring the most abstruce subjects of science before their auditors in such a plain and simple form. This popular mode of treating subjects of solontific character is mainly owing to the compatites of directors, who by so doing prove their good taste, and fully untilles them to the most extended patronage of the public. If we might offer to Dr. Ryan a litting subject for a future course of lectures, we would suggest to bin as a text-book the report of the Health of Towns' Commissioners. There he would find a while and legitimate field for his powers as a obtanical dill a wide and legitimate field for his powers as a chamical and medical tencher. The iscurres on natural philosophy are highly creditable to the scientific knowledge of Dr. Bishlowner, who by the pleasing manner in which he delivers his discourse, produces him continually a large and delighted auditory.

The magnification of the Hone Mr. Dutton, and a party of Radial in the first accorded the first outside of the Miss.

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AGRICULTURE.

THE RURAL REVOLUTION.

County members and protectionist lords have declared in overy variety of tone, from the florce to the delerous, that a Free Trade in corn will be " a revolution;" a "danger greater than the Reform Bill itself." This language is intended to operate upon the mind of the timid and cautious mass of the well-to-do people against the impending change : but, like the thrice-repeated false cry of "wolf." it has ceased to have any potent effect.

Nevertheless, there is a sense in which that cry is perfectly true. Free Trade will effect a revolution, a great social revolution, but one which none, except monopolist landowners, will deem open to the slightest objection.

The revolution we allude to will be in the condition of tenant farmers, and in the state of British husbandry. Free Trade will, by its direct and indirect operation, render farmers independent, and husbandry a prosperous business. We fancy we bear our brother farmers exclaim, "that will. indeed, be a revolution!"

It is admitted that the condition of the "protocted" agricultural labourers is so low, that if Free Trade does not ruise them, it can depress them no lower. That was distinctly declared by Mr. Sidney Herbert, one of the members for South Wilts, an exclusively agricultural district, in which the farmers have implicitly relied upon "protection." We shall presently show, from sources not open to question, that the position of the tenant farmer is very similar. Protected, they have not prospered; and that chiefly by reason of the hand-to-mouth system protection has engendered. The dreaded "revolution" cannot do them more mischief than they endure from restriction, and may--indeed will ---raise them from the dust.

And here let us call the attention of our reader to the kind of twaddle which passes current in the House of Commons for advocacy of the interests of tenant farmers. Mr. Stafford O'Brien--confessedly the only protectionist member of Parliament who has any prefension to debating power-at the close of his speech on Sir Robert Peel's plan, thus attempts to make out that "protection" is a tenant farmers' question. He said:

I am satisfied it is a tenant-farmer's question. And, far from thinking that a reason for underrating its importance. it is on that very account I resolve to make my stand against the measure. Apply the precepts of your new philosophy to the tenunt furmer. Suppose prices full in consequence partly, perhaps, of an inundation of foreign corn—the tenant farmer says to his landlord, "I hope, sir, you will allow me a small abatement in my vent! I may not know so much about draining as Mr. Smith, of Deanston: I may not have all the patent implements, nor show the fattest pig; but my family has held under your's for many a gene ration: we have weathered hard years together; we have worn your colours—and we should be sorry to go else, where. The budlord may reply, "My good follow I am The hudford may reply, "My good fellow, I am very sorry for yon. You have invested your capital in these drainings and these soils; but so I have mine. You have invested the money as I have—on the faith of the legislature. But we are told now by the Prime Minister that we are " to buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest, There is a gentleman from the manufacturing districts with more capital than you, ready to invest in your farm. really must look to my own family arrangements. You talk of fendal times and days, long gone by—you conjure up old exploded notions and as for 'colours,' why, my good fellow, there is no 'true blue' now? Yes! unless the landlord, therefore, acts towards his tenant a better part, and with kindlier feeling than you are now prepared to act towards the whole agricultural body, the tenant farmer must leard his farm. The manufacturer—whoever he may be—with large capital and more "energy" (if you will), comes in, with large capital and more "energy" (II you will), comes in, and the product is perhaps a quarter or two more per acre—
("Hear," from the Opposition)—and that is called "improvement of agriculture;" but the only mon who will suffer—mark!—are the men whose fault it was to have been poor comparatively, but whose fatul fault was that they trusted you! A short simple story, Sir, sometimes does better to illustrate an accumulation was formal reasoning. Some illustrate an argument than more formal reasoning. Some months ago a farmer told me, "I have had a fortune left me," "Well, then," replied 1, "you had better leave these 'cold clays'--take a better sort of land-settle down to it, and make your fortune double." "Sir," replied he, "there are the gravestones for four generations of my family in this parish. My father gravifather and great grandfuther worked this My father, grandfather, and great grandfather worked this farm-1 will not go any where elso. I will try what I can do it home. I will stick to the old farm till the plough breaks in the farrows." (Great cheering.) Sir, the heart of that man was worth volumes of political economy. (Ronewed cheering) And it is hundreds and thousands of men like him, without the same fortune indeed in their pockets, but with the same sort of heart in their bosoms, whom you are driving forth by your legislation, with broken hearts and rained fortunes.

Now this is arrant nonscuse. Puro unadultorated maudlin; as much like the reality as a sentimental novel is to actual life. And none would more ea gorly repudiate such advocacy than the tenant farmer. It implies that the present servile and abject con

dition of too many tenants is a necessary condition, and one which it is desirable to perpetuate. Farmers take land to make a living, to carn a com petency, to get money, and they naturally prefer to remain in the farm or the neighbourhood in which they were born and bred, because they have their relations and their associations around thom; but the notion of having "worn the landlord's colours," or of entertaining any sentimental recollection of the generations who have lived on "his honour's estate," is all non sense. Farmers have no feelings of the sort. They have too much sense for that. They come for abatements of rent upon very different grounds. They say, " prices are not remunerating; the Corn Laws have not kept us where we expected, we have not the prices your law promised us, and we ought to have some abatement." That is in substance the appeal made to the landlord for abatement.

Now, let us strip Mr. O'Brien's speech of its tinsel and sentiment, and we shall find it contains three positions, on the part of the tenant farmers, as he alleges, why there should not be Free Trade: that they don't drain; that they have not the best implements and stock; that they have invested capital in farming on the faith of Act of Parliament prices; that there are other persons of more capital than the present tenants, ready to occupy the land; that old tenants must, therefore, be displaced; that "a quarter or two per acro" above the present produce may be grown, and that many farmers stick to an unprofitable farm, and unprofitable practices, from sheer vis inerties. Now, farmers don't drain, or obtain the best implements and stock, for two reasons; first, because they have not that security of tenure which is necessary to justify expensive improvements; secondly, because they have been induced, through delusive reliance on protection, to take too much land in proportion to their capital they "invest their money on the faith of the legislature" in a way which prevents their obtaining full crops. These things are the direct results of landlord rules and landlord legislation, from which Free Trade will tend more than anything to relieve the tenant farmers. When prices are natural, when farmers have no fluctuations to guard against, except such as are caused by variations of seasons, they will necessarily apply themselves exclusively to grow the largest produce; and it is a mere monopolist artifice to pretend that the present race of farmers cannot, if their landlords would let them, so increase their produce as to defy foreign competition. It is impossible to take up a modern agriculturist work, without meeting with striking evidences of the fact that tenants require certainty, security, and the removal of landlord imposed bur-

Dip, for instance, into the part of the journal of the Royal Agricultural Society, just published, and we can scarcely miss passages of this sort. Thus, in a prizeessay on the farming of Kent, the writer says, speaking of hop culture, "Hop-growing is a speculation, in which a few occasionally realise immonse profits, the hope of obtaining which induces the many to persovere. It is a lottery, in which the blanks are too commonly found disproportionate to the prizes." Hops, be it remembered, are highly protected; and what is stated with reference to hop growing, is strictly applicable to farming in general, which, under the restrictive system, is a speculation and a lottery, where the blanks exceed the prizes. Again, we are told, "In years of great abundance the price is so low as scarcely to meet the duty, and the expense of picking and drying. The chief hope of the planters obtaining a remunerating price is the chance that the crop in some other districts, save his own, may more or less fail. The cultivation of hops too frequently receives such exclusive attention as to not most injuriously on all the other crops. It is no uncommon thing to see the small portion devoted to the growth of hops, highly manured and cultivated, while the rest of the land is suffered, year after year, to remain in a foul und exhausted condition." What a picture of protected farming! Every word is applicable to grain growing. And the writer condemns the existing system when he says, "the her Majesty's private specific sooner that kep outcurs is allowed to covery only a Teless, in Specific and support of Kati, and the catenties husbanding of Kati, She leaves a description of the catenties has been a description.

the better will it be for the advangement of agriculture and general prosperity"

The same writer says, before "draining" can be successfully carried out on that extensive district called the Weald, the small fields must be enlarged by grubbing the hedges and folling trees; and adds, "Not less than one-eighth of the arable land of this extensive district is occupied by hodges and trees, taking intecalculation the ground that is injured by their root, and shade.'

The consequence of this is, that "there are man. thousands of acres in the Weald of Kent, which cannot, under existing circumstances, be cultivated without a positive loss, that might be made toxid: of most kinds of corn a full average of the $\overline{k}_{\rm Higs}$ dom." And it is said these landlord-reserved tree, do more injury to the crops in three or four year-"than the whole value of the trees will amount to after continuing the mischief for half a centuc And the produce of the hedge-rows and the timber "would, after paying the expenses of grabbing levelling, &c., go a great way in defraying the cost of thoroughly draining the whole Weald

Here, then, the landlord, and the landlord done can enable the tenant to compete in the world. market. We suppose that it was in some such usp nial district as this that Mr. O'Brien's farmer, would "stick to the old farm till the plough break in the furrows" -against the roots of the hedgeron timber possibly!.

Again: another writer in the same journal says. in an Essay on Fences,-"in the average of farias in this district (Sussex), one acro in ten would be added to the cultivated land by the entire extintion of fences. The second reason, and many tenant farmers would say the first, is, that my covert for game in the shape of hedgerows, would be totally destroyed."

Here we have a hint of another landlord-impose burden. And the last writer, in a very practical exposition of the evils of high hedges and timber trees, asks, "What object can a landowner have in the preservation of hedgerow timber? In a peer niary point of view, he would be abundantly repaid by the interest upon invested capital, realised by the sale of the timber, and the increased value of the land to the occupying tenant."

So Mr. Kurkeek, in his prize Essay on the fame ing of Cornwall, after stating his own high estimate of the value of "chemical science and mechanical ingenuity, in increasing the productive powers of the soil," adds, "but I should anticipate a hundred fold greater improvements in Cornwall, within the next fourteen years, if the landlords-one and allwould adopt a better system in their leases."

And on the prevalent practice of holding to much land in proportion to capital, he says "There is no mistake more common or more injurious than the supposition that the more land a man occupies the greater must be his profits. The profit does not arise from the land itself, but from the mode of cultivation; and we could adduce many instances around us to prove, that farmers properly manage ing small holdings, are improving the soil, and realising fair profits; while others, on large farms and bad management, are ruining their tarms thomselves at the same time."

Such are the views taken by practical farmers and mon of business, and which stand out in strong contrast with the sentimental inanities we have quoted from Mr. O'Brien's speech. And we cite these passages to show that there is no necessity "that the tenant farmer should leave his farm" whon farming coases to be a lottery, and takes its place amongst businesses of steady profits. This can only happen after Free Trade. Therefore, we say. Free Trade will produce a rural revolution, by compelling the landlord to give secure temure, to permit corn and roots to be grown in the place of rushes and hedge-row timber, and to abandon the silly and noxious hankering after the ghost of feudalism, on which Mr. O'Brien, the monopolist leader, is so piteously pathetic.

THE QUEEK.—There now appears to be very fluttened that the equoushement of our beloved Sovereign v place at Windsor. Preparations, supposed to be in a tion of that anapiolous creat have breaty of

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HADDINGTON.-DEFEAT OF THE PRO-TECTIONISTS.

(From the Kolso Chronicle.) Thirty protectionist gentlemen, headed by Sir George Warrender, called "a meeting of the noblemen, landed proprietors, tenant farmers, merchants, tradesmen, and others of the county of Haddington, who are favourable to protection to British Industry.

Two o'clock was the hour fixed on for the meeting, at which time the large Assembly Hall was completely filled. It was evident, however, that there would be much dissension, of which the protectionists accomed to be aware, for before proceeding to elect a chairman,

JAMES AITCHISON, Esq., of Alderston, requested all those who were not favourable to the views of the requisitionists to leave the room, as they had not been invited to attend thisses). If they did not, they would be held to agree in

the resolutions about to be submitted to the meeting.

Lord JOHN HAY contended that the meeting had been convened for the purpose of pronouncing an opinion on a great measure of commercial reform: and that all present equally desired to support British industry.

Sir George Suttle considered that those only who were in favour of the present protective system had been invited to attend (cries of "Oh, oh," and "no, no.")

Sir GEORGE WARRENDER, who said that he was very

much indisposed, but had attended the meeting as an act of daty, trusted this preliminary question would be discussed with calanness. This was a private meeting of gentlemen, not presuming to express the opinion of the county; at least half of those present seemed to differ with the requisitionists, and he therefore hoped that they would follow their example -call another meeting, and express a distinct opinion on

Mr. CADELL, Cockenzie, argued that the requisition was abbressed to those who were favourable to British industry. Now, he belonged to that class, although he differed from

A scene of some confusion here ensued. At length Sir George Suttie said it was time to take a decided course, and he therefore proposed that they (the minority) should retire to another room and not transform the meeting into a debating society (the worthy baronet, who spoke covered, was saluted with a cry of "Hats off!") He hoped they would be permitted to retire peaceably.

Lord JOHN HAY declared he would remain, from a sense of public duty. Whatever opinion went forth, it would be published as the opinion of the county. He did not dream that this was a class meeting, and he trusted they were prepared to pronounce an opinion on the great commercial question which had been submitted to the country by Sir R.

Another scene of confusion ensued; but at length Sir George Suttle took off his but and invited his friends to retire, which was accordingly done.

Notwithstanding the retirement of the protectionists, the toom (capable of containing about 400) was soon completely

filled by a most respectable assemblage.
On the motion of Mr. CADBLE, the Provost, Mr. Dodds was manimously called to the chair amidst much applause. Lord John Hay then said that he had received a letter from the Duke of Roxburgh, which stated that he had heard of the meeting—regretted his inability to attend, but declared his approval of Sir Robert Peel's measure. He (Lord John Hay) had no resolution to propose, but he would take the opportunity of stating his opinion of the Premier's measure. To separate the agricultural from the other great interests, was to take a very narrow minded view of this great question and the effects it was calculated to produce. Had the Government done so, they would have found it impossible to manage the affairs of this great commercial country. But the Government measure indicated nothing of the sort—it was not only a great experiment, but a great moral and philosophical experiment. It put an end to class-interested legislation, by placing corn on the same footing as other manufactured articles, and would tranquillise the hostile feeling which prevailed not only amongst diffetent classes throughout this country, but which also enagainst foreign grain had been the means of paralyzing the efforts of the Foreign Secretary in concluding favourthe chorts of the Foreign Secretary in concluding invourable treaties with other nations (applause). He (Lord John Hay) had had much intercourse with foreign countries, and he was confident that our liberal commercial policy would be followed by them. The President of the United States had already recommended that their tariff should be reduced to the respective should reduced to the revenue standard, and that no duties should be levied for protection. He (Lord John Hay) had spent eight months in America-he believed he was the first York with the British flag—and he was convinced that the anti-British feeling which provailed there was the result of our anti-commercial policy; give us Free Trade and this would do more for our integer, than all the way steamers it was possible for us to send to their coast (applause). Before the last meeting was dissolved, they more for our interest than all the war had heard much of protection to agriculture. Now he (Lord John Hay) would read to them the opinion of a noble relative of his (the Marquis of Tweeddale) upon that aubject, written so long ago as the 8th of December. [The letter stated, that from the unfavourable weather, the potate rot, and other circumstances, Sir R. Peel would expense. tate rot, and other circumstances, Sir H. Peel would experience much difficulty in meeting Parliament—that it was therefore probable there would be a considerable diminution in protection to agriculture—a depreciation in the value of land might be the result at first, but ultimately it would become as valuable as it was at present.] Lord John proceeded to advise that a moderate course aboutd he adopted by the meeting. Many who were present differed as to the question; same were for immediate repeal, while others contended for a certain amount of protection, which others contended for a certain amount of protection, which they deemed essential under the present circumstances. they deemed exacutial under the present circumstances. The Government measure was as extensive a reform as could have been reasonably anticipated, and sliculd therefore satisfy all parties. For himself, he had no besitation in stating that he would have preferred immediate repeal, and many Protectionists with whom he had conversed were of the same opinion. From the agricultural improvements of the same opinion. From the agricultural improvements introduced, farmers were as able in 1845 to compete with the foreigner without protection, as they were in 1890 when they had been a single protection. by one-half, which he showed we of the land by one-half, which he showed we of the protective day of 1600 years and the protection will be seen to be showed to be showed. It was a substitute of a reshability of the period.

weaver. He was no party man-he had no the to Government; but if the liberal measure they proposed was rejected, God knows what would be the result. He believed, however, and he trusted it would be successful. If it was rejected, who, he would like to know, was capable of conducting the Government (hear, hear)? It was not likely that the present Government would introduce a measure inimical to the general prosperity. They had weighed it well, and had proposed a large and comprehensive measure calculated to give general satisfaction to the whole kingdom. (The noble lord resumed his sent amid much applanse.)
Mr. Ainslie, furmer, then proposed the following reso-

"That it is of the utmost importance that an end should be put to the agitation regarding the Corn Laws, which has so long convulsed the country, and to the uncertainty which provails in all markets for corn.

"That while this meeting considers it would be desirable to have an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws in preference to the proposed measure of Sir Robert Peel, yet they consider it inexpedient that the country should adopt any measure which can tend to frustrate or delay the settlement of the Corn Law question.'

Mr. Ainslie said he well recollected the period when he had incurred much odium for having, in conjunction with Mr. Hope of Fenton Barns, asked Mr. Cobden to deliver an address in favour of Free Trade, which, however, was now getting into favour even among the members of the Protective Society.

Mr. Miller, Mr. Cudell, and Mr. Mitchell Innes spoke in favour of the resolutions, which were carried unani-

Mr. Symon Sawens proposed that a petition, in accordance with the resolutions, should be sent to the Legisla

Mr. Sydserff seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

Three cheers were then given for Free Trade-three cheers for the League—a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, February 21, 1846.

Elections have divided public interest with the protracted debate, if indeed the latter can now be said to possess any interest whatever. First in importance and significance we must rank the election for Westminster, which ended in the return of General Evans by a majority of nearly a thousand above his opponent, The contest lay between two Free Traders; no protectionist was found to present himself before this great metropolitan constituency. While therefore we rejoice in the triumph of the successful candidate, we are far from exulting in the defeat of Captain Rous. Independent of porsonal considerations, the principle at issue in the contest was the choice between immediate and deserved appeal; and the decision of Westminster is that which the Lorgin has aver-supported other necessity there has appeal of the Own Law should be both total and immediate.

But in every election personal considerations must be taken into account as well as political differences. On these grounds, the preference of Conoral Evans is not only justifiable, but laudable; he had been long the popular member for Westminuter, and had been defeated at the late election rather by a series of unfortunate accidents, rendered worse by mismanagement than by the deliberate choice of the constituency. He had been a supporter of Free Trade through evil report and good report ever since the question was mooted: he had nothing to retract-no former professions to contradict—no doubtful assertions to explain away. He had all the claims of a veteran in the great cause of commercial freedom; while Captain Rous was a new convert, who had fought vigorously under a different flag, and was therefore exposed to the suspicion intimated by the patriarch when he exclaimed-" The hands verily are Esau's hands, but the voice is the voice of Jacob," 'We do not share in such a suspicion. We believe the conversion of the gallant Captain, and his present convictions sincore. But where a choice had to be made, we must prefer a tried and faithful ally to a volunteer who did not appear to offer his aid until the success of the campaign had been all but deoided.

The East Suffolk election was one of those solemn farces which exhibit the miserable and do. graded condition of the county constituencies, Mr. Gooch was chosen, not by the nominal electors, but by the combination of a few landlords anxious to maintain and perpetuate the serfdom of their tenantry. He was hooted from the hustings by the very men whom he is said to represent; the popular voice, so far as it could be heard, protested against his return, which will add little to the strength of the protectionists, but will give fresh vigour to the efforts of the Free Traders to redeem the counties from their present degrading thraldon,

Dorsetshire claims a passing notice; it is generally believed that Lord Ashley would have been returned had he gone to the poll, but a weighty subscription purse was shaken in his face, and he felt unprepared to meet the expenditure which a contest with such a money-power must necessarily have involved. His farewell address to his former constituency indicated greater firmness and independence of thought than the noble lord has been accustomed to manifest. The declared himself the advocate not merely for total, but immediate repeal, and he exposed the trite fullacies urged in defence of the Corn Laws with a freshness and vigour which can only be the result of strong couviction. We have aften differed from Lord Ashley. There are some points in his recent address, of which we strongly disapprove; but we must say that his observations on Free Trade exhibits a breadth of view, and a soundness of well-considered principles, which lead us sincerely to regret his exclusion from Parliament.

Lord Lincoln, in South Nottinghamshire, has not adopted the tactics of Lord Ashley, but has boldly dared the protectionists to the light. He is propared to fight the battle of Free Trade on purely agricultural grounds; and we should augur better for his snocess, as well as feel a deeper interest in his cause, if he did not restrict himself rather too closely to the Ministerial measures. The men of Westminster have set a noble example, by neglecting the very shade of compromise; and Lord Lincoln would better have served his fame and his fortunes in the light, if he had flung away the paltry condition of three years, with its mockery of a sliding scale, and taken his stand on total and immediate repeal. It is impossible to glance at this contest, without taking some notice of the strange interference of the Duke of News castle. Were this one of the ordinary differences batween a father and a son, we should pass it over without comment; but it is an indecent and unconstitutional attempt to dictate to a constituency. Ho addressed the candidate as John Gilpin did his horse:

"Twee for your pleasure you came liere, You shall go back for mine."

Lord Lincoln will not go back; and if the dites! letter does not ensure his roturn, there is neithbly spirit normanly dignity in the constituency of South Nottingham.

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The or incometics, insulated conference into the posterior, and the control at once ready for use of the conference of the Monument, 46, King William-

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Added the self-britishment, line returned, and line reverse, the delegated at last one reclaims, register, wastever the distance.

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genuine articles manufactured, with the view of satisfying the purchaser,
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Second Friday, at the Temperance Hall, Exeter street, Sloanc-street

Third Friday, at the Educational Institute, 131, Blackfriar's road, the

Fourth Friday, at the Temperance Hall, Henry street, Portland Town;

Fourth Priday, at the Temperance Hall, Henry street, Portland Town;
From 7 to 9 in the Evening.

Mr. William Farmer, Chairman. Mr. Thos. Sheppard, Deputy-Chairm an W. Anderson, M. R.C.S., 12, Chadwell-street, Myddleton-square W. H. Best, 11, Grosvenor-square
W. H. Best, 11, Grosvenor-square
W. Farmer, 20, Charlotte-terrace, Barnsbury-road, Islington John Pinch, 07, West-street. Smithfield
William Handley, 58, Chiswell street, City
John T. Hind, 34, Cannon street road
Alexander McOlashah, 18, Long Acro.
Stephen Nicholas, 9, Brewer-street, Clerkenwell.
Thomas Sheppard, 5, Gainsford-place, Barnsbury-road, Islington
James Staley, Sun Row, Tiblecton square
Thomas Swift, 2, Upper Ashley street, Goswell-street
Henry Underhill, Cross street, Hatton garden

Theory Chaerani, Cross street. Inton garden Theory E.S. William Andarson, M.R.C.S., 12, Chadwell street, Myddleton-square. William Farmor, 28, Charlotto-forrace, Harmsbury road, Islington. James Ridey, Tibberton-square; Islington. Thomas Sheppard, 5, Gainsford-place, Harmsbury-road.

One Gentleman, appointed by the Directors, with two appointed by the Bhareholders.

Mr. J. R. Mucarthur.

Mr. William Handley, 58, Chiswell street, City

F. Mortimer Spearman, Esq., 77, Old Broad-street, City

Commercial Bank of London, Lothbury

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1841. 18, Wilmington square.

Mr. R. Jessurun.

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Investment Company, 3, vy. Iane. St. Paul's, London.

The British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the
4th September, 1845, in five months enrolled 1500 Shareholders, issued 2800

Shares, and advanced about £6000 to its Shareholders for the purchase of
property, Such success is unprecedented in the annals of Huilding Societies.

A Public Meeting will be held in the Temperance Hall, Henry-street,
Portland Town, on Friday Evaning, 27th Feb., 1845, at 30 clock, except time;
to enrol shareholders and answer inquiries.

At a Public Meeting, at which upwards of 1100 persons were present, held
at the London Mechanics' Institution, on Tuesday, 17th Feb., 1846, Mr. W.
Farmar, in the chair, the following Resolutions were carried unanimously:

Moved by Mr. Heal, seconded by Mr. Loveloy.—That this meeting highly
approves of the plan on which the Second British Building and Investment
Company is established; and cerdially recommends it to the public as being
tased on equal justice to all, and providing for the members, desirous of
purchasing property, the greatest advantages consistent with security to
line whole body of members.

Moved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Thomas.—That this meeting
considers the conduct of the Directors, in waiving their right to receive
or claim any advance from the Company during the first 18 months, as
highly honourable, and describing of the sincer (hanks of the meeting.

We hold Macarthur's Plan for forming Building Societies to be a decled improvement.—Westy Dispatch.

"The Proposition may be obtained, sratis, of any of the Directors, and at
the Sussex Hall, 48, Leuchball street, City, Come Rooms, Exoter-street,
Societies are conducted.—Tomperance Intelligencer.

The Proposition may

JUMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.

As real goodness is not helped by Braise, nor injured by represels, of the BLACK TEA, at is, id. per ib., sold by DAKIN and COMPANY, own its popularity soldy to its intrinsic excellence.

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A COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER is open to a COM-MISSION for the WEST of ENGLAND—he takes nearly sta-town between London and Penzance twice a year, by horse and claim, and represents an old-established Pinn in the City, for whom he has to veiled some 5 or 6 years. Will start his next Journey in about a bringle, Address X. V. O., 12, Three King court, Lombard steect, City

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BE 10 F E A T 11 E R B-William (Fig. 1) and the End-road force of the Confer Grey Goose and the Confer Grey Go

IFENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.—Bright steel fenders, to 4 feet, from 30s each; rich bronzed scroll do, with steel bar, 10s dd, iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; wrought iron kinds fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; bright register stoves, with bronzed ornanests, and two sets of bars, from 90s, bed room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s; from for chambers is 3d per ser; handsome do, with cut head, a set from money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sant (per post) free.

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JONES'S 24. 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES warranted not to vary more than half a reinute per week, are saling the frankactory, 338, kirand, opposite Somerset-house. They combine the truth of a mathematical instrument with the elegance of an orange of the control of the price a war will be acut free to any part of the kingdom. Read Jones's "Skatch of Watch Work." sent free for a 2d, stamp

Watch Work, "sent free for a 2d. stomp

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present in the highest possible degree. It bestowson the teeth a pear like
whiteness and frees them from tartar; imparts to the gums a hesility frances, and to the breath a grateful sweetness and perfume. Price 2s. 2d.

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All other Odontos are FRAU DULENT IMITATIONS!

All other Odontos are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!

VHAT DO YOU THINK OF MOSES' CLOTH!

I think this cloth is woven well—
Such cloth fa certain to exect.

Tis sound and stout; nor can I trace
A single blemish in its face.
With cloth so choice, and cloth so strong.
No winder that the dress wears long.
No winder that the dress wears long.

VHAT DO YOU THINK OF MOSES STYLE?
I think it's instehless and complete;
I think it's instehless and complete;
I think it beautifully chaste;
I wonder not that thousands smile.
Approximply on such a style
WHAT DO YOU THIT'S OF MOSES MAKE
I'm led to think, from what I ken,
That they employ the heat of men.
No slighting faults are found to lark
In any portion of the work.
In face, you need not ask me whether
The clothesare rightly put together.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MOSES FIT?
What do I think of MOSES fit?
I think it truly exquisite,
I really always view with pleasure
The skifful way they use their measure.
They have an admirable tact
In making you a fit exact.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MOSES PRICES?
I tell you what—I can but wonder
To find their prices so much under.
To see the garments they supply,
We might suppose they'd charge as high—
But no—their list of prices show
They sell astonishingly low.

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D'Orsay's, Athol's, Pembroke, and every description of winter souss
D'Orsay's, Athol's, Pembroke, and every description of winter souss
Doy's winter coats in every style
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Press Coats, edged
Prock ditto
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Double breasted ditto
Boy's Russar and Tunic Suits
Boy's winter Trousers
Boy's winter Vests MADE TO MEASURE.

Winter Coats in every style and shape, handsom Milled C oth Oreat Coats, volvet collar and cuffs Tweed Wrappers
Ditto Trousers, in all the new patterns
Dress in Trousers
Best, or Dress Trousers
Best, or Dress Trousers
Dress Coats
Ditto, best quality made
Prock Coats
Ditto, best quality made
Cashnicre Vests
Satin, plain or fancy
Hoy's Hussar and Tunic Suits
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IMPORTANT ANNOUNGEMENT.

A new work. entitled "Habiliment Hall," with full stope self-measurement, may be had on application, or farwanted with full stope self-measurement, may be had on application, or farwanted with mount can be had at five minuted hotice, at ing prices:

Men's Suits, dress coat, vest, and trousers

Ditto, lackot, vest, and trousers

Important. Any article purchased or ordered, if not synthematically and found the self-ment of the money returned.

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 126.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1846.

[GRATIS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE CORN LAW DEBATE.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE-FRIDAY.

The adjourned debate on the question that the house do resolve itself into a committee of supply to consider the trustoms and Corn Importation Acts was commenced on

Friday evening by

Bright scroll do., se klithen maments, , los : dro ads, de ed alled cata.

TCHES

are selling
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ce, a Watch
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ABINET ADAM 8

TIFRICE.

CLOTH?

Sir Howard Douglas, who rose with inexpressible pain to oppose the proposition of her Majesty's Government, and to give his vote in favour of protection and against the ex-tinction of restrictive duties. After explaining the grounds on which he thought that agriculture was ontitled to protection, he proceeded to make several practical observations on the injurious bearings of the present scheme upon those great colonial interests which were not represented in that house, and which were not in general well understood by the country. The abolition of protecting duties extinguished the Canada Corn Bill, which was a solemn compact between the Imperial and Canadian Legislature, and destroyed all the flattering hopes which that bill was intended to foster. It also involved the abolition of discriminating duties; and from the moment when discriminating duties were abrogated, our colonies, so far as commercial purposes were concerned, became free and independent states. There would arise the question-" Of what use were our colonies?" and to that question it would be difficult to give a satisfactory answer. He concluded by quoting several extracts from the speeches of Mr. Huskisson, for the purpose of proving-first, that that great statesman was not an advocate of Free Trade properly so called; secondly, that he was the strenuous supporter of protection to agriculture; and, lastly, that he thought it absolutely necessary that we should give protection to our colonies if we wished to maintain our maritime

Viscount VILLIERS observed that the events of the last three years had caused him to change his opinion on the subject of protection, and expressed his conviction that this

measure would tend to increase the prosperity and promote the welfare of all classes of the community.

Mr. F. Scorr described the stunning effect produced on his mind by the sudden describen of all his former principles and pledges by Sir R. Peel, and the pain and reluctance with which he now came forward to give the most decided opposition to his new commercial plans. He would not ransack Hansard to point out the inconsistency between the past and present speeches of Sir R. Peel and his colleagues; he would confine himself to contrasting the various and contra-dictory statements which they had made in their speeches during the last three weeks, in order to show the shifts to which men were driven when they brought forward measures for which there was no sound justification. The hon, gentleman then amused the house by reading a curious series of contradictions which he had detected in the speeches of Sir R. Peel, Sir J. Graham, and Mr. S. Herbert, delivered between the 26th of January and the 9th of February, 1846. Those contradictions were proofs of the difficulties in which great men were plunged when they abandoned principle, and entered upon a crooked and devious course of policy. called upon the house to consider what the feelings of the party with which he was connected must be towards Sir R. Peel, by reflecting upon the torror and alarm which had seized a friend of his, who having tried an action in the provinces, and having then argued the merits of it in Westminster Hall, and having afterwards removed it to the court of last resort, the House of Lords, found that his leading counsel—the very man who had supported his claims in every previous stage of the cause—had not only thrown up his brief, but had actually taken one from his adversary. His friend had then applied to the King's counsel and to the junior counsel, whom he had formerly employed, in the hope that they would have no scruple to undertake his cause. But no—they refused—for they said that it was their duty to follow their leader. Noticing the assertion that this project was wide and bold and comprehensive, he expressed a doubt whether it would be as wise as it was wide, as politic as it was bold, as successful as it was comprehensive. He considered that it would be "a heavy blow and severe discouragement" to agriculture—that it would be "a heavy blow and severe discouragement" to agriculture—that it would diminish our command over the necessaries of life that it would drive bullion out of the country for the purchase of grain—that it would increase griovously the fluc-tuations of the price—and that it would diminish the supply of food for our labouring population. Whilet he was proceeding in his denunciations of the measure Sir ROBERT PERL asked Mr. Scott for whom was he re

Mr. F. Scott (apparently bursting with indignation.)—For whom am I retained? Who am I counsel for? I am counsel for no man, no party, and no sect. I was proud to follow the party of the constitution when the right honourable baronet hoisted the banner of it; but now that he fights under a different flag, I am left to myself, and must act according to the dictates of my own conscience and my own judgment. The hon, gentleman, after apologising for the warming to the more properties of the manual delicated a large force. warmth into which he was betrayed, delivered a long invecwarming into which he was betrayed, delivered a long investive against Free Trade, which he described as sense in the abstract, and nonzense in the reality, and as a fantastic cobwib sparkling like a dew drop in the sun. With our taxation he was impossible. With our debt of 800,000,000,, we had no more right to call on this country to enter into competition with converse accountry to enter into competition with converse accountry to enter into competition with converse accountry to enter the was had to tion with countries comparatively untaxed, than we had to tion with countries comparatively untaxed, than we had to sak a man with a hundred weight on his back to enter into the lists with an opponent perfectly unencumbered. Basides, the appearance of the political htmosphere in the East, and the same in the bone-crushing experiment, which would consign not only all the agricultural labourers, but all the other industrious artisans of the kingdom also, to one unsparing and undiscri-

minating rain.

Mr. Ward said that the hon, member who had just ad-Mr. WARD said that the non. member who had just and dressed the house was a speaker whom it was very difficult to follow. He was difficult only in one sense,—and the difficulty arose chiefly from the variety of topics which his speech embraced. The hon, gentleman announced himself as counsel for the whole British empire, but the course of his speech seemed to carry him all over the world. As to his assuments, there was no difficulty in dealing with his arguments, there was no difficulty in dealing with them,—or rather there was no necessity for replying to them, for one-half of the hon, member's speech completely disposed of the other. Every proposition of his was demolished by the next which he enunciated (hear, hear, and No, no). Did hon members who cried "No, no," attend to the speech which had just been delivered? Did they observe how the hon, member attacked the Government, and did they not at the same time remember that that same hon, member had, until just the present session of Parliament, supported every one of the measures of the right hon. baronet? The hon. member who spoke last supported the Canada Corn Bill; be supported the measures of 1842, including the new tariff, and now he talked of their disastrous results as regarded our hardware and cutlery. The speech just delivered was filled with complaints of the measures of the last three years, and up to the last three months the hon, member himself had supported every one of those measures. Then he told the house that the matter of Free Trade was a question of degree, and almost in the same breath he informed them that it struck a blow at the heart of the constitution. Looking then, at the way in which one part of the hon, member's speech answered another, it might well be inquired what gave him a right to take offence when asked for which party he was retained; and what right had he to apply the remark to Ministers that public men had great difficulties to encounter when they took a devious course? Surely for a long time past the present Ministers of the Crown had been taking a most direct course. No one who had sat opposite to the right hon, baronet and had seen the progress he had made in the adoption of principles of his opponents, could have doubted that he must in the end have come to the same conclusions with them; and those who supported him in the year 1842 had no right to turn round upon and to condemn him for results which they had rendered irresistible. What did they do in 1812? They were a great party, they had an unassailable majority in that house (cheers); they had the game in their own hands; there had been an appeal to the country on the question of protection to native industry (hear, hear); they had benton their exponents. What were the first step taken? had beaten their opponents. What was the first step taken? Concession was made; with all the responsibilities of power, the right hon, baronet yielded to what he now called the force of reason and of truth, as he only now yielded because it was reason and it was truth. After the admission of the principle, the only question was one of degree—where they should stop. In dealing with the tariff, how did the hongentleman deal with those interests with which they had been connected in 1841, with which they had so recently entered into a holy alliance? They sacrificed them. And if they were reduced to what they themselves admitted to be almost a hopeless condition—if defeat were staring them in the face—(cheers from Mr. Ferrand); the hon, member for Knaresborough cheered that expression; what did he do in the West Riding (loud cheers)? On the very first night after the opening statement of the right hon. baronet, it was a notorious fact, that the hon. gentleman in that house, with some foolishness, and much good nature, subscribed 2000/, to enable the hon member to fight the West Riding election. ("That is not true," from Mr. Ferrand.) The hon. member published a very able letter ("hear, hear," from Mr. Ferrand, and much cheering), and he so completely succeeded in what he (Mr. Ward) believed to be his peculiar mission, of creating hostile feelings between the masters and the men, between the employers and the workmen, that his own friends absolutely repudiated his efforts; his own friends, the Tory manufacturers, were so frightened with the doctrines of the hon. gentleman, that they refused to take part and act with him. ("That is not true," from Mr. Ferrand.) If that were intended as a personal contradiction, it was not exactly the lenguage reliable exactly reliable exactly the lenguage reliable exactly reliable exac thich ought to be used in that house. ("No, no," from Mr. Ferrand.) Now, hon, gentlemen opposite found themselves placed in a position of denouncing as absolute treachery to their party the step taken by the Government, which was the inevitable result of honourable gentlemen's own former opinions; and the champions and gentlemen's own former opinions; and the champions and advocates of protection now were forced to admit that they only differed from the right hon, baronet because he went further than they wished. The hon, gentleman who last spoke admitted that legislation must be progressive, that the laws of this country were not immutable, but that he would rather have changes introduced at the desire of the landlesda than on the demand of the people. Now the country landlords than on the demand of the people. Now, the country had waited quite long enough for the landlords' desire it was time to listen to the demands of the people (hear) The hon, gentleman complained that a tax upon grain was liable to be confounded with a bread tax; but he did not show how it was possible to separate them. The hon, gentleman told them also that protection was not required for the interests of agriculture in the part of Bootland with which he was connected; he talked of the disadvantages of hilly roads, and of the want of markets and manure, and though he talked of the demoralising affects of the ministerial measures, yet he had told them that cultivation could still be profitably carried on: As to the trash which the hon, member had quoted in relation to the colonies, it needed no an swer, nor would it be necessary to reply to the eigenlar of Mr. Bushanan; but he would ask how it was possible that we could inour the risk of nine-tenths of the Canada trade we could mour the risk of nine-tenths of the Canada trade being taken from us and going to supply New York, seeing that we now supplied the market of New York ourselves against all competitors? What amount of the English except that the English colonies? He did not believe that they took constribution the whole exports of this year.

ports, where we had not any advantage, and not the slightest preference over our Continental neighbours. He must next go back to the speech of the hon, and gallant member for Liverpool (Sir H. Douglas), who, he regretted to find, had left the house; though he must have expected that some remarks would have been made upon what he had stated. The lion, and gallant gentleman was peculiarly happy in his posi-tion, for he said that he had nothing to regret and nothing to retract since he had come into Parliament. Few members in that house could make such an admission (hear, hear). The town of Liverpool, however, was not so peculiarly happy in her members at the present moment, for one, the not lord (Lord Sandon), found it utterly impossible to make his vote and his speech agree upon this occasion (laughter), and the other hon, and gallant member had connected with the cause of the narrowest and blindest monopoly the greatest commercial town in the empire (cries of hear, hear). The honourable and gallant gentlemen wished for protection to all; he would give protection to all; and he would give it to labour, because it was exposed to the competition of capital at home. He believed that was the docwine of the hon, member for Knaresborough; but he seemed not to see the reply to his doctrine in the question, "What would labour do without capital (cries of hear)." They heard of the competition of flesh and blood with machinery. They had been made the most of in the West Riding; but the working men now scouted such a doctrine, they outstripped their leaders and wont beyond them; and he confessed that he was surprised to hear an hon, member for Liverpool complain of the competition between English labour and English capital, and ask Parliament to protect labour against capital. Then the hon, member said that reciprocity was hopeless; that it was all very well to talk about Free Trade kere, but that we could not communicate it to other countries. We had tried negotiations, and we had failed; was it not then advisable to try the effect of example them, hear)? Had not our trade with France quintupled, not with. standing the most rigorous and severe restrictions imposed upon our imports? Then, it was asked, what would become of our colonies, and what would be the effect of British interests in India? The hon, and gallant member forgot that the people were supplied with cottons from this country ber ter and cheaper than they could be procured elsewhere; and yet he said that this measure would be the ruln of England. He asked also how the people on the banks of the Ganges could enter into competition with those of other favoured countries. What did the people of the Brazils inherit by way of advantage over those who inhabit the same clime and had the assistance of British science and British capital (hear, hear)? He (Mr. Ward) had always thought it had been assumed, during the discussions of the Slavery Emancipation Bill, that free labour was better and cheaper than slave labour; how was it, then, that India could not enter into competition with any other country? The how and gallant gentleman then appealed to the opinions of Mr. Huskisson. No man entertained a greater respect for the name of Mr. Huskisson, no man had a warmer appreciation of the great services he had rendered to his country, than himself; but Mr. Huskisson was obliged during his long career often to make sacrifices to party requirements; and if an appeal were made to the opinions of Mr. Huskisson in 1825, it would be right that an appeal should also be made to his opinions towards the close of his career, when he was free from the transmels of party, and ventured to speak his real sentiments. What did he say towards the close? On the 25th of March, 1830, two years after his sliding scale had been in operation, and he had seen its defects, he said, "It was his unalterable conviction that we could not uphold the Corn Laws now in existence, together with the taxation, and increase the national prosperity, or preserve public contentment. That these laws could be repealed without affecting the landed interest, whilst the people would be relieved from their distress, he had never had any doubt whatever" (cheers). It was easy to complain of bad faith and of the betrayal of constituencies; but the first thing a public man had to do was, he must be right (hear), and if he found that he would at once to return to what reason he was not right, he ought at once to return to what reason and experience showed to be most conducive to the real interests of the country (hear). There was no question on which a public man had greater justification in exercising his right to change his opinion than the Coru Laws. It had never been a party question. Many had lived to learn and to benefit by experience. Every day new lights and new facts broke in upon them, and warranted anyman in changing his opinion (hear, hear). Mr. Huskisson had changed his opinion. The noble lord the member for the city of London had manfully come forward and declared, "What I did 20 years ago, when I was a young and inexperienced man, was erroneous, and I have seen good reason to change my opinions." He (Mr. Ward) binself admitted that the first yote he had given was with the right honourable baronet, in favour of the Corn Laws, and he had only altered his views since he had brought his mind to hear, and since he had done what few, perhaps, did (loud ories of Oh, oh)-looked honestly and fairly into the question, divested from all class—he would not say interests, for they had not so much effect upon an houest mind—but class prejudices and parties, ties which were more difficult to shake off than donsiderations of personal interests. Men got hampered with party connections, or they had made some hasty and ill considered speech at a county meeting, and they thought it only consistent with their honour to adhere to their opinions, till the country was united against the obstinate and blundering pursuit of a policy which was as rainous to their own in-terests as it was to the interests of the country (loud cheers). terests as it was to the interests of the country (loud cheers). In the course of this long debate he had certainly listened to some very able speeches. There was the speech of the hon, member for Northampton (Mr. Stafford O'Brion), which he had cheered, sitting on that (the Opposition) aide of the house, quite as much as any one who had listened to it on the other side; he had never heard a speech which in point of delivery; feeling, and tone, and everything except the principle on which it was founded, he more admired. But strip it of his cliffer, the away its appeals to the fooling, that it was but a particle principle on the cliffer the principle of the fooling, that it was but a particle principle on the beginning to

the end, a begging of the guestion. It proceeded on the assumption that the legislature sould protect all, that all would be richer and better by their acting on that system of legislation, and that upon this foundation could be built up a fabric of kindly and social relations. And if it were granted that they could thus make the people richer and happier, and if they could thus benefit all without doing injury to any, they had hitherto been the most blundering of mortals, and they had disregarded a most sacred duty when, instead of attempting the grand object, they had preferred an irrotome attendance in that house, and constant ameliorations. But how did the system work? They had par-tially iried it last year. It was admitted that if it were applied to any interest, it must be applied to all—that it must be universal. They had no right to apply it to wheat and to neglect barley (hear, hear); and so they were to go down to the smallest interests, which as being unable to protoot themselves, had a greater claim to their special atten-tion (hear, hear). They must go down to the smallest branches of the most unimportant manufactures. They had done an injustice in passing the tariff. If hon, members would recoilect, they took off the duty from tare and clover weed, and yet when the hon. baronet the member for Essex (Bir J. Tyrell) met the farmers of Essex, they said, "What have we to do with this reduction? 99 farmers want tare seed where there is only one who grows it." There was the guestion of protection confined to the agricultural Interests, and that was the answer of the farmers. This great principle, then, was most defective—it was a great humbug (laughter); they could not carry it out. What said a noble lord, a friend of his—though he did not know whether he might still call him his friend, so great were the differences now between them, but one who had been his friend—Lord Dacre? He said that if they had a Free Trade in corn, they must have a Free Trade in cattle food. How could be have this without doing an injustice to some portion of the agricultural body, which grew food for eattle If the measure which the hon, gentleman the member for Winchester (Mr. B. Escott) had originated had been carried, and if midze had been introduced into this country, there would as a consequence be a lessened demand for oats and barley, and the farmers of Scotland and of the fens of Lincolnshire would be the sufferers. All other interests might be benefited, but one would receive a great injury. The truth was, they could not work out the principle, and any attempt to do it would involve them in a labyrinth, from which they would not be able to extricate themselves, even if honourable members opposite had a Ministry of their own. Were they then to escrifice to this principle the great inter nate connected with a large and cheap supply of food for this country? It was said, however, that we could not com note with foreigners, because we were so heavily taxed. This was a question which ought to be approached with peculiar delicacy by honourable gentlemen opposite (hear, For six years this had been constantly pear, and ohrers) hus forward as the reason for refusing a change; and he was now delighted to find, by the votes of another house, zimt a noble-lord-lind-taken up-the-aubject, and-had-adopted sometalwexact words of his own motion. A corresponding motion he had given in that house, and for three years successively he had endeavoured to procure an inquiry (hear). If the agricultural interests had any peculiar burdens they ought to be ashaned if they could not prove them; for three years he had given them the opportunity, which they had decliced. He had begged them to nominate their own committee, he had told them that they might even have the hon. and gallant member for Lincoln (Colonel Sibthorp) as their shairman, if they so pleased (laughter); and that they might examine his witnesses, or he would examine theirs, so that they should arrive at a fair conclusion; but they had destined, and his believed that they had no case which they could prove before P2 intelligent men. They would have nothing to do with it ("hear, hear," from Sir J. Tyrrell). The hon, baronat who sheared had not voted for it, and he well recollected the last time the subject was discussed the tion, baronet did him the honour of sleeping through the whole of his speech in the gallery (laughter). There was not the least blame in that,—it was the best use the hon. gentleman could make of his time (renewed laughter), for it was a very disagreeable subject; he did not know what to any, and so he thought it best to sleep through the whole of it (hear, hear). However, the party disagreed to the appointment of a committee, they shuffled about, and as a pointment of a committee, they shuffled about, and is a great party they did not do themselves justice, there was much talking and bragging out of the house, and very little in it; there never was a party that so shrunk from a fair inquiry ("hear, hear," from Sir J. Tyrrell). He supposed by that cheer there was some mystery behind, and that by the hon, baronet the mystery would be cleared up. The hon, baronet had at Chelmsford cleared away many mysteries; he had cleared up the mystery of the breaking up of the Unbinot, and had told his friends how all the Ministers voicd (laughter), and if he could clear up the mystery that night he trusted the opportunity would not be allowed to pass by. He had certainly assumed that as honourable gentlemen never had proved their case, or attempted it, so shrink on grounds such as he had alluded to—grounds to contradictory and so inconsistent, from entertaining, and favourably entertaining, as he musted the house would, and as the country had done, the very large propositions brought forward by her Majesty's Government? He would give to those propositions his most cordial support as the salvation of the agricultural interest, because he believed the worst thing that could be done would be to leave them to themsolves; nothing could be more fatal than any attempt on their part to go on without leading strings. They never had known, they did not now know their own interests; they had made the strangest mistakes whenever they had been bushled by courtesy or circumstances to try their hand in the statute book. He would not outer into details, but let them take the case of wool ("hear, hear," from Mr. W. Miles) Would the hon, member meet that on that ground? ("I will," from Mr. Milos.) Well, if the hon, member would meet him he would state the case of wool. He believed that the agricultural interest, by way of raising the price of En-dish wool, were induced to lay a duty of tid. per pound on foreign wool. Would the hon, member for Somerset deny that at the end of five years from that time the price of wool was lower in England than it had been for 200 years before?

[Cheek.] Would be deay that when in 1835 the duty was lowered to 1d. the price hustantly rose? Would the hou. striker dony, that now the duty on foreign wool was taken as allowable, and during the last year an immense quantity of the was imported, the price of wool here was as high as it had been for the last six or seven years? How would be that the last the would say that he was saved by Marituskinon and the right hop, haronet from the consequences

of his own legislation. The agricultural interest had com-mitted an irreparable folly, but they found, at last that they could not keep such a monopoly, and that their only remedy who to three themselves into the same of that mounter whom they now denounced the Treat Trade; and in proportion as the importation of wool increased so had the price of wool increased up to the present day. The hon gentleman said they would destroy the trade of the country if the Corn Laws were altered. He assured the hon, member, that whatever might be the feelings of some hon, gontlemen in that house, tenants in many parts of the country entertained a very diftenants in many parts of the country entertained a very dif-ferent opinion; they did not see those frightful contingencies from the relaxation of protection, provided the landlords met them in a fair spirit. They knew, on the contrary, that they could do nothing with safety until this quastion was settled, that settled it must be, and that that could be only in one way now; that the period of uncertainty and difficulty might be protracted for a few months, perhaps twelve-months longer, but that the system of the Corn Laws must come at last to a total abrogation of protecmust come at last to a total abrogation of protective duty. They were auxious for it, always supposing that the tillage of land was put on a more rational basis than now-that the obsolete terms of the leases were expunged in future—that they were not forced to support the game of their landlords—that certainly was one of the peculiar burdons upon land (hear, hear)—and that they were to meet with more support for two or three years in the difficulties they expected and were prepared to encounter (hear, hear). He admitted it; but had the agricultural interest had no difficulties to encounter during the time they had had protection? If ad they had no fluctuations of price? Had not the right hon, baronet spoken of the complaints of low prices, and of the ruinous consequences to the tenants, in the years 1832 and 1835? Was not the price of wheat in 1839 only 42s., and that under a law, the law of 1815, that promised a price of 80s, to the farmer? Were there not more fluctuations under that law than any man could conceive under a system of Free Trade? Then the hon, member said it was very hard that those whose families had been attached to the soil for two or three generations should be told they must quit it. He admitted that it was a hard thing for any man to separate himself from old habits and associations (hear, hear); but would they legislate for any other branch of the community upon that principle? Would they legislate for the shopkeeper on the principle that he wanted to keep his There was but one way, They must legislate properly. And if, as he heard, there was too much land underfarmed, from want of capital, the best thing they could do for those unfortunate men who had taken leases of lands they had not the means of cultivating, and who could never hope for such a state of things as would enable them to extricate themselves from the difficulties of a business for which they had not sufficient capital, was to reduce their farms to smaller ones, and not to cheat them by the belief that anything that house could do could save them from the hopeless struggle. But, above all let them look at the lowest classes, whose comforts in life, as an hon, member said on the previous evening, depended more than any other on the price of provisions, which absorbed three-fourths of their annual income. And could any one who heard the speech of the right hon, gentleman, the member for Wilts, the other night, when he said that on his own estates and in his own neighbourhood, whilst wheat was varying from 74s. to 40s. in the last ten years, the wages he paid during that time, and they all knew that the right hon. gentleman was a man of a kind and liberal heart (hear. hear) were but 8s. or 9s.,—could any one who heard that say that the labourer did not suffer the most from the system of protection? Talk of wages equalising themselves to the price of provisions! why, when they saw the labourer exposed to the keenest privations under the system of protection, could they turn round and invoke that house to continue those laws, not for the sake of the landlords, but for the sake of the tenants (hear, hear, hear)? He recollected a passage in the writings of a gentleman who wrote in language peculiarly expressive, in which he called all those fallacies in which public men were in the habit of indulging "political lies," and he said that never was there a lie yet which was not brought to nature's bank for payment (hear, hear) Why, that was the case here; they came at last to the lowest classes, and could press it no further. That was the point to which protection in this country had come. At the very mo ment of manufacturing prosperity there was also great distress—at the very moment of agricultural prosperity they found the same difficulties pressing on the agricultural districts. But there was one resource before them-let them take the path now opened to them—let them look to the great development of the interests of this country, and the consequent increase of employment, as the only thing that would permanently improve the situation of all classes of the population; and when they had assertained what was the right course to pursue, without regard to small or solfish interests, he hoped that upon calm consideration that would have an influence on the great body of the English gentry now arrayed against these measures. It was a difficult task that they had undertaken; but never were the gentry of England in higher estimation than now, and he should be grieved to see them forfeit one particle of their position but when a class, however numerous, however powerful, raised themselves against the interests of a whole community, depend upon it it could not long command either the respect or the kindly sympathy of the people (hear). It was a question involving their personal interests; he said that with reference to himself, for every interest he had was in land; but he gave his support to the policy of his friends behind him, because he saw it was the irresistible claim of justice (hear, hear). Already some of the brightest orusments of that house had been driven from it by the honest admission of their convictions upon this subject, A noble lord opposite had told them that his conviction was one way, but his vote would be another (hear, hear). He felt sure, however, that the noble lord would free himself from the transmols that embarrassed him, and would be with them (hear, hear, and a laugh). Could they honestly maintain a law which, as he thought, had been based upon false principles, upon grounds which they could not work out in detail when they came to try it, and which was uttorly at variance with the just demands of the country? He did not believe that they could. The hone members try? He did not believe that they could. The hon, member for Liuntingdon had spoken of a compromise; he appeared to have in his mind some ministry which was a modify protection and adjust this question by some possible mode of regulating the tax on food. Parliage the hone member was himself to be a member of the Government (a longh), but he seared the hone member that so far as the select of this country want, they thought that he only fault of this result so here was that it did not work out its principle in enough. There was no conceivable resson why the duty

upon butter and cheese should be reduced one half, and the diffy upon form taken off diorether; and as to any idea of a compromise, he could assure the hon, gentleman that every allower would only serve to protract the struggle and involve all the interests connected with agriculture in inexamonable confusion; that any arrangement would not be said factory to all parties, to landlords as well us tenants; and tactory to all parties, to industries as well us tenants; and that they would lose the opportunity, which perhaps the might never have again, of admitting foreign corn with out any check to the industry of the country; and he ain cerely trusted that the majority with willich the measure of the Government would be sanctioned in that house might be large enough to limite some such reception of them electrics. where, as he was certain they would meet with from the

Mr. MILEs observed, that he was glad that this question was presented to the house in such a shape that there could be no mistake respecting it. Protection must be defended as applicable to every class of the community, or must, if withdrawn from one class, be withdrawn from every titler Last night Mr. Baring had talked of the expediency of compromise. He had never been, he never should be, for such an arrangement. On the contrary, he thought that we must either have the present duties under the sliding scale, or else submit to the new duties proposed by Sir R. Perl. and to their abolition at the expiration of three years. He could not understand the principles on which that proper tion rested, nor could be see why the policy which had been pursued for more than two centuries, and which had rived this country to greatness, should be set aside on no other ground than the experience of the last three years. The apprehension of impending famine had been alleged as B na son for this innovation; but he was rejoiced to have it in his power to dissipate all fears of a coming scarvity on the authority of returns made to the Central Agricultural Assistation from its provincial branches in 26 counties, if not more, of England and Wales. There was a sufficient stock of wheat in England for the consumption of its inhabitants. and the price of potatoes was at present falling in the Lou don and country markets—a certain proof that the supply of them was not deficient. He then proceeded to reply to the statements of Sir R. Peel in his speech on the address at the commencement of the session, and also in his speech in proposing his present commercial code, and to commerce the returns which he had quoted respecting the consump tion and price of flax, wool, meat, lard, and various other articles for the three years before and after the passing of the tariff of 1842. Even supposing the returns of Sir Robert Peel, and the conclusions derived from them to be correct. were they sufficient to justify him in throwing overboard all the industrial energies of the country, and in leaving them to compete by themselves under our heavy taxation with the untaxed energies of Germany and the United States? After contending at great length for the negative of that proposition. and after reading a large quantity of statistical information in support of his arguments, he proceeded to show, the was the interest of the country to foster its home trade in preference to its foreign; whereas Sir R. Peel was upholding the foreign trade at the expense of the immense mass of capital thrown into the home market by the great consumers and little savers of the country. Our recent prosperity had not been occasioned by the relaxation of duties made by the tariff of 1842 so much as by the impetus given to the home trade by the formation of railroads; and he therefore can tioned the house against acceding rashly to any proposition for interfering with the march of our native industry. Though he did not approve either of the plan proposed by Sir Robert Peel or of that proposed by Lord John Russell, he must say, that if he were compelled to accept one or the other, he should prefer that of Lord John Russell to that of Sir R. Peel, as the suffering which Lord John ad mitted must accompany the transition from the present Com Laws to a Free Trade in corn, would, in his opinion, le lecunder the latter than the former plan. After giving his rea sons for that opinion, he noticed with some indignation the advice which Mr. S. Herbert had offered a few nights ago to the landed interest, when he said that it was time for the country gentlemen to lay aside their claptraps, and not to propagate alarms founded on delusion. In order to show that the alarm was not unfounded, that we should be innu dated with foreign corn in case of the repeal of the corn Laws, he read a description of the immense agricultural resources of the United States in the extensive valleys and boundless prairies of the Mississippi, and of Russia in her northern and southern provinces, amid the roars of the house, when he came to the exaggerated accounts of the fertility of Tamboff, once so unfortunately quoted by Lord Stanley. As soon as our markets should be thrown open to the world. those fertile lands would be tilled, and our barren lands would go out of cultivation. He could not see any prospect more disheartening; and yet the agriculturist was told to oultivate, to outfive the agriculturist was told to outfive to outfive the agriculturist was told to outfive to outfive the told the sorry was grown, he would fiffed the home market paralysed and closed against him by the foreign corn thrown into it free from duty? He constituted a deconsistion of great it free from duty? He concluded a denunciation of great length and violence against the proposed measure by a de claration of his fears that the time would soon arrive when the people of these islands would curse the day when first their Government was entrusted to a cautious and temperature France Productions and temperature France F sing Free Trade Minister.

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Lord MARCH then moved the adjournment of the debate. A number of members were leaving the house under the idea

A number of members were leaving the number of members were leaving the number of members were leaving the number of the question of Lord Northian rose, and speaking to the question of adjournment, said; that though his principles were unshinged, he slicely that the measure of the Covernment of the foresaw that this question must be settled; and, so that the coses, he would rather have it settled by Sir R. Peel, was the case, he would rather have it settled by Sir R. Peel, where he had northernor than he Lord J. Russell, in in whom he had nonfidence; than by Lord J. Russell, in whom he had none.

Mr. FRREAKE wished to know what confidence the not lord had in Sir R. Peal when he was dragged out of the Coal-

lord had in Sir R. Peal when he was dragged out of the challenge to vote for him on a late occasion.

Lord Nonraland ross amid, a mult of laughter, but as down arealn without uttering a world.

Col. T. Wood, jup, a reference his intention of superdist the bill, as he considered it he challenger to the considered and manufacturing prosperity of the continuty that this meants should be settled. He remained this opposition which are more than the remained that the prosperity of the continue of the remained the prosperity of the continue of the remained that the prosperity of the continue of the prosperity of the

the sudden conversion of Lord Northland to the cause of Free Trade. Other members had taken a considerable time to alter their opinions, but Lord Northland's conversion was miraculously sudden; for in the course of the last month he had delivered himself of two speeches in that house, one rgainst Free Trade and the other in favour of it. He could not say to what private cell the noble Lord had retired to complete his conversion. This he was sure of, that he had not been in the house, for all the argument had been on one wide, and that in favour of protection. He lectured Mr. B. Cochrane for his attack on the Duke of Richmond. It was true that the Duke of Richmond had been a member of Earl Grev's Administration, but that was no reason that he should be a Free Trader; for Earl Grey, its head, was an advocate for protection. He then proceeded to contend that the abolition of protection would be the utter ruin of the country and that Mr. Sidney Herbert's plan to settle the question of the Corn Laws by throwing them altogether overboard was not the way to come to a satisfactory settlement of it. Mr. 8. Herbert had favoured the house with the cogent reasons which had produced the change in his opinions. He should like to hear what Mr. Goulburn and Lord G. Somerset had to say in favour of this measure, which they once opposed, but which they now supported. After dwolling at some length on the inconsistency of Lord Lincoln, Mr. Gladstone, and other members of the Administration, who at the last gene ral election had denounced a more moderate measure than the present as "the fugitive humbug of a dying political faction," and who were now supporting a proposition for the total abolition of all protective duties, he concluded by declaring that he could not give his assent to a measure so detrimental as the present to all classes of the community.

Mr. M. Gibson, though unwilling to delay, for a moment, the appointment of the committee, said he could not forego the opportunity of making a few observations on a question in which he had taken much interest, and which importantly affected the prosperity and comfort of his constituents. To one part of the speech of the noble lord who had just resumed his seat he gave a most cordial concurrence: he referred to the passage where he stated that if protection was not good for corn, it was not good for manufactures. He admitted that the noble lord and his friends had a perfect and indisputable right to claim at the hands of Parliament that if there were no legislative encouragement to the growth of corn, there ought to be no legislative encouragement to the progress of manufactures. Those with whom he acted had invariably, in their petitions and resolutions, enunciated one principle, and that was, the abolition of all protective duties, not only as applied to corn, but as affecting the manufactures in which they vere engaged (hear, hear). He denied that the great portion of those who had been engaged in this Free Trade movement had been animated by any peculiar animosity against any peculiar protected class. Their object was the abolition of all protection, and in that respect he should be happy to go with the noble lord and his friends around him (hear). But after all, these were extrinsle topics. The immediate question before them was that of the Corn Laws. Anything that ministers might have said upon former occasions was but of small moment as compared to the question of whether it be right to abolish the Corn Law (hear). He was told that this Parliament was elected to maintain protection, and that it could not therefore deal with the question of protection. Why? He maintained that it was because protection was the main question submitted to the electors in 1841, that this Parliament was of all others the best fitted to decide upon that proposition (hear). To say that because certain gentlemen found it inconvenient to give particular votes, that, therefore the Parliament was incapable of deciding on a great national question, was a proposition which could not be maintained for a moment (hear, hear). If the question of protection had not been put forward it might with more plausibility be contended that this Parliament was not fitted to deal with it. He doubted, indeed, whether-if they were to appeal to the country-the electors would return a more respectable set of gentlemen than those he saw around him (hear, hear, and a laugh)-or mon upon whom they could safely place greater reliance. The country certainly would not have a better guarantee for the fidelity of those it might return than it already possessed for the good faith of those whom it had already sent to Parliament (cheers). Why, what was the language of a gentleman now a candidate for the representat himself open to vote on the corn and on all other quesunous r lie sand he left tions as he should deem best for the interest of the country (hear, hear, hear). This was one of the new protectionist candidates. How did they know but that he might be open to argument—determined to examine carefully and decide conscientiously (cheers). But how did the case, as to the Parliament being elected to support the right honourable baronet and protection, really stand? Appeals had been made to constituencies on behalf of the right honourable paronet on the ground of his being favourable to Free Trade. It had been urged in manufacturing districts, that the right hon. gentleman and his party would and could do more for I'ree Trade than the noble lord and his friends on this side of the house. Indeed it was brought as a reproach against him (Mr. M. Gibson) that he belonged to a party incapable of advancing the cause of Free Trade so much as lay in the power of the right hon bironet (hear, and a laugh). The supporters of Sir George Murray in Manchester took that course, and the same thing took place in various other manufacturing towns. Murray in Manchester took that course, and the same thing took place in various other manufacturing towns. The fact was this, gentlemen in the agricultural districts made a great mintake in saking "protection" for a party cry at the last election (hear, hear). And if there he apy charge of decerving and mintally persons out of this house, it restoit on the representative of the arricultural parties. (hear hear) they was who induced the female farmers is believe in the same of repoints. The female was applicable to a solid to consider the female was a solid to consider t

ment would maintain those laws, although they had received repeated cautions that such a course was inconsistent with the statements made by the leaders of Parliament in this house (hear, hear, hear). But honourable gentlemen persevered in telling the farmers that there would be legislation to increase the value of corn. They made that mistake, and they were now suffering the consequences. In point of fact, the position under which Government took office was this :- "The right honourable baronet had said, "Call me in, and I will prescribe." They had called him in; he had prescribed, and they were now labouring under the effect of the dose which he had given them (hear, hear, and a laugh). It was a searching dose—a drastic purge, no doubt; but hon, gentlemen must be prepared for those strong and searching medicines when we had a great national evil to deal with (hear, hear, hear). But it was wasting time to dwell on those questions of ministerial and personal consistency. He would, therefore, refer, with the view of replying, to some of those statistical statements which had been adduced, the other night by the honourable gentleman the member for Somersetshire, and which were said to constitute the great protection case. That honourable gentleman had informed the house that the British farmer was unable to compete with the American and Polish agriculturist, because he had certain expenses in the cultivation of the soil to bear, which did not oppress these foreign agriculturists, and the hon, gentleman went on to give an instance of a farm in which the four-course system of husbandry was carried on, three parts being arable, and the fourth devoted to pasture. He stated that the labour employed on that farm cost from 30s, to 35s., and that the local taxes amounted to 4s, or 4s, 6d, per acreboth taken together amounting to 37s, per acre. Then they were told that the average quantity grown was about four quarters per acre, by which amount were they to divide the 37s., they would get a product of a very little more than 9s. as the expenses of labour and local taxation on each quarter of wheat. Very well. This item of 9s. per quarter was the item which they complained of as constituting their disability to compete with foreigners (cries of no, no)? It must be. All other items were borne both by foreign and English farmers. They said it was not rent, rent was out of the question; they repelled the idea of legislating to raise rent (cheers). The burdens borne, then, were simply the 8s. for labour and the 1s. for local taxation per quarter. Was it not so (cheers)? Well, the right hon baronet, in his scheme, by leaving a permanent duty of 1s. per quarter had clearly left them a protecting duty equal to the whole amount of their local taxation (cheers). Now, with regard to wages, he would ask them how much less than 8s. per quarter did labour cost in America (hear, hear)? Why, it was notorious that labour was much more expensive there than here. In America the labourer had nearly double the amount of wages, How, then, came it that this item of 9s. could be pleaded as a burden which disabled them from competing with the foreign agriculturists? How much less was the item for labour and local taxes than 9s, per quarter in the case of the foreign agriculturist? difference was so small as to be less than any thing which could be assigned. Consider that the average freight of 8s. or 9s. per quarter from the United States more than covered all their expenses, labour and local taxation put together. Thus they were protected by the natural course of things to the full extent of the disability which they pleaded (cries of hear, hear). But he contended that the foreign corn trade had as much right to be favoured as the pursuit of growing it at home. Then there was another strange argument of the hon, member for Somersetshire, that the price of bread was raised by the inordinate profits of millers and bakers; but that plea was clearly inconsistent with the one used by the same hon. gentleman, that even supposing the price of bread to fall, wages would fall with it; if so, then it followed that bakers and millers in enhancing the price of bread did really no harm to the labouring man. The fact seemed, however, to be that the honourable gentleman wished for one law to keep down the profits of the bakers, and another to increase the profits of the farmers (cheers). He (Mr. M. Gibson) contended that such was not a case upon which the protectionists could come down to the house and claim restriction upon the foreign corn trade. But why was it that this extraordinary timidity existed on the subject of Corn Law repeal? If the Corn Laws be such an important element in the value of land, how was it that that value remained undisturbed now that these laws were about to be repealed (cheers)? The conduct of capitalists in dealing with a commodity with respect to which a great change was expected was the best of all guides as to the effect on the value of that commodity which that change would produce (hear, hear); and he believed that capitalists were as ready as ever to embark their money in land (hear, hear). any change were impending which would prevent the tax collector from getting sufficient money to pay the dividends on funded stock, would consols maintain their price? There was no full in landed securities (hear). He had been informed that in the county of Suffolk, sings the period of the rumours of Corn Law repeal, no fower than sixty-three farmers (and they had all been communicated with by a friend of his, whose tenants they were) had made agreements to renew their leases for long periods without one having asked for a reduction of rent (hear, hear). Twenty of the number stated tion of rent (hear, hear). Twenty of the number stated that in the opinion of a farmer a repeal of the Corn Thew would not involve the necessity of a reduction in ront (liant, hear). What, then, was the meaning of the alarm his heard on all sides expressed? Did the pro- tequionists wish, to cripple the advance of manufactures. Were, they leadons of the progress of trade (light of the progress) bits additionable to the progress of the progress of the progress of trade (light of the progress) bits additionable to the progress of the progr

ing others (hear hear). He believed that that unworthy faciling did enter into many minds. He believed that there was a jealousy of the advance of the mercantile and trading community (no, no). Why, let them look to their social system. Had they not attached to the possession of land social advantages and estimation which they did not attach to trading and commercial pursuits (hear, hear)? Had it not been their system to make the possession of land the test of fitness for the administration of the national affairs—the test of fitness for admission into the other house? for, though he admitted that gentlemen who had acquired great wealth and power by commercial pursuits had been raised to the peerage, still they were not admitted to the upper legislative assembly until the possession of landed estate had rendered them in the estimation of the privileged classes fit to be trusted (hear). Was it not laid down, even on the passing of the Ruform Bill, that one of the objects of the measure, so far as the distribution of the representation was concerned, was, to give a predominant influence to the possessors of land? (Lord John Russell was understood to say, "No.") He contended, at any rate, that the possession of land gave the greatest advantages; that the landed gentry had a monopoly of the Cabinet, and the principal offices and emoluments of the State; that it was the boast of their leaders that they could make and unmake Ministries, and the party that had such power could help itself freely to all the advantages of the State. The honourable member for Shrewsbury told us, and told us truly, that our aristocracy was a territorial aristocracy. There was no doubt it was so, and if the Corn Laws were repealed tomorrow there would be but an increased competition for that property which conferred such immense boons on its possessors (hear, hear). If this change was long resisted, the inference was irresistible that the landed gentry perverted their legislative functions to serve their private and pecuniary interests (hear, hear). There is a portion of the question, said the honourable gentleman, to which I wish particularly to allude. As the Corn Laws are to be totally abolished, I wish to ask why the change should not now take place (hear, hear)? Why defer to a future day what justice requires, and what the emergencies of the country at the present no. ment especially call for? If there be any force of argument in the failure of the potato crop, and the deffciency of corn in the north of Europe-and that therefore it would be difficult to procure supplies of food for our population if there be any force in that argument, it calls on the legislature seriously to consider whether the emergencies of the country do not require an image diate measure of relief, and not one that is to have exect at a future time (hear, hear). I, for one, think the agricultural interest would be benefited by an inquediate rather than by a deferred repeal of this law. I believe that if you are to enter into competition with foreign agriculture you had better take your competitors by surprise than give them warning (hear, hear, and cheers). Our present course is inconsistent with the arguments on which it is said to be based. The present emergency is not an argument for doing something three years hence (hear, hear, from the protectionists), for, if you admit the evil, you should at once apply the remedy (hear, hear). The right hon, the Secretary at War said he was of opinion that the ports should have been opened two months ago. Well, then, the neces-sities of the country, as well as the interests of agriculture, urge the Government to take the step now at all events (cheers). You can never bring about a complete and pacific arrangement of the present question short of total and immediate abolition. While any part of the law is left on the statute-book you will have some agriculturists rallying round it in its defence. That will render necessary an army of observation on the other side (a hugh from the protectionists); and in this way the conflict you deprecate will be perpetuated. I am as anxious as any man that the agitation should be got rid of to-morrow (hear). So strong is the conviction out of doors, among those who support a repeat of the Corn Laws, that the question should be at onco set at rest, that those who represent their opinions in this house will be bound to take its sense on this part of the question. The Corn Law question has found its way into this house in the face of It has found its way in the teeth of an adverse majority. It is here now, and it never would have been had it not been backed by the public opinion of the country (chears). I believe that no course that any individual member can take can endanger the passing of this bill (cheers). If it be capable of being endangered by a motion here, the other house would throw it out. The motion here, the other house would throw it out. measure has not been brought to its present position by politicians in this house; it will be carried, if at all, by the voice of the country; and unless it rest on that substantial basis it will fail (cheers, and a laugh from the protectionists). I do not wish any measure to be carried on any other ground. And let me tell the honourable gentlemen opposite they cannot have a better harometer of public opinion than the right honourable gire tleman at the head of the Government (a laugh from the protectionists). Yes, if you want to know what the great mass of the people are thinking about, see what the right honourable gentleman is doing (choors). He is moving with public opinion; he has measured and tastle appropriate the state of the second of the secon justly appreciated public opinion; and when you talk of confidence in public men, you should remember that the only confidence in statesmen worth having is that the only confidence in statesmen worth having is that they will not see public opinion at definite or restriction gravity which indulty has slidwn to be safe, and which are founded on a sound into true economy (cheers). Lublic confidence is not to be acquired by more party manouvring. The great bulk of the community were every day becoming more practical. The great machines held and ifferent party of the country have not been included. The party leaders. They have not said that some

men are not better to administer public affairs than others; but the public of late years have not so much looked to the distinctions of Whig and Tory as to the prospect of carrying great practical measures of reform (hear). I do caution, from the bottom of my heart, the hon, gentlemen opposite against prolonging this conflict with the manufacturing and labouring classes, They have taken a position which they cannot defend with credit, and which they would be compelled to abandon with disgrace if they proceed further (cheers). Aye, and it may be with more than disgrace. Have a disnolution if you will (cheers from the protectionists). The only effect will be the postponement of this measure. I do not object to a dissolution on any other ground than that I think it behoves members who are now entrusted with the care of the national interests to deal with the present emergencies before an appeal is made to the people. I think we are not discharging our duties if we suffer any time to clapse before we provide for that awful deficiency which is staring us in the face, and from which the right hon. Secretary for the Home Department apprehends the most serious consequences (hear, hear). I once more call on you to consider that you have no right to lay down the conditions on which manufacturers and merchants shall carry on their trade. The merchants who import foreign corn should be as free from let or hindrance as you to cultivate your estates. I implore you not to press your antiquated fendal pretension that you are entitled to say on what condition the trade of the country should be carried on I call upon you to be satisfied with the quiet and peaceable enjoyment of your own estates, and let trade and commerce flourish in freedom. (The hon, gentleman eat down amid loud cheers.)

Mr. Hybery wished that all the extempore proselytes to Free Trade would make such a candid declaration of the reasons of their conversion as had been made by Lord Northland on a former evening, as it would be useful to the house, and still more useful to its constituents. After a passing nttack upon the Anti Corn-Law League for its proceeding in collecting large sums of money for the purpose of meddling with the registration and of tampering in elections, he procreded to denounce the Government plan as a measure which supported Free Trade, and yet did not carry it outwhich repudiated protection, and yet left it in force. The farmer was not allowed to cultivate tobacco, because it was necessary to protect the revenue, and also some colonial interests. Were the landowners to allow the ports to be thrown open, and then to be told that they must cultivate their farms with their hands tied behind them? Sir R. Peel proposed to reduce one half the duty on foreign hops; and there was no reduction to be made to the same amount on the excise duty on English hope. He (Mr. Hulsey) was the advocat equal justice and protection to all classes. He wished to know, if the price of English wheat should fall, on what principle Sir Robert would settle the Tithe Commutation Act? Sir Robert had also said that the revenue would not be affected by the changes which he now proposed; but if he were disappointed in that calculation, would be make up the deficiency of the revenue by doubling the Property Tax, and by making it avowedly permanent?

Mr. Dickinson considered that the proposal now made by the Government was just and right, and therefore he should support it. However the members of the Central Agricultural Association might complain of the proceedings of the Anti Corn Law League, it was underiable that they themselves acted on the very same principles; che what was meant by their interference in elections, and their dictation of pledges to county members? He then proceeded to explain the reasons which had induced him to moderate the views which he had formerly entertained on the subject of protection, and to support the measure of the He was convinced that it would inflict no creat loss either on the owners of landed property, or on those who were subordinate to them. He should, however, consider it as an improvement on the Government plan, if its adoption were made immediate.

Lord Attribe Cutrement, in a brief speech, which was very imperfectly heard in the House, declared his intention of opposing the measure which had recently proceeded from the new lights of Sir R. Peel and his colleagues in the

Sir, W. Cr.vy lamented that this debate had partaken so much of a personal character. It had been called a one-sided debute; but if it were so, it was owing to the fact that the staple of the arguments on the other side had been the abuse of Sir R. Peel, and not the defence of a system of protective duties. The country gentlemen had absolutely overdone their case: they had proved too much for their ewn side; for when they showed that Sir R. Peel had broken up a noble party they convinced the public that he had discurded all merely personal interests, and that under the pressure of an overwhelming necessity, be had sought nothing else than the advantage of the country. He then proceeded to refute several statements in the speech of Mr. Miles on Friday night. That gentleman had declared himself the open for of all future relaxation of protection. Might be ask Mr. Miles if he was prepared to condemn the past relaxations of it, and to retrace the steps which had been already taken towards Free Trade? If he would not abrogate past relaxation, with what show of reason did he call on the house to proceed no further in its present liberal and enlightened course? The ery of protection to mative industry found no echo out of doors. He (Sir W. Clay) gave his entire approbation to the measure, which would be productive of no injury to the agricultural interest. If there was one interest deeply concerned in the abrogation of these laws, it was the agricultural interest, for that interest depended more than any other on the success of the whole community. It had nothing to fear from the competition of the agriculturists of the Baltic or the United States.

Alr. Buck participated in the alarm and dismay which this unjust and uncalled for measure had produced among his constituents. The annunciation of it had shaken all confidence in public men, and its baneful influence would extend not only to the agricultural, but also to all the trading and manufacturing classes of the country. To the working part of the country, and manufacturing classes of the country. To the working part of the country is could be entirently injurious; for whome is the price of which had been high pauporism had been less than the price had been low pauporism had been less than the price had been low pauporism had been less than the price had been low pauporism had been less than the price had been low pauporism had been less than the price had been low pauporism had been less than the price had been low pauporism had been less than the price had been low pauporism had been less than the price had been less than the part of the price had been less than the price had Corn Law League, he concluded by declaring his intention to give a most decisive negative to this most rash and in-

Lord II. VANE explained the reasons why he was now prepared to give a vote in opposition to the policy which he had formerly followed on this question. Though he had always urged the reduction of duties on agricultural as well as on all other productions, he had never yet gone the length of advocating the total repeal of the Corn Laws. He believed that a low fixed duty would have been equally advantageous for all commercial purposes, and therefore regretted that it had been abandoned. The time for compromise had now unfortunately gone by; and the question was not to be settled now, except by the adoption of some such measure as that proposed by Sir R. Peel. He appealed to the country gentlemen in the house, and asked them whether it would not be advisable for them to withdraw their opposition to this measure, seeing they could not hope to resist it effectually, after the numerous conversions which had taken

Sir J. TYRRELL, after denouncing the Government scheme as a clap trap proposition, observed, that in speaking of it, it was impossible to avoid making personal reflections on Sir R. Peel, inasmuch as he always represented the Government in his own person, and scarcely permitted any of his colleagues in the Administration to speak. The present measure would not settle the question of protection; for not many moons would clapse before Lord John Russell would come forward with a motion for abrogating the discriminating duties on sugar; and if the present motion were carried, he did not see how that could be resisted. He amused the house by stating, that as Sir Robert had appealed to posterity for its judgment on his policy, the sooner posterity had an opportunity of judging on his merits the better. If the house should pass this measure for the repeal of the Corn Laws, and if the House of Lords should register that verdict, all ties between the upper and lower classes of society would be dissolved, and misery, ruin, and anarchy

Mr. James took pride to himself that on every occasion since he had been in Parliament he had voted in favour of the repeal of the Corn Laws. On the first occasion, when it was brought forward by Henry Hunt, he had been one of the tellers, and there was only a minority of five in favour of it. Now he trusted that the majority would be counted by as many hundreds as there were formerly units in the

minority Sir R. Peer rose and said:—Two matters of great importance have occupied the attention of the house during this protracted debate : one, the manner in which a party should be conducted; and the other, the measures by which to meet the contingencies of a great public calamity shall by vindicated, and the principles by which the commercial character of a great empire shall for the future be governed. On the first point—the manner in which a party shall be conducted by far the greater part of this debate has been expended. I don't undervalue its importance, but surely it is subordinate, in the eyes of the people of this country, to those two other questions to which I have referred—(loud cheers from the Opposition)—the precautions to be taken against a great danger, the principles by which your commercial policy should hereafter be governed (cheers again). On the party question I admit I have little defence to make (cheers from the protectionists). Yes, our measures are, I admit, the very worst measures that could be adopted for party measures (vehement opposition cheering). I make this admission at once; and further that it is unfortunate that the conduct of those measures (so far at least as the Corn Laws are concerned) should be committed to me.] a lmit, at once that it would be far preferable—even assuming t'at the question must be settled—that those should have the credit (if credit there be) of its settlement who have been its uniform and consistent advocates (protectionist cheers). That which prevented myself, and those who concurred with me, from committing it into other hands, was the firm conviction under which I laboured that a part of this empire was threatened with a great famine. I did firmly believe—I do firmly believe—that there is impending over you, and will come at no remote period, a calamity which all must admit and deplore; and while there was that danger, with no means of averting it. I did not consider it consistent with my duty to my Sovereign, or with my honour us a publie man, to take an opportunity of evading the difficulty which I saw impending (loud cheers from both sides). While I entertained the hope of a concurrent and agreeing a liministration, I thought there was a prospect of bringing this question to a settlement. When compelled to abandon that hope-my sense of the coming evil remaining the same —I took the carliest opportunity (and I took it with the utmost satisfaction) of adopting the course which my sense of duty and of public honour required—namely, to tender my resignation to the Queen, leaving her Majesty full opportunity of consulting other advisers. I offered no opinion l'hat i

us to the choice of a r sonal act of the Sovereign (hear, hear). It is for the Sovereign to determine in whom confidence ought to be placed (cries of hear, hear, from both sides). It was my duty to ascertain, in consequence of the request of the Queen, whether those of my colleagues who had dissented from me were either prepared themselves to form a govern-ment, or whether they were prepared to advise her Majesty (if they themselves were not able to form a government) as to the hands to which should be entrusted the formation of a cabinet on the principle of maintaining the existing Corn laws. Those from whom I differed—who had not concurred with me either as to the full extent of the danger, or as to the policy of altering the existing law—did signify it as their opinion that it would not be for the public interests that they should form a government; nor would they advise her Majesty to resort to others for the formation of a government—I mean a government formed on the principle of maintaining the existing law. Hor Majesty determined to call on the noble lord (Lord J. Russell) to undertake the duty of forming an administration. I was relieved from the responsibilities of office. The noble lord was sent for. My firm belief was that the noble lord was the characteristics and date in the company of the compa to undertake the duty of forming a government, and that if he had so undertaken the formation of a government, he would have succeeded. Throughout a long course of opposition to the noble lord, I can never charge myself with having said a word disrespectful to him. We have sat oppoalto each other for many yours; but nothing lies ever occurred to load to acrimonious feelings or to engender a spirit of hostility (cries of hear, hear, from Lord J. Russell). But I must say the noble lord disappointed me when he did not at once undertake the government on the principle of an abolision of the present Corn Laws (some cries of heavy from the Opposition). My impression was, the noble loss with the Opposition).

have undertaken the government-my impression was, that I was merely in the capacity of a private member—my strong opinion was, that we had cause for apprehending great danger—my opinion also was, that in taking precuitous the magnetic content of the property of against that danger, we must compel the necessity of a ful settlement of the Corn-law question. I knew all the dificulties which any man would have to contend with who undertook the conduct of government. I knew the greaten location which the frame of government had received in the breaking up of the administration of which I was the head; and I thought it would be unfair and dishonourable, under the impression that that noble lord would be minister, not w take those steps which must diminish his embarrassment (cheers from both sides). Sir, I have not a word of conplaint to make against the noble lord for the statement which he the other night submitted. The explanations I gar related chiefly to the part which I took while I remained in the government. The noble lord undertook to state what passed when that period expired. The noble lord rails letter, a copy of which he said was in his possession, and the general statement of its contents which the noble lord gave was perfectly fair and honest. But the noble lord said there were other letters not in his possession. As reference has been made to those other letters—to one at least of primary importance—I feel it my duty, in order to show I was sincere in saying that I deprecated a settlement of this question being committed to my hands—I think it right for my viadication in that respect to state to the house the course I pur sued (loud ories of hear, hear, from both sides). I relia quished office on the 6th December, 1815. I knew then of course that those of my colleagues who differed from me declined to form an administration in accordance with those views, and could not advise the formation of such a government. I was aware too that the noble lord, though not at my suggestion, had been sent for by her Majesty. On the 8th of December, considering myself to be in a private capacity, anxious to facilitate the adjustment of this question my opinion having been given in the Cabinet that it must be entertained—I made the communication to her Majesty, which her Majesty I believe made known to the noble lord The noble lord had not a copy of this letter, or I have no doubt he would have read it. I wrote it from myself, and in a private enpacity, on the 8th of December, two days after I quitted office, and when I heard the noble lord was accounted ns minister :

" Whitehall, Dec. 8. "Sir Robert Peel presents his humble duty to your Majesty, and, influenced by no other motive than the desire to contribute if possible to the relief of your Majesty from enbarrassment, and to the protection of the public intensifrom injury, is induced to make to your Majesty this confidential communication explanatory of Sir R. Peel's position and intentions with regard to the great question which is now agitating the public mind.

"Your Majesty can, if you think fit, make this commu nication known to the Minister who, as suc

R. Peel, may be honoured by your Majesty's confidence.
"On the 1st of November last Sir R. Peel advised his rel leagues, on account of the alarming accounts from Ireland, and many districts in this country, as to the failure of the potato crop from disease, and for the purpose of guarding against contingencies, which in his opinion were not inrobable, humbly to recommend to your Majesty that the duties on the import of foreign grain should be suspended for a limited period, either by order in council or by legisle tive enactment; Parliament in either case being summoned without delay.

"Sir Robert Pecl foresaw that this suspension, fully justfield by the tenor of the report to which he has referred, would compel, during the interval of suspension, the reconsiders tion of the Corn Laws

"If the opinions of his colleagues had then been in concurrence with his own, he was fully prepared to take the responsibility of suspension, and of the necessary constraints. quence of suspension, a comprehensive review of the law imposing restrictions on the import of foreign grain and other articles of food, with a review to their gradual diminution and ultimate removal.

"He was disposed to recommend that any new laws to be enacted should contain within themselves the principle of gradual and ultimate removal.

"Sir Robert Peel is prepared to support, in a private caps city, measures which may be in general conformity with those which he advised as a Minister.

"It would be unbecoming in Sir Robert Peel to make any reference to the details of such measures. Your Majesty has been good enough to inform Sir Robert

Peel that it is your intention to propose to Lord John Russell to undertake the formation of a Government. "The principle on which Sir Robert was prepared to recommend the reconsideration of the laws affecting the inport of the main articles of food, was in general accordance with that referred to in the concluding paragraph of London.

Loun kussell's letter to the electors of the "Sir Robert Peel wished to accompany the removal of striction on the admission of such articles with relief to the land from such charges as are unduly onerous, and with such other provisions as, in the torms of Lord John Russell's letter, caution and even sorupulous forbearance may

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suggest." Sir Robert Peel will support measures founded on that general principle, and will exercise any influence he may

possess to promote their success."
That was the assurance I conveyed to her Majesty of my perfect readiness to support, if proposed by others, there measures which I myself have now introduced. I could not but foresee that in addition to all the other difficulties which the pale hand to all the other difficulties which the pale hand to all the other difficulties which the pale hand to all the other difficulties which the pale hand to all the other difficulties are to the pale hand to all the other difficulties are to the pale hand to be pale hand to be paled to the pale hand to be paled to the pale hand to be paled to the paled to th which the noble lord or any other Minister would have to contend with, he would have accepted office at an unfortunate moment. Up to the present time there has been a prosperous revenue, but a limited expenditure. There had been hitheren a large state of the limited expenditure. been hitherto a large surplus; and I thought the Misiser succeeding me might have been deterred from acception office by the increased expenditure that was necessary, at because an unfavourable contrast might thus be drawn between his financial policy and that of his predecesors. tween his financial policy and that of his predecessors, added, therefore, to those assurances of apport I have allede to, this further one. It is important for the house to attail to it:—" Sir Robert Peel feels it to be his duy to said the should your Majesty's future advisors, and after conditions of the heavy demands made amon the army of the heavy demands made amon the army of the heavy demands made amon the the light and of the bearing which steam have alled marking warfater and the defends to the bounds."

Viable to propose anythicity of the bounds of the propose anythicity of the bounds of the propose anythicity of the propose

France, and will assume, for the increase in question, any degree of responsibility, present or retrospective, which can fairly attach to him" (loud cheers). Now, sir, when it is charged on me that I am robbing others of what is justly their due, I hope the explanation of the course I have taken when acting under the first persuasion that the adjustment of this question would have been committed to others-I hope the explanation I have now given will tend to prove that I am not desirous of robbing others of the credit which is their due, or of trying to embarrase thom in the course which I thought they should have adopted (loud cheers from both sides). Sir, there were further communications made, and I was aware, in the course of them, that it was desired to put me in possession of the particular mode in which it was do termined to settle this question. I thought it better to de cline such a communication of the noble lord's measures, for I felt that any apparent concert between the noble lord and myself would have a tendency to endanger rather than promote the adjustment of this question, and I therefore declined to receive the communication of those details. But I think the noble lord must have been satisfied that, though I de clined to concert measures with him, yet it was my intention to give the noble lord in the adjustment of this question according to his views of public policy, that same cordial support which it is his boast that he now intends to give me (prolonged cheering from the Opposition). Sir, I believe that must have been the impression of the noble lord, because, after the communication with mo, the noble lord undertook the formation of a Government; and I am sure that the noble lord must feel that it was no act of mine that caused the was in no way whatever comorned with the reaons which induced the noble lord finally to ahandon that attempt (hear, hear, from Lord John Russell). So much, therefore, as to the course I pursued with reference to those opposite. I never made an inquiry as to those who constitured the new Government. I had no personal objection of any kind. My belief was, that this question ought to be adjusted, and I was prepared to facilitate its adjustment by my vote, and by the exercise of whatever influence 1 possessed thear, and Opposition cheers). Now, then, with respect to the course I have pursued with regard to those who have so long given me their support, I admit to them it was but natural they should withhold from me their confidence. I admit that the course I am pursuing is different from the established principles on which party should be conducted: but I do ask them whether it was probable I should sacrifice their favourable opinion and support, unless I was influenced by considerations of public duty; unless I did believe it was for the public interest that I should propose the measures which have caused the estrangement between us (cheers)? Notwithstanding what has passed in this debate-notwithstanding the asperity with which some may have spoken of me, I will do them the justice they deserve. No person could have held the position I have done so long without being intimately acquainted with the motives of his party. I must know what are the objects of those who gave me their support; and I will say, after the forfeiture of their confidence, that I don't believe (speaking generally of the great body) that there ever existed a party that was influenced by more honourable and disinterested feelings. I must know the fact; and I will give them the credit they deserve (cheers and hear). But this I must say, that be the consequences what they may, you cannot rob me of the conviction that the advice which I have given is advice consistent with all the obligations which party can impose. I know how easy it would be to conciliate their temporary support. The way would be to underrate the danger, to invite a continued combination for the maintenance of the existing law-to talk about hoisting the flag of "protection to native industry"-to have insisted that agricultural prodection should be maintained in all its integrity. Such a course would have conciliated a temporary confidence. But the month of May will not have arrived without demonstrating that I should have abandoned my duty towards my country, towards my Sovereign, and towards my party, if had so acted (loud and long continued cheers from the Opposition). I had, and I have, the firm persuasion that in present temper of the public mind-in the state of the public feeling with respect to the Corn Laws-that state of public feeling and opinion, independent of all casual and alterititions circumstances, making a defence of this law difficult enough-I have the firm persuasion that if that calamity, which I foresee in Ireland, should arise, and the battle has to be fought on the question of maintaining the present Corn Daw, unless the duty exceeds 17s. a quarter on foreign wheat, a degree of odium would then have attached to the landed interest which would have been overwhelming m its effects (loud cheers from the Opposition). And what would have been the situation of my right honourable friend the Secretary for the Home Department, charged as he is with the responsibility of maintaining the public peace, and whose duty it was to take measures for rescuing millions from the calamity of famine (hear, hear)? What were the facts brought daily under our notice? We know it as a fact facts brought daily under our notice? We know it as a fact that in one part of the empire four millions of the Queen's subjects depended on one article of food (bear, hear). It was difficult to say what was the extent of danger, what had been the progress of the disease, and what would be the amount of the deficiency in the supply of this article; but smooth of the denciency in the supply of this article, but surely you should make allowances for those who were charged with the duty of providing for the public safety; and, in the case of this failure, we must be sware that within three or four months this disease would be followed with traces of funites and applies these circumstances. lowed with traces of famino; and under these circumstances was it not our duty to the country, as well as to the party, not to neglect the taking due precautions (hear, hear). I wish that my anticipations may not be fulfilled; but it is of the last moment, it is absolutely necessary, before coming the first source. coming to a final decision on this question, that you should understand the Irish question (liear, hear). I cannot consent to coufess that I entertain any feelings of regret at the course which I then took; so far from it, that I declare to the house that that day in my political life on which I look with most satisfaction and pride, was that on which I which I look with most satisfaction and pride, was that on which I was ready and prepared to take upon myself the responsibility of issuing an Order in Council for the opening the ports, and trusting to you for an act of indemnity (loud cheers.) My primary and particular object was to increase the apply of food in the country, and thus make provision against famine, and there might also, have been other collarthe supply of food in the country, and thus make provision against famine, and them might slao, have been other collectral advantages which would follow: but I dipought, I say, that the best course to have taken who to have opened the parts (bear, hear). Suppose that my anticipations proved accorded and the langual achies, estimate, of the danger of

by the result. But what are the facts? There was during the latter part of December and the beginning of January said to be something like a lell-a anapunaton of the potate disease. I never shared in the prophetic feeling as to the ample supply of food, and that the potate disease had vanished, after the opinions on the subject which I had received from most able men of science, who had been directed by the Government to investigate the matter. But I ask, what were the facts of the case? I hold in my hand some papers which will throw a light upon this subject. I shall read them, not so much for a vindication of the Government, but, as I conceive, that it is not right that I should leave the house ignorant of the facts of the case. I know the measure before the house is not directly for opening the ports; but it is almost equivalent to that slep, for its object is the immediate admission of maize and other descriptions of grain free of duty, and the reduction of the duty on wheat to 4s. the quarter, Some persons, I know, say that it would be better at once to reduce the duty to nothing (hear, hear, hear). But still this is a virtual removal of the duty on all descriptions of corn, with the exception of wheat. Before, then, you finally decide on rejecting this measure, I ask you to look well to the circumstances of the You affect to doubt the accuracy of these official reports, but this can only be on the assumption that official men would deceive in such documents. But I will not depend on statements from official men, but I will refer to etters which have been received from Ireland by the two last mails, and the accuracy of which, I think, will not be doubted when I state from whence they gome. The name of Sir David Roche is known to many members of this house, for he was some time member for the city of Limerick, and I think, after I have real the letter from that gentleman which I hold in my hand, few honourable members will say that the apprehensions of famino are greatly exaggerated. This day this letter has been received by the Government from the city of Limerick, from Sir David Roche, He says:-" No person was more disposed than I was to look with hope to that part of the potato crop that appeared sound before Christmas. I thought it was quite safe and certain to keep in the usual way, and in my answer to the Lord Lieutenant's circular, I stated that hope with great confidence, adding that the crop was so large the sound portion would nearly feed the people." (This, then, is a disinterested authority.) "But grieve to say, that every day convinces me of the error I was under; the potatoes that were apparently sound then, had more or less the discuse in an incipient state, and the greater part is now obliged to be given to pigs and cattle, to save the owners from total loss. The Catholic clergy of several parishes have made this painful communication to me; my own experience as a lauded proprietor and practical farmer, holding in my possession large arable farms in three different parts of this county, and also in the county Clare, entirely with their statements. I don't think by the 1st of May next, that out of one hundred acres of potatoes on my land, sound seed will be left for next year (hear, hear). If the case is so bad with me, and it is nearly the same in the four districts I allude to, how much worse must it be with the poor, who have not the convenience and aid that large farming establishments, with substantial buildings, can command? In short, as one rides through the country rotten potatoes are to be seen everywhere in large quantities by the side of the roads—pits, lately turned, in most cases much smaller than the heaps of rotten potatoes alongside them, and those in the pits are certain, if not quickly consumed, to share in the general decay (hear, hear, hear). Such, sir, is the state I may say of the entire country. No doubt for six or seven weeks, while the remains of the potato last, dostitution will not be general; but I pray you, sir, look to it in time" (hear, hear, hear). Is it not right that we should look to this state of things in time (hear, hear)? This is the account from Limerick. I now come to Queen's County, the letter from which was received yesterday. It is from the inspector of police in that county, who states that in his visit to the locality which he describes, he was accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Emerson, the clergy-man of the parish, and the place was the property of Mr. Fothingdon. The writer says :

"Queen's County, Stradbally, February 11, 1816. "With reference to the potato disease I beg to state that I was requested by Sir Edward Walsh and Sir Antony Weldon, two magistrates of this district, to make a more searching inquiry into the state of the potatoes in the neighbour-hood of the collicries than had hitherto been made. The instructions were to make the examination by properties, and ruled forms were supplied by Sir A. Weldon, with such headings as he considered applicable to the case.

On Monday morning, the 9th, I proceeded to Wolf bill, accompanied by the Roy. Mr. Emerson, the elergyman of the parish, and commenced with the property of Mr. Howarden. Mr. Hovenden himself being with us, we examined every house on the property, took down the number of each family, the quantity of potatoes planted, and the quality (from setual inapaction) new remaining on band, with the quantity actual inspection) new remaining on hand, with the quantity of outs and other grain now in the possession of the family. On Tuesday we went over the property of Sir Charles Coote, adjoining Mr. Hovenden's, and also over Mr. Carter's, and, so far as time would admit, examined a few families on the property of Mrs. Kavanagh, of Gracefield. Our inquiries extended to about 100 families altogether, and enabled me with the most perfect accuracy to state the frightful extent to which the destruction of the potato crop has proceeded in that part of the country. Many families whom we visited, and who had planted sufficient for their ordinary wants, including the seed necessary for the cusuing senson, have not had a potato of any kind for the last month." (Observe, this is in the month of February, five months at least before (Observe, there can be any supply from the natural bounty of Provi-dence (hear).) "Others have lost nearly all; and the few donce (hear).) "Others have lost nearly all; and the few that still remain are totally unfit for human food. In every instance where we saw potatoes in pits in the fields we had them examined, and, with searcely an exception, we found them to be a mass of putrefaction, perfectly disgusting, even to look at. We examined a few houses on the property of Sir Thomas Esmonde, where the land is of much better quality, but the result was in every case the same. There are literally no potatoes remaining in that part of the coun-

it I understand the magistrates intend to meet on an early

day, and make some representation through the floutement of the county on the above subject.

"W. W. Limswown, Bub-Inspector, 1st Rate."

Now, these, were the letters received within the lest two days, also beginned to be a report on this subject from the local subject for the subject from the local subject for the subject for t

(hear, hear). The report is directed to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and in it I find it stated :- "His Excellency will find in these statements an announcement of the alarming fact that in two districts alone of the union in question there are, even at this early period of the year, no less than 300 persons whose stores of provisions are upon the point of becoming exhausted. In the meanwhile the rot is represented as making daily progress amongst the potatoes, which until lately it was hoped might have been preserved in a state of partial soundness for some time longer, and there is every reason, therefore, to anticipate that the distress now provailing in certain localities will very speedily cause its pressure to be felt by the labouring classes throughout the union. With this prospect in view, the probability is that a rise in the price of all kinds of grain may be expected to take place in the ensuing spring and summer months, although foreign supplies were to be admitted immediately, duty free, and that the facilities for providing food for the people in exchange for their labour be removed beyond the means which landed proprietors have at the present moment within their reach for this purpose. It is these circumstances that I would venture respectfully to submit, as far as the interests of the county of Waterford are involved, that much good might be effected in keeping down prices by the establishment of Government corn stores, from which grain might be purchased at first cost price in such towns as Youghal, Dungannon, Waterford, Carrick, Cloumel, and, perhaps, Lismoro. In all but the last mentioned of there fowns there is an adequate military force for the protection of such granaries, if established, and no-part of the country would then be beyond twelve or fourteen miles distance from a depót, whenca food on moderate terms might be drawn to those localities which stood in need of a supply" (hear). The next statement I shall read is from Kerry, and is dated the 9th inst. It is from a gentleman whose statement is entitled to the highest credit. I allude to Mr. Thomas Dillon. He says :-"I regret to have to report, for the information of Government, that serious ravages have been made latterly on the potatoes by the disease which, for the last two month, was supposed at least not to be progressive. Having gone round my district within the last ten days, I have had opportunities not only of hearing, but of witnessing, the destruction which has been committed, and which is gaining ground so rapidly, contrary to the hopes which have been for some time cherished, as to excite the utmost alarm among all classes, and for my own part I feel almost confounded at the difficulty that must exist in procuring a sufficiency of good seed for the ensuing crop" (hear.) The house is aware that there was for some time past sitting in Dublin a commission, one of the objects of which was to inquire as to the extent to which the potato crop had failed. The commissioners' report refers to a period when the disease had re-uppeared, and it embraces returns from every part of Ireland. Indeed, returns have been furnished from every electoral district in Ireland, with the exception of 99, and from these returns have not been sout. The commissioners in their report state that in four electoral districts the disease has affected nine-tenths of the whole crop; in 93 districts it lins affected between seven-tenths and eight-tenths of the whole erop; in 125 districts it has affected seven-tenths of the crop; in 160 it has affected six tenths of the crop; in 566 electoral districts nearly half of the whole crop has been destroyed; and in 582 districts nearly four-tentior of the whole crop has been entirely destroyed (lond cries of hear, hear). I have just stated the request made to us, and we had already acted upon the principle in time, by taking steps to establish stores of corn, where it could be sold at low prices, or giving it in return for labour; to get an adequate supply of seed for potatoes from foreign countries for the ensuing year, is now next to impossible (cries of hear, hear). One-eighth of the whole crop is required for seed, each acro requiring from three quarters of a ton to a ton of potatoes for seed (cries of hear). Suppose that we endeavoured to buy 10,000 tons of potatoos from ports in those parts of Europe where there are potatoes? I am satisfied that the attempt would be almost impossible. We can only make provision for seed for future years by saving from the portion of potatoes which have been preserved. When the immediate pressure of famine has been got rid off by a supply of food, I fear that due caution will not be taken for a provision for future years; the Government, therefore, must take upon itself to do this, and see what best steps can be taken for such provision of seed. Then the question miscs, what should be done? Might not much be done by inducing parties to exchange the potatoes that are yet preserved for some other article of food? I ask, if, instead of taking the course which we have thought it out duty to take, we had let the matter stand over, and come down to the house in May, and asked for larger grants of the public money for the relief of the destitute, and told the clergy, and the Catholic clergy, that they might supply themselves with food for the relief of the people at the Government expense, suppose that at the time we asked for a v for the purpose of charity, we determined to adhere to the present Corn Laws—(hear, hear)—would it, I ask, bu tolerated, that at the same time we came down to the house for such a purpose that we were retaining the duty of 17. on corn (loud cheers). Do honourable gentlemen recollect the returns which I just read as to the state of the potato crop, namely, that in several hundred electoral districts seven tenths of the crop had been destroyed, and that in nearly 000 of those districts more than half of the potatoes had completely gone, and that in some eight tenths of the produce had been destroyed (hear, hear). Supposing in such a state of things a famine should ensue, do you believe that it is for the credit or honour of the landed aristocracy, that they should throw on the Government the responsibility of providing a remedy to meet this threatening state of things, and at the same time declaring that not a letter of the Corn Laws should be altered (cheers)? Would it be an act of Adelity to the landed interest to assent to the adortion of such a course (hear, hear)? No; I believe that if such a proceeding had been adopted you would have a perfeet right to charge me with that treachery which you now impute to me, because I have thought it necessary to make provision for such a moment of pressure (hear, hear). The pressure in Holland and Belgium is not half so savere as it is in parts of this empire, but the Governments in these two is in parts of this empire, but the Governments in these two countries took immediate steps, to meet the threatening danger (hear, hear, hear). In Beigium the executive Government took upon itself the responsibility of opening the ports to the free admission of, all descriptions of grain and other agricultural produce. In itself and the same course was followed, and the ports were opening the same course was followed, and the ports were opening the free admission of all descriptions of pod (hear, his). It strengths in agricultural country, and on the meeting of the Railiment there the Government seems of the Chambers, and this was granted to the Government, not only willious a

dimentiont voice, but with acclaimation (cheering). the same circumstances, what course would be taken by the Furliament of England, by a Parliament deeply interested in the welfare of agriculture (hear, hear)? There have been times before the present when there have been apprehensions of faithre. What remedy did the legislature apply in such cases? Why that which any man of common sugacity would miggest-it was the remedy resorted to in every instance—the removal, for a time, of the duty on corn floud clustring from both sides of the house). I rejoice at the v hear with which this proposition has been assented to (hear hear, and laughter). I apprehend it was an unanimous assout (no, no, from some agricultural members). But at any rate it was a very general assent (hear, hear). My proposition is, that at a period of impending famine the proper course to take is to encourage the free importation of food The proposition is that the existing duty on corn should cease, so that it might be admitted free (hear, hear). Then, if so, and you caree to this, I ask you at once to expedite this I at (cheers and laughter), or move as an ameadment that the duties on all articles of provision shall forthwith be suspended Cloud cheers). arguing now as to what we should do after the suspension, am ordy laying to convince you that it would be unfair and treacherous on my part to the landed interest if, con-Nit sed as I am of the serious indure of the Irish case, I presented to talk of holsting the flag of protection (laughter) -of rousing the British hon Crenewed Inughter, and hear, hear) or of sticking to the true blue colour (hear, hear), and of adhering to the Corn Laws in all their integrity (loud Sheere and laughter). I am trying to convince you that the adoption of such a course would not be consistent with the public inferent, or with the credit of the landed proprietors of this country (renewed cheers). But it may be said, suspend these laws until next session. I rejoice to have the support of three fourths of those opposed to me on this racasmy, as to the admission of maize, or rice, or oats; but, with this admission, are you prepared to maintain that the duty on wheat should be kept up to 17s. (hear, hear)? At all periods of our history, when scarcity was appre-hended, the natural precaution has been the admission of foreign corn without restriction. In 1765 there was an apprehension of famine. The Parliament was assembled and their first seet was convisely as I think-to probibit all expertation of corn; their second, to permit its admission duty free (hear, hear). In 1767, likewise under similar circumstances, the first act of Parliament on its sitting, was to remove all duty on corn. In the year 1791 the Parliament affered the Corn Law, and established a new system. In * 70st, when there was an apprehension of scarcity, notwithstanding the establishment of the new system of Corn Laws, the first proceeding of Parliament was to remove all acts imposing any duty on the importation of foreign corn thear, bear). In 1795, when there were apprehensions, annek not of famine, as now but of scarcity—the same sourse was adopted; in 1796 the same remedy was taken; el en 1798 l'arliament adopted a similar course (hear, hear) When, I say, then, what all those Parliaments had done Minder circumstances where the danger they apprehended was greatly less than at present, would it have been wise or prodent in me to have refused to follow their example, and to have adopted a different course (cheers)? I believe, sir, had I done so, and had I refused to follow that course, that I should have brought not only this Government but this Parliament into the greatest discredit (loud cheers), and have neted in such a manner as, instead of maintaining the existing Corn Laws, would have made a defence of them a political impossibility (loud cheers). Seeing, then, what had heen done in neighbouring countries on such occasions, and looking back on the course which had been adopted in your own Parliament at a time, not when corn was at 80s, or 100s. (hear, hear), but under 60s, a quarter, I believed that the heat remedy which could be devised for the apprehanfied evil was to open the ports (loud cheers). Don't answdr me by saying that the Corn Laws in those days were not as they are now, or by saying that there was no sliding scale then. I say the fact is exactly the reverse (hear, hear). Foreign corn was admitted at a duty of 6d, as long as it was under 60s.; but Parliament interfered and gave a guarantee that the high duty should not attach, in case of importation, below that price up to 54s. To prevent the consequences of unequal rise and fall, Parliament gave a guarantee to the importer that his corn should be admitted free for six months. With all those cases of which I have spoken before us, would it have been creditable to Parliament to have refused to have neted as their predecessors had done? I think not. It was a subject of consideration with my colrengues; and looking at all the circumstances of the case, we a lyised the total and immediate suspension of the Corn Laws by an Order in Council (lond cheers). That was the course we would then have pursued; but now what shall be done The law is not suspended—the Par-('lear, bear, hear)? h unent'is sitting. It would not be respectful nor would it be constitutional, that the executive should act whilst Parframent was sitting, without consulting it, and it is now impossible by an order in conneil to do that which might have been done before (bear, bear). It is not in the province of the Crown to do that which I now invite you to do. It may be quite true that the most fitting time for following the course I advised has passed away, and that the lat of November would have been a better period for opening the ports than the 10th of Feb.; but admitting that to be true, I tell you at the same time that the necessity which existed for the adoption of this measure on the 1st of November, is, on February 16, only increased (loud cheers). It is true that the supply might have been more ample, and the area of our supply more extended, but you have six months yet Let some one make some other proposal, but, I say, you must choose between the alternatives-either maintum the existing Corn Laws, or make some proposal for inof forcien corn. If it be admitted that, on account of temp may and unforescen necessity, the present system should be relaxed, all reason is in favour of the suspension of the existing law (liear). Let us assume that the law had been suspended, and I have to consider the second question, from which I assure the house I should not shrink. After the suspension of the existing law eight mouths would clapse -what would you propose to do with the present Corn Laws? This is a question which I advise the house to consider. My conviction is as strong as it possibly can be, that it would be as affectly impossible, after establishing freedom of trade in this country for eight months, and permitting the free importation of grain for that period, at the sold of it to period the existing Corn Laws to come into operation, as it would be impolitic and impracticable (cheers). I know it will be said that we might have had a temporary suspension, at the call of which the law might be renowed

by its own vitality, and that honourable members would say, "Give us a temporary suspension of the law, and give us a guarantee at the end of the eight months that it shall be renewed." Why, sir, it was impossible to advise the adoption of such a course, I think it would be an utter misappreliansion of the state of public opinion to suppose it possible that after this country had tasted the fruits of freedom of importation, without any restriction whatever, any power could have renewed the principle of protection in the present laws (loud cheers). It might be asked—"What, must you refuse the admission of maize?" The consideration of that question had dwelt on the minds of my colleagues and of myself, and we were of opinion that we might have admitted malze, and kept up the protection on all other kinds of grain; but then I said, "Well, don't disregard public feelings in matters of this kind (cheers). Don't let us overbear the deliberate convictions of the country, for depend upon it that in questions affecting food public feeling is not safely disregarded." (loud cheers). By the present Corn Laws the duty on maize varies with the duty on corn. It was most desirable to admit muize free of duty, for it appears that as the price of barley was falling the duty was nereasing, and that without the slightest natural connection between maize and barley, the duty on maize was in consequence increasing also (hear, hear). Remember that in the course of last session notice was given of a motion that maize should be imported duty free, because it was desirable that it should be brought into this country for the feeding of cattle (loud cries of hear, hear). Do you think it possible to devise a new Corn Law, the leading principle of which shall be this—maize shall come into our ports duty free, because it will be for the benefit of the farmer that it shall do so, as it is of use to feed his pigs and to fatten his cattle, but there are certain other articles of food for the consumption of human beings which must be excluded (the right hon, baronet was interrupted by loud cheers) and in respect of which the same law cannot be maintained (cheers)? Do you advise us to fight the battle on such a principle as that (hear, hear). Assuming, too, that a suspension of the Corn Law had taken place on account of the present great emergency, would you advise the Government, for the sake of the public interests, and of the country, to give a guarantee that the existing Corn Laws should be renewed as soon as the term of their suspension had arrived (hear, hear)? you not feel that the very fact of that suspension' would constitute a new element in the application of the question, and give a tenfold stimulus to your opponents? You incite us to fight this battle for you, but you must look to the state of feeling on the subject. You invite us not to abolish, but to suspend the Corn Laws, but you cannot be insensible to the change of opinion on this subject -not alone among politicians, which people are apt to attribute to some interested or corrupt motive—but among the most independent members of the house (cries of hear, hear). Did Lord Ashley vacate the representation of his country from any interested or corrupt motive (loud cries of hear Did Mr. Sturt follow his example on such grounds? Dil Mr. Tatton Egerton resign the representation of Cheshire from any improper motive (hear, hear)? Did Lord Henniker vacate his seat from any reason but change of opinion? Were any of those gentlemen actuated by any feeling but a real conviction that the time was come for the settlement of this question (hear, hear)? If that honourable member of this house (Mr. Charteris), who has shown as high a spirit as ever emanated from the heart of an English gentleman (cheers), and who held out great promise of excellence-if Mr. Charteris vacated Gloucester, was it through any corrupt or interested motive (hear, hear)? Can you attribute such a motive to Mr. Dawnay (hear, hear) Does not all this change of opinion prove that the giving of a guarantee would have been attended with enormous difficulties? Let us take the admissions and the opinion of those who have been longest and loudest in condemnation of Government, and examine their argument (hear, hear). First comes the hon, member for Huntingdon (laughter). Well, I confess, I was surprised by some of the opinions maintained by the honourable gentleman (hear, hear, hear); -but whilst condemning the present measure, will be follow me in the defence of the existing Corn Laws (hear, hear)? No such thing. So far from it, he thinks this is just the time for effecting a compromise for a new Corn Law. Why, he would have abandoned me, if, after a suspension of the Corn Law, I had undertaken to have given a guarantee of revival (laughter). He says, the time has just arrived for a compromise. Why, if ever there was an unfortunate moment for such a measure, it is this (laughter). What is the meaning of a compromise? Why, it means a new Corn Law (hear, hear, hear). What security is there for the maintenance of that (hear, hear)? Or what could it be (hear, hear)? What would the state of parties be here, as might be inferred from the sentiments of those members? I only take now the loudest and most vigorous of them. I only take now the loudest and most vigorous system of protection, and I am trying to convince you that a guarantee of the revival of the Corn Laws was impossible. Well, the hon member of Roxburghshire comes first, and ho was loudest of them (loud laughter). The honourable member has some very curious notions as to the relations which exist between the country and its ministers, and still more as to those between the sovereign and her ministers. The honourable gentleman likens me to a hired advocate who was engaged in a particular cause, and says that I have thrown up my brief. Perhaps he is not aware of the circumstances which may make some material difference in that comparison; perhaps he does not know that the minister on entering into office takes an oath that in all matters debated and discussed in council "be will fearlessly and numovedly deliver his opinions according to his heart and conscience" (cheers). That obligation, according to my comprehension at least, constitutes a material difference between the position of a minister and that of an advocate The hon, member said that I had been sent here to defend the old system of the Corn Laws, that I had made a breach in that system by the alterations of 1842, but that, having made these alterations, I was bound by every con-sideration of consistency and honour to maintain them. He, however, made some admissions before he got to the close of his speech. He said he admitted in his own country, since these changes, there had been great improvements in the reads, in the introduction of science into agriculture, and the facilities for improving and transferring the produce, and that his own opinion was that the line had come when the Corn Laws must be altered. I said, whom are you cout sil for, meaning, if any obligation was imposed on me to mantain the alterations made in 1849, he was bound also to adbare to his opinion that the time had come for a change in the Gorn Laws. The hon, gouldeman was perfectly indic-nant at the imputation, and, claiming for himself the furbition

maintained by Anacharsis Clootz as attorney-general of the human race (great laughter), assumed a unifersal character in his reply,-I asked him whom he was counsel for, when he was so ready to abandon his old professions. The los gentleman said-" whom am I counsel for? I am no kind of counsel, that is an imputation on my honour-I amcounsel for my country—I am counsel for my own opinions—I am counsel for the interests of the empire' (great laughter). I certainly claim to be counsel, with perhaps not quite so comprehensive a function—I claim to be counsel for this great country, and for those who have required me, in a time of great public necessity, to give that advice which, in my heart and conscience, I believe to be the best (cheers). As to the hon, member for Newcastle-under-Lyne, he tells me hereafter and for ever, from this time he withdraws his confidence from me (laughter), on the ground that I establish no great principle as to the Corn Laws. If ever there was a mun to whom a minister ought to be recommended because he does not establish a great principle, it is the lieu gentleman in question (laughter). He has fought by the side of the honourable member for Wolverhampton and has voted against him-he is an advocate for a fixed duty, but he has done all he could to defeat it. I do not know whether he has so far shared so much of my misfortunes as to have read the pamphlets of a Mr. J. Colquhonn (great laughter. but I doubt not but that he will agree with me, in so for a I can understand them, that the author is an advocate for a repeal of the Corn Laws. If the honourable gentleman has voted with the honourable member for Wolverhampton and against him-if he is the determined advocate of a fixed duty, and has done all that he could since 1812 to maintain a sliding scale-I wonder how I should have fared with the honourable gentleman—I wonder what he would have said after having carried a motion for the suspension of the Com Laws, if at the end of that time the Government were to stake their existence on the repeal. I venture to say, there would not have been a more strenuous combatant of such a proposal (hear, hear). There never was a person clamouring for a principle who was more ready to fall in with any nea sure that might turn up (laughter). As for the noble load the member for Newark, who has not yet spoken, would it be possible for the Government to rely upon his support, as this is his opinion? He says: "The conclusion to which I have come is, that sanctioned by the authority of the late Lord Spencer and other practical agriculturists, upon the best of an unbiassed judgment, we humbly express a firm belief that both the advantages and evils of the expected changes have been abundantly magnified; and that of all the panic dreams that ever sat like a nightmare on the energies of human enterprise, or cramped the sinews of a nelle pursuit, the idea-in a densely-inhabited country, where population is rapidly increasing, commerce and skill unequalled, and true science dawning—that human food is likely to become too cheap, and its production too profitable. is the most unaccountable and will eventually be found the most illusory and groundless." I do not know what course he meant to take as to the present measure, but I infer from this passage that he is decidedly m favour of the present Corn Laws (cries of hear, hear Well, but there may be a personal objection to the proposer of the measure, and the honourable gentleman the member for Maidstone may say-I will not ask whether the measure is right or wrong, but I will look to your conduct; I will give extracts from your speeches, and say you ought not to propose it. But with all due submission, I say the question for the country is, whether it is right or whether it is wrong (cheers)—whether it is right or whether it is wrong that is the question (hear, hear). Is it right that the Com-Law should be suspended, and after suspension it should be attempted to revive it (hear, hear)? If it be right, vote for it-if it be wrong, withdraw your confidence by all means; but surely you cannot justify, on the ground of personal ob jection to the proposer, your voting against a measure which you believe to be right, and that a measure that concerns such mighty interests (loud cheers). Now, sir, I cannot make the same remarks with respect to the speech of the honourable member for Somerset. He made no such al missions as the honourable member for Roxburghshire and the honourable member for Huntingdoushire. I heard from him (the honourable member for Somerset) that he is for maintaining the law in all its force. The hon gentleman also said, we must not expect the continuance of his confidence. Now, I do not implore of the hon, gentleman to visit those penal consequences upon us (cheers and laughter; but I say to him, do not let this measure be lost on account of your distrust. If you believe the measure to be right, pass the measure in the present crisis, and take the opportunity, if you think fit, of punishing those in whom you have not sufficient confidence. But then the hon, gentleman, in closing his connection with us, must excuse me if I say, be appealed to the confidence of the control of the c speaks too modestly of himself (laughter), for I was not always the hon, gentleman's leader. I proposed in the course of the last year that certain duties on grease should be necessary to the last year that certain duties on grease should be necessary but be remitted, as grease was much used in manus the hon, gentleman resisted me. Hence, avaunt! this is holy ground! grease you shall not touch (cheers and laughter); for, said he, though grease may be introduced for the benefit of manufactures, yet I doubt the vigilance of the Custom-house officers; and some persons may introduce and use the grease intended for manufactures as butter. I do assure the honourable gentleman that it is rather hard to devolve upon me the duty of defending protection, after such measures as that; and I do not believe that the hon. gentleman, by taking this stand upon grease (loud laughter) did so much injury to the cause of Free Trade as to the cause of protection (cheers).

Mr. Mills was understood to remind the right honour able harment that he was allowed forms the debate to which he

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Sir ROBERT PERL.—I think the hon, gentleman has shown his qualification for the post of leader by the discretion he was a supplied that the state of the discretion he was a supplied to the state of the discretion he was a supplied to the state of t tion he used in being absent from the discussion (laughter). Now, if the honourable gentleman will permit me, I will with newford and I will be the second to the Now, if the honourable gentleman will permit me, I will, with perfect good humour, examine two or three of his arguments. I had said that the price of cattle and meat had been diminished; that the contracts of the present year entered into, and that they were higher than those of preceding years. The honourable gentleman's reply was, the ceding years. The honourable gentleman's reply was, the he voted for the Corn Law of 1849, but strengthly was, the part of the tariff that admitted division satisfies here this, that in the year 1848 we amount from the first the year 1848 we amount from the property of green crops; that in the country of the months the quantity of called brought to the part of green crops; that in the country of green crops; that in the country of green property of green crops; that in the country of the property of green crops; that in the country of green crops it is the country of green crops.

how can the hon, gentleman think it possible to maintain a law which, in perfods of disease and defective food, would prevent the introduction of 250,000 sheep into this country. and raise the price of meat extravagantly (loud cheers). Does be think it would not be of benefit to the landed interest to repair that deficiency, and bring in a few healthy even and a few sound sheep from the Continent (cheers)? Now the honourable gentleman must excuse me if I refer to his observations with respect to the question of flax. What was his argument with respect to flax? When there was a duty of IW. per ton on foreign flax, in certain parishes in the county of Somerset the inhabitants were in the habit of growing flax. I shall take one of those parishes, the parish of Chizzleborough. There were 100 acres in that parish appropriated to the culture of flax; now I would ike to know what were the circumstances under which that culture was abandoned? Was it in consequence of the withdrawal of protection? What period of the year?

Mr. Mil. 88-At the last removal of the last duty. Sir ROBERT PERL-Now observe, the last removal of the last duty was only the removal of 2s. a hundred. The duty on foreign flax was remitted in 1824. In that year it was 10%, and it was reduced to a nominal duty of 2s. a hun-

An Hon. Member remarked that it was reduced to five-Sir Ronear Peel.—That is, five-pence a hundred weight. In the year 1812 it was remitted, and the removal of this five pence a bundred weight on flax has involved this parish of Chizzleborough in ruin (laughter and cheers). See, said the honourable gentleman, what has happened-here is 100% lost to the parish of Chizzleborough, and that by your withdrawal of protection on native industry (laughter). Now let as see what has taken place in other parts of this great empire from the withdrawal of what is called this protection for native industry (hear). You will find that no culture is more profitable at this moment than the culture of flax is in Irehand; and you will find that it has thus become flourishing ince the withdrawal of this remnant of protection (cheers). That is the way we are to argue it, and not to view some particular locality, and say, see what is the consequence of the removal of protection, when it may be clearly owing to some other cause (cheers). Now, what is taking place in Ireland, in a country without any other manufactures than then-what is taking place there in consequence of the withdrawal of protection? We see by the evidence of Lord Devon's committee that flax is more profitable than wheat; that is, that flux without protection gives a better return than wheat with it (cheers from the Opposition benches). But what becomes of the manufacture? Before the withdrawal of protection the exportation of cambrics was in the following proportion:—1000 dozen of French; 1rish, 100. In the next four years after the withdrawal of protection, the increase of Irish importation of this article was 300, in the next four years 900; in four years, from 1838 to 1842, it was as 1000 to 1000; and in four years, from 1842 to 1846. was at 10,000; that is to say, that by the withdrawal of this protection from flax, a great manufacture sprung up in the north of Ireland, and the linen dealers in the city of Lendon, who waited on us the other day, said that ten years ago three fourths of the cambric and the cambric handkerchiefs of our supply were brought from France, and one-fourth from Ireland, but in the last year the proportions were just reversed; one fourth comes from France, and three-fourths from Ireland. Well, then, it may so have happened that the parish of Chizzleborough may have suffered (laughter). But then recollect that, coincident with this removal of protection, the cultivation of flax in Ireland has prospered, and the linen manufacture in that country has arrived at a degree of prosperity as great as the most sanguine friend of Ireland could wish. Well, then, are we to restore the duty on that again (hear, hear)? Sir, this debate has chiefly turned on the Corn Laws, but it is not necessarily a Corn Law debate; it is proposed that we should go into a committee of the whole house for the purpose of considering the principles of our commercial policy. No doubt the consideration of the Corn Law will come before that committee, and it will be perfectly open to you to reject the measure of the Corn Laws, and yet to consent to the others (hear, hear). So much has been said on the subject of the Corn Laws that I cannot pass it by. Her Majesty's Ministers have proposed a measure which they propose from the belief that n was most likely to ensure success; namely, that after the lapse of three years, the duties on corn should be repealed, or at least reduced to a nominal duty. I proposed that measure on the part of the Government, and I sincerely believed that it would be more acceptable than any other to the agricultural interest. I proposed it from the belief that it would not be more acceptable to them, but that it would be prefored to an immediate repeal. We combined with the measure of the Corn Laws a proposal for encouraging the improvement of land, by advancing money for the purpose of drainage. I certainly thought it more probable, with respect to land, that in many parts of this country the people would be in a much better position to compete with the foreigner if the absolute repeal of the Corn Laws was postponed for a period of three years; I thought there would be more opportunity to make arrangements, if arrangements were necessary, between landlord and tenant. But, above all, I thought there would be more time for seriously cousidering what improvements in drainage could be made, what advantage could be taken of that proposal of the Government. I certainly thought, taking into consideration that Canada has at most an advantage of her at present an advantage in respect to the admission of her orn, compared with the corn of foreigners, that it was more likely to be acceptable to Canada that some time should elapse before Canada corn was brought into competition with the corn of the United States (hear). Bona fide believing the arrangement to be a better one, believing also that it was more for the advantage of agriculture, I, on the part of ber Maicatva Government. I made that the proposal (absert): Majorit's Government—I made that proposal (obsers); and it is my intention to use all legitimate means I can for the unrocase of the correct the purpose of giving effect to it (obsers). It was said the other night by the honourable gentleman the member for concret that he greatly preferred, speaking on the part of the agricultural population—that he greatly preferred immediate repeal to the measure proposed, and he turned round to his friends, and that sendment at that time received amounts to a conference and that sendment at that time received amounts a conference amount to the measure than New sir, as round to his friends, and that sentiment at that time re-ceived, apparently, a concurrence from them. Now, sir, as I have before said, it is the intention of the Government to adhere to their own proposal. They state the reasons why they propose it, and why they are inclined to alked to it, considering the opportunity there will be for the simprove-ment of the admiry in the interval. But I stated this dis-tinally, that if the agricultural body and bot of control of the it is in the same agricultural body and bot of control of the result is the there.

the honourable gentleman opposite, they may place me in a minority (laughter and cheers again). Then the only con-sideration I shall bear in mind will be this, what course Then the only conshould I best take to give effect to the law as amended at your hands. We will do all we can to carry the proposition-I prefer it. I proposed it believing it to be favourable to agriculture. I don't say what course—speaking for myself—I may possibly take. I don't say what effect success here may have in other places (hear, hear). This I will say, that my opinion with respect to the policy of the final adjustment of the Corn Laws will remain unaltered, and I shall decidedly prefer immediate repeal, so carried against me, to throw ing this country into confusion by any attempt on my part to prevent it (loud cheers and laughter from the Opposition.) It is right to consider what course would be most advisable to adopt, and I do believe that the final adjustment of this question is now become paramount to all (loud cheers). I was asked in the course of this discussion, what price I calculated corn would hereafter bring? I thought t was but natural to say, that it was very difficult for me to give a positive answer to that question; that I thought the price of corn was affected by the seasons and other causes and, therefore, I could not undertake-and I am sure past experience would show that I could not undertake-to guarantee any price, or express any opinion whatever. But this I will say, that I think nothing could be more erroneous than to suppose that the interests of agriculture are necessarily and intimately interwoven with the price of wheat. When the hon, gentleman talks of the great quantities of corn that could be brought in, let him consider that in Jersey for a long period there has been a Free Trade, that there is Free Trade in Malta in corn, and that Egyptian corn is brought in there. When the hon, gentleman says that all this corn will be pouring in here, he should recollect that to determine what is to be the price of corn, you must always take into consideration the quality. It appears that the corn brought from Odessa and Egypt to Malta bears a price of 31s., and that some corn would bear a price of 10s. less, in the English market on account of its inferiority. There fore it is impossible to draw an inference as to the price of corn without knowing the quality, and I certainly entertain the hope that there will not be any such reduction in the price of wheat in consequence of the more extended importation as would seriously injure the agriculturists (hear, hear). What I want to show is this, that agricultual pros perity has no necessary connection with the price of wheat hear, hear). It is admitted that never was there a period when science has been so much applied to agriculturewhen so many improvements have been made—and when the cost of production was so much reduced as it has been within the last three or four years. Let us see what is the price of wheat—and, I would observe, that there is a natural tendency in the price of wheat to decline quite apart from legislation-let us take the price of wheat for the ten years ending 1805; the price then was 81s., for the ten years ending 1815, it was 97s. 6d.; for the ten years ending 1825, was 78s. 8d.; for the ten years ending 1835, it was 50s. 7d. for the ten years ending 1815, 57s. 11d. Now, what was the average for the last four years, during which it is admitted great improvements were made in agricultural science. The average of the last four years was only 51s. 10d. Thus, it bas fallen from 97s. 6d., 78s. 8d., 81s. 2d., and yet it is ad mitted that agricultural prosperity never was more marked, or that greater improvements were made than within that period. And therefore, if there should be a continued full in the price of wheat, do not attribute it to the operation of the law—it may be the result of scientific improvements, and even the reduced price of wheat shows the increased extent of agricultural resources. I would now compare the rental of land in this country, as taken from the property tax returns, with the price of wheat. The rental of 1815 was 32,532,000%; the average price of wheat for five years, ending 1815, was 102s. 5d.; for five years, ending 1842, the price of wheat was 04s. 7d.; and yet the gross rental of the country had then risen from 82,000,000/. to 37,000,000/. So that along with a great fall in the price of wheat, there had been a great increase in the rental of land. I quite ad mit there was a difference in the currency; if you take off ten per cont. from the price of 100 shillings on account of the difference in currency, you must take off ten per cent. on the rental of 32,000,000%. (Take off a proportion on both sides, and still it will leave them unquestioned, that with a great reduction of the price of wheat, there had been a great increase of agricultural prosperity. I must refer to an argument which has been advanced by the hon, member for Northamptonshire. The hon, gentleman says, after this Corn Law shall have passed, the tenant farmer will come to his landlord, and will thus address him. He will say to the landlord-" I cannot afford to pay the rent which I have hitherto paid. The bones of my forefathers have been deposited in the churchyard of their native parish. Most painful it is to quit the gesidence of my ancestors, the rule forefathers of this hamlet, and to seek my fortune in another country." Then the hon, gentleman—and it made a great impression on the house, from the pathetic tone in which the speech was delivered—stated that the landlord would make a speech to his tenants to this effect:- "My good fellow (great langliter),-it is quite true that your forefathers have lived in this country, and on this estate; that there has been an intimate relation between your ancestors and mine, but the principles of Free Trade are prevailing. I can purchase the articles required for my consumption at a cheaper rute, and I must deal with you upon the same principles. True, the land which you occupy produces only three quarters, but by the application of a little capital and skill it may be made to prodace five. And there is a gentleman connected with the Anti-Corn-Law League.

Mr. S. O'BRINN.—No, no, no (loud laughter).
Sir R. Peel: I wish the hon, gentleman would make his own speech in answer:—"A gentleman then, not connected with the Anti-Corn-Law League, but connected with the manufacturing districts" (hear, hear). Well, now, I will auggest another speech, and a better speech to be made by the landlord: "My good fellow (laughter), let us both start with this advantage. Your forefathers have been buried in the churchyard of this hamlet. Your forefathers have had their fortunes intimately connected with those of mine. It is possible that a stranger may outbid you in this farm. Under these protecting laws, your land, which ought to produce five quarters, only produces three, and public opinion will bardly tolerate this (hear, hear). That there shall be no foreign corn imported, but that the natural farillity of our own soil shall be promoted. We must really, therefore, take some measures for increasing the produce of this farm from tiling quarters to five. But I have the advantage of the safe the infility of the interest the infility of the interest the infility of the interest the infility of the infili manufacturing districts" (hoar, hear). Well, now, I will

which I wish to effect (loud obcers). I will not thereford turn you out of your furn; I will not let the manufacturers o mo hero; but it is for your interest and mine that the land which can bear five quarters shall not bear three (Bear, hear). You have not capital, perhaps; you have not science? I day
afford you both—I will lond you capital, I will got you like
aid of science to uselst your improvements, to ascist you in the education of your son, and enabling him to succeed you bear, hear). I will cut down the trees that encumber your land, and let you and me together keep out this foreign invader—the manufacturer (hear, hear, and a laugh). But let us now, by the application of capital and industry, improve this farm, and let it be handed down to my son and yours in an improved state (cheers). Let five quarters be produced where three have been before. That will be for the benealt of both landlord and tenant, and your son's son shall be buried in this churchyard" (hear, hear, and a laugh). Sup-pose the tenant should say, "But this is a labourer's question;" I should answer then, " My good friend, but ff wo can make this land, which now produces three quarters, produce five, we shall employ more fabour-we shall have a greater demand for labour, and all parties will be benefited, and the State will be improved. The grantentee for the rent will be enhanced, your comfort increased, and all this by the application of a little of that saving which the honourable gentleman says the rich are to derive from the tariff." But as I said before, this is no mere Corn Law question: The question is this—her Majorty has surely made no the reasonable request—she has thus addressed you: "I rocommend you to take into your early consideration whether the principles on which you have acted may not, with advantage, he yet more extended, and whether it may not be in your power, after a careful review of the existing duties on many articles to make such further reductions and revisions as may tend to ensure the continuance of the great benefits to which I have reverted." And you promised that you would (hear, hear, hear, and laughter). The answer which the house made in rettirn gave no pledge as to the measures themselves. It was purposely so worded as to give none. But you gave this assurance, that he compliance with her Majesty's recommendation, you would take the subject into your early consideration (hear, hear). How do you fulfil that promise? Why will you refuse to go into the committee where these measures are to be considered? What is the amendment before us? Does it embody any great principle, as I expected it would from the early notice which was given by the honourable member for Newcastleunder Lyne (Mr Colquboun)? I thought that he would move that the Government were either not entitled to the confidence of Parliament, or that native industry was entitled to protection (hear, hear). But what is the motion that That not one of those questions shall lus been made now? be considered for six months to come! After the positive assurance given to the Sovereign that you would take into consideration and determine whether it was possible, after a careful revision of the existing duties on many articles, to make such reduction as might tend to ensure the continuance of the great benefits adverted to, you refuse even to resolve yourselves into a committee, where proposals with a view to this object may be entertained. You would pronounce at once against the admission of foreign grain and timber. This motion absolutely precludes the consideration of any one of these proposals (hear, hear). In point of fact, it is not a question of Corn Laws morely. There is this great principle at issue in reference to commercial policy -will you advance or recede? The hon, member's proposal says-"No, we will stand still; for six months to come we will do I say, in this great country to stand still is to retrograde. The carrying of this amendment would be a reflection on the House of Commons. You have already taken some steps to relax protection. You now say we will relax it no more. You will not listen to any proposals. This committee is moved. I hope that this house, who have been parties to all the proposals made to smend the commercial law; who passed the amended law of 1842; who simplified the customs' code; who consented to the tariff; who passed the Canada Corn Bill, and the altered tariff of last year; I do hope that this house will not accept such a reflection on itself as to vote for this amendment; that, for six months to come, nothing of this kind shall be attempted (hear, hear). That is the question at issue, whether you will advance in the relaxation of duties and the removal of prohibitions, or will restore prohibitory duties and will enforce protection (hear, hear)? That is the question which will be decided by the yote to which you will come. Well, now, I offer this challenge. I never said, "I looked only to the experience of the tariff for three years. I have come to a change of opinion." I said this, that during three years I have seen coincident with abundance and low prices great prosperity; I have seen great contentment. I have seen the diminution of crime; I have seen the abatement of all commetions; I have seen improved health, increased commerce; and that the experience of three years has convinced me that cheapness and plenty are at the foundation of our prosperity. 1 did e any credit for the tariff. I said, all I claim for it is this, that concurrently with those great blessings, there have been constant relaxations; that it is impossible, therefore, to raise an objection to extend relaxations. I judged of the future from the past, but this is the challenge which I offer, not with respect to the tariff you have passed, but with respect to the whole series of remissions of prohibitory duties. Show me one relaxation, one removal of prohibition, which contributed to the welfare of the producer. I say I will show you that these removals of prohibition have contributed, not merely to the general weat and advantage of the consumers (which is sufficiently apparent), but that they are perfectly commissions with the permanent benefit and increased wealth of the producer (cries of hear, hear). Wity, I am ushamed when I read some of the petitions. Here is one presented from the shipowners (hear, hear, and laughter). It says, your petitioners are despiy interested in the prosperity of British navigation and the British colonies, and this is the prayer with which it concludes the mission of Berliament to these cludes;—they implore the wisdom of Parliament to disak all further rash experiments on British navigation. And, as an earnest of its sympathy with the interests of commerce, so indissolubly connected with national defines, they implore your honourable house at once to reject the propoplore your honourable house at once to reject the proposition for the reduction of the duty on foreign timber from 26s. to 16s., as proposed by the measure before you (hear, hear). This is from the shipowners—the, building of ships (hear, hear, and laughter), praying you to check all further rath experiment. Why what is the issue of the "rath experiment," you made in 1848. You found a discriminating duty of 46s, in favour of Ganadian timber, and you reduced it to 24s. Playeyon destroyed the Canadian trade? Hear that rath experiments bear injurious to the calipowner (I don't speak of the lates in the control of the calipowner.

Liverpool the average tonnage employed in the British American timber trade (for I won't take the Baltle timber trade) during the eleven years preceding the reduction of duty was lall,000 tons. This was with the discriminating duty. Now that you have removed it in the last three years, the trumake of ships sugaged in the trude from Liverpool is 191, 00 (lond cheers). This was the shipping employed in the Consta tride. The quantity of pine timber imported into Liverpool on an average of seven years, before the reduction of duty, was 5,749,000 loads. In 1814 the quantity of pinetimber brought into Liverpool from British North America, increased after the reduction of duty from 5,749,000 to 0,211,000 (che ers). In 1845 the quantity was 6,227,000 (doud cheers). The shipowners ask you to reject the proposition for reducing the discriminative duty still further to 15s. What is the state of things at Liverpool under the existing law? One branch of the timber trade has this year been very scuntily supplied with those woods adapted for the construction of ships of the first class. So trifling has been the sare dy, that at the present moment this, one of the greatest maritime ports in the world, is in the anomalous condition of not having in stock a sincle log of foreign wood suitable for building ships that will last for twelve years time. We propose to give increased facilities for the importation of Baltie treaber in order that with it good ships should be built. We have done this to some extent already, and concurrently with it there has been an enormous increase in the consumption of Canadian timber. Just for the same reason then, the import of foreign wood led to an increase in the price of the domestic article. The access given to the good timber of the Biltie much increased manufacturing prosperity, and with it the demand of that Canadian timber which does not come into competition with the Baltic. You are deficient in that particular article so useful in building ships that will endure for Pryeam. You have not one single log. I make this modest proposal, to have a discriminating duty of 15s., and these ship owners come forward and ask us to check ed further "rosh experiments (hear, hear, and laughter). The honourable and gallant member for Liverpool (Sir II. Douglas) made a long speech about colonial policy, in which he deprecated the consequences of our measures as regards the colonies. What has been the course we have Am I proposing an immediate application of the perneples of Free Frade? Am I disregarding all considerations of revenue? Am I proposing that you should levy mething on timber, and that you should sweep away all customs revenue by extravagant reductions? No; I am preserving the distinction between duties laid on with a view to prohibition, and those for revenue purposes; and I an laying a foundation for increased revenue through ineresed consumption (hear, hear). I know that great int rests no involved in our relations with the colonies. I wash for no rush or precipitate alteration in those relations. I to not ask that the discriminating duty on coffee should be at once removed. The whole scope of our policy has teen to diminish protection on all articles of colonial produce, have also done that which was just-you have commonded protection as to commodities introduced into None colonies. If the hon, and gallant member is adverse to this course, he ought to have begun his opposition long since. What del you in 1842? You permitted the colonies to got their provisions introduced freely-to get their stayes introduced freely. You said the time was come for relaxing that read principle which denied or restricted commercial relations between our colonies and other countries. There verse great difficulties to contend with; but you said you would not be prevented from getting supplies of colonial articles from other countries if you permitted your colonies to get their supplies of necessary articles in other markets than your own. You said, we will reduce the protection on coffee and make some new arrangement as to sugar. Is that mand e? Has impry been done to the colonies? It is quite scong to say with respect to colonies, that their affection for the mother country depends on their having the exclusive supply of her markets. Look to the great benefit you derive from your commercial relations with Australia. I do not propose to make rash alterations. I propose to proceed in the path which has led to so much benefit, and gradually to alter come of those protective duties. The honourable gentleman of whom I spoke before, the member for Northamptonshire, was particularly severe on the proposed removal of some of these duties. But I really do not know what there as in the state of our trade to prevent it. One of my proposals is, that there being an excise duty of one furthing per yard on British paper, there shall for the future be a customs duty on foreign paper of 400 per cent, more; that foreign paper hanging shall pay 2d. a yard. Why is it that we cannot compete with France in papers? I know it is said our patterns are inferior. That is perfectly true. They are inferior in paper hangings as in silks, but admit a qualified and limited competition, and depend upon it they would improve. There is nothing in the constitution of Unglishmen to prevent them drawing as good patterns. What is the admission you begin with a duty of is, per square yard on foreign papers, when the export duty on your own is only id, you can protect your patterns. But I say reduce the duty. The hon, gentleman ways, that looking out at the window he will see a great number of paper-hangers and carriage-makers, who will say that their interests are sacrificed. But there is not an instance of alteration of duties in which the same argument has not been employed. Remember the tariff of 1842. I proposed to let in foreign potatoes at 2s. per cwt. The notate growers came up in a body, and said that they would all be ruined; that France would get possession of the apply, and that you would be reduced to depend on her. I proposed to reduce the duty on foreign hops from 81, to 41, M Kent and Sussex were alarmed, and the most extravaand predictions were made of the quantity that would be introduced from abroad. How many have come in? 2 cwt. and a little hop growers said they would be perfectly united. Now I propose further to reduce the duty on foreign hops from 1/, to 2/, 5s., and I am asked what are we to do with all the persons that will be thrown out of employment? I said that exactly the same prophecies were made before, and you may depend upon it that these will not now be fulfilled. I now come to consider the question of foreign silks, With respect to this question I stand in pretty much the same predicament as Mr. Huskisson, against whom all the advocates of the protective system cried out in indignant remonstrance, when in the year 1826 he proposed to re-(now Lord Ashburton), a great authority in those days, spoke on occasion of that debate, and resisted inexorably the spoke on occasion of that debate, and resisted inexorably the contemplated reductions of duty. He said—"Here were immireds of thousands of poor honest men, who knew nothing in the world of political economy, but who found on a saidou, that because some very wise men had of late spring

up, they were to be ounted of the earnings of their industrious and patient labours of many years. were at present, and had long been remarkable for being loyal, orderly, and well conducted, and yet they found themselves on the very brink of the most painful distress, owing to the discoveries of the political economists."

Another gentleman, in answering Mr. Huskisson, was pleased to speak of him in terms which put me in mind of some hard sayings which I have known to be applied to another minister—a minister of our own age (hear, hear, and laughter). He called him "an insensible and hardhearted metaphysician, exceeding the davil in point of malignity" (lond laughter). Mr. Huskisson rejoins thus: "I hope that I am not wanting in the duties and feeling of a man-I have also a duty to perform as a Minister. If immediate relief be in a great degree out of our power, it the more becomes us, as the guardians of all that is most valuable in civilized society, to trace the causes of the present calamities, and to prevent, if possible, their recurrence." Such were the difficulties with which Mr. Huskisson had to contend-such was the obloquy to which he exposed himself, in pursuing a course which he knew to be authorised by wisdom and sound policy. But neither misrepresenta-tion, nor obloquy, nor reproach, could divert him from that course. Conscious of the wisdom of his policy, and, above all, conscious of the rectitude of his motives, he persovered (loud cries of Hear, hear). And what was the result? Were the dreary prophecies of those who advocated the protective system realised? Did their dark forebodings come to pass? Were hundreds of thousands of tradespeople turned from their homesteads to the precarious mercy of the world? Were the poor-rates burdened with their support? Far from it. On the contrary, prosperity and affluence were the results, and the interests of trade were promoted in exact proportions with the relaxations of the prohibitory system. 1 can prove it by figures. During the 10 years which immediately preceded the year 1823 the total amount of raw silk imported into this country, under the old system, was 19 millions of pounds. During the next 10 years, it was 30 millions, and during the next decennial period, that terminating in the year 1813, it was 52 millions (hear, and loud Could any cloquence of any human tongue, however gifted, speak more potently than do these figures (cheers)? Under the prohibitory system the quantity of foreign silk imported was nineteen millions—when that system was relaxed it increased from nineteen millions to fifty two millions! On that fact alone I might base my vindication. And now I will give you a statement of the aggregate consumption of raw silk after the duties were rehazed. During the first decennial period after the relaxation, the average consumption was 1,540,000lbs.; during the second, 3,968,000lbs. (hear, hear); during the third, 5,200,000lbs. (loud cheers). There was a further reduction of protection in 1812, and the results were equally satisfactory. The gross result of the experiment shows that whereas under a strict and inexorable system of prohibition the quantity of silk consumed in our manufactures averaged no more than 1,940,000lbs. in each year; in the year 1844, when a wiser and more liberal policy was adopted, our consumption was no less than 26,400,000lbs. (loud cries of hear, hear). And now, sir, I ask you which is the true philanthropist—the man who forbade foreign silk to enter, who totally kept it out, or he who was not deterred by threats or obloquy from pursuing a course more liberal, more generous, more consistent with common sense? The minister who had the manliness to adhere to his purpose, amidst such difficulties, was surely the man who deserved best of his country. He was charged with being unkind, and insensible even to humanity, but he repudiated the charge, and that it was unfounded history now attests (hear). "Call me not insensible," said Mr. Huskisson, " say not that I regard with indifference the distress and difficulties of my humbler fellow-creatures. I attribute your zeal in their behalf to the most honourable motives, but I know that I have seen Spitalfields under the fostering influence of the protective system devastated by famine and disease. Let me open the ports, and see whether, by freely admitting the fresh air of competition, I may not purify the atmosphere, and establish health, happiness, and comfort, where now squalid misery and desolution are alone to be found" (hear, hear). Is it not strange how gentlemen can forget historical facts, and ally themselves to their own infatuations? Look at the state of your silk trade at this moment. The French have been long accustomed to plume themselves upon their silk manufactures. But it may, perhaps, surprise not a few of those who are now listening to me, to learn that last year, with our relaxed tariff, we actually exported to France more silk than we exported to the whole universe in any year under the protective system (hear, hear). And there is no branch of manufactures in which the same improvement is not observable. I am prepared to prove this, and could enter into matters of the most minute calculations in support of the assertion. In the year 1842 we reduced the duty upon foreign feathers. When it as understood that this reduction was in contemplation, an extensive dealer in the article, who resides in Cork, came to me in an agony of anxiety, and gravely assured me that the proceeding in which I was about to engage was the most revoltingly cruel and hard-hearted measure that it had ever entered into the mind of man to conceive (laughter). In fact, he represented to me that the absolute rain of every one engaged in the feather trade would be the inevitable consequence of the reduction, and he calculated that the injurious results would be felt in an especial degree in Ireland. He said that he was in the habit of purchasing large quantities from the Irish farmers, who were more provident with respect to their feathers, and set greater value upon them than the English, and he represented that this source of revenue would be entirely removed from them if the duty were relaxed. His representatives were pathetic and moving in the extreme. But I was not to be diverted from my purpose. We reduced the duty on feathers, and I have the happiness to inform the house that many weeks have not clapsed since I received a letter from the same gentleman, in which he admits that he was totally in error, that he was but a sorry prophet, and he returns me thanks for the firmness with which I adhered to my purpose, in despite of his representa-tions, and those of many others similarly circumstanced. He had given me to understand that, before the alteration was effected in the tariff, he was in the habit of purchasing about 100 tons of feathers annually in Ireland, for which he paid at the rate of 20s. per stone, and herein consisted almost the entire of his traffic. But observe how his fortunes are the entire of his traffic. But observe how his fortunes are improved. He now informs me that, during the last year, he imported 200 tons of feathers from Russis, and that in Ireland he purchased 150 tons, instead of 100 tons, as heretofore, and that he paid for them to the Irish farmer at the rate of 11. 28: 10d. per stone, being an advance of 22. 10d. per stone upon the price which the article fetched under a

higher duty. So much for my friend's prediction that his own trade was about to be lost, and the Irish farmers ruised. Own trans was about to be obe, stance connected with the But there is another circumstance connected with this communication which is highly gratifying, as evidencing the increase in the comforts of the poor, which results from a liberal policy in commerce. He tells me that his principal customers are the miners of Cornwall, whose condition of late years has become so much improved that a feather bed is no longer a rare luxury amongst them; and their orden to my correspondent are daily becoming more numerous This is a trivial matter, and yet I have not thought it wholly irrelevant to allude to it. And now, in the face of all these facts, are you going to adopt a narrow, bigoted, intolerant policy? Am I to be told that you will array yourself in opposition against me, and to oppose any reductions whatever? You cannot be so infatuated. I offer you this challenge. Take up the history of your own times. Look back to the commercial history of this country for the last thint years, whether as regards our colonies, or our home tranactions, and I challenge you to point out one single instance where either consumer or producer was injured by relating the prohibitory system. Oh, let me implore of fou to approach the consideration of this question with feelings and able to its magnitude and importance. View it, I implore you, by the clear, calm lights of reason. Be not mistakenhe not led away. This is not a question of confidence in her Majesty's Government. Reserve that, if you please, tot a separate vote. The question which you have now to decide is, will you advance on your path or retrograde (hear) I do not want to sweep away all duties from these things: 1 want to impose a duty of 10s. upon French brandy, whereas the English article is only subject to a duty of is.; and I want to impose upon French silks a duty of 15 per cent instead of the present duty of double that amount. I put it to you whether it is not worth your while to endeavour to prevent the evil of smuggling. For my part I confess I think that it is a most desirable object. I would cut up that trade root and branch, and would substitute a legal for an illegal traffic. This, to be sure, is but one of athorsand considerations which should weigh with you in determining on the course which you will pursue. Again, I would remind you that this is no party question. The ques tion you have to decide is simply this-Will you in this in lightened age advance or recede? Remember, the ave of the world are upon you. Oh, act a part worthy of your selves and of your country. Will you advance or recede! Which is the policy best suited to a great commercial impire? Remember your position; remember your great national reputation (hear, hear). Look to the advantages which God and mature have bestowed upon you. Look to your geographical position, on the confines of Western Enrope, the connecting link between the North of Europe and the Continent of America. Remember that the improvements of navigation and the applications of science have brought you within ten days of Petersburgh, and within ten days of New York. Look to your physical advantages nerves and sinews of manufacture—iron and coal—which abound throughout your country. Look to your acquired advantages, possessed as you are of a capital tenfold greater than that of any country in the universe. Look to the inexhaustible mine of wealth that is to be found in the unwearied perseverance, the indomitable skill of your people; look to their talent — their ingenuity—then great mental power. Look, too, to your free institutions, your unshackled press, your glorious constitution, which though it permits licentiousness, affords rational liberty to all ;-look, I say, to all these things-think of the glory England has acquired from the equator to the pole, and tell me-is yours a country to dread competition with any country on the face of the earth (loud cheers)? What have you to fear? Why is it that paper-hangers and silk weavers are to be turned out of employment when protect ing duties are proposed to be modified? What is to be your motto? Is it to advance or retrograde? Other countries are now watching your example—other countries are wishing to know what is to be the result at the close of this debate. It is not a fact that every country is determined to meet you with hostile tariffs (hear, hear No, there are countries which you, perhaps, least expect, and to which I did injustice, perhaps, by not naming before —as Sardinia, which has already set the example of a free importation of your goods and manufactures (hear, hear). Naples will shortly follow the example of Sardinja (hear). And Prussia,/I can tell you, is already shaken (cheer). France is desirous of following these examples. These countries have been controlled by the aristocracies of their manufactures and commerce, which exercise a preponderal ing weight in their chambers; but the opinion of sensible men not interested in protection is bearing upon willing go vernments, and they are desirous of following your course, and of reciprocating the benefits you may offer to them (loud cheers). Then the United States (hear). I believe you will give by this measure an encouragement to that party in America which is in favour of commercial intercourse. with this country. But even if you do not—if you fell a this—still I repeat again, don't punish yourselves because others choose to impose restrictions upon their own components. This relations when their own components of the c merce. This night, or whensover this debate shall close, you will have to decide what are the principles upon which your commercial policy is to be regulated (hear). Most earnestly, from a deep conviction founded not upon the experience of three years. perience of three years, but upon the experience of every re-leacation of restriction and prohibition, I advise you you reto set the example to other countries, by persevering in the course you have begun (cheers). It is no inconsistency on your part—it is in perfect consistency with the course you have hithorto taken. Add to those measures and you will take a government security for the preservation of peace you will take an additional guarantee for the contentment and happiness and prosperity of the great body of the people (loud cheers). You may fail. All human prosperity of the great body of the people (loud cheers). You may fail. All human prostitions are necessarily precarious. After you have adopted the measures, there may be no accurated that mercanife and measures, there may be no assurance that mercanile and manufacturing prosperity will continue uninterrupted. It seems incidental to great prosperity that there shall be a reverse—that depression shall follow a season of order ment and supports. That there are not return to the season of order ment and supports. ment and success. That time of depression may return a many return, and be coincident with a scarcity caused by unfavourable seasons. Your times of '41 and '49, in spite of the country cause have been a season of the country caused by the caused by t unfavourable seasons. Your times of '41 and '42, in spite a all your legislative precentions, may again come beat me recall the recollection of those sai years. The second of the winters of 1841 and 1842 never can be affected by recollection. Recollect the course we pursued there was the expression of the deepest symptom there was the expression of the deepest symptom tion and suffering but an expression of the deepest symptom hillighted of the seience and suffering but an expression of the deepest symptom.

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teousness may intermit, and years of dearth may succeed. And if they do come, and if it be our duty again to express ympathy with sufferings, and again to exhort fortitude in their endurance, I do ask every man who bears me to commune with his own heart and to ask himself this question, If these calamitous times do come, if we must express sympathy with distress, if we must again proffer exhortations o fortitude, will it not be a consolution to reflect that we have relieved ourselves from the heavy responsibility of regulating the supply of human food (great cheering)? Will not our expressions of sympathy seem more sincere, will not our exhortations to fortitude be more impressive, if we can at the same time say, and with pride, that in a time of comparative plenty, urged by no necessity, yielding to no clamour, we anticipated all those difficulties, and removed every impediment to the free circulation of the bounty of the ('reator (loud cheers)? Will it not be a great and last ing consolution to us to be enabled to say to a suffering people, these calamities are the chastonings of an all wise and beneficent Providence, inflicted for some great and humane purpose-perhaps to abate our pride, possibly to convince us of our nothingness, and awaken us to a sense of our dependence; they are to be borne without repining as the dispensations of Providence, for they have not been aggravated by human institutions restricting the supply of food (the right honourable baronet sat down amidst loud and prolonged cheering).

On the motion of Lord John Manners, the debate was then adjourned.

TUESDAY. THE STATE OF FAMINE AND DISEASE IN

TRELAND. Mr. O'Connell rose and said,-I rise, sir, to give notice, that on Monday, the 23rd of February, I shall move for a committee of the whole house to consider the state of Ireland with a view to devise means to relieve the distress of the Irish people. That is the motion which I have to submit to the house, and I respectfully demand the acquiesence of the house in that motion. I certainly do not introduce this subject from any party motives, or for any party objects (hear, hear). I would not give utterance to one partisan feeling or expression, nor do I expect any party opposition (hear, hear). I am thoroughly convinced that many gentlemen present, who differ from me on political subjects in reference to Ireland, are as sincerely auxious as I am to relieve the distress of that country; so that this house will come fairly to the consideration of this subject, free from any of those feelings which are calculated to diminish or disfigure its advocacy (hear, hear). That there is the prospeet of a calamitous season before Ireland is a fact which is altogether indisputable. The extent of that calamity has been disputed. For a time it was supposed that there was a prospect of our avoiding the misery we were threatened with, but I believe that all hope has now vanished; and before I sit down I shall be able to show the house that the calamity is more imminent and pressing, and likely to be more awful than the house is aware. In order, however, to understand the fearful extent of the threatened calamity, it is right that the house should be reminded of the situation of Ireland previous to this visitation. The calamity with which Ireland is now threatened is not owing to any default of the people, it is not owing to any sterility of the soil, it is not even owing to any want of the abundance of the harvest. It is owing to a dispensation of Providence, which man cannot control. Our duty is to submit to the will of an All-disposing Power, and to perform the part of charitable Christians by endeavouring to mitigate the evils as they arise. But in order to appreciate the extent of the distress, and enable us to devise means for its relief, it is, as I have said, obviously necessary that the house should distinctly understand the previous state of Ireland. I am sorry, in the performance of my duty, to be obliged to state as a fact, that the population of Ireland, instead of augmenting, as some have supposed, has actually been falling and wasting away—that the people have been suffering misery and distress uncqualled by any other people in Europe—that the rural population, and especially the agricultural labourers, are, as has been stated in a report to this house, almost always on the verge of famine. I propose, not to call upon the house to give credit to any assertions of mine which are not corroborated by indisputable documents I mean to show, from documents of the most unquestionable character, the truth of the facts which I have stated respecting the increasing misery of the Irish peodocument to which I shall refer is the abstract of the population returns of 1821, 1831, and 1841, the accuracy of the facts of which are beyond doubt. From these returns it appears that the popula-tion of Ireland between 1821 and 1831 increased about a million, whereas between 1831 and 1841 they increased only about half a million (hear, hear). It has been attempted to account for this by emigration; but this is most unsatisfactory, for those who attempt to account for the decrease in that way give us no account of the emigration between 1821 and 1831, but confine themselves to statements of the emigration between 1831 and 1841, thus leaving out an essential ingredient in the calculation, for there is no reason to suppose that there was less emigration between 1821 and 1831 than etween 1831 and 1841. With this fact staring you in the face, then, that in the course of ten years the population of Ireland has gone back half a million, it will not be disputed that there is something wrong in the condition of that country. I remember that the late Sir Fowell Buxton used to make a great impression on the house by showing how the black population diminished during slavery. This is not exactly the case here, but the facts which I have mentioned certainly come within the facts which I have mentioned certainly come within the same principle (hear, hear, hear). I consider that nothing but distress can account for the falling off in the population to which I have referred. The next public degument to which I shall refer is the report of the Poor Law Commission in 1845 and list commission was named by this house to include an outby described accommission was named by this house to include an outby described accounts.

a Poor Law, and they reported that there were 2,800,000 of the agricultural population who were constantly in a state approaching to destitution, and that for several weeks in the year they were entirely com-pelled to live on the charity of their neighbours. The last population returns furnish me with another argument. These returns show that 46 per cent, of the rural population live in habitations of a single room, and that there are frequently several entire families living in the same room. They also show that 36 per cent. of the civic population live in single rooms, and that frequently two or three families reside in the same room. Does this not present a fearful picture of destitution? But the most important of all the reports to which I have to refer is the report of Lord Devon's Commission. This commission consisted of Lord Dovon and four other persons of rank and fortune, and perhaps a better commission was never formed by any Government. It is impossible to imagine that they could be deceived, and I believe they performed their task most laboriously. They state that from the evidence they collected on oath, and from their own observations, they found that the agricultural population of Ireland suffered great privations and hardships; that they were budly housed, badly fed, badly clothed, and badly paid for their labour; that in many districts the only food of the people was potatoes, and their only drink water; that their cabins scarcely protected them against the weather; that a blanket was a rare luxury to them; that their pigs and their manure constituted their only property; and that altogether they endured more suffering than the people of any other country in Europe. This is the report of Lord Devon's commission. This is not the assertion of any agitator or demagogue, but the distinct and emphatic assertion of men who were beyond the possibility of suspicion, and beyond the possibility of being deceived. The agricultural population of Ireland is calculated at 7,000,000, and 5,000,000 of these at least are labourers, in the situation described by Lord Devon's Commission. Now, I beg the house to observe that here is a report made 45 years after the union with England -this is a description of the agricultural population of Ireland by the persons to whom I have referred; I appeal to gentlemen who are listening to me, whether it is not a most frightful picture,—I do not say which is in consequence of, but coming after, the union with England? Remember, that we did not govern ourselves; that we had no Irish Parliament to legislate for us; remember that you have had the government of Ireland for 45 years in your own hands. If you cannot govern us, ab dicate; but if you will govern us, try and extricate the population from their abject misery (cries of hear, The report to which I have just referred was made in 1844-45. It was made at a period when our harvest was abundant, when there was as little distress as was ever known in Ireland-when there was no public complaint-when the people were suffering in silence -when they were, in fact, in a state of comparative comfort and freedom from calamity; and yet, such is the report which they gave respecting the state of the rural population of Ireland. That commission also reported two things, to which I wish to call the attention of the house. The first is their report upon the conduct of the unhappy people themselves : -- "We repeat, that the patient endurance which the labourers exhibit entitle them to the best attention of Government and of Par-The commissioners, it will be observed, do not blame the people for their misery; but they commend them for their patient endurance, and they call on Government and Parliament to give them their best attention. I have some confidence that that call will be responded to (hear, hear). The commissioners make another statement to the effect, that any improvement which had taken place in the condition of the people was attributuble to the habits of temperance, and not to any increased demand for their labour. It is also singular enough, as I have said, that this calamity is not attributable to the faults of the people, to any refusal on their part to cultivate the soil, or any want of fertility in the soil itself (hear). I have Parliamentary returns which show the amount of food exported from Ireland from 1842 to 1845. The first is-

An Account of the Quantities of Wheat, Barloy, Oats, Wheat-flour, and Oatmeal imported into Grout Britain from Ireland, in the years 1842, 1843, 1844, and 1845, distinguishing the Quantities in each year:-

Years.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oate.	Wheat meal or Flour.	Oatmeal.
1842 1843 1844 1815	Quarters. 112,195 192,477 200,276 372,710	Quarters. 50,287 110,449 90,056 93,006	Quartors. 1,274,320 1,501,097 1,509,870 1,670,058	Cwts, 314,311 773,463 830,567 1,422,370	Cw14. 1,551,172 1,706,628 1,150,076 1,059,185

So that, during the very period in which the people of Ireland have been living in the manner I have described, they have produced for your consumption no less than 2,000,000 of quarters of bread stuffs and 2,000,000 cwt. of flour and differents sorts of meal. The second document is "an account of all cattle, sheep, and swine imported into Great Britain from Ireland, from the 10th day of October, 1845, to the 5th day of Junuary, 1846. Oxen, bulls, and cows, 32,883; calves, 583; sheep and lambs, 32,576; swine, 104,141." Thus these returns establish that this dreadful anomaly exists in Iroland, that while she produces in abundance, her people are starving; that a country so blessed by Providence is thus cursed by man. Let others account for it as they can. We have now to face the evil of coming famine. Remember, when you come to face that evil, that what may be called the substratum of the population in Iroland is in such a condition that their fest state is little being than what would be called familie in other countries. Land a such a condition of the little being than bear of the condition of the little little bear and allows that the condition of the little lit

come to that in which they are now placed, and also to the frightful evidence which has poured in on us from all sides of the dreadful nature of the threatened calamity. The documents I shall use are chiefly those which have come out of the hands of the Government; with some of them many hon. gentlemen will already be familiar, and my reading them will therefore be doubly tedious. But it is my duty to lay the case of Ireland in the fullest manner before the house, and therefore I trust I shall be excused if I am more prolix than I would wish to be. This pusage is contained in the report of Mesars. Lindley and Playfair, dated November 15, 1845 :- "During our stay in Ireland we carefully examined such official papers as were transmitted to us from the Castle; we consulted persons acquainted with the facts of the disease; we visited the district lying between Dublin and Drogheda, and inspected various potato fields and stores in the counties of Dublin, Louth, Meath, Westmoath, and part of Kildare. Judging from the evidence thus collected, and from what we have seen of the progress of the discase in England, we can come to no other conclusion than that one-half of the potato crop of Ireland is either destroyed or remains in a state unfit for the food of man. We, moreover, feel it our duty to apprise you that we fear this to be a low estimate. The next extract is from the report of the commissions of inquiry at Dublin Castle, and the house will observe that it is a remarkable paragraph:--"It appears from undoubted authority that, of 32 counties in Ircland, not one has escaped failure in the potato crop; of 130 Poor Law Unions, not one is exempt; of 2,058 electoral divisions, above 1,400 are certainly reported as having suffered; and we have no certainty until the receipt of the more minute returns now in progress of completion, that the remaining 600 have altogether escaped." That commission had corresponded with nearly all the local authorities in Ireland, and the following was the conclusion at which it had arrived, after having written 362 letters to obtain correct informa-

PROPORTION OF POTATO CROP LOST.

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	41	9-10ths.	4 the.	3-tiles	2-3ds.	Halves.	1-343.	14154.	I-fths	1-7ths.	141	I.limbe.	Total.
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Ulster	ŧ)	- 1	3	15	37	133	32	6	-	٠.	0		239
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Connaught			١,	l ×	Lio	40		١.	ı -	٠,			
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The next evidence I shall quote is that of Sir L. O'Brien, a gentleman of large property in the county of Clare, whom it was for some time difficult to persuade that there was anything wrong in the crops. He, however, discovered his mistake, and waited on the Lord Lieutenant, stating the result of his observations. He had just returned from an examination of the state of his county, which he had been induced to visit on account of the discouraging accounts he had received. His statement was that the disease was again progressing in many districts, that many families had lost their whole supply, and that whole districts had lost their crops. This gentleman concluded by strenuously recommending the interference of the Government. Sir, there was a committee appointed at a public meeting at the Mansion-house in Dublin, and from that called the Mansion-house Committee. Their reports are in the highest degree persuasive, from the minuteness and care they have shown in taking their information. Between the 10th of December and the 26th of January, they issued 923 letters, and had received 523 answers, viz., from Leinster, 141 letters; from Ulster, 163 letters; from Munster, 152 letters; from Connaught, 67 letters. Of these there were-From ministers of the established church, 216 letters; from Roman Catholic/elergy, 195 letters; from Presbyterian ministers, 40 letters; from lieutenants and deputy ditto, 47 letters; from Poor Law boards, 25 letters. The following was the degree in which they represented the potnto crop had suffered, and was unfit for human food :-- Under one-third, 110; one-third, 111; one-half, 148; over half, 84. A report having been circulated that there was a mitigation in the progress of the disease, an opinion which arose from the people not having examined their potatoes in consequence of their having stored them, a second was made to ascertain whether or not there had been any such lull in the ravages of the disease. It is now certain that it is still making rapid progress. Thus the returns received by the Mansion-house Committee and by the Government corroborated each other. Sir, I have now to trespass on the house with documents collected from different parts of Iroland, describing the progress of the disease in different localities. I should not, perhaps, have thought it necessary to trespass on your attention with these further statements, were it not that two of the leading journals have stated that the disease has coused in Ireland, and that there is no reason to fear any want of provision for the winter. I do not accuse the writers of those statements with being actuated by party zeal or party motives, but I do accuse them of being too easily deluded, and of too easily deluding others. It is, however, on this account necessary to place beyond all shadow of doubt the fact of the continued existence of the disease, to show that the gvil is not confined to particular localities, but has spread all over the land, and that the cry echoes through the country of coming famine and its attendant, disease. The hon. and learned gentleman then proceeded to read statements from different parts of the country, describing the condition of the potatods, and the effects which the faicondition of the potatoes, and the enects which the inilure of the crop was producing in the increase of disease.

A letter published by Lord Cloncarry (which the hon.
and learned gentleman road) distinctly proves the
fact that one third of the potatoes which his lordstate which his lordstates, were accurately and the most favourable circumtances, were accurately and the continued dulness of

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the statement I have had to make arises from the reading of so many documents; but, reductant as I am to ocching the time of this house, I feel it my duty to give the fullest information in my power on the subject. I wish the house/distinctly to understand that a scarcity has never been experienced in Ireland which has not been accompanied by typhas. It has not been found that fever is diffused by the atmosphere, for the disease has uniformly ceased when provisions became abundant. You have the cause, the effect, and the cure. The runse is scarcity; the effect, fever; the cure, a more plentiful supply of food. It is singular to observe how constantly this has occurred. I have several instances of great famine in Ireland, showing how invariably searcity has brought fever in its train, and that fever has disappeared when harvests became abundant. In 1734 and 1735 there were wet summers, with bad harvests; fever appeared in the winter of 1734, and did not disappear till the autumn of 1736, which brought a most abundant harvest; between 1740 and 1743, 1798 and 1802, 1817 and the autumn of 1818, 1825 and the autumn of 1827, the same sequence of bad crops and discase, of good crops and the disappearance of disease, was to be observed. A most eminent physician in Dublin (Dr. Corrigan) traces a connection between those pestilential fevers and small-pox. The honourable and learned gentleman having stated from documents a variety of details as to the seasons referred to, proceeded - I have now laid before the house the details which have come under my notice. With regard to the Irish agricultural labourer, the report of Lord Devon's commission shows that there is no peasantry so badly off as the Irish peasantry. It is stated expressly that in no part of Europe is there so great misery as in Ireland, that there are masses of people always on the verge of starvation. From the reports of the Government Commissioners, from the reports of the Mansion-house Committee in Dublin, from the enormous mass of documents to which I have referred, documents obtained not from one locality or vicinage, but indiscriminately throughout Ireland, it appears that the crop has totally fuled, and that the country is on the verge of famine. If I am asked what I propose, I can only express my anxiety that the members of this house should join with me in the most energetic measures, You cannot be too speedy in the application of your remedy; you cannot make that application too extensive. It may be said, will you ask money from Enghalumen for the relief of Ireland? No such thing, scorn the thought. Ireland has resources of her own. The Woods and Forests yield a revenue of 74,000% a year; take that and let it represent a capital of a million, or a million-and-a-half. You may borrow money upon it to meet the exigency, and have a sinking fund for the extinction of the debt out of the revenuc. If that plan should not be adopted, then I would say, borrow the rents of the Irish landlords; charge absentee landlords 20 per cent, of a property-tax, and resident landlords 10 per cent. The object is to protect the labouring population from an impending calamity. They are even now surrounded by disease and death in their most horrid forms. And it is fitting that we should make the landlords contribute in such a way as shall be effectual. You may tell me of the Poor Laws, My opinion is that Poor Laws may mitigate distress in ordinary seasons, but will not meet a famine. The workhouses would make very good hospitals for the sick, That fever prevails in Cork, Tralee, and Killarney, I have proved to you; it has raged to a frightful extent in Limerick; the number of patients in the infirmuries has increased; the lanes of Dublin are full of ferer. You are not to be guided in such a case as this by ordinary rules. It is a case beyond every rule. The people are not to blame. It has pleased Providence to inflict this calamity upon them; it is your business to mitigate that calamity as much as possible. There are the railroads, for example. Why do you not take strong measures with railroads? I should be happy to see the Government authorised to act in reference to these. I should wish to see this House and the other support the Government in that course. I would dispense with the rules and regulations that fence railway schemes brought before Parliament. Famine is coming on, -fever is e ming on, this house ought to place in the Queen's Government powers adequate to such an exigency, so that it may have the means of giving the most extensive employment. As to contending lines, I do not know that the Government would decide better; for I don't know a worse tribunal than this house. I found myself yesterday voting on a railway question without exactly knowing what I was doing; I cannot, therefore, blame others. But wherever 100,000/, has been subscribed for a railway, the Government ought to have power to give another 100,000% by way of a loan, so as to afford every facility for proceeding with the works, and to leave private individuals at liberty to apply the fauds thus left for a time in their hands in such a manuer as to give employment. Lend the money to the railways at 1 per cent, or 2 per cent. I know how many objections may be started to such a plan; but I speak of a case which is superior to every objection. Great evils require great remedies; the remedy ought to be commensurate with the cvil; and I am not speaking from the depth of my conviction when I declare, that in my conscience I believe the result of neglect on the part of this house in the present instance will be deaths to an enormous amount. On the grounds which I have stated, I request the appointment of a committee of the whole house, if with no other effect, at least for the purpose of convincing the Irish people that their calamities are not disregarded. I don't blame the Government for what they have done and for what they purpose to do. They have had my humble support. I have not been peddling for objections to their measures. I am prepared to give an honest support to any plans which the Government may bring forward for the purpose of mitigating the effects. appointment of a committee of the whole house, if with

of the searcity. Yet, those which have been propounded are miserable trifles; they would do for ordinary times, and for an ordinary scarcity; but they will not answer when death is abroad. The details into which I felt it my duty to enter, have made my statement necessarily a dry one; and, for the extreme patience with which I have been heard, I beg to express to the House my own thanks and the thanks of the Irish people (cheers). The hon, and learned gentleman (who was but imperfectly heard throughout) concluded by giving notice that on Monday, the 23d of February, he should move for a committee of the whole House on the state of Ircland, with a view to devise means to relieve the miseries

of the people. The question having been put, Sir JAMES GRAHAM said-I am sure I express the general sense of the house when I declare that the hon, and learned gentleman in bringing forward this subject is entitled to the respectful attention of every member of it. The state of Ireland at the present moment deserves the anxious and serious attention of Parliament, and I admit to the bon. and learned gentleman that the importance of this subject can hardly be over estimated. I also agree with the bon, and learned gentleman, that whatever differences of opinion may exist between various parties in this house, yet that the difficulty to which he has called our attention will receive from all sides a patient and anxious consideration. Sir, it is my painful duty to state, that having taken the utmost pains to inform myself accurately of the facts of the case, I cannot say that in any important particular the hon, and learned gentleman has exaggerated the difficulty of it (hear, hear). What are the striking facts? The hon, and learned gentleman states that a very large proportion of the potato crop of the present year has failed in Ireland: before we consider the effect of that statement it is necessary to remember how very large a proportion of the whole population of Ireland is dependent almost exclusively on the potato for its daily food. The hon, and learned gentleman had estimated that proportion of the population at 5,000,000. I should estimate it somewhat lower; but it is clearly admitted on all hands that one-half of the entire population of Ireland is dependent on the potato for food. Now, consider the effect of one-half of the entire population being dependent upon the plant, which by the visitation of Providence has this year signally failed; it is very difficult to ascertain, by any calculation that can be made, the exact proportion and extent of that failure (bear, hear, hear). Dr. Playfair and Dr. Lindley, at one period of this visitation, estimated the loss at one-half of the entire crop. Admitting, for a moment, that there may he some exaggeration in this estimate, I will now state to the house the result of the most accurate inquiry which the Government, with all its resources, has been able to make. Early in November last, the Government constituted a commission, composed of officers, all responsible to the Government, as the best mode of ascertaining the facts of At the head of this commission was placed Mr. Lucas, Under Secretary for Ireland, a gentleman known in the house as the representative of an Irish county, conversant with all the affairs of that country, and certainly well entitled to be intrusted with the conduct of such an inquiry. Under him were placed Colonel Jones, the head of the Board of Works, Colonel Macgregor, the head of the con stabulary, who had the means of obtaining information from the most remote parts of the country, Mr. Twisleton, the Poor Law Commissioner in Ireland, who was in communication with the boards of guardians of all the unions, Dr. Playfair, Dr. Lindley, and Professor Kane. The result of their inquiries was stated last night by the hon, baronet (Sir R. Peel), in some of its most striking features, and I fear that in the larger number of electeral divisions throughout Ireland the estimate of Dr. Playfair and Dr. Lindley, so far from being fulsified, is unfortunately but too strictly verified. Now in ordinary years, with an average crop of potatoes, it is always the case that for a period of six weeks after the old crop is consumed, and before the new one comes into use, the population is compelled to subsist on a food of a higher and more expensive kind. Suppose the exaggeration of the failure is one half, assuming, for the sake of argument, that the fullire is only one-fourth of an average crop, you then have this state of affairs, in addition to the six weeks, during which in ordinary years this population, dependeut on potatoes, is obliged to subsist on a dearer kind of food, there will be four months of the present year during which 4,000,000 of the population must be fed on food of a higher quality than in ordinary years. A more alarming case has hardly ever been submitted to the consideration of Parliament. It is not ordinarily the duty of Parliament to provide food for the people; but it is the imperative duty of the Covernment, and I am sure it will be the natural impulse of a representative assembly, undersuch circumstances, sympathising with a population in such distress, to admit that general rules must bend to such a necessity; nor could the circumstances of a country so unhappily circumstanced be disregarded by the Government. But is this the whole of the case? The information we have received, with all its accuracy, does not extend to a later period than the end of January; but what we have received within the last fortnight is quite confirmatory of the statement of the hon, and learned gentleman—that the disease, so far from being arrested, has progressed; that the potatoes in the pits have not kept well, but have decayed, and that there is great danger of want, unless further precautions are used in time. If seed, too, is not preserved for the ensuing year, the difficulty, great as it is at the present moment, is but the commoucement of a series of evils of such an extent that I hardly dare to contemplate them. I must also state that I entirely concur with the hon, and learned gentleman, that the conduct of the Irish peasantry generally in such alarming prospects, and in the midst of such great distress, has been most excellent. There have been no tumultuary proceedings - no riots; all has been borne with the utmost pa-I have one account of 100 labourers who came to meet the guardians of a union to state that food was failing them; that all they wanted was work; that none was offered them; that they had no labour within their reach. They did not tumultuously demand admission into the workhouse; they indulged in no violence; all they asked for was

of poverty; I believe that a superabundant population is one of the great sources of poverty. The fact is, that the many fecturing prosperity of England and Scotland attracts large free and to particle of it. numbers of people from Ireland to partake of it. In Man-chaster, Glasgow, and Liverpool there are immense number of Irish congregated, exercising an exemplary industry is pursuits incidental to that manufacturing prespectly. The hon, and learned gentlemen has also observed that the isports of corn and cattle from Ireland to England have increased. I cannot regard that circumstance with anything approaching to regret. My confident opinion is, that as those imports have increased, the wealth of Ireland must never the confident opinion in the confidence of the confiden turally have accumulated. The cultivation of wheat has also been improving in Ireland, and within the last few years! believe it has been carried more into the consumption of that country. But these are passing observations in reference to the general condition of the people. I now wish to point out to the house what the Government has done to meet this great emergency; the difficulty of which I am not in the least disposed to underrate. Early in November last the Government appointed the commission I have already alluded to. Up to the present time the principal occupation of that commission has been to ascertain the facts of the case (hear). Unhappily, those facts are well ascertained, and the extent of the danger it must be admitted is very great, and the time has arrived when it is necessary that eye. cutive measures should be speedily taken. With this view her Majesty's Government have thought it expedient to reduce the number of the commission, as some of the gentle. men forming it were unable to attend to its duties; its fune. tions will henceforth devolve on three officers—Mr. Twistleton, Professor Kaue, and Mr. Randolph Brown. Short as the present session of Parliament has been, considerable progress has been made in measures involving public grass and advances for public works, to aid in meeting the energency of the case. This house has already given its consent gency of the case. This house has already given its convent to a Public Works Bill, by which an absolute grant of 50,000 is made from the public funds; there is also a Port and Harbours Bill, containing a further grant of 50,000%. The Drainage Bill contains clauses which provide for the improvement of the inland navigation of Ireland, connected with draining of lands, comprehending four great works, for joining the northern loughs with the navigation of the Shannon and the waters of the west. The Government has given a separate consideration to the estimates for these four great works, and it will be prepared to bring them under the noise of the house in a committee of supply. The estimate of these works is not less than 120,000%; altogether no less than 220,000%, in the shape of grants will be applied to the increase of public works in Ireland. With respect to advances of money as loans, under the Drainage Bill, which now stands for the third reading, an advance of 50,000/, will be made for preliminary expenses; on the Ports and Harbous Bill 2,000/, will be advanced for the same purpose; on the County Works Bill there will be an advance of 100,000/. Altogether the advance in the shape of loans will be 228,000/.; as gmets, 200,000/.; thus as loans, and as grants, no less a sum than 148,000/. would be laid out in public works in Ireland. The hon, and learned gentleman has referred more particularly to the railroads now under the contemplation of Parliament Allow me to call to the recollection of the house that in the last session of Parliament, and the session preceding it, railroad acts passed, by which it is generally assumed that an outlay of 9,000,000/, will be made in Ireland in the next three years. But I should be sorry if the house deceived itself into thinking that this capital thus brought to bear on the labour market will prove a sufficient provision. From a report laid on the table of the house, it appears, from a competent authority, that money spent in such works only operates beneficially within a circle of from five to ten miles round the locality. What is the effect of that? Unfortunately it is only the able-bodied men who are attracted by that caployment from a distance; they leave their wives and families in the places they come from, sometimes entirely dependent Such is the particular nature of the difficulty, that a rail road, or long line of railroads, at great intervals, will not meet the case (hear, hear). The difficulty is this,—in all former cases the potato crop has only failed in districts and counties; but at the present time it is widely different, as the honourable and learned gentleman stated, in evidence that cannot be doubted; there is not a county in Ireland in which this unfortunate calamity does not to some degree exist. Out of 130 Poor Law Unions not one had escaped it; in 2000 sub-divisions of these unions, in 1500 at least the disease has appeared. The calamity is widely spread in different degreees, and thus the difficulty of the operation of a remedy is quite equal to the extent of the danger. The hon, and learned gentleman says the Poor Law is quite insufficient to meet the evil. I quite agree with him, considering the nature of the Poor Law in Ireland—under which no claim to relief is given by destitution, from the size of the unions and the small number of workhouses yet built—that the Poor Law is insufficient to meet the case. have stated to the house already some of the steps the Government has taken, and I hope the house will give it em for not having neglected any precaution which prudence and sympathy for the sufferings of the people render necessary. I am pressed to give the details of the instructions the Government has issued with respect to these measures; but as I consider any statement of them now would not be considered. sistent with the public interest, I hope the house will not expect any such detail (hear, hear). It will be sufficient for ine to say that in no one particular has the extreme difficulty of the case been overlooked. Early in November instructions had been given specifically upon all the leading points, and I can assure the hon, and learned gentleman and the house that, be the calamity as extensive as it may her Majesty's Government will not be taken by sorpise (hear, hear). The hon, gontleman has stated that in Iroland destination from the stated that in Ireland destitution from a failure of the potato crop is always followed by fever of a most malignant kind (hear). In this respect I think the Poor Law does afford most is portant assistance. Under the existing Poor Law, cases of fever oun be relieved in four different ways; the person my be received into the workhouse, or removed from the workhouse to the fever hospital. I see an objection to the see mission of fever cases into the workhouse, as it may und to spread infection, and by the law as it now stands, except from the workhouse, there is no power to perhove the patient spread infection, and by the law as it now stands, except from the workhouse, there is no power to remove the patient to the hospital. I have not much reliance on these two visions, but there are two others which I think of issues importance if brought into full operation. The first tie power of erecting temporary rave. Lower two vicinity of each workhouse; out of 110 chioms with workhouses built; 42 have been interest in the provided. Messayies have been interest in the provided of the second of the second of the provided of the second of th

skilful and strenuous defenders of monopoly had thrown

guardians to hire houses for that purpose. In Galway, in 1941, there was a malignant typhus fever, and I am told, that nearly 1100 patients were received in the tamporary fever hospital connected with the workhouse of that union. I what it is possible that oven these providens may be insufficient to meet the exigency of the case, and I am prepared on the part of the Government to ask leave to bring in a bill on this subject, founded on the precedent of the cholera hospitals of 1834. If the discuse should spread, this hill will be proposed as a temporary emotment, providing that a temporary rate shall be levied in each union, to meet the cost of maintaining the fever patients. I am not aware that I need go at greater length into these circumstances on the present occasion. And I must say I am most unwilling that this discussion should be prolonged, or should have the effect of interrupting for two hours the progress of the impor-tant debate in which the house is engaged (hear, hear). My humble opinion-an opinion sincerely and confidently enter tained-is, that in the present circumstances, it is the first and primary duty of the legislature to remove all restrictions on the free importation (cheers) into this country of all articles of the first necessity constituting the food of the peo-ple (hear). I am satisfied this is the first duty of Parliament; and I think the hon, and learned gentleman will see. notwithstanding the measures he has mentioned, if this onlamity should spread to the extent we apprehend, that it is necessary to call on Parliament for a generous exercise of that great virtue inherent in a representative assembly-that of allowing the sufferings of no part of the people to be neglected, when public aid can be afforded for that necessity. I hope, then, that the house, without further delay, will pro-ceed to take that primary step, and consider the all-important and special necessity of relaxing the restrictions on the importation of food into this country (cheers).

MR. SHAW, while admitting the habitual poverty of the trish people, was of opinion that the failure of the potato crop had been greatly exaggerated; even the commissioners, high as was their professional reputation, had fallen into the current delusion, promoted as it was for specific ob-

Mr. JOHN O'CONNELL considered the official information adduced by the Government a sufficient guarantee for the accuracy of the allegations as to the nature and extent of the distress. Since he had come over to his Parliamentary duties, he had found a strong sympathy existing on the part of members respecting it, and a great anxiety to adopt measures for its alleviation. Hitherto Ireland had been sacrifieed to the selfish interests of England; the country had been treated on the now useless hand-and-mouth system, temporary remedies being provided for pressing exigencies, but for years forgetting and neglecting it. The Union had de-pressed the material and moral interests of Ireland; the ife blood of its body politic was exhausted by the drain of the absentee system, under which four millions and a balf were annually abstracted from its resources; and he public money which the Government now proposed to bestow was not equal to the public revenue raised in Ireland and expended elsewere. They did not beg for justice, though they had often demanded it; and he arged upon them the importance of subjecting the grievances of Ireland to a searching investigation, so as to discover their root and re-

Lord JOHN RUSSELL advised Mr. John O'Connell to seize every opportunity of urging, within that house, the wrongs of Iryland, and the remedies which he considered applicable. The House of Commons represented the United Kingdom, and it was its duty to listen to any statement of any grievance which might afflict any portion of it. He hoped that after the statement of Sir James Grahum as to what the Government intended to do, Mr. O'Connell would not at present press his motion. It would be in his power to renew it if he found that the proposed measures were in effective for the crisis.

Mr. Lawson was afruid that Sir Robert Peel's measures would reduce England to the condition of Ireland, and he could not see the wisdom of permanently ruining one country in order to provide for a temporary calamity in another. Mr. O'CONNELL withdrew his motion.
ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The adjourned debate on the Corn Laws and the commer-

cial propositions of the Government was resumed by Lord John Manners, who quoted the opinion of Count Carli, in which he considered the English Corn Laws as the result of the care of a Government which saw the wisdom of stimulating the production of its own soil, in order to render its population independent of foreign supply. Though favour able to moderate protection to agriculture, he confessed that, when he heard, last winter, that it was abandoned by all the leading statesmen of the country, he thought that the time was come when they should reconsider their position. But he would not adopt the proposed change on the contradictory arguments with which it had been urged; a terrified ministry was pressing their measure through a mystified Parliament, in order that it might be hurried futo a premature law. Open the ports if the danger were imminent—now, late as it was; but let them leave it to the people of England to say whether of not they should be closed. It had been said that this of not they should be closed. country could not stand a revolution once a year, but Sir R. Peel seemed to think that it could stand a half-yearly revolution. Prussia was said to be "shaken," but he saw no public sign of it. Why should she, when we give her, without equivalent, all that she can ask? As to France, public chinical was lad by such way as Arrange. Thiors, and Borryar. opinion was led by such men as Arago, Thiers, and Berryer, who were opposed to any relaxation of their protection systom. He neither dreaded Free Trade, nor hoped much from it, but he deprecated a rash and hasty intermeddling with great interests, and was of opinion that the settlement of the question should be referred to a new Parliament.

Capt. LAYARD observed that, whatever might be the opinion formed by some honourable gentlemen on the other side of the house, concerning the great measure proposed to their consideration by the right honourable baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government, looking upon it as he did as a question of vital importance, as a question by which the great principles of Free Trade, were at once to be esta-blished. blished; or, should the measure be rejected, or for some time delayed (for he was one of those who never had the smallest doubt that Free Trade must ultimately succeed), it was his intention to give his warmost support to this great and beintention to give his warmont support to this great and beneflotal measure, and he carriestly trusted that honourable
gentlemen would well and deaply consider the fearful responability that would attach to them? they any longer banded
themselves logaliter, and, under the cry of protection to mative industry, tried to maintain a monopoly which was nothing more nor less than a reaction on the food of the
papels. No characteristic had ever begin brought before a Paimental that ever the control of the con

down their arms, and said they could no longer defaud so weak and hollow a cause ; and what arguments had the protectionists brought forward that had not been refuted over and over again (hear, hear)? They had stated that a quantity of land would get out of cultivation, but let them remember the meeting at Coatacre, among the Wiltshire labourers, where the protectionists petitioned against protection, and where it was stated that when the labourer requested to be allowed to occupy and rent patches of ground, he was told by the farmer that he must pay 81. for that for which the farmer paid but 21. (bear, hear, hear). his part he believed that with such an increasing population, that with such an impetus that would be given to trade were this measure carried, that so far from any land being un-cultivated, we should find in places where now there was only a wilderness and a game preserve, we should shortly see extensive and flourishing gardens (hear, hear). In every experiment, made by the right honourable baronet approaching Pree Trade he had been eminently successful. and the last alteration in the tariff had more than realised his most sanguine hopes. What was the use of experience? Were they to shut their eyes to it? Were they to be for ever blind (hear, hear)? However that might be the case with some honourable gentlemen, he believed a far different feeling began to pervade the country; and he believed a better truth could not be adduced to support the truth of the assertion than the wise, the judicious choice made the other day by the West Riding of Yorkshire, a choice in his mind equally honourable to the electors and the elected (hear, hear, and cheers). What would be a more ample proof of the alteration which had come over the feelings of the people than that a few years ago the noble lord was beaten because he was not a sufficient protectionist, and now he stood in the proud position of their representative as a Free Trader. When he heard the right honourable gentleman, the Secretary-at-War state in his Free Trade speech-which he congratulated him upon—when he said in that speech that the Corn Law of 1815 was, in his mind, a great mistake, he agreed with him in that opinion; may, for his part, he went further, and not only thought it a great mistake, but a great crime. By that mistake or crime, whichever they chose to call it, commerce had been crippled, agriculture had been injured, crime and misery had increased. It had given rise to difference of feeling greatly to be deplored. other crimes, it had brought its own punishment (hear). It had for years kept the agriculturists in hot water and uncertainty; and at last received its just retribution and condemnation by the very hand that millions had been spent to raise in its defence (hear). They were told by the protectionists that it was by this law that great and glorious England had taken her stand as one of the greatest nations of the carth. But what a fallacy! He would give them an illustration. He supposed no one, either in the house or out of it, would doubt for a moment that the right hon. mronet at the head of her Majesty's Government was Free Trader (hear, hear). Now did any one suppose for a moment, that because the right honourable gentleman had lived with the protectionist party, had spoken with them, and had acted with them, that that was the reason he was a Free Trader (loud cries of hear, hear)? Certainly not. These had been his hindrances; in spite of all these he was a Free Trader, from honest and sincere conviction. And who could doubt that he would have been a Free Trader long ago, if it had not been for these unhappy connections? with England. It was not on account of these Corn Laws she had become great and glorious, but in spite of them; and she would no doubt have arrived at a higher pitch of grandeur if she had not suffered from the ill effects of these baneful laws. He (Capt. Layard) could not help expressing his surprise (though certainly there were times when a wiso man ought to lie surprised at nothing) at the course about to be taken by the noble lords on the other side of the house. He alluded to the noble lord (Viscount Sandon), the member for Liverpool, and the noble lord the member for Newark. The first noble lord made a speech in favour of protection, which was claimed, and justly so, by the honourable baronet the member for Oxford (lond cries of hear, hear). The right hon, gentleman the Secretary at War had also put in his claim, but in his opinion, it was about as just a one as the American claim to Oregon, and seemed to show that right hon, gentleman to be of a very avaricious disposition, as the noble lord had, in the division be had made of himself, given his old friends (the government) what they no doubt considered upon this occasion the better half, namely his vote. Now the line thus pursued by the noble lord put him in mind of a circumstance that happenned a few years ago. A person at Huntingdon laving given a vote to a successful candidate, the member, from hose pure motives of gratitude which actuated so many politicians, procured for the man the place of chorister at Can-But when he was required to perform the duties, terbury. he was found to have no voice at all. Some one patronised by the genius of poetry, though in a very inferior degree to the hon. member for Pomfret, put the it ran thus-

"A singing man and cannot sing!
No need to thank your patron's bounty. Excuse me, sir, if I can't sing,

My voice is in another county. (loud laughter). So it was with the noble lord the member for Liverpool, who had made a right good speech for protection as far as was possible in such a cause, but his voice like the chorister, was in a different direction (bear, and lunghter). Then the noble lord the member for Newark wrote a letter to his constituents, and said if over he was returned again, he would not vote in favour of protection. What the noble lord would now do it was impossible to say. He defied any member who had listened to the noble lord's speech to say what the noble lord's actual views on the question now were. He could not help thinking it would have been just as well if the two noble lords had paired off, and said nothing at all on the matter (hear, hear). Upon the last occasion that he (Captain Layard) had the honour of uddressing the house upon this subject, he had foretold that the honourable baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government, and the present Becretary for the Colonies (Mr.

crifloing that which was supposed to be the benefit of their party, to the walfare and happiness of their country. had been told by the honourable members for Shrewsburg and Newcoatle-under-Lyne, that rotten potatoes had given rise to rotten argument, that the fear of scarcity had been exaggorated, but the deplorable accounts received from Iraland unhappily too surely proved that the prudent measures taken by the Covernment were only those which were absolutely necessary; and be, for one believed most men would agree with him in the king that those who prepared for a scarcity acted more wisely, aye, and there conscientionsly than those who, with the fact staring their in the face, of the fearful loss which had happened to the potato erop, endeavoured to argue that no scarcity need be feared at all. In that able pamphlet entitled "An Attempt to Estimate the Effect of Protecting Duties on the Profits of Agriculture, by Mr. Morton and Mr. Trimmer," it was proved to domonstration that the tenantfarmer and the agricultural labourer were considerable losers by this so-called protection. By that pamphlet was proved the truth of the declaration of the hon, member for Stockport, Mr. Cobden, that the system of protecting duties was a system of mutual plunder between the growers of the different descriptions of agricultural produce. He would have been delighted had the hon, baronet proposed to do away at once with all duty upon the importation of corn, because he believed the only danger to the agriculturists was the uncortainty with which they had to contend at present, and which must continue for the next three years—an uncertainty which prevented that self-reliance, that outlay of capital and industry, which could alone raise them to that independence which they ought to aspire to but which was unattainable as long as they relied on artificial prices and a bolstering system (hear, hear, hear). He, for one, had the greatest reliance on the ability and judgment of the noble lord the member for London; that reliance was, if possible, increased when the noble lord made the assertion, which to him seemed so wise, but to many so startling, that protection was the bane of agriculture (hear, heur). For his part, he looked on this measure as a great and beneficial one; one not only advantageous to this country, but which set a bright example to the world at large (hear, hear), and an example worthy of all imitation. He would vote for this measure, believing that it would prove one great link to assist in binding together the nations of the earth in unity and peace (cheers).

Mr. R. PALMEB (Berks) took an opposite course, expressing his willingness to assent to a temporary opening of the ports, but objecting that so great, sudden, and permanent a change should be based on a temporary difficulty, He contended that the Government measure would prove injurious to the whole agricultural interest, and declined to

follow Sir Robert Peel in a path which he could not pursue. Sir C. Narten said, he had hoped that after the able, brilliant, heart stirring, and unanswerable speech of the right hon, baronet, the First Lord of the Treasury, the hon. members opposite would have allowed the debate to come to a conclusion this evening (ironical crics of "hear, hear," from the agricultural members). He feared, however, from what had fallen from the noble lord the member for Newark, that if it was still the intention of hon, members to proceed with this debate (loud cheers from the same quarter), they would, no doubt, follow out the same course of invective in which they had hitherto indulged against the right hon, baronet in the vain hope of inducing the right hon, baronet to alter his mind, and adopt another course. He was glad that the hon, gentleman who had last addressed the house, had not spoken in the same bitter tone of feeling as the other hon, members who had spoken on the same side. The great complaint that hon, gentleman had made against the right hon, baronet was, that he had proposed a new Corn Law in consequence of the potato crop in Ireland, and the depression and distress which was soon to follow it. But he (Sir C. Napier) did not see why the right hon, baronet was to be blamed alone. The right hon, baronet at the head of the Home Department had changed his mind as well as the right hon, baronet the First Lord of the Treasury (a laugh). The right hon, gentleman the Secretary at War had followed in their wake, and he believed that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was of the same opinion as the right hon, baro-The rest of the Cabinet had also followed the right honourable barouet in adopting the just and popular view which he had taken (lond laughter). Why, then, was the consure of hon, gentlemen reserved for the right lion: baronet? He wondered that they had not blamed hon. gentlemen on the Opposition side of the house, who, having formerly been advocates for a fixed duty, now agreed in opfnion with the noble lord, the member for Loudon, and thought that the time was come for a total repeal of the Corn Laws. He was surprised that this charge had called forth no expressions of astonishment or indignation from those hon, gentlemen who ploughed with the same horses which they had yoked together twenty or thirty years ago (cheers and laughter). Had not the right hon, baronet told the house over and over again, that on the 1st of November he proposed to his colleagues to open the ports, and that he was only supported by three of his colleagues? The right hon, baronet, seeing that his colleagues would not agree with him, gave his resignation into her Majesty's hands. The noble lord the member for London then attempted to form an administration, but failed in the attempt, and be (Sir C. Napler), for one, rejoiced that he did fall, because when he saw the numbers who had deserted the standard of the right hon, baronet, he could not but think that the hostile dray presented on the other side of the house, would have been much more formidable than it was likely to prove. The noble lord the member for Newark had asked why the right hon, baronet did not now open the ports? The noble lord blamed the right hon, baronet for not opening the ports, because in November he had expressed his opinion of the necessity for opening them; but he (Sir C. Napier) believed that if the right hon, baronet had proposed to open them now hon, members opposite would have opposed the project just as much as they did the present measure (hear). He thought that the right honourable buronet was perfectly correct when no wished to open them. Honourable members opposite now told the right honourable baronet that they would much Government, and the present Secretary for the Colonies (Mr. Gladstone) would become ere long free Traders. He was delighted to find that his prediction had been correct, though at that time he was not sanguine enough to hope that the change would have been made so quickly and completely. But he congratulated them on having soled completely. But he congratulated them on having soled in a manuer worthy of the high station in which their tilents had placed them. They had been undismayed by the light of the hopographic first high station is the congratulated by the defeated by the hopographic first high of the hopographic first high contract to agree to this alteration, that the measure would be defeated by the Hope of Lords, but he trusted that it was a satisfaction of the hope of the h

for Newark had said that there ought to be an appeal to the country on this question. But this was the time, when Ireland was in a state of starvation—and honourable gentlemen must know that Iroland was in a state of starvation when they did not contradict what the right honourable baronet said on the subject—to make matters still worse than they were by an appeal to the country? The noble lord was the most extraordinary man (a laugh) whom he had ever heard speak on this subject. He changed his arguments constantly. The noble lord, who had always, he believed, been a sliding-scale nobleman (much langhter), was now ready, it seemed, to secept a fixed duty. The noble lord had changed his mind, just as the right honourable baronet had changed his, with this difference however, that the right hon. baronet changed his because he was convinced that he had been wrong; while the noble lord changed his in order to keep up his rents (oh. oh). Honourable gentlemen opposite did not like to hear the truth, but he would tell them very plainly what his opinion was on the subject, namely, that if they did not think their rents would fall in consequence of the measure there would be no opposition to it (hear, hear, from the Opposition side of the house, and "oh, oh," from the agricultural branches). He knew that plain speaking was not in fashion in that house, but he must remind hou. includers that when interest swayed the human heart the mental vision was not always perfectly clear. The right hon-baronet had adverted to what had fallen from the honourable member for Northmuptonshire (Mr. S. O'Brien), in relating a convenation which had taken place between the honour able member and his good friend the tenant farmer (hear) Now, he (Sir C. Napier) would take the liberty of giving a little advice to the hon, members opposite, and he would reonmend them, instead of making long speeches, to grant long leaves to their tenants (hear, hear), and then they would g in much more than they would get by protracting this de-bate. Let them go to Scotland, and see how the land was farmed there. That country had an adverse climate, three weeks behind that of England, yet let members look at the manner in which turnips were cultivated -let them look at the mode in which wheat was drilled, and the crops were threshed out by machinery, instead of employing men and horses. If they would imitate the example of Scotland, England would become an exporting instead of an importing country. "It may seem, sir," said the hon, and gallant officer, "very ridiculous in a saflor like me to give advice to hon, gentlemen opposite, on the subject of agriculture (hear, hear, and laughter), but I am myself a farmer, like they are True, I am not a farmer of very long standing, having only been a farmer four years. I took at that time, four years ago, a farm of forty acres (renewed laughter). Honourable gentlemen may haugh, but what is good for 10 acres, is good for 100. I took, I say, a farm of 10 acres, and I wish I could have afforded to have taken more Lind. The land was very bad; what is called in Hampshite forest land, which had been under the plough 14 or 15 years. The land was very foul, and those who had it before me used to plough it with four horses and two or three men combeeting them. As might be expected, they lost money by farming it. One man gave it up; another took it; no one could do anything with it, and they all went away rained (hear). I hope I am not fatiguing the house (hear, hear, and a laugh). I began farming much in the same way us my predecessors had done, and the consequence was that in the fir t year I last 2001. Sir, I began to think this was very bad farming (great laughter). I looked about me, and I saw a poor man, a neighbour of mine, who had a piece of land of 10 acres, who had always good crops, and who contrived to keep his land dry. I went to him and said, "Well, old boy (roars of laughter), how is it that you, who have no capital at all-you, who have only a little pony, you wife, and yourself (long continued laughter), manage to have such good crops as you do?" In reply to my question he said, 'If you will follow my advice you will have good crops too. Cleanse your ditches, level your banks, and drain your land well.' I acted under his directions in managing my land, and the next year, in place of four or five quarters of outs, which was the utmost which the land had ever borne before, I had eleven quarters of outs to the acre (lond cheers). I went on under his advice, and now, instead of the land belonging to me lying fallow during the winter, as is the case with nearly all my neighbours, all my land with the exception of three acres, has crops upon it. If hon, gentlemen will do the same as I have done, they will, I doubt not, suc ceed equally well. "Mr. Speaker," continued the hon, and gallant member, "I have taken up arguments different from those used by others, because the question before the house was so completely worn out (hear, hear), that I thought it necessary to get up something fresh (a laugh), and to enlighten the agricultural mind" (cheers, and renewed laughter, in the midst of which the hon, and gallant member re-

Mr. Su vw admitted Lord Morpeth's taunt, that the agri-cultural party were without a leader and without a head. It for they had just been abandoned by their "leaders," But though disorganised, without a plan, unofficered, and undesciplined, they were still undismayed. hey were not so ignorant of the writings of Adam Smith, Ricardo, Macculloch, and all that class of men, as was imputed to them. But they knew something more; and, though admitting that there was much "abstract" truth in Free Tra le views, there was a wisdom taught by experience, in relation to social happiness, which it was neither safe nor honest to diseard. He criticised the conduct of the Government as exhibiting instability of mind, infirmity of purpose, political terriversation, and Cabinet juggle; and contrasted for Robert Peel disadvantageously with M. Guizot, whose decision of character ruled the destines of France. If Sir We bett Peel, two years hence, proposed a repeal of the union with Ireland, in obedience to popular clamour, it would not amprise him more than two years ago would have been the anticipation of the repeal of the Corn Laws. At all events, the repeal of the Corn Laws would take away from the maintalners of the union in Ireland the argument that this country was the best market for their produce. Bir Robert teel now committed suicide on his own power with the very wapon with which he had slain the political existence of Lord John Russell; he who, at the head of a powerful and united party, drove the noble lord from office, was now supplicating him to spare his Government. He advised the First Lord of the Transury, quoting his word on a former occasion, not to throw the present Corn Law Into the lottery of legislation, in the vain hope of drawing a better.

forward by his honourable friend the member for Wolverhampton, they were to have the whole question fairly gone into, as being that about which the country really cared, for he could assure honourable gentlem on opposite that they never committed a greater mistake than in imagining that the great body of the people cared one farthing about the quarrel in the great Conservative party (Opposition cheers). He had been an attentive listener during the debate, and had endeavoured to find out any reasons which might be alleged in favour of agricultural protection. The honourable member for the University of Dublin would forgive him if he did not attempt any answer to his speech (protection cheering), as, if he was not mistaken, this was a discussion on the merits of protection, and on these merits the hon, gentleman had said not one syllable (Opposition cheering). He passed, then, to the speeches of those members who had attempted to grapple with the question. The hon, member for Bristol said that the farmers of England would not consent to sell cheap corn and buy dear sugar (hear, hear), and the honourable member for Lincolnshire had stated at a meeting lately hold in Willis's Rooms that the colonies of England had been protected at a heavy expense to the English farmer (hear, hear). From this he gathered it to be the opinion of honourable gentlemen opposite that it was not fair to give protection to the colouisl sugar grower if protection be withdrawn from the British grower of corn (hear, hear, and cheers). He admitted it most freely. If this great inroad were to be made in protection, the principle must be extended to all-manufacturers, agriculturists, and colonists. If, then, it were unfair to protect sugar and not corn, it must be clear that if there be any industry to which the Government did not now afford protection, that the protection which it extended to agriculture must be unjust to the class pursuing the unprotected branch of industry. He supposed they would not deny that (cheers). Well, he was then in some sense the representative of one of the largest trades carried on in this country, a trade to which no gentlemen on the opposite side had ever proposed to extend the protection of legislative enactments. Since he had entered the house a proposition had been made to remove restrictions on the export of machinery-much of it used in the trade referred to. Every honourable member connected with that trade had voted for it (cheers). Last year it was proposed to sweep away the protective duty of ten per cent. upon cotton yarn. Every honourable member connected with the trade voted for the proposition (cheers) And there was now not a person in any way interested in the business who did not regret that the right hon. baronet had not swept away every vestige of protection (cheers). But he would not talk of the cotton and woollen trades; he would come to that great branch of industry of which hon, members opposite talked so much and appeared to know so little (laughter, and oh, oh). He had passed by the door of the Central Office of the Protection Society the other day, and certainly the place wid look what was generally called " seedy " (laughter), and very forlorn. There was not the least appearance of business, but he observed a handsome brass plate on the door, marked, "Central Society for the Protection of Agriculture and Native Industry" (laughter). Now, what was this native industry they were so anxious to protect? Did they recollect that in 1842 his honourable friend, the member for Stockport (Mr. Cobden), proposed that before they proceeded to make a law to raise the price of bread, it was becoming to ascertain whether it was possible to make a law to raise the rate of wages? What, on that occasion, was your answer? That spinners and weavers did not understand political economy—that it had long ago been settled that wages could not be raised by Act of Parliament. They had said so, and within an hour of the declaration they procceded to make a law for the express purpose of raising the price of wheat which they had to sell—the produce of their own estates (cheers, and cries of Oh, oh). They would propose prohibition, if they dared and thought it safe (cheers, and cries of No, no). They did not mind the starving of an operative in Lancashire or a labourer in Wiltshire. To a certain point they seemed determined to carry prohibition (oh, oh). The population was increasing—the competition for food increasing, and therefore they hoped, as they said, that there would be an increase of profits to their farmers-a hope which the public was ill-natured enough to translate into a hearty aspiration for an increase of rents to themselves. But now, where was the protection to the labourer? He had heard a clergyman of the church of England say, that the protection of the labourer was the Poor Law. But it was as much the protection of the landlord. If the latter became poor he would betake himself to the union (oh, oh). But what protection had the labourer akin to the protection which the Corn Laws gave the landowner? This house, within the memory of many of those who now sat in it, had passed no law for the purpose of giving employment to the labourer, orraising the rate of his wages. The hon. member—the senior member, he believed, for Wiltshire (Mr. Benett), at a meeting held the other day in his county, made a long speech to the farmers. He reviewed the condition of the agriculturists in this happy land, and concluded by stating that, had he to come into the world again-had his life to be lived over again—he know no condition

Now, it happened that there was a meeting of peasantry, at which the matter was debated the other night, at Gostacre. He was aware that some hon members had stated that that meeting was get up by the League (protectionist cheers). And he must say that the omnipresence of the League had been so that the omnipresence of the League had been so that the omnipresence of the League had been so that the omnipresence of the League had been so that the state of the state impressed upon hon, gentlemen, that if he stated that the League had nothing to do with the Gontacre meet ing, he believed that some of them would go awar with the impression that, nevertheless, it had been concerned in it (ironical cheering from the protectionists). But there had been a second meeting at a place called Brembill, at which the chair was taken by labourer named John Gringell. He know not whether this poor fellow was a pattern labourer of Wiltshire but he told his auditory, "I be protected, but I be starving" (hear, hear, and cheers). And it was not in Wiltshire alone that such scenes were passing. Since he had come into the house a paper had been put into his hand by his honourable friend the member for Bol. ton, drawn up by a most respectable person at Tiverton, and containing accounts of the circumstances of twenty-eight families-the number of each family, and the wages earned by its members. And how much did these wages amount to? Why, 7s. a-week. These men with wives, with five, or six, or seven children cach -lived in miscrable huts, and earned 7s. a week (loud cheers from the Opposition, and cries of "oh," from the protectionists). The honourable member for Northamptonshire said that the labourers there had 124, a week. He asked him whether it was protection that had given the labourer in Wiltshire 7s. a week, and whether the peasant there had protection commensurate with that which Parliament had accorded to the owners of the soil (hear)? The hon, member for Northampton was very pathetic on the subject of the coachmakers, who he contended would be thrown out of employment by the change in the tariff; but if the hon, member would go to Southampton, and speak to Mr. Andrews, the great coach-builder there, he would be told that at this moment he was constructing carriages to go to almost every part of Europe (hear, hear). Why, he would not insult his countrymen as some honourable gentlemen did. He would not believe that they were to inferior in skill and enterprise that they could be beaten on all hands-by the French in matters of taste, or by the serf-cultivat r in Poland (cheers). But honourable members persisted in expressing great horror at the consequences of the repeal of the Corn Laws. They were continually talking of an inundation of when Now, we had different sorts of inundations. There were actual inundations of water-there were talked-of inundations of wheat; but it was the remark of an acute and distinguished writer on the subject, that rivers of wheat were as rare as rivers of gold. No country produced much more corn than was necessary for its own wants, and there was nothing in the circumstances of any foreign nation, which could make it a formidable rival to the agriculture of this country. They grew upon every acre in England a larger quantity of corn than was grown on a corresponding space in any country in the world (hear). There could be no doubt of the fact, and as little of the other fact, that of the produce of the land the English labourer got less for his share than fell to the lot of the actual tiller of the soil in any other country whatever (loud cheers, met by protectionist counter-cheering, and cries of Oh, oh). Why, if their prices were so much higher, as they said they were, and the wages they gave but 7s. a-week, and if each of their acres grew nearly twice as much as any other acres in the world, how could any conclusion be come to other than that the labourers of England received a smaller share of the produce of their toil than the peasantry of any other country in the world (cheers). Then look to the advantages by which the landowners were assisted. They possessed more manure, they had better and cheaper implements, they had better roads, and markets beyond comparison more valuable, and yet they complained of not being able to get on without protection (hear, hear). It was protection which had damaged thom-they had protected their farmers into a state of decrepitude; and now, when a stimulus was to be applied, they trembled for the consequences. How did matters at present stand? Take the county of Cheshire. There they found a high aristocracy and a poor tenantry. Land of fair quality was most wretchedly cultivated—in fact, there were all the elements for the production of a mass of pauperism as great as that in the southern and western counties, had it not been for the proximity of Lancashire. It was not that the people of Cheshire were inferior to their Lancashire neighbours; but that an unfortunate system of legislation had destroyed the vitality of agriculture. The hon, member for Berkshire complained of the burden of poor-rates on the land. He (Mr. Bright) contended that the tanant farmers paid no poor-rate whatever on the capital they employed in farming. Those opposite complained that he (Mr. Bright) did not pay poor-rate on the machinery in his mill, and his stock in trade. Well, they could not wish to mete out another measure to the manufacturers from that which they applied to themselves. Let them see how this plan of taxation would work. member may have a tenant, who had some thousand wherewith to cultivate his land; that tenant paid to poor-rate on his household furniture, on his stock, as united party, drove the noble lord from office, was now supplicating him to space his Government. He advised this so much pleasure as the humble lot of an agricultural labourer (laughter). He (Mr. Bright), really felt condition, in the value hope of drawing a better.

Mr. Bright said that he had hoped when the hon. Mr. Bristol moved his amondment that they were to have the question of protection discussed, that when the right honourable baronet moved that proposition which had been so often and so ably brought

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laug you Imro ter o Lheir Mr. PALMER: I only quoted Sir R. Peel's speech on

Mr. BRIGHT : Yes, but you used the right honourable gentleman's argument as unansworable at the present time (hear, hear). There was another burden on land about which they heard nothing in that debate, and that was the burden of the game ("oh," from Col. Sibtliorp and others). There were two sons of the Duke of Rutland had spoken in that debate, and were about to vote against the proposition of Government. Now, in 1844. that noble dake paid 9151. for game damage on 389 acres of land (an ironical cry of "hear" from the protectionists). Now, he asked honourable gentlemen how they could sanction a law which prevented a full supply of food being furnished to a starving people, and at the same time destroy large quantities of food by game, kept solely for their own gratification and amusement (cheers)? I believe, in reality (said the honourable gentleman), you are not afraid of a repeal of the Corn Laws. You are angry with the Government, but you are not afraid of protection being abolished. In this house and out of it you have said repeatedly "that if the Corn Laws were abolished the land would be neglected, that no rent could be paid by the tenants (an assurance some of you will be reminded of before 12 months elapse), the labourer would starve, the interest of the national debt would not be raid, that there would be no revenue, that a proud aristocracy would be lowered, that the church, and therefore Christianity, would be endangered, that the Crown itself would be insecure, and that the sun of England (whatever that means) would set for ever" (laughter and cheering). This is but a short list of the calamities that were to come upon the country. Now do you adhere to the statement, or are you anxious to repudiate it (hear, hear)? You exhibit no alarm, you show no resistance. You say that seven-ninths of the population are connected with agriculture, and that all connected with agriculture are in favour of protection; and yet, though all the calamities I have enumerated have been predicted by their leaders and guides, there is not the smallest prospect of insurrection (laughter). And the right honourable Secretary for the Home Department assures us that for the last twelve months not even the sound of sedition has been heard within the precincts of the Home-office (cheers and laughter). But you don't believe that any such dread calamities are at hand. The people don't believe it. Where are your public meetings? There was a meeting in Dorsetshire of 1500 persons (hear, hear, from the protectionists). I myself ddressed 3000 in that county, and in that same field, and presented their petition for total abolition (cheers). But where else have you held meetings? Did you see the Lancashire petition with 300,000 signatures? Did you see the petitions of the metropolitan members signed by 400,000? And honourable gentlemen opposite came down with their 150 petitions, each with 12 or 18 signatures to each petition. Where is public opinion in your favour? Look to the public press. All the newspapers which have the widest circulation are almost without exception in favour of the Government proposal. The public laugh at your predictions, and you yourselves disbelieve them. We have heard of men going merrily to battle; there is the chance of escape, and the hope of such renown as successful battle gives; we have even heard of some reckless and daring criminals who have joked upon the scaffold; but never have we seen men sliding into the unfathomable abyse of ruin with faces so jovial and complacent as those of the honourable protectionists opposite (loud laughter from both sides). You say the right honourable baronet is a traitor. It would ill become me to attempt his defence after the speech which he delivered last night (loud cheers from the Opposition)-a speech I will venture to say more powerful and more to be admired than any speech which has been delivered in this house within the memory of any member of it (hear, and cheers again). I watched the right honourable baronet as he went home last night, and for the first time I envied him his feelings (cheering). That speech has been circulated by scores of thousands throughout this kingdom, and is speeding to every part of the world, and wherever there is a man who loves justice, and wherever there is a suffering creature whom you have trampled under foot, that speech will give joy to the heart of the one, and hope to the breast of the other (loud cheers). You chose the right honourable baronet—why? Because he was the ablest man of the party. You always said so, and you will not deny it now. Why was he the ablest? Because he had not been ablest? cause he had great experience, profound attainments, and, as you have always said, an honest regard for the good of the country. You placed him in office. When a man is in office he is not the same man that he is as when in opposition (laughter). present generation, or posterity, does not deal as mildly with men in Government as with those in opposition. There are such things as the responsibilities of office (cheers). Look at the population of Lancashire, and Yorkshire, and ask yourselves whether, with all your valour, and although you talk of raising the standard of protection, and cry "Down with the Anti-Corn-Law league," there are not men in your ranks (and I defy them), who will take that bouch (the Treasury) pledged to a maintenance of this law (loud cheers)? The right honourable baronet took the only honourable course (a-laugh from the protectionists). He resigned. He told-you by that act "I can't any longer do what you want!— —I can't defend your cause." The right honourable laronet, no longer your minister, came back the minister of the Soveright and of the people, and noted advocate of a class who placed him at their head for their own special and private objects (chears). The right hon, seatlesses has not used you healt. He offered no observation to your saling once them have not observed to your saling once them have not observed.

he had not advised the Sovereign to send for Lord John Russell, but that he left it to his Sovereign to use her own discretion as to the party to be selected for her minister. It would be presumptuous in me to assume the considerations that swayed the decision of the Sovereign, but I doubt not there entered into her mind the question, "Shall I select for office mon pledged to uphold the present Corn Laws?" and the Sovereign doubtless felt that to have done so would have joopardised the aristocracy, and havedone a thousand times more damage to your institutions than the instantaneous sweeping away of every vestige of the system of protection (loud cheers). made? What sort of Government would you have There is a programme of your administration published this morning in the Times (a laugh). There is the hon. member for Somersetshire at the Board of Trade. I don't say that all the mills of Lancashire would have shut up at the announcement, but cortainly either irrepressible laughter or general consternation must have followed in all the trading districts. Lord Stanley was to have been a leading man in your Government (loud cheers from the Protectionists). Now, recollect the noble lord's geography as to a Russian province (a laugh). The hon, member for Norfolk, who sits at the table, challenged my hon. friend, the member for Stockport to a discussion, at St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, and in the courtly language of the Central Society he predicted there would be a "shindy." Woll, the hon, gentleman proposed certain resolutions on principles which he said were advocated by Henry Clay, once president of the United States. Well, if one member of your cabinet knows so little of geography, and another so little of history, I am afraid your rule over the destinies of the empire would not be a very brilliant one (cheers). You were, too, to have the Duke of Richmond, remarkable for the freedom of his assertions. That noble duke said last week that my honourable friend the member for Stockport got thirty thousand pounds a week by his business, and that one of his own tenants paid a larger amount of poor-rates than all the Leaguers put together. That may be true; but if it is it says little for protection when one tenant of its greatest advocate is obliged to pay so much to the poor-rate of his parish. But what sort of Government would Lord Stanley, the honourable member for Norfolk, and the Duke of Richmond have formed? I am quite sure of one thing, that in all my public speaking, of which so much has been said elsewhere, I never said anything so disastrous to the aristocracy, and especially to the order of dukes, as has been said by the Duke of Richmond during the last four months (cries of hear, hear, from the Opposition, and "oh, oh," from Colonel Sibthorp and others). Yes : I refer to his exaggerated statements, to charges against men from whom he differed, to such statements as he made last night, "that it would be easy to send itinerant agitators in the manufacturing districts to show that cotton would burn as well as stacks" (loud cheers). And yet for men capable of such things you profess yourselves anxious to remove the statesmen who now occupy the Treasury benches? You know the country would not tolerate such a Government a week (Opposition cheers). I do not believe that even you are anxious to place the protectionists in office; but you wish to be avenged on those who have forsaken the obligations of party, in order to obey the call of a great country, imploring them to work out its commercial deliverance (cheers). I was going to make an observation to the honourable baronet, the member for Oxford, if he had not left the house: I fear the honourable baronet has forsaken his usual associates in politics—the Bishops (oh, and cheers). I shall doubt his orthodoxy if he vote against the Government when all the Bishops are about vote with them (cries of Oh, oh). any gentleman dare to say that when there is the intensest suffering in your counties, and when famine is at hand in Ireland, any one dignitury of a Christian church would dare to give a vote for preventing the opening of the ports, and allowing a supply of food to a starving people? The hon. baronet laments the breaking up of a great party. I doubt if the people of England will regret it. But the hon. baronet need not despair; while there is wrong to support, there will be a wrong party; while there is an abuse left, the hon, baronot will have an opportunity to defend it; so long as nere is an imposition, civil or ecclesiastical, he may throw over it the shield of the constituency he represents -a constituency which, from the passing of the Oxford decree, in 1688, to this hour, has demonstrated that the minutest acquaintance with books is compatible with the profoundest ignorance of men (lond choers). Now, asto the measure before the house, I hesitate not to say that it is a great measure, and does great credit to the Government (loud cheers). great measures, like great pictures, are sometimes tarnished by defects, and I believe it is a serious defect in this measure that it does not propose an immediate abolition (cheers). I know that the tenant farmers in many districts prefer it to a gradual repeal. I ask for it not only because there is no alarm in the country, and men are giving higher prices for their farms, even now. when the Government proposition is on the table of the house, but on this ground, that we have always advocated the repeal of the Corn Laws, because they were a defiance of the laws of God, and an odlous tyranny on our fellow men. It the emergency is so great as to justify the Government in going so far, it pronounces their condemnation if they stop where they are. If there be suffering throughout England, and a pending famine in Ireland (and nominal in interesponding to deny iv). the Government dan nover defend the ditty of from 4s. to 10s. for three years on the importation of food (hear): Honourable fontioners any the emergency is not great; if the incidental state of only honourable friend, the incidental state of only had been supported to other complete had been supported to our particular three particular to our state of our particular states our particul

but as some will not believe in a flood while it drowns only those who dwell in collars, others will not give cradit to the existence of funine until it reaches Belgrave-square (hear, and cheers). The hon, member for Hartford and the noble lord who sits for Warwickshire, made an attack on the Longue because they were said to purchase votes in the counties. I recommend them to read the decision of the Chief Justice of the Common Plans. He says it is a course not only legal but laudable (cheers). If there be any member of this house who fears that the incompleteness of the Reform Bill may give cause to agitation, it must be a matter of rejoicing to him that a mode has been discovered by which tens of thousands of honest, industrious, and meritorious artisans have brought or may bring themselves within the pale of the constitution (hear, and cheers), But not a farthing have the Anti-Corn-Law League given for qualifications. We merely ask those who are of Free Trade principles to qualify for counties if they have the means of doing so. A noble lord elsewhere has called on the Government to put down that proceeding. I am not afraid that his advice will be taken. The League is expressly framed for the purpose of procuring the total and immediate abolition of the Corn Laws, and when that abolition is effected, its organisation will be instantaneously dissolved-but not till then (Opposition choors). I doubt not that the clars of mon who through its instrumentality may obtain the franchise will use it at least as independently as the tenant farmers, and as much for the good of their country (hear, hear). I ask the hon, members opposite, representing pocket boroughs and nomination counties. what they imagine their countrymen will think of the course they are now pursuing; when, if there be truth in the minister-if there be truth in the statements of the hon, member for Cork, and of all those who had any opportunity of being acquainted with the facts, there was a terrible calamity impending over the country for which somebody must be responsible (cheers)? Government any they will not take that responsibility upon their shoulders, and sooner than do so, they risk everything to remove it, and ask this house to do that which common justice at all times requires, but which necessity now demands (hear, hear, and cheers). I ask you if you think that the gratification of your vengeance against the minister will be held as any excuso for the course you are now pursuing by your country and by posterity? Do you believe it will? You know that your Irish follow-subjects are fainting, dying of hunger,—that millions are almost foodless driving on to despair. Should you succeed in breaking up the Government, in dissolving Parliament, in rejecting a great and wise and most necessary measure, how glorious, how compensating will be your reward, when you reflect that by your factions conduct you have been successful in bringing misery and rain upon multitudes of the most defenceless of your countrymen! (The hon, gent, resumed his seat amid loud cheers),

Mr. Hudson said he was compelled to claim the indulgence of the house on the present occasion, for though it was true he not unfrequently addressed public meetings, he felt he was now about to speak on a question of no ordinary importance, before a house with the forms of which he was imperfectly acquainted. He was not returned from any pocket or nomination borough (protectionist cheering). He came there as independently as the honourable member for Darham (renewed cheering), and he could return to his constituency with as much consistency and honesty of purpose as that honourable gentleman, or any honourable member in that house (cheers). As to the question now before them, feeling its great and paramount importance, he had deeply reflected and thought upon it in its various bearings. The had listened to the speeches and arguments of the right honourable baronet and gentlemen opposite, and he had read and thought upon the subject as a man who was interested and justly interosted-in the welfare of his fellow-men (hear, hear). With the deepest attention behad listened to the speeches of the right honourable baronet, but he confessed he saw nothing in the arguments therein adduced to alter his firm conviction that the opinions he entertained, when first he addressed the electors of Sunderland, were not based on sound and constitutional principles. The right ho nourable baronet had grounded this measure on the failure of an article of home-grown food — but we had, in his (Mr. Hudson's) opinion, nothing whatever to do with an unfortunate calamity of that No man more sympathised with the nature. persons who had fallen under it than he did-no man had heard the right hon, baronet with greater feelings of regret and distress, or with a greater anxiety to alleviate the sufferings of the sister country than he did; but he contended that the house could not be called upon to logislate so extensively as the present measure; bocause, if a practical calamity, however sudden its offect, those offects might be met by employing the executive powers conferred by the constitution. He did not think that the right hon, baronet had treated the party to which he had belonged with that fairness which they lind a right to expect (protection cheers). He had appealed to the distress which might soon be feared as the grounds for this measure, and had drawn a torrible picture of its effects, to induce Parliament to concur in this measure. He (Mr. Hudson) thought a far different course should be adopted, and believed, if the danger of want were so great; the best way to provide for it would be by a public subscription, If the emeror it would be by a public subscription. If the emergency were so grout and pressing as it was said to be, why ald not Grovernment come down at once, and propose to Parliament some, measure for immediate relief? The feelings of the house had been influenced by the plattices of highest light on the right hon, baronet and the executive Grovernment to take up the matter at once, and we provide the light in the right hon, baronet and the executive Grovernment to take up the matter at once, and we provide the light in the light of take. Such means

sures would, he was sure, be favourably received by all parties, and he had no doubt honourable gentlemen opposite would readily concar in giving their support. He objected, on public grounds, to such extensive legislation, to meet a want which was merely temporary, and thought it would have been much better to have made a suitable motion in the House for its relief, than to have introduced such a measure as that before them. As to the question, whather or not a repeal of the Corn Laws was advisable, he admitted there was room for the greatest possible discussion, but in that discussion, he contended, they ought not to be encumbered by the consideration of other topics. The right hon, baronet grounded his first appeal to the House for the removal of the present system of Corn Laws, on the good effect resulting from the tariff and the other commercial changes of the year 1842. He had since been compelled to abandon that position and go back to 1825, for he found his argument untenuble, and discovered that other measures had contributed to the prosperity of the country, besides the alteration in the tariff (hear, hear). The first interview he (Mr. Hudson) had with Her Majesty's Government resulted from his desire to effect the continuance of a railway between England and Scotland, which, owing to the great depression existing in this country from the extensive importation of foreign corn could not be carried on. From 1839 to 1842, in consequence of that, the balance of trade had been decidedly against this country, and the result was, it was atterly impossible to raise any fund for the execution of the works. In his anxiety to carry out that system, which would, be believed, confer greater benefits on the country than any other measures the right honourable baronet would propose, he had gone about begging from company to company, for the purpose of procuring a guarantee of 6 per cent to the promoters of the new line, and that was the period of her Majesty's Government during which the right hon, baronet maintained there was great prosperity (hear). In his exultation at the supposed success of his measure the right hon baronet, on the second night he addressed thom, forgot how much he was indebted for the prosperity he mentioned to the large production of wheat at home (hear, hear, from Sir R. Peel). It was all very well for the right hon, baronet to say " hear hear," but he could not join in his exultation unless it appeared that the prosperity of that period was produced during an importation of foreign corn. The fact was, the prosperity of the country, and the case of the monetary system at that time, was not owing to the changuess of corn, nor the result of altered tariffs, but entirely arose from the plentiful produce of wheat and other grain athome, and from the employment of capital throughout the country. The right honourable baronet proposed to reduce the duty on shoes, on papers, and other articles of produce. Did not the matter resolve itself, then, into a question of labour? He believed that the labourers here could not contend with labour from abroad. The shocmaker was required to pay poor-rates, county-rates, and other charges which did not affect the labour of the foreigner. He had taken some pains to ascertain what would be the probable price of wheat under the present bill; he had had large dealings with the interest more immediately affected, and had felt that it would not be right to offer an opinion on the subject without consulting many practical men. He recollected having a corn speculation in 1837, and he was capabled to deliver wheat in the ports of this country, all charges paid, at 25s. a quarter, weighing 611 pounds. What he had done in 1837, why should be not do in 1849 (hear, hear)? Before they entered on a measure of this importance, affecting such vital interests, they ought to have been furnished with information as to the probable price at which corn could be delivered. If he took a reduction in price of 10s, as the probable effect of a Free Trade in corn, he thought he should not be taking an unfair view of the matter, or one not borne out by the information which he had received. He would assume that the average price of corn in this, country under the new bill would be from 35s. to 40s. He should rejoice in its success, but he could not refuse to communicate to that house the information he had received from various quarters and from practical sources. He would like to ask the right hon, member for Wiltshire, who had spoken of the distress prevailing amongst agriculturists, and declared at the same time that he protection was of no benefit to agriculture, it he thought that with the taxes required to pay the interest of the national debt and other charges, the farmers would be better off at the price of 35s, to 40s, a quarter than at the present rates (hear)? Why, it appeared to him to be mockery and an attempt to deceive. The right honourable member had talked of distress in the agricultural districts - he wished the right hon. member would come into Yorkshire, as another gentleman had wished him to come into Northamptonshire, and the right hon, member would see no dis-tress. As to its being a matter of rent, he believed firmly and honestly that it was no such matter. If the land were let without rent, he believed the farmer would not be able to cultivate it (hear, and a laugh). The right hon, baronet said the farmers of England would be as well off as before, and that he would not make any reduction in the charges of the income tax. He (Mr. Hudson) had got a paper called The Leadur, which had ventured an opinion as to what would be the probable result of the operation of this bill. In 1849 they thought the bill might work exceedingly well; but they went on to state their opinion that it was at loast equally probable that the 1st of February, 1849, might be the commoncement of a period of unexampled distress and ruln to the whole class of farmers, re-acting with fearful weight on the entire community. That was the opinion expressed by persons who had been the agitators of this question. He was not prepared, on the experiments of the mamont, to recall the opinions he had entertained for many years. He was not propared, because the right hon. baronot had changed his opinions, he believed most

unsatisfactorily to every person, to throw over those principles under which this country had risen to a height of prosperity unparalleled in the world. The effect of the Government proposal would be to throw large quantities of land out of cultivation. Afterwards for a time we might revel in low prices; no doubt there would be abundance; but the manufacturer would not derive the benefit he anticipated, for he would lose his best customer-the home customer (hear). That when a bad harvest came, we should have high prices, and the right hon, baronet would have to come down to the House with some proposal to give food to the people. He believed in his conscience that the measure would be ruinous to the best interests of the country, and it ought not to be forced without an appeal to the constituency. (Hear, hear.) If Ireland were in a position of distress and difficulty which rendered interference in her behalf, on the part of the legislature, necessary, let some temporary measure of relief be introduced by all means, but let not the whole commercial system of this country be subverted, and the experience of many years be totally disregarded, in order to meet the pressure of a temporary calamity. (Hear, hear.) He felt that he was discharging his duty to his constituents, and the country at large, by opposing the measure which had been introduced under the patronage of the right hon, baronet at the head of Her Majesty's Government. (Hear,

Lord Duncan moved that the debate be adjourned till Thursday next.—Motion carried.

🔭 🔭 For Remainder of Debate see our Regular Paper.

LEAGUE REGISTRATION.—The registration movement, so far from having been elected by the prospects of speedy success in the Lengue movement, seems but to gather strength. At a meeting of the Freeholders' Bullding Society, held in the Free Trude Hall on Wednesday night, the extra-ordinary number of 1200 new shares word taken up by persons resident in various parts of the county, making a total of 6200 shares engaged in two months; in other words, 6200 new freeholds, each giving a county vote, are hespoken! meeting presented an extraordinary scene, upwards of 50 money stewards being engaged in racing about the immense hall for more than two hours and a half to receive the sub-scriptions of members. No less than 250 gentlemen in Liverpool have bought qualifications in South Cheshire, 125 in Oldham, 81 in Ashton, 60 in Rochdale, 60 in Manchester, 25 in Stockport, 24 in Congleton, 20 in Chester, 20 in Northwich, 18 is Leek (Staffordshire), 10 in Nantwich, 10 in Bury. 9 in Macclesfield, 6 in Sandbach, 4 in York, and 4 in Holmes Chapel-total, 726! These are independent of many new qualifications obtained by Free Traders in the agricultural districts of Cheshire. It will be seen that the plan is to purchase qualifications, not for the county alone in which the purchaser is resident, but to give the register "a lift" wherever it can be done with most effect. All the League does is to receive lists of properties for sale giving a vote, and by this means the money is so well haid out that the purchaser makes a good investment, generally ensuring a return of 6 or 7 per cent.

FORTY SHILLING FREEHOLDS,—The 30th Jan. is now past, and no freeholds, hereafter purchased, will be available for the register of 1816. Now, therefore, is a fitting time to report the issue of the effort that has been made in Newcastle and Gateshead, since the great Free Trade meeting of the 5th inst. to strengthen the Anti-Corn-Law cause in North Durham and North and South Northumberland. North Northumberland was not thought of in the first instance; but an application from Edinburgh, indicating the anxiety of Scottish Free Traders to "come over and help thom," induced the committee on the Type to extend their operations farther than they had originally intended. The result is, that 73 freeholds have been conveyed to Free Traders residing in Edinburgh, Dundee, and other places, at an expense to the purchasers of 2457L, exclusive of the cost of conveyance, which also falls on the newly made Northumberland freeholders. In South Northumberland 123 freeholds have been purchased, and 118 in Durham. The total number in the three divisions is 314, North, and the total cost nearly 10,000l. Lord Brougham's spiteful speech of the 22d inst. justifies us in repeating (although the repution is, parhaps, superfluous), that not a penny of the explane has been borne by the League. The new freeholders have themselves provided the purchase money.—Observer.

ORIGIN OF THE LEAGUE,—In consequence of the reference in the Daily News, and by Lord Radnor in the House of Lords, to the seven persons who originated the movement which gave rise to the National Anti Corn-Law League, we have had letters from various parts of the kingdom requesting us to name the individuals. They were, Edward Baxter (now of Belfast), W. A. Cunningham, Andrew Dalziel, Jas Howie (now of Edinburgh), James Leslie, Archibald Prentice, and Philip Thomson. At the second meeting of the association, although above 50 persons had given in their subscriptions, there was again an attendance of seven, the place of Mr. Baxter, who was absent, having been taken by Mr. William Rawson, now the Treasurer of the League. Mr. Rawson was the first Englishman who joined the association. Of the original seven, six were natives of Scotland, and one of Ireland. The grand impulse to the movement was given when Mr. Cobden, who was about at the time of its origination, joined it. The first person who subscribed more than 5s. was Mr. Robert Stuart, now one of the magistrates for the borough, who, on being applied to, said, "What is the use of subscribing 5s.? Put me down for 101."

trates for the borough, who, on being applied to, said, "What trates for the borough, who, on being applied to, said, "What is the use of subscribing 5s.? Put me down for 101."

DANKEL O'CONNELL.—The London correspondent of the Liverphol Chronicle says:—"Danie! O'Connell is breaking up; he no lodger treats the ground firmly, and walks fast, with carriage debonnaire. 'Toor Dan's a cold,' and creeps along with chin resting on breast bone, or would rest there, but for the ample folds which pillow it up and keep him warm. I never saw such a change in a human being as that which O'Connell presented yeaterday in the Strand, compared with the burly and active man of last year. I nable to ercop—there is no other word for it—he halled a cab, or, rather, I should say, the cabmap, seeing the outschild state of the old halp, halled the great Liberator, who immediately groped into the velicies with a sigh."

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THE NEW JOHN GILPIN.

SHOWING HOW PEEL WENT PURTHER THAN HE INTENDED,
AND CAME SAFE HOME AGAIN.

(From Punch.)

Sir Robert was a Minister
Of credit and renown;
And eke, by virtue of his place,
Adviser to the Crown.

Now Richard Cobden said to him,
"Protected Corn has been
Thro' thrice ten tedious years since eight
Een hundred and fifteen.

"Yet landlords and eke tenants say Of profits they despair: Despite Protection, growing corn Is a losing affair.

"There's Mr. Bright, and there's myself, And Mr. Fox make three; We've raised a League, and you must ride (As Ben says) after we."

Said Peel, "Your doctrines I admire, But I am only one; Still, if the Duke will stick to me, I'll try what can be done.

"I am a Premier stout and hold,
As all my party know;
And my good friends in Manchester
Will lend their horse to go."

Now see him in his new Tariff; On Free Trade—noble steed! Full slowly taking duties off, With caution and good heed.

Then came the blight, and fears arose We'd not have food to eat, Free Trade, from walking, 'gan to trot, Which shook Peel in his seat.

"Fairly and softly," Peel he cried,
But Peel he cried in vain;
The trot became a gallop soon,
And Free Trade flew amain.
Then giving up, as needs he must
Who cannot help his plight,
Peel seized Free Trade, and like a shot
Flew past Protection quite.

Free Trade, who by a Tory lord Had ne'er been cross'd before, What thing upon his back had got Did wonder more and more.

Away went Robert—neck or nought Past Radical and Whig; He little thought when he began His bill would be so big.

The Post did hark, the Herald scream'd, Out spoke the farmers all, And every Duke cried out " For shame!" As loud as he could hawl.

Away went Robert! Who but he? Free Trade still gaining ground, He carries weight—he'll win his race, His horse's wind is sound.

Still, as Division-day drew near

"I'was wonderful to view How overhourd the men in place Their old convictions throw."
Thro' manufactures of all kinds

His gambols he did play,
And came to Corn Laws at the last,
Which stood dead in the way.
The sliding scale he knock'd about
Unto his friends' dismay,

And fix'd how that at three years' end
The tax should die away.

Free Trade, not satisfied at all'
To wait for three years more,
Straight gallopp'd off with all his might,

As he had done before.

Away went Robert, with the League,
Still thundering at his heel,
Insisting loud in total and
Immediate repeal.

The county members in the house,
Thus seeing Robert fly,
With Lord John Russell in his rear,
Set up a hue and cry:
'Stop thief! Stop thief! a highwayman!"

And Ben D'Israeli and Colquhoun Did join in the pursuit. In the "Protection" heavy coach, The Upper House gave chase; But Free Trade's bottom, bone, and wind, Made it a hopeless race.

The race is run, the race is wen
With credit and renown;
Nor did Free Trade draw breath until
The Corn Laws he ran down.

Now let us sing, Long live the League,
And Cobdon, long live he;
And when Peel next doth ride Free Frade,
May Punch his Laureat be.

Shepton Mallet.—The League has susiained a heavy loss in the death of W. Richardsoh, Esq., of this place, who was one of its most zualous and active members. He has for many years past been actively entired in discontinuity the principles of Free Trude; and in this neighbourhood in the principles of Free Trude; and in this neighbourhood in the principles of Free Trude; and in their defance. The stood for a long time almost alone in their defance was before his death, which was sudden, he was distributed the subscription books of the League among his friends, the subscription books of the League among his friends, the subscription has the Williams of the League among his friends in the cause was to him life which shows how near and dear its cause was to him life which shows how hear and dear its cause was to him the large, of he was ever a friend to fully subscript that he was ever a friend to fully subscript that make the principle of the place of the league and the manual large, of he was ever a friend to fully subscript that make the place of the league and the manual large, of he was ever a friend to fully subscript that make the place of the league and the large of the league among his friends.

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FREE TRADE MEETINGS.

MEETING OF THE WORKING CLASSES AT NEWBURY.

NEWBURY, FEB. 13 .- The protection demonstration made a few days ago in this town has led to a countermovement of the working-classes. This evening they assembled to the number of at least 1000 in the marketplace, in compliance with the requisition of men of their own order, and with the view of making such a public manifestation of their opinions that no one could have reason to infer that they sympathised with the advocates of the existing Corn Laws. Although public meetings held entirely by the labouring population are novelties in a purely agricultural district, nothing could exceed the decorum and propriety with which the proceedings of this evening were conducted. There were no noisy interruptions, no squabbling or confusion of any sort, but the audience-humble and coarsely clad, and poor as they were-listened with earnest attention to each speaker, who addressed them.

W. GRIFFITHS, a working man, and who was selected to fill the chair, was the first spokesman. He said, fellow townsmen and Inbourers, you have done me the kindness in calling me to the chair, and I'll do the best in my power; but when I look around me and see so many more able, I call it a great charge. But when we see, from the length and brendth of the land, a question agitated from the humblest to the noblest, it becomes us to see if you will approve the measure brought before the Legislature (hear hear). Having called on the mover of the first resolution,

G. At our said -Fellow countrymen, I appear before you to-night as a stranger almost, for I have been living in this town only six months, but my heart is glad to see there is no law to keep us from a meeting like this. We are here as a party of working men, and so you must expect nothing but working men's speeches (hear, hear). I am not here to try and instruct those superior in life, but to speak my opinion of the Corn Laws to my fellow men of my own rank. I have wondered, while living in the town, that my fellow men have been so backward in not calling a meeting like this, seeing we have so long Laboured under that cursed law, the Corn Law. Perhaps before Saturday I may be asked by my professed friends my reason for being here, and to save them the trouble I will tell now my reason—because I believe the law a curse to the nation (hear, hear). I think that it is every man's duty to leave the world better than he found it; and if we go out of the world leaving the Corn Law we do not do our duty (cheers). My friends, our retired habits seldom bring men like me before the world; but it is needful to do so; and I have felt astonished that you did not come forward before, because, in the county I belong to, there has been meetings for two years, ten of which I attended; and we have had gentlemen come from Bath and other towns, who thought it no disgrace to take the chair. Now I wish some of the gentry in this county would do so, and let the labouring men tell the miserable state they are in from distress and the brend tax. If the Corn Law is for our benefit, our condition would be comparatively good; but I ask you is your condition good (cries of "no, no")? If

not, speak out, and let the protectionists sound your condition. The Corn Laws made food dear; they have impoverished the farmer, so that he cannot give wages, and instead of the land employing more hands, they have been getting fewer on it for years (hear, hear). say, if such is the case, there must be terrible distress in the agricultural labourers—and they have been in great distress (hear, hear). The New Poor Law passed to suppress the poverty which the Corn Law created, but it failed in its effect (cheers.) We must then, my friends, fix our hopes on abundance of provisions, which will be the result of Free Trade, and I hope that every one here will sign a petition for Free Trade. I watched the proceedings a week ago at the council-room. A poor humble man went and asked them, "If there were any questions to be asked ?" and he was scornfully answered," No." If there is any protectionist here tonight that wishes to ask a question, if we can answer it we will, and if we cannot we will tell him so (hear, hear). But without alluding to this county at all, I say that if we watch with a discerning eye the proceedings of the protectionists in the land, we should be able to judge of their cause even though we knew nothing of the Corn Laws. They are like a party of men going into the field to fight; but they like a gun of their own sort, not one with a straight barrel, but one that would shoot round the corner, without their being shot at again (laughter). In Wilshire, the chairman of the agricultural protec-In Wiltehire, the chairman of the agricultural protecin Witshire, the chairman of the agricultural protection society got one of his men, when just roused out of a sleep to sign a petition to say that he was not in distress, and the petitition had been sent up to Sir R, Peel, to show that Wiltshire was well off. This man had six children besides himself and his wife, and only 7s. a-week wages and yet he was made to sign a petition of this wages; and yet he was made to sign a petition of this sort. There was 1s. of that for rent, and 1s. for firing, and 1s, for soap and other household necessaries like that, and the rest was all remained for feeding and clothing himself and his family. Now, I think that at the end of six months his stomach would be able to digest a total repeal of the Corn Laws. The protectionists used to say that the inbourer could fill his stomach with potatoes; but suppose this true, I ask you if he had a horse worth 30%, would he be satisfied on a long follyney to give his horse coarse hay and no corn chair, hear). It is not the quantity we want, it is the quality; and who should be a long to the probability. and why should we not have good wholesome foodlike the protectionists? we could have it if it was not for the tax on it (lear). I assert, if protection, it is that the farmers got, it is a vary attitute soft, of protection in the farmers got, it is a vary attitute soft, of protection in the farmers got, it is a vary attitute soft, of protection in the farmers got, it is a vary attitute soft, of protection in the farmers got, it is a vary attitute soft, of protection in the farmers got, it is a vary attitute soft, of protection in the farmers got, it is a vary attitute soft of the fa

were imported from France, and turned logse on the land; and such was the furmer's loss of poultry, that it was guite enormous (hear, hear, and laughter). Now this is the sort of protection that the landowners give. They keep up a stock of foxes for hunting, and all sorts of game, to cut up the farmer's profits. Yet the farmer was foolish enough to be led about by the landowners, like a brown bear led by an Italian through the country (cheers and laughter). I remember, in a village near my own, that I spoke something about the Corn Laws; and for what I then said I had almost to beging this; but now it was very different, for since they the laboration that I was very different, for since then the labourers had found out that it was not true, as they had been led to believe, that when bread was 9d. a gallon they were not better than now that it is 14d., oven though the wages were higher. At the meeting in the council-room the other day, the protectionists said that they had high objects in view; that they would petition the House of Commons, and the House of Lords, and these were not enough, but that they would petition to the king of kings. Now, I think that, however weak my speech should be, in the cars of the protectionists, I could say nothing weaker than that (hear, hear). To think that a man could utter such a weakness as to petition the king of kings to starve the poor of the nation (hear, hear). Any one would blush to think that a land of light like England should produce a mind of such heathen darkness. I believe that Sir R. Peel had honesty about him, and that the landlords crammed him with lies, telling him that the working men were comfortable (hear, hear). Now, the scale of living was to this effect, not among the working classes, but among -first, the transported thief, the convicted thief, the suspected thief, the soldier, the able-bodied pauper, and then the independent protected labourer-or the poor white slave (hear, hear, and cries of "That's true") If I am not mistaken, the average runs to 330 ounces of food per week to the others, while the protected labourer gets only 122 ounces (cries of Shame). Was it not enough to make the labourer a desperate man when he found that he couldn't get with working hard in so good a condition as the man who was transported. I remember on a Saturday night, about six weeks ago, not very far from this, hearing a grocer remark to some one with him, "There are not many country people here tonight; but when we look at what they get, is it a wonder that there are not many more on Saturday nights?" In the parish where I used to live, the clergyman and his lady went to a poor man's house and asked him how he was getting on; and the man told him that he was not well off. They were at the time dining on two-penny worth of bacon, and three-quarters of a gallon of bread, so the lady told them it was "delicious" living; and when they spoke of distress the parson told them that there were too many people in the world (shame, shame). Now, I ask you if it is not an awful insult to the face of God to say this? Can we suppose that God created more than he was able to provide for (cheers)? I ask you, when I came to this town, did I not, with my family, bring my wants too? The man where I buy my bread and my groceries, knows that I have. But let me have a day's work and fair wages for it, and Free Trade, and we'll spend it right merrily

The following resolution, having been moved and seconded, was then carried unanimously:

"That this meeting is of opinion, that any duty on the importation of grain and other articles, is undesirable, and that we, therefore, are anxious to sign a petition to the House of Commons that trade shall be free."

- Jacons, apparently from his accent, a foreign Jew, then addressed the meeting. I have been called here (he said), to do my duty, and propose a resolution to you, my fellow workmen. The question is, whether we are to have food to eat sufficient to keep up our strength, or we should starve? The meeting is to consider whether we should have Free Trade or not; whether there should be taxes and restrictions on food, or whether we should have as much of it as we want. I am a foreigner, and know that you boast that yours is a land of liberty; but it is an easy thing to boast that you are free. I am sorry to say you are not free. Every man that is free should have the liberty of his hands and legs, his head and his body. If a man's legs are tied he is not free; and if you say that this is a free country, I deny it. You can't pay for your loaf where you will, for your sugar where you will; you must buy it from the monopolist; and if such is the case, I ask you if you are free (hear, hear). But as can't pay for your loat where you will, for your sugar where you will; you must buy it from the monopolist; and if such is the case, I ask you if you are free (hear, hear). But as you have got the name of being free, and have some of the privileges, I hope that you will raise your voices, and try to break down the monopoly of corn and other food, because it ties your hands and legs, and prevants your liberty (cheors). What have the agriculturists gained by protection? If you listen to me I will tell you. Agriculture, if it is so protected, I suppose that it is the better of it. That should be the result. But if I can show that protection has been a curse on that and every other class of the people, I think it should not exist. The furn labourer has to work for 7s. a week on the average, and what then can be sflord to buy? What is he likely to use? What food? What clothing, and what sort of bed? His cottage is strewed with gravel, for there was not even a brick in it. At least, there were plenty of that sort in Wiltslite. His food was principally of polutoes (hear). Now will any of the protectionists tell me that the labourer gan't eat becisteaks as well as he can do. Can't he cat good bread? I think I could eat it. If the labourer has potatoes and a little bacon, he is told that that is quite anough. In Wiltslite bigal was quite a lixury, and sinch things is tea and a little bacon, he is told that that is quite anough. In Wiltslife bigal was quite a lixury, and sinch things is tea and single was interesting? If you think in a correct in this, then i college whose careeres were sent to the Loudon market, and single hear interesting? If you think in a correct in this, then i call on you to sneak out as Englishman, and to device the labourer is in the manufacturing distinct the labourer is in the manufacturing distinct the labourer is in the manufacturing distinct the labourer has potatology of the labourer is in the manufacturing distinct the labourer has potatology of the labourer in the manufacturing distinct t

Now, what an appalling thing it would be were I'ree Trade to compel a man to leave his employment of 7s, to get 15s. wages a-week (laughter). Then the protectionists say, that the land will be thrown out of uso; but I deny that. It will bring more corn into the country, and not allow it to fluctuate as it at present does. It will create a spirit of commercial enterprise, and secure to every working man the full value of his labour. Is the English labourer a lazy follow? He wants to work; but he wants to eat, too (hear, hear). The protectionists said that the country can grow sufficient corn; but if you go and ask a friend to dinner, and calculate on so much for each person, when you sit down to a leg of mutton, and there is nothing left, then you think there is not enough. If you then get of rib of beef, and some of it remains, you then believe there has been sufficient. But when the platter is well licked, and left clean, then you think the property of the country then you think there has been a searcity (loud laughter). Now, if this country grew enough of corn, there would be no need of corn from abroad. But in the face of the protectionists, every year thousands of quarters of foreign corn were imported into the country. Instead of some of the corn in the country being left over, we were obliged to buy every year from foreigners (cheers). Can the protectionist haly go out without being, from her shoes to her bonnet, decked out with foreign produce? Her bonnet, her shawl, her stockings, her very petticoats, may be foreign; and if it is a shame for the poor man to cat the loaf of the foreigners, why should she wear their finery (cheers)? The time has now come for you to stand up and speak out for your rights (cheers). It will be a great thing for the poor man to be able to get plenty to eat, for he will then wish to carn his food by a bard day's work. I was in Liverpool at the last election, and saw the brown loaf shown there which the labourer cats abroad. But have you got enough of white bread to eat? (Cries of "No, no.") I am not standing here to wish you to cut the black bread of the Poles; but a hungry man, who has not enough white bread to cat, if he lins brown brend besides, will cut that. Now I ask you to come forward, as the times are coming to a critical point, and pray that the Parliament may repeal these laws. tion to the following effect being then moved and seconded, was carried unanimously: --

"That this meeting is of optimion that all restrictions on the free importation of corn is unwise, unjust, and a

grievance. G. GADD was the next speaker who addressed the meeting. He said, I was in hopes, fellow countrymen, there would be enough said without me; I neither court the smiles nor frowns of any man. Some say that they have never been at college, but I have been at Pinchbelly College, in the town of Oppression, on the side of Bread tax hill (laughter). We come here either for plenty or taxation. We are aware that protection has done us no good, and we are willing to have the Corn Laws abolished, to try if that will better us. Under the present laws we can't get a bellyful (hear, hear). was at a house last week, not six miles from here, and I said, "Mrs., do you want oranges?" "No," says she, "I can't get money to buy bread. We have only had a gallon of bread all the week for myself, my husband, and nine children." "What have you lived on?" says I. "On potatoes." says she. Now is that the sort of protection we want? No. We want to tell the wrongs we are suffering, and to try for our rights. The protection meeting held last week was called on market day, when the town wes full of farmers, but this has been got up by poor men in the open air, and at very short notice, and that is the difference between it and the one at the Mansion house. If the working men are satisfied, what calls them out from their homes at this time of the night to stand here and hear their wrongs talked of. The protection people might ride about on shap-up horses, and have all the point they wished, but let the poor man have his rights too, for why should we be starved to keep up the pride of a few. We could buy 3 ounces of tea, 2 onnces of coffee, 8 ounces of sugar, 3lb. 8 ounces of ment, 7lb. of flour, 7 pints of ale, I quarter pint of brandy, and I ounce of tobacco, if free of corn, the Custom and excise duty at tobacco, if free of corn, the Custom and excise duty at 2s. 4d., the present cost being 7s. 7d., of which 5s. 3\frac{1}{2}d., was a tax on the consumer (cries of bear, hear). This country pays a smaller land tax than any other besides. The tax on land amounts only to 2,000,000/., while that on the people amounts to 23,000,000/. I dare say a repeal of the Corn Laws will hart the "big uns" a little. It will purhaps bout the large farmers, but there haven was such times as burt the large farmers; but there never was such times as when the land was let in about 200 acres; and if that time came back again, it would employ agreat many more hands. The present large farms of 50 and 100 acres, if they were cultivated as they ought to be, would support a much larger number of labourers. The land would not be ullowed to grow thistles and weeds, as it now did, but would be made to raise corn. At present the labourer goes to his work in the morning with a little bit of bread and cold water, although God has given every herb that grows and every living thing to man for, his use—free and without a tax. The farmers had been told that their lands would go out of cultivation, and that the higher the price of bread the higher were the had been told that their lands would go out of cultivation, and that the higher the price of bread the higher were the wages. But lit any man say if he has not been better off when bread was cheaper. I deny that the rate of wages rises and falls with the price of wheat. When the average price of wheat was 4 is. 6d. a quarter, wages were, in Wiltshire, from 7s. to 7s. a week; in Somerset, from 7s. to 0s.; and in Dorset, from 5s. to 0s. 6d. Now, when wheat is at 56s. a quarter, when the labourer has not less than 7s. a week, was that enough for any man to work on? I see it was said at the protection meeting the other day, that the labourer day, that the labourer day, that the labourer day, that the labourer day. paid at the protection incoming the other day, that the labourer was better off now than when bread was cheaper; but if he has only 7s. a-week, out of which he pays 4t. a-year, bourer was better off now than when bread was chapper; but if he has only 7s. a-week, out of which he pays 4l. a-year, or 1s. 8d. a week for reut, and 4s. 6d, for soap, candles, firing, clothing, &c., that leaves him only 14d. a-day for feeding himself, his wife, and family. Let us not only underwriper to get the tax from corn, but from the other nucessuries of life,—let us assemble and agitate for our rights, and never rest till we have equal laws and equal taxallon (pheers.) I went to the protection meeting the other day, and asked a great man there, who was fond of proposing bread rules for union workhouses, if I might put a question, and he answered secunfully, "No" He said the meeting was one which should be attended by labourers, yet when a poor man sakes him a question he says that he has no, right to an answer. A man there proposed that the mult tax should be done away with, but dost man appear ever my mail to brew his own beer. Homove the tides from the hecessaries of life, and this country will proposed that the mult tax should be with own beer. Homove the tides from the hecessaries of life, and this country will proposed, and never till their characters. This proceeds constitute by reconstitute to artisance to artisance in the season of the processaries of the said the state. This proceeds the process of the said a southness of the main tax and the process of the said a southness of the said the state.

and scrape them, and then to take it out of water and make it up into balls to place it in a from to dry, and take that in the inclement season of the real and boil it up with water and a little sait, and after baying breakfasted on this, all day to go bedging and ditching (laughter). I advise that gentleman to try his own prescription. I remember we have an old saying that it is sabbath breaking to dine without a pudding on Christman day. Now the labourer thinks to have his pudding still. I saw one of these not a mile off from this. For ding still. I saw one of these not a mile off from this. For a pudding they take three parts of a quart of flour and half a gallon of diseased potatoes; they cook it up so as to represent the form of figs, and mix the flour and potatoes; they then put it into a pudding bag, and it is boiled. I saw this pudding cut up, and the remainder the dinner was a few turnip tops (cries of "shame"). If a farmer has four sons only, one can live on the farm, and what is to be done with the others? They must go to the wilds of Ame-rica to stock a wood country. But we say repeal the Corn Laws and the manufacturing districts will be open to him, and all the sons of labour will have a living ensured to them (cheers). I trust that the day is not far distant when every man shall sit under his own vine and fig-tree, none during to make him afraid.

The motion being then put and carried, the prayer of the petition was read, and after an invitation from the chair-man to sign it, the meeting quietly dispersed.

EAST GRINSTEAD .-- On Thursday evening, the 5th inst. pursuant to public notice, Mr. Falvey delivered an admirable lecture in favour of the total and immediate repeal of the present Corn Laws. J. Edger, Esq., was called to the chair, and the corn-room belonging to Mr. Thompson was filled to overflowing. The statements of the talented lecturer were received with warm and repeated cheers; and we have remon to believe, that the arguments then adduced, were eminently effective. A petition to the House of Commons, embodying the principles of the lecturer, has subsequently been in course of signature, and we are happy to find that many of the town and neighbourhood have cheerfully subscribed their names. On reviewing the means adopted by the protectionists and the Free Traders, with regard to their several meetings, it must, we think, be evident to all, how strikingly opposite they go to work. On the one hand, the "no surrender" party invite only those to speak who witness for protection; whilst on the other hand the meetings of the League are open to all, and instead of forbidding those of the contrary sentiments to be heard in their meetings, they solicit inquiry, invite discussion, and fearlessly challenge opposition-the one appears all privacy, restric tion, and timidity; the other, open, liberally, and emphatically Park.

BANWALL, EAST SOMERSET.-A petition, signed by the vicar and a large majority of the voters of this parish, in cluding respectable handowners, freeholders, tenant farmers, and householders, was sent off to Colonel Win. Gore Langton, M.P., the member for the county, on Friday, Feb. to be presented by him to the House of Commons. The the new turiff proposed by Sir Robert Peel, and were deeply sensible of the great advantage that would result to all interests, both agricultural and commercial, in fully carrying out the principles on which it was founded. It also mentioned that they were well aware of the difficulties attendant upon so extensive an alteration of the commercial policy of a great country; and whilst anxious to have the measure extended to the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and lumbly petitioning the house to grant the object of their petition, they did so not from any desire to throw additional obstacles in the way of Sir Robert Peel, or to thwart the measure he had brought forward, but from a sincere belief that any delay in the repeal of those laws would be prejudicial to the interest of agriculture; in the success of which the petitioners were deeply interested. The petition concluded by praying for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws.

Election Prospects in Lancashire.—We have corrected the following paragraph from one that appeared in the Liverpool Times of Tuesday last: - With regard to Lancashire, we feel convinced that the result of an appeal to the poople, would be a declaration in favour of Free Trade in every constituency in the country. At the present time, pro-fossed Free Traders are returned by Manchester (2), Oldhum (2), Stockport (2), Preston (2), Bolton (2), Ashton (1), Rochdale (1), and Wigan (1). Of the Lancashire Conservative members, Lord Francis Egerton, Mr. Wilson Patten, and Mr. Condentity of the Conservative and Mr. Cardwell, member for Clitheroe, are known to be favourable to Free Trade; and Lord Sandon, and Mr Greene, of Lancaster, (the chairman of committees) are understood to be ao. Amongst those who are still doubtful, are one county member for South Lancashire, one for North Lancashire, one for Liverpool, one for Warrington, one for Lancaster, one for Wigan, and two for Blackburn. Several of these gentle-mon will most probably vote with Sir Robert Peel; and, of those who do not, it is very doubtful whether a single one will be re-elected. South Lancashire is well known to be sure for two Free Traders; North Lancashire is less so, but the probability is that Free Traders and moderative conservatives will easily secure the re-election of Mr. Wilson Patten. How his juvonile colleague, Mr. Talbot Clifton, will act, no one pretends to know; but his wisest course will be to go with the Government, for his hold on the division is very slight, and would not outlive a serious contest. We consider the return of two Free Traders certain at Liverpool. At Warrington, the old Conservative party, once so strong, is much divided, a large section being furious against Mr. Ireland Blackburne for his Maynooth vote. From this cause, he will be beaten, if the should stand on the monopolist interest, though he would have fair chance as a Free Trader, and be sure of his election if no one clse was brought out of that interest. Mr. Marton's position, at Lancaster, is much the same as Mr. Iroland Blackburne's at Warrington. He has very little chance of being elected on the interest that has returned him, but might come in handsomely as a convert. Both the Conservative members at Blackburn are connected with trade, and will most likely vote with Sir Robert Peel, in which case their seats are secure. So that there only remains that strange incomprehensible place, Wigan, of which we feel any doubt. At present the Free Traders return one member and the Earl of Balcarras the other. It is barely possible that the monopolists may continue to return one member, if the indicepolists may continue to return one member, if the Lindsays—who, however, have a great respect for the powers that be—should think it prudent to go into dead opposition to what their countryman, Sir Pertinax, would have called "the great mou."—Preston Chronicle.

The salmon fishing on the Tay commenced on Monday week, and can fir the it has gone, gives promise of a much better senson than that of last year,

As the exists a strong probability that the differential protion of the duty on such will, with all others of a like evil character, be speedily kept away, it is only charitable to suggest how this great alteration can be effected in the best manner—that is, with justice to the West India proprietors, the sugar consumers, and, at the same time, to the safety of the revenue. It is a matter of notoriety to those who frequent the sugar market, that the bulk of the quantity imported from the West Indies is much inferior to the various kinds which are produced in other quarters of the world, being the result of their long-enjoyed monopoly; in fact, the British West Indies possess the unonviable fame of producing, with the exception of Peru, sugars of the lowest description made. This is not attributable to climate or soil, because the French islands of Martinique and Guadaloupe have exactly the same, and the sugar produced in those islands is comparatively of good quality; it is, therefore, in the manu-facture of those articles that our colonists full. One uniform rate of duty has hitherto been imposed on all British Muscovado sugar-of late that rate has been 14s. per cwt.; this arrangement has operated unfairly on some of the producers, while it has been profitable to others; for example, the sugars manufactured in Jamaica, Bt. Vincent, and Barbadoes, liave all along been very superior to those sent to Europe from the other West India colonies; the amount of duty ought, consequently, to be apportioned to the worth of the sugar. During the many ages the West India colonists were in the enjoyment of a pernicious monopoly no person cared to draw public attention to these inequalities—it was univer-sally considered to be a black job altogether, and the West Indians were classed as one favoured body by the rest of the world; but now that they are about to lose the protection of their monopoly, and to compete with all other producers of sugar, the affair assumes another aspect, and a distinction ought to be made in fairness amongst them in imposing the duty, which, it has before been stated, is 14s. per ewt. on good and bad Muscovado. Now, what is Muscovado? Can any person define the term beyond telling us that it is a mixture of sugar, treacle, and dirt? But in what exact proportions these are the one to the other no one can pretend to say, unless the sugar be analysed, and then that process will only indicate the one sort tested, all the other kinds may contain very various proportions. A sugar raffner buys, in his estimation, the Museovado sugar which has the least quantity of treacle and dirt; but even he, used as he is to the appearance and taste of the article, is frequently deceived: it follows, then, that the most honest method of assessing the duty would be to tax all sugars at 50 per cent. ad valorem, which closely approximates to the present rate, letting the purchasers pay the penalty of their want of judgment; but then comes the question, how is an ad valorem duty to be carried into effect without subjecting the revenue to considerable risk? It is true there may be a juggle between seller and buyer to the injury of the revenue if the sale be effected by private contract; but if all sugars are sold at public auction that chance ceases, for it is impossible to suppose that two or three hundred buyers would ombine to defraud. The Covernment should, therefore, insist that all sugars should be sold at auction; neither would this mode be anything new to the practice of the markets, for many sales are made in such a manner already; for instance, nearly all the Barbadoes sugars are so for instance, nearly all the Barbadoes sugars are so sold, a large proportion of the sugars from St. Lucia, the Mauritius, the East Indies, and from foreign settlements, are in a like way put up to public competition; in fact, the sale of sugar by auction is the general rule—the private sale the exception. As the trouble of apportioning the duty to be paid would occasion ome expense at the Custom-house, that expense might be defrayed by a small stamp on the original catalogue—the one-on which the selling broker marks down the prices which the various lots fetch is meant; this, after the sale has closed, might be scaled up and transmitted to the Customs for the officers' guidance, and then returned to the broker. Under such a system no fraud could occur, through a collusion between buyers and sellers; moreover, a public sale at the ex-duty price would benefit the producers, inasmuch as they would have to pay commission on the value of the sugar only, instead of paying them, as they now do, on the duty-paid price. The difference will actually be a profit to them, and obviate the necessity of their being encumbered with the payment of the duty which would be desirable in more ways than one. As the affair is at present managed, should the purchaser fail, the producer not only becomes a creditor for the value of his sugar, but for the amount of the duty also; besides the very first transaction on his account establishes a debt to his consignee, on which he is charged 5 per cent. interest, in some cases more. It would not be in character with the purport of this letter to expatiate either on the proneness of mankind to increase their debts when the ice is broken, and the reluctance of contracting debts is once overcome; or whether it is fur to a class of persons, , far from the scene enthral them. This, however, is undeniable that many West Indians have been ruined by the iniquity of the system forced upon them by the regulations of the market, and they ought to hail with gladness an alteration by which they may be relieved.—B.S.R.—Correspondent of the Sun.

THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS OF DORSET.

Sin,-I am a Dornetshire labourer; at the farm I work at, the wages paid to able-bodied single men is from 5s. to 6s. per week, and to married men 8s. per week, many of them with funilies of seven or eight children. In the fear of losing this great boon we have twice signed petitions to Parliament for protection. Now, Sir, I will tell you the real truth—we were obliged to sign it, entirely, as we consider, against our own interest, but we are all under one man; if we offend him, he has it in his power almost to starve us to death, or shut us up in a union. We had a poor neighbour turned into the workhouse the other day for marrying a woman the squire did not approve of; the squire threatened him, before he married, that if he married the woman, he would put him into the union (as the woman did not belong to this parish); and there they are now. I believe there is not an honest hear in the neighbourhood but hurns with indignation, that one man should have the will and the power thus to crush his fellow man. I have stated the highest wages here is he. per week, out of which he has to pay from 3/. to 4/. a year house-rent, out of which he has to pay from 31. to 41. a year house-rent, and we all pay about 13s. a year to a benefit society to have 5s. a week out when we are ill (it is a foul aspersion to say we are improvident); this will not leave the 6s. man more than 6s. or 6s. 6d. par week to live on, if we get all our money; but we don't get it all; if we lose a half-day, or two or thirse

days a week, which is sometimes the case in bad weather is is the ways kept back. Christmand is always kept back. Our cottages do not such that by the castle; our great man lives seven miles off, we have no one here to speak to; is have two noble manifons—I wish I could add with noble families in them, to watch over our rights and wrongs; but families in them, to watch over our rights and wrongs; but for the last 30 years one has been turned into luming stables, and the other a granary. But to return to figure, You will perhaps say, "How do you live on your to per week?" Sir, we don't live, we only exist, and to be pertatoes (not bread) is the staff of life. We generally as about 14 lug of potato-ground, at 6d. per lug; this land is generally in such a state that before we can even manufe it was mount break up our follow ground: we are glad to have to we must break up our fallow ground; we are glad to have a nevertheless. The next grievance I have to complain of in the want of house-room. There has been but one cottage built in this village for the last 30 years, the squire solution being, if there is no house-room the poor cannot marry, and being, if there is no house-room the poor cannot marry, and he is determined to put poor marriages down. The resulting we have numbers of illegitimate children—young men and women living together like dogs, whilst others are diver, perhaps, to become burdens on other parishes on which they have no just claim. Now, Sir, I will give you a slight sketch of how the money saved by all this trickery is spent. The squire has in this place six farms, which he keeps in his own hands, and are managed by a bailiff; I believe in the neigh. bouring parishes he has many other farms managed in the same way. He has, of course a splendid mansion, &c., where he resides, a hunting-box at ____, three or four eath-lishments of gamekeepers, nearly 200 foxbounds (which line principally on barley and wheat), with a corresponding ram. ber of huntsmen, whippers-in, grooms, hunters, &c. Thee poor farmers may well talk of the burdens on the land. I know that thousands in this neighbourhood would be glid to netition Parliament for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn, Laws, but their mouths are sealed. Tyranny and op-pression, armed with starvation and union imprisonment, and formidable to the poor and needy.—A Dorset Labourer to the L'ditor of the Times.

THE COFFEE AND THE SUGAR DUTIES .- The reduction of 3s. 6d. per ewt. on free-labour sugar, which is now proposed, is too small to affect the retail price, an therefore cannot confer any benefit on the labouring an poorer classes; and as the exclusion of slave labour sugar is still to continue, we cannot discover whence any additional supply is to come: so that the importing merchant will, consequently, not be exposed to any additional competition, and will have no inducement to lower his price, but will reap the whole benefit of the contemplated reduction of duty. With regard to coffee, the existing laws do not discriminate between free and slave labour. All foreign coffee pays a daty of axpence per pound, and all colonial coffee a duty of fourtener per pound, with five per cent. additional on each. Now the age value of coffee without duty, is about t halfpenny per pound; so that colonial coffee, which is more valuable than foreign, pays a duty of about 70, and foreign coffee a duty of about 170 per cent. on the value without duty; which every disinterested person will at once acknowledge to be an extravagant, unwise, and cruel impost upon an article which is, and, if fairly dealt with, would be vally more, one of the greatest importance to the comfort, and even to the morals of the industrious and needy classes of the community—It appears to us to be perfectly manifest, that the operation of the existing laws is highly injurious to the people, and, by lessening the consumption, equally so to the revenue. We are unwilling to attribute motives to any one, but if those laws be not speedily altered, it will not be only to persuade men that they are not maintained to serve purticular interests; and suspicion already attaches to the present Secretary for the Colonies, whose family is known to be deeply interested in the production of East India sugar and of Ceylon coffee.—Liverpool Journal.

Charrond.—Chiefly by the enterprise, judgment, and taste of a cotton printer, who has overcome all those diffeculties presented to the manufacture of goods, under which his metropolitan neighbours have sunk, the little town of Crayford maintains a flourishing position. Mr. Swahler distributes in wages upwards of 26,000/. per aunum in the town; a sum which the payments of the farmers of probably half the county of Kent will scarcely equal. An inhiliped well paid manufacturing population had upwards of ste years ago established an Anti-Corn Law Association in the Commercial Solved Popular was held their soirts in the Commercial Solved Popular Annual description the Commercial School Rooms. A well-dressed and most orderly assembly of all ranks, and of whom one half of sisted of ladies, did honour to the Free Trade festive, and working man was unanimously selected to fill the chair The duties of the office was discharged with much judgment, pricty, and good taste, and Messrs. Rattray and Hill, operative manufacturers, made excellent specific meeting was also addressed by Messrs. Hart, editory to Cravesend paper, A. L. Saul, and Sidney Smith. It peculiarly gratifying to observe that Mr. Swalam local "Captain of Industry," was present as the not of his own workmen, and that while the mot dial feeling was manifested betwist employed as follow recolors to the control of the c ployed as fellow workers in the cause of commented in the cause of com sence of cither assumption on the one side phancy on the other. The speeches of the working were of the boldest and most independant character marked by much good sense, propriety of diction, and inarked by much good sense, propriety of diction, we ligence. We can scarcely imagine to construct position for a citizen to occupy, than to be able to be him and to see hundreds of families happy, independent, and virtuous, well dressed, well alothed, to say to his own heart this is not contibuted. country's greatness." The company broke in o'clock, after the enjoyment of an instructive evening.

VETERAN FREE TRADER: Anvoldman, sixth year of his age, in the village of Lavis cited, a few days ago, by a person carrying tion petition, for his aignature, when he will have considered on me eightin too aligh.

Chronicle. Chronicle.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE FLAW IN THE BILL.

If there is force in plain truth plainly stated, in a strong argument strongly put, in convictions of present necessity and permanent policy, which were irresistibly strong four months ago, and which every hour's subsequent experience has overwhelmingly confirmed, Sir Robert Peel must and will relinquish the miserable device—we do not call it his, for it is not his—of the three years' sliding scale. We cannot believe in the possibility of this part of the ministerial measure finally making its way to the statute book.

He will give it up. Even if he had not told us as much, we should know, without his telling, that he is but "waiting for an excuse" to have done with it. It has become plainer and plainer, night after night, as the debate has proceeded, that he knows and feels the thing to be wrong. Not a reason-not a pretence of a reason, nor apology for a reason-has been pleaded for it. All the reasons are against it. The whole of the ministerial argument is an argument against the ministerial measure as it now stands. The ministerial case is decisively complete and strong at all other pointspanoplied all over with facts and principles; -but it is ridiculously weak here; and they know it. In the admirably conclusive and vigorous defences of Free Trade principles and measures that have been made by the Government speakers during the past three weeks, the new sliding scale is left out by everybody's desire.

They talk much—and not too much—of the 'emergency." They urge, with all possible earnestness and solemnity, the necessity of providing for this emergency. But they do not provide for it. If "emergency" means anything, it means oven roars; and the ports are not to be open now, but three years hence, when the emergency will, it is to be hoped, belong to history. They proclaim a famine—and they recommend a law for keeping out of the country certain supplies of food that rould also come in. They quote the precedents of of former famines, met, by Prime Ministers and Parliaments, with open ports and they do not folthe precedents. They close the ports against much of our possible available supplies of food, cannot afford to pay the tex and leave a profit to he importer. Open ports in 1849 are their remedy

day of November to which, of all the days of his life, he will ever look back with the most "pride and satisfaction," he judged it "necessary" to open the ports to the admission of human food. On Monday week, he was of opinion that "the necessity which existed for the adoption of this measure on the first of November, is now, on the sixteenth of February, it has gone on increasing again. We are very sure it is not Sir Robert Peel's opinion, that the larger necessity should be met with a smaller remedial measure.

Never was a thing more preposterously and glaringly incongruous with the wants, necessities, fears, and convictions of the time, than is the proposal of a little food-tax now. If the three years' sliding scale means anything, it means that from now to the first of February, 1849, the British people will be in danger of having too much to cat. The danger, to be sure, is only of a little too much; and accordingly, the precautionary tax is little likewise. If we can but succeed in keeping out so much corn as will not bear a four-shilling or ten-shilling tax, we shall be all right. Now, we need not argue that this is a monstrously absurd fear. The ministers themselves tell us that it is monstrously absurd. The ministers themselves tell us, that the danger is all the other way-not of a little too much, but of very much too little. "Honourable gentlemen," says Sir George Clerk, " instead of indulging in any apprehension that our home-market will be inundated with foreign corn, ought to apply themselves to the consideration of this question, whether, if our population continues to progress at the ratio in which it had of late years been advancing, we shall be enabled, even though the resources of Russia and some other countries should be developed to the very utmost, to procure a sufficient supply of corn for our own people." Well, then; why do they not "apply their minds to the consideration" of this question? And why do they keep up a make-believe of applying their minds to the consideration of the flatly contrary question-how to keep off the chimerical and impossible inundation?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is still stronger on this point, and reinforces the general argument with some most alarmingly suggestive hints, as to the probable condition of the potato-eating millions during those very three years for which we are now about to legislate against plethora:—

"He had seen accounts on this subject from North America, where the disease in potatoes had prevailed for three consecutive years. It was observed that in the first year the disease prevailed to a comparatively slight degree, in the second year it appeared in a more aggravated form, and in the present year the disease prevailed to as great an extent as it had in many parts of Ireland. The extent and continuance of this disease for a series of years might happen in this country as elsewhere; it was only safe then to provide beforehand for the emergency, in case this disease should continue in this country and Ireland, as in America, for a series of years. But this disease obtained not merely in England, Ireland, and America, but it prevailed to a great extent in many parts of the Continent, and if it there continued, the demand for corn in those countries would necessarily increase, and we should not be able to obtain a supply of that article from these quarters for our rapidly increasing population, instead of having an inundation of corn, as many honourable gentlemen had supposed. He would ask, had honourable gentlemen looked at the altered state of things which had arisen from the increase of our population? The addition made to the number of the population of this country year was such as would require from 100,000 to 200,000 acres to be taken into cultivation for wheat to meet the wants of the increased population. In such a state of things you must be able to add almost an additional county under cultivation every year. Did not such circumstances make it inclimitent on tilem to make provision in time?"

And yet it is proposed to make provision against a diametrically opposite and intrinsically impossible emergency!

The last the faults of the Ministration of all persons who are inclined to blink at the faults of the Ministration of the Mini

year's certain wants, but the probable wants of future years, that we have to provide for. If we are to judge from analogy, we have not yet soon the worst of the potato rot. It may come again-it almost certainly will come again-probably in a "more aggravated form;"-i.e., if the potatoes should be in existence in sufficient quantities to ronder the menaced aggravation a physical possibility; for, even this is dubious. It is far from certain that potatoes enough will be saved out of the existing stock to serve as seed of next year's crop. The Government are, it seems, most anxious on this point, and are contemplating special arrangements for the express purpose of reserving from present consumption an adequate store of seed potatoes. Sir George Clerk even goes to the length of saying, that "it will be absolutely impossible to find a sufficient quantity of potatoes for the seed required in the cultivation of the soil," So that what we have to prepare ourselves for, is not merely the cartainty of a potato famine during several months of the present year, but a certain deficiency -and, perhaps, an utter failure-of the potate crop of next year, and the year after that. We have not morely to tide over a temporary difficulty with temporary expedients, but to make arrangements for a radical and permanent change in the diet of four millions of people. For so gigantic a task we shall need the very uttermest of our strength and resources. It is no time to be higgling with the landlords for shillings. So stupendous a demand calls for an unlimited supply. We can stand "inundation" to any amount. We want all, and more than all, that we can by any possibility get. The agriculture of Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia, together, cannot over-do and sur-

We do not believe that these truly awful considerations, to which Cabinet Ministers themselves teach us to attach so grave and tromendous an importance, can be urged in vain on the Government and the legislature. Sir R. Peel will not-he has told us that he will not-obstinately insist on again charging himself with any portion of a responsibility which he has already felt to be perfectly unbearable. He will not forfeit his right to look back on the first of November with " pride and satisfaction," by falsifying now the counsels which he gave then. He cannot be immutably resolved on tarnishing his name and fame in the hopeless attempt to conciliate the sordid imbeciles who are afraid of a famished people obtaining, from the world's poverty-stricken granaries, too much to eat. Everything invites and urges him to do his great work in a great spirit. He has, in truth, no alternative. The protectionists have left him none. He must put out all his strength. They talk of "appealing to the people." There is only one quite effectual way of meeting this. The Premier, too, must "appeal to the people"-by offering to popular acceptance a measure so thoroughly true to the public wants, necessities, convictions, and sense of justice, as that the people will take charge of it, and see it safely through Parliament. Only let him throw himself unreservedly on the great principles of which he is now the vigorous and accomplished advocate, and on that support which the intelligence and will of an educated nation are roady waiting to give him and he will make short work of it. He need not concern himself with a too close measure of the resistance, if he will but make sure of his mo-

MR. D'ISRAELI'S PIRST LESSON IN LACES
AND FIGURES
The world had promised takes a possible of the contract takes a possible of takes a poss

entertainment from the speech of the house

member for Shrewsbury, and the world has certainly not been disappointed, though the firm was of a decidedly different description from that which had been anticipated. This time the laugh has not been with, but at the honourable member for Shrewsbury—which makes no great difference, so far as the laughers are concerned, though the distinction is undoubtedly of some moment to the kind caterer for the public merriment.

Everybody thought, when Mr. D'Israeli rose to bear his part in the monster debate, that he was going to come out very strongly on the Peel apostacy, the Peel treason, the Peel tergiversation, &c.; and everybody expected, of course, a grand treat. This sort of thing is Mr. D'Israeli's forte. He understands it. He likes it. He does it wellalmost too well for those charitable and Christianminded people whose sensibilities revolt at anything like cruelty to animals. Unluckily for himself and his Parliamentary reputation, Mr. D'Israeli thought proper, on the present occasion, to do something quite different. Whether he was tired of the old line, or thought other folks might be tired, or how else it came about, we know not-but Mr. D'Israeli took it into his head to strike out a new line. Nothing would serve but he must " treat the question on its merits"-a thing for which ho is is just about as competent as his own Messrs, Taper and Tadpole. He must teach Sir Robert Peel a secret or two in economics. He must lecture "the school of Manchestor," on political science. He must have a dash at facts and figures. He must be statistical, by way of proving the universality of his genius. Accordingly, after a good deal of hard, heavy reading, the honourable gentleman was enabled to treat the House of Commons to that comical jumble of facts turned inside out, and philosophy mad, which the carious and patient reader mmy find in last Saturday's morning papers.

What could possibly possess Mr. D'Israeli to leave his own proper line, and include in the freak of treating a great public question on its merits, we cannot pretend to say. Never was temerity more cruelly chastised. It was really painful to see how, on Monday night, that highly-respectable, and particularly heavy gentleman, Sir George Clerk, took the coxcomb down - pulled him regularly to pieces -- unravelled the tangle of his logic -knocked down his nine-pin "facts"and, on the whole, made minced meat of the speaker and the speech. It was a rich example of the triumph of sober, steady-going dulness, over brilliant portness and presumption. The dull man carried it hollow over the bright man. Mr. D'Israeli was wrong here-he was wrong there-he was wrong everywhere. He was quite mistaken about tea -- he was altogether under a misapprehension as to cotton-and he had got hold of the wrong figures with respect to silk. He put the case quite incorrecelly as regarded France, and was entirely misinformed about Turkey. He was quite out about America, and made a sad mess of Russian tallow. His theory of the "territorial constitution," and the " proponderance of the landed interest," was mildly protosted against as little better than anarchical in its tendencies; and his dearly-beloved "reciprocity" dogma of the hopelessness of "fighting hostile tariffs with free imports" was kindly shown to be contrary to common sonse-for, as the Vice-President of the Board of Trade sagaciously put it, the people of this country will not buy things if they don't want them; and if they do want them, it is, on the whole, as well that they should buy them. The thing was really extremely well done. Wo are sure Sir George Clerk both carned and received the warmest thanks and commendations of his Promier.

In future, we dare say Mr. D'Israeli will take a more careful measure of his own powers, before assuming to treat a large and important question on its merits. The mistake may, perhaps, be active for. This gentleman has played so many his time, that he might, naturally enough, could be no great harm in trying his sate and logic, and coming out as philo-

ordinary to the landlords. He should

have considered, however, that inconstancy of principle for not identical with versatility of genius, and that a talent for getting up disagreeable impromptus is no guarantee for a man's shining in political logic and arithmetic. There are limits to everything. Mr. D'Israeli does many things remarkably well-but there are some others which, we take it, he cannot do. He cannot treat, on its merits, any question requiring accurate and comprehensive political knowledge, without showing himself a dunce; he cannot induce Sir Robert Peel to take him on as one of the regular official staff; and he cannot conceal from the public scorn the real nature and grounds of his present bitterness against the Minister whom, not so very long ago, he was ready to worship as a sort of Pitt redivivus.

THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

The long and tedious debate on the preliminary step towards the abolition of the Corn Laws, sufficiently proventhat the protectionists will make use of every possible legislative artifice, not only to defeat or delay the success of Free Trade measures, but that they will all also endeavour to impair the efficiency of every law which they find themselves unable to reject altogether. Mr. Monckton Milnes has given notice of his intention to move that the clause ensuring total repeal, in February, 1849, shall be omitted; and we have reason to know that many influential persons on both sides of the house, who give general support to the ministerial scheme, not only view this proposition with favour, but are making urgent efforts to recommend it in private. The great struggle is yet to come; at present the Protectionists, like the Sikhs in India, have taken the offensive-they have crossed their Sutlej, and attacked the minister in his camp. Every one knows that they will be defeated and pursued into their own territories, but the difficulties of the campaign, both in India and England, will be immonsely aggravated when our troops have to take up their position on a hostile soil. The strength of Sir Robert Peel's majority decides the fate of the existing Corn Laws; but the question then comes, what are we to have in their stead? Shall it be total and immediate repeal, or some other juggling scheme of modified protection? The case is not without danger to the interests of the country. The League will have to use all its vigilance and all its exertions to prevent the victory ending in a modern convention of Cintra, which would allow the enemies to retire with their plunder intact, and their means of future mischief undiminished.

We therefore, urge the Free Traders to redouble their efforts at the present erisis. The greater the amount of resources which the League can command, the less will be the peril of the issue in the decisive contest. Battles must be fought at the hustings, wherever a Free Trade candidate can be brought forward with any prospect of success. Even should there be no dissolution, there are chances of a more than an ordinary number of vacancies to raise contests at single elections. Wigan is vacant at the present moment, Captain Lindsay having with prudent procaution declined to meet the exposure of the practices at the late election, and abandoned the defence of his seat.

At this moment we must bear in mind that we have to meet the fight with allies on our side, whose attachment to the League and its principles is of very recent date, and whose firmness through the entire duration of a protracted campaign must not be calculated upon with sanguine reliance. It is possible that there may be some likely to follow the example of the Bengal cavalry, and to charge the Sikh protectionists in their entrenchments. To meet the chances of such a defection, the League must hold large resources in reserve; it will be red late to assemble forces when the fight is over.

Famino and fovor in Iroland are potent auxiliaries to our cause. They proclaim, in terms not to be mistaken, the dangers of dolay. But this very necessity of proceeding rapidly may be so used by the protectionists as to introduce a system of little compromise in the excitament of hase and harry. When everybody is agreed that constitutes around the privilege with belonging distanting which the privilege with belonging distanting which are something shall be. We have no see the second little and the something shall be. We have no see the second little and the something shall be. We have no see the second little and the second little shall be.

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ropular nombon for Ireland, O'Connell, Lord Co ments, N. A. Fregerald, & will propose or seeing d compromise, even though Mr. Smith O'Brica should continue to patronise restrictions on food in the midst of a starving population. His appeal, to selfishness will, we know, be vain; but his name may be employed to gloss over a plan which be is too prudent to come over and defend in per son. We are not in the habit of ascribing any inportance to Mr. Smith O'Brien, or his opinions on questions of political economy; he is hopelessly ignorant of the very rudiments of that science; but we are not without fears that a shallow man har afford a shallow protext to the protectionists for declaring that a repeal of the Corn Laws goes beyont the popular demands and the present exigencies of Ircland.

There are other elements of danger before and around us, which it will be the duty of the League to guard against and to meet. On our confederacy, at the present moment, mainly rest the nation's hopes for maintaining the existing transpullity, and ensuring the future prosperity of the country. Were the League to withdraw from its conspicuous vantage-ground, the space would be occupied by the disorganised legions whom was of food and want of employment, aggravated by the loss of hope, would have lashed into despair.

In claiming support, in requiring fresh and vigorous exertions at the present crisis, we have grounds of appeal stronger than existed at any former period of our arduous struggle. While our prospects are brighter, our dangers are greater The protectionists never really believed that their monopoly was in danger, until the present phase of the strife burst upon their benighted mind. Like the mute son of Crossus, they have acquired the toof language only when the object of their affection was about to be struck down. It is all very well to say that their clamour is utterly senseless, and to ask with the prophet, "What meaneth this bleat ing of sheep and lowing of oxen in our ears?" It has a meaning and a purpose. Its object is to intro duce insidious means of rendering those measureinefficacious which cannot be directly resisted. and to insert injurious clauses at a time when men are so stunned by noise, and so wearied by iteration. that they are likely to make any sacrifice to get nid of the annoyance.

The interests of the nation require that victory should not only be complete, but should also be speedy. Trade stands still, commerce languished the Exchange is silent as the halls of Baalbee; and ships are idle in our harbours for want of freights. The protectionists know well the evils of this state of suspense; but they protract it on the chance of something occurring which they may turn to their own advantage. But the League has also some thing to gain during the interval. The chances for immediate repeal increase by delay in a greater ratio than the chances for maintaining protection, and the League must be strengthened to push those chances to a decisive and a successful issue.

Free Traders are no longer in danger from too much timidity - our present peril is excess of onfidence—a belief that the battle has been won for us by the conversion of the great leaderof great parties. This would be just such a blunder as Pitt committed in the revolutionary war, when he looked for the overthrow of France to his coalitions with Austria, Russia, and Prussia. His example proved that nations cannot safely roly on their allies, but it would be still more dangerous for a people to repose implicit confidence in political parties. God helps those who help themsolves. Barnestly and confidently we appeal to the Free Traders throughout the empire to renew and to increase their efforts. The procious moments of opportulity slip by like the grains of said with Which Title is represented as moting outhuman du ration; and when these have in faller, notiner for individuals not for halfons will Time "turn his glass aguiti."

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE BRSSION OF 1846

Sixth Week, ending Saturday, February 28.

The interest of the debate on the Corn Laws has been thoroughly exhausted; and it would therefore be absurd to notice in detail the speeches of individual members whose opinions are only of importance to themselves and their constituents. It may seem ungracious to speak with apparent contempt of men who, in their private relations, are respectable and estimable; but after the leading men in the House of Commons have all declared their sentiments, the country cares very little about the style of the manner in which the smaller unknowns utter their views.

The only noticeable man who spoke on Friday night was Mr. Disraeli, who made himself conspicuous by the extent of his failure. Dropping invective, he tried his hand on commerce; and spoke much clever nonsense. The secret of his failure has in the fact that Mr. Disraeli does not believe what he says about protection. In attacking Sir Robert Peel, he is in earnest, for the Prime Minister has neglected him, overlooked him, wounded his personal feeling; but were he not member for Shrewsbury, he might have made a clever speech

in support of a Free Trade policy.

On Monday night we had Sir G. Clerk, Vice-President of the Board of Trade; and on Tuesday night, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Both these gentlemen made excellent speeches, and demonstrated most effectually that people can express themselves clearly and vigorously as soon as they get on the right track. Sundry insinuations had been thrown out, in the course of the debate, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was a reluctant supporter of the policy of Sir Robert Peel. On Tuesday night he most completely upset that idea; and made a speech, which, for fact, argument, and force, transcended all that he has ever yet spoken in the House of Commons. Mr. Goulburn is an excellent financier, but is a somewhat prosy orator; yet it is no idle compliment to say that, on Tuesday night, the Chancellor of the Exchequer was not merely effective, energetic, and intelligible, but he actually threw novelty into a debate of which even the very lees have been expressed. His great point was the effect which Free Trade would have on the shipping interest; and most successful was he in showing the fallacy of the fears which have been urged on this point.

Mr. Ferrand showed himself on Tuesday night; and his speech, the earlier portion of it, at least, was a specimen of happy audacity. He read, in a loud tone, extracts from the speeches of Sir Robert Peel, Sir James Graham, and other members of the Government, when they used to advocate the necessity of protection; and certainly/ the contrast between their former and their present sentiments sounded eddly enough. But though Mr. Ferrand, like everybody else, is advancing in life, his mind stands still. There is not a particle of more discretion-not the slightest indication, that he gets wiser as he gets older. In precisely the same style which he used in 1842 he charges the manufacturers of Yorkshire and Lancashire with orucity, monstrasity, wickedness and abomination; they ere the ogres who feed on the babies of England, and devour the "witals of the poor." Mr. Ferrand is so tremendously intense, throws his ball with such fury, that it rebounds and hits his awn nose; but he don't feel it, His madness has unquestionably some method in it; but the man roars away in such a wild, extravagant manner, that you feel convinced that he would ruin the best and safest cause ever intrusted to human advocacy.

Amongst the speakers have been Mr. Edward Buller, Mr. Liddell, Mr. Hutt, and others; and on Tucaday night, when the debate was proposed to be adjourned till Thursday, Mr. Miles undertook, in a somewhat gracious and patronising way, that it should terminate or livid and patronising way, that

should terminate on Friday night.

The debate of Thursday night was an exception to the dreary duliness of the preceding week. There were several able speeches delivered on the Free Trade side of the question, whilst some of those on the protective side exhibited a little warfety in manney is not in the little.

Before the debate began, Mr. Roebitok askelvines began, Mr. Roebitok askelvines began, Mr. Roebitok askelvines began beg

vulgar language, and delivered in a swaggering style and with a blustering demeanour. He besought the landed interestte uphold the credit and character of the house in public estimation, and to bring forward something better in defence of their cause than "violent hatred in violent and vulgar language."

Mr. Forrand happened not to be present; but Sir R. H. Inglis took up his defence, and expressed an opinion that Mr. Roebuck was not quite the man to complain of personalities. Immediately afterwards, three members rose in succession to contradict, on authority, specific allegations made by Mr. Ferrand, in his usual confident and recklessly-undaunted style. The first was Mr. Bright, who vindicated Mr. George Wilson, the chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League, from an absurd charge of attempting to procure a protective duty on-starch! The next was Dr. Bowring, who complained of the wild audacious way in which Mr. Ferrand attacked the character of the amiable, benevolent, intelligent Henry Ashworth, a gentleman held in universal esteem, and who is incapable of hurting a fly, but yet who has been accused, on more than one occasion, too, of "cold-blooded cruelty." And lastly, Lord Morpeth, on the express authority of the Yorkshire operatives, vindicated them from the accusation of having been cocreed to sign Free Trade petitions.

Mr. Ferrand having been set down, the debate began, the first speaker being Mr. Ross, member for Belfast, who dealt specifically with the question of flax, and showed the benefit which Free Trade would confer on Ireland. Following him came Mr. Beckett Denison; and some interest was felt to hear his sentiments, as he had seconded the address, and trustworthy Mr. Ferrand had affirmed, as if on his authority, that he had been "tricked" by Sir Robt. Peel. Mr. Beckett Denison repudiated Mr. Forrand, who would take better care of his reputation if he were more cautious in his statements. [This was a mild and gentlemanly way of intimating a decided opinion that Mr. Forrand was in the habit of indulging himself in the amusement of "throwing the hatchet."] Mr. Beckett Denison expressed a high opinion of Sir Robert Peel's personal integrity and honour, but declared himself unable to follow him in his Free Trade policy. It is a pity, then, that he should have seconded the address, even though he was not "tricked" into it.

Mr. Brotherton made a very sensible speech, which was well received in the house; and Mr. Christopher followed in a somewhat prosy oration, in which there was far more of sound than of sense. He was, however, gentlemanly in his manner, and

did not indulge in invective.

Mr. Edward Cardwell, member for Clitheroe, and Scoretary to the Treasury, next rose, This young gentleman made a most able speech -- cogont, consecutive, and logical—the whole of which was one lucid argument, admirably arranged, and delivered with spirit, temper, and effect. To answer him there rose Mr. Finch, who was in the house some years ago, but has just been returned for Rutland. He spoke very fluently, but also very flippantly, and with an air as if he felt that he had been specially returned to take the "leadership" of the protectionists, and to rally their forces. Mr. Finch might have made a much more effective speech if he had been less anxious to be "smart, and had curtailed his oration by one-half. It is an unfortunate/circumstance that now-a-days, "length" should be taken as a criterion of excellence; orators are too frequently not satisfied that they have left an impression, unless they exhaust their subject, their audience, and themselves.

Mr. Seymer, one of the new members for Dorsetshire, (he and Mr. Floyer having been returned in the room of Lord Ashley and Mr. Sturt) next spoke, with considerable spirit as to manner; and he showed his good taste by not trespassing too long on the attention of the house. His object was to tell the Legislature that the tenant farmers of Dorsetshire, and indeed, of all England, were in favour of Protection.

Mr. Villiers closed the night with one of those truly elaborate speeches, with which he has so often urged the "great question" throughout the long years during which he has been its leading advocate. Facts, arguments, reasons, were all marshalled in their due order; the present position of the question

their due order; the present position of the question was pointed out, and the helplessness of the protectionate; to govern the country exposed with pith and spills. At Villiers never shrinks from calling things by that proper panes; he less the protectionate across that proper panes; he less the protectionate across that a space is a space, and mendals.

is a class interest and a public oruelty: but he intermingles it all with pleasant sarcasm, and enliveus his gravest facts by a happy jocularity which never detracts from the dignity of the subject in hand, but only gives point to his meaning.

Whether or not the debate will terminate on this night (Friday) is still uncertain. Lord John Russell expressed a hope that it would; and Mr. Spooner agreed with him, but said it should not terminate until he had an opportunity of delivering his sentiments. There are still, apparently, a large number of members anxious to take part in the debate. Should the division occur to-night, or rather on Saturday morning, the result will be communicated in our "Posteript."

DRAIN OF GOLD

The fear of "money going out of the country" is still one of the greatest bugbears of the protectionists. It especially haunts the minds of those one-idead people, like Mr. Hudson, who look to the effects of "a lightening of the market" upon their scrip. Let us try, for the twentieth time, to refute this fallacy, with an argument, if possible, level to the capacity of even the member for Sunderland.

Corn imported from abroad must be paid for, either in gold, bills, or manufacture; and it is contended by the protectionists that, unless paid for exclusively in manufactures, the effect of such importation of corn will produce a pressure on the money market prejudicial to our internal trade.

The direct and immediate advantage of a payment in manufactures is not denied by the friends of Free Trade, nor is it necessary to their argument to deny that advantage in order to prove that payments for corn could not derange the money market under a regular and open trade. That the money market has been deranged under an irregular, uncertain, and fitful trade in corn, such as we have had under the present Corn Laws is quite natural and perfectly true; because the uncertainty attendant on them prevents those channels of commerce being opened which under a regular and certain trade in corn would provide a regular and certain mode of payment for it, without occasioning those sudden and unexpected drains on the money market which have occasionally marked the operation of the present law.

To prove this we have only to trace what will be the cperation and effect of a free importation of corn on our own trade, and on the trade of those countries from whence we

import it, and the mode of payment.

Let us take the trade of one country as an example for the rest-say Russia. The first effect on Russia will be to increase its consumable power of foreign products, such as sugar, coffee, silk, cotton, tobacco, &c., for which orders will be sont, not only to the countries producing those articles, but also to the bonded warehouses of this country, in which, at all times, a large stock of them is in store. The increased consumption of those articles in Russia will increase the prosperity, and consequently the power of consumption of those countries by which they are produced and supplied, and create an increased demand for those articles of luxury and convenience which they cannot produce for themselves, amongst which British manufactures will hold the first place. The consequence will be that large orders for British manufactures will be sent to this country from Brazil and elsowhere to meet the increased demand for them, and these manufactures will be paid for in bills drawn against increased shipments of produce to Russia, to meet the increased demand consequent on Russia having found a regular and open market for her corn; in payment for which corn those bills, drawn in Brazil and elsewhere, for British manufactures, will be remitted to Russia, and thus the account will be settled, without the aid or medium of a single shilling of coin or bullion being used in the transaction, and without in any way deranging the exchanges. These foreign bills on Russia will meet and balance the amount of bills drawn in Russia or England for as the powers of consumption would in both cases regulate the demand, there could never be any fluctuation in their relative amount, at least none large enough to produce any offect on the exchanges. In this statement we leave out of account the bullion and coin which could be emitted from foreign countries in payment for our manufactures at increased quantities with the increase of our trade, but which would form an important additional occurity.

FREE TRADE AGITATION IN FRANCE.—We are glad to learn from a correspondent, that the first step towards an organisation of the friends of commercial freedom in France has just been taken at Berdeaux, where a meeting has been held and a society formed, with the Mayor at its head, for the purpose of savesating the removal of all protective duties. The plan of operation proposed is precisely the same as that proposed in the earliest stages of the League agitation. A subscription is to be entered into for the purpose of disseminating printed publications, and creating a public opinion out of doors, previous to raising the question of Free Trade in the Chamber of Deputies. M. Bastiat, who has published a volume in France upon the proceedings of the League, and who is a native of the sputh of France, was present in the meeting, and took a problished for the wing the league, the meeting, and took a problished part of the wing the league, and leaves been additionable in the life in the problem. Bordeaux, the memorphism has its liberal commercial that the memorphism is its liberal commercial that the memorphism is its liberal commercial than the problem.

SOUTH NOTTINGHAM ELECTION.

NOTHINGHAM, FRB. 25, 22m. PART 6 P.M.—The last ex press from the polling booths arrived here at 0 precisely, bringing the close of the poll at Sutton upon-Trent, thirty miles distant, and those of Southwell and Lowdham. The Newark. Bingham, and East Leake had previously arrived. You will perceive by the statement subjoined that in all the districts the poll has dragged on at a slow rate all the day. OROSS NUMBERS FOR BOTH DAYS, AND FINAL CLOSE OF

THE POLL. Lord Lincoln's committee Mr. Hildyard's committee

report:	report :-				
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- Hildyard	Lincoln 106				
GOUTHWELL.	* SOUTHWELL.				
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	Lincoln 131				
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- Lincoln 309	[fildyard 189				
	Lincoln 298				
FEWARK.	NEWARK.				
- Lincoln 233	Hildyard 279				
Hildyard 377	Lincoln 229				
BINGHAM.	BINGHAM.				
Lincoln 10:1	Hildyard 491				
- Hildyard 181	Lincoln 102				
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Majority for Hillyard 693	Majority for Hildyard . 711				
TOTAL NUMB	ERS POLLED.				

Mr. Haldyard 1738 | Lord Lincoln 1042

REQUISITION TO MR. VILLIERS, M.P., AND W. BROWN, Esq., from the Electors of South Lancashire.—We beg to call the attention of every Free Trade elector of South Laneashire to the requisition now in course of signature to the Hon, C. P. Vilhers, M.P., and Wm. Brown, Esq., of Liverpool, a printed copy of which appears in another part of our paper. We need make no appeal to the electors of South Lancastire on the subject of this requisition. The eminent services of Mr. Villiers throughout the long struggle for commercial freedom have identified his name too closely with the interests of that great county to render it necessary for us to arge upon the electors the public duty of thus tes tifying their appreciation of his character and claims to the honomoble distinction of representing such a constituency n the House of Commons. Mainly to South Langashire will the nation be indebted for the successful issue of the atruggle for Free Trade, "Postite Parliamentary champion of that cause, through long years of tried fidelity and Zealous self-devotion, no more fitting testimony could be made of public gratitude to public men than the proffered confidence of such a constituency. We trust that every Free Trader whose name stands upon the register for South Lancashire will at once append his signature to this requisition, inviting the Hon, C. P. Villiers, M.P., and W. Brown, Esq., of Liverpool, to become their representatives in Parliament at the

RUPRESENTATION OF WIGAS .- The Honourable Captain Lindsay has declined to defend his return, and unless some of his supporters volunteer to oppose the petition on his be half, which is very improbable, the electors of Wigan will be once more called upon to choose a representative. During the few mouths which have clapsed since they were last appealed to, the cause of Free Trade has advanced with gigantic strides. We trust that in Wigan public opinion has not atood still, and that bribery and corruption will give way be for the popular demand for unfettered commercial intercomse with all nations. At such a crisis as the present, when the protectionists are asking themselves whether they dure thro y out the Government measure, the return of any mon who is not a thorough friend to Free Trade, as the representative of a borough solely dependent for its prosperity on manufactores, might have a very important and a very prejudicial influence on their determination. Free Trade is now no party question; all are equally interested in its adoption; and all parties in Wigan, we hope, will concar in distainsing factious feeling, and work energetically for their

WIGAS ELECTION PETITIOS .- We understand that a great number of very gross cases of bilbery at the last election for Wigan, are already in the bands of the petitioners against Mr. Lindsay's return. Although Mr. Lindsay has resigned the seat without a contest in committee, it is still the intension of the Free Traders to prosecute the inquiry, and we have no doubt that several cases for criminal prosecution

The have no doubt that several cases for eriminal prosecution antisequently will arise out of the evidence.

Representation of Letester.—Soon after the formal announcement from Wynn Ellis, Esq., that he should not again become a candidate for this borough, a requisition was forwarded to Mr. George Thompson, of the League, who, in company with Captain Cogan, presented himself to a crowded meeting of the Liberal electers and other inhabitants in the New Hell, on Monday evening. After a long address from Mr. Thompson, in exposition of his views, a resolution declaring that grantlements. solution, declaring that gentleman's fitness for the represcutation of that borough, and pledging the meeting to support him at the next election, was moved by Mr. C. Billson, se-conded by Mr. Slade, and an anosudment for an invitation to Mr. Illis who moved by Mr. L. Staines (agent to the Re-form Registration Society), and seconded by Mr. Edmund Muchell, when the resolution was carried by a very large majority. It was also stated by the obaliman that Mr. Bright, M.P., having been written to by an elector (not favourable to Mr. Thompson), had declared that were he an elector of Leicester be would give Mr. Thompson his magnaelector of Leicester, he would give Mr. Thompson his unquaified support.

NORTH NOTTINGHAMEHINE - NOTTINGHAM, THURSDAY.

NORTH NOTTINGUAMENTINE—NOTTINGUAM, THURSDAY.

Lord H. Benninck will walk over. There will be no constant for the North Division of this county.

ELECTORS CHANGE OF HOUSES AFTER REGISTRATION.

Figurabolders who have changed their residences after reliabilities removed they had resided within the pity of becoming by willing sorap tales. This reasonable approximate of the former law on the subject was made in 1848, by the emanuent of the 6th and 7th Vic., c. 18, sec. 70.

LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. LVII. TO JOHN BRIGHT; ESQ., M.P.

Sin, -About the time when these words are passing through the press, you will probably be giving a vote which will help to "lay the domination of the aristocracy in the dust."

That phrase will not be forgotten by your enemics; nor, I trust, by your friends. It is too practical not to be memorable. It is prophecy as well as precept. The forty shilling franchise is the weapon you recommended as capable, in case of need, of accomplishing this prostration; and that is henceforth the people's weapon against all unjust and injurious "domination" on the part of those who prove themselves inaccessible to fact and argument; and who uphold, by the insolence of power, laws which tend to the plunder of industry.

The man who lost his temper, and was consoled by the assurance that it was a very bad one, typifies the section of the aristocracy to which you alluded. The "domination" which denies bread, deserves to be in the dust. Its possessors should repeat Archbishop Tillotson's ejaculation over the damnatory clause of the Athanasian Creed, and "wish to heaven they were well rid of it." It alienates them from the community, robs them of respect, paralyzes them for good, attracts hatred and contempt, associates their names with sophistry and rapacity, and identifies them with the cause of scarcity, of crime, and of disease. Morally, and in every sense, except the most sordid one, such domination is a damnification.

The labourers have long been laid in the dust by this domination. As it succumbs they will revive, and bless the helping hand that raises them by its prostration. Your name is greeted with the grateful shouts of the toiling and starving serfs of Hampshire. Nor is that the only justification which events have conferred upon your hanguage since its utterance. Think of three weeks' speaking against Time, with famine in his train. In this prolonged debate, lives have been sacrificed by speeches, as surely as if words were the deadliest weapons. A thus far dominating minority has secured a three weeks' march in advance for scarcity and pestilence. That domination will bring destitution to the dust. Is more justification required? Look at the "unnatural combat." The father warring upon the son, and seeking the destruction of his fair name and honourable position. We had before seen brother discarding brother, and a constituency submitting to become the agents of fraternal wrong. Scenes like these in Christian England call for interposition. They are the works of a demon, who must be ejected and laid in the dust or the Dead Sea, no matter where; and for whom you have found the best exorcism in the forty shilling franchise.

Peace and philanthropy have over characterised the religious body to which you belong, and the weapons of your warfare are not unworthy of their Christian spirit. You could destroy the bad of aristocracy by the good of democracy. You propose to vanquish a wrong by the power of a right. You exhort the many to emancipate themselves politically, that they may achieve a moral emancipation for those whom capidity or ignorance has enslaved. The banner of such warfare is the white flag of peace, its sword the keen point of argument, its battalions the wellmarshalled array of facts, its artillery the thunder of a people's cry, and the domination which the victory lays in the dust, a wrongful power over human food, not less pernicious for its authors than for its victims.

Associated with Mr. Cobden in toils long to be remembered, speedily be your name blended with his in the most memorable of triumphs over achieved by poscoful agitation. On you especially has devolved the exposure of the doers of an enormous wrong, and the claim of sympathy for the suffering. Not merely in the technical language of religious classification, but in the broadest and best sense of the word, society knows you for "a Mend?" On the wide plains of Wiltshire, or the quiet downs of Hampshire, the grateful recognition of your exercitors of artificinately the second blends with that which is hierarched amid the busy selected the second control of your own Rochdale factories, 'You're, your conergy exhausted in the success now so hearly the lines long the

achieved. You are already labouring in another field of usefulness. In the Game Laws there is another form of crime-engendering domination. which you have also to lay in the dust. Spare it not; but from winning freedom for industry proceed to win also protection for the farmer and the peasant.

A Norwich Weaver Boy.

AGRICULTURE.

A MONOPOLIST PROPHET.

When a public man has gone on for thirty year making predictions which subsequent events have invariably falsified, one would think that he might possibly suspect he had gone upon a wrong tack Now, Mr. Benett, of Wiltshire, is a man of that sort He has prophesied on the subject of agriculture and protection from the year 1815 downwards, and every prophecy has signally failed; yet with mind less loquacity he last week again took upon himself in the House of Commons, to make the most ridies. lous predictions of evil to farmers and labourers as the result of Free Trade in corn.

Now, Mr. Benett is a genuine monopolist; and it will be curious to trace his course from the vent 1815 to the present time, and then mark the absund inconsistencies of his latest speech in favour of monopoly. To farmers such a review will be emnently useful, because Mr. Benett being a high professing " farmer's friend" and a voluble talker, had at one time considerable influence amongst the Wiltshire farmers. How utterly unworthy of their confidence this gentleman is, a little examination of his incoherencies will speedily show.

In 1814 Mr. Bonott was the owner of an estate on Salisbury Plain, some part of which he farmed himself; and he had, both as a landlord and an or cupier, derived great profits from the high prices of grain during the preceding twenty years. Mr. Benett's estate is of that description of light land which most largely partook of the advance in value caused by the high prices; sheep farming and to some extent turnip husbandry, were adopted in that district with considerable success. But, although the system of husbandry in Wiltshire, in the year 1814, was a vast improvement upon that which existed there before 1792, it was a forced and artificial one, dependent entirely upon high prices. That is, it consisted of a moderate amount of capital spread over a wide surface, in a word, low farming. Mr. Benett, who was examined before the Parliamentary committee of 1814, probably gave a very accurate account of the actual system when he said the price of 100s. per quarter for wheat was indispensable to enable the Wiltshin farmer to make a profit. Ho gave a detailed arcount of the expenses and produce of his own farm of 945 acres; and taking the price of wheat at 116and of barley at 48s. per quarter, his estimated loss was 66l. a year! Of course Mr. Benett was an ar dent supporter of the law of 1815; and when some few years afterwards he was brought into Parlia ment by the squires and farmers, he was every where execrated by the agricultural labourers of the county.

A supporter of Mr. Benett's views could scarcely pass a town or village in safety, so atrocious did the labouring population of the county deem Mr. Bonett's opinions. The sight of his ribbon was the signal for a riot, for there was then no effectation of regard for the interest of the labourers on the part of Mr. Benett. "Barley bannock" and "ost cake" formed the diet to which, as it was generally believed, Mr. Benett had said the rural labourers should return and conform to. That monopoly is not less udious to the Wiltshire labourers now than then, let Goatacre and Brembill bear wines. though they now know how to use arguments far more effective than viologice and riot.

From that hour to this, Mr. Benett has been the consistent advocate of laws for the creation of artificial scarcity. Undeterred by failure after failure. he has constantly urged the farmers of Wiltshire to look to monopoly for safety, and to high prices for CHANGE OF CHICAGO HE WAS ALBERTA

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to the lower depth of potatods; while the Wiltshire farmers have contrived to struggle on with prices little higher than the half of the sums promised them by Mr. Benett and his follow landowning legislators.

Let us now see what Mr. Benett urges in defence of monopoly, and it will be found that his present assumptions are as basoless as ever. He said:

"It was assumed that cheapness of food would confer the greatest amount of happiness. He agreed that cheapness of food was most desirable; but in cheapening food care must be taken that the people were not reduced to greater distress than they would auffer if food were dear. Cheapness of food, by home production, was undoubtedly most desirable. Cheapness are agreement by the extent of production in formal constitution in formal cases. ness, occasioned by the extent of production in favourable seasons, was most desirable; but in this he agreed with the right hon, baronet, that the amount of the wayes of labour always depended upon the proportion of the demand to the supply; and it was for them to consider whether they might not, by cheapening food in the way proposed, lessen the demand for labour without lessening the supply."

And he then went through some calculations, or would-be calculations, to show that every quarter of foreign wheat brought into this country "would displace the demand for labour to the extent of 25s.

In a subsequent part of his speech he said that the average produce of wheat per acre in Wiltshire is three quarters, or 24 bushels—we doubt whether it he in fact so much—an admission which at once proves the absurdity of the assertion, that "the demand for labour" would be lessened by Free Trade. Nothing but the uncertainty induced by reliance on the Corn Laws has kept the produce of Wiltshire so low as it is; and all past experience has shown that there, as elsewhere, moderate prices have always led to increased exertions on the part of farmers, and, consequently, to a greater demand for labour. And what, according to Mr. Benett's own showing, is the actual state of farming in Wiltshire, -at a time, be it observed, when not a farmer in the county can doubt that Free Trade in corn is inevitable?

"But whatever might be the rate of wages, he could tell the hon, member there were as comfortable farmers and labourers, in Wiltshire as in any part of the kingdom. There was no land better cultivated; he knew that the Salisbury Plain land was producing four (so we understood the hon. member) quarters the acre. Science was doing wonders, and much capital was being invested. Every thing was thriving there, and every labourer was employed. Harrowing stories had been told of men drawing in carts, but the fact was, the stofies were only drawn from the road into the field, in an in geniously constructed machine, which was much less laborious than the common wheelbarrow. Besides, these were not farmers' labourers, but old men who preferred earning os. a. week in that manner to going into the workhouse. He thought it hard then—he thought it unwise, when everything was thriving in the country—when all parties were employed—the furmer getting a fair but moderate price—for 102s, was only a moderate price—when, in fact, everyhody was satisfied, that the right honourable baronet should have chosen such a moment for proposing his measure, it seemed to him a most astonishing event—one that had astonished him more than anything in the course of a long life—that ministers should have been so easily frighted from their propricty—that for a disease so trilling and temporary, to say the most, so desperate a remedy should have been pre-

Now, though there is too much evidence, of far greater weight than the testimony of Mr. Benett, that everybody in Wiltshire is not satisfied, we may safely accept this passage as proof that capital is being invested in farming by the Wiltshire farmers, which is in itself a decisive answer to the buggaboo cry of "lessening the demand for labour." The quality of this gentleman's judgment may be gathered from the fact of his having thus reiterated in the House of Commons the very silly assertion he made at a local agricultural dinner that, had he to choose his own station in life, he would be a Wiltshire agricultural labourer! 1 Mr. Benett said:

"The hon, member for Durham had spoken of the condition of the labouring classes; and particularly of the agricultural labourers in Wiltshire. He (Mr. Benett) was not going to suffer any personal allusions of the hon, gentleman to divert him from the present discussion; but he begged to assure the hon gentleman and the house, that he respected the peasantry as his friends. He antertained a strong sense of their worth. And in allusion to what he had himself said on a former occasion, he had declared to those men—knowing the valuable services thay rendered to society; and being ing the valuable services they rendered to society, and being fully aware of the delight derived from a consciousness of fulfilling one's duty—that if he were to be born again he should not covet in this world any station beyond that which they themselves austained, that was the trip cont which they themselves sustained; that was the true senti-ment of his mind—it was warm and sincere."

Truly it may be said how little wisdom suffices for a legislator!

BEWARE OF FALSE FRIENDS. Farmers, if they are wise, will hasten to repudiate the remnant of protection which the dandewners of the Mondelof Lords have extented from Sirelichters Pelasforethere is no mistabe about the matter. Heliat San Cittle 141

The Minister is far too clear-sighted not to see that immediate as well as total repeal of the Corn Laws is for the public weal, and the three years postponement of Free Trade in grain, by which the Government plan is deformed, is avowedly a concession to the prejudices of the Peers. A few of the monopolist aristocrats, in their agony of wrath against the Government at first, said they would prefer an immediate Free Trade in corn to the prospective Free Trade of the Premier; but latterly they have drawn back from that position. Now, in reference to that threat—for such was the form it assumed in the House of Commons-in his late splondid speech, Sir Robert Peel said:

"Bond fide believing the arrangement to be a better one, believing also that it was more for the advantage of agriculture, 1, on the part of her Majesty's Government—I made that proposal, and it is my intention to use all legitimate means I can for the purpose of giving effect to it. It was said the other night by the hon, gentleman the member for Somerset, that he greatly preferred, speaking on the past of the agricultural population—that he greatly preferred imme-diate repeal to the measure proposed, and he turned round to his friends, and that sentiment at that time received, apparently, a general concurrence from them. Now, sir, as I have before said, it is the intention of the Government to adhere to their own proposal. They state the reasons why they propose it, and why they are inclined to adhere to it. considering the opportunity there will be for the improvement of the country in the interval. But I stated this distinetly, that if the agricultural body are not of opinion that it is for their advantage, and that they think that immediate repeal is preferable to deferred repeal (laughter and lond cheering from the Opposition benches), by taking part with the hon, gentleman opposite they may place me in a minority (laughter and cheers again). Then the only consideration I shall bear in mind will be this, what course should I best take to give effect to the law as amended at your hands. We will do all we can to carry the proposition -I prefer it. I proposed it believing it to be favourable to ogriculture. I don't say what course—speaking for myself—I may possibly take, I don't say what effect success here may have in other places (hear, hear). This I will say, that my opinion with respect to the final adjustment of the Corn Law will remain unaltered, and I shall decidedly prefer immediate repeal, so carried against me, to throwing this country into confusion by any attempt on my part to prevent it (loud cheers and laughter from the Opposition). It is right to consider what course would be most advisable to adopt, and I do believe that the final adjustment of this question is now become paramount to all."

The "cheers and laughter" with which this mode of meeting the monopolists' threat was received shows how entirely their utter hollowness is approciated in the House of Commons. There is not a man in the house who is not aware that the three years' postponement is the sop to the monopolist landowners; and the last thing they think of doing is to hazard that part of the Government measure.

But how stands it with the tenant farmers? Our readers will recollect that wherever the Corn Law question has come under discussion in a genuine agricultural assembly, however farmers may have differed as to the policy, or otherwise, of Free Trade in corn, they have invariably declared, that " if Free Trade is to come, let it come at once, that the question may be settled, and we shall then know where we stand." And this is the commonsense view. But when did a common-sense view of the subject meet acceptance with the monopolist landowners? They have indirect objects to gain by the Corn Laws, and a principal one is to use the farmers for their own political objects. Now, on two grounds, immediate instead of ultimate repeal should be the carnest demand of every tonant farmer in the kingdom. First, because no settlement, at all events no settlement advantageous to the tenant, can be made with the landlord during the period of transition, namely, for four years; secondly, because designing political landocrats will, during the three years' interval, foster a delusion amongst the less intelligent tonantry, that the "protection" may be continued. And such are the very grounds which secretly make the monopolist landocracy adhere to this shred of monopoly. It will delay, perhaps prevent, that which of all things they most dread, the emancipation of the rural middle classes—the tenant farmers. It will prevent, or delay, that influx of intelligence and capital, into the business of agriculture, which will grow six quarters of wheat instead of three, so much deprecated by Mr. Stafford O'Brien, because the increased produce must be grown by farmers, rendered independent of the whim, caprice, or cupidity of their landlords.

It will delay that period—until which farmers and limbbandry will never occupy the right position when the tehant farmers will care as little for, possibly know no more of, their landlords, than the oconpletions house in Irontion sales for the ground landlord; he will pay the stipulated bum, and there the

matter will end. From the hour of total Free Trade in corn, but not till then, the removal of the rubbish of foudalism which lingers in the relations of landlord and tenant in this country will begin to be swept away; and although landowners will benefit by the change at least as much as any other class. the narrow-minded and mortgaged landownersthe immense majority of the class-relinquish with anger and regret that part of their importance which arises from the depression, the unnatural depression, of other classes.

Every farmer knows the unwillingness with the landlords to grant fair leases, and the eagerness with which, now the necessity of leases is admitted by all but themselves and their tools, they listen to overy shift and expedient, such as legislative allowances for improvements and tenant rights, proposed to keep up the system of yearly holdings. Upon this part of the subject we shall have much to say to the farmers hereafter; but, at present, we content ourselves with calling their attention to thomses, such as we have stated, to which the monopolists are about to turn their three years' grace, which the Lords have obtruded upon the Government plan.

In Huntingdonshire, a Squire of the name of Hammond said that three years protection ought not to be regretted, because, after the next general election, the law might be altered, and the protection rendered permanent. Again, in Essex, a clergyman of the name of Cox, who seems to be more voluble than discrect, said

" When I first read his (Sir R. Peel's) speech I said this is a mockery of protection; it never will do; we must make war with all protecting duties, and then they will see they cannot go on, because they will not have the sinews of war. But our advice now is this, stand fast to your protection; and let me tell you it is a great deal easier to add to a pro tective duty than to give it up and begin anew. We must fight the battle as long as there is a plank of the ship left. Therefore our advice is to stand by all protected classes, and don t any of you be fools enough to say, we will have Free Trade immediately, for Free Trade is anarchy, it is democracy in the true sense of the word, and, if you had it, it would shal o the throne to the foundation, and the church and all other great interests would be destroyed. The Central Society says, fight the battle till you are beaten, and then we will give you the best advice we can. Our advice now is 'no surrender.'

Now, so far as regards the chance of prolonging protection, such advice to the farmers is simply ridiculous. The maintenance of monopoly has become an utter impossibility, and the only effect of lengthening the period of timesition is to postpone that dry when farming will become a steady and profitable business, and tenant farmers be mon who dare to set upon their own convictions.

POTATO SEED FOR YORKSHIRE. - FRASERBURGH, FEB. 13.—We are sorry to have to report that the crop in this neighbourhood, like adjacent counties, is seriously affected with the provailing epidemic. Until the last few days, the growers considered they had escaped this destructive disease, but though late in appearing, it is making rapid progress. At this place, large quantities are annually shipped for seed to Yorkshire; and, from the flattering accounts forwarded by the shipping agents to their Yorkshire friends, the latter wave consoled in some degree for their recent heavy losses, by the prospect of obtaining good plants from this old quarter for their ensuing crops. Fraserburgh and Yorkshiro will not be the only sufferers by this unfortunate disease. An other correspondent speaks in a similar strain of the condition of the potatoes in Buchan-of the wholesale repudi-ation by the Yorkshire dealers of the quantities purchased in this quarter. They will not take them at any rate, not even at the average rate fixed at the Rattray market, the other day, which is so low as 10s.—Aberdeen Herald.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER, AND THE CORN LAW.—

Last week, the Marquis of Westminster entertained a large body of his tenantry to dinner at Eaton Hall, and presided on the occasion. The noble lord expressed his belief that the measures of Sir R. Peel would not have any material effect upon the native agriculturists, whilst they would aid our commercial interests; and he enjoined that any anticipated depression should be met by increased energy, and the adoption of those improvements in agriculture which experienco had shown would lesson the cost and increase the amount of production. He also said, that if any of his tenantry felt any cause of dissatisfaction at the terms on which they held the lands in their occupation, he should feel it his duty that the grounds of that disentisfaction should be say a mitted to investigation, and if they were too highly rented he would reduce them. All his declarations were made in the broadest sense of liberality and fairness, and gave great satisfaction to the tenantry.—Chester Chronicle.

THE CORN LAWS.—Notwithstanding the prognostications

of the "protectionist party," that the proposed measures of the Government would immediately tend to a vast rediction in the price of wheat, there was an advance in the price of nearly every description of grain at Maidenhead market on Wednesday. Wheat had advanced he par load, and met with a brisk and ready sale at 17', for middling quality. Our informant, who was at the market, and who had opportubities of accordining the sentiments of the formers of the neighbourhood on the subject of the anticipated immediate reduction of the duties upon dorn, states that the great majority of the agriculturists who attended appeared to be of opinion that the aliding scale had not had the effect which had been expected, end that the appear the dustion was est at rest, by the carrying the plan appearing to Parliament by his B. Pellament by the party hereon engaged in agricultural pursuits.—Globs: in the price of wheat, there was an advance in the price of

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ANTI-CORN LAW MEETING.—THE LA-BOURERS OF HAMPSHIRE.

Gospout, Tunsday, Fan. 24. - Last night a meeting was held composed of the agricultural labourers of Hampshire, for the purpose of their furnishing to the world a description of "their state and condition under Corn Law protection." Such were the terms of the handbills which had been exten elvely circulated in the districts which shut upon the locality which was appointed as the rendezvous. The spot selected was Sheril Heath, which forms part of Waltham Chase, a wild district in the parish of Droxford, and situate about five priles from the Bothey station, on the South-Western Railway, about ten miles from Gosport, and the same distance from Southampton. On reaching the spot shortly before the hour at which it had been announced the proceedings would vommerce (5 o'clock) we found that notwithstanding the heavy rains which had fallen during the day, and the threatenappearance of the atmosphere, which still continued, that a large body of the peasantry of the neighbourhood had already collected, while other numerous bodies were seen wending their way to the selected spot from various points of the vast space which lay unbroken to the view. All was order and descrum, and many of the groups of labourers with their wives and children appeared in their best homely but cleanly gear. To serve the purpose of a hustings or rostrum for the reception of those who were to take the most active and leading part in the business of the evening, three carts had been rudely bound together at the rear of a small outhouse. In one of these carts a rustic chair was deposited for the reception of the president, while second contained a small table for the accommodation of the representatives of the press. Here also were arranged three small candles, while as many flambeaux of a rule construction had been prepared to illumine the station of the chairman and the speakers. With these flickering and uncertain lights the affair proceeded, and the scene presented a novel and somewhat singular appearance. About five hundred persons, all of the same grade and class, had assembled, and nothing could execed the good order which was preserved throughout. Mr. John Ekiess, a yeoman residing at Bursledon bridge, near southampton, who has attained considerable fame for the stand he has made, with success, against several attempted innovations of the rights of poorer classes, by projected enclosure bills, appeared to lead in the way of suggestions as to the mode in which the proceedings ought to be confincted. A labouring man of the name of Jesse Burgess (of whom particular mention is made in the subjoined report) was elected to the chair, and having assumed it, he called upon Mr. Ekless to open the business for which the meeting had been

Mr. Ekthass, in obedience to the call, spoke as follows: Mr. Chairman and friends, if you will leave off talking yourselves, and will listen to my talk, you will hear what have got to say. In the first place, I am most happy to see so many assembled here this evening; and, considering the state of the weather, your numbers show that you must mve a strong feeling upon the question which has assombled us, or you would not have attended here at all. I congratulate you upon the choice of your chairman, for though he is one of the humbler classes, he is still, as I know, a respectable man. To my knowledge he has brought up a family of eleven children, and has only had the aid of 21s. from the parish; and that fact, in my judgment, constitutes him a respectable man (cheers). He is not only respectable, but he also fills a prominent place in the pages of history. Jesse Burgess is a man whose name is immortalised in the immortal writings of your great friend, and the defender of the rights of labour, William Cobbett (shouts of applause). Jesse Burgess is the man whom William Cobbett was accused, at the Coventry election, many years ago, of having flogged to death,—a most wilful and diabolical charge, brought forward by his opponents. This man—I mean your chairman—was sent for, post haste. He went down to Coventry, and from the hustings there boldly proclaimed the falsehood of the charge by shouting, "I be the real Jesse Burgens" (cheers and laughter). So that his name will go Burgens" (cheers and laughter). So that his down in history to the latest period of time. here this evening on a requisition or invitation to the labouring classes of this county to meet together, to describe their state and condition under Corn Law protection, as stated in the handbill which has been printed and circulated. Now, there have been many similar meetings held in Somersetshire, in Wiltshire, and in Berkshire; but they have been repudiated in the House of Commons as not being the nuine and spontaneous acts of the labourers themselves, but got up by emissuries from the League. do not know that this has much to do with the matter, unless the astounding statements made at these meetings could be denied. I find, however, that some memings could be denied. I find, however, that some members of the house did not deny them; and amongst them, Mr. Sidney Herbert, the Secretary at War, member for Wiltwhire, got up, and in a speech which did equal bonour to his head and heart, said he was grieved to believe that the state-ments which had been made were quite true, and that the poor of Wiltshire were labouring under privations such as had been described, and the right hon, gentleman added that the only thing he could do to alleviate their sufferings and distress would be to support Sir Robert Peel in the repeal of the Corn Laws. 1, for one, care not how those meetings are got up. The only question is this, are the statements made at them true or laise? Now, in order that there shall be no mistake, I will tell you how this meeting has been got up. I am no Leaguer—I am not connected with any politi-cal party or faction. I never paid to or received from the League one penny, but a friend of mine, one of yourselves, one who has risen from the plough-tail, mot mr, and said to me, "Do you not think we could get up a meeting like that which has been lield in Wiltsbire?" I stated some difficulties, which I thought would attend the getting up of the meeting, and suggested that it would be hard to get a suffi rent number of labourers together, and so we parted. About a week ago we met again, and he said, "What do you think of a meeting now that the furmers be repealers?" "I have been talking," said be, " with 100 highly respectable farmers of the "neighbourhood, and I have found that with one solitary exception they are all in favour of total and immediate repeal, preferred to the three years of deception which the measure of Bir Robert Peel would produce, and now if the furners have not courage and plack enough to carry out their own wishes, let the labourers come forward and help them." (loud obsers). Well, I was bound to yield to my friend's unune werehle arguments. He said, "Will you help us?" I said, " If I am spared, and in health, I will." then went to work, and this meeting is the result of that consultation (asplants). Whether legitimate or illegitimate, and the result of that consultation (asplants). Whether legitimate or illegitimate, and the distribution which this meeting has been converted and I say fairly, that we do not wish to preside the quantity, or to pass any petition for or against the

Corn Laws, yet we are here to call upon the labourers of ampshire to describe their state and condition under Corn protection. It has been argued by the protectionists, that the Corn Laws are necessary for the protection both of the farmers and the labourers; therefore, if you can prove that there has been such a state of happiness and pros-perity during the time the law of 1816 has been in operation-now a period of thirty years-if you can prove that your state and condition has been improved; that you lived better; that you are better housed, and better clothed; then, no doubt, some straightforward Englishman will get up and propose a petition praying for the continuance of that law. (Cries of "No such thing—Free Trade for ever.") But if, on the other hand, a state of privation and suffering, such as our forefathers never knew, is developed at this period, then, I contend, that you will advocate and carry petitions to both houses of Parliament praying for the total and immediate repeal of these laws (cheers.) My friends, because I say that I am not one of the League, do not suppose that I mean to repudiate or impugn that body. We owe the League much; and every man, woman, and child that eats bread owes the League a deep debt of gratitude. (Here an interruption arose from the interference of a farmer named Whale, who was in the body of the meeting). Mr. Ekless, addressing the person named, said, "Whale, we know you ire a rum fish, but you must not interrupt the business of the meeting." (Cries of "Silence, Whale; you beats down the wages of the poor, and drives them into the unions, you rascal!") My friends, take no notice of him, for, like most of his species, he is composed principally of blubber (cheers and laughter). But, my friends, I will go further and say, that I not only respect the League as a body, but there are certain members of the League whom I highly esteem which is more than respect. I allude to Richard Cobden and John Bright, who agree with me, and of the honour of whose intimate acquaintance I am truly proud (hear, hear, hear). Richard Colden is one of ourselves—he was brought up at the plough tail, and had served part of his time within a few miles of the spot where we are now assembled. (Mr. Whale here again interrupted the speaker, and was met with general cries of "Turn him out.") Mr. Ekless proceeded— If you think, Mr. Whale, to disturb the meeting, you are most miserably deceived, for you shall not be allowed to do so many minutes longer. If you have anything to say come up here, and we will willingly listen to you; but you shall not disturb our proceedings. (Loud cries of "Come up here, and speak out like a man if you have anything to say.") Mr. Ekless resumed—I was about to say that we are met within a few miles of the spot where Richard Cobden spent part of his time, and that I cannot do justice to the honourable character of that individual; but I do not in my conscience believe that a more sincere, constant, and zealous friend of the tenant farmers of England exists in this country than Richard Cobden, or a man who makes greater sacrifices to promote their interests, happiness, and prosperity, much as he has been impugued and vilified (hear, hear) With respect to John Bright, eloquent and all-powerful as he is in the cause of Free Trade, he has proved himself the friend of the farmer by moving last session a motion, which he has resumed this session, for the appointment of a select committee to take into consideration, with a view to its re-peal, that curse, that plague-spot—that relie of the Norman yoke—the Game Laws—which has become so fertile in crime, and injurious to the best interests of society, and so destructive to property (cheers). For this John Bright would descend to his grave with laurels on his brow, compared to which the laurels of the battle field were but as mere weeds (loud cheering). Now, I had always been taught to believe, when I was young, that our forefathers were in a most most miserable condition—that they were half-starved—that they were dependent upon the upper classes, to whom only luxuries belonged, while squalid wrotchedness was the condition of the lower orders. But when I got older, and began to read the pages of history, I found that 400 years ago, during the reign of Henry VIII.. an Act of Parliament was passed, the preamble of which recited—"Whereas, beef, mutton, pork, and yeal, are the common food of the poorer sort." So that, in those days, the very serfs were well fed (cries of "We do not get it now.") And in a subsequent reign, another act was passed, which also shows what was the state and condition of our forefathers. It was called a sumptuary law, and it shows that such had been the state of civilisation, that a law was necessary to restrain the people in regard to the luxuries of dress, and accordingly an act was pussed 350 years ago, to prohibit every artisan and mechanic from wearing cloth of the cost of more than 30s, per yard, and every field labourer from wearing cloth of the cost of more than 20s. per yard (cheers). My friends, no such law as that is necessary now. Supposing a full-sized labourer of the present day to be fed on beef, mutton, pork, and veal, he would require a much bigger coat than fits him at present, and if he took at that time two yards of cloth, at 20s., it would have been about the cost of two bullooks, or thirty sheep, or eight quarters of wheat or malt (cheers). This statement is not of my own making, but these are facts which I quote from the records of the nation. It is Fortescue and Clarendon, two Lord High Chancellors of England. who state these things, and who then described the state of the people "as the envy of surrounding nations and the admiration of the world!" (loud cheers.) I come now to the period of the Revolution of 1688, and I find that there was double the quantity of mait consumed in England by the same number of inhabitants as there is in the present day (cheers). But I will bring you down to a still later period, and to a spot near home. I mean to the parish of Titchneld. I hold in my hand a statement given to me by Mr. Oarver, of Upham, taken from the farm-book of Mr. Huxman, who held three farms in the parish of Titchfield, forming together an equilateral triangle, and there I find that, in 1789, a farm inbourer with hije wages could buy 27 gallons of malt, or 10 gallous of wheat, or 33 lbs. of peg meal (cheers). And I also find that James Rutter, one of the labourers, paid 21. 10s. a year for his house rent and the grazing of a cow; so that from this time to the present the state and condition of the labourer has been gradually deteriorating until it has reached the degrading level on which it now stands (cheers). But what do I find still further? I have another authority on this subject, contained in the Journals of the House of Commons for the year 1820, which is only five years after the law of 1810 was passed, and from an entry in those jour-nals, it appears that the state and condition of the labourer was then so wretched that the logislature thought it advisable to move for a committee of the whole house to take the subject into consideration. And what was the result? Why, men of the first respectability were examined at the ber, and of these, the first was Mr. John Blinder, now a calculated will tectionist in fineers, who, when asked what had been the

condition of the agricultural labourer 80 or 40 years below condition of the agreement parameter on or at years before the time at which he was examined, replied, that then every provident labourer in his parish brewed his own beer, and enjoyed it with his family at his own fire aide. Now, he added, there are only two or three to whom I supply make forces of "sharms that is true"). The next witness even in the same that is true"). (orics of " shame, that is true"). The next witness examinated was a gentleman whose name I forgot, but who was life. Sheriff of the county of Wilts, and he stated that the labourers "then subsisted principally upon good bacon, bread bourers "then subsisted principally upon good pacon, bread and beer." On what do they subsist now? was the next question, and his reply was, that their principal food coasisted of potatoes, which they carried cold with them to the fields (loud ories of "shame"). Thus, my friends, you see that your condition, from whatever cause, has gone on gradually deteriorating. I do not say that this is to be attributed to the Corn Laws alone, because many other causes barconspired to produce these fearful results, but I do say that the Corn Laws have not prevented them, and that if those laws had been conducive to the prosperity of the country, the condition of the labourer would have been ameliorated and bettered instead of made worse. There is no man pre sent whose intellect is so obtuse as not to know this ice, sent whose intellect is so obtuse as not to know this fact, and it is wrong to suppose that a man, because he has been brought up at the plough tail, has no skill or common sense. Now, as to this Corn Law. You all of you remember the late war and privations which were then endured with a patience unexampled. We had then all the world against us, and we were told that this nation was so isolated that we must stand together to heat Boney, and detail that we must stand together to beat Boney, and defend our happy fire-sides. We were told also that peace would come, and with peace plenty (hear, hear; and loud cries of "yes, we remember all that"). The labourer of England did come forward, and were ready to slied the last cries of " drop of blood in their bodies in defence of their native land (cheers). Well, the year 1815 came, and then, only one year after peace was restored and plenty had been promised, the House of Commons passed a law, which enacted that no wheat should be imported into this country until it had reached 80s. per quarter for the three preceding months. It was said that this law was necessary, not merely to keep up the respectability, but the very existence of our country is a nation. It was opposed by a gentleman now a half and half protectionist—I mean Lord Ashburton—then Mr. Alexander Baring, a merchant and a money lender, so vio-lently that Mr. Robinson (now the Earl of Ripon, then Chancellor of the Exchequer) accused him with fomenting mole outside of the house, and threatened him with the conse quences. Lord Ashburton dared Mr. Robinson to postpone the measure for another week; that if so there would be such an expression of public opinion against it that the bill would never be passed into a law. Lord Ashburton de scribed the measure thus. He said that seeing its tendency to raise the price of bread, a more cruel act of injustice to wards the labourers of this country could not be perpe trated. And what did Mr. Robinson reply? measure would not have any injurious effect upon the labourer because if he could not earn enough wages they would be made up to him from the parish pay-table, so that he had a resource to fall to. And so matters went on until a great cry was made that the poor were going to eat up the country (loud cries of "That's true"). A report was then drawn up than which a grosser libel on the working classes never we published (cheers). On that report a bill was founded and brought in-a bill which I am almost afraid to mention, for it raises my feelings and makes my blood boil with indignation—it is the accursed Poor Law Bill (grouns and hisses). Now I contend fairly and honestly the passing of that aboundable law—which cuts off from the labouring man that out-door relief, which he preferred in the shape of wages, to being doled out in charity, affords a fertile reason for the repeal of the Corn Laws, because if one law was passed to make-brend dear, and another law was passed to constitute poverty a crime, it was a proceeding so monstrous that I can hardly speak of it with columness, and the most cruel injustice ever practised on the rights of mankind (cheers). I consider that the Corn Laws were virtually repealed by the passing of the New Poor Law, and it ought to have been so, in fact (great cheering). Hence, it is our bounden duty to our wives, our children, and our country, to raise our voices against the Corn Laws It is now proposed by Sir Robert Peel, yielding, as he does, to the voice of public opinion, to abolish the Corn Laws at the end of three years; and a difference of opinion exists as to the wisdom of continuing them for three ears, or of repealing them immediately, but I am happy to say that the great mass of the farmers, instead of agreeing to a deception for three years, join almost to a man, heart and hand, in supporting total and immediate repeal. I have met with only one exception, and that is my friend, Mr. Whale (hisses and groans). If, then, the farmers are severe—(bries of "Who will doubt it?")—it is in strict keeping with our duty as labourers, (for I call myself one of your selves,) to come forward and do their work for them (cheen. If, however, they have not the energy and decision to come forward and prove that the Corn Laws have not produced happiness and prosperity, I trust we shall adopt a petition for repeal; but if, on the contrary, it should be the feeling of the majority of this company that, during the 80 years those laws have been in operation, the labourers have enjoyed happiness and comfort, and have been better fed, better housed, and better alothed than they were before, then adopt a petition for the continuance of those laws (cries of no, no, pever). to not come here to set the labourer against his master, because I bollove that unless the farmer is in a state of prosbecause I believe that unless the farmer is in a state of prosperity, the labourer cannot enjoy any degree of comfort, believe that the real interests of the farmer, the labourer, and the labourer and the labourer, and the labourer and the labourer, and the labourer of a little "Obdenised eye salve," and look a little yound their noses, they would see that they had been the mere can't paws of the landlords. The law is not a farmer's, but a parson's law. It has worked a great moral evil; it has never fulfilled its burpose, or the pledges given with respect to it. It has turned out a mere delusion, and it has seen away four-fifths of the renting farmers of this country, leaving the remainder in anything hill a state of prosperity (look in a state of prosperity what hypolieses). If they wore in a state of prosperity, what hypoleses). It they wore in a state of prosperity, what hypoleses is was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning about distress before no crisy it was for them to go whitning ab

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get the Nescesseries wat we and our Fameles whote and the a good many sais we be partened by the Come Lawes we thinks we should be better of if there woodent mean." The mover stated that last winter he had sarned nine shillings per week, out of which he had to heap a family of seven in number; and this year he had got ten shillings a week to heap sight. He had no house went to nave but they wanted humber; and this year he had got for sandings a week to keep eight. He had no house-rent to pay; but they wanted right gallons (a term psouliar to Hants) of bread a week, which cost 8s. 2d., which left him and his family is. 10d.

(A Voice—"Where is the meat to come from?") Last ninter all he had to eat during the whole of the cold weather was bread twice a day. (Another voice: "Your family had not any roast joints at home.") No, they had not. All they had was bread. (A third voice: "Had you not a little water, Jenn?") Yes, plenty of that; but I leave you to judge after that (cries of "Shame.")

JOHN LIPSCOMBE, another labourer, seconded the resolution. He said that perhaps some of his follow-labourers

around him might know his state as well as he did himself: but if not, his state was thus: He went to work six days in the week for nine shillings. His family consisted of four children, his wife and himself making eix in number. They required six gallons of bread a week, which took seven shill lings of his carnings; and if he calculated to spend the remainder in butter, it would be only a halfpenny worth for each per day. But he did not spend the money in that way. From the 10th of December to the 22d of February he had never seen either choese or butter in his house; and if it had not been for one gentleman (William Garnier, Esq.,) letting him have an acre of his land at a reasonable rent, he and his tamily would have been almost starved during the past winter. The man with much feeling thus concluded:— May God Almighty, who rules the hearts of our Queen and her subjects, turn their hearts to us, and look upon us with m eve of mercy and pity; and to relieve our distresses give as Free Trade if it will afford us any good. I have described my state as well as I can; I have nothing more to say. I

have got no money." (Loud cheers for Lipscombe.)

JANE CLEEVE, a cleanly-dressed, middle-sged woman,
next came forward, and said she had a sick husband and a sick child, and had applied to the parish, who had given her five shillings and six loaves of bread during the time her husband was ill. She had two shillings a week to pay for house-rent, and they wanted three and shall gallons of bread to give them two meals a day. Meat she never saw, but a piece one of her neighbours had given to her sick boy. Her family consisted of five children, her husband, and herself. The doctor had been to see her husband, and she had applied for a little tea and sugar, but was told it was only allowed when the party was in a dying state. ("Shame.") She went before the board of guardians, and had been allowed received 34.6d., which was sixpence a head for her family. She hoped the Corn Laws would be done away with, if that would do any good for the poor (loud cries of "Free

POLLY EDWARDS, a comely looking matron, next came forward and said she had come to state her case. She was the mother of five children who required six gallons of bread a week. She paid 1s. 6d. house rent, 6d. a week to her husband's benefit club, and 6d. a week for her children's schooling, and after this she left the people to guess how much she had remaining out of 11s. a week. Many nights she had gone to bed with a baby to suckle, after having had nothing but a bit of bread and a drink of cold water (loud cries of "shame.") One ounce of tea, and a quarter of a pound of sugar had to last seven of them an entire week. She hoped the Corn Law would be repealed and that her husband would be able to go to work from 6 o'clock to 6 o'clock, with some ment to eat instead of a bit of "bread and scrape." if he had even that. This was her case, and she had walked five miles to tell it.

Mr. EKLESS remarked that a more honest, trustworthy, orderly moral couple than this woman and her husband did not exist. Her coming the distance she had, reflected great credit upon her, and he proposed that she should be greeted with three cheers.—The proposition was promptly and energetically adopted.

HENRY EDNEY, a labourer, from the neighbouring parish of Droxford, stated that he had a wife and nine children, six of whom were at home. His wages were 9s. per week, and his family wanted seven gallons of bread a week, which came This left but 10d. to buy other necessaries. He could say that there had used to be a few mice in his house, but that now they were all starved out. His family had been or three days with only one quartern loaf among them (shame). 'He was not ashamed to tell it—(cheers)—and he had worked three days, having eaten bread only once in

The CHAIRMAN having inquired whether any other person wished to speak for or against the resolution, and no reply having been given, he then put the resolution, to the meeting, by whom it was unanimously adopted amidst loud cheers.

JOHN had got a resolution "wrote" out, which he would get Mr. Ekless to read for him.

Mr. Extress read the resolution, which was in these precise terms. "Resolved—that we sends up a petishen to Both Houses of Palanent to take up the Corn Lawes, cause we thinks we should be better of without em."

DEDIMUS stated that he was a labourer at Weckham, and worked for Captain Green, at 10s. a week. He had a wife and six children. He paid 2s. house rail, and sixpence to his henefit club, which left 7s. 0d. per week for eight of them to live upon (loud ories of "Bhene"). That was every farthing he got, and six gallons of brisd a week was as little as they could do with, and this left but aixpence a week. (A toice, "Whore's the beef, giutton, book, and veal, and the bloaters and salmon"). The others, and was often puzzled how best to lay out the aixpense. (a voice, "Mr. Whale will tell you how to seem your aixpense "—to which another voice replied, "No, Whale is gone lione with a harpoon stuck in him. Ohears, and largiff. His children had not a shoe to their set of assistant to heap them warm in the day, and scarcely so at night. (A cay of "Where is the fire?") As to the fire he was forced to steal that—he did not wish to do so, but he was forced to steal that—he did not wish to do so, but he was forced to it. (A shout of "There's Corn Law protestion by you."). The Corn Laws could not be worse, and any spaces must be for the better. It was the beautiff of workhouse. His wife went to the major at the order of the winter, in longs, to get a list. DEDINUS stated that he was a labourer at Weckham, and

them, while his wife had not two ounces of broad inside her (loud chaers, and cries of "Shame.")

Sabar Titteriose, an intelligent-looking women, came forward to second the resolution. She said that she had six children, who were not able to do suything, and that her husband was ill. When he was at work his wages were nine shillings per week, from which, deducting two shillings for house rent, left seven shillings for eight of a family to live house the husband maid structure a week to his chill from upon. Her husband paid sixpence a week to his club, from which he had some assistance whom he was not able to work, but if it had not been for being trusted on next summer's earnings, she and her family would have been starving during the past winter.

Manuager Hillyku made similar statements—her hus-

band was a shepherd, carning 10s. a wook, and they had nine obildren at home and two at service.

PETER BARFOOT, a venerable looking man, whose appearance would form an admirable study and subject for an artist, stated that all he had carned during the present month of February was three shillings, with the exception of a few coppers he had been given that day.

o other speakers presenting themselves,

The CHAIRMAN put the resolution, which passed amidst loud cheers. Petitions to both houses of Parliament, in the following

terms, were then agreed to.
"The humble potition of the labourers of Hampshire, in public meeting assembled, showeth-

That your humble petitioners, after going on from year to year under Corn Law protection, with bare subsistence wages, despair of an amendment of their state and condition, under those restrictive laws.

'That your petitioners, therefore, do most carnestly entreat your honourable house will be pleased to pass an act for the immediate and total repeal of the Corn Laws, which, as they hope and believe, would be followed by an equitable adjustment of tithes, the protection against game, and the repeal of the malt tax, thus placing the renting furners in a more secure and legitimate condition than they have been in under the last thirty years of Corn Law protection; which would, as they also believe, improve the state and condition of your petitioners, by keeping the price of provisions more moderate and steady, and by an increased demand for their labour, through an outlay of capital on the land, which the present uncertainty, occasioned by Corn Law protection, has had a powerful influence in preventing.

'And your petitioners will ever pray.' On the motion of Mr. Ekless, three cheers were given to the reporters of The Daily News, the Times, and of the local journals then present; and three cheers for Cobden, Bright, and Free Trade; and the concourse of persons who had remained throughout the proceedings, which occupied until half-past eight o'clock, began to move off towards their respective homes in the same peaceable and quiet manner as they arrived.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE. " Be instant in season, and out of season."

Str.—Allow me, through the medium of your journal, to acknowledge the receipt of 10s. from C. il., Bristol, for the use of the poor in my neighbourhood. Many thanks to

Sir, while I have the pen in my fingers, I may as well inform both yourself and your many readers, that Free Trade doctrines are gaining ground in our high church neighbourhood; and the farmers in general would, I know, much rather have the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, than the measure as proposed by Sir Robert Pecl. The farmers of our province were taken by no small degree of surprise, in our market place, on Friday, the 20th inst. employed a man to distribute about seventy five copies of the League and Economist newspapers, including a great number of Anti-Corn Law tracts, and about fifty copies of the Anti-Corn Law Catechism among them. It was highly amusing to see how some of the worthy cultivators of the soil throw the League up into the air, just as they would shake off a serpent; but the great bulk of those who took the papers, &c., put them into their pockets: and I have not a doubt that, in consequence of the simple plan which I have adopted, to promulgate Free Trade doctrines, many hun-dreds of farmers, farmers' wives, sons and daughters, have now become more friendly, and more willing to think and act for themselves, than they have been accustomed to do.

I am indebted to my old, well-tried, and constant friend, Joseph Proctor, Esq., Manchester, for the greater number of the papers which have been distributed at my request and by my directions. And it is my duty and privilege to add, that Mr. Proctor has forwarded the sum of 10l. to be inid out by me for the bonefit and to promote the comfort and elevation sked mor in my own ving and hood. For this wich and seasonable gift for the peasantry of the district in which I live, and often sigh and weep over of the district in which I live, and often sigh and weep over the miseries of my fellow men, I give thanks, and take courage. I am still hard at work, walking day after day from hovel to cottage and from hamlet to village, to see and ex-amine for myself how far the statements made to me at my own door, and by hundreds of the peasantry, are true and to be relied upon; and I can assure your readers that the more I search out the real condition of the field-labourers, the more Tam constrained to say to the "protectionists," "With force and with cruelty have ye ruled them."

Last week both my wife and myself paid a visit to the

hamlet of Arncott, in the parish of Ambrosden, Oxon. Arncott is about five miles from Bicester.

Out of the many applications made to us for relief by the poor of Arncott, we have selected a number of the most Out of the many applications made to us for relief by the poor of Arncott, we have selected a number of the most wretched and destitute families we could find, and have given them, blankets, shoets, and smookfrocks. We shall not soon, forget the miseries, privations, and sufferings of these soor people the miseries, privations, and sufferings of these soor people the expressions of thanks to those Free Tracers who have anabled us to assist them.

These poor people (hundreds in number) have no other water, summer or winter to boil or to drink, than what they trave from the stagmant and fifthy points at which cows and horses drink, and in which decks and mass swim. The conquested of using one stadies, and or this hundrer solution to the people, is an applical typhus fever, by which several persons are harried every were into eternicy.

Lis not long stress a language with in Arndott was so the tracers and the stress and the destination of the destination of the destination of the stress while a language while a la

woman had to cover her, and she died before the sheet could be rendered at for the bed!!

One of the men to whom we gave sheets and blankats last week, whose name is Green, has had the typing fever in his hovel for seven weeks; his wife has been ill, dud not able to stand by herself, and consequently the poor man has had to hire a woman out of his 8s. a-week to attend to him. and his three children have been ill of the typhus fever, and confined to the house for seven weeks. The poor man used to lay one of the children ou an old sack on the floor before the fire, while he attended to his delirious wife and other children. Another sober and industrious man, to whom we have given sheets and a blanket, has been seen this winter by a member of my church, with his wife and children, 10 in number, eating out of an old bechive; but their food was neither "locusts" nor "wild honey;" no,—but their rich repast was made up of boiled Swedes and greens, mashed

Another great sufferer in our neighbourhood is a young man who lost his father a few years ago. The poor lad was brought up in the midst of plenty, but since the death of his father—especially this winter he has been almost starved to death. I know it to be a fact, that the poor fellow was so reduced by hunger a few weeks back, that he could not walk up stairs to his bed.

Sir, I have done what I could to relieve the most distress. ing cases which I could find in the town and neighbourhood in which I live and labour, but I have not reached more than one half of those cases of wretchedness and misery which call aloud for help. It is now about seven years since I took up the cause of the rural pensantry. I then said that when ever others in other counties could be induced to follow my example, the peasantry as a whole (in the South of Eng land), and not the peasantry of this or that county, would be found a ruined wreck.

Others have since followed my example in pleading for the poor, and those who read The Leader know the result. I should like to know when I am to have the remainder of the bods and bedding promised me. I have promised them to the bédless sons and daughters of toil, and they are ready to worry me for them. The following is an exact copy, spelling and all, of a letter addressed to me, begging for a bed. The

writer is a sober, pious, and industrious man, and a member of the Primitive Methodist Scolety.

"Dear Sir,—i hope you will not be offended with me for my coming to you, for i hear that you have beds to give away—i have no bed of my own, we sleep on my mothers bed—i have been out of work for 3 weeks, but i have work now and i have six shillings a week for 3 persons to live on And i bam afrade i shall not get one without you are my frend. JAN. STANFORD, Merton, Oxfordshire."
"29 january, 1846."

Sir, I have presented in this letter a rath specimen of the PROSPERITY and MENTAL CULTURE of the PROTECTED LA-HOURRISS in the counties of ONOS and Bucks, and beg to close this epistic with the following short petition: "Perish protection—flourish Free Trade."—I am, Sir, yours very respectfully. WM. PERGUSON.

Minister of the Congregational Independent Church, Feb. 23, 1816.

IMPORTS OF WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR .-- We copy from a parliamentary return (No. 54, 1815), dated the 13th instant, "An account of all wheat and wheat flour (stated in quarters of wheat) imported into the United Kingdom, in the years ending the 5th day of January, 1842, the 5th day of January, 1843, the 5th day of January, 1844, the 5th day of January, 1845, and the 5th day of January, 1846. Also, of the quantities entered for home consumption in the sum percods":-

Years ending 5th Jan.	Wheat and Wi	of What.	od in Quartor
	Foreign.	British Colonia),	Total.
QuantitiesImpted	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
1842	2511628	289019	2770647
1843	2840720	199543	3040269
1644	940038	118304	1004942
1845	1144648	234413	1379201
1810	800077	215051	1142028
Retained for			
home consumpto.	J		
1812	2361732	257970	2010709
1643	2704223	21:000	2077302
1814.	N47381	134906	982287
1846	787944	298697	1021081
1846	01808	225921	310743

From the same parliamentary paper, we copy "An account of Wheat and wheat flour (stated in quarters of wheat) imported into Great Britain and Ireland from Canada, in the years ending the 5th day of January, 1842, the 5th day of January, 1843, the 5th day of January, 1844, the 5th day of January, 1846.—Also, of the quantities entered for home consumption in the same

	Whoat and W	of Wheat.	od In	Quartera
Years ending 5th Jan,	Entered as Produce of British Possessions.	Corditud Produce of Canada (from 10th Oct 1843.)	Foreign.	Total.
Imported from Canada. 1842	Quartors.	Quarters.	Qin.	Quartin
1843	178057		1805	170990
1844 1845	30223	77827 995(6)7	18 17	110000
1840		220241	8	220244
Entored for home consumption from Canada.				
1849	241004		104	911084
1843 1844	191 096 05030	20990	221	199008
1846 1846	137	290660	***	
1010		XUDAYU .		4,554,50

Letters from Coblents state that 48,000 bushels of sour had been withdrawn from the military stores of Wesel, Unlogne, Juliers, and Coblents; and blaced at the disposal of the Precident in Chief of the Rhepisipprovinces, to be divided among the inhabitable of the most distributed distributed who willings for the amply at a rate to be filled after the next haven.

	بسمعين		(T CD# 60,
Just Published, M.R. BRIGHT'S SPEECH in the House of Com- memora Tuesday Night, Feb. 17. Price One Penny. MR. GIRSON'S SPEECH on Monday Night, Feb. 18.		*A Friend	*Chadwick, Miss, do, per do Williamson, H Miss, per Mrs A Clegg, Greenscres Moor
Line vs. Office, 67, Flort-street, London; J. Cadaby, Newall's Buildings, and 5, Old Miligate, Manchester.		acres Moor	Ramsden, Charles, per do do 0 4 Cavoly, E, Rhodes Bank, do 0 2
Where may be had, THE GOATACRE MELTING. Just published, price One Penny, or &s. per 100,		*Lees and Mills, Waterhead Mill . 20 0 0	(*Woolley, Samuel, Feathers Inn. High.
VERBATIM REPORT OF THE MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL LABOULBERS AT GOATACRE, printed in a two sorm, 12 pages.		*Barlow, George, Chamber 10 0 0 Staly *Moss and Howard, Waterhead Mill 10 0 0 *Broadbent, T, Hopwood Mill, Green-	(*Hill James Greenenestreet
with form, 12 pages. Sold at the Langue Office, 67, Picet-street, London; and by J. Gadaby, Mewall's Buildings, and 8, Old Miligate, Manchester. MR. COBDEN'S SPEECH will be published as early as possible after delivery.		*Marsden and Collings, Horsedge Mill 10 0 0	Milburn and Halsworth Cheetham, Edw. Ackers lane
oner convery.		▼Wild A Mevelond Mill 10 0 0 1	a same turinti a constantion at Ashion.
**.* Several members of the Council of the League are desirous of making complete their sets of the Anti-Corn-		*Nelson, J & H, Waterloo 10 0 0 4 Clegg, A, Mump's Mill, Greenwores Moor 10 0 0	*Thompson, M D *Ardron, T, shopkeeper, Grosvenor aq
Law Circular, which was printed in Manchester, prior to the commencement of the LEAGUE paper. They are deficient of the following numbers:		*Holladay, James, North at Mill 6 0 0 *Wainwright, John & Sons, Bankside do 6 0 0 *Jackson, Brothers, Cannon st 6 0 0	Taylor, James *Taylor, James *Allon, Robert, Royal Oak *Thompson, M D Ardron, T, shopkeeper, Grosvenor aq. 100 m Kenworthy, T, do, Grosvenor-street Carside, Robert, Walmsloy-street Heap, Wm, Stakes Bridge-street Neild, James, High-street Hudfield, Moses, Caroline-street ### Page 100 m ### Pag
11, 18, 10, 21, 28, 41, 48, 53, 63, 67, 68, 70, 76, 78, 93, 67, 100, 103, 104, 105, 107, 115, 118, 125, 130.		*Jackson, Brothers, Cannon st	
Any reasonable sum will be paid for the numbers, or any of them.		Moor 6 0 0	*Reynolds, Wm, Ackors-lane
They may be addressed to the care of Mr. Gadshy, Newali's buildings, Manchester, and should be accompanied by a		*Milne, W, 13, Stock-st, Cheetham Man- chester *Milne, F, 6, Stanley-st, do	*Cheethan, Jeremiah 1 0 6 Harrop, Edwin 1 0 6 Wilkinson, Robort 1 0 6
letter from the senders, which shall be promptly replied to, with payment.		*Roe & Boyd, Soho, Greenacres Moor. 5 0 0 *Rhodes, John, timber-merchant 4 0 0 *Wulton & Shaw, Chapel Mill 4 0 0	B Holt, Thomas 10 n
COVERTONIC	ļ <u>.</u>	*Chadwick, J, Rhodes do, Greenacres	Roberts, Joseph 0 10 a
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.		*Wainwright, Joseph, King-st	Wagstaff, Thomas 0 5 a Illingworth, J 0 5 a Boulton, Wm 0 5 a Briorley, Isaac 0 5 a McAlister, Wm 0 2 5 Chadwick, Edward 0 2 5
Subscriptions received during the week ending		Moor *Robinson, S, Hope st, Greenacres Moor 4 0 0	Briorley, Isaac 0 3 6 4 Challetor, Wm 0 2 6
N.B.—As the Subscription List is made up from		*Butterworth, James, Mumps, Green- acres Moor 4 0 0 *Marsh, Richard, Croft Bank do 2 0 0	Hudfield, John 0 2 1 Romatrong, Moor 0 2 5 Worrsll, George
Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the			Roberts, Daniel 6 2 h Ratteliffe, David 6 2 h Robinson, James 6 2 h
but are included in the list of the week following.		Saddleworth 2 0 0 **Lees, Jas, New Earth, Greenacres Moor 2 0 0 **Wild, Isaac, King-st 2 0 0	Hollingworth, James
As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post		*Schofield, Jas and Son, Bankside Mill 2 () () *Lees, Jonathan and Son, Primrose Mill 2 () ()	Welsh, James
Office Orders are sent should be given in full, sub- scribers are respectfully requested to procure their		*Emmott, George 2 0 0 *Hargreaves, James, High st 2 0 0 *Wright, Edward, Vineyard, Greenacres	E Lees, W 6 2 6 Smith, Joseph 0 2 7 Small Sums 8 10
Orders in future for George Wilson, League Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.	I	*Robinson, J, Bull's Head Inn do 2 0 0	*Greavos, John! 0 " *Andrew, Wm! 1 0 "
	:	*Anti-Curry *Beswick, George, Edge-lane, Royton 1 0 *Holladay, Matthew 1 0 0 *Nelson, James, Manchester st 1 0 0	*Linney, John 1 0 a *Byrom, J and J 1 0 a *Lees, J and J 1 0 a
*Potter, John and Thomas, Manchester 100 () () *Binns, Dean and Co, Dukinfield, nr Ashton- under Lyns		*Nelson, James, Manchester st 1 0 0 *Potter, John do / . 1 0 0 *Gilpin, Edward, Market-place 1 0 0	*Birch, J, and J Shipley 1 8 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
*Wardley and Sons, Manchester 20 0 0 0 *Barnos, Joseph, Accrington 20 0 0	_•	*Frith, John, High st 1 0 0 Cooling, John, Manchester st 1 0 0	Korshaw, Wm
*Vornon, Manchunton and Edge, David-st, Man-	of Oldham.	*Hilton, John, plumber, &c., Greenacres Moor 1 0 0 *Hall, J, boot and shoe dealer, Mumps do 1 0 0	Mundy Randle
*Petley, Ernst and Co, King-st, do 10 0 0 *Kay, Alex, do 10 0 0		★*Dickinson and Sharples do 1 0 0 ★*Buckley, John, Mount-pleasant do 1 0 0	Calvert, James 0.5 % Shofteld, James 0.5 %
*Dyer, J C, Barnage, near do 10 0 0 *Kershaw, James, Newmarket buildings, do 6 0 0 *Thomson, Philip District Bank, do 5 0 0	Borough	*Bentley, John, butcher do. 1 0 0 *Tuylor, Joseph, Shore Mill, Greenacres	Unarmby, Wm
*Holgate and Roberts, Rochdule	A	*Crompton, James do do 1 0 0	Dimilon, Wm 0 3 0 Gledhill, Eli 2 6 Cook, John 9 2 9
Potter, Accoli, & Co. Greenwood at Manchagtan 4 ()		*Coper, Reuben, Market-place . 1 () () *Travis, George, Munchester-st . 1 () () *Raws, John, Linplateworker, Greenacres	Cook, John
*Honnson, Thos, Hanging ditch do 4 0 0 *Benson, Henry, Church, near Accrington 2 10 0 *Barnes, Joseph, do 2 10 0		moor 1 0 0	Wood, Wm
*Eastwood and Tavo, Charles st, Brook st, Man- chester 2 0 0	•	*Robinson, W, cotton spinner, Waterhead Mill 1 0 0	Whitehead, John 0 2 6 Ousey, Ralph 0 2 6 Hadfield, Isaac 0 2 6 Ge, George 0 2 6 Ogden, John 0 2 6
Melson, Rev Robert, Birmingham 2 0 0 Bmall some, per Johnson and Hargeness, Man-		*Lees, Joseph, do do . 1 0 0 *Hague, Matthew, na hinist, do . 1 0 0 *Eastwood, W, George & Dragon Inn, do 1 0 0	Gee, George
*Chadwick, John, Jun, 13, Princes at, do 1 1 0		*"A Friend" do 1 0 0 *Broadbent and Lees, do 1 0 0 *Beswick, John, do 1 0 0	B Hurst. David, sen 0 2 6 ★ Cook, Wm 0 2 6 B Hurst, David, jun 0 2 6 Cook, Wm 0 2 6
*Pilling, J., Nicholas Croft, do 1 1 () *Hughes, J. 29. Stretford New-road Fluing do 1 1 ()		*Dunkerley, James, grocer, do 1 0 0	Suthern, Henry 0 2 6 Collins, Robert 0 2 6
*Cookson, Wm, 26, Mercer-st, Butler-st, do 1 1 0 *Chadwick, David, Salford 1 0 *Whitaliead, E. 53, London-road, Manchester 1 0 0	•	*Brideoake, Edward, do . 1 0 0 *Mayall, James, Union Mill, Greenacres Moor 1 0 0	Edmunds, James 6 3 h Andrew, John 9 2 h Hopwood, Henry 0 2 h Bardsley, Thomas 0 2 h
Read, W. 47, Stretford road, Hulme, do		*Grindrod, Samuel, do 1 0 0 *Hirst, John, Church street 1 '0 0	Suthern, Henry Collins, Robert Edmunds, James Andrew, John Hopwood, Henry Bardsley, Thomas Ocan, Joel Greenwood, Thomas Taylor, Horatio
Greening, M, at Ryland's & Co. Cateston at do 1 0 0		*Rhodes, John, jun., Yorkshire at 1 0 0	Shofteld, John 0 2 6 Hodgeon, Samuel 0 2 6
*Hargeave, G. Whithy Grove do 1 0 0	/ · · · .	*A Friend 1 0 0 Travis, W, waste dealer, Greenacres Moor 1 0 0 Wild, Samuel, Lees Road do 1 0 0	Hodgson, John 0 2 6 Saxon, Joseph 0 2 6 Malony, Patrick 0 2 6
*White, J. R. san, Radnor st. Hulmo, do 1 0 0	1	*Hardman, J, Chat Moss, do 1 0 0 *Allcook, J, Lower Moor Iron Works, do 1 0 0	Wormald, Abraham Shepherd, John O 2 5
*White, J., R. jun, do do 100 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		*Jones, Joseph, do do . 1 0 0 *Howard, Edward, do do . 1 0 0 *Wrigley, Joseph, do do . 1 0 0	Hadfield, Samuel 0 2 h
*Baxter, W, C, cabinet maker, Dundee . 1 0 0 *Hadfield, T, Butter market, Warrington . 1 0 0		*Wrigley, Benjamin, Firth, do 1 0 0 **Wild, James, grocer, side of do 1 0 0	Brooks, Wm Small Sums
*Hadfield, Mrs, Stanley-st, do 1 0 0 *"Plato," Bolton-st, Darwon, per H, Lightbourn 1 0 0 *Whitworth, E, Royton, near Oldham 1 0 0		*Maraden, J, do , 1 0 () *Bradbury, J, do	*Cooper, Thomas, solicitor *MoCoy, Patrick, draper *Lockitt, George, grocer
*Brown, H, Thetford, Norfolk		Wilcock, J. Henshaw-st Mort, W. Shaw-stree: Mills, T. Lords Hill Congle	*Bloor, Wm, silk throwster 0 0
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ERRATA.

In LEAGUE, No. 123, for G B Lea, Kidderminster, 127, 10s.

Food 107.
Ju No. 125, for J Hamilton, Gloucester, road Thos Francillon.
In No. 126, for Matthew Kellan road Matthew Kelland; and in the Edinburgh List. John Mackintosh, 42, Nicholson-street, 21., appeared as a new Subscriber instead of a renewed one.

THE CORN LAW DEBATE. Continued from Page 397 of our Supplement.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE-THURSDAY.

Mr. ROEBUCK, before the orders of the day were read,

begged leave to put a question to the honourable gentlemen who occupied the benches opposite. He wished those hon. gentlemen would give him to understand the time at or about which the present debate was likely to terminate (hear, hear, hear). Because it appeared to him that the debate had taken a turn quite different from that which it professed to have in view, and that it seemed to be directed rather to waste time than to improve it (hear, hear). He had heard an honourable gentleman the other night occupy two hours and a half of the very valuable time of the house on subjects that had reference to anything and everything but to the business of the debate before them. He (Mr. Roc. buck) thought that such a proceeding did not reflect any honour on the house. It certainly was not the way in which to promote the character of the house for decency, order, or anything that was great. That honourable gentleman had spoken for two mortal hours and a half by the clock on any and every subject but the one before the house. He (Mr. Roebuck) did not wonder at the proceedings of the honour able gentleman. He was accustomed to him. But what he was surprised at was, that honourable gentlemen opposite should have cheered and encouraged him in such a style of proceeding, as if they or their cause had been deriving any assistance from his vociferations. If the house were to mointain its dignity, it was not by permitting or indulging in vulgar vituperation, or indecent menace. The honourable gentleman looked as if he had come down like Orson with his club to lay about him: and he indulged accordingly in furious, outspoken, mere—there were words in the English language which would express most properly his opinions of the honourable gentleman's speech, but which would hardly be in accordance with the rules or usages to which the house was accustomed, and he was therefore driven to the use of words that were less expressive but more decent (laughter and cheers). The difficulty of finding suitable language was not raised by him but by that person-by that honourable member who had so violated decency (loud cries of "order, order," from the protectionist benches). Did they cry "order" at him? Did they cry "order" when the violence of which he spoke took place (hear, hear, from the Oppo sition benches). No, they did not. And were they as a party so low, that instead of argument they were reduced to rely on blustering and swaggering demeanor? This was an accurate description, and he hoped that the hon. ember had something to display beyond the exhibition of intense passion. It was not the reading of extracts from former speeches, or saying that such and such an individual was a dishonourable person, because he had not done exactly what the honourable member thought he ought to have done, that anything was gained in the way of debate or argument. Besides, what was the worth of that honourable gentleman's opinion? Was there a human being, measuring its value professionally, who would give a guinea, or half a guinea, or half a farthing, even, for any opinion he expressed? He (Mr. Roebuck) admitted that great ability had been displayed on the other side; he had been improved and informed by listening to many honourable members; but he must be allowed to add, that it was not by an exhibited little that the state of the stat bition like that in the last night's debute that the character of the party opposite would be elevated. He hoped, for the bonour and credit of the landed interest, that they would have something better to put forward this evening. He (Mr. Roebuck) did not care for personal imputations; he had lived too long in the atmosphere of this house to value them, but are expessive hoped that the country gentlemen of England would not be driven to depend upon such advocacy. If the house were to divide, let it divide on argument alone; and to-night he frusted that they would furnish something a little more like it than the speech to which he had referred, and not require the lives to set and little more like it than the speech to which he had referred, and not require the libuse to sit and listen to violent listred,

in violent and volgar language (obsers).

Mr. BRICHT agreed that this was not the best time for entering into such mattern; but he was not the best time for entering into such mattern; but he was anxious to say a few words on what fell from the honourable member for Knares-brough; respecting the conduct of an intimate friend of his (Afra Brightes), who, had not an opportunity of defending himself. (Beer, best). He allowed fourth. George Wilson, the chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League. He did not

intend to enter into any detailed contradiction; but to be at liberty to say that nearly every portion of what the honourable member for Kuaresborough had stated as facts and every particle of inference he bud drawn from them was to be set down as utterly untrue. Mr. Wilson had never called any meeting of the starch-manufacturers: he had never presided at any such meeting, and he had been no party to any deputation that waited upon Government. The object of the starch manufacturers was not to obtain protection, but as their raw material was enhanced in price by protective duty, it was necessary that the imported article should have a protective duty imposed upon it. When foreign must was brought into this country, it would only be just to the malsters, that they should be protected to the amount of the excise duty upon home-grown malt. Mr. Wilson was the last man who would join with the starch manufacturers, if what they wanted was protection in the sense in which the word was used. There was a strange fatality about the assertions in the speeches of the honourable member for Knaresborough, that as far as he (Mr. Bright) had ever heard or read, he had not been able to substantiate any of

Dr. BOWRING thought the house hed great reason to complain of the absence of the hon, member for Knares-borough, who had directed serious charges against a personal life. friend of his (Dr. Bowring), who was unable to defend himself. He alluded to the benevolent and intelligent Henry Ashworth, of Bolton, who hadbeen brought before the house as having been guilty, to use the words of the honourable member for Knaresborough, of cold blooded cruelty. His acts had been processionised in the face of the house by the hon: member, who had talked of the dirt, the poverty, and the squalid state of the dwellings of the people Mr. Ashworth employed (hear, hear, hear). He (Dr. Bowring) had had some opportunity of knowing the real condition of the po-pulation by which his friend was surrounded, and he would venture to assert that in the midst of the dire distress that assailed Bolton a few years ago, the workmen at the mills of Turton and Egerton formed a striking contrast to the rest of the inhabitants. He had written a note to the noble member for Newark (Lord J. Manners), and he hoped that he was in his place. He had also requested the presence of the hon, member for Canterbury (Mr. Smythe), because they had both done Mr. Ashworth the honour to visit him, and to inspect the state of his work people, in order to ascertain whether there was any truth in the representations made in the House of Commons and elsewhere as to the condition of those employed by Mr. Ashworth. He (Dr. Bowring) was sure, if they were present, they would pay due homage to truth and justice, by stating the fact. The statement of the honourable member for Knaresborough was altogether un-true (cheers). He (Dr. Bowring) felt called upon to add that if there were anybody who was bound to be singularly scrupulous and careful in his assertions, it was the honourable member for Kunresborough; few were less at a loss for boldness than the honourable member.

A Member, whose name we could not learn, observed that no doubt the honourable member for Knaresborough had many faults, but it was fit that he should be present when he was told of them. An opportunity would occur on

a futuro day (cheers).

Lord MORPETH wished to be permitted to make one reference to what had been said by the honourable member for Knaresborough. He had been the last speaker on Tuesday, and it seemed not unreasonable to expect that he should present now. 'He (Lord Morpeth) had a letter in his pocket at the time the honourable member was making his address, which directly contradicted the statement that the operatives at Union half had been compelled by their master to sign the petition for the repeal of the Corn Laws. The letter accompanied the petition, and asserted that the signatures were as free as the air the subscribers breathed. Such they believed was the case with other petitions. They made the remark, they added, because it had been said that they had been compelled by their masters to sign it. The operatives, it went on to state, were more unxious than their employers for the total and immediate repeal of all duties on articles of food (cheers). His lordship subjoined that be had received similar letters from other quarters.

Mr. ROSS did not feel himselfcalled upon to notice what the honourable member for Knaresborough had advanced respecting the election for the West Riding of Yorkshire. or the personalities in which he had indulged; least of all the assertion that the honourable member for Stockpart (Mr. Cobden) had been guilty of selling milk to his work people. Had that honourable member spoken at all to the question before the house, he (Mr. Ross) should have been prepared to answer him. The honcurable member for prepared to answer him. The honeurable member for Northamptonshire (Mr. S. O'Brien) had delivered a speech near the commencement of the discussion, as remarkable for the excellence of its phrascology as it was lamentable for its lack of argument; but he had advanced one position which he had put syllogistically, of which it might be hecos-sary to expose the fallney. The position was that the la-bourer was entitled to protection, and thus he endeavoured to prove it: the labour of a working manis his property—therefore he is entitled to protection. If the labour of a working man were his property, any man who by any means deprived him of his property ought to be criminally punishable, and the fallacy was, that although the working man is entitled to protection in the exercise of his industry, he is not entitled to the protection of his labour as property. A confusion seemed to have arisen in the honourable gentleman's mind between protection and property, and be had been driven to use a followy in spite of his own understanding. After reading an extract from one of Pym's apegolies. in order to prove that oven at that early date, he was a warm and sincere friend to Free Trade principles, the honourable member adverted to the statistical details brought forward by the honourable member for public, and to the contents of a petition he (Mr. Ross) had presented from Belfast, signed by all the flux spinuers and other artisans in favour of the unrestricted import of grain. For himself he was quite clear of any equivocal motive for the course he now pursued: he had not adopted his opinions for the purpose of obtaining his seat, but he had been feely selected by his constituents long before the inte dissolution, on account of the knowledge they possessed of his culiniation their suffrages. He was not surprised that these who thought differently acted differently: they divaded a danger which he thought objected from them the more than formal lift he could not expect from them the more than formal lifting to plunge into the gulf with their eyes open. He took the course he now adopted because he lied strived at a fixed belief that the separal of the law mestricing the import of sood would be beneficial to the country of large. He would advert briefly to the dependence of the interior at interest on manufacturing prosperity, and the line if down as incontrovertible course he now pursued: he had not adopted his opinions for

that the infinence of the one interest was the prosperity of this other. For this reason he contended that the measure, instead of injuring, would benefit Ireland. At that time he admitted that many improvements in agriculture ware yet required. In Roxburghabire, Berwickshire, and the Inthises, the perfection of farming might be said to exist, and it had been mainly produced by competition. An impulse of the same kind would be given to agriculture generally when free importation of grain was allowed. In reference to this point the honourable member noticed the introduction of the growth of flax into Armugh, us well as the improvements in the cultivation of it, so that in a short timeit seemed very possible that it might surpass the flax of Belglum, and drive it out of the home market. Upon this question he went into some statistical details, which illustrated and enforced his position. Another article in which great improvements had been made, and still greater were possible, was Irish butter. At present a vast quantity of Dutch butter was weekly brought into the market, which might ere long be superseded by Irish butter, if greater care and will were displayed in the manufacture and care of it. He had no doubt this country would maintain her wonted supremary in arts and arms, if the Corn Laws were at one repealed, notwithstanding the gloomy forchodings which hon, gentlemen opposite included in their, heat).

Mr. B. DENISON regretted that Mr. Ferrand was not in has place; for Mr. Ferrand had alluded to him the other night in his absence, in a way, in which he was by no means justified. Mr. Perrand had stated to the house that Sir R. Peel, when he did him the honour to ask him to second the address, had deceived him as to the measure which he (Sir R. Peel) intended to propose, Now, Sir R. Peel was the last man in the world to deceive anybody; and in no way, either directly or indirectly, had he deceived them. When he (Mr. B. Denison) seconded the address, he expected that Sir R. Peel would propose a measure of the same character as those which he had proposed, on several occasions in the last three years, and which had been so eminently successful; but he had not been prepared to expect that Sir R. Peel would propose a total abolition of the Corn Laws, after a period of three years, during which we were to have a diminished sliding scale, ac companied by certain compulsatory propositions. He thought that in propounding such a scheme, Sir R. Peel had committed a inistake, which many now regretted, and which he hoped that Sir R. Peel would never live to regret himself. Though he should oppose to the attermost that scheme, he hoped that, if it were inside law, it would promote the public interests in the way which Sir R. Peel expected.

Mr. DROTHERTON said that the honourable member for the West Riding of Yorkshire seemed to think there was something derogatory to a man's character involved in a change of opinions; but he (Mr. Brotherton) had read in an old book, that the wise man changed often; but that one of a different nature continued in his perversity (hear, hear, and a laugh). As to the statement made by the honourable member respecting the proportion of foreign corn consumed in the country, he would say that if the honourable member had attended to the returns laid before the house, he would have found that from 1×15 to 1×21 the proportion of the population that fed upon foreign corn was I in 30 -that from 821 to 1831 it had increased to 1 in 22 and that from 1831 to 1841 it was I in every 161 (hear, hear... If the average were to be taken now, he (Mr. Brotherton was convinced that I out of every 10 persons now depended for his food on the foreign market. He would not dispute that many persons voted for the Corn Laws under the impression that they tended to keep up agriculture. Those I we might have been framed with that view - they might have been designed -- not to keep up the rents, or render food dear -- but to encourage agriculture, and to enable the country to produce sufficient food for the population (hear, hear). But the question now was, have they answered their and? He holioved they had utterly failed to do so, and that for 50 years the numbers of the people fed on foreign corn had been rapidly increasing. In Ireland, 4,000,000 of people lived on potators. The Prime Minister states that those people were on the brink of familie from the disease of that vegetable; and it could not be demed that the Government had shown wisdom in providing against such a calamity. In arguing against the measure the country gentlemen had given expression to their feelings in speeches which, discarded of verbiage, mount nothing more nor less than this; "The land is only --we will do us we like with our own. We have a right to govern you, and you cannot complain of your condition; for we have given you employment, and you are much better off than the serfs of Pobind or Russia. We are determined you shall be fed at our prices, and by our produce alone" (cries of Hear, hear, and No, no): He firmly believed honourable gentlemen opposite would prevent any foreign corn coming into this country if they could (no, There had been a great dead of cant attered during debate about the condition of the working classes and the benefits conferred on them by the Corn Laws -he had heard too much about the distress of the agri-cultural labourers (hear). That might all be very charitable and humane; but honourable gentlemen would do well to consider who employed the labourer. He contonded there were fewer, agricultural labourers employed in 1841 than in 1831, and that in 1831 there were still fower than in 1821, though the population had increased 4,000,000 since the latter year. There were now about 1,200,000 agricultural labourers in the kingdom (oh, oh, and cheers). That was the number given in the return thear, hear). On an average each labourer was paid 8s. a week. The annual consumption of wheat might be taken at 20,000,000 quarters. winch at 25s, a quarter came to 25,000,000/, a year. How was the difference in value made up, and by whom were the labourers paid (hear)? The law as it at present stood was inhuman and unjust, and the increase in the price of food induced by its operation this year alone made a difference of Longoon, sterling to the people of Lancashire. The best ancouragement to agriculture was foreign competition (thear). He thought the mousire before the House en titled to the support of the country, and though he would have preferred an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, which would, in his opinion, have been truly worthy of a great minister, he would, nevertheless, give his vote to her Ma-josty's Government, because he was convinced that their proposition, so far from being injurious to the working classes, or to any class, would cause a decrease in the amount of poverty, crime, wretchedness, and he conductes to the salvance of the general interests of the country (hear, hear,

Alls CHRISTOPHER expressed his intention to resist the measure of the Government, and to give his cordial support to the amendment of Mr. Miles. He considered the explanation which fir Robert Peal had given of the reasons which had induced him to resign and resume office perfectly

satisfactory (hear, hear); but he could not express himself in terms of equal satisfaction as to the causes which had induced the right honourable baronet to introduce so aweeping and so perilous a measure as the present (cries of hear,

Mr. CARDWELL next addressed the house. He said that, although it would be his misfortune to differ from his honourable friend the member for the West Riding of York shire, and from his hon, friend who had just sat down, in the vote he was about to give, it would not, therefore, be necessary for him to differ from all the positions which those hon. gentlemen had hid down; but, on the contrary, in the few observations he should submit to the house, he should frequently have to admit many of those positions upon which they seemed to lay the greatest weight, and to press, as he thought he might justly do, into the service of his own argiment many of the facts and illustrations they had thought it expedient to introduce into theirs (hear, hear). To his honourable friend the member for the West Riding of Yorkthire, he (Mr. Cardwell) could have no difficulty in admitting that agriculture had gone on improving with the increase of the population of the united empire. Also, he could have no difficulty in allowing, that although we had had a constant relaxation in the protective system, and the ordimery prices of agricultural produce were now, as the hon. member had said, lower than at the commencement of the century-notwithstanding all this, agriculture was in a prosperons and improving condition, and the general welfare of the country had gone on improving likewise. On the other hand, it was not necessary for him to dispute that with the variations of the harvests the prosperity of the country had varied. The obvious and first result of a bad harvest us to enuse great scarcity of food, and it would be inconristent with the argument he was, about to offer to contend for a single moment that the prosperity of the country had not varied in exact ratio with that circumstance. Nor would it be necessary for him to deny that the condition of the population had gone on generally improving. So far from denving these facts, it would be necessary for him to draw from them the illustrations of his own argument. As he had never had the opportunity of expressing in that house his opinion upon the subject of the Corn Laws, perhaps he might be excused if he now stated the grounds which induced him to give to this measure, for the final settlement of them, his most cordial support (licar, hear). His hon, friend, who peculiarly represented the agricultural interest, had rested his case for protection upon the assumption that it was calculated to promote the interests of all classes of the community. Upon this ground he (Mr. Cardwell) desired to meet him: and most unworthy should be be to enter upon so great a question in that house, if in dealing with it as affeeting all classes of the community, he did not recognise among the first of those classes, that great interest which hon, gentlemen near him so ardently, and in many instances so creditably supported. The arguments upon which the honourable gentlemen rested their case were these :- They said that the existing system of protection had maintained an independence of foreign supply; that it had given seenrity on which capital could be cheerfully invested in the improvement of domestic agriculture; that it had ensured to the farmer stendy prices, and that it had provided for labour a protective rate of wages. Didthose honourable gentlemen renember that the declared annual value of our native manufactures was 50,000,000L? Did they remember that during the war, at the conclusion of which we were engaged with both America and France, we were indebted to the first for our cotton, and to the last for our corn (hear, hear)? He knew the distress that had existed in 1812, but it was not occasioned by our dependence upon foreigners for food, for at that time the law for the protection of native agriculture was upon the statute book as now, but by the failure in the demand of our foreign customers, by which our traders became involved in difficulty, and our labourers in a state approaching to starvation. But if this country was at the present moment as dependent upon foreigners in every other way as one free country could be upon another, was it less dependent as regarded the article of Hon, members seemed to make light of the fact that the gross annual import of foreign corn for our own consumption was two millions, or ten per cent, upon the whole consumption of England. If that were so, it was not using language according to its practical significationit was little better than a play upon words-to say that the existing law secured to this country independence of foreign supply (hear, hear). As to the security which the law afforded for the cheerful investment of capital in the improvement of domestic agriculture, he put it to honourable centlemen whether, in the actual situation of England. knowing as they did that there was a strong prevailing sentiment in opposition to the existing law, that/a strong tide of public opinion had set in against it—
there would not, in the nature of the constitution
under which we lived, necessarily be much difficulty in maintaining that confidence and security? Of this fact there could not be the slightest question, that the notion of a protective system was every day becoming less popular (hear, hear). He believed he was perfectly warranted in asserting that every member of that house, on whom had devolved the responsibility of giving advice in the councils of her Mujesty, was upon principle opposed to the maintenance of protection in this country (hear, hear). The manufacturing interests were strennously opposed to it; and if his gallant friend, the member for Liverpool, were in his place, he was sure he would admit that the commercial interests were also averse to it (hear, hear). The principle could find but few defenders, unless amongst the agricultural interest. And even then, could it be said that unanimity of opinion pre-valled on the subject (hear, hear)? Surely not. Was it not notorious that many advocates of the system amongst the agricultural party had recently followed the steps of the late Lord Sponcer, and the present Lord Grey, and had not the hon, member for Northampton himself admitted that he had never contended that protection was to be permanent, and that all the British farmer wanted was certainty against future changes (hear, hear). This being the true state of the case, were they (the protectionists) prepared to admit that if they were to succeed in frustrating the contemplated proposals of Government, and in maintaining the law as it at present existed for a while longer-were they, he asked, prepared, having accomplished this, to go down to their respective estates and to invite the farmers to come forward and take long leases, under the guerantes of the existing law (ories of "no no")? Honourable gentlemen cried no, no, but where was the boasted security said to be guaranteed by the Corn Laws to the agricultural intersects, if the landlords yers not prepared to make this proposition, and the figures 'entally residy to absedu to it (item, bean). It had been argued in favour of the proposition system that

It had the effect of securing remunerating prices to the farmer; but he denied that it possessed any such merit If they (the advocates of protection) could (hear, bear). show that they could keep the cost of production in the exact position that it now held, and that they had the power, through the means of the Corn Laws, of limiting the supply while the demand was increasing, the interference would of course be that the remuneration of the farmer was increased by the operation of the system; but if it could be proved that the cost of the production might be diminished, and that the supply might be made to increase under the abrogation of the system, a two fold benefit would be secured to the farmer, and it would be clear that the about lition of the law would do more than its maintenance in se curing good prices. If any one was inclined to question whether, by means of the contemplated measure, the cost of production might be diminished, he (Mr. Cardwell) would take leave to call an unexceptionable witness into court in the person of the honourable member for Somersetshie, whose speech on the tariff of 1842 would be found to be conclusive on the point. There would be no doubt what ever that the direct and inevitable consequence of the proposed relaxation would be to lessen very much the cost of production. And now arose the question, had the demand nereused? He (Mr. Cardwell) maintained that it had, and in attestation of the truth of the assertion he need only refer to the speeches of many honourable members favour able to the protective system, in which they had expressly admitted that there never was a period when the country was in a more flourishing condition, or when trade was more active. It was the first symptom of reviving trade in Man chester, that there was suddenly a greatly increased demand for course joints of meat from butchers in that city. This demand, of course, originated with the industrious classes, the tradespeople, whose improved condition enabled them to enjoy a greater amount of comfort than they had previously been accustomed to. The demand, therefore, had clearly a creased under the new tariff, and it was still increasing. The hon, member for Somerset had adverted to the fact, that during the last half year a falling off of 16,000 sheep a week had taken place in the market of London since the protection tion system had been relaxed; but was the honourable member aware of what quantity of sheep had been imported within the last 12 months, for the double purpose of supplying the Increased demand, and meeting the defidention. Why, the fact was, that during the whole 12 months, the cutire foreign supply had not been sufficient to make up the weekly defalcation (hear). If hon, gentlemen would only take the trouble of inquiring carefully into this question, they would find that the direct consequences of the relaxations which had already taken place had been to diminish the east of production, and that an increased demand had taken place wholly disproportionate to the supply. But there was an other point on which honourable gentlemen, who advocated the present system of things, laid great stress. They argue, that the Corn Laws secured to the labourer in the rural d tricts of England a protective rate of wages; and one how. member, in the course of the debate, had expressed his wonderful surprise that the right hon, baronet at the head of the Government should, with the case of the silkweavers before his eyes, venture to propose the relaxation now in con templation. Now of all the illustrations of the effects to be realised by the abolition of the protective system, he would most cheerfully avail himself of that which was furnished by the case of those who were employed in the trade of weaving silk. Wherever an article was produced by mere hand labour, there could be no doubt that as competition progressed there was an adverse incidence in the scale of wages, but when the manufacturer arrived at that position, that by the unprovements of machinery he could afford to cheapen the article, the demand begame much greater, and the condition of those in his employment would be improved. In the manufacturing districts of the north the effect of the introduction of machinery had been to cheapen materials, not to lessen the rate of wages, and the result had been to open marketsmarkets which had not existed before. The poorer classes, who, as long as the article was at high price, could not afford to purchase it, became customers to the manufac turer when the price was reduced, and thus a great market was secured to the manufacturer; who, when he had a vest number of customers to depend on, felt less sensibly his dependence on any particular class or individual (hear, hear). And what though we were to be met by hostile tariffs? The result of the operation of Free Trade principle, even under these gircumstances, would be that the foreign competitor, the German or American, who was already greatly behind the English manufacturer in the course of improvement, would be compelled to undertake the rivalry under disadvantages which would be continually increasing; while the English manufacturer was succeeding in making his commodity every day cheaper and cheaper. the foreigner would find that he could not produce his except at a cost which was continually becoming dearer and dearer, and ultimately he would be unable to protect himself even in his own market. He could only hope to do so at the could only hop pence of the agriculturists of his own country, who would have to submit to a constantly increasing tarili, and would have to pay an exorbitant price for his protection (hear). It was then a mistake to contend that we should he state to adopt a wise and salutary policy in our own country, because it might happen that we would have to encounter hostile to riffs in other countries. Were it not that he was unwilling to weary them with statistics, be could refer them to an authentic document which he held in his hand, and which would show at a glauce how vast had been the increase in our export trade, notwithstanding the existence of hostile tarifis. He maintained that the injurious effects of the her tile tariffs of other countries could be totally annulled by a wise and liberal commercial policy in our own, and if so, what became of the imaginary apprehensions with which certain honourable gentlemen in that house were an fond of torturing themselves (hear, hear)? Bome honourable members appeared to be sadly alarmed at the prospect of Russis and in the prospect of Russis heard in the R sending here five million quarters of corn, for which he sending here five million quarters of corn, for which he feared we would be obliged to pay in the precious metals; but such an apprehension was totally uncalled for. nourable gentlemen appeared to forget that Russia was a country which produced the precious metals, whereas this country did not produce thom at all; and to suppose that we should see the produce them at all; and to suppose that we should pay in specie for goods imported from Russia was should pay in specie for goods imported from Russia was just about as rational as to amprose that a citizen of London, who procured goods from Laicashire, should pay for them by sending coals to Newcasile of Wigan (hear, hear, and laughter). Another argument against Free Trade was in great at your with the Electors of the procure of the procure with the procure of the proc

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debate, and having already trespensed to some length on their suestion, he would not enter minutely into the consideration of this branch of the question. He would not decline it, however. He knew that this argument of peculiar burdens was one which, so for as it was founded on truth—and that it was to some extent founded on truth he fully admittedwas worthy of the most serious consideration (hear, hear). He was as ready as any of the honourable gentlemen around him could possibly be, to admit that whatever burdens were laid unequally on land, while that land was a protected interest, ought to be investigated most carefully and minutely in the consideration of such a question as the present (hear, hear). It could not be depied that a burden of this partioular description having been proved as bearing on a protected interest, it was only just and rational that when it was intended to remove protection, the burden should at the same time be removed (hear, hear). This he admitted to the fullest; but what he contended for was, that no party or class of men in this country had a right to say, "True, we are a burdened interest, but we are resolved to remain a burdened interest in spite of you in order that we may have an argument in favour of the protective system" (hear, hear). And now, having endeavoured to show the fallacy of so many of the positions taken up by the protectionist party, he would take occasion to say one single word in reference to the only considerable argument of theirs which he had left as yet untouched. He alluded to what he would designate the colonial argument (hear, hear). Now he would venture to assert on the part of the honourable gen tlemen who took a different view of this question from what he did, that the proposition for which they contended was precisely this—that a colony of the British empire should be to the British Parliament as dear as York or Middlesex (hear, hear). In this doctrine he fully concurred, but he had never heard any such doctrine as this propounded, that we were bound to adopt or maintain in the mother country a course of policy which we believed to be inexpedient for imperial interests, in order that we might subserve in some special or particular respects the interests of a colony (loud cries of hear, hear). There might, to be sure, he some special cases of a poculiar character which might form an exception to the rule; but it was his opinion that that which was in the main good for the mother country would be found in the main to be equally beneficial for the colony, and it was by this principle that we should be guided in considering this question in respect to its bearing on our colonial interests (hear, hear). So much for the co-lonial argument; and now, having canvassed in succession all the arguments which formed in the aggregate the case of the protectionists, he begged those gentlemen (if, after all he had said, they should now be of opinion that their doctrines were not quite so irresistible and conclusive as they at first believed), he begged of them in that event to consider and reflect what was their position before the public (hear, hear). Were there no stronger and more egent arguments against them? Let them pause and think. They were endeavouring to put upon the food of the people s grievous tax, a very small portion of which found its way into the coffers of the Exchequer (lond cries of "hear hear"). They were claiming the not very gracious privilege of interposing an arbitrary barrier to impede the free course of trade and commerce; and they were seeking to deny to native industry the natural and obvious advantage of disposing of its own production according to its own discretion (loud cries of "hear, hear, hear"). Did they not apprehend that this might perhaps be regarded by the counmy as rather a selfish policy? It was, and more; it was an mawise and inexpedient one (hear, hear, hear). He was averse to reading extracts if it could be avoided, and yet he was anxious to call the attention of the house to a passage from Adam Smith, to show that it was no new doctrine that he (Mr. Cardwell) was advocating:—"All systems, (says that great authority,) either of preference or of restraint, therefore, being thus completely taken away, the obvious and simple system of natural liberty establishes itself of its own accord. Every man, as long as he does not violate the laws of justice, is left perfectly free to pursue his own interest his own way, and to bring both his in-dustry and capital into competition with those of any other man, or order of men. The sovereign is completely discharged from a duty, in the attempting to perform which he must always be exposed to innumerable delusions, and for the proper performance of which no human wisdom or knowledge could ever be sufficient—the duty of superintending the Industry of private people, and of directing it towards the employments most suitable to the interests of the society" (loud cries of "hear, hear"). An illustration occurred to his mind which he heard the other day, and as he considered it a very happy and appropriate one, he would take the liberty of mentioning it and applying it to the question now under consideration (hear, hear). He was in conversation a few days ago with an illustrious gentleman who, during the late war, was a distinguished defender of his country. He alluded to the gellant admiral who had been appointed chairman of the commission to inquire into the state of the maritime defences of England. This distinguished personage observed to him, "You have been told that England's ancient boast is over, and that she can no longer rely for security on hor far-famed wooden-walls. You have been told the truth (loud ories of "lear, walls. You have been told the truth (loud cries or "near, hear"). The march of improvement has deprived us of our old security. But our policy is clear. Let us not be afraid of the march of improvement—let us study to keep pace with it (hear, hear). If we do, all will be well. It has robbed us of our old security, but it will provide us with a better. One modern inveition will tell us which is the point of danger and another will concentrate on the point of danger and another will concentrate on the point of danger and another will concentrate on the point of danger and another will concentrate on the point of danger and another will concentrate on the point of danger and another will concentrate on the point of attack of danger, and another will concentrate on the point of attack all the disposable resources of a country, Let us keep pare with the spirit of the times, and our country will become, not a defended country, but a fortified citadel" (loud cries of hear). He did not wish to weary the house by statistics, but he could scarcely forbear referring to a calculation which he knew to be perfectly authentic, and which attasted the truth of the assertion that the country was rapidly improving under a wiser policy than of old. The calculation had reference to country rate, and was as follows:— Valuation made for County Rates in the townships which

now constitute the boroughs of Manchester and Salford :-Manchester. 1M15 808,876 1M20 495,997 495,997 1,028,055 showing an increase, since 1815, of 180 per cent. in Manchester, and 194 per cent. in Salford (hear, hear). He size exacts, that, "since the last return to Parliament in Powers, 1830, there has been in increase in my district of cas factories, of 10041 been an increase in my district of cas factories. Of 10041 been size of the last return in the the last r

1842, when the revival of trade began; and, indeed, the increase of persons employed since that period must have been considerably greater than the above amount; for be-tween June, 1838, when the collection of particulars for tween June, 1838, when the collection of particulars for the return of 1839 began, and November, 1819, many mills had entirely ceased to work, and others had considerably reduced the number of their hands. The total number of power looms in my district, ascertained by this inquiry, is 112,040. The only return of poor-looms made to Parliament is that of 1835, and I find from it, that in the same parts of England which now constitute my districts, vis. anaashire, part of the West Riding, and the whole of the North Riding of the county of York, and the four northern counties of England, there were then only 63,861; showing an increase of 79,088 in the ten years; and there are now 26,287 more power-looms at work in my district alone than there were in the whole United Kingdom ten years ago." Now he (Mr. Cardwell) would put it to the House whether a statement of that kind was not pregnant with more argument than almost any fact or argument that could be addressed to them. As the silk weavers had been particularly referred to by an honourable gentleman, he (Mr. Cardwell) could not but notice them, and call the attention of the House to returns in reference/to them. The following was the statement in the report with reference to that trade:— "Through the entire district a general scarcity of hunds is noticed, and a consequent rise of wages. In the silk districts particularly, hands are very scarce, and I have been informed that instances are not wanting where children working half time have got as much wages, and in some cases it is said that they get more than they did when they worked ten hours; but I am told that a rise also has taken place in the wages of those who now work ten and twelve hours respectively." He would next call the attention of the House to a speech by Mr. B. Moore, the chairman of the Dock Committee, recently delivered in Liverpool, and he (Mr. Cardwell) regretted that his honourable friend who advocated the case of the shipowners, was not now in the House. That gentleman said, "Surprise has been expressed in the council when an increase of 100,000 tons was talked of some time since; but I have not now to deal with an increase of 100,000 tons, but with an increase of hundreds of thousands. In the dock financial statement of the 24th of June, 1845, which was the end of the financial year, the increase was 383,810 tons over the preceding year. The increase in six months, from June to the 81st of December last exceeded that of any previous period, inasmuch as it showed an increased of 600 vessels and 200,400 tons over the corresponding six months of the previous year. . . . The increase in the East India trade has been about 20 per cent., and the increase in the United States and Western trade has been about 80 per cent. . I may also state, that in proportion as we afford increased dock accommodation, in the same proportion shall we trade to the port. Suppose that at no distant period-which I dare say will be the o were to have modified rates of duties on various other foreign productions (which he specified), which are at present virtually excluded by a high and impolitic tariff; when the duties are so reduced, it is not in the power of man to divine what accommodation will be required in a port like Liverpool" (cheers). He would next refer to the number of vessels engaged in the trade. He begged leave, before doing so, to call attention to one observation made by Mr. Moore with reference to that trule. In 1838 there were 805 vessels-he was now speaking of Canada.

An Hon. MEMBER: The Baltic (hear, hear, from the Protectionists).

Mr. CARDWELL continued: They had shown an increase in the Baltie, but they would show an increase in Canada also: which ever way they liked he would have it (a laugh). He would show there was an increase in both, and they would see which was greater in proportion, or the more satisfactory (hear, hear). In 1838 the number of British American vessels amounted to 805, with a tonnage of 160,415; in 1842, 165, with a tounage of 91,179; in 1845, 453 vessels, 239,854 tons. Now, he would take the Baltic, In 1838 there were 72 vessels, tonnage 22,788. In 1842, 33 vessels, tonnage 11,239; in 1845, 113 vessels, tonnage 3,702 (loud and continued cheering from the opposition). Ho (Mr. Cardwell) was glad to see that his honourable friend, the member for Sunderland (Mr. Hudson) had come into the house, because he was anxious to disabuse his mind of the fullacy that seemed to possess it. He had already dealt in his absence with the fallacy, which he thought to be as plain a fallacy as man could employ with respect to the effect of a circuitous trade, and paying the Russians for their commodities in gold. The honourable member for Sunderland said he would make railways enough in the country if they did not send out the gold of the country to bring in foreign corn. Now he (Mr. Cardwell) would remind the honourable gentleman that during the period he had been prosecuting his successful undertakings they had received two millions of quarters of Russian grain, and they had paid for it, not by sending gold to Russia, but by the increase of their export trade. The result was, that numbers of indus-trious navigators had been greatly benefited and their profits, if they could analyse them, would be found to have been largely invested in those railway speculatious (cheers and laughter from the opposition), and to have done a great doal to promote their success (renewed cheers from the opposition). It was true that be (Mr. Cardwell) did not hesitate to give his vote in former years against the honourable member for Wolverhampton, but he always thought that great changes like that proposed should be regarded as a question of time (bear hear from the opposition). The honourable member for Northamptonshirs regarded such questions as questions of time, and why should not be (Mr. Cardwell) also regard them as questions of time? and he would ask could anybody deny that the present was a time when it was necessary to augment the supply of food (cheers from was necessary to augment the supply of food (cheers from the opposition)?—and never was there a time when such a change could be effected with so slight a dislocation of saisting interests. He (Mr. Cardwell) felt perfectly at liberty to say, that this was a proper occasion to consent to the adjustment of this question (hear, hear). He did say that a great, and large, and important interest in the country, whose support was sesential to the Conservathe country, whose support was sesential to the Conservative party—he said so without meaning the slightest disrespect to the agricultural interest, for whom, on the contrary,
he entertained the highest respect the did say that the
commercial interest did expect a responship and constantly
vigilant and not unyielding disposition on their part to
vatch over the ever-varying disposition on their part to
vatch over the ever-varying disposition of the country,
and he was persuaded that he doubt, in making this assertion, he borne out by facts, (absert from the opposition),
He did the expect observations of the opposition,
and the contrary of the country and without resistion,

justment of this question (cheers). He did believe that its settlement would tend to the advangement of the country, the diminution of arime, the moral amelioration of the people, the general removal of sources of discord (cheers), the slave believed that in a due, generous, wise, and discriminating the country the country the regard for all the complicated interests of the country, the present Parliament was competent to decide upon this great question (cheers from the Opposition), and he felt assured that if they decided in the afternative, they would confer on this great country a most important benefit (loud cheers from the Opposition).

Mr. FINCII addressed the house because he had been desired by his constituents to make their sentiments known to it. Formerly it was not a question whether there should be protection or no protection, but whether there should be a fixed duty or a sliding scale; but now both those doctrines were thrown over, as if a moral murrain had broken out among the leaders on both sides of the house. He con-sidered their conversion, which was partly ludicrous and partly miraculous, to be the result of circumstances rather than of calm reason and impartial judgment. He then entered into a general defence of the existing Corn Laws, and into a violent denunciation of the proposed alteration in them, concluding both with an impassioned appeal to the house not to assent to the monstrous injustice of sweeping away at once all protection from agriculture.

Mr. SEYMER observed, that some members elected five years ago seemed to have forgotton the sentiments of their constituents; but it was impossible for bim, who was only elected on Thursday last, to display such a failure of me mory. He undertook to say, that in Dorsetshire the farmers were to a man strong protectionists, and he believed that nine-tenths of the farmers in other counties of England were so too. Their opinions were, therefore, entitled to respect from her Majesty's Government, and he was inclined to think that they would have obtained that respect had they been

less loyal and more seditions.

Mr. VILLIERS then rose, and addressed the house as follows: Mr. Speaker, I have some scruple in rising after the honourable gentleman who has just sat down, considering the impartial manner in which you have selected those hon, members who have risen to address the house on the different sides of this question. Bir, I believe the hon, gentleman who has just sat down and myself entirely agree on the question before us (oh, and laughter). If I am not mistaken, coming, as he has stated, so recently from the hustings, and from addressing the farmers in Dorretshire, he has stated that he could answer for himself upon the question, and he believed he spoke the sentiments of the farmers, that he was for the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws (no, no, and hear). Then, sir, if the hon, member denies that he entertains such an opinion, he has been entirely misreported, for there is not a single newspaper that reported his address to his constituents which does not state him to have declared in his speeches during the late election in Dorsetshire, that if there was to be any change in the Corn Laws, he for one should be for a total and immediate repeal of the law (no, no, and confusion). Docs the hon, member deny that, when he was canvassing in Dorsetshire, he declared himself to be in favour of immediate and total repeal (hear, hear)?

Mr. KER SEYMER-If I might be allowed to say a few words, I would state what I did say on the occasion referred to by the honourable member (speak, speak). I said that if I had the power to be returned as a member of this house, I would, to the utmost of my humble ability, oppose the measure of her Majesty's ministers ; but that, failing in my opposition, and if it was finally carried that the whole of the duty was to be abolished

at the end of three years, we had better have it repealed at once (hear, hear). Mr. VILLIERS-I am extremely happy to find that the honourable member has confirmed the statement of the press (no, no, from the agricultural benches). I am happy to hear a confirmation of that (cries of "no"). Why do you say no, when he has just said yes? Why the honourable member says he admitted that an immediate repeal is better than a postponement of the total abolition of the duty for three years; and I am therefore entitled to claim the honourable member as a supporter of my views (laughter). If the hon, member did really represent the farmers, I believe he would most certainly vote for the measure. He says he represents an independent body of men, and the proof he gives us of their independence is, to tell us that they went in a body to their landlords before they ventured to vote for him, to know how they were to vote (hear, and oh). The sumpoer of the voters hold farms under landowners of liberal principles, to whom they went before they gave their suffrages to him. Fortunately for the hon. member, he says those liberal landlords did allow their tenants to vote as they liked. But the hon, gent, gave us this as a proof that the farmers were independent; and I think it must be a most satisfactory one to you and the country. But, says the hon. member, the farmers generally are loyal and well-affected (cheers from the agricultural benches). This is a satisfactory proof that they are not under the influence of their faudlords (oh, oh, and hear). I believe this to be the case. I believe the farmers are well-affected. I believe they are a very good sort of people. I believe they are far more estimable and intelligent, generally speaking, considering the temptations to which they are exposed, than to suffer themselves to be swaved by the vile, disloyal, degrading language that has recently been addressed to them by persons of the upper classes (oh, oh, and hear). Their complaints, generally speaking, are not against the state. They do not quarrel with the Government. Their grievances are much nearer home. Those who know the farmers know that they have got great grievances which are never redressed; but which, If the landlords were to attend to, they would do their duty far better to those tenants and to society than by going before them and saying that the authorities of the country are doing all they can to injure them; and that the ministry are men without good faith, honour, or hopesty; for that is what they are telling them. But the farmers are too sensible a set of men to be long

influenced by the violent and interested language used by their landlords to them. Sir, as far as I understand the honourable gentleman, the farmers, generally speaking, are for the immediate repeal of this law, and not in favour of its gradual abolition (loud cries of no, no, from the agricultural benches). I think the point of the hon, gentleman's speech was to show us how very much the farmers were under the influence of the landlord with respect to their votes, and how very distinct their opinions are from those of their handlords. I will just refer to a speech that was made before him. That was the most extraordinary address that we have heard recently; it was nearly an hour and a half long. I refer to the speech delivered by the hon, member for Rutlandwhile (Mr. G. Finch). He is the last newly-elected protectionist member in this house. I think the hon, gent, must have met the same person as I met with this morning, who asked me what all this was about, and what was the cause of this protracted debate; for he said it was only the same old story over again, and nobody really cared about it out of the house, except that it might be brought to a close (laughter). The honourable member gets up, and like the chorus in the Greek plays, tells us all that has passed; that people have done this, that, and the other, and concludes, as most of the protectionist members conclude, by telling us that if the Corn Laws are abolished, England's sun will set for ever (laughter). He professes to tell us what is the result of his election - that "it indicates the opinion of the public to be against us. The fact is, it indicates nothing but that which the hon, gentleman the member for Dorsetshire has stated the influence which the landlords have over the tenants in the counties: They have returned him, as many others, have been returned just to represent their own views and opinions (cries of oh, oh, and hear hear). I defy any one to make any thing out of the speech of the honourable member for Rutlandshire, except that it was important to put an end to the trade with America and France, because those are countries which we might possibly go to war with (hear, and laughter). Why, sir, I really have some scruple in rising to address the house upon this subject. In the first place, there is nothing I can say respecting the measure now before the house which has not been better said by her Majesty's Government; and, in the second place, that no service would be more highly appreciated by the public than that of facilitating in every way the progress of the measure, and finishing the debate as soon as possible. Honourable gentlemen in that corner of the house do not seem to encourage their forbearance. They have marked out for themseives a course of obstruction, which, perhaps, they can explain, but which, if they can, they are more fortunate than other people. However, Teannot help contrasting the patience with which the house now bears with them with the conduct adopted when the persons who promoted this question at other times have met with. When persons in a minority, in this house, and who have promoted this discussion, have stood up and pleaded for the sufferings of their constituents, and have asked for an inquiry into the connection of this law with all that misery and suffering, were asking even for a partial inquiry into that which they ascribed to the influence of this enactment - oh, I have tingling in my cars now those hideous noises which were then raised to stiffe all expression. (Cheers and laughter). I think there is also presented to us a striking contrast in what took place upon the passing of this law in 1815, with what is now occurring with regard to its abolition (hear). The peoplo were crying out in the streets against the enactment of this law. Soldiers surrounded this house, and the members made complaints that they had not even time to present their petitions to the house, foretelling all the misery and distress which its operation could entail upon them. Notwithstanding which, the Corn Law was passed with the greatest speed with which an act would pass the house thear). But now gentlemen opposite are pleading for themselves, for the rich, and for the aristocracy; and therefore we are to have this debate protructed to a longer period than has ever been known upon any other question—longer than any question has been protracted within the mentory of any member within this house. Now we are to have an unprecedented delay. For three weeks have we sat here listening to the same statements over and over again. After all the experience which has to mischief of this law, after it has been discarded by every onlightened authority, after all the argument being on one side, and that side being supported by every experienced authority of my here we are, having the same things repeated over and over again, for the space of three weeks (hear). Such is the difference between the way in which the interests of the rich, and the rights of the poor, are considered in this house (cheers from the Opposition side of the house, met by ironical cheers from the protectionist benches). However, sir, as the time is to be wasted (laughter), I do not think I should be really doing justice to the principles I have advocated in this house -I do not think I should be doing justice to those whom I represent here, and those with whom I have co-operated throughout the country, if I did not express my joy and satisfaction at the concession that has been made to wisdom, truth, and justice (loud choors, and cries of Oh, oh) in the propositions and arowals which have been made by hor Majosty's ministors. And further, Sir, the subject has been so much intruded upon in this debate, that I cannot help forming an opinion as to whether this concession has been made atthosactifice of honouror from interest on the part of her Majosty's ministers. And I declare most golomnly, that it seems to me, that the concessions which have been made have been the result of a lively smse of the responsibility which as ministers and statesmen they have of the danger to the country from a continuance of this law (cheers). And I must state to those who have depended chiefly on fact and argument to persuade those who were opposed to

them, that it is most gratifying to observe that the abandonment of this system has been conceded by the leaders on both sides under circumstances which place them entirely above the suspicion of any interested views (hear), for I do believe, that when the noble lord, the member for London, declared in this House, at the beginning of last Hession, that he considered that the system of protection, as you call it, is the bane of that interest which was thought to be secured by it-when he proposed in the course of last summer, that the House should resolve that those duties were injurious to those who were said to be benefited by thom-when he, moreover, addressed his letter to his constituents, telling them that he was ready to act upon such his conviction-I say, that when he did this, I believe he did so simply from an honest sense of what was due to the community; and that I doubt, whether in doing so, he consulted what were deemed by many the interests of his party (hear). With respect to the right hon, gentleman, there has been so much discussion on his conduct that it is impossible not to have formed an opinion upon his position in this matter; and I declare that I cannot see in what respect he has deserved the reproaches which he has received from his party (loud cries of "Oh, oh" from the protectionist members). As far as I have collected from what has been said in this House, the right hon. gentleman does not propose this measure himself without reluctance. He has made the proposition himself, being satisfied that it was right that it should be made, but only after having submitted to others the propriety of proposing it to this House. It is no fault of his, as far as I can discover, that he is minister at this moment, or that he is now the proposer of this measure. I think, therefore, sir, that on this ground, as well as on every other, the public have no ground of regret or complaint, that this Government should have been the one to submit such a measure to the country (hear, hear, hear). If I collect the opinion of the public rightly upon this subject, it is, that they are pleased that the right hon. baronet should have thrown aside those trammels with which every ministry has been surrounded on this question, and that he has at length cleared himself from an insolent domination to which our Governments have been too long subject (cheers), and has become the minister of the country. This party have formerly forbidden their minister to meddle with the subject of corn, and have always threatened a Government that, if they dared to deal with this privilege of their class, he should cease to hold power in their ser-The right honourable gentlemen, actuated by a sense of what is his duty to the country, has braved this party, disregarded this dictation, and has come forward and proposed a measure for the interest of the community, and has thrown himself upon that community unreservedly for support (cheers). I believe that the public in general are delighted to see him relieved from the trammels of his former party (cries of "oh, oh," from the protectionist benches); and I further believe that the public will carry him through, not only in this, but in every other measure in which he will consult the public interest, and have the honesty and courage to present it to this house (cheers). Sir, I know that this measure is not a complete one; I am aware that in one respect it falls short of what the country wished. I have been asked by an honourable gentlemen, the member for Nowcastle-under-Lyne, whether I will venture to recommend the adoption of this measure? Why, sir, I did put on record, within a few hours after that measure was proposed, my congratulations to my constituents at their being likely to receive so large an instalment of that which they had been struggling for so long. If I had not taken that step I certainly should have done so after the opening speech of the member for Bristol, who proposed the amendment now before the house, and who said that if this measure was passed, the system of protection would be abolished for ever. If I had not done it then, I certainly should have done it after witnessing the opposition which the right honourable gentleman has received from the other side of the house. I say, the vehomence of that opposition will be accepted by the country as an apology for many of the deficiencies and much of the incompleteness of the measure. The right honourable gentleman will be looked upon as a negotiator with that party who has long domineered and tyrannised over naving endeavoured to obtain the most that he was able for the country. The public will see from the conduct of the hon, members opposite, what difficulties the right hon, baronet has had to contend with and what a floree spirit has been opposed to him on account of the measures he has proposed (hear, hear). Gentlemen opposite are not aware, perhaps, of what service they are rendering to the right hon, bart,, and the popularity they are giving to the measure by their conduct in the course they are pursuing. For my part, I believe that the violence and passion that has been exhibited upon that side of the house in respect to that measure has of itself endeared it to the public-that every member who has deserted the Minister, and exhibits the sacrifice that he has been obliged to make in proposing this measure of national advantage, raises the right hon, gentleman to a pinnacle in public estimation which he could not have expected otherwise to attain. Sir, the hon, member for Newcastle-under-Lyne asked me whether I would dare to show my face among my constituents after supporting this measure? I would ask the hon, member and any of those who support him, whether two years hence he will venture into any public meeting and show his face after supporting an amendment which I must consider the most daring definites of public opinion I have ever known (hear, hear)? It makes no distinction in the measures involved in the scheme, without denying the expediency of many of them; it says simply and persupportly to the scheme, "We will have none of it." There are many parts of the right honourable baronet's

scheme highly beneficial to agriculture (hear). Many people now without means of subsistence would have t if these measures were carried, but simply because they touch one single article from which hon, members opposite derive their income, they say, "We will have none of it" (cries of "no, no," from the Conservative benches). You say, "No, no," but are there not many of you who have said that there were parts of the scheme which were most desirable and which would much benefit agriculture, and which on that account you think would be beneficial? You know that there are immense numbers of the people who have no employment, and that this measure, if carried, might afford it to them (cries of "no, no"); but simply and solely you say, cause it touches that one article in which we deal, and from which we derive our income, we will have none of the measures" (cries of "no, no"). You say, "No, no: but I ask if there are not many of you who have said that some parts of the scheme are most desirable and expedient. I ask if noble lords have not at some of their protection meetings said that several of the schemes included in this measure will be most advantageous to agriculture (cries of "no, no")? Why I can point to two or three counties where protectionists have come forward and said so (cries of "name, name"). There is Lord Essex, in Hertford, who said that Indian corn would be a great boon to agriculture (Oh, oh). Why, he is one of your protectionists, and he would not let foreign wheat come in to feed the people, but he would allow foreign food to feed cattle. You will not even allow those who are graziers, and who want to feed their cattle, to have this food from abroad (hear, hear). You may shake your heads, but I say it is so (a laugh). The hon, member for Newark, who has just been returned, a rank protectionist, shakes his head; what does he mean (a laugh)? Does he mean that he would not let in Indian corn, fearing lest it might supersede the use of some nobler grain? He would let it in! Then why vote for this amendment? The bill is opposed in toto. The Irish people might starve (no, no). Oh, you would open the ports; how long is it since you consented to do that (hear, hear)? Since you discovered that there was no corn to come in (loud cheers). There was nothing said in last autumn about opening the ports. Then it was said that there was no search, that there was nothing but the basest cowardice on the part of the Government. "Afraid," you said, "afraid of the people starving, while there is our own grain for their support! Why, was there ever such a Government as this? Was there ever such a miserable turpitude?" I heard this expression the other night. This is what you stated then; but now you have discovered that grain is actually going out of this country from the warehouses to neighbouring states, and that there is such a searcity on the Continent that there is no more grain to come in, and so now you state, and the honourable member for Somersetshire says, "God forbid that we should prevent anything coming in to save the people!" Anything may come in so long as it is sure that prices will not fall. When it is quite certain nobody will be benefited, then you are ready to open the ports (cries of No). Well, if that be so, I do not understand what you mean by saying "no, no," when I assert that you are trying to oppose all the measures comprehended in this scheme (hear). Sir, we have heard in the course of this debate. that it is for the purpose of discussing the great principle, the great system of protection, the system of policy that has long prevailed in this country, that this debate has been so long continued. Now, this is the eleventh day that we have been discussing the system of protection; and I want to know whether any one has the least idea what that system is (hear, hear). Has any one the slightest idea from anything that has fallen from the hon, gentlemen opposite what that system or principle is-whether there is any rule in it-any result from it: whether anything that ought to be dignified by the name of a system of policy resting on general principles and involving general good? Why, it is quite clear that no one has a single idea upon it as a system (a high). We have been asked on this side, whether this system of protection can be universally applied. Oh, certainly not. You say you cannot regulate the price of labour, whatever you may do with the price of food. It has been admitted that cannot be done. Can you define the cases where protection ought to be applied We have not heard the case. "Is it," we ask, "opposed to the principle of competition?" Oh, God forbid! it is not opposed to competition, for Lord Stanley, our leader, defines protection to be "competition subject to regulation" (a laugh). But you cannot tell when or how it should be regulated. You say you do not mean to oppose all the advantages proposed in the measure; but you want to maintain the principle of protection. I thought that the honourable gentlaman the member for Shrewsbury (Mr. I)'Israeli) would have told us something about the principle; but instead of enlightening us himself, he only complained of others, and lamented that his friends around him had not told him what the principle was. Now, I ask the house candidly whether this great system which was said to be in question has not dwindled down into a complaint of that fanciful obstruction to the supply of food, called the sliding scale, being in jeopardy (host, hear)? Every member who has spoken upon this subject, when he has risen to vindicate the system of protection, has hardly been on his legs five minutes before he commences to discuss the horrors of Free Trade in food, and to depict the advantages of the sliding scale, which it seems, is dignified by the term of Protection to agriculture. But there has not been the slightest discussion on the important question of protection to agriculture. Have we heard the slightest thing upon the subject box, the science of agriculture could be been protected by the science of agriculture bought to the cultivation of the solution.

heard anything but the vaguest assertions as to what prices would be if there were a Free Trade in corn? Not one single syllable has been uttered to show that it will be of advantage to agriculture (cheers). Not one single agricultural authority has been quoted in the whole of this debate to show that the sliding scale, or what you term this system of protection to agriculture, is of the least advantage to agriculture. Not one single man engaged in agriculture—not an individual who would be an authority in any hundred or parish in this country have you quoted to back your statements upon this protection to agriculture (hear, hear, and cheers). Many have been quoted on the other side, who have said that agriculture depends on nothing of the kind, and that there is not the least necessity for an act of Parliament to secure high prices (hear, hear). Why there has been a gentleman, deeply interested in the business, who has sat for two nights in the gallery of this house, that I could quote. He is about the largest occupier of land in the country, and he was examined for three days before the agricultural committee of this house, when it sat last, having been called as a great authority amongst your agricultural gentlemen. Well, he has been within the last few nights in the gallery of this house, and he has been panting to be in the house that he might answer the silly things which he has heard from your side. He occupies 3,800 acres. He holds land in six counties. He is a receiver of rents in eight counties, and he states that he is for the total, and immediate, and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws as the best thing for the farmer (hear, hear). When we see such men as that in favour of a repeal of the Corn Laws, it certainly is not wonderful that you are so averse to inquiry. You never would give any committee; you would not hear any one at the bar of this house on the subject, because you knew that these persons would come forward and give evidence directly in opposition to your views (cheers). You would not stand a committee. Those persons are ready to come, but you have none ready to call on your side (cries of "Oh, oh"). Oh, why you never name such persons in support of your gase-you are surely on your trial before the country now, and you do not cite agriculturists in favour of your notions and views of protection. I venture to say now, what I said before, that if you go into a committee of inquiry, that I will call farmers from every county in England—that I will call land agents, and every man who is competent to give evidence from his capacity. and that they shall give evidence contrary to your views of the subject (hear, hear, and eries of " You say "Oh;" why there is a club of land-agents in this city, and the majority of its members are of opinion that a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws will do no harm to the landed interest (cries of Name, name). That is their opinion, and the hon, gentlemen opposite should shew them to be wrong. One would have thought that the hon, member for Essex and the hon, member for Suffolk, who have both spoken—who plume themselves on being identified with the soil-who would be quite angry if they were not supposed to be so, would have given some answer. I listened with great interest to them, because I know how able they are upon this subhet The hon, member for Essex (Sir J. Tyrrell), after outting some very questionable jokes, in-the-first part of his speech, ended by reading a chapter from Dr. Arnold about men with one idea (a laugh). Then there is the hon, member for Suffolk. He was returned specially as the farmers' friend-as the man who knew more about the farmers than anybody I don't know whather anybody else did, but Leonfess I listened to what that hon, gentleman said (a laugh); and all I could collect was, that he was reading the Solicitor-General's speech at Cambridge. Those are two of the chief agricultural counties, and that is all we can collect from those two members (a laugh, and hear, hear.) Those honourable gentlemen will go any length to turn out the Government, and to oppose the right honourable gentleman's measure, and yet we cannot obtain a single notion from them as to the way in which the sliding scale benefits agriculture. There is the member for Norfolk; I see him in his place there. There is a very intelligent man in the county of Norfolk who has written a pamphlet, and who says if the land lards will do (what they will not do), and if you will make the taxants do (what they are not abl that we shall have plenty of corn without free trade. That gentleman, I dare say, is a constituent of the hon. member for Norfolk; his name is Mr. Warnes, That gentleman has published a book, and the first thing he declares is, that the farmers of the present day must take for their text, for their rule of proceeding, that low price is quite compatible with good agriculture; that they must never look to high prices, but must produce a great quentity, and must depend for success on low prices and plentiful crops. That doctrine is, I think, directly apposed to that of the honourable member for Nortolk himself, who says, "Never mind the cultivation. never mind how you manage your farm, because we will get you an Act of Parliament, and wn will secure you high prices, which is all you want." If that is the object he is seeking to serve at this moment (hear, hear), then I ask if the house has heard, on this occasion, any great results from this system which justify is? The too, member for Norfolk tells us of none; Do you produce any firmers or labourers as authorities in favour of this protection? Why, we have searcely heard a word said about the condition of the farmers. heard a word said about the condition of the farmers during the discussion; but if you look at the speeches out of this house, you will, collect from them that the farmer who has prospered during the lass the farmer who has prospered during the lass the farmer who has prospered during the lass thirty years is so wars a bird, so wassing an actual, that it you can reside, him, gough and detuit him and send him to the British Makeum, (a large). What really hashes said as the said the said makeum and send him to the British Makeum, (a large). What really hashes said as the said the said makeum and the said the said makeum and the said makeum and the said the

Museum. Then, as to the labourers, have we had any evidence about them? We have been told that the Goatacre meeting was a thing got up by the Auti-Corn-Law League. That, however, is not the fact. The League had nothing whatever to do with that moeting. I know that that meeting was only one of a series of meetings which have been hold for some years past by the labourers of Wiltshire, who have always declared the same thing, that they could not be worse off than they are, and that any change among them must be for the better (cheers). But look at the reports of every commission that has been appointed to inquire into the condition of the agricultural labourer, and you will see from 1824 down to 1843, the date of the last report, just exactly the same account of the agricultural labourers that their condition is as bad physically as it is possible to be, and that they live under all those circumstances so unfavorable to their morals and their happiness, the result of physical suffering; and that this is particularly the case in the most agricultural counties. I wonder that the honourable member for Suffolk did not allude to the agricultural labourers of his county, because they are specially mentioned in the report of the year 1824, and have been certainly referred to over since. In Suffolk there are more of what are called gentlemen-farmers and of clergy than in any other county, and yet the people are described as being there as demoralised, and are subject to as much privation as in any other county in England (hear, hear). The honourable momber for Shrewsbury asks if the people have not thriven under this system of protection? I say they decidedly have not; and I ask, why, if they have, we have had no account of that prosperity during the cleven days that this debate has been discussed; and why we have not been told how it could benefit the poor; and that no other definition of the system has been given than the one given by Lord Stanley in another place (hear, hear)? Lord Stanley was asked what he meant by this system, and he was obliged to avow that it was a system that raised the rent of land, that raised the price of food, but did not raise the wages of labour. Well, then, I believe that Lord Stanley is your leader, and that you are all proud to acknowledge him to be so. The principles therefore which he has avowed are those which you have been fighting for eleven days past, and in support of which you are going to a division; a system that raises the price of food, raises the rent of land, but does nothing to benefit the labourer-a system which accounts for a prosperous farmer being such a rare bird that he ought to be stuffed and put in a museum; and why the condition of the agricultural labourer is a bye-word of demoralisation and distress? It is the condition that you would expect from Lord Stanley's definition of raising the rent of land and the price of food without also raising the wages of labour. That is the definition of your own system, given by your own leader. Now, we want to know what the effect of this system is, We are legislating for the public at large, and we want to know what the effect of this system is upon them. The right honourable baronet the Secretary of State for the Home Department tells us that he has ascertained its effect. has, in my opinion, most accurately stated it. right hon, baronet said that he had evidence which had been forced upon him, to show that the purpose of the protective system was disastrous to the working classes and the community at large, if it succeeded, in consequece of high prices. The right hon, baronet states this as the necessary result of observation, and you have avoided dealing with that point altogether (hear). Yes; you have met it in one way; you have railed at the ministers for treachery; you have charged them with letting the cat out of the bag; we have had a great deal of talk about a system, but you have not answered this case, and you have left yourselves up to this moment exposed to the charge of promoting a system which produces the effects which the right honourable gentlemen has told us, who has been in office during two periods—one, when food was dear through the operation of your law and the other, when it was also not be read to the blocking. when it was clicap, the result of the blessings of Providence. He says that he has found, in one case, that in consequence of high prices the poor were in distress; that they were miscrable; that they were tempted into at the rate of mortality an crime: t creased, and that thise mistortunes had fallen upon them from the success of protection. But when, by you come to this house to complain of its failures, and say, that when the price is low you cannot continue to cultivate the land, you thus, in offect, contend that high prices are necessary to your success. When you come and denounce the Minister, because you have not got a sufficient price for your food, he tells you that the price of labour is high, that crime is diffinished, and that death, disease, and all the miseries that before befel them are less; and that therefore he has come to the conclusion that the success of your protective system is calculated to promote the relsory of the people, and its failure ensured to them prosperity and happiness. To this moment there is not one of you who has given an answer in this point to the right hom, baronet i not one. When the right hom, being trees list summer, and stated all these results, there was not one of you who answered him. When he said that under a high price of provisions wages did not involve, but that much injury and destination followed, you ongilt to have rised and had, that low pripes of provisions to his problems, the top of the price of provisions to his problems, the compositions of his problems, the compositions of the problems and said, that low pripes of provisions to his problems, the composition of the bones bearing that him prices of the beart in this bones bearing that him prices of the destination in this bones bearing that how pripes of the said in this bones bearing that he prices of the said in this bones bearing that he prices of the said in the said in the said that he was a said that the said in the said that the said tective system is calculated to promote the misory of

the country again would continue a system which be said was the source of such calamity who never it succeded I say, that when the right hon, gentleman made that speech last May, it was a subject of general remark that the Corn Laws were doomed. If he had said bafore that high prices of provision were good for the poor, and that none of these blessings had fallen to them from low price, then you would have a good right to charge him with inconsistency. I maintain that the right hon, gentleman did then overthrow the system of enhancing the price of food by law. He told you that misery and misfortune had been the result of it; but not one rose to contradict the statement which the right hon, gentleman had made; but, on the contrary, some gontlemen rose on the other side, and bore out his statement. Even in the agricultural districts it was seen that the effect of high prices of food was to produce misery and misfortune, but whon the prices of food fell it brought the greatest advantage to the agricultural labourers. Well, now, I say that it is a very serious charge, which ought to be met before the close of this debate. I say that the charge involved in that statement ought to be met, otherwise the indication of your good fortune is that of the misery of others (loud cheers from the Opposition benches). You should not look to the prices current, but to the calendars and to the rate of mortality, and the misfortunes that befal man, in order to know whether you are well off under this law, or whother you should contend with the Minister for its maintenance (hear, hear). According to your system, a man should congratulate you if you were told that the people were miserable, and dying of disease, occasioned in the first instance by want of food and employment. I do not say that this is so, but if you do not answer the right hon, gentleman, you are open to the charge (hear). You have had now eleven days' debate without meeting that one fact. I say that the right hon, gentleman stated that to you; that the noble lord the member for London tells you, in his letter, that the intention of the law ix to make food dear, and that the effect of that is what the Home Secretary has told you. You cannot escape from that purpose of the law; because there is no meaning in the law, if it is not to make food dear. It is very well for the honourable gentleman the member for North Devon to say, " God forbid that the price of corn should be high; he does not wish scarcity: that he knew it was a great misfortune" - and all that sort of thing. It is all very well to say so, but how is he going to vote, and how has he voted on previous occasions ? I ask this because there has been talking about the Corn Law for twenty-live years, and there has been no other purpose ever in view but to maintain price? I refer him to the year 1822, from that time to the present, and to the fact that prices never have been low during that period, but that the country gentlemen have come here to complain ; and, on the other hand, I say, they have never been high but that the people have come here to complain of distress. In 1822, the price of food was lower than ever it was before. The honourable gentleman, the member for North Devon, must remembor all that took place then; that it was made a subject of positive grievance by the county members, that prices were so low. But these low prices were not the result of importation. We have heard to night that cheapness produced by importation and abundant harvests, are two very different things. I say that low prices are what you have always complained of. You never distinguish between low prices and the causes that produce low prices. I forget who it was-but I believe it was the høn, member for the West Riding of Yorkshire (Mr. B. Donison) who stated the difference between the cheapnoss produced by foreign importation and an abundant harvest. Ah, you will do well to look to the year 1822, 1835, and last year. I say there are three distinct periods when the prices have been low, not from importation, but from the care of God, of which you have come down here and complained (cheers). Why, it is of no use denying the fact; there are the records upstairs which will prove it. Lord Castlereagh came down and proposed a scheme for making food dear. He suggested a vote of money, in order to buy up all the "surplus food," as it was called. There was a vote of money proposed in the house to relieve the landed interest from the support of the poor. I say that in 1835. and there were low prices that proceeded from good harvests and nothing else, and yet the Marquis of Chandos came here and proposed a repent of the mais tax, and that the house should go into comp mittee upon the state of agriculture, and I believe there were committees appointed in both Houses of Parliament, to consider the unparalleled distress of the sountry gentlemen, although not from importation, but simply from an abundant harvest. Lash. what was the meaning of that two hours' speech which we hoard lest year from the honourable member for sommarset, fleurishing the prices current in his hand, and complaining that the Government had not secured them bester price of beef, flour, bacon, veal, pork, &c. portation, because there was less imported during that yang than for some time before; but he stated that there man distress owing to-prices falling, and ob accommiss of Aimore abundant harvest than usual. ' I say, thorstore has what you complain of is lew prices, and that the object of the Com Law is high prices. I say, hgain, that after the statement of the right hon, gentleman the Hearstany for the Home Department, who says that he same resist the evidence that high prices produce districts light prices produce districts light prices produce districts light prices are produced in a corresponding which permits make any why you contend for the com-distinguished of the light why you contend for the com-distinguished the light the milities intended to water print (heart hear it - Bury the milities contended that the Cont Legraticova protection in agriculture and to atlomaticio in the continuation of the co tati mandi somiedijagjel imppese, im mkishubi mista Newskiaro obsecuted... But baro you any gridence

that the working classes agree with you in that view of the case—that the working classes are interested in the system that produces all that misery which the right hon, gentleman says takes place whenever this scheme succeeds? Have you any evidence, I say, of the working classes agreeing with you? Has any gentleman quoted the evidence of the working classes in support of the position that the Corn Laws are beneficial to domestic industry—that they are delighted with the idea that they shall benefit with the high price of food? I tell you there is not a single town in all England where the working men are not against you, and have not declared to the contrary of your doctrine. I believe the address published by the working men at Sheffield, agreed to in an open air meeting, and to their fellow workmen throughout the country, were assented to by thom all (hear, hear, hear). They say, "These laws have deranged our monetary system, making numbers of our merchants and manufacturers bankrupts, checking the natural current of trade, and reducing thousands of families to misery and starvation; nor do they produce any real good to the great mass of our agricultural population, for those who till the earth, and make it lovely and fruitful by their labour, are only allowed the slave's share of the many blessings they produce." Again at Liverpool in 1843, some of the working classes undertook to inquire into the condition of their own class then residing in that town, and the result of the inquiry into the condition of 5,000 families in that town which was verified by some respectable merchants at the time, was the following : -- "That the labouring classes are in a state of great distress. That their condition has been getting worse for the last four That we find that disease and crime bear n relation to the price of food. That high prices of provisions compel the people to live on coarser food, thus injuring their health and abridging their comforts. That manufacturers and dealers are fast sinking, from an inability in the bulk of the population to purchase from them those articles necessary to their existence. That we find that high wages and full employment are coincident with low prices of provisions, and that high prices of provisions are coincident with low wages and want of employment. 1052 families are supported by pawning, churity, or prostitution. 1017 families are supported by savings, credit, relations, and casual employment. Other families now on the parish: out of 5000 families, 3600 come from the agricultural districts, not boing able to find employment in their own districts." That is the way the Corn Law supports domestic indus-Why it is surely a mockery and an insult to tell the poor that you stop this measure to promote their industry in the town and in the country (hear, hear). There are some things that have been said certainly against the measure, and which, perhaps, I should not notice, but that the authority of the member for Sunderland, who has used them, may influence somebody. The honourable member for Sunderland is very much alarmed at this measure, and he has used all his authority to frighten the house and the country upon three grounds. In the first place he is afraid that the sum at which wheat can be brought into this country from abroad will be too low for agriculture here; he is afraid of the injury which may be done to our home trade, and he is afraid of the offeet on the exchanges. The honourable gentleman has a singular position at present, and what falls from him is taken to be gospel by some. Now the hon, gentleman told us the other night that he had brought foreign corn into this country at 25s. a quarter. The hon, gentleman says in 1837 he was a party to a transaction himself, in which wheat, after paying the charges of freight and duty, was lodged here at 25s. It was impossible to doubt the truth of that which sary gentleman says he did himself, and quite imposaible to doubt anything which the member for Sunderland says; but when the honourable gentleman states a fact of that kind, he wants the country at large to draw a general conclusion from it. He wants people to suppose when food can be purchased and consumed at 25s, a quarter, and can be imported at that price from abroad, that the farmers of this country cannot compete with the foreign grower. That is the purpose for which the statement was used, or if not it was of no use at all (cries of No.) I think that the hon, gent. ought ated in the first place where it was that he imported his grain from, as during the last week his statement has been used in different papers, as if it was the general import price of foreign wheat. I believe that the hou, gent, opposite will admit that we must import a considerable quantity of grain from Poland and Russia, and that Dantzie must be one of the ports from which we must receive grain. We shall have to get a million. or two millions, or, as some people say, four millions and we must depend on that port to a great extent. I happen to have here an authority which I day any one to question, namely, the prices of grain at Dantaic during the whole of the year 1837, when the honourable gentleman imported his wheat at 25s. a quarter, and the price of freights from Dantsie to Liverpool or London Mr. Hudson was here understood to say that the wheat which he had purchased came from Odessa). But as I understood the honourable gentleman's statement, wheat could be bought for general consumption at 25s. the qr., and this fact is of little use if it has only reference to da maged wheat at Chlesse, because I say that you must depend for a large portion of your wheat upon Dantile. The lion, gent, says he brought grain here, good grain, capable of being consumed as human food, and brought into the market at was. I say that the finest quality, capable of being consumed there, never was sold at Dalamie during that year, under 19s. a quarter (cries of "Odoses"). But the hon momber is tolling you she Free fifthes price of wheat, and you all began triumphing on that account, because you believe that it will be interred that wheat, which ought to be at 56s. here, as you say, will be 25s. Now the prices of wheat at

Dantzic for the highest and lowest qualities, during the year 1837, were as follow: I fluid that in 1837 the prices in Dantzic were—

Highest quality.	Lowest quality.				
April.,81s. Od. per qu	arter.	23s. 5d.	per q	uarter.	
May	ń	44 0	٠,, ٠	3)	
June38 0 ,,	",	25 5	53))	
July30 () ,,	**	20 0	99	91	
August32 3 ,,	71	20 0	. 27	1 99	
Suptember 32 0	59	24 0	, 93	1)	
November 80 0	39	22 h 25 h	**	>>	
December 20 ()	"	25 5	**	**	

During the same period the prices of freights from Dantzie to London and Liverpool were never less than 4s. 9d., and sometimes were ds., and the other charges 34, and yet the honourable gentleman tells you that if the trade was open foreign grain would be imported here at 25s. a quarter; this he infers from what took place in the your 1837, after our ports had been closed for four years. There is another peculiarity in that year, namely, that a very large amount of Baltic wheat which was grown went from Dantzic to America-which makes him still more fortunate in having been able to land one cargo here from somewhere for 25s. (hear, hear). But the hon, gentleman is one of that school which says there is no objection to an importation of foreign corn if it be not paid for in gold. Well, then, I will just tell the honourable gentleman what was the case when we were importing grain between the years 1840 and 1844. In 1839, there is no doubt that the bullion fell from upwards of nine millions to two in the course of six months, and owing to a large importation; but our importations for the three years were as large, but were regular; and the honourable gentleman will see that the bullion was regularly returned to this country, and the wheat was paid for by manufacturers. In 1840, the import of wheat was 2,600,000 quarters, but the bullion in the Bank had increased to three millions and a half from two millions. In 1841, the import of wheat was 2,300,000 quarters, but the bullion was in the Bank in that year 4,900,000l. And in 1842 we imported 4,206,000 quarters, and at that time the bullion in the Bank of England had increased to ten millions, our exports had also increased in a corresponding ratio, and these exports to the great grain countries took place when our exports to all other countries failed (cheers). But without reading all the particulars, I will just state what was the result of the exports before we began to import grain from the grain-growing countries lown to the last year. In 1837, the export of manufactures was 12,800,000l.; in 1842, after we had had four years' import of grain, the exports of our manufactures was 16,800,000l. This increase of trade with foreign countries took place when our exports to every country were falling off, showing that after the first year of demand for articles we had not before imported, there arose a regular trade (cries of hear, and loud cheers). Sir, the honourable member for Sunderland has referred to what has been alluded to by other members in this debate, the value of the home trade. It is a very common argument with agricultural gentlemen that the home trade is far better than the foreign trade, and that we ought to be careful how we deal with it. Sir, that is our case: it is because the home trade is so good that we ought to be careful not to injure it, and nothing injures it so much as high prices of corn (hear, hear). The hon, member is acquainted with the midland counties, and I therefore select the evidence of the Mayor of Leicester, a large manufacturer, given before the import duty committee of this house, for his information on this point. "In speaking of the consumption of Leicester, you say that the market has been falling off for two years. Are the committee to understand that has been from the inorensing poverty of the industrious classes of the country?—I do imagine that to be the case. Have the I do imagine that to be the case. Have the artisans been obliged to give more labour and to do more work for the same wages in consequence of the pressure which has existed in Leicester?—Certainly, vages have been lower in consequence of it, and I never s w anything like the distress that there has been among the artisans employed in the town of Leicester. To what do you ascribe the decreased demand for their goods?—To the high prices of provisions, which have diminished the means of the labourer to purchase, because if his food takes a large proportion of his wages, it leaves him less to lay out in clothing, furniture, and other articles. Have you any experience, with respect to the demand for your goods, when provisions have been low? Yos; it is the invariable rule in our trade that when provisions are low we have a good demand; it is a rule observed by the manufacturers, and established as a maxim in the trade. If the harvest is good, we may have a better home demand, but if we liave a had harvest, I do not know what will become of the population, for it will make corn high, and leave the workmen destitute of employment, and the distress will be very great. Ours is a home manufacture depending upon the home market; and upon the wellbeing of the working population generally the prosperity of the working population generally the prosperity of the manufactures of Leicester entirely depends. Are you quite certain that the falling off in the demand for Leicester manufacture appends the purely agricultural population has been as great as amongst the manufacturing population? The falling off has been as great. The hosters who travel there tell me that the wages of agricultural labourers are so low, that it leaves them nothing to lay out in manufactures. They have first to nothing to lay out in manufactures. They have first so obtain the necessaries of life, and it leaves them nothing to lay out in stockings. Then although the price of food has indreased, their wages have not increased in proportion? Cortainly not in the agricultural districts in the manufacturing districts wages are lower than they was a lower than the lower tha nothing to lay out in manufactures. They have first jo

We passed a resolution to that effect at a large moeting held in the spring of the last year. We had a large town meeting, and resolutions were passed declaring their willingnes to abandon all protective duties on manufactures, if ail prohibitory and all protective duties on agricultural produce were also removed, was that resolution the result of the opinion of the general aggregate of the manufacturers in Leicenter and the neighbourhood? It was," Facts of this kind have been elicited from nearly every manu. facturer of articles of general consumption, and we urge them, in opposition to what has been stated against us (hear, hear). Now I ask your attention to what it is which has been said at the other side, in reply to these great economical considerations which have been brought before them by the Government, and to propositions which have been from time to time sulmitted for years past to the same effect, by honourable gentlemen at this side—I see hon. gentlemen are unwij. ling to listen to this matter, because it is conclusive against them. It has been stated, and stated truly by that right hon, gentleman that the population of this country is rapidly increasing-and the census show, that there is no chance of finding employment for them, except from commerce and manufacture (hear, hear). Now I ask the house to attend to the answer which the honourable member for Northamptonshire and the honourable member for Bristol make to that statement The commissioners have declared that produce, equal to that of the county of Surrey, is annually required to feed the population of this country, and places as large as Birmingham and Manchester to find them room for shelter. The honourable member for Bristol says, that manufactures have been carried a great deal too far; that we ought rather to consider the propriety of restricting our manufacturing districts; and the hon, member for Northamptonshire, who is the leader of the body of protectionists, and who undertakes to speak for that party, and to tell them the views which they ought to take, and the opinions they ought to pronounce as opposed to this side of the house-he the honourable member for Northamptonshire) says that we may talk as we please about the increase of our population, and about our want of food for that increased number, but that his policy is not to import more food from abroad, and that we ought to confine ourselves at home to a system under which we should produce three-quarters of corn, instead of five (hear, hear). Now let the country distinctly understand the political economy in fashion on the other side. the manufacturing districts are already increasing too much, and that their-limits ought to be confined, whilst concurrently with that restriction they also say that we ought to produce less food at home instead of more, and that we ought to import less food from abroad notwithstanding the increase of population. That is the argument which is used by honourable gentlement opposite, and deliberately stated in your organs, your Quarterly Review, Standard, and Herald. We see it stated that if the manufacturing districts were razed to the ground, if half the metropolis were razed to the ground, the country would be greater, happier, and pore prosperous. And you go on consistently with these views, and say that we want no manufacturing towns, and that we require to produce less food, and to import less from abroad, for this rapidly increasing population. That is what you say are your economical principles (loud cheers). We say that we want to provide food for an increased population; and we find, by the census returns, that you give less employment to the population now than you did in 1831; and, in answer to that, you say that we ought to have fewer manufactories and less production of food (hear, and cheers). Now I ask if any save men not fit to be loose, would utter such statement, or if such men ought to be allowed to legislate for the country? And yet these are the persons who propose to form a Government; who say, "If you will only throw out this measure we will form a Government which will provide for the people;" who propose to diminish the manufacturing districts, and to produce less food we the country (hear, hear). That is your economical view (cheers). But how do you propose to carry it out ? You depend upon your territorial influence, the county constituencies, and the House of Lords. You think that by your influence with the counties and some borough and with the influence of the House of Lords, you will be able to throw out this measure of the Government and to uphold monopoly. This it is which has induced you to keep up the dobate for eleven days, and it is with a hope of officing that object that you will go to the di-vision to-morrow night. You hope by those means, by your influence with dependent voters, and the support of the House of Lords, to throw out the Government measure. But let me ask, did you ever consider this question in all its bearings? The Corn Laws must be supported now by force or by opinion (ironical cheets from the Protectionists). Is there any other way? You have already tried by force to support it. You tried force when the law was introduced, and four years after it was carried you maintained it by force (hear). I say the people were cut down in this town for resisting that law, and at Manchester also, in 1819, four years after its enactment, they were out down for reststing it (hear) hear). They were threstened in 1837, It was ditempted, but you could not do it in 1830 ; yes, it was tempted, but you could not do it in 1839; yea, if was said that there was a way of putting down people if they ventured to express an opinion against this law. What you then had to resist the people was your rotten bellough. After 1830 you could no put down be people by force; When the people were distributed and disconsists with the resultant; the literal rid, you was a castled to provide the resultant that the resultant the resultant that the resultant the resultant that the resultant the resultant the resultant the resultant that the resultant the resultant the resultant the resultant that the resultant that the resultant that the resultant the resultant the resultant the resultant that the resultant that the resultant the resultant the resultant the resultant the resultant that the resultant the resu Are you area when the party is a season of the

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lead them astray with respect to the subject of the Corn Lava. Everything which could distract the minds of the people on that subject was done by the protection societies. That gave rise to the Auti-Corn-Law League; that caused them to exert themselves as they had done: that it was which led them to do so much in circulating. not their own notions, but the deliberate opinions of the most enlightened men that ever the country produced, and induced them to make those extraordinary exertions which the country had witnessed to obtain the abolition of all restrictions on commerce, and in particular the total abolition of your Corn Laws (cheers) I have described the position in which the question is placed, and it is quite clear that you cannot at this moment support it by force or delusion or persuasion (cheers); so if you wish to support it, you must do it by other means (hear, hear). You are now quarrelling with a Minister who is conscienstiously applying himself to the settlement of this question. If you do then desire to support it by other means, I ask you whether you have taken any security whatever against the recurrence of another period of scarcity (hear, hear)? If a senson of searcity should occur again, and that the people under the pressure of that scarcity should call upon you for universal suffrage, or if it should so happen that the people rise up in arms against this law, or your Government, what state would such a Government as you could form be placed in under such circumstances? I only ask you just to imagine such a Government as you have seen described -- a Government with a noble duke at its head, and consisting of some honourable gentlemen whom I see opposite (great laughter),-what position would such a Government find itself in with a period of scarcity and tumult in the land, and the responsibility placed upon them of restoring and maintaining peace and order? Can we suppose a Government in a more horrible, I will not say despicable, situation (hear, and cheers)? What would you do? Would you not do exactly as you did in 1841? Would you not come to the right honourable haronet the member for Taniworth, and pray of him to take the reins of power and restore a state of peace and order (cheers)? The honourable member for Rudandshire blamed the right honourable baronet at the head of the Covernment for not having stuck to his guns. What a comparison (a laugh). "Stick to his guns." What minister, let mel ask, would have stuck to his guns under similar circumstances (hear, hear)? Would you stick to your guns if starvation was spreading throughout the counoy, and you were not able to put the people down by force, nor to persuade them that the starvation they suffered was not your fault, and was not the result of your legislation? Would you who blame the right hon. baronet stick to your gans under such circumstances (loud cheers) . Is it not clear that in your attempts to prevent the right hon, gentleman from abolishing this Corn Law, you are consulting your own interests solely? Is it not evident that the real protection which you require is protection for yourselves (cheers)? You have alluded to other countries; and I remember the honourable member for Dorsetshire, since the commencement of this session, said he was not afraid so much of agitation with respect to this question, or of high prices, but he was afraid of such men as Neckur, or Turgot getting into the Government (hear). There is some analogy, I admit, between the position of this country as regards this question and the state of France at a former period, when Turgot became Minister, - The honourable member for Dorchester, who expressed his fear of a second Turgot in our Government, is, I am sure, acquainted with the character of that Minister and the views ho entertained. He was a very sagacious man. I venture to say, notwithstanding the pretensions of the economists that there is no man possessing more comprehensive views than he possessed upon national policy. Turgot was called to power in 1775, and no man could have obtained office entertaining more enlightened views. He said that he undertook the government of the country without the slightest hope of being able to do good: he knew he should be calummated, and that a confederacy would be formed against him because he represented to the King that a certain class ought not to live on the substance of the nation (cheers); but he accepted of office notwithstanding, because he wished to die with the character of desiring to do as much good as possible for his country. What was the first act he did when he obtained power? He repealed the Corn Laws (loud cheers). He said there were two things which should be taken care of by every country if it was deous of escaping bankruptcy and revolution—and this he said, he it remembered, 15 years before the revolution took place in France. The two things which he said ought to be cared for wore, that the revenue should be maintained, and that the occurrence of scarcity should be avoided, and he added, that above all things trade in corn should be kept free. Consist-ently with these views, the first act of Turgot in 1775 was to set free the internal corn trade of France, and to place on record his views with respect to the ex-pediency of setting free the external corn trade. But what was his reason? It is really worth the while of hon, gentlemen opposite to observe it. He said there was a regular barrier when he came into power between each of the provinces, and that this was of such a nature as to form a regular interference with the trade in corn of every province, thus causing each province to depend upon the season for its supply of food, and to be of course expand to the evils of scarcity, prespective of the other provinces, in a fession of scarcity (hear, heer). He then proceeded to put the financial department in a hetter and more scenre position. And what was his face. I mention it, because I think it may be the face of the ministry these we have at present. If you look to Condoffer a Life of Burgos, you will find that there was a combination formed against him of all those people in this country who lives for those, and who derived increases from the public leveling through any service in the public leveling. The combination is public leveling. The combination is controlled to the public leveling. The combination is controlled to the public leveling through the public leveling.

lie revenue. That was the description of persons who combined against Turgot, and against overy minister from 1778 to 1789, who foresaw the consequences of which Turgot complained, and wished to prevent them (erles of hear, hear). That was the minister whom the honourable member for Dorsetshire feared might be imitated by a minister of this country (hear, hear). Mr. Carlyle represents the privileged classes in France as saying, in 1787, "We cannot maintain our station, unless we have some exemptions and some privileges." Well, they would not listen to any minister who would not punder to them. In 1789 a scarcity of food took place; there was a bad harvest throughout France; and in 1789 it was recorded that considerable tumult and riot occurred which involved great change; a change which struck its roots deeply, but which was not the result of the particular cause which the hon, member for Shrewsbury suggested, but which was caused by the scarcity of food. Let honour able gentlemen carefully attend to that history, and take warning. I know nothing which could enable the Government to resist such scarcity and failure of revenue, and the effects which they produced on that occasion are worthy the attention of a just and prudent minister. When you consider the effects of scarcity, I will ask you whether the right honourable baronet at the head of the Government is not a real Conservative-whether he is not doing what is really promotive of true Conservatism-when he adopts he course which he recommends to you (cheers)? Remember, you have not taken a single measure of security against a year of scarcity (hear). You heard the right hon, baronet opposite say what he apprehended from it; that he dreads the very recollection of former periods of searcity and insecurity and sedition, and that he is therefore desirous to prevent the recurrence of such periods, but you have offered no security against the recurrence of scarcity. You have taken no precaution, and recollect that, after all the discussions which have taken place on this question, the enlightenment of the people on this subject, it is impossible to deceive them again, and they will hereafter look for some responsibility from you (hear, hear). Recollect that the system you wish to maintain is to prevent the growth of food in other countries for the supply of the wants of our population. Consider the state of things at present. You are really not safe from this responsibility for two or three years to come. There is something like famine already existing in Ireland, and you are not sure that there may not be a bad harvest next year (hear, hear). What do you mean to do if there should be a bad harvest? If the people are distressed and without food, and call on you for supplies, what do you mean to do? You have undertaken to feed them, and they are not fed. What answer will you give in 1846, and 1847, and 1848, if distress should still continue? Surely there is sense in this. In a period of scarcity it would not be merely a question of Corn Law. The people are in a peculiar state of mind. Let us then prevent, by every means in our power, another period of scarcity-a period that the present ministers of the crown reflect upon and contemplate the recurrence of with horror and alarm (hear, hear, hear); let us remember that when men are made desperate by distress, and driven to madness by privation, that they accept any cause to ac count for their misfortune, and listen to any remedy suggested for their relief, and it is very much to the interest of the aristocracy that the people should not attribute it to them (hear, hear). Avert in time the public mind from reflecting upon the manner in which they have been governed by the aristocracy for the half-century past (hear, hear). My noble friend the member for London has referred to immortal services rendered by them to the country. I do not in the least deny what we have heard that they have rendered immortal service in some periods of our history. I am de-lighted to hear it. I do not dispute it, because I am not so well versed in ancient history as others are; but I think if there does come a period of distress, that the people, after all would be apt to review the period of which they have immediate cognisance, and I doubt if that is the period that my noble friend referred to; the period within the last 40 or 50 years. I do honestly believe that they can come to no other conclusion than that during the last 50 years they have wielded the power of the legislature against the industry, energy, and intelligence of the people (hear, hear) -that they have been faithless to their trust in this place (hear)—that they have sought unhallowed gain, reokless of the means of obtaining it (hear, hear)—and that they have been ever blind to the destiny of this great nation (loud cheers). I therefore conjure them at this moment, and at the present opportunity, to become reconciled to their own true interests, and to sacrifice selfish prejudice to the cause of justice by a hearty concurrence in the measures proposed by the Government, and by the abolition in toto of this law; which, as long as a vestige of it remains, will only be an evidence of your shame (cheers). Lose the occasion und I venture to n of every one who has ever sought, or for a while succeeded in trampling upon, or tyramising over this race and nation, amongst whom it is your great fortune to be born, and over whom it ought to have been your pride to rule with justice and intelligence.—(The hon, gentleman resumed his seat amidst loud applause.) The debate was then adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27.

Before the debate commenced, a preliminary discussion arose on the veracity of Mr. Ferrand, during which Mr. D'Israeli referred to Sir R. Peel's allusions to Mr. Cobdon's "assassination speech" two years ago. Sir R. Past. replied that he fully retracted anything that he had said that could be so saidered offensive; and Mr. Condan responded that he accepted of the explanation, and hoped that no one would ever alluda to the subject again.

The debate was resumed by Mr. Banks, against the measure; Mr. B. Escott and Mr. Cobden in favour; and Capt. Classtone, Mr. Spopuer, Mr. Borthwick, and Lord G. Bentinek, against the latter of whom spoke for newly8 hours, and se crise of "Divide," "Adjourn," "Go on," ! Ob, oh," co. co., and most induspribable noise and confusion.

After which, about 8 o'clook, the Fronte divided.

537 160, ^

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Trade Question, and a Letter from Cotton Twist.--Office, 337, Strand,
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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, February 28, 1846. We regret the defeat of Lord Lincoln in South Nottinghamshire, for the sake of the young nobleman himself, whose spirit, candonr, and ability have won for him a large share of public interest and sympathy. But apart from personal considerations, we see no reason to sorrow over the result of the several county elections which have occurred within the last fortnight. They prove that the protection really needed by farmers is the ballot, and that protectionists are not satisfied with possession of the soil unless they can also lord it over the conscience. No wonder that they protest against the registration movement of the League, and clamour against our efforts to create an independent body of freeholders. They do so on the same prin ciple that the American planters resist the presence of free negroes in the vicinity of their estates, and that no object is more odious to a Russian boyar than an emancipated serf. The recent elections afford better arguments for the continuance of our exertions in the counties than all the eloquence and ingonuities of our leaders could have devised. The qualification for a county member has become, in soher carnest, that which George Sencoal possessed for the office of constable; it is simply to be "the most senseless and unfit man for the purpose." The world revolted when Caligula raised his horse to the consulship; but our protectionist landlords have tried the experiment of investing far less respectable animals with the functions of legislation. We are to have "a country party," save the mark; and we are to take the needles sent up to swell the bellowing herd "below the gangway" as speci mens of its constituent elements. Be it so, -the sooner the experiment is tried the better it will be for the nation. Despotism, indulging in the va-guries of capricious absurdity must haston its own fall. Already the farmers are soliciting the League to aid in rescuing them from thraldom. Another year may convert South Nottinghamshire into a constituency similar to the West Riding of Yorkshire. The dictation of the landlords has become so ostentations and so insulting that it oginot be endured much longer. At the present orlsis their conduct is as wanton, and as perverse as it is tyrannical. They know that they cannot dolay the progress of the ministerial mossure for one day, or impair its efficiency by the rejection of a single clause; their only object is to indulge their personal spite against Sir Robert Pael at all bazards. They feel that without life they are as sheep having lost their sliephord, and you they exhibit themselves to the world a melangially ensemble folly. We do not grieve at their rendering them solves thus ridionlous; we are not sorry to see them washing the pocket-counties of every man who has a separation for wirtue on for talent; and we have infligued it that it would be partner to be governed by a your fair. In the washing a partner to be governed by a young him.

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MOSES and SON have done their duty,
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Boy's Great Coats

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 127.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28. 1846. GRATIS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE CORN LAW DEBATE.

THE ADJOURNED DEBAT'E—FRIDAY, Feb. 20.
The adjourned debate was resumed by
Mr. C. BRUCE, who denied the assertion of Mr. B.
Baring, that an end would be put to agitation if the house assented to the present proposition of her Majesty's Govern-ment. On the contrary, he believed if it were passed into law, discontent more dangerous, and agitation more difficult of repression, than that with which the house had to contend at present, would ensue. He was convinced that a more intense outery would then be got up in favour of the extinction of tithes, against the Established Church, against the aristocracy, against the law of primogeniture, and against the necessary expenses of the monarchy. He could not agree with Lord Bandon or Mr. Baillie, that it was necessary agree with Lord Sandon or Mr. Ballie, that it was necessary to support this measure of the Ministers, because the country could not be governed without them. Like the king in the ballad of Chevy Chace, who, though he regretted the death of Earl Percy, thanked God that "he had within his realm 500 good as he." he would express his belief that, much as the retirement of Sir R. Peel and his colleagues might be deplored, it would not be difficult to find in England other ministers to form a cabinet quite as good as they Declining to enter on this occasion into the policy of the Corn Laws, he proceeded to comment upon the celebrated letter of Lord John Russell, which he denounced as quite as remarkable for the boldness as for the extravagance of its assertions. He denied that the Corn Laws were the blight cither of commerce or of agriculture, and insisted that without protection the country would never have mached its present height of greatness and prosperity. He wanted to know how Sir James Graham reconciled to his present course his most eloquent speech in favour of protection in 1839—a speech which he had cheered at the time till he was perfectly hoarse. He should also like to know what arguments the Chancellor of the Exchequer had to urge in favour of a measure which touched his department very nearly, and which at the same time was on posed to every principle on which he had hitherto acted. He had likewise some curiosity to hear what other officers of the Government had to say in defence of their sudden abandonment of all the opinions of their past lives. Passing them over without further remark, he proceeded to grapple with what he called the magnificent speech of Sir R. Peel on Monday night. It was his deliberate conviction that Sir R. Peel on Monday night. It was his deliberate conviction that Sir R. Peel had in that speech made out one part of his case, but had signally failed in making out the other. He had proved that great advantage would be derived from the repeal of the duties on manufactured articles, but he had failed in proving that corn came under the same category with manufactured articles. articles. He had not given his Corn Law a fair trial. A factious party, seeking its own interest in the reduction of wages, demanded the repeal of it; and, taking advantage of the failure of the potato-orop in Ireland, he had yielded to the demand, in the face of a verdict given in favour of protection at the las meral election by the constituencies of England. He to C. Bruce) could not sacrifice his past and present opin one on the subject of the Corn Laws for the reasons which Sir R. Peel had alleged; and therefore he must decline embarking with his right hon friend on he must decline embarking with his right hon, friend on that boundless ocean of Free Trade, upon which the British mixigator had not yet ventured, and from which no British

navigator had not yet ventured, and from which no British pilot had yet returned.

Mr. P. SCROPE would not rest the defence of the Government measure on the favourable experience of the last three years, because, if the experience of the next three years should be unfavourable, it might be urged as a reason for reconsidering it. The arguments for the repeal of the Corn Laws were as strong in 1841—aye, and even 30 years ago—as they were at present. The Corn Laws either raised the price of corn or they did not. If they did not raise the price, then they were no benefit to agriculture or to any other interest, and were a gratuitous interference with industry, and therefore an unmitigated wrong. If they did raise the price, therefore an unmitigated wrong. If they did raise the price, how did hon, gentlemen justify their result? Why, they said, we are a highly taxed country, and must have high prices to pay our taxation. Then came the consideration, "From whom did these high prices come?" They came from the consumers of corn and what instification was there for that? mers of corn, and what justification was there for that? You gave the consumers no compensation for the high taxes which they had to pay for themselves personally; and what right then had you to force high prices on them in Order to make them pay the high taxes, which properly ought to fall upon yourself? He considered this to be a sufficient proof that the Corn Laws, if they did raise prices, were even a more immitted and than they are if they did not. upon yourself? He considered this to be a sufficient proof that the Corn Laws, if they did raise prices, were even a more unmitigated wrong than they were if they did not. Having stated that he had heard no satisfactory reagons from the other side in behalf of the policy of protection; he proceeded to comment on the speech of Mr. S. O'Brien, and more especially on that argument, in which he maisted on the hardship inflicted on native industry by our communition of articles produced in foreign countries. Firing a passing shot at Mr. Ferrand for his efforts to prevent the important of shot at Mr. Ferrand for his efforts to prevent the important of shot at Mr. Ferrand for his efforts to prevent the important of should be should b

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in the protection given to native corn. The manufacturers were not the majority of the country, and the laws, which were for the benefit of the majority, he had a right to were for the benefit of the majority, he had a right to assume were for the benefit of the community at large. To buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market was a good maxim for trade, but not a good one for Government, inasmuch as Government had other objects to which it ought to look to besides the accumulation of capital. Turning to the measure immediately before the house, he observed that it had not come upon him by surprise. In the year 1844 he had foreseen, foretold, and lamented over its approach. When he saw Sir Robert Peel rendering this country dependent on foreign countries for its monetary exchanges, he exdent on foreign countries for its monetary exchanges, he ex pected that he would soon render it dependent on them for its supply of food also. The Corn Laws were the key-stone of protection; and if that key-stone were removed, the whole edifice of protective duties would full with it to the ground. Universal distress would then ensue among all classes of society, agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing and if the country escaped a convulsion in consequence it would only be by re-enacting these once applauded but now repudiated Corn Laws. After a disquisition upon the injurious connection of the present question with the currency of the country, he proceeded to grapple with the doctrine that agriculture was not exposed to any peculiar burdens. Mr. Ward had denied the existence of these burdens altogether. Lord John Russell had admitted their existence; but had contended that the landed interest had no right to any compensation for them, inasmuch as it had refused to go into Mr. Ward's committee to inquire into their extent. Mr. Newdegate then read a puper, by which he endeavoured to prove, that in the shape of tithe, mult-tax, property-tax, poor-rates, land-tax, highway rates, and some other charges the agricultural interest was exposed to burdens amounting to 12,000,000/. annually. He believed that compensa-tion for these burdens was impossible, and that if it were possible, it would not be advantageous. He consured the somewhat haughty and dictatorial tone which Sir Robert Peel had of late assumed towards the independent members of that house. His conduct in overbearing the opinions of his colleagues, and in appealing to their fears instead of to their dispassionate judgment, endangered the liberty and freedom of the subject; and until he submitted his change of opinion to the approval or disapproval of the public by a constitutional appeal to the people, he (Mr. Newdegate) should consider him, not the Minister of the Sovereign or the people's choice, but the Minister of their necessity. What right had he or Mr. S. Herbert to say to the country gentlemen, "If you don't yield now to reason, you will have to yield hereafter to force?" Surely such lan-guage ill became a Minister of the Crown, and was highly derogatory to the dignity of a deliberative assembly. In con-clusion, he exhorted the independent party in the house to persevere in the career on which it had entered, as before long the country would appreciate and co-operate with its

Mr. BARCLAY observed, that on former occasions he had voted against the annual motion of Mr. Villiers, for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and that he should have given a similar vote this year had a similar proposition been made. The aspect of things was, however, changed in his eyes, when he saw Sir Robert Peel proposing, not a lop-sided plan, like that of Mr. Villiers, for the mere repeal of the duties on corn, but a broad and comprehensive plan for the reduction of all protective duties whatsoever. He then proceeded to explain at considerable length, but in a tone of of voice which rendered him very indistinctly heard, the rea-

sons which induced him to give his support to the commercial policy now proposed by Sir R. Peel.

Mr. BENETT (of Suffolk) felt himself compelled to withdraw the confidence which he had once reposed in Sir R. Peel, partly by his recent desertion of all the principles of protection which he had formerly advocated, but principally by the grievous injuries which he had inflicted on the Protestant Church in Ireland. He should give his decided opposition to the Government measure, which took away all protection from agriculture and native industry, and he expected that the Solicitor-General would join him in that opposition, as he had expressed himself strongly at his late election at Cambridge against "the folly" of those who thought Free

Mr. MUNTZ had done all be could to prevent Sir R. Peel from occupying the high position in which he then stood; but he was now very glad that Sir R. Peel had obtained it. He was very glad, too, that he had brought farward this measure; and he should certainly support it; for it would tear away a veil concealing all the miseries of the country, which were at present attributed, and very unfairly, to the Corn Laws. He had always said to Sir R. Peel, "You must reduce every thing to the Continental level, or else you must raise up every thing to another level." Sir R. Peel had taken the first course; he (Mr. Muntz) believed it to be a wrong course; but, as Sir R. Peel had taken it, he would do every thing in his power to support him in it; for anything was better than a system which led to nothing but uncertainty. He went the length of saying that the house ought to protect all native industry against the untaxed industry of foreign countries; but the protection of the house had not been extended to every branch of native industry, and that been extended to every branch of native industry, and that was the reason why he had always voted against it. He did not little that the Orin Law would produce all the the the old server which had been stated in and out of the house, but he did believe that it must produce a reduction in the role of the house to take one that that reduction did not produce a reduction in the rate of wages. Hitherto, Sir R: Peel had been deemed infallible, but now that he had confessed that he had been unus, wrom for 30 nor 40 years on the subject of the Gorn-law, whom for 30 nor 40 years on the subject of the Gorn-law, who had been that he had been that he had been the confessed that he had been that he would be the confessed that he magnitude whom the themselves also he (14 Minus) should have the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude that the magnitude of the confessed that he had been and the magnitude of the confessed that he had been and the magnitude of the confessed that he had been and the magnitude of the confessed that he magnitude of the confessed that

Mr. DISRAELL.-Sir, I leave the right hon, baronet, the first minister, to settle the question of the currency, with his new supporter, the hon. member who has just sat down, and to whom we are indebted for a protection speech almost as able as that delivered to us by the noble lord the member for Liverpool (hear and laughter). The honourable geu-tloman who has just addressed us seems to think that, after this declaration of the Government, all is doubtful. Sir, there is one point on which no doubt can any longer rest. Whatever may be the opinions that now have entered into this great controversy on the main question before us. however fervent may be our convictions of the advantage of protection, however sanguino may be the expectations of hon, gentlemen opposite of the benefits of competition, there is one point on which we are all agreed—there is one point on which there can be no misunderstanding, and it is this, that her Majesty's Ministers have changed their opinions (hear). Whether the opinions they formerly pursued, or those opinions which they are about to follow, are the right ones, are the most expedient, and the most calculated to benefit this country, that I apprehend is the real question benefit this country, that, I apprehend, is the real question be-fore the house (hear, hear). Sir, that is the question which, with the indulgence of the house, I shall endeavour to consider, and on which I shall endeavour to offer some suggestions, which I hope may make honourable goutlemen hesitate before they accede to the great change which is proposed. I shall endeavour to show that this system which is called the system of protection is not that odious system which it has too long been assumed to be. I have pledged myself to meet the question on its merits, and though I may not be capable of the argument, I shall not shrink from it (hear and cheers). But before I presume to offer these considerations to the house in support of that system, it will be more convenient to notice the arguments that have been offered by her Majesty's Government in favour of the change that is proposed. I shall thus clear the course which I have to illustrate. It will lead me to the end which I aspire to reach, and facilitate the discussion very much. We have been addressed in support of the measures of the Government by three cabinet ministers. It is but due to the right hon, gentleman, the first minister-to the position which he occupies—to the more comprehensive statement that he made of the case of the Government, that I should perhaps, in the first instance, notice what he said. The right hou, gentleman assumed that a great part of this discussion has been wasted in arguments as to the conduct of parties. I have no wish myself to enter into that subject: nor should I have noticed it at all, had not the right honourable goutleman, by the use which he made then, as well as on a previous and subsequent occasion, of the word " party," seemed to entertain a very different feeling with regard to it from that which influences honourable members on this bench (hear, hear). Sir, we have indeed heard from these bonches a great deal on the conduct of party, but we associate with that word very different ideas from those which the right honourable gentleman seems to entertain. We do not understand that party is anything but public opinion embo-died (loud cries of "hear, hear"). We protest against the doctrine of the right hop, gentleman that there is a distinction between political party and public opinion. We maintain that party is public opinion embodied, whether it represent the opinions of the majority or of the minority of the public. In either case it represents the opinions of a great section of the community. In this country, where the nation is divided into parties—where great results are brought about by public discussion—by the organisation also, no doubt, of material interests—by those two agencies of reason and of property, we arrive at the solution of controversies times the most intal. Such are the beneficial consequences of those agencies, that, however florge the controversial strife —however violent the agitation of the nation—still you will find always that when a question is settled by the agency of the legitimate exercise of what the right hon, gontleman calls "party," but which is in fact national organisation, the dom see a question so settled with the appeal, and you selnot complain of the right hon, gentleman having changed his

opinions. Opinion is not always in the power of the human will; but we do complain, not that he has deferred too much to public opinion, but that he has outraged public legitimate action of the public voice—that he has resisted the settlement of questions, by the aid of party, and the feelings of the community which are embodied in it. And if he achieves, as most probably he will achieve, the result which he has in view, the community will consequently be not satisfied, and they will say, and say with reason, "We represent a great mass of public opinion—by our aid the right hon, gentleman has been raised to power-by our aid the present Parliament has been elected to represent our section of the public, and yet our feelings have been disregarded. If the noble lord (Lord John Russell) who represents another section of public opinion had succeeded in being the minister—if his friends had succeeded in being the majority in this house, and if the noble lord, by their aid, had settled this question, we should have yielded to that decision, because we would have felt that the solution of the controversy had been earlied. out in a legitimate manner; but we complain that, under the course pursued, this question is not settled, and cannot be

course pursued, this question is not settled, and cannot be settled, in a constitutional manner. We have morely this sed, speciacle of the right honourable gentleman surrounded by a majority who, while they give their voice, project is their speeches against his policy (cries of "no, no," and "liser, hear, hear"). I had no idea there was any doubt on this point. The illustrious catalogue of converts this we have seen have been converts to the policy and age to the prisciples of the right honourable gentleman. But had been prisciples of the right honourable gentleman. But had been converted to the policy and age to the prisciples of the right honourable gentleman. But had been converted to the policy and age to the prisciples of the right honourable gentleman. But had been converted to the policy of the flags of the majority of the results and the policy of the prisciples of the principles. The policy of the polic

many be sitting on these benches, but of the majority forming a great portion of the community at large, whose views they represent, and of that public opinion which is the result of their convictions (hear, hear). This is probably the only observation that I shall make on this subject, and I have of fered it clearly in the legitimate spirit of the debute them hear). The right honourable gentleman proceeded to indicate that which he considered to be the proper subject for discussion in this matter; and I concoived that the right honourable gentleman in his description of what should be the proper subject of discussion at once described and indicated the fallacy of his own position, and the fatal character of the policy which he is pursuing. He says, "I call upon you not to discuss a party question, but to meet an emergency, and to do what you can to construct a commercial system (hear). Now, sir, can anything be more different-if there can be a contrast more complete than any other between two things, it must be that between a system which must be permanent, and an emergency which however managed must be to a certain degree precipitate. There, I think, is at once the fault of the position of the right honourable haronet. At the very first step he counsels us to a course which, if we cousider his policy under other circumstances, if we regard it, for example, as the policy of the minister of a foreign country, and be thus able to regard it without any of the clamour or spirit that now animates us, we must at once pronounce a great mistake. If, for instance, this course were recommended by the noble lord opposite, we should call it a great mistake. We should consider it unwise in him to say, "I have measures to meet an emergency, but I call upon you to come forward and to reconstruct your commercial system, in deference to anystem which you have always previously opposed." But what are we to say to a minister who asks us not only to do that, but who says you must do it, in total opporition to all that I have told you was right and proper heretofore (hear, hear)? Now, sir, as regards the emer-goney—namely, the state of Ireland—I must protest against the necessity of any one warning us in this house not to treat the subject lightly. It is a subject on which I have never spoken in a tone of levity, though I may have occasionally so treated the policy that has been adopted to wards that country. But is regards the question which we have to discuss -namely, the adoption of a new system, a system which the right honourable gentleman bimself described, only a few months ago, as a great social revolution (hear, hear), as regards this question, there are one or two points which it may be as well if some member of the cabinet would enlighten us upon, though I believe there are no more Free Trade members of the cabinet to speak on this question (hear, hear, and laughter). But perhaps we may be favoured with the opinion of a protection member of the cabinet on these remarkable circumstances of the present anoundous state of affairs, namely, that we shall have at the same time a protectionist cabinet, and a Free Trade ministry (hear, hear, and cheers ,. Now, sir, with regard to the point to which I was calling the attention of the House right honourable gentleman feels strongly the difficulty under which he necessarily labours, in being himself the minister to propose these changes in our commercial system. The right honourable gentleman told us that he would have wished those changes should be proposed by others, but he at the same time informal as that he had proposed them in the cabinet long, before he had meditated a rupture in that cabinet on these items. The question, then, arises, how does he reconcile these two statements, namely, his having proposed these measures to the cabinet, with the fact, which he has recently so often assured us of, that he would have wished that others should have brought these measures before Parliament (hear)? Now, sir, I would notice the commercial principle, if you can call it a principle, upon which the right honourable gentleman seems to have founded the measures which he proposes to us. We are, as regards the emergency, ready to do that which any minister entitled to the confidence of Parliament would recommend. We are prepared to do for Ireland -I will not say all that Ireland can require - but all that human judgment can devise (bear, hear, and laughter). But we do not understand the position of the right honourable gentleman with respect to this subject. That position has been involved in great obscurity. The right honourable gentleman says. "I was for opening the ports," and then, following up the cheer which he sometimes met with in alluding to this fact, he proceeded to take a rapid view of the economical system of the country in past times; he proved that the ports had been often before opened, and beneficially topened; but, as if alarmed at the cheer which this statement called forth from these benches, he turns round and says, "Yes, it is very well for you to agree with me in this; it is very good to cheer me when I allude to the opening of the ports; but I must tell you that I was not prepared to shut them again" (hear, hear). The providing for the emergency, therefore, was not the difficulty of the right hon, gentleman—the difficulty was at the bottom of the right hon, gentleman's policy (hear, hear). He was resolved that the present system of Corn Laws and other laws should cease (hour, hear). Now, compare these facts with the declaration that has been made by a member of the cabinet, not exactly on the hustings, but before a large body of the constituents, in a county town; what is the declaration of the Chief Secretary on a late occasion? He tells you, "We would have wished that these communications should have been made to another Parliament; that is to say, the present Parliament might have gone on there might have been a renewal of the seven years lease of the Conservative majority, and probably, when the election would just have taken place, we would receive that announcement which, under peculiar circumstances, has perhaps been made too soon (hear, hear). Now, I am bringing no charge against her Majesty's Covernment. I am merely throwing out hints to the protection members of the cabinet who probably may rise in the course of this debate. I have mentioned the points on which I wish to have information; I came to no foregone conclusion. It is probable that the Unief Secretary for Ireland, was not authorised to state that the change was not wished to be made until the new Parliament would meet. But there is also the fact that the right hononrable gentleman more than once deployed that the task should have been imposed upon him, and should not have fidlen to others, of introducing these measures. would appear that before the matter was conceived by any luman being the right honourable gentleman had actually proposed its adoption in conneil, and insisted on his opthe approving of it. Those are, I think, two points

these measures to the notice of the house, assumed that he had founded them on the observations of the last three years; but in his last speech, he seemed to find fault with the manuar in which that former expression had been taken up by different members. As long as he donles the construction put upon his words, that denial is quite enough for me, and I will not, therefore, dwell upon this point. The right honourable gentleman says, "I do not exactly say that it was the observation of the last three years that absolutely induced me to adopt the measures which I now recommend but I have been taking a general view of the commercial relations of the country for a long time, and of the effects of considerable relaxation of protective duties, and I have seen. especially under the influence of my tariff during the last three years, that there has been a great and simultaneous increase of exports and imports with these relaxations. That I believe is a fair statement of the argument of the right honourable burenet. If the right honourable gentle-man were merely proposing an annual budget, I do not think there would be any great objection to his measures, but when a great change is proposed to us, and when that change is recommended on the data afforded by the amount of imports and exports in a recent period, it becomes the house to be very cautious in the policy which it adopted, and to analyse very closely the operation of those commercial results (hear, hear). Now there is one case, with which some hon, gentlemen opposite are very familiar, connected with this matter of exports and imports. I am throwing aside the allegations about mag-nificent railway works, and a superabundant employment, which the right hon gentleman omitted altogether on the first occasion, but on which he afterwards dwelt so warmly (hear, hear). I believe that the data on which the right hongentleman rested the basis of his plans would be found fallacious in all cases. I believe, whatever our opinions may be, that is universally acknowledged; but I throw all these circumstances aside, and I put my finger on the important agency through which the right hon, gentleman brought forward his case. There is nothing, it must be admitted, which affects imports so much as the state of the seasons. Now, I shall show how this applies to what must be regarded as a commercial transaction, in respect both to exports and imports, and how beautifully it illustrates the fallacy of his argumonts. If you look to the past year, you will find that there has been great increase both of exports and imports in the article of sugar. It is impossible to suppose that the operation of the tariff, introduced last year by the right hon. gentleman, could have influenced to any extent the cargoes of sugar which were received, especially from the more distant parts, such as the Mauritius and the East Indies. But there happened to have been an abundant crop, both in the Mauritius and in the East Indies; and owing to that circumstance, our imports of sugar from those parts of the world were much greater than usual, and will no doubt figure in the table to be brought forward by the right hon. gentleman on future day in support of his commercial policy. Now it is a most curious circumstance, that while there was an abundant crop of sugar in the Mauritius and in the East Indies, there happened to have been a total deficiency in the crop of the Huvannah, from which the whole of Russia is supplied. Accordingly an imperial decree was immediately issued in Russia, declaring that sugar might be imported from England. From this, you perceive that the influence of the seasons in these distant countries has tended immensely to increase the export of sugar from England. The bad season in the Havannah caused an increase in the export of sugar from England to Russia, and surely no one will pretend that that result is a consequence of the tariff. It is, I maintain, to be attributed to the influence of the seasons; and the same influence may probably be traced in all the exports and imports of the great raw commodities that enter into our colonial and other commercial transactions. I was bound to enter into that question, and I have done so. I wish to show the influence of the seasons on the imports and exports of which the right honourable gentleman hoasts. I would ask him, suppose there were a deficiency of half a million of bales in the cotton market of the United States, would his paltry reduction of duty on cotton wool increase the imports into this country (hear, hear)? Again, if we look to the wool trade we find the same argument to apply; in fact, whether it be cotton, or sugar, or wool, in any case, it is an undoubted fact, that the seasons have a great effect on the amount both of imports and exports (hear). Now, sir, at the risk of wearying the House, I must venture to notice/another statement of the right hon, gentleman-one of his high-flown statements which he makes with his figures always ready (a langh). The right hon, gentleman has made a battle-horse of the unfortunate silk trade. I should really have thought that the memory of the hand-loom weavers alone would have prevented the minister of Free Trade from putting forward the case of the silk trade. The honourable gentleman, the member for Warwickshire, has referred to the subject already, and I will not go into those species of waste silk, the names to mir posite are perfectly familiar with them. I will give you the advantage of all that refuse as compared with real silk, which costs/lis. per pound, which may be purchased at rates varying from 2d. to 10d. But I beg the right hon gentleman to contrant the importation of raw silk in the year 1844 with that of the last year of the protected trade. In the last year of the protected trade, if my memory serves me right, we imported 4,010,004 lbs. of raw silk. That is exactly twenty-two years ago; and in the year 1841, after twenty years of the blessings of this relaxed protection, we imported 4,020,063 lbs. But it appeared from the hon, gentleman—he may have been misreported, yet I had the satisfaction of hearing it—that the contrast he drew was between three millions under protection, and six millions under the relaxed system. But supposing that the increase had been such as the right hon. gentleman had stated-suppose it had arisen from three millions to six millions of pounds per annum, I cannot believe for a moment that you are to trace all the progress of a country like this, with the untiring energies of the lengtish nation to the principles which regulate your commercial code. I know that if the country is prosperous, we on this side of the house are, of course, is prosperous, we on this side of the house are, of course, ready, as the advocates of protection, to attribute it to the system of protection, and gentlamen of protection, and gentlamen of protection attribute it to the application of a liberal commercial fellow. But I believe that, whether you have one system or the other, the country will flowing (charse from the protection ists). The country will thrive, though there may be much class suffering, and much individual minery ellich are the two things we wish to revent (hear last). The most interpritation things of the country will thrive the last that it is the principle of the country will be sufficiently the country will be adverted the last that it is the country will be the country will be adverted to the country will be a sufficient to the country will be

I speak from authority, but I am open to contradiction. I speak from authority, but I am open to contradiction. I have made these assertions because I thought they were deserving the attention of the house. But I may be permitted to refer to this principles which the right hon, gentleman pur forward in his last speech. The right hon, gentleman say we have for 80 years terminated prohibition, we have related protection, and the country has been more flourishing them. I halfawe that is the case: but I say the country protection, and the country has been more nonrishing than ever. I believe that is the case; but I say the country is flourishing, because you have given it a judicious and a medicate amount of protection. But the right hon, gentlement having proved, not in his last speech, but in other speech. and especially in some of his last expositions of the bie. ings of a Free Trade Government, that by a just, judicious, and moderate protection, England has flourished, very calaly turns round to us, and says, "I am bound to acknowledge! have changed my opinion on the subject of protection. I say no longer in favour of protection:" But his whole space after all, only proves the advantage of it (hear, hear.) proved the advantage of the principle of moderate protection (no, no, from the Free Traders, and counter cheers). 1 am sorry, sir, to excite that groan from Free Traders in distress (a laugh). But I want to ask the right hon gentleman a calm, and, I think, a perfectly Purliamentary and proper question. Does the right hon. gentleman believe he car fight hostile tariffs with free imports? That is the question wish to ask him (Protectionist cheers, and hear, hear, "Hear, hear!" from the disciples of the school of Man, chester! A most consistent cheer. They have alway maintained that cause. If their principles are right a they believe, and as I believe not, I can easily understand their conclusions are right. At any rate, they are consis tent. They believe they could fight hostile turing with his imports, and they say, very justly, " Let us take care of our imports, and the rest will take care of themselves." But is that the opinion of the right honourable gentleman? If that is the conviction of the right honourable gentleman. why all these elegies over defunct diplomatic negociations with reference to commercial tariffs? Why does the right honourable gentleman speak with so much pity, and also with so much pique, upon the question of diplomatic intercourse on the subject of relaxations in commerce? If he believes he can fight hostile tariffs with free imports-1 sw. if he really believes that, he need not trouble himself about commercial treaties (cheers); but if the right honountil gentleman does not believe it—if he has only the convictions of the school of Manchester, then he is not justified in this measure (cheers). But I believe he has a conviction, though he has never enunciated it. He tells you one of his reasons for proposing the measure is that he hopes great things from a good example. If he believed that great principle, a good example is of no effect whatever (cheers). We must have a protection minister speak upon this subject. We must have a clear declaration from the cabinet upon that important point, for it is a principle upon which all hinges thear, hear). Now, sir, I conclude from the language of the right honourable gentleman, that he is not satisfied. How other wise am I to explain his language? He tells you Russia already shakes. He reads to us the report of an America minister in favour of what is really Free Trade—an equal in terchange of the peculiar products of the country. Pressia. he tells you, is afready shaken. He delivers what I cannot but consider most extraordinary opinions upon the state of France, to which my noble friend the member for Newark (Lord J. Manners) has already referred. I cannot of course presume to offer an opinion upon this high subject of cabinet secrets after the declaration of the right honourable gentleman. It may be that the Americans, be cause all things are possible, are going to change their tarifi: it may be possible that Russia is shaken; it may be possible that the French are in favour of Free Trade; but I think it my duty to the house to offer some facts to their consideration, from which I shall leave them to draw their own infer ence. We have, in the first place, a report from the Hon. Mr. Walker, secretary to the American Treasury. Mr. Walker is a very respectable man. He is not, I believe, interested in the protection of native industry; and, indeed, I am sorry to say, that in America, for the last few years, the question as to what is your material interest is the only line of demarcation between parties. But before you can calculate upon any modification of the tariff of America, it would be just as well that the house should clearly understand what is the power of the manufacturing interest, and protected inter est of that country. I will not refer now to that enormous volume which has been already subjected to criticism in this house, but to the last census of the population of America, which has been sent to me by a gentleman residing in fiver pool. It is the census of the year 1840, and I believe it is the last published; but if it is not so, so much the more in my favour. What do you suppose is the number of manufacturing operatives in the United States! In 1840, and since 1840, under this tariff there has been the greatest despense. velopment of manufacturing industry in America yet known (hear, hear). In 1840 the number of manufacturing ceeding, I believe, the manufacturing population of the fear great staple manufactures in England. The honourable gen-tlemen the Canada and the control of the fear tieman, the Secretary of the Treasury, says in his room, "The only interests concerned are the interests of 10,000, manufacturers." Now, the importance of any interest is to be calculated from the amount of population employed and the capital invested. What the number of manufacturers really is, is of trifling importance, but there are really 10,000 in the United States. I want to know how many there are in the United States. I want to know how many there are in England? I know that in the population returns, which were drawn up by a pen hot very favourable to the epitolist ral interest, it was not convenient, probably, to allow the number of manufacturers to appear; but I very much doubt whe ther there are 10,000. At any rate, conceive the importance of the interests you are to encounter. But that is not all.

I am not going to dilete manufacture of individuels in of the interests you are to encounter. But that is not all am not going to dilate upon the number of individuals in America who are dependent upon those 300,000 persons but there is not an agricultural community in the vicinity of those, manufacturing establishments which is not in the four of presenting and for this reason, that he proposed interest gives them the incalculable sevential for the home market (cheers from the incalculable sevential by the home market (cheers from the incalculable sevential but the proposed to the most number of the best openies; and probably unless you are sware of sealing advantages; in the proposed the most number of sealing and the individual seals which the proposed in the proposed the most number of sealing and the individual seals of the finite of the proposed th unless to like the to of the to the findshift of the to the compression of the to

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turing interests of Amarica had become extremely warlike. "They were a peaceable interest." I am quoting language which I read only last night; but the fact is, after all, that war will be the only protection for our manufactures (hear, Let me press this upon the attention of the house (hear, hear, hear). Remember the arguments used in favour of free imports, in favour of altering our tariff to the American market. It has always been considered a peace measure: but remember what things may happen from that quarter if we relax our protection. In exact proportion as you consult, if you can consult, the western community, you will raise the disaffection of the great northern states, which are the states upon the coast, and the most powerful in the American union (hear, hear). I put these things to the consideration of the noble lord (Lord Morpeth) who has recently visited those countries, and who interested us the other night with an account of them (a laugh)—I mean the noble lord the member for the West Riding; and I am bound to say I rejoice in his return to us, even though he be member for the West Riding. Really, I listened to the noble lord's speech with very great interest. Ilis descriptions of American life, and his pictures of American landscapes were admirable, and all I wished for was, that he could have entered a little more into social detail, and given us, for example, an affecting account of that colebrated melody which depicts the manner in which they jump from one side of the table to the other (laughter) I have en-deavoured to condense my observations upon America; but I really think they are worthy the calm consideration of the house. Then we are told that "Russia is already shaken." We are to be knocked down at once by that statement; we must not speak a single word upon it. "Russia is already sluken," says the right honourable gentleman. I can only say I have been reading a book published within the last month, which seems to have been in anticipation of all these wonderful changes. It is written by a man who has great influence upon public opinion in that country. "I find," he says, " a most obstinate determination that this system (Free Trade) must be put an end to immediately. It is confessed (he says) that the Manchester people can export, and are ready to export"—and he quotes the language of Mr. Baines, and the speeches of the honourable member for Durham—eat a loss. This wondarful nation will go on the says) exporting at a loss to swamp our markets, and this dangerous measure of English aggression will render it necessary we should, if possible, be far more stringent" (hear, hear). Until I hear more detailed accounts of "the shaking of Russia," I shall be extremely sceptical, I am sorry to say, upon the statements of the right honourable gentleman (cheers from the protectionists). But, sir, I have read a most mournful representation from the little state of Mecklenburg, and some of the other states in the vicinity, which had been asked to join the Zollverein over and over again. They say they have not joined it in consequence of he representations of the English Minister (hear, hear) They say, after all our sacrifices, the Zollverein are to have free exports from England. We are to have no advantage whatever; and having been misled by the representation of the English Minister, the best thing we can do is to join the Zollverein, and see what measures are most calculated to advance the cause of native industry" (hear, hear, hear, and loud cheering). Now, sir, I come to France, and I must say that I never in my life listened to anything (even when the right honourable gentleman confessed he had given up the principle of protection) more astounding than the prospect he held out to you—held out by a powerful minister—to influence your judgment in the school of Manchester, because if we fight hostile tariffs with free imports, I fear for the men who once have agreed to support a minister who does not believe they can fight hostile tariffs with free imports. Now I say, without shrinking, and I declare most solemuly, it is my conviction, and I speak from as much knowledge of the public men of France as generally fulls to the experience of any individual not a minister—that with the exception of an occasional minister, there is not any interest, of any individual in France, not in favour of a high restrictive policy (cheers from the protectionists). is, indeed, a most curious circumstance in France, which the house should be well acquainted with. My noble friend the member for Newark has already alluded to it. There is no country in the world where parties are so various and so violent as in France. Changes of Government are looked for; there are national parties looking for revolution, and in common talk anticipating changes that would make an Englishman shudder. But you will always find this curious circumstance, that what is called the Conservative party, which now aways the Chambers—the commercial aristocracy is entirely opposed to it. The republican party, the great object of whose struggle is to terminate the dynasty and to get rid of the sovereignty, and the men who are neutral to change, even they are more opposed to what is called Free Trade than the commercial body. To these great interests must be added the literary and philosophical classes, which called the fashion of the country. You have these working together with the added the fashion of the country. together with the others—it may be from a higher motive but of course from a conviction that it is their interest against what they call the fatal principle of competition. Now, sir, there is but one way, though I fear it is now too late, to gain any relaxation in the commercial system of France. It is by diplomacy. It is a condition of the French cabinet to do nothing without diplomacy. With regard to isolated points, and canadally with regard to the requirements of points, and especially with regard to the manufactures of Sheffield, something might be done without it; but every thing in France is a matter of diplomails quid pro quo. If I bring you then to this point, and if the Fight holidurable gendeman is not prepared to fight holestle tariffs with resuments. The house the lass really matter the state of the bring the line with the matter of the bring the lass really matter. imports, he has really no ground whatever for his measure (cheers). Now I come to the doctrine of Free Trails, said

the general distribution of the precious metals (hear)? If you reduce your produce, if you reduce your wages; if prices are lower, as they are to be in this country; if you find no longer around the high prices and efficient labour of this country, and that in every other market an immense mass of bullion is distributed—I want to know how you can prevent the distribution of the precious metals, which is our strength? I confess I cannot think that in the banking bill of the right hon, gentleman we should find a remedy. It is a measure rather characterised by caution than accordty (hear, hear). How can you meet your fixed charges? How can you meet your taxation? How can you meet everything which is fixed in this country, if you have this general fall of prices? For example, if you get those cargoes of Manchester goods which would otherwise take a million and a half or two millious, for one million, the labour of England receives only one million, instead of a million and a half. Every year the labour of England receives less. The inevitable effect must be, that you will have a less demand for all foreign articles, and how can you then fulfil your public contracts (hear, hear)? Now, I ought to notice, before I address myself to the principle of protection, and I have to apologise to the house for having so long delayed to do so, two specches which have been made in the course of this debate, and which, as a matter of courtesy, I am bound to notice. first is that of the right honourable gentleman the Secretary at War (Mr. S. Herbert). This was a speech which excited I think, a great deal of surprise (hear). It was, I do not say it offensively, but it was a League speech (cheers, and counter oheers)—a speech which, made at the right time, by the proper person, and, under the proper circumstances, have been received, I dare say, with much applause. Now, I can easily understand some gentlemen opposite, who entered life with a deep conviction of the truth of great economical principles, who viewed, perhaps, in an extravagant manner, many of the evils of this country, as resulting from the fallacy of the system to which they were opposed—I can conceive them, acting under a deep, profound, and rationa conviction of the truth which animates them, as I dure say it does many of the Anti-Corn Law League-I can conceive them using language of a very ardent character; but I must say, that the right honourable gentleman is not the person who should address us as a master when he is only a convert (a laugh)-1 was going to say only a recent convert; but I beg his pardon, he was a disciple of Free Trade in 1811, but the principles of Free Trade were then to be applied from the side of the table opposite, and that of course makes a great difference (a laugh). But the right honourable gentleman said the other evening that the fallacy of cheap bread was entirely discarded by all parties. So said the right honourable gentleman the Secretary at War; but the right honourable gentleman the Secretary for the Home Department, on the following night, in answer to a very proper appeal from the honourable in inher for Stamford, said, unless he question before the house was one of cheap and abundant food for the people, there was really no question at all (chaors from the Protectionists). Then, how reconcile that with what the right honourable gentleman the Secretary at War said ? You may not reconcile them; but I draw a moral, and I say that I am not surprised at their distracted councils when their arguments are so discordant. But was that the only discordance? No, for the right hon, gentleman the Secretary at War says, "In the first place, as regards the most important interest in this comprehensive scheme' (which I don't wish particularly to advert to, but which is the most important interest), the agricultural interest— "What," he says, "do you fear from fice imports? where is your corn to come from?" Now I want to avoid as much as possible making a Corn Law speech, of which, no doubt, I shall have many opportunities. I wish to deal in a comprehensive manner with a comprehensive question; but I do not like to allow such statements to pass, because I observe that there is a coolness of assertion very prevalent upon this subject (loud cheers and counter cheers). I read a speech the other day from one whom all respect, and whom I may call, I believe, a noble parliamentary victim. The noble lord said, "What do you care for imports: you may get some, but of every million of quarters there is a rise of 10s. in the price." Now, I would say to the right hon, gentleman the Secretary at War, and I speak from as much investigation as I could give the subject, and from more experience, perhaps, than many possess, that there is not the slightest doubt but you may have, when this system is established in this country, any quantity of corn you like (loud cheers from the opposition). It is ridiculous to tell me that those people have no capital. The gentlemen of Manchester have plenty (cheers). But this I will say, that there is no fallacy so great as to suppose that the price will rise when you have once established a market here in proportion to your demand (cheers, and cries of "oh, oh'). Certainly, now, when we have a very limited supply, a sudden demand will immediately affect the price; but when we have a settled market, exactly in proportion to your demand, prices will full (ironical cheers from the opposition). It is the invariable result (renewed ironical cheers from the opposition). Nothing pleases me more than that chorus of sneers from the school of Manchester. But now I will prove it to you. Take the article of tea. You get tea from one country only. Your demand has increased every year, and year after year the price has fallen (cheers). Take again cotton; there is a greater analogy between cotton and corn, perhaps, than between ton and com; for there were nearly the same discussions with regard to cotton as have taken place relative to corn. It was said, the more Munchester domanded cotton, the greater would be the price in the United Status, and it was proved; in a pamphlet written by a late distinguished member of Congress, that under no circumstances could the price of cotton be less than 12 cents, per lb. Now, ever since you have established your trude, with accreely any interval, the price of cotton has diminished, diminished, diminished, and it has been as low as three cents. per lb. (hear). You may object to my reasoning with respect to norn; but first right, my evidence as to ten and cotton; and then you will know the right to do so (cheers). Now, I refer again to this right lion gentleman the Secretary at War, who says to you, "What is all this agitation—wint is this question of importance."—it is only a repeal of the duty," forgetting that last year he called it a "social revolution" (a langh). Then I dome to the consistent Secretary of State for the Home Department, who ways? Befuse to pass these minimums; and his goild man, was very much alarmed at the end of last year the called a server in used alarmed at the end of last year the called the secretary of potatoes in Ireland, his secretary of the deficiency of potatoes in Ireland, his secretary of the deficiency of potatoes in Ireland, his secretary is the secretary of the deficiency of potatoes in Ireland, his secretary is the secretary of the deficiency of potatoes in Ireland, his secretary of the deficiency of potatoes in Ireland. nished, and it has been as low as three cents. per lb. (hear)

he was more alarmed than he could possibly have anticipated at the time (hear, hear). I have observed ever since the right honourable baronet has been a Minister of a Conservative Cabinet, that he has gradually brought forward a very extensive measure, which has as regularly produced great alarm, and excited great odium in the country. Then the right honourable gentleman has been alarmed, and has withdrawn that measure (cheers). Though in opposition not over sorupulous, it seems a characteristic trait of the right hon, gentleman that the responsibilities of office bring to him not prudence but panie (foud cheers and laughter) - and these are the ministers who turn round to us and say, " You are alarmed at our measures, but you only suffer from your own panic" (hear, hear). Why, it is an alarmist cabinet. I know not what is the cause, but you may see fright stamped on every forchead. Whether it arise from the deficiency of food in Ireland, or the superabundance of suffrage in Lancastire, so it is (a laugh). And, now, if I may be permitted, I will meet the question of protection as I engaged to do. I was bound first, however, to answer those m in arguments which have been offered by the Government in favour of the new system; new I venture to offer mine in favour of the old (cheers). Sir, the noble lord the member for London, in his address the other night, the tone of which I am sure every one must have felt was equal to the occasion and to himself (cheers), touched upon the question of protection in the abstract. He explained in very classic anguage the usual economical theories on the subject, very valuable, I have no doubt, in themselves, but never having influenced human conduct, and being totally incapable of ever influencing human conduct, all that I can admire in the communication of the noble lord is the evidence of his wellread mind (cheers and laughter). I do not understand what the honourable gentlemen opposite mean, dealing as we are with England and with practical and existing circumstances, by the protective system of this country. I do not think that in England the protective system, as defined by the noble lord, namely, protection to every branch of native industry, ever existed (hear, hear). There has been in England once a commercial system, founded on principle, definite in all its details, and extremely beneficial in its practice. It was called the colonial system. The colonial system was a system, and as far as that system could effect what you call "protection of native industry" it did so. In order to develop its grand point, no doubt there was protection of native industry in England, but always auxiliary to the full development of the colonial system. Now, we have always had in England in those good old days a very liberal system of commerce in cotton. have had also a proposal, which, unfortunately, was not carried into practice, for a general system of commercial communication with the whole world at the moderate duty of ton per cent. That is the true principle of Free Trade (hear, hour). During the whole of those years, our foreign trade was sacrificed to our colonial system. There was a falling off in the average of our commodities. Cotton was very much curtailed; but the merchants of England were compensated by larger profits and securer markets. But you lost your principal colonies, and you were obliged to lay down some principles for your future commercial interests. It fell to the lot of Mr. Pitt, whose speeches you all have, or ought to have, read, to adjust those principles. He adopted a system of commercial intercourse upon principles of reciprocal advantage. He told the gentlemen of this house that they must no longer adhere to those old ideas which belonged to the colonial system, because they had no longer a colonial world to support that system. Mr. Pitt gave them a new tariff, as the right honourable gentleman has given us. He said, "Here is my new tariff; these are the terms of insaid, "Here is my new durin; these are the terms of in-terchange with all Europe. They are most liberal terms. I want to have Free Trade; and I have entered into com-mercial treaties with the great powers, and I have com-menced with France." Then came the revolutionary war, menced with France." Then came the revolutionary war, which unsettled all; but the moment that was over you returned to the old system. Lord Liverpool, Mr. Huckisson, and others, all adopted the same system. I gave a most conscientious vote for the tariff of the right hon, gentleman, and for his former corn-bill, which was founded on a just and moderate system, and which was in complete harmony with what I conceive to be the true commercial principles which ought to influence this country. very well what a contrary policy would have done; we know what absolute prohibition would have done, for we have the example of Spain always before us; but we knew also that there is another country where there has been a trial of what you call Free Trade. The spirit of competition has in Turkey gradually destroyed the finest manufactories in the world. As recently as the year 1812 there were very considerable manufactures carried on in Turkey, but they are now destroyed. The consequences of Free Trade in Turkey have, I say, been altogether as pernicious and as fital as the consequences of Free Trade have been in Spain (hear, hear). To return to England, however. The right honourable gentleman had two ploy the people, and then to study what should be the surest means of employing them, not giving a proponderance to one branch of industry, so that in case of its failure, great distress should not ensue. I think the right hon, gent, said, that there were difficulties in arguing against the principles of Free Trade, because they had a prima facle case with them. But that is saying nothing, and I think nothing at all of prima facio cases; because it is just as well for me to say it is very difficult to argue against protection, because there is a prima facis onso in favour of protection (hear. hear, and cheers). Well, now the right honourable geucleman has announced officially that this principle of protection is for ever relinquished by his Cabinet. We think it is beneficial—I do not say that I am proving it beneficial but I call on you to prove that Free Trade would be beneficial (loud orise of hear, hear). On you rosts the onus probandi; and now, gontlomen of the Lengue, I will most you on that point as I promised. I have listened to the speach of the honourable member for Manghester with great attention. Unfortunately I did not hear the speach of the honourable member for Rochdale, but, of course, I of the honourable member for Rechdule, but, of course, I read it, as I always take care to read the speeches of one whose part in debate is so prominent (obeers); and I cannot extract from the speech of either honourable gentleman, one single reason for alteration rebut them: admir the property of the reason for alteration rebut them: admir the reason for alteration rebut them: admir the research when they have made so many upon the same subject (gillings). I want to meet their days is deplace, in the fairnet possible manner. I have great disquiry, I contest in doing so, and the leason the base of the Anii Contest in doing so, and the leason the base of the Anii Contest in the fairnet possible penalty manner. This discuss of the Anii Contest in the penalty manner than the lateration of the Anii Contest in the penalty manner than the penalty have been not then now seven year, they not

nenced their agitation by promising cheap bread to the labourer, and they fluished by promising high rents to the iandlord (cheers). I do not impute those as changes. I can easily understand, if I took one great principle to work out, and if I viewed it in every light, and turned it over and every in my mind every day, that I should often see very contrary affects arising from the same principle; and I believe that all the Anti-Corn-Law League all this time, while they thought that they were instructing the people, were only educating themselves (cheers from the Protectionists, and laughter). I will give the gentlemen of the League another reason why I can trace this ingenious development of their minds. I happen to have in my possession a circular—a kind of manifesto of the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester. I think it is duted 1830, and it gives a most melancholy picture of the commercial system of England. ing the first leaf, I find that the great panacea for all the difficulty was, not at all the abolition of the Corn Law, but only a change in the currency (cheers). You say, "but what is the Chamber of Commerce to the Anti-Corn-Law League?" It happens that the gentlemen who drew up that circular are the principal members of the Anti-Corn-Law League. Hyou doubt it, send up stairs for the book which contains the evidence taken before the committee on joint stock banks in 1810 and 1811, and just read the evidence of the most distinguished members of the Anti Corn-Law League -some of them members of this house - and you will find that they have not an idea against protection, but that many of them are provided in the honourable member for Birmingham (charge, and "no, no," from Mr. Muntz). Do you mean to say that Richard Cobden, the same gentleman, I believe, who sals here as the member for Stockport, does not trace all the

evils of the country to the currency? Mr. MUNTZ: I don't know what he did. I mean to say I never did (hear, and a langh). Mr. DISRAELI auntimed: I may be wrong. They may not be the same gentlemen; but I certainly took him for were of the school of Gemini (a laugh). However, I do not impute that as any fault to them. But it is extremely important to see how they have changed their minds. Having exhausted the corrency, they turn round to attack the land-Continue the agitation, and they may next attack the fundholder. They want a new victim. We are only a link in the great chain. Our case is not entirely hopeless. I think, therefore, we should promote the agitation because, if we promote the agitation, they may attack a new interest (cheers and great laughter). I take their case from their own speeches, and I am anxious to quote them fairly and properly. The case of the League against protection may be stated thus: "Protection aims at two objects, to feed the people and to employ them. It has failed to feed the people, because you are obliged to import some corn from abrowl to make up the deficiency in the home supply, and it does not employ them, because you are compelled to send a portion of the agricultural population to other trades. Now, we say, that we can both feed and employ the people." I may answer this aroundent, that it is a great assumption, contend that we, the advocates of protection, have failed in what we undertook to do; but, at any rate, you are untried ("hear, hear," from the agricultural members). But the first question which arises is, have we failed in feeding the people? We have no agricultural statistics, which I deplore, but we have what are called "great facts" to guide us. We all know that, 50 years ago, the population did not reach half its present amount, and we also know that we then had not corn enough to feed the people. We know also that, at the present day, we do, on the average of years, succeed in feeding the people, atthough the population has since been doubled. prima facie case in our favour. But then it is said that protection is the bane of agriculture (hear, hear, hear); I do not see how protection can be the bane of agriculture, unless you mean to say that the agriculture of England is interior to that of other countries. You say that it is inferior, but the assertion is not enough. You are bound to prove Now, I want to know where a superior system of agriculture is to be found. You will not tell me that there is a superior system of agriculture in Russia? This system has been described by a very graceful and graphic pon, and as the description must be fresh in the recollection of the House, I will not do more than allude to it. I believe the system of a griculture in Russia remains in much the same state as that in which it was carried on at the time of that description. But, will you say that the agriculture of Gormany is better than that of England? I admit that you may go over the world, and pick out one district in Styria, or another in Tuscany, where a superior system of agriculture may be pursued, but I believe that there are districts in England which may rival them (cheers from the agricultural benches). I believe however, that there is no country with that breadth of land which England possesses, which can sustain the reputation of a first-rate system of agriculture (hear, hear). Take the worth of Germany, for instance. Take a rural town in the north of Germany, where you find merely a straggling street, with one shop, probably the apothecary's, who sells every neers and laughter). Take such a town, and compare with the rural towns-the smallest rural town-in England, where you find many large shops abounding with goods, ay, and goods from Manchester too (hear, hear, hear). There you can see and understand what the home market is. I will take another country—France. There is a country blessed with the most abundant natural advantages. They have an exuberant soil, and a fertile climate, nor have they to contend against any of those disadvantages to which the gentlemen of the League are constantly reminding us that agriculture in this country is exposed. They have no law of primogeniture (hear, hear), they have no hereditary prerage, they have no law of ontail, they have no game Jond cheers, and laughter on both sides of the house). Then, also, you have the equal partition of landed property; yet what is the condition of the agricultural population in France. It is notoriously inferior to the condition of the same class of people in our own country. It seems, then, that the manufacture of the condition of the same class of people in our own country. that the condition of the agricultural portion of the popula-tion of Lugland is not so very bad after all. But, again, on any that there is a want of the application of capital to land. I say that it is impossible to travel over England and formign countries, and then to doubt that there is a greater application of empiral to hand here than elsewhere (cheers). There is not a man in our colonies, or in our Indian the wages of labour do not depend on the price of corn. That is a dilemma for your consideration. There is another point to which I must refer, namely, the effect of this sudden importation on our monetary system. We, the advocates of protection, say at once that all those evils which you attribute to the system of Corn Laws, so far as our monetary system is concerned, are owing to the admission, of foreign corn. You rejoin, if we had a regular trade was should then have a regular sumply. I admit that: but's suppose that you have a sudden deficiency in England, you possessions, whose aim and object is not to return with the washib which he has accumulated in Bugland, and become wastu which he has accumulated in England, and become a distinct of the posse or a deputy liquisment (ories of hear, hear, and laughter). Riding on dephants, or surrounded by slaves, he is always drouning of the quarter sessions (phases and laughter). But you say that there is no application of capital to the land in England. Why, in a very short time, no less than a million and a quarter sterling has been expended apon guano alone. There is no doubt that

If you give a good profit upon cultivation, you may have a more organized system of the application of capital to agricultural purposes; but the extraordinary part of the case is, that land in England gives, on the average, less than 34 per cent. as a return for the investment of capital. Foreigners cannot understand this, and they have often asked for an explanation of the causes which lead to this result. It is your territorial constitution which has invested the possession of land with honours (hear, hear), which forms the principal inducement to the investment of capital in land in this coun-There are two circumstances which I am afraid will alter this state of things. I will assume, in the first place, that after a number of years we may be involved in a foreign war. Now I wish honourable members would consider what was the position of England after the rupture of the treaty of Amlens. We had then what you call Free Trade. We had no less than one-fifth of our supply of corn from abroad. What was the consequence of war at that time? You tell me that although we cannot be independent of a foreign supply, yet that we can be supplied by France even in time of war. Now, I do not deny that in 1812 we use receive some corn from Holland and France: but if from that isolated fact Now, I do not deny that in 1812 we did receive some you draw a complete theory, you will full into a great error, You had a great difficulty in obtaining what corn you did get: and it was only by acquiring the dominion of the seas that you did, under any circumstances, obtain a supply. At that time, in consequence of the want of food in England, you had the greatest possible inducements to investments You had that variety of Enclosure in land (hear, hear). Acts of which we have heard so much, and you had wheat at 110s, the quarter. You raised loans upon the land when wheat was at 110s. or 112s. the quarter, and you paid on those loans with wheat at 55s. (hear, hear). Now, I want to know whether it can be said that in the dreadful struggle in which we were afterwards engaged, the agriculture of this country did not supply the nation with food. Recollecting, as I do, that though there were two seasons when famine was impending over England, and that in 1812 the quartern loaf was selling at 1s. 11d.—still, with all this immense increase of population going on, England has mainly supported herself, it cannot be urged against the system of protection that it failed to supply the people with food (hear, hear). I now meet the gentlemen of the League on the second point which they have urged—namely, that this system has failed to employ the people. The right honourable gontleman the Secretary at War has touched upon this delicate subject. "Only oultivate the hills of Wiltshire," he says, "and there is sufficient employment for the whole popula-(hear, hear). I ask the right honourable gentleman why the hills of Wiltshire are not cultivated? It is a legitimate question to ask one whose proud, though not his proudest boast it is, that he is the representative of that county. On him and his, amongst others, rests the moral responsibility for the condition of the people in that county. You tell me of Gontacre and Brembill, and of the wretched condition of the Wiltshire labourer. I do not attempt-I never did attempt-to deny the existence of much misery among the agricultural population. I have myself, not here alone, but by other means, attempted to draw the attention of the public to the condition of the people. But when you tell me of the more prosperous condition of the population in former times, I call upon you to look to facts and cases. I say, that even with this accumulated population, the condition of the people was formerly worse than it is at present. I have read descriptions of the sufferings of the people during the revolutionary war, and they more than equalled the distress which has been felt occasionally since. But you bring forward the Contacre and the Bremhill meetings, and point to them as examples of the condition to which the agricultural labourer is reduced. The right hon, gentleman (Sir Robert Peel) compared a gentleman who spoke on his side of the house (Mr. F. Scott) to Anacharsis Clootz. That reminds me of a story which I recollect having read. Anacharsis Clootz announced one fine morning to the French convention that there was a deputation of all the nations of Europe, who wished to express to them their gratitude for the efforts which they had made in behalf of the human race. The French Convention allowed the deputation from all the courts of Europe to attend. They appeared at the bar, introduced by Anarcharsis Clootz, in appropriate costume, each in the dress of his own country. It made a great sensation in Paris, and I believe the deputation from all the nations of Europe afterwards dined at the Cafe de Paris, and probably danced at the carnival ball in the evening in the same dresses in which they presented themselves to the convention (a laugh). I think the Goatacre meeting was got up pretty much in the same way. But let the agricultural labourer be as miserable as you say he is, does it follow that protection is the cause? I might turn to the honourable members near me and say, I will go to Munchester or Stockport and show you what misery is there. I know what human suffering is. I will take you to Stockport or Manchester, and show you'the worker in the factory where the exhausted slave curses the life which he cannot quit" (cheers from the agricultural members). But I will not do so, because I am too well acquainted with the noble industry of Lancashire and Cheshire to make such a representation. I know that the manufacturers of Lancashiro are aware of their responsibility, and I cannot condescend to such vile acts of faction as to say that the condition of the manufacturing labourer is attributable to the manufacturers. We, however, who are the advocates of protection, cannot assent to your assumption, that we shall give the people more employment by admitting the productions of foreign labour, or clevate their condition by diminishing their wages. I will admit that the wages of labour are not dependent on the price of corn, but that the price of corn acts rather in an inverse ratio. Then

how does that act affect your argument? The higher the

price of corn the cheaper your articles ought to be, because wages will be lower (hear, hear, and a laugh from the agri-

cultural members). If, however, the position of the right honourable gentleman—which is yours also, for he borrowed it from you—be true, then, with an importation from the Baltio

of 4,000,000 of quarters, and with the wages of labour not increased, how will you make consumption greater? Sup-

pose wheat at 60s. in England, and the price of the Baltic

wheat 30s., you must have a proportionate displacement of labour, because you know the great modern principle is that the wages of labour do not depend on the price of corn. That

must still have two or three millions of quarters more than the regular supply of foreign grain, and you must pay for these additional millions of quarters with English gold. Now, Sir, I have nearly concluded my observations. I have omitted much of what I should have wished to urge, and I have only applied myself in detail to the question of corn, taking it as an illustration of the more general principle which I have advanced. I have never been one of those who have advocated the cause of agricultural protecthose who have mirrored the banks of agricultural burdens. I maintain. and I wish those who think with me, to bear this in mindthat it is by means of great principles they must defend their cause. Sir, I have ventured to vindicate those great principles—principles of high policy—on which I believe that the protective system should be continued. First, without particular reference to agriculture, looking at all countries, it is the first duty of a minister, and the first interest of a State to maintain an equal balance between the great branches of national industry. That duty has been recognised by our greatest ministers for the last two hundred years, as one of the most important which a statesman can undertake, and the reasons why it is so are so obvious that I need scarce recount them. These reasons, sir, involve the healthy state of our political condition -of our social condition; they affect the happiness of the people, the rights of the population, and above all, they affect the stability of the State (cheers). But I go further than that. I say we are bound in practice to do more than that. I repeat now what I have said be. fore, and what I will never shrink from-I repeat that there are special reasons which I will give, why you should not only maintain the even balance to which I have referred but why you should give the preponderance to the landed interest (hear, hear, and cheers). Mind, I don't say predominance—the word, by the way, wrongly quoted by the honourable member for Manchester as having been used by the noble lord the member for the city of London. He never employed it. He said proponderance—a perfectly constitutional and proper expression (hear, hear). I repeat it. 1 say the preponderance ought to be given to the had because you have a territorial constitution (hear, hear). You have thrown on the land the revenue of the church—the administration of justice—the estate of the poor (hear), and you value this territorial constitution, not to gratify the pride, or pamper the luxury of proprietors, but because in a territorial constitution you, and those who preceded you, have found the only security for self government-for that Government which stands in proud opposition to the centralised system which has taken root in other countries (loud cheers). This is why I have ever supported the claims of agriculture. My constituents are not landlords nor great capitalists-they are, in fact, children of industry and toil. They believe, first, that their material interests are involved in the maintenance of that system which would favour the native industry of the country—they believe that their social and political interests are involved in that system. They believe that that system has guaranteed our rights and liberties; and agree with them (protectionist cheers). I may be told that these are worn-out sentiments—exploded fullacies (hear, hear, from the Opposition). I know that we are told that the meaning of this great movement—this Free Trade movement—is not merely the repeal of the Corn Laws, but the transference of power from one class to another (loud cheers)another distinguished for its intelligence and its wealththat of the manufacturers of Eugland (cheers). Sir, my conscience assures me that I am not one who have been slow in doing justice to the intelligence of that class-who have ever envied them their deserved prosperity (hear, hear). But I confess my deep astonishment, that in this age of political legislation, when we trace all our evils to class interests, I am told that we are to be rescued from the alleged power of one class only to sink under the around power of another (loud cheers). I for one—if this be the end of all our struggles—if this be the great result arrived at by this enlightened age—I for one protest against the ignominious catastrophe (cheers). I believe the monarchy of England—that sovereignty mitigated by the acknowledged authority of the States of the realm-has a root in the hearts of Englishmen, and moreover, that it is capable of securing the happiness of the people and the power of the state (oheers). But if these be worn-out terms—if it be true that we have discarded these doctrines, I for oneanxious as I am to maintain our present polity—am realy for that end to make as many sacrifices as any man. If, sir, we are to have this change, then I hope that the foundations may be deep and the scheme be comprehensive, and instead of falling into such thraldom—the thraldom of capital-of those who when they boast of their intelligence are proud of their wealth (cheers)-I for one say, if we must find new force to maintain the ancient throne and immemerial monarchy of England, that I would prefer to find it—to find these invigorating energies—in an educated and entran-chised people. (The hon, gentleman resumed his seat amid

voolferous cheering.)
The adjournment of the debute was then moved by Mr.

E. BULLER, and agreed to.

ADJOURNED DEBATE—MONDAY.

Mr. EDWARD BULLER was very imperfectly heard at the commencement of his speech: when he became andible, he was remarking upon what had fallen from the honourable member for Shrawshure (Mr. D'Israell) on Friday, whom he member for Shrewebury (Mr. D'Israell) on Friday, whom he charged with using stale arguments, often employed, and as often refuted. That honourable member, among other things had contacted for the contacted for onen refuted. That honourable member, among other things had contended for three points—1. That import, without reciprocity, drained the country of its specie. 2. That it lowered prices. 3. That it reduced wages. He had asked too, whether the ministers of this country were prepared to fight hostile tariffs by free imports? He (Mr. E. Buller) was strongly inclined to think that by means of commercial treaties, Great Britain might enjoy the double savantage of buying in the cheapest, and selling in the dearest markets. The hon, member for Shrawshurs had urged that all the markets. buying in the cheapest, and selling in the dearest market.

The hon, member for Shrewsbury had urged that all the manufacturers, and all the principal public men in the United States, and indeed in France; were protectionists; but if any expectations could be indulged that foreign national would be induled to see their true histories in courring on the principles of Free Trads, it dould only be produced by showing our own sincerity in adopting and adhering to some principles. If the principle of high protection were lie tight footing, how did it happen that preign halters had give nothing by such a course, while in Great Britain of the ports had been annually and rapidly historical true in course had been annually and rapidly historical true.

gradual diminution of protection since 1825, when Mr. Husisson introduced his great measure of commercial reform. The French had met it by a contrary system, and what had been the result? In the twelve years before 1825 our average exports to France were in value 326,858l. and our average imports 989,000l. Our average exports to France, from 1883 to 1811, were in value 3,810,000, and our imports 3,035,000l. Hence it was evident that although France had not profited by the example of Great Britain, the success of the latter had been triumphant. The honourable member for shrewsbury had adverted to Turkey, and had contended that the trade of that country had been ruined by free importation. The truth, however, was, that the honourable member had not at all noticed the many disadvantages with which trade and manufactures had to contend in Turkey; and independently of free importations, there were many circumstances calculated to check enterprise and fetter industry in Turkey. In proof of this position, the honourable member (Mr. E. Buller) read a hutti scheriff, not long since issued by the minister of Turkey, relating to three points; first, the security of property; secondly, the mode of taxing and levying imposts; thirdly, the mode of raising soldiers, and fixing the duration of their services. On the whole, he contended that if the commerce of Turkey had declined, it was not to be attributed to free importation. The honour-able member for Shrewsbury had next adduced the old argument that it was dangerous for Great Britain to depend npon a supply from foreign countries, especially a supply of corn. He (Mr. E. Buller) denied in the first place that this country was ever completely independent of a foreign supply o' corn: in years of scarcity, grain for two months consumption was derived from abroad. In the next place he insisted that there was no danger in this dependence as long as we maintained the musterdom of the ocean; if we once lost that supremacy there must be an end to the greatness of the empire. The honourable member had insisted that importations of corn had a tendency to lower wages, but he (Mr. E. Buller) would endeavour to point out in what way his position was destitute of foundation. The honourable member for Shrewsbury said if four mil lions of quarters of foreign wheat were introduced, it must be displaced by four millions of quarters of home grown corn. But what would be really the effect of such an importation? Why that 6,000,000l. instead of 10,000,000l. would be laid out by people in food, and that they would have the remaining 1,000,000 to spend in manufactures or in colonial produce (hear, hear). Thus would the people be raised in a social, and consequently in their moral, position. Thus would they be enabled to support churches and chapels, and send their children to school. "But yours," said the honnember for Shrewsbury, "is a territorial Government. You bestow great honours on the possessors of land, but you do so on great principles." He looked on the hon, gentleman as one who embodied "a great idea," and he looked most anxiously for the enunciation of those great principles to which he referred. He expected some great truth which was to guide the new generation, and let in light and happiness on our present social system. And what was this great prin-To give preponderance to the landed interest. That was all very well for those who belonged to the favoured class; but how would those who were excluded regard such a principle of Government? If this principle of governing only through and for one section of the community was once sanctioned, her Majesty would no longer be Queen of a nation, but sovereign of a faction (hear, hear). tion seemed to him to be either a delusion or a fraud. If it meant merely putting into one pocket for manufactures what it took out of the other for food, it was a roundabout system of doing nothing. But the real intention of these laws be believed to be, to benefit one class at the expense of another; for it was impossible effectually to protect our export trade and the monied interest. Though there might be points to eavil at in the measure of the right hon, gentlemus, he should give it a cordial and carnest support, while he bore his testimony to the readiness and humanity with which the Go vernment took a step equally called for by their duty to the Sovereign and the interests of the people (hear, hear).

Captain BATESON avowed, that as an Irish member, he

should give his decided opposition to the hazardons and revolutionary scheme of the government. He availed himself of the opportunity to accuse Mr. Bright, on the authority of Mr. Leonard Horner's Factory Report for 1815, of dealing in professions of humanity, which were not genuine, and in declarations of liberality and philanthropy towards the poor, which were at once spurious and hypocritical. Returning, however, to the measure more immediately before the house, he contended that it would destroy the export trade of Ireland, shut out from Great Britain its agricultural produce, and annihilate its linen trade. It would likewise give a premium to agitation, by enabling the Repealers to state, and unfortunately with truth, that Irishmen were treated in England no better than other foreigners. He treated as perfectly ridiculous the compensation which Government proposed to give to the landlords of Ireland for this most injurious measure. Four millions of waste lands in Ireland would have been brought into cultivation under the fostering influence of protection; but the heath would still contime to flourish on one part, and the bog to encroach upon the remaining part of them, under the system now proposed. For such a loss, what pecuniary grant could be a compenantion ?

Mr. M. GORF said, the opinions he was about to express, and the vote he intended to give, were opinions, and would he a vote, at variance with those of a large body within that house, for whom he entertained the highest esteem and the sincerest regard; it would also be a vote at variance with the sentiments of many without the house, for whom also, as for the others, he felt the highest regard; moreover, the opinions he then entertained on this sublect were at variance with the opinions he formerly hold (hear, hear, hear); and in justice to himself and the public, he felt bound to come forward manfully and openly, and state the reasons that influenced him on the present occasion. In so doing he agreed with the both member who had last spoken, that the consistency which scorned to yield to popular agitation, or he lured from the path of duty, was indeed to be prized; but the consistency which, when convinced that its convice was erroneous, still adhered to is—that did so in spits of the rails that would be caused by so doing—that was a consistency which he could neither admire nor follow (hear, hear). What subject or question don't be named on which there is the state of the spits of the rails and the opinions, bellify he scould neither admire nor follow (hear, hear). It is the state of the spits of the prize of the state of the spits o

been in error on this subject, and that 50s. or between 50s. and 60s. was a fair price (hear, hear). Mr. Huskisson blinself, one of the greatest names of that house, was, both in 1815, and afterwards, a strong advocate of the protection measures of that day; yet, it was well known, that before his death, he was affective that the Company of the control of the state o his death, he was of opinion that the Corn Laws could not be maintained. If it was an error, therefore, though he could not allow it to be an error to admit the force of reasoning, it was one of which that house, and men on both sides of it, had been repeatedly guilty. He declared, on his own part, that he should think himself unworthy of a scat in that house—unworthy to take a part in any public debate or public discussion, if, when convinced of an error, he did not come forward and manfully and firmly avow it. And in allusion to the debates of 1814 and 1815, perhaps he might be allowed to say, that to one venerable member of that house—one nearly related to himself—the charge of inconsistency would certainly not apply, since he, in 1814 and in 1815, opposed the motion that the Speaker do leave the chair, in order to go into committee on the motion of Mr. Robinson (the Earl of Ripon); to those opinions his relative had always adhered; and notwithstanding his advanced age and infirmities, he would come down and give his vote in favour of the Government. He (Mr. Gore), on his own part, would at once say, that he would rather have seen this measure brought forward by the noble lord opposite (hear, hear, and cheers); and had it been brought forward by him, he should have had his cordial, strennous, and decided support (hear, hear). He did not think that the mere desire for a settlement of the question relative to the Corn Laws, would alone justify him in giving his vote; but he was of opinion, that there existed an absolute and pressing necessity for such a settlement; and that, taking into consideration the effect which a distraction in the councils of the nation would have upon the many great interests involved in the security of our vast colonial possessions and Indian empire, they were called upon to set aside all slighter differences; and if they feared no cyll result, to give their fullest support to the Go vernment (hear, hear). He considered it of the highest importance that the Minister of this country, whatever be his party, should be enabled to carry on the Government without dissension, and without trammels; and in addition to the reasons, furnished by that belief, guiding him in the course he (Mr. Gore) was pursuing, it was his most decided conviction that the repeal of the Corn Laws, in the manner proposed, would be attended with no detrinient to the public (cries of hear, hear). The right hon, gentleman, the Secretary at War, in the remarks which, on a previous night he had made, had said that hon, members, representatives of agricultural interests, were labouring under a delusion. Gentlemen might quarrel with a term; it might, perhaps, have been said, that those gentlemen were mistaken; and certainly he (Mr. Gore) coincided in that opinion; and he did think that in the opposition offered by hon, gentlemen to the measure, they had been led away by a very mistaken view of the facts. He considered that it was altogether impossible that as some had supposed, any commercial regulations could ever expose England to a deluge of foreign corn; and on examination, such would be found to be the inevitable inference. He had made inquiries, extensively, among mer-chants and others engaged in the American and European corn trade, and the results he would as briefly as possible lay before the house. As concerned Dantzic, the prices of wheat at that port, according to the statement of Mr. Jacobs, who put ordinary priced corn on board for 40s, a quarter, were as follows: Price per/quarter, 50s.; freight to London, 4s. 8d.; insuranco, 1s. 4d/; charges, 6s. 9d.; duty, 3s. 6d.; making 66s. 3d. Another gentleman, also in a Dantzic house, had assured him that the charges for freightage, in surance, landing, and lading, amounted to 10s, per-quarter. At Odessa, for the three years ending in 1810, the price of wheat was 31s. 6d. when sold on the spot; the charges for freightage, amounting to 10s. 10d., and being, as he knew from a competent authority, never below 15s, per quarter. He had also been informed, by merchants largely connected with Odessa, that they were unable to import corn under 188. to 50s. a quarter; and a considerable quantity of Odessa corn is always carried to the shores of the Mediterranean. It might be said that an inducement being held out, the agricultural industry of these countries would undergo, and were capable of undergoing, great improvements; but it was forgotten that, to effect that end, there was a want of the necessary capital, labour, and facilities of conveyance. The estates on which the corn was grown were held in such a manner that there were great impediments, even if there was the inclination, to any material accession of that capital employed in the cultivation of land. The existence of foundat tonures would also be an effectual far to the concentration of labour; the labourers were sorfs; and, in the great majority of instances could not be removed from one estate to another. And then, with respect to the modes of conveyance, it was known that corn was conveyed to Dantzic by water carriage, and on arriving there, the bonts, vasov quarters, were broken n and sold for a more trifle when compared with the original cost. To Odessa, the corn was brought overland, 400 or 500 miles, by means of carts, few in number, and in other respects altogether unequal to giving any facility to a great trade. Would not the knowledge of these circumstances fully justify this conclusion, that, as fur as the Continent of Europe is concerned, no great increase for a number of years could be anticipated in the quantity of provisions to be imported into Great Britain? The hon, member for Somersetshire liad alluded to America, and had contended that it was out of the question for the English agriculturists to expect any successful, any but o religious contended that pect any successful, any but a rulnous, competition with the corn growers on the other side of the Atlantic. It should, however, be borne in mind that in America capital was absent, labour was excessively high, and that the yield per aint, labour was excessively bigu, and that the yield per acre was very small in comparison with what was found to be the case in England and in other countries in Europa. It was perfectly true, as has been said by the hierographs member, that the extent of land under, or about to be under, cultivation was prodigious; but was that a circumstance favourable to the hon member's argument? circumstance favourable to the hon, member's argument? What did they doduce from the reports of the Agricultural Societies in America? Why, they would see that the great subject of complaint with those desirous of beholding improvements was, that the very extent of land under cultivation, causes a carelass and unscientific cultivation (henr, lear). At an arricultural meeting in Albany, in the winter of 1844, Mr. O'Rellly said—" Such has been the depreciation of the wheat order owing to the exhianstion of the soil, consequent of 1844, and the control of the said of

yfeld is now not over 10 bushels per acro." Dr. Bukman, addressing the County/Agricultural Society, said-" is the farm that will now upon the average yield 40 bushels of wheat to the acre? If in this assen blage there is an individual who owns that farm, and realises that result, I will No one speaks. If not 40, then 30; if not 80, then Mr. Van Ranselner, president of the Agricus ural Socloiety of Ranselaer county, said—"One reason why our land has not advanced more rapidly, and grows out of the wide circle in which it is expanded : New lands yield with but comparatively little labour; and to produce a certain amount, many acres are put into cultivation; when these fail to make a profitable return, the furner, instead of repairing the exhaustion of the soil, often adopts, as he supposes, an easier method of obtaining his purpose, by moving to one of the new states, where a rich harvest may be reaped with little trouble of sowing. To cultivate less land, and in a superior manner, is the point to be ascertained." Mr. Kirby, president of the Jefferson County Society, speaking of the repeal of our Corn Laws, said.—"It appears, by an official report made to the British Parliament, in 1811, that the average price of wheat, for the seven previous years, at the principal ports of the Baltic and the Black Sea, was 77 cents per bushel; while, during the same years, the average price at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, was 1 dollar, 40 cents. The cost of freight to England, from the European ports referred to, was 13 cents per bushel. The freight from our ports to England was 17 to 18 cents per bushel. Thus it is apparent that our most favoured wheat region cannot compete, even handed, with the Continent of Europe, for the wheat trade with England, unless we consent to a general reduction of wages to the European standarda thing quite out of the question." Tooke says, - " Barring any extraordinary difference in the sensons, I should expect that the price here, with the ports always open at a duty of 228., would, in a series of years of some length, average about 45s. This country, but more especially the port of London, will be the emporium of the trade in corn between This country, but more especially the port of Europe and America. Thus there will be a great increase of trade, and we shall be sure of supply if our crops are deficient. Allusions and been made in the course of the debate to the calculation as to what would be the remunerating price to the English furmer; and the right hon, buronet at the head of the Government had been asked to say what he thought a fair price. But he (Mr Gore) must say, that of all the difficult questions to be solved, the present seemed to him the most difficult (hear, hear). It was a subject on which a great diversity of opinion and prevailed, and still did prevail. and it was also a subject concerning which an agreement would perhaps never be come to. In 1814 and 1815, men of great experience and of high authority endeavoured to show, and very generally convinced the public, that the agriculturist could never leave the market with profit, if he failed in obtaining the mice of 80s, a quarte, thear, hear 1818 similar statements had been made by individuals whose opinions were entitled to the same respect, and yet prices had declined, and what had been the consequence: It was a consequence in which the nation had rejoiced- a great increase in the profits of agricultural industry (hear, hear, hear). On this point Mr. Tooke said:—
"The average of the six years following, when there was no foreign wheat, or no proportion worth mentioning in the market, were 1832, 58s. 8d.; 1833, 52s. 11d.; 1831, 46s. 2d.; 1835, 30s. 4d.; 1836, 48s. 6d.; 1837, 55s. Tod.; average. 50s. 3d. But if it be considered that by far the largest quantitles sold were in the three years of the lowest prices, viz. 1834, 40s. 2d.; 1835, 39s. 4d.; 1836, 48s. 6d.; average, 44s. 8d.; and that, during that period, although, as usual, on the occurrence of low prices, there were loud complaints of agri cultural distress, the country never exhibited a greater extent nor a higher degree of cultivation; it is perfectly fair to presume, that, at a price of 45s., there would be no reason to apprehend that much, if any, land would be thrown out of cultivation. The general fact is, in point, by results beyond controversy, that the agricultural productions of the kingdom were never, as far as the seasons permitted, on a larger scale than in 1836 and 1837, notwithstanding the alleged discouragement of the low prices of 1834 and 1835." For his (Mr. Gore's) part, he was inclined to believe, that the prin cipal aids to a rapid progress in agricultural science, and to an increase in the profits of those engaged in agriculture, were to be found in the development of our manufacturing interest (hear, hear, hear). If they looked to the periods when the greatest improvements had taken place in agriculture, they would discover that those improvements were coincident with an extension of the capital, and an addition to the amount of labour engaged in manufactures (cheers). If they took the history of this country at the period immediately previous to the accession of George 111, to the throne, and when manufactures in Great Britain were in their infancy, they would perceive that agriculture at the same time was stationary, and had undergone, for a considerable number of yours, scarcely any improvement. in 1760, attention was being drawn to manufactures, and when their value as an ingredient of a nation's wealth was recognised, agriculture, it would be remarked, had made a corresponding advance, and since then the progress of the two interests, fostered by capital and skill, had been in conjunction (cheers). And judging, therefore, from the past, he felt perfectly assured that the measure, the adoption of middle measures the manual of markets are now assured that the measure, the adoption of which was now recommended, would, if carried, make the further progress, both of agriculture and in manufactures, more certain and more rapid (cheque). He had said before that he was not advocating the proposition merely because he concurred in thinking it was necessary the Government should be kept in office; if he considered that end would be obtained, at any material sacrifice of the agri-cultural interests, he would give his most strements op-position to the scheme of the right honourable baronet; but from an increase in population there must result great increase in demand, for agricultural produce (loud cries of hear, and cheers). All experience and all reason went to prove that a benefit to the manufacturing would be a benefit to the agricultural interest; and among the many authorities who had dealt with the subject, none had spoken. more plainly or more convincingly on that point than if une?

"When manufactures and incohanical attivities not collitvated, the bulk of the people must apply the self-verto registry of ture; and if their skill and industry increase, there must
arise a great superfluity from their islone layers, when auffices to maintain them. They have no tampeation, therefore, to increase their skill and industry, since they cannot exchange that superfluity for any commodities which may be serve ellier to their pleasure or vanity. An isolated their cannot lance particulty profails." The greater have by the land they have the displaying the control of the more plainly or more convincingly on that point than Hame

on the attention of the liouse, but from the situation he

had the honour to hold, he did not like to allow the discussion to close without offering some observations. The

honourable member for Shrewsbury had said that the

duce all our neighbouring nations to the same state of slothy But what would be the consequence? They could send us ne commodities; they could take none from us; our domestic commerce itself would languish for want of cinula tion, example, and instruction; and we, ourselves, should soon full ir to the same abject condition to which we had retheod nem. I shall, therefore, venture to acknowledge, that he only as a man, but as a British subject, I pray for the dourishing commerce of Germany, Spain, Italy, and even France itself. I am, at least, certain that Great Britain, and all those nations would flourish more, did their Sovereigns and Ministers adopt such unlarged and benevolent sen-timents towards each other" (hear, hear, hear). A great change like that proposed would naturally create great apprehension; and in the remarks he (Mr. Gore) had to make, he would carefully guard against saying one word that could convey anything but his respect for those gentlemen with whore - it was his misfortune-he differed. Simi far changes in the history of every country had been attended with similar expressions of doubt, dismay, and dissatisfaction. A remarkable instance of that kind occurred at the time when Spain, in 1765, having at last been convenced of the t effects of her past policy, proposed a total alteration in Le fiscal laws relating to the intercourse between the mother country and the colonies. All cried out against it, and loudly predicted ruin and disaster. In a short time the new sys sem was found to work advantageously, and in the end the merchants of Cadiz, who had been the most strenuous in their opposition, were the most prominent in their mutual congratulations on the new state of affairs. A train of events, identical in their character, marked the introduction in England, in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, of turnpike roads; the possessors of property round London declared they would be rained; but when their entreaties were neglected and the roads, were made, the benefits of the alteration were experienced, and since had been fully acknowledged (hear, hear). It was, none would deny, a most important point to be mentioned as to the way in which the new bill would affect the poor (hear), and us to the proportion likely to exist between prices and wages. In reference to that portion of the inquiry the honourable gentleman read the following documents: "Harvest of 1795 very deficient, price of wheat six guineus per quarter. Season of 1799 favourable, price fell to 5% at end of year. In 1797 quality was bad quantity deficient. Harvest of 1798 only moderately abundant, consequently no store of grain to bring in in aid of de Acoint harvest of 1797; immediately after which the price rose 10 926, 7d. per quarter. In 1800 the quality was injured by excessive rains, and the quantity was so short that the average price of wheat, on the 1st of January, 1801, had advanced to 130s, per quarter. Before the harvest of 1801 was secured, the price of wheat in the London market reached 180s, per quarter, and the quartern loaf was, for four weeks, as high as is: 10 d." It was carious (continued Mr. Clore) to observe how intimate a relation existed between the prices of food and the number of marriages (cries of hear, hear). " The falling off in the numbers, observable in 1794, 1800, and 1801, was in each year very marked in its character. The harvest of 1801 was moderately abundant, and as, in addition to the home produce, the importation of wheat, under the stimulus of a honnty, had been very large, the price fell, in the latter part of this year, to less than half what it had been before the harvest. In 1802 the crops, although not very abundant, vielded enough, with a small importation, for our wants, and prices became still more moderate. The mmher of marriages in these two years, according to the registers, was 90,396 in 1802, and 94,379 in 1804. In March, 1801, the average price of wheat was as low as 49s. 6d. per quarter; but the barvest in that year was far from being good, and towards Christmas the price was double what it had been ning months before; the price continued high until-the re sult of the harvest of 1805 could be known. This proving more favourable, and a considerable quantity of foreign grain having been imported, prices again receded, but not extensively. The number of marriages in 1804 and 1805 again showed the restraining effect in this respect of high prices, having been 85,739 and 79,586 respectively." these facts and statistics went to show that the country flourished in the greatest degree when there was the greatest abundance, combined with cheapness, of food. \ He had supported the Corn Law as it then existed, because he had looked upon it as the law best suited to the circumstances; but he had since seen reason to doubt, and even deny that it had been productive of the good which, in adopting it, was con-templated; and he could not see how such a good could be botter secured than by the measure for which he now intended to give his vote (hear, hear). It had been said of the right honograble gentleman, the member for South Wills (Mr. Sidney Herbert), by the honourable member for Shrewsbury (Mr. D'Israeli), that he was responsible for the state of the labouring population in that county. He (Mr. Gore) was bound to say that he did not believe the agricul tural interest or the agricultural labourers had a better friend then the right hon, gentleman, the Secretary at-War; and he spoke from a knowledge of the past as to the kind fooling shown by him to all on his property (loud eries of Hear, bear). With regard to the assertion that the Corn Law had worked well, it was for the advocates of the law to reconcile this assertion with the fact, that under its operation the farmer had to sustain a progressive fall in the price throughout not less than five successive years, from 75s, till it got down to 30s. On the occurrence of the first season following, of marked defleiency, the public obtained no relief till the aggregate averages of the six weeks had attained in September 78s, 2d., when suddenly, in a single week, 1,518,118 quarters of wheat and wheat meal were liberated, at the low duty of 1s. per quarter. The price declined in four weeks from 77s. to 61s. 10d., so that whereas the previous rise was for the benefit of the wealthier furmers, who had been onubled to hold their stocks of the crop of 1837 to the last, the subsequent fall was to the detriment of the numerous olass of small farmers, who, having by that time got in their crops in all the divisions of the land south of the Humber, were threshing out, and, as usual, bringing the earliest supplies to market. Therefore, he thought it was an error fo plies to market. Therefore, he thought it was an error to subpose that the Corn Law had worked to the advantage of the following has but the wealthier farmers. What had the Corn Law upon other interests? There is the corn Law upon other interests? There is the shipping; freights roke; the shipping; freights roke; the shipping; freights roke; the shipping is the effect of the demand for corn, was mischievous upon the interests of shippowners. upon the interests of shipowners.

The with a remark of the housurable for Bath, that there would not be come into this country. He thought one side and the fears on the other

were equally exaggerated (hear, hear, hear). This was a question which affected not only agriculture, but commerce and national industry. He had the authority not only of Bishop Watson, Mr. Horner, Lord Wallace, but of a statesman, second to none in experience, knowledge, and attachment to the constitution; he alluded to Lord Grenville, who in the debate upon the East India Charter, in 1813, said-Those who understand, as your lordships do, the real nature of commerce, and the true principles of its wise admi-nistration, well know that all its interests are interwoven; all its branches inseparably connected. It is the union, not of commerce with Government, but of commerce with commerce, that a provident legislation will respect. Numerous are the commercial enterprises which would be of small benest if limited to the direct intercourse of one country with another, but which, by intermediate or subsequent transactions, in other markets and in distant regions, became highly advantageous both to private and national interests. For the encouragement of such hopes no moment was ever yet more favourable. The barrier of prejudices shaken, the spirit of monopoly is rapidly giving way to juster principles of com-mercial legislation, and the change of public opinion in this country is seconded by the great revolutions of the world." These were the opinions of Lord Grenville, than whom no mun was more sincerely attached to the constitution of this land; so that, if this question is to be decided by authoritythough he gave no weight to authorities, as the question must be determined by experience; but if authority were required, there could be none of greater weight. For the reason he had stated he should give his decided and cordial support to the measure of her Majesty's Government. He believed that the measure was framed upon sound principles; he thought it calculated to promote all the great interests of this great empire. It did not swell any one interest into unnatural proportions, but it preserved the symmetry of the whole. He thought that the prosperity of the country rested not upon the enactments of the statute book, but the energy and enterprise of the people, inspired by free institutions and guarded by equal laws. Looking to these considerations, he had no fear of competition with other countries; and, under the present measure, he believed that all the great interests of the country would receive benefit; and looking beyond the interests of this island, and to the distant shores to which our commerce extends, he thought that this measure, to which he gave his cordial support, would benefit the whole human race (hear, hear, hear). He would not support the measure if he thought it had been yielded to ngitation or anything like fear. Such a motive he considered to be unworthy of him and of the house. Whilst dissenting from other members upon this question, he honoured and admired their firmness; and if they thought it for the welfare of the country that the Corn Laws should be maintained, they were bound to support it; and whilst he differed from them, he honoured and admired their conduct. He rested the question upon higher ground-upon its intrinsic merits; for if it could not bear investigation, let it be rejected. He hoped that the house, in conformity with the prayer with which it auspicated their proceedings, would come to a conclusion upon this question divested of all party feeling and private affection, and would decide according to what they thought would best promote the welfare. the greatness, the glory, and the prosperity of this great empire, and the happiness of the millions subject to our

Mr. FITZGERALD was prepared to support the measure proposed by her Majesty's Government. Wishing to scoure the weal of his unfortunate country, and to svert the awful 3 asequences that might arise from the deficiency of food in Ireland, he felt bound to take an early opportunity of urging on the attention of her Majesty's Government the expediency of carrying into speedy execution whatever measures they might deem necessary for its safety. The danger of famine and pestilence in that country was imminent, but he hoped it was not yet too late to prevent the horrors that might desolate that important portion of the empire. He had heard with no small gratification the speech of the right hon, baronet at the head of the government, delivered the other evening; and he must also express his gratification at the conduct announced by the right hon. Secretary for the Home Department, in taking measures to encourage employment in Ireland, and give to the poor the means of buying food, of which they stood in so much need. At the same time he must declare his conviction that measures of a far more comprehensive nature were required to remedy the evils afflicting the social state of Ireland. With respect to the great question before them, his ideas until he entered the house had been always on the side of perfect Free Trade, but now he was inclined to say that the measures brought forward by her Majesty's Government were the best that could be thought of at the present moment. It was but just that the agriculturists should have time to make those changes in the modes of cultivation which might become necessary; for this purpose three years would be required; and if sudden changes were made, it might be feared would produce injury rather than benefit. But he looked forward with pleasure and hope to the results of a system of perfect Free Trade, when established at the proper time. He must say that on the first announcement of the measures of Government, no small alarm had been created in Ireland; but having felt it his duty, as representing a large agricultural constituency, to consult the opinions and wishes those whom he represented, he had found that on further deliberation the disposition to alarm was considerably diminished. He was enabled to state that, though apprehensions were ontertained in different quarters that some temporary loss might ensue, there was a general inclination to support her Majesty's Government on a view of the whole case, bear ing in mind that not the Corn Laws only must be altered, but a very extensive change must take place in the whole commercial policy of the British empire, from which a large increase of our commerce might reasonably be anticipated (hear, hear). Considering the great alterations which had been effected within the last few years, and the results that had followed them, it was impossible to avoid scoing that the principles on which those measures had proceeded must be carried further. In his opinion, the right hon, baronet deserved well of his country for the moral courage he had sliown on this question, and had sufficiently proved that as minister of the empire he would have regard to the welfare of the whole community, rather than to the interests of any particular class

Mr. LOCKHART expressed the deep rogest which he felt at being compelled to vote against Sir R. Peel on this measure; but he had no choice, as he was convinced that iv measure; but he use no enoise, as he was even would sweep away all the small farmers of the country, and would throw out of cultivation all the interior land in the onning.

Bir G. CLERK was very unwilling to intrade himself

object of the measure proposed by ministers was two. fold—to provide for emergency, and to construct a system. As to the existence of an emergency, he believed there was not a single member of that house who doubted it; nor did he think there was the least inclination to oppose the Government in carrying any measure for its relief. He denied altogether that there was anything like the construction of a new system of commercial policy in the measures now submitted to the house; they were nothing more than the carrying out of those principles on which the measures of 1842 were founded, as well as the measures proposed in 1824 by Mr. Huskisson, and supported by the right honourable baronet at an earlier period of his political career. At that time they had been told, as he supposed they would be told on the present occasion, that Government and Parliament had run wild on the subject of Free Trude, Some honourable members might suppose that Government was now proceeding more rapidly than they could approve of; but, reflecting on the course of policy followed by the various administrations of this country for the last twenty years, it could not be supposed that the measures now proposed constituted anything like an ovel system of commercial policy. With respect to the emergency spoken of, he wished it could be considered as one merely of a temporary nature; but hon, members looked too exclusively to the misery that might be experienced in Ireland in the course of the ensuing summer. We must look forward some distance, and ask ourselves how (the potato crop having failed) a substitute for this food was to be found in the years 1847 and 1848. We must bear in mind that not only was the crop of the present season destroyed, but it would be absolutely impossible to find a sufficient quantity of potatoes for the seed required in the cultivation of the soil (oh). Some hon, members seemed to doubt that; but perhaps they had not been in the house the other evening when a question was put to his right hon, friend at the head of the Government by the hon. member for Cocker-mouth (Mr. Aglionby). Now he (Sir G. Clerk) had made inquiries in his own neighbourhood, and he had received information that last spring the germs of the disease had been perceived; it had been admitted that sufficient care had not been taken in the selection of the seed, and it was to be feared that in some degree the infection had been communicated to the plants last Looking to the facts which had been ascertained, and to the report communicated to his right hon, friend by Professor Lindley, there was great reason to fear that the disease would not be confined to the present season, but that it might prevail next year to a great extent (hear, hear). But was it only for Ireland that an additional supply of food was to be provided? The potato formed an important portion of the food of the people both in England and Scotland, and the disease prevailed to a great extent in every part of the United Kingdom (hear, hear). He knew the difficulty of getting persons to agree as to the extent of this disease, but there was one test to which it might be brought which would afford evidence of that extent. The potato formed a great portion of the food of the poorer classes in London, and it became important to ascertain what had been and what now was the amount of the supply. He found that between the lit of October, 1844, and the 14th of February, 1845, the supply of potatoes amounted, during the four months and a half, to 770,000 sacks. The supply from the 1st October last year to the 14th February in the present year was only 540,000 sacks, showing a falling off of nearly one-third in the supply of the metropolis alone (hear, hear). He believed that that might be taken as a fair index of the amount of deficiency in geneval, and if he had the means of ascertaining the supply of potatoes to Manchester, Birmingham, and other of our great manufacturing towns during the same period, he had no doubt that the deficiency would be found as great. Now what had been the effect of that deficiency of supply in London upon the price of the article? He found that in January, 1845, the price of potentials in Country (Carlotte of State potatoes in Covent Garden market had been from 50s. to 80s. per ton, and that in the January of the present year the price ranged from 80s. to 160s. per ton (hear, hear), showing that the lowest price new was equal w the highest in a former year, and the highest just double (hear, hear). Some prices might be found lower than these, but there were still cargoes of diseased polatoes brought in, which of course sold at an inferior rate, and indeed it often depended upon the state of the wind, so that a quick passage could be had from the Humber, whether the potatoes arrived in the market in sound condition or not. He had also been informed that the price of potatoes liaving placed them beyond the reach of the poorer classes, they were in many instances obliged to purchase bread; and that in districts chieff inhabited by the poorer classes, those bakers who used to bakers the poorer classes, those bakers who used to bakers the poorer classes, the bakers who used to bakers the poorer classes, the bakers who used to bakers the poorer classes, the bakers who used to bakers the poorer classes, the poorer classes are poorer classes, the poorer classes are poorer classes. to bake ten sacks of flour, now consumed cleven, being an increase of 10 per cent, on the consumption of flour Looking, then, to the fact that the food of four millions of the inhabitants of Ireland was likely to be cut off for six months—that the supply in hand would not hold out until May, it was the duty of Government to take care that may it was the duty of Government to take care that no impediment was thrown in the way of a sapply of food (hear, hear). He must now advert to snother remarkable fenture. It was well known that although the harvest of last year had not been deficient in balk had been deficient in walch, and in atilitional quar

to a great extent likewise. Holland and Balgium had then at once removed all impediments to the admission of food in their ports (hear, hear). At that time, when carn was so admitted into the ports of those countries free, it had been found that though the price of corn in the London markets was exceedingly high—though the best wheat was remaining stationary, or rather risingthe averages were moving in the opposite direction. That was in the month of November. The attention of the Government had been most auxiously directed to this difficulty. From week to week the accounts of the quantity of corn coming in were compared with the accounts of the quantities which week to week were re-exported. The amount so re-exported continued triffing; but had it increased, it would have been the bounder duty of Government to open the ports, as a means of preventing the corn from being taken away from this country to those which had removed the impediments upon its importation (hear, hear). Under such circumstances he thought he might assume that there would have been but one feeling in the house, that the government would have been justified in taking upon themselves the heavy and delicate responsibility of opening the ports and admitting corn (cheers). Then that took away from him (Sir G. Clerk) the main and chief article upon which he had ever been prepared to defend the sliding scale, because the great argument in favour of that scale had been that it contained within itself a selfadjusting principle, that the duty should fall with a rise in price, until it vanished altogether. If hon, gentlemen would refer to the arguments used in favour of the sliding scale in 1837, and having regard to the circumstances of the autumn of 1826, they would find we were now somewhat in a similar position in the autumn of 1845. The government of that day had been obliged to open the ports and suspend the law. They had come to farliament and had asked for a bill of indemnity, and having made out a sufficient case the Parliament had passed their bill. Lord Liverpool had then remarked that this power of opening the ports was of so delicate a nature, that it required to be exercised with the greatest caution and care; that it might occasion loss and rain to many unoffending and innocent persons; that it was a power which ought not to remain with the government; and that some alteration should be made to render it unnecessary. Mr. Canning had also shown most foreibly that the objection was not only applicable to the law of 1815, but to a fixed duty, however small. That had been the great argument in favour of a sliding scale, for in a commercial point of view it was liable 10 may pulpable objections. Now here was a case in 1815, when the sliding scale had failed in this respect of adjusting the duty in-proportion to the price (hear). The law not answering its purpose in this respect, it would have been the duty of Government, had they opened the ports, to do as Lord Liverpool had done in 1827, when he asked for indemnity, namely, be prepared to show how the existing law might be modified and altered, so as to prevent the recurrence of the evil. An honourable member had said that all that was required was an alteration in the mode of taking the averages; but upon this point he (Sir George Clerk) would rather take the opinion of a representative of the agricultural interest, the hon, member for Somersetshire, who had said that there was no middle course, and that he would rather have that proposed by the Government, if the Corn Laws were to be touched (no, no). The honourable mention for Government, and the mention for Government. able member for Somersetshire was not now in his place, and it was possible he (Sir George Clerk) might be mistaken, but he had a distinct recollection of the han, member saying that there was no middle course. The hon, member had followed shortly after the hon. member for Huntingdon, who thought there was a mid-dle course open, but received so little encouragement from gentlemen who had cheered other parts of his speech, that he had not been induced to state to the house what that middle term was. But the hon, member for Somerset had stated his opinion that there was no middle course, but that if the existing Corn Law was to be disturbed, it was better that the measure of the Government should be adopted. Very few of the agricultural members had entered into details to show the nature and extent of the injury they apprehended; but the honourable memher for Somersetshire had been an exception, for he had quoted some statistics, and had expressed his alarm at the quantity of corn likely to be brought from various the world, and he particularised Russia; but it would be seen that in reality a very small portion of the crops in the southern provinces of that empire consisted of wheat, but were principally rye, hemp, and tobacco. During 10 years of deficient supply of corn at home we had been obliged to ransack the whole word, and even then wheat could only be had at a great price. If hon. members would look at the accounts on the table they would see that 120,000 quarters only was the average importation from the eastern provinces of Russia, and even in 1840, 317,000 quarters were all that could be had from that country. The Government availed themselves of the best information on this subject from our consular agents abroad; and it was a very remarkable that the reserved. act, that nearly all of them concurred in the general result (hear, hear). From that information it appeared that the utmost quantity of wheat to be expected from Russia was 670,000 quartors, which was supposing that Great Britain obtained the whole surplus of the country; Great Britain obtained the whole surplus of the country for some gentlemen argued as if Great Britain was the only country wanting wheat, whereas they would find that in reality a very small portion of the surplus of these corn-growing countries came into Bingland, and that if we want into the market, other countries would compete with us, a consequence of which would be, that the price would be relead to the Bingland level by such competition, instead of the level with the competition, instead of the level with the state of the level with the continuous level.

country. By a reference to the papers, it would be seen that the United States exported in 1790 and 1796, when the population was four millions, a larger quantity of corn than she had over done since except in 1840, when the preceding harvest of 1830 had been remarkably abundant. But of the corn exported by America in that year a very small part found its way into the English markets. The population of America in 1840 was calculated at upwards of 17,000,000; the crop of wheat in that year was estimated at ten million quarters. Of those ten millions America exported 215,000 quarters in the shape of wheat, and 1,897,000 barrels of flour, which, subtracted from the total quantity, left only about four bushels per head for the consumption of their own population. Now, of that quantity exported from America only 620,000 barrels of flour came into England in 1840, the year in which there was the greatest importation. In the next year, 1841, America only exported 108,000 quarters of wheat and 1,500,000 barrels of flour; and in 1842 her exports were 140,000 quarters of wheat and 1,100,000 barrels of flour. The population of America was now about 20,000,000, and it was supposed that she could export little more than half the wheat she had sent out in the year 1840, still leaving a supply for her own people not greater than four bushels per head. With regard to the Western States of America, the fact of the matter was, they scarcely produced a sufficient supply of corn for their own population, and this being true and that it was true was notorious to all who knew anything of the matter-it was clear that there could be nothing more absurd or untenable than the apprehension that from that quarter of the world, at all events, a supply of grain was to come in such exorbitant profusion as to glut the home-market (hear, hear). Indeed, he believed that the apprehension would be found to be totally without foundation as regarded the United States generally, for circumstanced as those States were at present, and as they were likely to continue, with respect to their commercial relations, and the vast calls which their own population made upon their home market, it was in the last degree improbable that they would ever be in a position to export corn in sufficient quantities to injure the growers of any other country whatsoever (hear, hear). The United States already supplied Brazil and the West India islands with flour; and as the demand for the article had enormously increased, and was still increasing in the latter countries since the emancipation of the slave population -- which, by the way, was a most gratifying fact (hear, hear) the possibility of our receiving any very considerable supply of corn from the other side of the Atlantic was rendered more and more unlikely (hear, hear). In fact, he regarded it as a contingency so extremely improbable, that it might fairly be considered as almost entirely out of the question (hear, hear). Nay, he viewed the matter in another aspect altogether-in an aspect which he must say he considered as a much more alarming one than that in which it was viewed by the hon, member for Somersetshire; for he could not help thinking that the actual state of things being such as he had described it to be, hon, gentlemen, instead of indulging in an apprehension that our home market would be inundated with foreign corn, ought to apply themselves to the consideration of this question, whether, if our population were to continue to progress at the ratio in which it had of late years been advancing, we should be enabled, even though the resources of Russia and someother countries were to be developed to the very utmost, to procure a sufficient supply of corn for our own people (hear)? Within the last five years there had been imported into this country nearly 10 millions of corn, being an average of two millions per annum, and surely there was no one who would be so venturesome as to allege that the people of this country had in that period been over-fed (hear, hear, and a laugh). Let the resources of Russia be developed to what extent they might, even though it were to that extent the prospect of which caused so much pain and alarm to the honourable member for Somersetshire, and let it be taken for granted, that during the 10 years preceding 1856, the importation of foreign corn was to average 3,000,000 quarters per annum, instead of 2,000,000 as heretofore it would still be found that a larger supply had not been brought in than was absolutely necessary for the support of the people; and furthermore, it would be found the ventured confidently to predict it) that notwithstanding all this vast importation, not one single acre of land would be thrown out of cultivation, but that on the contrary, agriculture would receive a fresh impetus, for that the demand upon the home market would still be very much greater than the supply. This was his deliberate predication, and he had not the slightest question but that the result would show that he was a true prophet. Me could not understand how honourable members could hold a different opinion, if they, would take the trouble of studying this question with attention. The experience of the last 80 years proved that the rate of population advanced more rapidly than the rate of production, and that this was true was attested by the fact hat for a long series of years we had every year been compelled to increase our importations of foreign corn in proportion as we approached more closely to the present time; and bearing in mind this fact, the truth of which was not to be contested, he could not help thinking—no matter how vigorously, no matter how accountifically, the arts/of agriculture might be applied to the enrichment of the soil—for the next ten years we would be compelled to import 3,000,000 of quarters of corn annually instead of two (hear, hear). It was a avourite argument with bonqueable gentlamen who were everse to the repeal of the Corn Laws, that the sliding soals had this merit at lease, that it prevented, or at all events the marginally charged, the fluctuation of the marginal that there were the eligible grounds as the marginal ment that there were the eligible grounds as the marginal ment that the appears (hear). The majorit had provented any such mart (hear). The

finetuation of the market had been considerably greater under the sliding scale than it was in the puriod intervening between the years 1786 and 1792-the period when the corn trade was not transmelled by any restrictions whatsoever (hear, hear). This, he considered, a vory valuable fact, and one highly interesting for the purposes of this discussion. The honograble member for Sunderland, when expatiating on the probability of our being subjected to an inundation of foreign corp, had spoken of the facilities for speculating in that article, and had alluded to the circumstance of his having himself in the year 1837 imported into this country a quantity of foreign corn at so small a cost as 25s, per quarter. He (Sir G. Clerk) had no doubt that the fact was just as the hon, member had stated it, but it was capuble of a very easy and natural explanation. Look at the state of the corn trade at home and abroad in the year '37 (hear, hear). During the years '34, '35, and '36 we had a succession of good harvests, and consequently imported little or nothing. In the month of August '37, it was ascertained that the crop on the Continent was an excellent one, and the crop in England was likewise very abundant, for the summer had everywhere been warm and genial. The consequence was that all the markets here and on the Continent were well stocked. He held in his hand an authentic document, prepared at the period to which he alluded (August, 1837), and by a reference to it he found that at that time the Hamluirgh nui ket was so dow that corn had tailen to a price varying from 22s. 4d. to 29s. 4d. Now he could very well conceive that the honourable member, if inclined to speculate at all, might have done so in this manner. He might have purchased a small purcel of corn, of a very inferior description indeed, at 22s. 4d. or thereabouts, and after paying 2s, 6d, for freight, nothing was more natural than that he might have had the article for the cost he specified; but would the honourable member tell the home that this was a thing that could be done every, or indeed to a very great extent, in any year (hear, hear) ? Mark what a revolution took place in the corn market the very next year. The crop on the Continent, in 1838, was an average one, but it was the reverse of abundant in England, the summer having been cold and moist. The fact that the English people had not been blessed with a very rich harvest soon became widely circulated, and the consequence was that in the month of August, 1838, wheat rose at Hamburg from 22s, 4d, to 63s, 9d., and freight from 2s, 6d, to 6s. 9d. (hear, hear). The honograble member for Sun derland had not given the house to understand that in the year 1838 he imported any corn at 25s, per quarter (hear). He would have found it rather a difficult matter for his speculative mind. The honourable member for Shrewsbury had argued that the rule of commerce was that in proportion as the demand for an article increased the price fell, but he (Sir G. Clerk) contended that the history of commerce proved that the contrary fact was usually realised, and in attestation of the truth of this assertion he would beg to call the honourable member's attention to this fact—that at Canton the price of tea had, at no very remote period, been higher than in the year 1834, notwithstanding that the demand was considerably greater. The price had since been reduced to the consumer, but the fact was not to be attributed to the increase in the demand. The honourable member for Shrewsbury had referred to the cotton tradg as also affording an illustration of the truth of his doctrine, that, according as the demand for an article increased, the price fell; and he had instanced the fact that, in certain parts of the United States, cotton might now be had for three cents a pound. This statement, however, should be received with caution. He (Sir G. Clerk) believed that cotton of a very inferior quality, and designed for the purposes of seed, might be sold for that sum. He was given to understand that in New Orleans. cotton of that description might be had for three cents per pound; but the latest commercial advices that we had received from New Orleans showed that good cotton. so far from being sold there for that sum, fetched so high a price as from 61 to 9 cents per pound (hear, hear). This was the actual price of the article at the present time in New Orleans. It was very possible that owing to a stagnation of trade, or some other of those unfortu nate canalties to which all branches of commerce were subject, a fall in the price in the article might have taken place in 1837, but that fall was only of a temporary character, and the indisputable fact was that so far from our manufacturers being able to purchase cotton at three cents per pound, they were obliged to pay a price for it ranging from 61 to 9 cents per pound. And there was no knowing what price it might yet attain; for there could be no doubt but that the merchants at New Orlouns were narrowly watching the policy England was now about to adopt, and would model their own policy accordingly (hear, hear). The doctrines of the honourable member for Shrewsbury, he had no hesitation in saying, were totally untenable, and would not endure one mo-ment's investigation. The mind of the honourable mamber appeared to be tortured by the most dreadful apprehension of coming cvil; but the event would prove there was no ground whatever for such approhensions, Alagni would always be excited whenever it was proposed to make any change, even the most trivial, in the commercial policy of this country (hear, hear, hear). In the year 1787, when Mr. Pitt first brought forward his year 1787, when Mr. Pitt first brought forward his proposition to regulate the importation of common Ireland, the Scotch agriculturists, were in an agony of alarm, and predicted that the the community and interests generally of scotland would be irretrievably ruined plut he was proud and laure as that notwithstanding this gloomy, proceeding the part of the United Kingdom had the science of arrival ture been prosecuted with more signal suggest that it seems to be an prosecuted with more signal suggest that it scotland, nor lid be knowed any corrier dethe to the more signal suggest that it while my plant made had been a regard from the faculty since 1787. He cantured to printe the lands and been a regard from the faculty since 1787. He cantured to printe the lands and been a regard from the second since 1787. He cantured to printe the lands of the since 1787. He cantured to printe the second since the since 1787. He cantured to printe the second since the second

milts equally happy would follow from the adoption of the measures now in contemplation; but let not the house be surprised at finding that apprehension and alarm existed in certain parts. As far back as the year 1820 a petition was presented to that bouse from some of the most eminent merchants in London, praying for the removal of those protective restrictions which cramped the energies of trade and commerce. The Government of Lord Liverpool, in the year 1824, acted on these recommendations, and brought in various measures with a view to the mitigation of the prohibitory system; but it was a notorious fact that, with respect to every one of these mitigatory measures, the same alarm was manifested, and the same gloomy forebodings were Indulged in. At that time the amount of the protective duty on linen was not very great; but when it was proposed to reduce it, the Irish members rose with the utmost indignation, and declared that the reduction would be the absolute destruction of the Irish manufactures. He well remembered that the hon, member for Londonderry expressly declared that if the contemplated reduction were to be carried into effect, the linen and cambric trade of Ireland would be irretrievably ruined. Such was the prediction of the member for Londonderry; but had the house forgotten the statement made by the right hon, baronet at the head of the government, in the course of his masterly speech of that day week (hear, hear), by which he showed, on the authority of some of the most entirent linen manufacturers residing in the neighbourhood of Belfast, that their prosperity dated from the year 1826, and that notwithstanding the removal of protection, they had been able not only to compete with France, but to send their fabrics in enormous quantities to the remotest countries of the world, and especially to the United States (hear, hear)? So much for the linen trade (hear). His (Sir O. Clerk's) right hon, friend (Sir R. Peel), in the course of his speech, had summed all up in this way-" We reduced a great number of these things; we made further deductions in 1842; and now I call upon any member (hear, hear, from the Opposition)—I call upon any person, who is connected with trade, to show us where it had suffered injury by the reduction" (cheers from the Opposition). That challenge then remained unanswered (renewed cheers). At last the hon, member for Birmingham took the field, and he referred to the article of spelter or zinc. He (Sir G. Clerk) had heard with great astonishment the declaration of the hon. member, that the zine trade had suffered from the change that had taken place, but he confessed he could not find that out from his statement. He said when the price of zine was 75l. a ton, the duty was 45l. a ton.

Mr. MUNTZ: Oh, no; I beg your pardon. Sir GEORGE CLERK would take it at 50% a ton; the duty was as high as 50% a ton, and the price of the article was 75l. That duty was gradually reduced, and last year they took off the duty. He appealed to the knowledge of every member of the house whether the manufacture of zine was not one of the most recent origin, and it was only within a few years the means were discovered of rendering zine malleable and readily converting it to any useful purpose. Formerly they were depending on that zine that was used for the mixing of copper as an alloy for making brass. The description of spelter or zine found in the country was so brittle that it could not be converted into those articles into which zine was now manufactured. It was the foreign zine that was susceptible of being made mallcable. Lurge mines were discovered in the Prussian provinces, and large quantities of that zinc had been brought here, and by the admission of that zine, an entirely new branch of manufactures was established (hear, hear, hear, from the opposition). By that means employment was given to many hundreds of persons, whereas if the prohibitory duties had been maintained, the proprietors of those inconsiderable mines from which the inferior quality of zine was procured might have retained the price of 75%. per ton, and that zine might have been used for the manufacture of brass, but then the country would have been deprived of the means of manufacturing Those zine articles (hear, hear). The honourable member wound up his statement by this assertion:—He said zine was now 50% per ton, and that it was not worth any man's while to work up that zinc, for every article of it, with triffing exceptions, was brought from abroad. Now no fact / they had last year a statement of the duties on every article, the duty on manufactured spelter was 10 per cent., and the whole value of the article brought in was ol., and the duty was 10s. 6d. (hear). Now what had been the profits of the zine manufacture in this country? He need go back only a few years, for the manufacture of zine was but recently introduced. In the years 1843 and 1844 the quantity of zine imported was 10,000 tons, and of that between five and six thousand tons were exported to India and China, and 4000 tons were retained to be worked up in manufactures in this country. In the last year 12,000 tons were imported, and of that 2,000 only were exported and 10,000 tons were worked up into manufactures (loud cheers). By means of that manufacture, a very usoful and valuable article could be obtained at a moderate price, and employment was given to a great number of persons (hear, hear). The hon, member for Birmingham ought from his position to be well acquainted with this subject, but yet he said that the mossures of the Government were productive of injury (hear, hear). He (Sir G. Clerk) would next refer to the observations of the honourable member for Shrowsbury. His right honourable friend (Sir Robert Peel) had said, that so far from the silk trade being injured by the reduction of duty, the quantity of raw silk imported had more than doubled since the restriction was taken off. No, said the hou member for Shrews should be upheld; but if the hon member meant by bury, for the right honourable baronet has taken into his calculation waste allk and thrown silk. The honourable member for Shrewsbury said that they had nothing to

do with them, and he then stated, that 20 years ago, in the last year of protection, the quantity of raw silk introduced was 4,010,000 lbs. Now, he (Sir G. Clerk) found that the silk imported in that year stood thus:-raw silk imported, 8,414,520; waste silk, 138,257; thrown silk, 462,731; making about 4,011,000, the quantity of silk which was stated by him to have been imported in 1824 included waste and thrown silks (hear, hear). That was the quantity imported in 1824, and in 1844 the raw silk imported was 4,021,000; waste silk, 707,850; thrown silk, 410,358; making about 6,000,000 (hear, hear). The hon. member, when he made a statement of figures, was bound in both cases to take the same items, for he came down there to make a business speech, throwing aside all those sallies with which he amused the house on former occasions (hear, hear, and The hon, member said he would take the year 1824, the last year of protection. In the month of February in that year the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced to the house certain plans, including a proposition for the reduction of duty on raw silk, and the removal of the prohibition on the manufacture. An objection was taken to the introduction of the silk manufacture, but there was only one feeling in the house as to the propriety of immediately taking the duty off raw silk. On the 7th of March the house agreed to the resolution, and on the 25th of March, in that year, the duty was taken off. Therefore, it was perfectly clear that the subject had engrossed the attention of the house in former years. The only true criterion to be taken in a thing of that sort was to take an average, and to see what was the effect of Free Trade, and what was the effect of protection and high duty. Let them compare the import of raw silk prior to 1824 with what it was subsequent to that period. For ten years previous to 1824 the average was 1,524,000. For ten years, from 1825 to 1834 inclusive, the average was three million pounds per annum, instead of one million five hundred thousand as before; and taking ten years from 1836 to 1845 inclusive, gave him an average of 3,865,000 as compared with 1,500,000, presenting an increase of 150 per cent. The result, therefore, was, to increase the silk manufactures of this country to the extent he had mentioned, and, instead of throwing any persons out of employment, they had given employment to a great number of silk weavers and other persons engaged in the silk trade by the removal of that duty (cheers from the Opposition). The honourable member said he was for Free Trade, as he understood Free Trade. He was for a free interchange of the commodities of different countries. He desired, he said, that they should interchange their commodities on the same terms with France and America as they were willing to interchange with them, but, said he, there are hostile tariffs against us. With reference to this observation, he (Sir G. Clerk) would remind him that this change was proposed to be made, not with reference to its effect upon foreign countries, but for the benefit of the community of England. If they required those articles which were produced in other countries, were they to deprive the people of this country of the use of them, because some foreign nations said they would not have their articles (hear, hear)? Russia, he said, had a prohibitory tariff, and would not take our articles while facilities were given for the introduction of Russian tallow into this country. But the fact was, that the people of this country would not buy the Russian tallow except they wanted it (hear). It certainly must be a matter of regret that the countries from which they imported so largely so many articles necessary for the interests of this country should persevere in having prohibitory tariffs (Hear, hear). They should hope, however, that those other countries, not only from their example, but also from experience, would see that the most efficient means of increasing the revenue would be by having a moderate duty substituted for prohibition (cheers). The honourable member had said that without diplomacy they would get nothing from France; that they might reduce their duties as much as they pleased, but that it would not produce any advantage for the manufacturers of this country. Let them see what was the experience of the last twenty years, during which they had reduced the duties on articles the produce of France as well as other countries. They had within that period reduced the duty on French silk and gloves, on French wines and cambries, clover seed, kid skins. &c.; and the exports from this country to France greatly exceeded what they were when the prohibitory duties were in force (hear) In 1830 they amounted to 475,000; in 1831, 602,000 in 1832, 674,000; in 1833, 848,000; in 1834, 1,116,000 in 1835, 1,450,000; in 1836, 1,591,000; in 1837, 1,643,000; in 1838, 2,214,000; in 1839, 2,298,000; in 1840, 2,378,000; in 1841, 2,902,000; in 1842, 3,193,000; in 1843, 2,534,000 (hear, hear). It was not confined to any description of article, but included nearly all the manufactured articles the produce of this country. He had endeavoured by reference to past experience to show that they had no reason to think that the changes which were now proposed would be attended with calamitous consequences. He had endeayoured to deal with the statement of the hon, member for Shrewsbury, and he trusted that by simply stating those figures, he had shown that he was in every particular mistaken (hear, hear, hear). The honourable member said that he was in favour of Free Trade, provided that it could be got by diplomacy. He said it was the duty of the Minister of this country to see that he did not give any advantage to a foreign country without an equivalent, and, above all, that nothing should be done which would, in the slightest degree, lesson the preponderance of the landed interest. He (Sir G. Clerk) was as auxious as any one that the proper influence of the landlords and the landed interest

he did not believe that such an argument was for the advantage of the landed interest (hear, hear). He believed that it would be a most dangerous argument to put forward, that the Corn Laws must be kept up for the purpose of keeping up the influence of the landed interest (hear, hear). A statement had often been made to this effect on the other side, and it had been said that the Corn Laws had been adhered to for the purpose of benefiting the landlords. This was an argument or assertion which he had always hitherto indignantly repudiated; and he certainly conceived the assumption of the honourable member for Shrewsbury as objection. able, and the argument which he had used, if adopted, would lead to the most dangerous consequences (hear, hear). This was the only meaning which he could attach to the language of the honourable member, and he as a landed proprietor disclaimed it altogether. He thought that the only just argument that could be used by the landed interest in favour of the Corn Laws, was that the maintenance of these laws was not exclusively for their interest, but for the interests of all classes of the community (hear, hear, hear). He felt that he had already trespassed too long on the attention of the house (hear, hear). In conclusion, he was ready to admit that he did not entertain the same opinions as to the effect of the repeal of these laws which he formerly did (cheers from the protectionists). He would only ask honour. able members to bestow the same pains to make themselves masters of the subject as he had done, and that they would disabuse their minds as to the effect of these laws (hear, hear). Honourable gentlemen opposed to this measure were in the habit of saying that the right honourable baronet at the head of the Government gave his opinion in 1839 and 1840 in favour of these laws and had given the best argument that could be used for their maintenance, and that they intended to rely upon such arguments; experience, however, had since convinced his right honourable friend that he could not depend upon these arguments. He therefore thought honourable gentlemen should seek for some new arguguments (hear, hear). He hoped that those honourable gentlemen who had formed opinions on the subject would state them, and give reasons for the conduct which they intended to pursue (cheers from the protectionists). He put it to honourable gentlemen whether they would not best consult the interest of the parties they represented in that house, by at once assenting to the settlement of this question (hear, hear); the settlement of which, it was admitted on all hands, could not be long postponed (hear, hear, and no). He put it to them to agree to accept a measure which was best adapted to promote the social, commercial, and political relations of the country, and calculated to promote the permanent well-being and best interests of all classes of the community (loud cheers).

Mr. MUNTZ entered into an explanation of his arguments respecting the zinc and spelter trade, which was at last cut short by the interference of the Speaker.

Mr. LIDDELL said that Sir G. Clerk had made one or two of the boldest assertions in his speech which it had ever been his fortune to hear, even from the Treasury benches. If there had been no change in the policy of Government, why was Lord J. Russell on the Opposition and not on the Ministerial benches? and why, from a sensitive sense of honour, had Lord Lincoln gone before his constituents to run the risk of being rejected by them? Sir G. Clerk had then told the opponents of the present measure that they ought to look out for some arguments against it. They had not occasion to look far; for they had only to turn to Sir George's own past speeches against the Corn Laws to find plenty of arguments against it. Passing without for ther comment from Sir G. Clerk's speech, which he considered as a mere rechanfive of Sir R. Peel's, he proceeded to discuss that of Sir R. Peel himself, and controverted the statements of Sir R. Peel with respect to the silk trade, and to show that he had not ventured to withdraw protection altogether from it, although he proposed to withdraw it entirely from the corn trade. He next reviewed Sir Roberts observations on the timber trade, denounced the proposed reductions on the timber trade, denounced the proposed reductions on the timber duties as most injurious to the shipping interest, and then stated at considerable length the claim of the shipowners to protection. He passed from that topic to a consideration of the effects which the policy of the Government would produce upon our colonial trade, argaing that the great exertions made to foster a trade in corn le tween this country and our colonies in Ganada and in South Australia were now completely thrown away. He approved the proposed change in the law of settlement as a great boon to the agricultural interest, and an act of justice to the labouring artisan; but concluded by claiming for the shipowner and the agriculturist the protection which the had long enjoyed, and by declaring that so long as he had a seat in the House of Commons, he would endeavour to maintain that protection, and would oppose all such

hazardous experiments as the present.

Mr. IIU'I', who was heard very imperfectly at the commencement of his speech, in consequence of a great number of members leaving the house, was understood to say that he remembered with particular satisfaction having had to prosent a petition from a number of shipowners, in which they advanced opinions counter to those stated in the petition which his honourable friend had presented, and approving of the policy which had been enunciated by the right honour able baronet at the head of the Government. He begged the house to notice the way in which his hon, friend prop to place the British shipowners on an equal footing with the Prussian shipowner. His hop, friend said that we were to maintain the shipping interest by making the materials for ship-building dear. The consequence of our protection of British colonial timber had been that the colonial selected the worst species of timber, which was known as American timber, to soud to England, which was known as American timber, to soud to England, while they sent their best timber to the United States. We were only able, therefore, to good timber from the Baltic. He trusted that the house would take a more liberal view of this question, and that they would cordially estimate the views of the right hon gradier man for diminishing the duty on good ship-hadding timber upon the general applied by might be permitted to say the light por wint to enter into any discussion say the light to provide any of the Hebrit honourishes are the light of the light in the might be permitted to say the light portion of the Hebrit honourishes are the light. gendeman was deserving of censure, they would do right to adopt the recommendation of the honourable member for Finsbury, and bring the question before the honse in the shape of a motion of want of confidence. He (Mr. Hutt) vertainly should not support them in that motion; but i would be a far more regular proceeding than to introduce personal grievances and party animosities into the discussion of a great commercial question. He confessed he could not understand the conduct of henourable gentlemen opposite. They served to the Canada Corn Bill, they assented to the tariff of 1812, yet when the larger measure of 1845 was brought forward, which was a legitimate consequence of the variff of 1812, they talked of their own virtue and of the treachery of the right honourable baronet. For his (Mr. Hutt's) own part, he thought that the right how baronet had greater reason to complain of them. It had been maintained that we should be obliged to pay gold for the additional grain which we should import from foreign countries when this measure had passed. Now, he asserted on the other hand, that foreigners would not require that we should give them gold for their corn. But even if they did, we snight still carry on a trade with them advantageously. The only trade that we carried on with China for years was a trade of this description. We took our dollars to Canton and exchanged them for tens and silks. As to the fear of taking bullion away from this country, his firm belief was that we had only to repeal the Corn Laws, and the operation of distributing the precious metals over the world would become as regular as the trade in any other commodity. Hongentlemen opposite prided themselves on being Conservatives. Now they might depend on it nothing was so dangerous and revolutionary as grievances that came home to the bosoms of all men of intelligence. The measure of the Government was, in the best meaning of the word, a Conservative measure; and if they meant to vindicate their character for Conservatism, honourable gentlemen opposite would gladly support it (hear, hear)

Captain FITZHARRIS repeated the trite invectives of his party against Sir R. Peel's inconsistency on the subject of the Corn Laws. He condemned the present proposition of the Government, and regretted that we were about to lose our place among the nations of Europe, in order to become a great shop for the benefit of the whole world.

Mr. M. MILNES was not inclined to take the harsh view

of Sir R. Peel's conduct which had been taken by many of his friends, when he recollected how many great men had randified their opinions upon the subject (Mr. D'Israeli and Mr. Colquioun for instance) of the Corn Laws. Looking, however, at the past commercial measures of Sir R. Peel and his Government, he could not consider the present project as a legitimate deduction from them. It was not, therefore, from any feeling of confidence either in Sir R. Peel or his government that he gave his support to it, but because he felt that it was the only course which he could pursue consistently with the opinions which he had formerly held, and which he still continued to hold on the subject of the Corn Laws. The question then before the house was, not whether it would be satisfied with a modified protection, but whether it would adhere to the principle of protection in all the force of the Central Association in Bond street. To that principle he could not assent, and therefore he must vote for the original motion.

On the motion of Lord INGESTRE the debate was again

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.-TUESDAY.

The debate was resumed by Mr. M. J. O'CONNELL, who after briefly noticing some discordances among the opponents of the measure, proand to explain the course he intended to pursue. He was not seliamed to acknowledge that his opinions had undergone a considerable change within the last few months. On several occasions he had supported propositions brought for the last last the last few months. ward by the hon, member for Wolverhampton (Mr. C. Vilhers) with a view to the adoption of a moderate fixed duty, which then seemed to him the best mode of settling the question, at least for many years. He now frankly avowed that in his opinion the best course for the agricultural and all other interests was to enact the speedy and total abolition of duties on the import of food. His individual opinions were of little importance, but as he represented a large constituency he might perhaps be allowed to state his reasons for the change his opinions had undergone. He would first advert to the origin of the recent and prevailing alarm in heland. In the middle of October the disease in the potato crop showed itself extensively, and in the latter end of that month an expectation was general that an opening of the poris and a perfectly free importation of grain would be edered by the Queen in council. It was not, however, until ministers met, and the proposition of the right hon. haronet was unfortunately rejected, that a cry was got up a cry of a most strange character. That cry was that the threatened danger had been exaggerated for party purposes, that the alarm of famino was, in fact, a party alarm, in order and his adherents. Even the high character and moderate ties of the Duke of Lemstordid not secure him and others of the Mansion house committee from the imputation that they were anxious and unscrupnious partisans of the Whige. The effect was most disastrous, for many men who until then were ready to press upon Government the necessity of taking steps, to join in subscriptions for the importation of foreign food, began honostly to doubt as to the reality and extent of the evil. He must make one honourable exception -the Protestant clergy; they never doubted-they never joined in the cry: on the contrary, they gave statements of the disease in their districts which were unbiassed and unexaggerated, acting from that pure motive of charlty and benevolence which had raised their characterso high, even among those who were opposed to them in faith (cheers). What was the state of Ireland now? Descriptions had been given on former nights by the first Minister of the Crown, confirmed by facts adduced by the hon, and learned member for Cork, but the Recorder of Dublin had, nevertheless, infaintained that a system of many constants on the ambient provided. that a system of gross exaggeration on the subject prevailed.
If such were the truth, why had he not, as his duty required, pointed but the exaggerations. He had not brought forward a particle of out the exaggerations. pointed but the exaggerations. He had not brought forward a particle of evidence, he had shrunk from the proof; and he Mr. J. ()'Connell) begged to tell him and the house, that boldness of assertion would not pass for proof (cheers from vol. Concelly): He hoped that the hon, and gallant member who cheered the observation would that bear it in mind then). The truth was, that the danger in Ireland was most imminent. Some had contanged that it was only a temporary emergency, and that a teacher we have the danger in the latter of the memory of the contangency. their the stob of Dext. Again, and it go miscons, and their the part of the property of the control of their
the disease might be permanent. If, however, it were certain that the crop and hurvest next year would be abundant, still it ought to be remembered that there was no seemrity against the return of the disorder (frette, hear). That consideration had much tanded to produce the change that had taken place in his opinions; for he had asked himself this question: - Why are the people of Iroland to be dependent on an article of food so poculiarly liable to disorder and failure? It was poculiarly liable, first, because it was a root, and it was often impossible to know that it was infected; and next, because the disease was a new one, and little, if at all, understood. The conclusion to which he came was that the sooner all laws restricting the importation of the food of the people were repealed, the better for all classes of the community. He wished, therefore, that the proposal of the right hon, baronet had been to do away with the Corn Laws at once; and if he (Mr. M. J. O'Connell) supported the motion as it stood, it was only because it seemed under all circumstances the most effectual and speedy means of putting an end to an evil. Why, he would ask, had potatoes become the almost universal food of the peasantry in Ireland, and the general food of the lower orders in the south of England? The great, he did not say the sole, cause was, the high price of bread corn. Fifty or sixty years ago, the use of potators was by no means so common in Ireland: in some of the more remote districts, oatmost was nearly as much employed for food as in Scotland The high price of bread-corn lad constantly tended to make the great body of his fellow country men dependent for subsistence on this most precarious article He felt it his duty to do all in his power to render a supply of more nutritions food accessible to the working classes The house had, however, been told that the repeal of the Corn Laws would be injurious to the lower orders, especially in Ireland; and it was urged that the present system was mainly valuable to labourers and tenant furners. That they were so valuable might, in his opinion, be answered in a single word; and that word was-Ireland. Had the Corn Laws been of service to the tenant farmers there? Look at the destitution among the working classes of Ireland. The truth was that the Corn Laws were of no value to the labouring It was admitted that improvements must be made in agriculture to meet the change, and he defied any man to show that such improvements would not necessarily give additional employment to the working classes; and the consequence of additional employment would be increased comfort and amelioration of condition. As to the tenant farmers, he begged honourable members to bear in mind that profit did not always depend upon price; that the profits of the tenant farmer might be higher even if the price of corn were lower Comparing the last three years with the three years preceding 1842, it was obvious that a comparatively low price was more The tenant farmers had been in a better condition during the last three years, when corn was cheap, than in the previous three years, when corn was dear. Much, of course, depended upon the prosperity of the consumersthe prosperity of the home market—the manufacturers. The very circumstance of the increase of population in the empire, which was most likely to continue, would of itself afford security against any considerable fall of price. The experience of the past had taught him to distrust the predictions of rain in which the alarmists dealt whenever a change of system was proposed; and the Vice President of the Board of $\mathbf{\hat{r}}$ rade (Sir $\mathbf{\hat{G}}$. $\mathbf{\hat{C}}$ lerk) had alluded to some of those predictions lust night.—One of them respected the introduction of swine when the tariff was introduced in 1812.—It had been calculated by some of the alarmists that no fewer than three millions and a half of swine would be imported, but the number really brought into the country had been ridiculously small. The prophecies of these gentlemen reminded him of the prophecies of a certain lady of old; it was decreed that she should propliesy truly, and not be believed; but of the Corn Law alarmists it seemed to be determined that they should prophesy falsely, but find people foolish enough to trust them (cheers and laughter). The hon, member went on to read an extract from a recent copy of the Dublin Evening Mail respecting the number of sheep sold and remaining unsold at Ballinasloe fair in 1842, 1843, and 1844, showing a regular increase both in number and price. He hoped, there fore, that farmers would be governed by experience, and not allow themselves to become the victim of a panic. The right hon, member for Taunton (Mr. Labouchere), when in office in 1810, had brought in a bill to allow the introduction into Ireland of foreign flour upon the same terms as into England. It was opposed by some members of the present Government; and Sir J. E. Tennant, in a speech crammed with statistics, proved to demonstration, as was thought and said by some, that the millers of Ireland would be ruined if the measure passed. In 1842 the right hon, baronet altered the Corn Laws, and among his alterations was one by which foreign flour might be introduced into Ireland exactly on the terms proposed two years before by the right hou, member for Taunton. It was, of course, supported by the opposition side of the house, though not without some taunts against ministers for silently adopting in office a scheme the resisted in opposition, and what had been the result? result was, that in spite of this bill, which was to rain the millers of Ireland, the importations of flour into this country from Ireland had constantly and most importantly In 1842 had been imported 314.311 cwts.

778,168 , In 1818 In 1814 830,567 In 1845 . 1,422,870

Thus this rulped interest in the course of four years had quadrupled the amount of its importations of flour into England (cheers). How had the arguments on this subject been met? Scraps from newspapers and centes from Han-sard afforded no grounds for debating a great national question. The Recorder for Dublin, quoting Lord Mans-field, had said that the worst of precedents were established from the best motives; but the agricultural interest, if they could learn anything, must have learnt since 1820 that the right hon. haronet at the head of the Government would nover consent to sacrifice national objects to party consistency (obsers). They were, therefore, forewarned of the present crisis; but, nevertheless, they had placed him again at their head, knowing that, under like circumstances, he would act in the like way. They had thus set a had precedent from the best motives, and they must now expect to find it used against themselves. What had happened only last year on the subject of the grant to Maynooth? Hou, members on the other side of the house supported the proposition; because it was introduced by the right hon, before, thought have proposed it had it been brought forward had the mobile and the major for London: After, the proposed had the right hon, become that the procedent again? There was no doubt that when nover consent to sacrifice national objects to party consist-

this debate was over, they would again become the humble servants of the right honourable baronet (yride of the, no. answered by choers). In 1820, nuaquam tutti fides was the exchamation; yet they had restored to him all their conf donce : again nuaquant tuta fittes would be the dry, while again they would submit themselves to his mercy (cheefe and laughter). What would they do without him (bed), Whom could they put in his place (hear, hear)? Lists of new sots of ministers had been circulated, but they only seemed worthy of the satirical pages of the admirable Punch. On this point he might quote to the House a past sage from the posthumous pamphlet of the Rev. Sidney Smith:—"And let me beg of my dear Ultrus not to injugine that they can survive for a single minute without Sir Robert—that they could form an Ultra-Tory Administration. Is there a Chartist in Great Britain who would not, upon the first intimation of such an attempt, order a new suit of clothes, and call upon the milkman and baker for an extended credit? Is there a political reasoner who would not come out of his hole with a new constitution?" After reading the words of so eminent a man, he was unwilling to add anything of his own, since it must appear to that dishidrantage; but he would ask whether there was a hear on the Stock Exchange who would not realise large profits under such a minister, or a stockholder who would not be a sufferer? If he (Mr. M. J. O'Connell) wished to see great changes accomplished, his carnest desire would be that the right honourable buronct should be thwarted, and that his present adversaries should be compelled to form a ministry of their own (laughter and cheers). In his speech a few nights ago, the honourable member for Northampton (Mr. S. O Brien) had had recourse to a fallacy which run through all he said: it was when he talked of protection as valuable to the working classes, He essumed that the existing laws afforded them resi protection; but he (Mr. M. J. O'Connell) supported be present measure because he felt convinced that that, and that only, would afford them real and effectual protection. It would protect them against extravagantly high prices-against searcity of food—against a reduction of wages—against want of employment—against, in short, all the evils incident to the present system. It was very well for agriculturists to talk of their auxiety for the welfure of the lower billark, but true philanthropists were those who by unshackling commerce gave infinitry employment (hear, hear). It was far better that the industry and energy of our own country should walk forth in its own strength, than that they should be supported by legislation in an enfecbled and ricketty existence (cheers) He did not believe that the labouring classes would ever again call for such protection as they had enjoyed under the Corn Laws -not even the stentorian voice of the honourable member for Knaresborough (Mr Ferrand) would be able to raise that cry among them: If they did, it could only be in the same spirit that the graphic wit of a former age described the ignorant crowd as exclaiming, a Give me back our eleven days!" If any man had cloquence to reverse If any man had eloquence to reverse in the nineteenth the folly of the eighteenth century, it must be some such overpowering orator as the individual to whom he had alluded (cheers and laughter). For these reasons he supported Free Trade and free imports, which he believed essentially the same : he believed the cause he advocated just and rightcous, and that formed not the least of the relations which would induce him to give the incasure before the house, not a lukewarm and a gradging, but a zealous and a cordial support (cheers).

Colonel CONOLLY agreed with Mr. Shaw that the failure of the potato crop in Ireland had been greatly exaggorated. Admitting, however, the accuracy of those representations, still the measure before the house would be of little service, inasmuch as for a present calamity it offered nothing but at hest a dilatory relief. He predicted that the greatest misery would follow the adoption of the proposal, and he should,

therefore, give it his opposition.

Lord INGESTRE called upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to explain why he retained his seat for the University of Cambridge, after a change of opinion as complete as that which, in 1829, induced Sir Robert Peel to vacate the representation of the sister university. He condemned the measure before the house as likely to prejudice every interest of the country, and as inconsistent with the former policy of Government, and should therefore offer it his oppo

Mr. TRELAWNY was surprised at the extraordinary contrast between the letter of the noble lord the member for Newark and his recent speech. Why, from reading that letter, he concluded the noble lord would of course support the Government, or that, if he did not, his only reason for opposing the Government would seem to be because he ngreed with it (a laugh). He believed the noble lord to be a most benevolent person-he believed him possessed of considerable ability; and yet his conduct was difficult to reconcile with these qualities. He admitted the frightful state of famine and disease expected to prevail in Ireland. He admitted the necessity of taking measures to diminish these draudful visitations. He went even so far as to agree that the right hon, baronet ought to have opened the ports, even in the autumn, when the danger was far less imminent: and yet now he was coolly going to vote that the consideration of these pressing matters should be put off till this day six months (hear). And why? Because he had some objections to the political morality of a particular individual, whose fault, if I was considerations. if it were one, was to be the cause of the suffering of millions of men (hear, hear). Why, the true course for the noble lord to pursue, and the protectionists with whom he acts, though he does not agree with them, would be to move an anieudment that the operation of the Corn Law be immediately suspended. The honourable member for Shrewsbury buil certainly made a clover speech. He made an observation which the members of the Free Trade party must candidly which the members of the Free Trade party mass cannot by admit to be just; viz., that while the League had, been for years professing to educate the masses, it had really been educating itself (hear, hear). Yes, but it was adjucated at last. The honourable member had said that they had our stantly been shifting their grounds. True; but so had the protectionists. Feeling that it would not do may longer to fight under so exclusive a banner us that of profession to sociculture, they had chosen a new one in probability had agriculture, they had chosen a new one in protection to agriculture, they had chosen a new one in protection tive industry. But how could native industry be protected in the case of articles already competing, apite of heavy due time with foreign protected. in the case of sixticles already competing, spite of heavy duries, with foreign goods in foreign markels?... A bothly, our exports would be increasery if protectionists would; he sole is select. Were they prepared for that? And, if all worse protected, what good was protected?? I've fact is, the housewaste members are unfortable, as he would do as a complexible minister. Maring of the obligation of a complexibility of the selection of the complexibility of the complexibility of the selection of the complexibility of the selection of the complexibility of

if it was certain agriculture would be injured. Now he demurred to that. Supposing the agriculturists lost something by the removal of duty on corn, would they gain nothing by reductions on other articles? The right bon, baronet's proposal was not a corn measure, but it new tariff. Of what one was the duty on make to farmers? How did they benefit from the duty on brainly—on manufactured goods—on sugar? Again, different classes of farmers were protected, to each other's injury. Of what use was the wheat daty to the grass farmer? Of what use was protect tion on cheese, butter, and callle to the wheat farmer? (Mr. Trelawny) wild that honourable members on the protectionist side of the house were a little unfair towards the Government on the subject of their change of opinion. They wholly forgot the tremen lous responsibility any body of men must be under who assumed to feed twonty four millions of men (hear, herr). It was easy for those who were out of office, who had notic of its cares and auxicties, who were not responsible for the preservation of internal peace, to talk loudly about principle, and the obligation of a rigid adherence to it (hear, hear). Then, besides being a little unfair, they were rather more illogical, because, ufter 84, what did the quotings from Hansard and taunts of incoverse one when? What was their real force and virtue? Why, simply this, that where a man had taken upon opinion, he was bound to be fanatical in maintaining it although he conscientionaly behaved it to be unsound. How members seemed to be indiguant that Government no longer assisted them to finding plan at he defences of an untenable position; or was it that they could not forgive the implied reproach to them cives of the earlier conformity of others to rational opinions (hear, hear)? If Government were supposed to have been guilty of deliberate falseland in respect to the time of their accorded change of opinion, why did not some protectionist manifully say what he really meant? Was it like the characteristic courage of the English gentleman to rest content with insignations? If, when a man at the head of a party deliberately announced an opinion and subse prently changed it, he was bound, according to what hon. members seemed to imply, to affect adherence to it for party purposes, then the moral of all this was, that he who comin need he error should end in dissimulations the very thing with which protectionists repronched Government. For he part, he thought there had been very adequate tause for the recent changes of opinion. In the abstract, the question had loss the resettled, and a very nerrow induction was necessary, by way of experimental confirma tion, when the ab trust conclusion was in accordance with the pre iteal (hear, hear). Besides, it government were not convinced by any other evidence of the soundness of Free Trade principles when applied in practice, could they have histor grounds of conviction than were to be found in the speeches of Protectioni is during the last few months. speeces which the Times had been malicious enough to reported full (a laugh)? Could any some man have remained Probe to if the who had carefully wieled through the heavy dut of the specifies of the hands dukes? Why, hel they not been by fortune raised for above want, their speeches could not but have nessed the opinion that they were retained by the Leasue! Indeed, so effectually had the dukes argued in favour of Free Trade in their smeeringly ironical defence of protection, that when he saw them, inflated and floating about in the public gaze, over the agricultural districts, he concluded us a matter of course that they were the pilot balloons which were testing the current of popular opinion in favour of Fice Trade (a laugu). But seriously, some friend to mistocrats should warn those who stand highest ichoig the pegis of the ultimate effects of their recent con duct. There was more involved in this question than a mere duty on a commodity. The successful in difference of a one sided law by a one sided Parliament would involve a great constitutional question, and new acitation would commoney, even amongst the middle classes, for further measures of organic change. Af the existing form of Government could be made permanently subservient to the purposes of a class, a practical demon tration would be aborded of an inherent vice by the constitution itself. And no great grievance in the country would long want its Lengue or Repeal Association; and, in fact, such bodies seemed necessary as indications of symptoms not otherwise easily detected in time (hear, hear). It was a pay to see an ancient aristocracy patting its power, its metaliness, its very existence on an issue of If it were to fall, one would have wished to give it credit for a Roman wish, to fall with deceney. Could the country afford to place all its intellect on the shelf "-- at the present time e-pecially. Were they so sure of peace abroad? Were their Oregon is potiations in so satisfactory a state? Was there no war in India? Could the country afford to toust itself to "all the talents" of all the dukes (hear, hear); If Government had all along deceived their party, how very funce at neist the party have been to be so easily and so long taken in" or was it that they were compelled to put up with the urch deceiver, because they had no men lit to form a cabinet? Was it that they could not purdon the head of the Government that proach to their incapacity? They might depend upon it, even now, that some thing more was required to make a statesman besides successful vituperation (hear). He could have wished the change in the Corn Laws had been immediate and final He thought it a pity that for three long years the duty should remain a monument reminding the people of the melancholy infituation of an agricultural Parliament. His constituents held the same opinion, as they indicated in a petition presented a few days since. Much had been said of anconstitronal practices. Was it constitutional for a body of men to come into this house as the avowed delegates of one interest? A micultural gentlemen always talked (my, and noted -witness their resignations) as if representation were particular, not general as if they were returned to carry out a great agricultural j do, instead of benefiting the nation as a whole, fell (no that error particularly when they accused Govern ment of betraving the landed interest. For his part, he could only as that if the Government ever pledged itself to support, exclusively, the landed interest, such a pledge was void for its immorality (hear, hear). But it was said the Lengue was uncon strational. He darly denied it, though he was not a member. In what respect dal it differ from other associations for bringing about elections, and which Conservatives in most counties belong d to, except in superior woulth, strength, number; and even, perhaps, intellect? and to what cause were its power and we did due but to the existence of a griceance of such magnitude as to produce such results? The League did not buy votes. It merely indicated in what way the unrepresented intelligence of the country (unrepresented, because county members scenned avowedly delogates of a class) suight constitutionally influence opinion atfuture elections. Was it immored to buy small estates in order to obtain a stake in the country? Immored to indicate how

the desire might be gratified? Besides, did it not raise the price of land and benefit landlords? A learned judge was reported to have pronounced the desire legitimate and commendable (hear). He (Mr. Trelawny) believed he was correct in stating that some of the leaders of the Protectionists had talked of fighting the League with its own weapons. A noble individual was reported to have talked of opposing the Government factionsly if necessary. Let peers take counsel, before they set such examples. It were wise in those, whose hereditary duty it was jealously to watch over the constitution, to beware how they impotently bragged of their power to prostitute its functions to purposes which could not but seem suspicious to the uninstructed thear, hear). He knew it was denied that rents were the objects of the Corn Law. But if it were said that food for the people was its real end, then how could men be induced to believe that the best method of keeping corn in was torpass a law to keep it out? This kind of argument would no longer do in towns, however it might go down with farmers' clubs and labourers' friend societies. In conclusion, he should only add that he should support the Government, only protesting against the incompleteness and want of finality of the measure they proposed (cheera).

Mr. PACKE was sorry to differ from an administration to which, during the time he had been in Parliament, he had given his warmest support; but he felt bound to vote against a measure which he believed would in its consequences be ruinous to the country. Hedid not mean to impute to the right bon, bart, any impure motives in bringing it forward. He gave the right hon baroneteredit for the sincerest conviction of its necessity. It was said that the policy of Government was based on public opinion; but he believed there had never yet been a Parlimment in England that was not in favour of protection. He recollected that upon one occasion, during the tenure of the power by the late administration, the honourable member for Montrose made a proposal more revolutionary in its tendencies than that of the noble lord the member for Loudon, and his adherents. The honourable member then requested the Conservative members to walk out of the house, and allow him and his friends to settle the question with the noble lord. If honourable members appo ite would now act on that suggestion, and walking out of the house, leave them (the Protectionists) to settle the question with the right honourable baronet, he believed the conclusion to which they would arrive would be much more satisfactory to the public (hear, hear, hear, and a laugh). The honourable member concluded by expressing his general disapprobation of the Government measure.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER: I fear, sir, I must begin the few observations I have to address to the house with that opening sentence which has marked other speeches already- that at this period of the debate, and after the discussion this subject has undergone, I cannot expect to offer anything to this house worthy of claiming much attention; and I can only assure the house, that under these circumstances I shall confine my observations within the narrowest limits which are possibly consistent with the discharge of the dury I have undertaken. As to the question itself, it might almost be unnecessary to enter into any argument upon it, after the ability with which the case has been met by my right honourable friend at the head of the Government, and by the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, in the course of this debate, who have left no part of the subject untouched, and no argument unrefuted (oh, oh, and cheers), and who established, beyond the power of contradiction (oh, oh), that the progress which had been made in the removal of restriction and the gradual relaxation in protective duties had in every instance been attended with benefit, and had in every instance produced permanent results on the comforts and happiness of the country. Before, however, I enter upon the question, I think it my duty to respond to a call which has been unde upon me in the course of this debate by many honourable gentlemen (hear, hear), and distinctly to state the ground upon which I have acted in those transactions which have led to the situation in which we at present are placed (hear, hear). Some hoa, gentlemen have supposed I differed from my colleagues on the question before the house-that I am prepared to support measures in the justice and propriety of which I do not coneur; and it has been stated that upon the authority of conduct of mine, which has been alleged to have come to the information of some honourable members by means beyond the ordinary channels of information, they have grounded this opinion. I believe, however, that this opinion on their parts will, after the statement I am about to make, be pronounced as utterly delusive as the arguments they have adduced the measure itself (oh, oh, and cheers). coursel have taken on this question I will simply and plainly state. In October a general apprehension prevailed as to the disease in the potato crop, which then generally extended through many parts of the country, and, therefore, on the 1st of November the Government assembled for the purpose of considering what measures it was proper to adopt under the circumstances in which the country was then placed. The house has already been informed by my right honourable friend that on that occasion he proposed to his colleagues two separate measures-either to open the ports by order in council, or to assemble Parliament immediately for the purpose of effecting that object by legislative enactment. Now, certainly, on both of these questions I differed from my right honourable friend. In the first place, I think in all cases that direct interposition of the Government, by an act of its own, with the execution of the law, is a hazardous and dangerous experiment, and one only to be justified by, immediate, and urgent, and evident necessity. I could not then conceive that the state of Ireland required that immediate urgency of action, but might well remain to be dealt with by legislative enactment at a future period. I did express the opinion, therefore, that it was expedient by order in council to open the ports for the admission of foreign corn. In considering this question there was one point impossible to be put out of consideration—that we were not called only to decide on the suspension of the Corn Law, or on the occasion which randered that stop necessary, but it was also obvious that in dealing with that proposition

we look to the ultimate consequences of the course no were about to pursue; and I could not conceal from myself that the step we were taking must be viewed in connection with the abolition or abrogation of the Com-Law, which must be the necessary consequence of the suspension of the hav (cheers). I know it has been stated by some honourable gentlemen that the suspension of the law did not entail any consequence whatever ; but it was impossible for me to view the subject in that light, I know that in an antecedent period of history the ports have been opened, but the effects of this measure were always represented as injurious to trade and disal. vantageous in itself, although such a course might be justified by the necessity of the case; and I always understood the benefit of the sliding scale, as aryued h 1838, was this, that by self-operation it was adapted alike to periods of plenty and periods of searcity, valiout the necessity for this Continental interference of the Government, which, on former occasions, had been found so inconvenient. And also I could not put out of my consideration, that on all the occasions we had to argue the benefits of the sliding scale in opposition to those of a fixed duty, the great point brought against the application of the fixed duty was, that when penel of difficulty and trial arose, it would be necessary to depart from the usual operation of the law, and to suspend it for the purpose of admitting foreign corn (hear, hear). The consideration therefore, that the consequence of a suspension of the law must necessarily be the ubrevation of the law, was to my mind an additional argumen, and a strong one, why that object should not be affected by an Order in Council. I did not consider that a would be fair, on a question of great public interest, involving great public consequences, and exciting strong feelings among a great body of the community, to prijudge, by an act of the Government, the decision of Parliament as to what might be the ultimate measure necessary to be adopted (hear, hear). For these reasons, therefore, I gave my opinion against the admission of foreign corn into this country through the medium of an Order in Council (hear, hear, hear). But my right hon, friend at the head of the Government property an alternative (hear, hear). He suggested the immediate assembling of Parliament for the purpose of effecting the object of opening the ports by means of a legislative enactment. To that proposition I also offered an object tion, but that objection rested on different grounds altogether. The proposition was submitted on the 1st of November. At that period no doubt the members of the Cabinet had, from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and other persons in high station, accounts of with spread and serious apprehensions as to an extensive failure in the potato crop of Ireland (hear). On the other hand, however, we had opinions resting on what was considered highly respectable authority, that its failure of the crop had not reached to that extent which was calculated to give any colour of truth to the about which appeared to be entertained in certain quarter (hear, hear). At that period, moreover, the poteto erein Ireland had not been generally dug, and there were as yet no means for ascertaining by actual experiment whether the apprehonsions by which the public mind was disquieted were likely to lead to the extensive results which some persons were inclined to believe would be realised. I felt, therefore, that with this defective information as to the extent of the calamity which appeared to be coming upon Ireland, it was highly probable that there might be provident a doubt on the minds of a very large class, both inside and outside of this house with respect to the actual measure and extent of the disaster as might render it exceedingly unlikely that that general concurrence in the proposed measure of acting on the Corn Laws by the means of a legislatic enactment would be obtained which was so eschtially necessary to the securing successful results. I believed that it was highly desirable that time should be afforded for further investigation with a view to asectain whether there were sufficient grounds for the apprehensions by which the country was beginning to be so seriously alarmed. I was anxious that it should be distinctly ascertained whether it was likely that these apprehensions would be realised, for I felt that in the event of our being able to show that the extent of the misfortune which impended over Ireland was onything like what we have now ascertained it to be, by authority which I regret to say admits not of a shadow of doubt I say I felt that, in the event of our being able to lay the true state of uffairs before the public, there could be little doubt of our being able to secure a more general concurrence in support of some measure for the immediato suspension and subsequent alteration of the Corn Laws than we could hope to command if we proceeded at once to the discussion of the subject while we were provided with information which, though unquestionably of an alarming character, was, notwithstanding, in many respects defective and incomplete. For these reasons I gave my voice against the assembling of Parliament. I may have been wrong, I may have committed an error of judgment, but I have no hositation in assert ing that I acted throughout in conformity with the dictates of my conscionce. It appeared to me that the danger with which we had to deal was one the results of which could not be experienced at all events until an early period of the spring, and I confess
I folt great anxiety that as large a number of honourable gentlemen as possible should be induced to concur in acknowledging the necessity of the case; for I fult that it was in the last degree desirable that the measures which we might deem to be necessary for the preservation of the country should be senctioned by very large proportion, indeed, of the members house, and supported unequivocally by public opinion, out of doors. I, therefore, preferred delay in the members of our operations, that when they managed they might be carried rith a wait they members are delay in the country which would put in cident.

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I may be told that, in opposing the Order opposition. in Council, I displayed a want of that boldness which a minister ought to exhibit in dealing with great public emergencies (hear, hear). I may be told that I was wanting in that segacity which ought to have enabled me to comprehend the actual extent of the calamity so long before it had approached (loud cries of hear, hear, from the Protectionist members). I may be told, also, that I was yet more deficient in a proper knowledge of the friends who sit at the same side of the house with me, for that I should have known that they would at once and unnurmuringly have consented to the suspension of the Corn Laws if the question had been only put to them. I may, I say, have been in error in all these respects, but the error was only one of judgment. To my own conscience I stand acquitted of any higher offence; and I hesitate not to assert, that after the lapse of the period which has since intervened, and after calmly reflecting on the course I have taken, and the advice I have given, I cannot, on review of the entire transaction, bring myself to believe, that if the case were again to be presented to me in the shape in which it then stood, I would be justified in pursuing a different course of proceeding from that which I then adopted. After these differences in the Government, it was agreed to postpone the further consideration of the subject for a limited period, in order that more extensive information might be obtained. That further period did most unquestionably bring with it the strongest possible arguments to induce me to a change of opinion (hear). Many days did not classe before we were in possession of the report of the commissioners who had been sent to Ireland, detailing with accuracy their views of what was the extent of the potato disease, and what the amount of the crop on which it was fairly possible to calculate with reference to next year. The statement contained in the report of these commissioners was confirmed by actual experience when the crop came to be dug out, and it was then put beyond all question that to such an extent had the potato plague spread; that in some districts of the country one-half of the erop was lost, in others one-third, in others three-fourths (hear, hear). was this the entire extent of the calamity; for there was a general feeling, and one which I believe was completely warranted by the fact, that in some portions of Ireland the preservation of any part of the crop, however minute, depended altogether upon the wetness or fairness of the weather. When these facts were known, the case was relieved from its difficulties (hear, hear), and although I was well aware, and felt most deeply that the adoption by us of the course which my right hon, friend has now proposed to you would be 'attended by the dissolution of party connections, and that it would cause our separation from many of those with whom for many years it has been my pride to act, and whom, I trust, I may be still permitted to call my hon. friends-I say, although I felt that this must be the inevitable consequence of the measure, I also felt that there were imposed upon me, by my position as minister, other and higher duties which went beyond the feelings of party attachment; and being convinced that the alteration of the Corn Laws had now become a question of absolute necessity. I was prepared to give my opinion that under all the circumstances of the case those laws ought to undergo'a change (hear, hear). At the same time, however, I felt that the change ought to be effected by others than myself and my friends in office; and extending this opinion, I most cordially concurred in the resignation of our charge into the hands of persons who, from their longer maintenance of the opinions which we then entertained, were better fitted to discharge the duty, and had perhaps a better chance of carrying the contemplated measure into operation (hear, hear). And here permit me to assure the house, with the most unaffected sincerity, that when I tendered her Majesty my resignation of office, I had not the remotest conception that I should have ever to deal with this question in any other capacity than as a private member of Parliament (hear). If any hon, gentleman should be inclined to question this assertion, I am prepared to sustain it by testimony which cannot be resisted. I am prepared to prove, by evidence of the most incontestible character, that when I resigned my office, the resumption of it at a subsequent period never entered into my contemplation (loud cries of hear, hear). But to resume-When it was discovered that the noble lord, the member for London, found it impossible to construct a cabinet with satisfaction to himself, the question again rose whether I should again decline to accept office in a Government of which my right honourable friend was to be the head. Sir, I know of no principle on which it would be possible to justify a refusal (hear). I had in the first instance doubted as to the exact time at which the great move should be taken, and as to the particular measure which ought to be proposed, but I had subsequently seen and learned quite sufficient to convince me of the necessity of an alteration in the Corn Laws, and I was perfectly prepared, as a private member, to give the sauction of my vote and opinion to that course of policy which, under all the circumstances of the ense, I considered to be most condurive to the interests of the country (hear, hear) Therefore, being fully prepared to maintain in my private capacity the opinions which I now advocate as a minister. I felt that there was nothing against honour, dignity, or duty in my resumption of the situation which 1 at present occupy (hear). That is, in a few words, a brief history of the transaction as far as I am concernoil (hear, hear, hear). I trust this explanation will satisfy my friend the honourable member for Newark; and that he will understand that, although I may have had doubte at first, as to the particular period at which, and the particular mode in which her Majesty's ministers ought to have introduced the measures which they considered sidered necessary. I have come at length to the deliberate complished that I have been department to be deliberate complished that the deliberate which is a length to the deliberate which is a length to the complete of the

pursuing. A noble lord, a friend of mine, who has spoken in the course of this debate, charges me with acting in a manner inconsistent with my duty in not tendering a resignation of my seat in Parliament to my constituents, and he calls on me to make some explanation of the fact that I still remain here as representative of the University of Cambridge (loud cries of hear, hear, hear). Now, sir, I think it right to state that the views I take of the duties of a representative differ very materially from those which have been expressed by the noble lord. I do not pretend to say that if honourable gentlemen, at the period of their election, think fit to plodge themselves under all conceivable circumstances to maintain particular laws, and to take stated particular views of certain specified questions, they may not take upon themselves an obligation which they are bound in all honour to redeem, and which renders it imperative on them to resign their seats if they see grounds for changing their opinions: but I do not consider that I am one of those who are in this position (hear, hear). In offering myself as a representative to my constituency, I may have stated to them in general terms my views on particular questions, if they happened to come under discussion; but I have reserved to mysolf, in the most unequivocal manner, the fullest right to adopt, in reference to every question that may be deliberated upon in this house, that course -whatever it may be-that course which in my conscience I believe to be most conducive to the general interests of the community; and however strongly an opposite course may be sauctioned by some great examples, however comformable it may be to the views of certain honourable gentlemen who pledged themselves at the hustings-I cannot admit that it is the duty of a representative who happens to act in opposition to the feelings of his constituents on a particular question, to make that difference the ground for tendering his resignation, or even for acquiescing in a demand that he should do so (hear, hear, hear), I gave no pledges whatever with respect to the Corn Laws on any of the occasions to which I addressed myself to my constituents (hear, hear). I never expressed any indications of that permanent and unqualified adherence to existing laws which some honourable members around me appear to have expressed when they were elected; and upon these grounds I think that I would be abdicating the character of a representative altogether-that I would be depriving myself of the capacity of voting for the community in questions affecting their interests, if I were, by my professions or my example, to give countenance to the idea that it is the duty of a representative, in differing from his constituents on any point, to forsake the trust that has been reposed in him. Thus much, sir, I have said in matters personal to myself. I have to apologise to the house for having trespassed at such length on their time and attention. It was painful to me to have occupied so much of their attention by matters having reference to myself; but I felt that I was called on to say something in explanation, and having done so, I now proceed to address myself to the consideration of the question more immediately before us. The question we have before us is one which, in my opinion, can be comprised within a very narrow compass. It is simply whether you will continue to progress in the course which for some years past you have pursued in the relaxation of protective duties, or whether you will be content, not merely to remain stationary where you are, but to retrograde on the path which, after full and mature consideration, you have adopted. I am well aware, that in the course of this debate many honourable members who have supported the Government up to this period in their relaxing policy, maintain that we have now arrived at that particular point in the withdrawal of protection from native industry at which it is essential that we should come to a stop (hear, hear, from Protectionist members). They contend that we ought not to advance beyond it, because we cannot do so without injuring interests which we ought to study to protect, and because they think that in remaining where we are, we are doing what they believe is just to all parties (hear, hear). But when I consider the arguments of some of my friends at this side of the house-when I hear one honourable member declare that as regards the Corn Laws he thinks they ought to be suspended at once, and when I find that that sentiment is cheered in such a manner as would seem to show that it met with very considerable approval—and when I hear other gentlemen, at my own side, admitting that the Corn Laws may be modified after a certain fashion—when I see that some honourable members come a step further, and some not quite so far on this question; when, I say, I see and hear all this, it appears to me that the great principle for which we are contending is conceded upon all hands; and I cortainly think that those gentlemen will find it difficult to account for the reasons why, with such professions and admissions on their lips, they resist, as they are resisting, the motion now before the house (hear). I could have understood them if they proposed some modification of the Corn Laws, or if they were prepared with some amendment after getting into committee (hear, That would have been a natural and rational That would have been the proper time and mode to consider the measure. But they have adopted the course which procludes all consideration whatsoever of that kind. Whatever they may be in words, in actions they are against us. They refuse as much to suspend as to abrogate the Corn Laws (hear, hear, and cheers). They have taken no steps from which any results can dome, but to remain just as we are, without a remedy for the existing ovil, which they admit to be great—without a remedy for a possible future evil which may be yet more dreadful, and without the meens of making that progress in the course we have undertaken which is equalist for the welfare of this course, which the

Government take in support of this question, we have appealed, and I think in the opinion of the country mecossfully appealed, to the results of experience, as attesting the progress which we have made in opulance and power since the protective system has been relaxed (hear, hear). That progress has been attempted to be denied by certain honourable members who are adverse to Proc Trade. They have referred to figures and calculations in support of their position, that no beneficial consequences have resulted from the relaxation of the protective system; but I think I am warranted in saying, that these figures and calculations have proved an utter failure (cries of no, no, from the Ministerial benches). Well, I think they have. I think they have been most triumphantly overthrown by my friend the right hon, baronet the Vice-President of the Board of Trade (continued cries of no, no, from the Ministerial bonches). The statement made by the right hon, baronet at the head of the Government was this, that it could not be shown that in the case of any one of all the articles affected by the recent reductions of the protective system, anything had resulted from the relaxation but increased activity to the trade and improvement to the industry of the country. This was the proposition that was advanced, and in refutation of it one honourable gentleman, the member for Birmingham, pointed to the article of spelter or zine; but his friend the right hon. baronet, the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, met the assertions of the member for Birmingham, and settled spelter as easily as everything elso (hear, and a laugh), for he showed that though the home manufacture of the article might have been injured, the relaxation of the protective duty led to the introduction of a foreign article, the manufacture of which opened a new source of industry, and afforded increased employ to a vast number of the poorer classes. A friend of mine yesterday evening thought it necessary to complain of the hardship which those Free Trade measures would inflict upon the shipping interests. He told us that whatever might be its effect upon other interests, the welfare of the shipping interest was inseparably identified with the preservation of the protective system; and he did not seem willing to admit that the shipowners had derived any benefit whatever from the relaxations that had already taken place, or that they were likely to realise any from the reductions now in contemplation. I must say, sir, as my right honourable friend at the head of the Government has already said, that this opposition to freedom of commercial intercourse on the part of the shipping interests is one which greatly excites my surprise Chear, hear). I should have thought that a system of commercial intercourse, which leads to a great increase of exports and imports, would have suggested itself to the mind of every thinking man as one calculated to increase the means by which these imports and exports were carried on, and that it would be as clear as simlight, that in proportion as commercial intercourse extends, in the same proportion would the shipping interest be benefited-and that this benefit would also be realised, that in addition to abundant commerce in times of peace, we would have ample means of defensive or offensive hostility in the event of war. This I ever regarded as the natural result of free commercial intercourse, as far as the shipping interests were concerned; and I confess that noone could be more surprised than T at finding that opposition on the part of those interests was offered to the propositions of the Government. But I deny that the shipping interests have been injuriously affected by the relaxation of protective duties. I can prove the contrary to be the fact. In the year 1842, the tonnage of British vessels engaged in the foreign trade amounted to 2,600,000 tons. In the year 1845 it was 3,699,000 tons, showing an increase consequent on the relaxation of protection duties of one million of tons in that brief period (hear, The hon, member for Durham insists that injurious effects are likely to result to the timber trade from the proposed measures; and he maintained that injury had resulted from the relaxations which had already taken place. But let us come to figures. Let us consider what has been the quantity of shipping engaged in the Baltic trade within the last few years. In the year 1842 the number of ships engaged in that trade was 3519; their tonnage was 613,809; in the year 1844 the number was 4424, and their tonnage 818,440 tons; showing an increase of 1000 ships, and 200,000 tons (bear, hear). My honourable increase of British shipping in the Baltic bears no proportion to the foreign ships that are engaged in the same trade, and therefore that the removal of the duty would throw into the hands of foreigners a greater extent of trade than we derived ourselves from the same source. I admit that that is the necessary consequence of the navigation law itself, which admits the foreigner to introduce, if he pleases, the produce of his country in the shipping of his own nation (hear). There is another reason for the increase of foreign carriage in the Baltic, which the measure before the house is calculated to remove; and if my honourable friend deems it expedient to give encouragement to British shipping in the Baltle, there is no means by which he can do it more effectually than by passing the measure now before the house (hear, hear). Sir, if the honourable gentleman had looked to the proportion of shipping employed in the conveyance of corn under the system of the Corn Laws, when the demand being sudden, it must come immediately from the country where the produce is, in the ships that are to be had on the spot, and cannot wait to be introduced in ships which come from this country, bringing out a cargo to bring back a cargo in return, if he looked to the disproportion in that particular branch of trade between the British and foreign shipping employed, he would see that he could not do anything to give a botter chance of employment to British shippowners, than by passing the measure now before the house (cheers from the Oppo-sition). It appears by the returns of corn-lader ships that pass through the sound, that there are 1188 foreign

ships, and only 501 British-a disproportion exceeding that which prevailed in the ordinary course of trade, and only to be accounted for by the circumstance I have stated (hear, hear). Then, if my honourable friend wishes to restore the employment of British shipping, let him join with us in doing that which, by giving more freedom in commercial intercourse with those particular ports, and in an article which will not be suddenly sent for, but in a regular article of trade-let him join us in finding that measure, and his object will be accomplished (cheers from the Opposition). But then, said my honourable friend, this diminution of duty on Baltic timber will necessarily affect the shipping interests as regards your Canadian provinces, and tend to injure those prosinces which you ought to protect. I will tell my hon. friend that in making that statement he falls into an error, which is not uncommon with those who argue strongly in favour of protection, in respect to commervial measures (hear). They think that an advantage on bue side is sure to produce a disadvantage on the other, whereas the converse of the proposition is the fact; for by increasing the import of an article into a country, instead of inflicting an injury upon the home produce, you confer a benefit on it. I have already referred to the state of our trade in the Baltic, in 1842 and 1844, and now let us see what is the state of the shipping trade, in those years, in the British North American bolonies. In 1842, 1550 ships were cleared out; in 1844, 2844 ships were cleared out, with a tonnage, in the former case of 540,000, and in the latter of 789,000 (hear, hear). Can there be any more conclusive effdence than this afforded, that the reduction of the duty on foreign commodities did not injuriously affect colonial trade, or the interests of the British shipowners connected with it (loud cheers front the Oppo-Sition). This does not rest on my statement alone. There was a committee sitting last year, in which this very question incidentally arose, and Mr. Chapman, a gentleman of extensive interest in the shipping trade, states the benefit the shipping interest derived from the operation of the tariff, of which, however, the success is doubted by some persons. Mr. Chapman was asked: " Is it not the fact that it is only since freights were not remunerative that the attention of shipowners has been directed to obtaining relief front any quarter they could?' He replied, "That of course naturally follows from the Fints of such dreadful depression as they have undergone, that they feel they have had nothing done for them; it is not only the light dues, but other burdens. The fact is, that until Sir R. Peel, by the new tariff, allowed us to get foreign provisions out of bond, the competition we had to maintain against foreigners was most unfair; that made a difference of 30 per cent, upon those provisions at once. Previously it was like a peshilty hanging over us, and a premium to the foreigner. Hat that relaxation of the law, by which vessels going abroad can get provision out of bond, been very treful to the shipping? Of the greatest possible consequence; it makes just the difference, I believe, between a loss or no loss upon sailing the ship, as they are obliged to do, because they are compelled to have apprentices, and the apprentices must be maintained; and the real fact to, that they often send ships to sea only to save themzelves being out of pocket." My honourable friend's statement as to the injury effected by the late Change, or likely to be effected by future changes, rests only on the opinions of individuals who embarked in the trade when ships were more costly than they are at present, and who now find it difficult to get that interest for their capital that they originally had every right to expact. I admit there are shipowners on whom the repeal of the duty on Baltic timber will have an inju-The ships built before the reduction of duty were built at an enormously enhanced expense, In consequence of the charge which that duty imposed on them. It is quite clear that the men who have built ships of this expensive article find it difficult to compete with those who build their ships of the cheaper article ; but if I may comparegreat things to small, they stand precisely in the same position as the lunkeepert on the north road, who have suffered from the formation of railways (laughter). Another hon, member said, see the injury you are about to commit on Canada, to whom you gave the advantage of being on the same footing as the mother country. He says, has not Canada a right to complain that you are going to admit foreign corn? Now, sir, I stand up as highly as any man for the importance of preserving the colonial connection, and of doing everything for the colonies which is just and equitable and right, and likely to conduce to their benefit (hear, hear). But I say, sir, if in dealing with a colony you place its produce upon the same footing as you do the produce of your own country, they have no right to complain (cheers from the Opp sition). If the Canadians complain that the advantages possessed by them are diminished, they stand in the same position as the mother country (hear, hear). They must share the meonvenience -if inconvenience there be - and I don't admit that inconvenience will exist -but they will have no right to complain of the course that has been taken (hear, hear). Now, sir, it has been a favourite argument with honourable gentlemen in discussing this question - and it is always a favourite mode of dealing with this subject when arguments cannot be readily adduced—to draw a picture of the extraor-dinary consequences that are likely to result from it. Wonro told, therefore, that if the proposed measure of Free Trade be adopted, you must have Free Trade in everything. You must have no duty upon tea-you must have no duty upon tobacco--you must have no duty upon various other commodities. Now, sir, I beg to state, that in adopting these principles of Free Trade, which are promulgated by the Government, I do not adopt the extreme opinion officer on one side or the other: I admit that all duties, whether they are rated for the purpose of taxation or otherwise, are impediments

upon trade. But when I advocate Free Trade, I put in my claim distinctly to retain the duties which are casential for revenue purposes—to retain those which are assential for the purpose of preserving public morals -to retain those which may be necessary occasionally for public safety; and in doing that I do not conceive that I am in the least degree departing from the legitimate application of the principle of free Trade for a society constituted as ours is. I view freedom of trade as I do civil liberty, where the liberty of the individual must be subject to certain restraint. It is an exception to the general rule, one which it would be desirable to avoid, but one which it may be necessary to maintain on the very grounds I have stated, namely, for the purposes of revenue, national safety, or what is most important of all, for the purposed of national morality hear). The argument of the present question has turned ipon the probable effect that the repeal of the Cern Law is likely to have upon the agriculture of this country. It is said that by the introduction of foreign comnetition with the agriculture of this country, we are likely to be overwhelmed with foreign produce. heard the question ably argued in the course of this debate, and I shall not repeat the arguments that have been used, but merely content myself with calling the attention of the house to two cases in which we have made the trial of what is the effect of restriction appriculture, and what is the effect of introducing competition with respect to agriculture; and from the result of those two experiments, with which the history of the country fitrnishes its, I can show in the strongest manner the advantage tifft competition creates in the country which adopts it. It is known that d considerable number of years since, in the reign of Charles II., the agricultural interest of this country entertained opinions very similar to those which have been professed by individuals conflected with that interest at the present moment. They thought they were deeply affected by the importation of articles which entered into competition with those which they produced. At that time the object of alarm was Ireland (hear, hear), where labour was cheap, the soil fertile, the climate favourable, and it was apprehended that by admitting the produce of Irehand it would necessarily overwhelm the agricultural interests of this country (hear, hear). They conceived that it would affect the interests of the owners and proprietors of land; and, therefore, the Parliament of that day passed a law restricting the introduction of cattle from Ireland. Now, at that period, it was rather curials to observe the argument that was used. The his torian tells us, that in the House of Commons "There was a great murmur rather than a complaint of the great damage the kingdom sustained from the importation of Irish cattle, which were bred there for nothing, and transported for little, and might well undersell all the cattle here, and from hence the breed of cattle would be totally given over, and thereby the land yield no rent proportionably to what it ever had done, and that this could only be remtdled by a very strict Act of Parliament to forbid the importation. Very many members of several counties desired that these counties might not undergo any damage for the benefit of other individual places. They professed that these counties had no land had enough to breed, and that their great traffic consisted in buying the cattle, making them fat, and upon this they paid their rent, and this appeared to be the case of many countles of England" (hear, hear). But the voices of those honourable gentlemen had little effect in the House of Commons, and the bill passed almost with universal assent, and was sent to the House of Lords (hear, hear). In the House of Lords all expedition was used in passing it, and, by a singular coincidence, the Duke of Buckingham headed the e who favoured the bill (loud laughter). "In the Lords, a marvellous keen resolution appeared to use all expedition in passing it. The Duke of Buckingham appeared at the head of those who favoured the bill with a marvellous concernment, and at the same time appointed for the debate of it, contrary to his custom of coming into the house, indeed, of not rising till 11 o'clock, and seldom staying above a quarter of an hour except upon some business he concerned himself in, he was always present from the first thing in the morning, and stayed till the last at night, for the debate often held till four o'clock in the afternoon, and sometimes till candles were brought in. It was jurged that, if the bill did not pass, all the rents in Ireland would rise in a vast proportion, and those in England fall as much." It was thon said that if the bill did pass, the rents in Ireland would be raised, and the rents in England would fall; but seven years afterwards a distinguished man in this country, an ancestor of the noble ford opposite (Lord Palmerston) Sir W. Temple, in a letter to the Lord-Licut. of Ireland, the Earl of Essex, dated Dublin, 1673, says : "When the pasturage is open, land will be turned most to feed cattle, when shut, to sheep, as it is at present, though I am of opinion it cannot last, because this act seems to have been carried on rather by the interest of particular counties in England, than by that of the whole, which, in my opinion, must evidently be a loser by it. For first, the freight of all cattle that are brought over being in English vessels, was so much clear gain to England. The trade of hides and tallow, or else of leather, was mightily advanced in England. Where the Irish sell, there will they be sure to buy too, and all the foreign merchandise which they had before from Bristol, Chester, and London, they will have in time from Rouen, Amsterdam, Lisbon, and the Straits. As for the cause of the decay of rents in England, which have been far from increasing since." Therefore it appeared that the bill which was passed to exclude the importation of cattle from Iroland, and to traise the final to the consumers of that produce which they list to one object that the bill which was passed to exclude the importation of cattle from Iroland, and to traise the final to the charge of lacons and the rents of Eugland, was proved the seven years experience, by one most capable of judging—by a man of staple with many honourable gentlemen. was made the occasion of that act, that proceeded not

admirable judgment, who was converent with the interests of England and Ireland, to be an atter fallure It is perfectly well known that up to the period of the union, Ireland, in the importation of com to this country, was treated as a foreign country. After that period, and when a free intercourse was established between this country and Ireland, the corn of Ireland was admitted to the markets of this country to compete with the corn grown by the agriculturists here. We must bear in mind that at that particular period, the population of England was something short of H millions of souls, and the quantity of corn raised in England was proportionate to the population which at that time existed. When Freland was permitted to import to England, she rapidly send in here large quanties of comfor the consumption of the people. To the amount of a million of quarters per ennum for a few years was real here towards the maintenance of a population of 11 millions, and it rose gradually, until ultimately is amounted to between three and four millions of quarters of com sent into England. Now, if there be anything in the argument that agriculture is rained by the importation of corn from a country where labour is cheap, and the land fertile, if those arguments have any weight when applied to foreign countries, why not have weight when applied to the admission into England at that period of corn from Ireland, which enjoyed all those particular advantages (hear, hear)? If England, with a population of 11 millions, could sustain the admission to this extent of agricultural produce from Ireland, not only without injury, but, as I will show you, to the great increase of her own produce and the improvement of agriculture, what fear have we now, when the whole popullation of the United Kingdom amounts to 27 millions, that any impartial importation from abroad can exceed-in proportion to the population—the quantity which was previously admitted from Ireland, or can produce effects on the agriculture of this country more prejudicial, of otherwise than beneficial -than that which the Irish importation produced (tremendous cheers from the Opposition)? Why it is from the very period of the union we may date the improvement of agriculture in this country (hear, hear). It was then that a stimulus was given to British exertion (hear, hear). We find that in the year subsequent to the admission of Irish corn, a greater number of enclosure bills were introduced into the house than at any period preceding or subsequent (hear, hear). They would find that the gentlemen of England paid more attention to the proagriculture, and that science was effect agricultural improvements. They would find that the agriculturists of England were not injured by the corn imported from Ireland, but that agricultural prosperity was on the increase from year to year (hear, hear). Therefore, if in the limited field in which this large proportion of corn was introduced they experienced no sensible effect to the injury of agriculture; if, on the contrary, they found that the importation of Irish corn evcited emulation and industry, and led to permanent improvements, how could it be argued that a similar introduction of corn from the Continent would produce those disastrous effects which honourable gentlemen said it would produce to the agricultural interests of this comtry (hear)? But there was another remarkable circum stance as to the corn produced in the two countries. Great Britain and Ireland (bear, hear). In which of the two countries was agriculture in the most advanced state, in England or in Ireland? No man, he believed, however attached to the sister country, but must admit that the deficiency in skill was extremely obvious to the latter country. The corn of Ireland had notwithstanding, been brought into England in successful competition with the native produce of that article. In Ireland corn could be produced at a cheaper rate than in any country on the Continent, and the produce was so abundant that she required none from abroad. From want of competition, however, agriculture in that country remained in much the same state as when the English market was open in Irish corn. The fact of no foreign corn being imported into Ireland had been productive of much injury to agriculture in Ireland, while the circumstance of its being introduced here had proved beneficial to English agriculture (hear, hear). They were told that this measure would prove peculiarly injurious to the interests of Ireland; now, he did not be lieve there was any ground for such an assumption, but on the contrary, that it would produce the same result and the same effect as in this country; and so far from diminishing the value of property or the amount of employment to the poor, that it would increase both by the stimulus that would be given by intercourse and competition with foreign countries. He had no doubt that it would produce the same effect there as here, and would lead to the formation of manufacturing establishments there to meet the wants and afford employment to the people. It had been truly said that the best market for a country was the home market. If this was the case, then it was most desirable that the consumers should be in a state of comparative affluence, and certainly it was most desirable for the agriculturists that this should be the case, for their trade was necessarily confined to the home market. So far then from looking with fealousy on anything which would extend or promote our manufactures, they should regard it with salifletion, as affording new means for giving employment to large numbers of the people, and making them properties consumers of agricultural produce. The agriculturals of all men should be the most anxious to extend and recommendately as a short who were extend and promote the well-being of those who were the consumers of that produce which they had to

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ever the word was used it did not fail to elicit cheers (hear, hear). He was as strong an advocate as any man for consistency of public conduct (laughter and cheers); but when they told him that consistency consisted in adhering to a law which seemed at variance with an altered state of society from time to time, and that that law particularly referred to the means of supply of food for the people of this country, but which, at the time at which it was enacted and subsequently might have been attended with advantages; and notwithstanding any changes that may have taken place in the circumstances of the country—notwithstanding the wants of the country and a deficiency in the supply of food, and other alterations, you place the plea of consistency on a ground which was not tonable (hear). So far, then, from consistency under such circumstances being commendable, you place it on a footing which, if adhered to, would damage the character of public men (cheers). Who was there, of the honourable gentlemen present, who had been consistent on the subject of the forn Laws (hear, hear)? He know of no public man, from Mr. Huskisson or Lord Brougham down to any other public man of the present day, who had had to deal with the question of the Corn Laws, who had not at some time or other changed his opinion on the subject (hear, hear, and laughter). But were honourable gentlemen themselves agreed that the adherence to protection and the maintenance of the Corn Laws for the future, were essential to public men heing consistent? Even his honourable friend the member for Northamptoushire (Mr. Stafford O'Brien) has said in the course of his speech that the present duty on corn never could be regarded as permanent. He, therefore, was at variance on the subject with many honourable gentlemen round him (hear, hear). He would, however, ask his honourable friend when he thought the time would arrive when they could, with a regard to consistency, make an alteration in the present Corn Laws, or when they could abrogate them altogether (laughter and crice of "No ") ? Why his honourable friend had said that the duty could not be regarded as permanent, and he alluded to the abrogation of the Corn Laws; he, therefore, was justified in asking when the period of time would come for a repeal of the duty on corn (hear. hear). Would his honourable friend show him a time when a repeal of the Corn Laws could be effected with less injury to any class of society, or when it would be better for the public interests than the present, or when an adherence to the present law could be less effectively maintained (hear, hear)? If he could do so, it was then merely a question of time. He thought, for one, that the present time was the most important to lay hold of for that purpose. It was notorious that there was great distress from the failure of one particular crop which afforded food for large numbers. There was not only the temporary danger which threatened from the failure of this crop, but they must look to the possible failure in future years which might lead to a degree of distress which would be attended with the most alarming consequences. He said this, although his noble friend the member for Staffordshire (Lord Ingestre), who had appeared there that night as the advocate of Mr. Chapman, of Isleworth, had produced a potato which he said had been grown from the seed of a diseased Irish potato ("No," from Lord Ingestre; "not an Irish po-tato." The observation excited some laughter). Well, at any rate the produce of a diseased potato which had been cultivated in a garden at Isleworth. This might be the case; but then other experiments had been carried on on a more extensive scale than those of Mr. Chapman, with a very different result, and many of those experiments had been carried on under the superintendence of eminent scientific men. He had seen accounts on this subject from North America, where the disease in potatoes had prevailed for three consecutive years. It was observed that in the first year the disease prevailed to a comparatively slight degree; in the socond year it appeared in a more aggravated form; and in the present year the disease prevailed to as great an extent as it had in many parts of Ireland. The extent and continuance of this disease for a series of years might happen in this country as elsewhere; it was only safe then to provide beforehand for the emergency, in case this disease should continue in this country and Ireland, as in America, for a series of years (hear, hear). But this disease existed not merely in England, Ircland, many parts of the Continent, and if it there conti med, the demand for corn in those countries would necessarily increase, and we should not be able to obtain a supply of that article from those quarters for our rapidly increasing population, instead of having an inundation of corn, as many honourable gentlemen had supposed (hear, hear). He would ask, had honourable gentlemen looked to the altered state of things which had arisen from the increase of our population. lation? The addition made to the number of the population of this country every year was such as would require from 100,000 to 200,000 acres to be taken into cultivation for wheat to meet the wants of the increased population. In such a state of things you must be able ic add almost an additional county under cultivation every year. Did not such circumstances make it incumbent on them to make provision in time (hear, hear)? He had heard it asked by some honourable gentlemen why it was proposed to make this change in a season of prosperity. Would they, he would ask, wait until a time of discress and adversity, when the sufferings of the transfer the people would give rise to great dissatisfaction? Could they then expect to make a satisfactory arrange-ment in a time of pressure (hear, hear)? He therefore thought that the present was the time when the corn mention should be resent was the time when the corn question should be settled, and by this means provide tood for the increasing population of the country, and for the country of the neople, and at the same time of the country of the neople, and at the same time of the country of the neople, and at the same time of the neople, and at the same time of the neople, and at the same time of the neople, and the neople and the neople of the neople.

overcome all difficulties (cheers). He regretted that many of his honourable friends should have felt called upon to express their opinions in such strong terms as to the conduct of the Government (hear, hear). He regretted that those towards whom he entertained feelings of such great respect should use expressions of hostility, not morely against the measure, but also against those from whom it commanded (hear, hear). He did not intend to retort expressions of severity on any honourable gentleman. The right honourable member for the university of Dublin, in his speech, which he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) might be permitted to say was far more eloquent in the declaration and attack on his honourable friends of the Government than on the subject-matter of the debate, stated that it was the duty of an independent member of that house to maintain the opinion which he believed to be right and just on any subject, irrespective of consideration as to the man or men by whom it was brought forward. He agreed to the fullest extent as to this principle, and as to the right of a private member to form a judgment on any measure as to what was right, and to act accordingly; but surely the right honourable gentleman would go to the same extent as regarded the ministers of the Crown, and that they should be allowed to act upon the principles which they believed to be right, independent of those by whom their measures were opposed (cheers). He asked whether it was not to be open to them to concur in a course which they believed to be right, and whether they were not to be allowed to act on the same principle which the right honourable gentleman claimed for himself without bestowing on them harsh terms (hear, hear)? The terms used by the right honourable gentleman were unstable and infirm of purpose, of being guilty of inconsistency and tergiversation, and that they were guilty of cabinet juggling (laughter). When the right honourable gentleman used this term, he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) felt more regret nt it as it affected the character and reputation of the right honourable gentleman more than it could affect him (loud cries of hear, hear). The house had before them the distinct explanation of all that had passed (cries of hear, hear, and no")-the house had before them a declaration of the whole of the transactions which led to the resignation of the Government and their subsequent return to office, and he believed that there was not another member in the house besides his right honourable friend who was not satisfied that there was nothing but perfect openness in their resigna-tions (cries of "oh, oh," from some of the protectionist members). There was no hesitation in the charge of juggling which the right honourable gentleman imputed to the Government, and the only regret which he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) felt on the subject was, lest the public at large, when the speech of his right honourable friend was before them, should arrive at the conclusion that his right honourable friend had always formed those conclusions which would not become his high judicial situation and character (hear, hear). He was afraid to maintain the principle that the claims of public party must be regarded in spite of the public interests. This would be the description of consistency of which he should be guilty if he had followed the course suggested by his honourable friends, and it was a consistency on which he would not act (hear, hear). If he were guilty of political tergiversation, if he had turned his back upon his friends, it was only to protect them against their own want of foresight (loud cries of "oh, oh," and choers). Socing the storm ahead, seeing the effect already produced in Ireland, seeing the effect which might be produced in this country, he was not ashamed of the course that he had taken, although he might be charged with abandoning party connections (hear, hear). Although he should painfully feel the loss of those who had supported the same line of politics 'as himself, he should always look back with satisfaction and pride to his for-mer connection with them, and when their judgment had time to cool (laughter), and they had seen the danger with which the country was threatened, not merely in distant prospect, but in a proximate degree, they would then see the propriety of making the alteration in the laws for the supply of food; and he know enough of them to believe that, however inconsistent they might think the change of opinion that had taken place in respect to public matters to be, there was not one of them who would not admit that he was wrong now in the view which he had taken of the subject, and that he would regret not having supported this measure, the success of which he would then be satisfield was essential to the best interests of this country (loud cheers).

Mr. FERIAND repeated the imputation he had, on a previous evening, made upon the petitions presented by Lord Morpeth, from the West Riding, in favour of Free Trade. He then detailed, in his own peculiar style, the proceedings of his recent electioneering crusade into Yorkshire. Having concluded this narrative, he proceeded to cateohise, in a pretty severe manner, various members who had severed themselves from the protectionist party, reading extracts from their former specoles amid most uprourious mirch. The next topic was the cruelties practised under the factory system. That system he declared had a natural tendency to produce murder, and every other kind of strocky. He also charged the Poor Law Commissioners with having couspired with the manufacturers to kidnap the agricultural labourers under promise of "a land flowing with milk and honey." Having made some allusions to the tenure upon which he held his seat in Patliament, he concluded by announcing that he should do his duty.

NOW, OR THREE YEARS HENCE? (From the Morning Chronicle.)

However we may have felt it a duty to express our warm approbation of the general character and aim of the measures proposed by Sir Robert Peel, we have on several occasions felt ourselves not the less called upon to protest against some of the details, and what we call minor principles involved in those measures. Moreover, the unreserved support which we have all along given to the Free Trude policy of the present Government, entitles us the more freely to criticise their measures -and to expose their defects, without being suspected of a wish to ordanger their success. We have never failed frankly to avow our admiration of the wise and bold determination of the minister to secure a final settlement of the Corn Law question by the only way in which that was possible—a final abolition of all protective duty. But neither have we failed from the first to point out what have always appeared to us powerful objections to the precise mode in which that great object is to be obtained; and the reasons we have hitherto urged in support of our views have had more reference to the interests of the agricultural body than to those of the consumer.

1f, however, we felt that there were important objections to the details of the measure as proposed by the Minister, calculated to endanger, or at least delay the full benefits of so desirable a settlement—if we felt strongly the greater advantages to all parties which would result from an immediate rather than a deferred repeal of these laws, on grounds chiefly agricultural, and rather on economical than on social considerations-if such were our views before the delivery of Sir Robert Peel's remarkable speech, we must own that they liave only been materially strengthened by that address. Amendments in the measure which before we deemed desirable, appear new absolutely necessary. They are necessary to sustain the logical consequences of the Minister's argument and the facts on which he relies. Moreover, the grounds of our convictions are greatly strengthened by new reasons, involving the most important considerations, both

social and political.

The most accurate statements that can be obtained from Ireland - the most accurate and satisfactory that the Clovernment, with all its machinery, can command represent that in six hundred electoral divisions, one-half of the whole potato crop has perished of the rot; that in another six hundred electoral divisions two fifths of the crop have been similarly destroyed; while in some, cighttenths of the crop are altogether lost for human food. Such are the Government accounts. The correspondents of the minister, some of whom were among those who were long inclined to disbelieve the truth of the reported danger, now measure the available subsistence of the Irish nation by a few weeks :- " For six or seven weeks, while the remains of the potatoes last, destitution will not be general; but I pray you, sir, look to it in time." "I don't think that by the lat of Murch next, out of 100 scree on my land, sound seed will be left for next year's crop." Another of the minister's informants, in a different part of the country, says, "Our inquiries extended to one hundred and ninety families altogether, and enable me to state with the most perfect accuracy the frightful extent to which the destruction of the potato crop has proceeded in that part of the country. Many families whom we visited, and who had planted sufficient for their ordinary wants, including the soud necessary for the ensuing season, have not had a potato of any kind for the last month. Others have lost nearly all, and the few that are left are unfit for human food." Another account transmitted to the Lord Lieutenant, says, "His Excellency will find in these statements the announcement of the alarming fact that in two districts alone of the union in question, there are even at this early period of the year (the 9th of February) no less than three hundred persons whose store of provisions are on the point of becoming exhausted." Such then is the present state of Ireland upon the highest possible authority. But what, not only of the immediate, but the more distant future? The immediate future threatens appalling famine; the more distant future, the absolute want of the means of reproducing food. Can a country be placed in a position that more imperatively demands a great effort, the greatest effort that legislative power and private exer-tions can make? Between present starvation and future provision there is no choice. Self denial, provident care for the future, are virtues utterly unknown where famine is committing its present ravages. What is the choice between the conviction that seed will be required for the next year's crop, and the present appeals of starving wives and children? "One-eighth of the whole crop is required for seed," says the Minister. "Take the tonnage which it would require to bring ten thousand tons of potatoes from any part of Europe where potatoes may still abound—it is almost impossible to supply the deficiency." But if we had the tournge, if the Irish had the means, if Parliament were to vote the money, where is the part of Europe where ten thousand tons, or one thousand tons of potatoes could be procured for seed to plant in Ireland for next year? Nownkie. The whole is a physical impossibility. But the faint hope, the only hope, which the Minister holds out of meeting this alarming crisis, is that the Government shall exchange other food for potatoes, and retain them under their own care for seed. One hundred thousand quarters of maire have been purchased in America with that view. One hundred thousand quarters of maize for the whole of Ireland! Why it is burely adequate

to supply the place of potatoes for a single fortnight.
With these facts in view, we can well understand that Sir Robert Poel should "now doclare in the face of Parliament, that the day in his public life on which he looks back with the greatest pride and satisfaction is the first of November last, when he was ready to take the responsibility of issuing an Order in Council to open the ports." Such a course the Minister deemed necessary then. Subsequent events have proved that the determination taken on the first of Navember was wise and unavoidable. Danger is not removed, but is rather aggravated by delay. And now, in the middle of Fobruary, when we flud the worst anticipations and foars of November on the eve of accomplishment—when the blight hopes which then remained have given way to certain and impending danger—what is the proposal made by the Government? To open the ports, as the Minister proposed on the first of November? No; but to pass a law imposing duties, though much reduced, for three years on all kinds of grain On the motion of Dr. BOWRING, the debate was then except make a satisfactory arranged like means of pressure (hear, liker)? He therefore adjourned till Thursday.

On the motion of Dr. BOWRING, the debate was then except make. If it were necessary to open the portain Norwander, then the interest of the interest of the present was the time when the corn of for the increasing population of the country and the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of November, in what light can be regard that part of the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the Hotselof Commons, up to Keb 10, is against repeal, and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the commons are the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of the common and the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of november the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of november the first of november the first of november the notion of the common that it is not to the determination taken on the first of november, in what light can be regard that part of november the notion of the common that the first of november the notion of the common that the first of november the november that the first of november the november that the first of november the november that the first of november that

The only palliation offered by Sir Robert Peel for this obvious discrepancy in what he desmed a necessary course in November, and that which he proposes in February, is that he admits maize free, and harley and oats at a nominal duty. But what is the fact? At this moment, according to the Cazette prices, the duty on oats, under the proposed scale, would be two shillings per quarter; and on barley two shillings and sixpence—dulles unounting to about ten per cent. on the value of the respective articles. Then, taken in connection with this fact, what is the condition of the grain markets in all the surrounding countries to which we usually look for supplies? In Holland and in Belgium the deficiency of food is even greater than here. In no part of Europe is there a surplus. In almost every part there is either threatened or absolute want. The price of barley on the Continent—on the supply of which Sir Robert Peel appears to rely to make up the defective potato crop in Ireland, and to aid the Government in an effort to save seed for next year-is so high, that shipments of English barley have recently taken place to Holland, this being the cheapest market from which sup-plies could be obtained. Is this then, a time to maintain one penny of duty?—Supplies will be withheld or diverted from this market as much at these proposed duties, in the present state of prices abroad, as if they were double the amount. Two shillings on onts, two shillings and sixpence on barley, are duties at this moment prohibitory. Double their amount could be no more.

If Sir Robert Peel has proved one thing more clearly than another in his speech of last week, it is that the measure now proposed, however well adapted it may be deemed for a permanent settlement of this question, is at least not equal to the present emergency, an emergency so great, so appalling, that we cannot conceive that any Minister charged with the responsibility of the public interests could willingly meet it with so inadequate a provision. It is with the most sincere satisfaction that we observe, that whatever amendment may be adopted by Parliament for the purpose of giving an imme diate effect to the reductions of duties proposed by the Government, Sir Robert Peel will adopt it, and will still consider the passing of this law paramount to all other considerations.

THE FREE TRADE CANDIDATES FOR SOUTH LANCASHIRE.

A meeting of the Council of the League, and other sub scribers to the League Fund, was held at their offices, last Tuesday evening, at which a numerous committee was ap pointed to canvass for the signatures of electors of this division, to a requisition to the Hon, C. P. Villiers, M.P., and William Brown, Esq., requesting them to become candidates for the representation of South Lancashire at the next gene-

The following is a copy of the requisition:

6 TO THE HONOURABLE CHARLES PELHAM VILLIERS, M.P.,

Gentlemen We, the undersigned, electors of the south ern division of the county pulatine of Lancaster, respectfully address you. in the belief that the present is the most suitable period for soliciting you to become candidates for the re presentation of this division of the county at the next general election. We are induced to do this from the deliberate conviction that the representation of the vast and varied in terests of this important section of the kingdom will be adequately sustained by you; that you will be firm in the support of measures founded on the most comprehensive and impartial views of what is necessary for the general good of all classes of the community; and that, especially, the principles of Free Trade will, in their widest signification, their fullest integrity, flud in you ardent and uncompromising friends.

"We make the tender of our support to you, Charles Pelbam Villiers, as a testimony of our gratitude and admira-tion of your persevering advocacy of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws in the House of Commons, continued from year to year in the face of obstacles, arising from the selfishness of some and the indifference; almost equally culpable, of others, until your efforts, along with your coadjutors out of doors, raised up throughout the kingdom a spirit and determination which will not subside until they have marked this period, to all future time, as the era of commercial reformation.

"We make the like tender of our support to you, William Brown, believing that your enlightened views and enlarged experience on commercial subjects eminently qualify you for representing this portion of the empire—the seat and centre of our manufacturing industry—the very heart where all its pulsations begin; in addition to which, your having undertaken to contest the division on a recent occasion, at considerable personal inconvenience, in the belief that, though not successful, yet that certain good would result, gives you a claim to our support, to which we are anxious to respond.

consent to be put in nomination, you will be triumphantly returned to Parliament, we respectfully pledge ourselves not only to give you our personal support, but to endeavour to secure your return by every other constitutional means in our power, and we fervently hope that the connection thus formed may be long maintained, by the honourable fulfilment of our respective duties as constituents and representatives,-We are, your faithful servants."—(Here follow signatures.)

A public meeting was held on the 16th inst., at Campsic, Stir lingshire, for the purpose of ascertaining the general feeling on the momentous question of the Corn and Provision Laws, and to consider the propriety of petitioning both floures of Parliament on the subject; when it was speedily and unanimonsty resolved to petition at once for a total and immediate repeal of so glaring an act of solfish legislation. The meeting was almost (if not entirely) composed of the operative class, and the petition, which is in course of being numer-onsly signed, will shortly be forwarded to the hight Hon-Earl Grey, and John Dennieston, Esq., for presentation.
PRINTED FOR FREE TRADE.—It will be seen that the

Town Council of Canterbury have voted, without opposition, a petition to l'arliament in favour of Free Trade and the ministerial plans. This, it will not be denied, is an impartial testimony, Canterbury being the centre of an agricultural district, and deeply interested in the welfare of the owners, coonpiers, and cultivators of the land. Free Trade, it is now generally soon, will benefit all classes.

Wheats which were worth at Santander about 40s, per quarter before it was known that the British ports would in all probability be opened at a low duty, have already ad-

ranced to 5%.

HOW CAN LAND BEST BE RELIEVED? (From the Economist.)

The question of special burdens on fand, which has been so frequently evaded by the House of Commons, has at length been entertained by the House of Lords, on the motion of Lord Beaumont, and a committee has been appointed to take evidence on the subject. In anticipation of this motion, we, last week, instituted an inquiry into the re-lative portion of burdens borne by land and by other property, by which it appeared that a considerable balance of exemptions exists in favour of the former. The balance, however, as it appeared in those calculations, will be still greater when we include two items of special exemptions in favour of land, which were omitted in our last statement, viz., stamp duty on fire insurances, and the tolls on turnpike roads. We have no accounts which enable us to estimate the exact amount of these items of exemption. With regard to the former, the finance accounts for the year ending 5th April, 1845, exhibit a sum of 1,003,669t. as derived from insurances on other property, independent of marine insurances, which afforded a further sum of 193,1551. Here, then, we have a sum of nearly 1,200,000t. contributed to the State from other property, from which the produce of land, as long as it remains in the producer's possession, and the whole implements and stock of farmers, is entirely exempted. We have no means of estimating the amount of the exemptions from turnpike tolls; but, when it is considered that all horses and waggons of every description employed in conveying farm produce and manure to or from market are exempt, the whole aggregate sum in the year for the kingdom must be very

Our special object, however, in now returning to this subject, is to claim the attention of our readers to another view of the burdens borne by land, which in our estimation is far more important than many others, but which has been singularly overlooked. We refer to the relief which the agriculturists, as a class, and which land, as a property, have derived from the rapid increase of the commerce and manufactures of the country during the last thirty years, both in regard to general and local taxation.

According to the population returns it appears that the proportions engaged in agriculture and in all other pursuits

were, at the different periods, as follows:-

		Occupit agricult		. •	:	Other	rwine upied.
1811		35 per					er cent.
1821	• •,	33	1)			. 67	,,
1831		3H	,,			7:2	,,
J#41		22				7H	

According to these proportions the numbers engaged in the production of food, and those constituting consumers only, were, in 1811 and 1811, respectively as follows:— Producers

Consumers who were not Entire population

By these returns, it appears that the land afforded occu pation for 263,105 persons fewer in the production of food in 1811 compared with 1811, while 6,510,736 persons more were added to the class of consumers, deriving their income from other sources. There is, however, no reason to think that the actual increase of population has been less among classes engaged in agriculture than among those engaged in trades and manufactures. But the facts before us lead to the indisputable assumption that the whole increase which has taken place in the rural districts has found occupation in the towns and manufacturing districts. If, however, there had been no such outlet for the surplus population of the agricultural districts-if our trades and manufactures had increased only at the rate required to employ the natural increase of their own numbers, what at this time would have been the condition of our rural districts? What the charge on property for the maintenance of their poor? The whole population during that period had increased at the rate of forty nine and a half per cent; if the land had been burdened with its own proportion, then those dependent upon agriculture at this time would have been 6,591,276 in place of 4,145,775; or, in other words, there would now have been an actual surplus of 2,145,501 persons dependent for support upon the produce of the soil, which must long ere this have threatened an extinction both of rent and profit In the shape of increased poor's rates. But what is really the state of the case? Upwards of two millions of persons, who would have been thus left a charge upon the land, have, by the rapid extension of our manufacturing system, been converted into so many valuable oustomers for the produce oft 'e soil; and, instead of being a burden upon land, and a can e of diminution of ront, have contributed by their industry to raise the entire rental of land from 37,606,347%, in 1814, to 45,758,615L in 1843, as shown by the returns of the income tax at the two periods in question.

Looking to the agricultural class as a hody, this extraornary change in the distribution of the country has operated to relieve it to a great extent of the share of the general taxation of the country which it bore in 1811. In that year the whole revenue of the country amounted to 65.178,545/., being at the rate of 3/. 10s. 3d. to each individual of the whole population of the United Kingdom, and of which the agricultural population of Great Britain consequently contributed 15,082,190%, and all other

In 1841 the whole sum raised for public revenue was 51,011,0881., being only at the rate of 11. 188, 10d, to each individual in the United Kingdom. Of this sum the agricultural classes of Great Britain, in 1841, contributed only 8,049,709/.; while the other classes contributed 28,539,897/. in consequence of the great proportionate increase of numbers which had found employment in other ways during that period. If the same proportion of the general taxation of the country had been borne by the agricultural class in 1841 as in 1811, it would have contributed 12,708,0591, instead of only 8,040,700/.—showing a saving of upwards of 4,700,000/: to the routs and profits of agriculture in this item alone, from the increased numbers engaged in the trade and manufactures

When, therefore, it is asserted that real property is charged with burdons from which capital is exempt, it should not be lost sight of that it has been alone to the occupation of that capital, to the extension of our trade and manufactures, that we are indebted for the employment of the whole increme of the population since 1811, by which land has been relieved of the enormous charges to which it would otherwise have been exposed to support its increasing number of paupers, and by which the class now deriving rents and profits from the soil has been relieved of a portion of their opinits. tribution to the public revenue to the extent of more than 4,700,000/, annually. This has been accomplished by the additional centributions of the thriving masses of our me nufacturing and trading classes.

But the relief from burdens which land as a property, and the agricultural class as a body, have derived from the inerease of our commerce and manufactures does not stop here. The employment of capital in the extension of trade leads directly to the creation of real property, rateable both to public and local taxes. More houses and factories must be built; more quarries and mines and from works must be opened up; more canals, docks, and railways, must be constructed. Every shilling invested for these purposes adds to the whole amount of rateable property, and to that extent relieves other real property of its existing share of burdens. A comparison of the distribution of the burdens upon real property between 1814 and 1813, shows the extent of this relief in a striking manner. The Parliamentary accounts of 1814 show that the whole income derived from real property in the United Kingdom amounted to 57,129,0177, as charge able to the property tax, of which 37,666,3471., or sixty-nix per cent., was derived from land, and 19,462,7601., or thinty. four per cent., was derived from all other kinds of property. While, by a Parliamentary return of the last session, we find that the whole income derived from real property had increased to 95,284,4971, of which 45,753,6151, or first. eight per cent., was derived from land, and 49,530,962, or flity-two per cent., was derived from all other kinds of priperty. In 1814, therefore, land as a property was burdened with sixty six per cent of all the taxes, both general and local; while, in 1849, notwithstanding an increase of the annual rental of land by upwards of eight millions, other property had been created during the interval to so much greater a proportion, that land only now-bears the burders whether general or local, placed upon real property to the extent of forty-eight per cent. Land, therefore, now represents somewhat less than one-half of the real property of the country chargeable with rates of all kinds, whether for pub. lie or local purposes. It will be an interesting inquiry to ascertain to what extent land as a property, and the agriculturists as a class, have really been directly benefited by the increase of our manufacturing system during the last thirty years. We have now ascertained the proportions of the population in these two great divisions of the country, which at the different periods in question contributed to the general taxation of the country. We have also ascertained the relative proportions in which land and other property were charge. able with burdens placed on real property, and we will endeavour in our next number to work out the precise amount, under all heads of general and local taxes, from which the land has been relieved, in consequence of this new distribution of rateable property, and occupations of the people.

In the mean time, it opens up, in a new and striking light, the enormous advantages which an increase of our comper cial and manufacturing systems is calculated to conferupen the landed interest of this country; and that without my effort whatever on their part. Every additional person removed from the rural district, where his labour is not re quired, to the neighbouring towns, or to the manufacturing districts, where he can be profitably employed, is a disci advantage to the land in two distinct ways: first, it is a relief from a certain burden; and next, the consumption of every such well employed person increases the demand for the produce of the soil. The farmer is relieved of a pauper, and in his place obtains a good customer. Every additional proson thus profitably employed is a relief to all the rest of the country, by sharing, through the production of his labour and the consumption of commodities which yield revenues. a portion of the taxes necessary to support the State. And moreover, every house or factory which is built-every mine. or quarry, or iron work which is opened up-every mile of canal or railway which is constructed, come to the relief of all other existing property, by sharing all the bundens to which real property is subjected. How, then, will the owners of land best consult their own interests? By repressing that system which at once relieves them of burdens, and supplies new sources of income, or by giving every possible encouragement and freedom to our commercial and manufar turing enterprise, which has already been productive of such

immense advantages to them?

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE IN DANGER .- At a meeting held last week at Mossley, it was unanimously resolved, with one solitary exception, that every one present would purchase a qualification for Buckinghamshire, provided Mr. Cobden would pledge himself to stand as a candidate,-Presion Guardian.

THE GAME-LAWS SUPPORTED BY BLOOD HOUNDS. The barbarous system of blood-hounds to hunt down and worry human beings found offending against the tame Laws, is practised in the neighbourhood of Stamford by the Marquis of Exeter.

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EXHAUSTION OF OUR COAL tion of fuel is a consideration far more serious. It is not many years since some person made an estimate of the quantity of coals existing in the country in attainable situations, and came to the conclusion that the supply must be altogether exhausted in half a century. This conclusion was not very cheering for the national prosperity. To believe that, within the probable lives of many of us, the grand resource of all our enterprise should be destroyed, and that we should be left a manufacturing Nineveh, amid the ruins of the manufacturing Nineveh, and the ruins of the ruins furnaces and wavehouses—our energies crumbling to the dust, and our locomotives stationary — our poor-houses crowded with manufacturers—and our engineers petition to the control of ing Parliament for inquiring into the means of making fires without fuel—the whole nation, in fact, in anii momentean state of wretchedness and darkness—all this mase a gloomy picture, and one which might have induced many persons to buy investments for their grandebildren in the foreign funds. Unfortunately, the calculator knew but link of the resources of the country. Unfortunately, many districts where the coal is found actually on the surface will be exhausted in a very appreciable time; but the quantity is endrmous which lies beneath the surface—unworked at reserve, till we have used what is more readily attained, it is in the magnificent coal-field of South Wales to which we must look for our enduring supply of fuel. The quantity known or probable is almost incalculable. Still the distribution of the magnificent coal-field of south wales to which we must look for our enduring supply of fuel. The quantity known or probable is almost incalculable. Still the distribution was trust that it will be a large and the matter that it will be a large and the matter that it will be a large and the matter that it will be a large and the matter that the supplementation is a large and the matter that it will be a large and the matter that it will be a large and the supplementation of the supplemen may trust that it will be long, very long, ere the maint ab pe deprived of so friestimable a benefit; the monty some districts will be very great, where their still fail, as it must, long ere many living travalling performed their last perroy. To but it would be stillist, be a fill to be the contract of England (the contract of England Contract of England Contract of England Contract of England

REGISTRATION APPEALS. COURT OF COMMON PLEAS. THURSDAY, JAN. 15.

IMPORTANT CAME. - BOROUGH OF SCARBOROUGH. -FLOUNDERS C. DONNER.—This was a case in which the voter claimed to be inserted in the list of voters for the Borough of Scarborough, in respect of a successive occupation of houses. A list of claims had been duly published by the overseers, and in that list the name and description of John Plounders, and of the situation of the property, was as

Christian name and surname of each Claimant at full length.	Pince of Abode.	Nature of Qualification,	Hirest, lane, or other place in this Parish or Township where the Property is situate or Number of House if any.
John Flounders	15,Aberdeen	House.	Queen Street.
	Walk.	House	15 Abordoon Walk

The above description is an exact copy in all respects of the notice of claim sent in by the voter to the overseers. plan secondly mentioned, or the situation of the house, boundy, 15, Aberdeen Walk, is the situation of the house which he at present occupies; and the street or place where the houses are stated to be situated, are well known, and are not so extensive or populous, but that any occupier of any premises in them may be found by reasonable inquiries. Both the houses constituting the qualification are, and have dways been numbered.

The claim of John Flounders was opposed on the ground that the number of the first house was not inserted in the list agreeably to the form prescribed by the 6th Vic. c. 18, schedule B. No. 3, nor in any claim sent to the overseers by him, agreeably to the form No. 6 of the same statute and schedule; the revising barrister decided that the said John I bounders was not entitled to be inserted in the list of voters for the said borough, on the ground that the statute required that the number of each house constituting the qualification Could have been contained in the column describing the

This was a consolidated appeal, and seven other votes depended upon the decision in the above case.

Mr. WHARTON appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Bliss

for the respondent. The case having been argued at some length, the decision of the court was given by
CHER JUSTICE TINDAL.—I think the decision of the revising berrister in this case was right. He has decided that the claimant was not entitled to be inserted in the list of toters on the ground that the statute requires that the number of each house constituting the qualification should have been contained in the column describing the situation of the property, and such I think is the proper construction of the statute coupled with the form to which reference is made. The moment this court neld that it was not sufficient to give merely the new qualification which was existing at the time of the matter coming before the revising barrister, but that he must also give the qualifi cation which, when coupled with the present qualification, made out the whole-the morgent that was decided, the law would apply as much to one as the other; and therefore if that precision was necessary to one, if it was to the later of the two, so also it was necessary in the earlier. You may find out a men by his present residence; you may have great difficulty in finding the number of the precise house on which he intended to rest his qualification, and therefore whether the earlier part is an unnecessary part? Therefore it appears to me it was necessary that the number of the house should be given, which formed part of the qualification in Queen street. The answer endeavoured to be made to this, though the revising barrister has stated the facts of this care, from which we must review his decision, whether he had a right to make that amendment which we must supply—an amendment which in point of fact he has not made. A reference is made to the sections 40 and sections 101. In looking over section 40, that applies to the case where the revising burrister, not being satisfied with the identification of the premises, had expunged the name of the person from the list, and that afterwards and befor the revision had ceased, ovidence is given to him which to his salisfaction supplies the misdescription. Therefore, in order to avail himself of the section 40, this complainant ought to show that the revising barrister was satisfied before the sittings for the revision ceased, and that the number had been so and so, and that the qualification was complete. But we, as far as that statement goes, must hold that he was not extistical for he has still persisted the name should be expurged from the list. And it has been already remarked that was obsinted here; and on the fice of the case there is nothing to show that there is any fixed number applying to the dionse at all; therefore he cannot avail himself of section 40. At the end of section 101 it is stated, that "no mishomert or inaccurate description of any person, place, or thing, named or described in any schedule to "this Act annexed, or in any list or register of votors, or in any notice required by this Act, shall in any way prevent or shall be consistent of this Act, with respect to such person. abridge the operation of this Act with respect to such person, place, or thing; provided that such person, place, or thing, shall be so denominated in such schedule, list, register, or notice, as to be commonly understood." You cannot liken that to a case where you are uncertain as to how it would be-uncertain as to whether in this street, called Queon Street, there would be 160, or 500, or only a very few houses; and you cannot say necessarily that this particular house would be commonly understood to be the house, unless you are supplied with the means of forming a judgment as to the actual state of the street. Besides, the meaning of the words "commonly understood," would refer to some class or description of houses which are given, and from which you may extract the same as the common understanding. 1, therefore, think it comes back to the same question refurred to in the decision. The Statute requires in the claim should be inserted the name and the number, as well of the latter house as of the former to complete qualification. I think, therefore, the re-

vising burrister has decided right. The rest of the Court concurred. Decision affirmed without Costs.

JUNGMENT DELIVERED MONDAY, FEB. 28. NEWTON THE OVERSERS OF MADDRELLEY, AND NEWTON .. in delivering the judgment of the court, said, in these cases, which were appeals from the decision of the revising bardiair for the said and the decision of the revising bardiair for the said and the decision of the revising bardiair for the said and theirs for the northern division of Cheshire, two questions was raised for the complemention of the court. Wilds respect the complemention of the court. Wilds respect the characteristic point and the court wilds respect the characteristic points.

to make the grant void, the court was of opinion that the question was one for the revising barrister's decision alone. The second question was whether a rent-charge bona fide granted, but for the avowed purpose of multiplying votes, was invalid under the provisions of 7 and 8 Vm. 111., c. 25. On that point the court was of opinion that the decision in the case of "Alexander v. Newman" (see the report in THE LEAGUE of February 7.) to the effect that a convey-ance of such a nature was not invalid, must also govern the

Decision affirmed.

To the Editor of The Luxuen.

Cleuham Mill, Boaminster, Feb. 24tb/1846. S1R,-In this neighbourhood I have distributed among the agricultural labourers 50 pair of sheets and 24 heds, &c. which the League kindly allotted me. Upwards of seventy families have been thus supplied, many of whom were almost destitute of bed clothing; but this goes but a little way amidst the misery with which I am surrounded. Hundreds of applications I have been compelled to refuse. I have the particulars of every family I have supplied, and I find, on an average, they have 1s, per head per week to fact food, clothing, flying, &c.: in the Benminster Union it costs 28,6d, per head. Mr. Bankes and his new allies dare not deny this. I have numbers of notes from farmers in my possession, informing me the amount of wages, numbers in family, &c.; and I can assure you the wretchedness of many of these poor creatures I cannot describe; they are far worse at present than ever I have known them in consequence of the great failure of the potato crop in this neighbourhood, which they entirely live on when bread is dear, as at the present time. I assert they are in a most deplorable and dangerous state -a state they ought not to be left in a day. In the face of all this misery the pretended representatives of Dorset will plead in Parlin ment, as they have at protection meetings in the county, for agricultural labourers-for protection to native industry. What audacity! what consummate hypocrisy! or, shell we call it by a milder term, ignorance, which is the most charitable? Should this meet the eye of any charitably disposed person who may be able to do something towards clothing the poor labourers of Dorsefshire, as they have done in Buckingham-hire and Oxfordshire, I shall be most happy to be the medium of conveying it to them.

I am, dear sir, yours truly,

Joseph Terr.

To the Editor of the Cambrian. SIR,-As a farmer, my own experience of good and bad years has long since led me to the conclusion, that the Corn Laws are as much opposed to the farmer's interests as to those of any class of society. I holdly ask my brother farmers whether our pro-perous years have been not the the price of corn has been high, but those in which the iron, copper, and coal trades of these districts have been brisk With their activity commences our sunshine and with their depression the fall in price, the difficulty of finding a market for our farm produce. This at least has been the result of my observations and the experience of some The low prices of farming produce which prevailed in Glamorganshire and Carmarthenshire in 1813—the increased poor rates — and the deep distress amongst us farmers at that period, are as plainly to be traced to the depression of our great manufactures, and this again to the Corn Laws, in preventing exchanges with foreign nations, as the light of day is to the rising of the sun. The result of the reduction of duties on live stock by Sir R. Peel, has taught me and many other farmers volumes of wisdom, as to the real causes of the rise and fall of agricultural produce. In 1842, before the tariff came into operation, I sold heef at 42d, pork at 24d, and year at 42d, per lb. In 1845, which, in 1812, I got 10d., I now sell in Swansen market at 1s. 4d. per lb. So much for foreign competition. While the farmer's customers are in full curploy, the farmer's produce must sell well. One word as to farm labourers and the effect of low prices of corn on their wages. In 1812 3, I could procure an in-door farm servant for 7l, a year. I pro now giving for the same class 13% a year. Railway navigators in 1842 carned 2s, a day—last summer they got 3s, a day; the average price of wheat in the last weeks of May and June, 1812, being 61s, 10d, and 63s, 11d., and for corresponding weeks in May and June, 1845, 40s, 3d, and 47s, 11d.

As to immediate repeal, I should say in reference to the farmer's interests, by all means let it be immediate. We have to dread as our greatest enomy repeal by instalments. An English brother farmer has well said, "If the abolition of the Corn Laws are to ruin the farmer, put us to death at once, and not by mehes." The gradual repeal of the Corn Laws, by a falling duty each year, whatever mercy it may seemingly have for the fanner on paper, would in practice be the very worst plan that could be devised for lifm. Whatever inconvenience may be experienced by us from this change (although that inconvenience has been absurdly and ridiculously magnified) would be increased tenfold by continuing a state or uncercamy.

the abolition of the law would have the effect of delaying satenfold by continuing a state of uncertainty. Any delay in tisfactory arrangements between landlord and tenapt. farmer would look forward to the ultimate repeal of the duty, and in the meantime would lay out no more money or labour on his land than would be necessary for the present. I need not add, to those who are acquainted with farming, that the consequence of this would be exhaustion of the soil and thus both tenant and landlord would be in the end losers by delay.

With apology for those plain remarks,

I am, Sir, your constant rewler,

A GLAMOROANSHIRE TEMANT FARMER.

Jan. 28, 1840.

COMPENSATION FOR THE CORN LAWS. - Sir Gralinme Montgomery, Bart., has intimated to his numerous tenantry in Pachlesshire that although he feels confident that Sir Ho. bart Peel's measure, when snoe fairly carried luto effect, will produce a result highly beneficial to society at large, still, with an auxious wish to satisfy the minds of his tenantry, he begy to assure them should any reduction take place on farm produce in commequence of these measures, a reduction will be made upon their rents.—Bitterburgh Withtest will be the second of the second second will be seen invested which are seen out the second s

REVIEW.

Rough Notes of a Farmer during an Agricultural Tour through Russia, Prussia, &c. By F. F. Salter, Esq. London. Ridgway.

This little pamphlet is so well calculated to sooth the exaggerated glarms with which some interested parties have endeavoured to inspire the agriculturists respecting the dangers of foreign competition, that we are anxious to bring it at once under the consideration of our readers. Mr. Salter's soher facts complete the overthrow of Lord Stanley's Romanco of Tamboff; for no English farmer can seriously believe that he has to dread rivalry from those who pursuo the system described in the fol lowing extract:

"The skill of the Russian people in agricultural operations, when I visited the country, could not be considered otherwise than in a very primitive state, and the implements in general use were of the rudest description. The plough, or rather grubber, being simply two pieces of iron set at right angles with a pair of light shafts; this is drawn by one horse, whose labour depends upon the pressure of the hand that steers it. The implement was worth in the English market 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. The harrow also is peculiar, being constructed of a given number of slabs of the fir tree, with the spurs or branches left on about 15 inches long; these slabs are fastened to two cross bars by means of a withe at each end, and of which the value could not be above 1s, Cd. to 2s. The waggons are also of very rude construction, and about the size adapted for a donkey to draw upon a common road; value from 60s, to 11., but to this in general either two or three oxen are attached abreast.

"The land is cultivated chiefly by women, children, or old men. It it not an ususual sight to see one hundred women at plough, within a very short distance of each other, without hat, eac, shoes or stockings; their only covering being a loose kind of schock frock, made of a coarse material, woven by themselves during the winter months, with a string to draw it round the waist and above the breast. This of course is their summer dress.

" They not only plough, but harrow, sow, reap, mow, and hervest the crops—the able bodied men being chiefly engaged cither a coldier, or as servants to their lords, or at work as mechanics in the towns. The consequence is, that the lands, for want of strength to till them, look poverty stricken and neglected, and must under any circum dances require an immease outlay of capital to improve them, independently of the energy and skill required to overcome the difficulties as regards the shortness of the senson, during which anything connected with the improvement of the soil can be carried The earth is closed against all cultivation for seven mouths of continued and severe winter. One mouth of the year neay be divided into spring and autumn, and four mouths into extreme heat of summer.

"The difficulty of transit, for want of material to make roads, forms a serious inconvenience and a considerable check to the improvements in agriculture, especially in the interior, where the visitor will travel hundreds of miles over tracts of deep sand, seeing but a small portion of retentive lound. The depth of these sands renders it necessary to apply the labour of at least three horses to draw a light load for one on a common road; and if it was not for the facility afforded by sledging in the winter, many parts would almost be shut out from a market altogether. I observed no gravel. From what I could see of the crops and from the information I was able to obtain, the corriage of grain is by no means a heavy affair, in comparison with the extent of land upon which it is grown. For instance, rye, which forms by far the larger portion of the grain crop, does not yield, on an average of years, more than 'from two and a half to three corn,' that is to say, from two and a half to three times the seed rown. From what I saw of the rye crop, both before and after ripen-ing, I had a strong impression the yield was greater, although by no means a heavy crop, but upon a closer inspection I found the grain itself smaller than the English rye, and which recounted for the difference (about three bushels per acre) in my own opinion and the information received, and if the crop of 1849, as was stated repeatedly, the one the harvesting, of which I was an eye witness, was the heat that had been grown for twenty years, my decided opinion was that eight to twelve bushels per acre would top the average of many seasons. Wheat, burley, and oats, yield in the same proportion; neither turnips nor potatoes are cultivated to any extent, cabbage being the vegetable for a Russian"

Another passage exhibits the slevenly character of Russian agriculture in a stronger light.

"The poor horses also bespoke the slothful habi feeders, who screen themselves under the clouk of superstition, and plead as an excuse or reason for never cleaning the poor animals, or attending more diligently to the weaker constitutioned ones that sink under the cruelty and neglect, that they shall offend their (the horses) saint; for their impression is, every horse has his night master or saint to watch over him (and rub him down I presume), and therefore it would be presumption to smooth a hair. If the poor brute should be ill they conclude at once he has given great offence, and prevail on their masters to turn him ont of the stud. The men at plough on this farm were using English foot ploughs, with two horses, and a man to drive, ploughing very badly, and not going the newest way to the end of the field. They were somtimes nine inches deep, and sometimes three inches, and sometimes nearly out. I took hold of the plough and dispensed with the driver, and although the horses did not understand English, I contrived, with the help of the plough lines, to show them how to carryout a few furrows straight. and of a tolerably even depth. I was soon, however, obliged to give it up, for we were so infested by large black ant flies as to render a stay impossible. The man had a species of veil over their faces to protect them. I left them in high discourse and examining my work."

We shall next direct attention to the practical condition of the corn-markets in Riga and Odgesa, from which nearly all the grain exported from Russia is procured.

"The opinion of the Riga merchants as well as landowners was that Russia was not likely to produce corn for exportation cheaper than heretofore, for that any increased the price, and it was only from the syant of a regular market, and their being able to obtain the corn at

leisure from the interior that they have been enabled to sell at the prices they have done; and although these is capability in the will, there is such uncertainty in the seasons, and a want of hands generally to cultivate it, that nothing but a very steady demand, and that at higher prices, would increase the energy of the people and cause them to apply themselves

closer to the cultivation of grain.
"Odessa will no doubt at all times and seasons export grain, the uncertainty of the season being folt less in the south; but as the sea risk and freightage is much greater than from the Baltic, it must increase the value in the market, so that not more than one third of the grain sent out from that port ought to be calculated as for the English market.

To give some idea of the badness of the roads and the difficulty of transit, we had ten horses attached to a diligence with six people in it for nearly 250 miles of the journey, which was nearly all the time in deep sand."

Comment on these statements is superfluous. English farmers have as little need to fear competition with such tillers of the soil, as English soldiers an encounter with the most barbarous tribes of Asia or America. The Russians have neither the skill, the capital, nor the enterprise, which would enable them to compete with the English producers of corn. It might as well be said that the Kirghees with their bows and arrows, could compete with our discipline, musketry, and artiflery.

Forest and Came Law Tales; By Harriet Martineau. Vol. III. London: Moxon.

The third volume of Miss Martineau's Game Law Tales contains but one story, "Gentle and Simple;" it is a leaf from what Gray very falsely described as "The short but simple annals of the poor," for it is a picture of long suffering and complicated misery. Larke Voile, a slow-witted lad, but the chief support of his grandmother, brothers, and sister, having found a partridge's nest, took it home, utterly ignorant of his having committed a crime. He showed the prize to a labourer, who mentioned it at the public-house; Groves, a master-poncher, at once marked Luke as his own.

When they had overheard Waterston tell a man at the counter about Luke and the nest, Groves said to Satchell, with a wink,

'A nice scrape for a lad to begin with, that, Satchell! As

nice a beginning as one often hears of."

"Why, you would not set an eye on him?" replied Satchell. "He is such a simple had,—you may have a better than he, any day. You never saw such a simple hal. Why, if Waterston had told him to sit on the eggs to keep them warm, there he would have not till they hatched off;unless his granny had knocked him off the nest. You will never make anything of him."

" But you see, he is a stout young fellow; and if he gets on our side, he will be one the less against us; for you may rely on it, Lisamer will hire such a stout one as that for a watcher. The lad will be sure to be out o' nights, on the one side or the other.....

"Well, then, to be sure, it will be best for the lad himself to be with us? But what can you do with such

"We'll see whether he has not something in him. He has

loarned to drive a spade well in; and a boy that has learned one thing may learn another. And he need not be able to do us any harm. We'll manage it all for his good and our

"Ay, do! Do him nothing but kindness, for they are poorly off,—those Voiles. And the old vixon herself is an honest, thrifty, hard working old body; so, give them whelp, if you like, but nothing worse.

"I'll give them a lift," said Groves, with a decisive nod. "What you have to do is to get the story of the nest to Pole's

car to nìght,"
"To nìght!"

"Yes: for the chance of fluding either bird or eggs still extant, you know.

"I know,' said Satchell, taking his turn to nod with

He went and joined his other customers, and soon brought them to the point of going before dark to the meadow, to try to find the empty next. Any object will serve for idlers who want to pass an hour. Satchell knew this; and he knew that one of Mr. Treherne's keepers was pretty sure to hear immediately from Mr. Sleath's people of anything that took place in relation to game on Mr. Eyre's farm, where Squire Sleath rented the shooting.

Accordingly, when Lisamer. was locking the door of his lodge for the night, his assistant, Pole, came up with information which would not bear delay. One of farmer Eyre's labourers had stolen a bird and her eggs, and shown them to a miner who could swear to the fact, but had rather not come forward.

Luke was convicted, but Groves paid the fine for him, and believed himself sure of his victim, as the farmer for whom he worked feared to give any emplayment to one who had offended the preservers of game. Onslow, a more independent farmer, took pity on the youth, and we shall now see how his conduct was viewed by the "lovers of sport."

As Luke was turning into the field, three gentlemen came riding down the lane; and one of them called to him to open the lane gate. As Luke touched his forehead, as taught when he was a little boy, Mr. Holloway observed to Mr. Treherne that this was the lad who was before them in a

scrape the other day. Mr. Treherne pulled up for a moment.

"What business have you here?" he asked of Luke.

"I'm come to my work from dinner, please you, Sir."

"Who gives you work?"

"Mr. Onslow. I did work for farmer Eyre till now; and now I work for Mr. Onslow."

"What Eyrs would have nothing more to do with such a fellow as you, oh?" "No, Sir."
"There you see what it is to fall into vice, Nobody will

trust you, and you will go to jail."

"I work for Mr. Onslow now, Sir."

"He will turn you of,—at least he ought,—if you are oaught thieving again. So, take care,"

"I was never caught thisving, Sir," exclaimed Luke,

"I was never cangut thisving, Sir," exclaimed Luke, looking up surprised."

"Why, we not you the ladithet was brought up for poaching—for thing a bird and cars—only three days since?"

"Yes, ""

"The how can you say you never did any thisving?"

Luke looked puzzled, and the gentleman rode on, Mr. Tre. herns observing to Lord B. that he thought they ought to watch Onslow, whose proceedings appeared very strange watch Onslow, whose proceedings appeared very strange Every fellow fresh from jail, every poscher just fined, had only to come to him to get encouragement and counte-

"Do you object to that?" Mr. Holloway asked. "I hope he has regard to the honest men first," observed

"If he has," said Mr. Treherne, "it is only in giving them work. It is no compliment to an honest labourer to put him to work on the same hedge with a poacher. The honest men cannot have much to say for Onslow's consideration

The moral and legal code of certain game preservers is expounded in the following conversa-

"You see what happens for want of a little manly severity," observed Mr. Treherne. "A milksop magistrate who looks ready to cry over any bruise that a poscher may have to show, and talks about violence and assault, and all that nonsense, is the very person answerable for detestable tricks like these. No man can doubt of the advantage of knocking down a poncher here and there, over such entrap-

"You hold either assaulting, or spying and entrapping men necessary to the preservation of game?" asked Sir

"I do not admit the word 'assault,' in the case. I would have no one strike a blow who is not empowered by the Act to capture a poacher. That being provided, I am confident that a good deal less parley, and a few more timely blows would save a vast deal of mischief and false sentiment."

"That is your own practice?"
"Of course it is. When I know that a fellow is going to make opposition, I cut the matter short with a punch

"And by what means do you know it?"

"You may always see by a man's eye when he is intending a blow. How could you parry a blow but for that?"
"How is it that the man does not see the same thing in

your eye? How is it that you get your blow struck?"
"Perhaps," observed Mr. Holloway, it is dark, as frequently happens in the night. But in that case, it is wonderful how Treherne sees the poacher's eye."

"Ah! you know nothing about it, any of you. You have not been in between twenty and thirty poaching con-

Farmer Onslow's view of poaching contains some truths worthy the attention of country gentlemen.

"Where there is profit, Sir, there is always inducement: and there is much pleasure besides in the adventure of ponching; and no popular disgrace; -nothing more than the excitement of an amusing little mystery about their goings and comings. Well, then, there is that old fox Groves, who makes most of all. In all these cases, I have no doubt, if we were to see into their affairs, we should find a curious excess of expenditure over apparent receipts."

"Mr. Treherne is very clever at finding reasons for praising game preserving," said Mrs. Onslow. "I wonder what he would say to so many people having their incomes im-proved by his and his neighbours' game." "I wonder what

" It is not the argument he would most rely on," observed

Mr. Holloway. And it is met in a moment," declared the farmer, "by this;—that the money put into people's pockets, partially, unfairly, and guiltily, by the game, is no more than would be got, fairly and honestly, by the proper persons, if there were no game—or no more than is harmless. Only let Mr. Treherne look at Frith's farm, and he may see, if he chooses, how many labourers might and would be employed and fed on that farm, if there was a chance for anything to grow. Lord B.'s tenants are many of them hardly placed enough: but it stirs one's judignation to see such a case as Frith'show he is going to ruin, in spite of all he can do to save himself; and how the food that God gave for man is devoured and spoiled by brute creatures, while our poor neighbours are shrinking to skeletons for want of food. I wish some-body could get Lord B. and Mr. Treherne to go over that

farm, and learn the truth for themselves." "They could not see it, if it was before their eyes," declared Mrs. Onslow. "Mr. Treherne would say it was worms or rats, or birds, or weather, or anything rather than admit it to be the game.—Yes—even though nobody else had been troubled with wire worm, and crows, and wood pigeons, or a bad season. It agrees with his pleasures to say that pheasants are the farmer's best friends, and hares no enemies; and he will go on to say so to the last day of his life."

"I wish he would say so somewhere abroad, where such a saying would be harmless; and leave Frith and the rest of us to do what we like with our farms—paying him handsomely for his game. I am afraid he is not likely to stay away, Mr. Holloway; or we would make him a handsome offer to rent his estate."

The principles which the tale is designed to illustrate may be gathered from the extracts we have made ; but the course of the story is developed with artistic skill which no quotations could clucidate. Luke, pressed by his debt to Groves, perseveres in peaching, and is finally transported; his family sinks into hopeless ruin; and finally, Treherne's gamekeeper, outwitted by the poachers, and afraid to meet his master, commits suicide. These sad events produce no more effect on Treherne than they would on Mr. Grantley Borkeley. His comment on the result is characteristic:

"It is a dreadful business," observed Mr. Treherne. "And I feel particularly for you in it."

"Trehorne!" exclaimed Mr. Holloway, turning round to him with a face of anguish, "I wish you would go away."
"What! Go away! My dear fellow, what do you mean? -Come, say, what you mean."

"I must at such a time as this. Treheme, I wish you would let your estate here, and go to some other, Xou bare

other property, in more places than one, and nowhere could your presence be so—so—what it is here."

"The first day of a country gratheman, Holloway, is to live on his estate. And no man is more resolved to do his duty than I am."

"Then come back when we have retrieved ourselves a little but lague us a breathing time. You well known

tle; but leave us a breathing time. You well know the your estate is unproductive—the neighbouring farms yield bad rents, our harvests impaired, your tenants discontents. their labourers corrupted and exasperated; and now, here is suicide and flight—flight to another country and to the day. ness of the grave—from before your face! You must go away, or I know not what will become of us."

"Come, no more of this, Holloway! I can make great allowance for you—great allowance this evening for you; and at all times for the clergyman of my parish. But there

is a point beyond which"
"Beyond which the voice of man can scarcely reach you."

declared Mr. Holloway, "since the hand of Heaven works in vain before your eyes. May God awaken you to a sense

of the position in which you stand!"

"When it appears in a new light to me, I will let you know, you may rely upon it, Holloway. I have shown you that I can confess myself wrong. But I have my own visus of duty; and till they change, I shall live on my own so it the may I think flitting. I am payor in head to tate, in the way I think fitting. I am never induced to any thing by cant, as I thought you had known. Well, well; I don't apply the word 'cant' to you as originating that me of considerations, I mean only that I think you too early caught by cant, as every clergyman is apt to be, in regard to game-preserving; even you, it seems, though you have enjoyed sport in your time more than many elergymen who take on themselves to talk of what they know nothing about."

Miss Martineau has done good service by har able exposure of the natural and necessary results of the iniquitous Game Laws; and we trust all who feel an interest in the moral improvement of the agricultural population will exert themselves to en. sure a large circulation of these little volumes.

THE ICE HARVEST IN AMBRICA.—It may not be gen rally known that a good pond of water situated in the upper part of the city, will yield to its owner a better income than a field of wheat of the same size.—Boston Daily Advertiser.

THE LABOURING CLASSES OF TRALEE.-We have just heard that the board of works will, within six weeks, commence the embankment of the slob between Derrymore point and Anna Island. This work, which is of considerable extent, will prove a most fortunate god-send for the labouring classes during the next summer.—Kerry Post.

Dissolution of the Liverpool Royal Stock Ex-

CHANGE.—As a sign of the times, the dissolution of this exchange might be adduced as important. A new association opened on Monday, into which we believe the bulk of in members, together with many who have seceded from the association in Bank-buildings, have entered.

INDIAN CORN.—The corn, the arrival of which we lately noticed, is in progress of grinding at the Lee Mills. The ment or flour is of a very fine quality, and is convertible into a valuable and an agreeable article of food.—Cork Const.

THE YOUNG WHEAT.—The young wheat plants in a parts of the country present a most healthy appearance. If they are not checked by spring frosts, we shall, in all probability, have an early harvest .- Edinburgh Register.

FUNERAL EXPENSES.—A movement is now being made in Paisley for the abolition of the custom, which is carried to an extravagant excess in Scotland, of providing refreshments to company at funerals.

EDUCATION IN VIRGINIA.—There are 120,000 children in Virginia who attend no school whatever.

On Friday week, the price of potatoes advanced 8d, and on some kinds Is, per cwt. A pound of good potatoes oannot now be purchased under 1d. and 11d.; and for one pound of the best bread the charge is, with very few exceptions, 24d., or 84d. to 10d. per four pound loaf, the price having advanced Id. within the last two or three days .- Morning Chronicle.

The Commissioners of Woods and Forests have ordered the marble archway or portice at Buckingham Palace to be covered with India rubber pavement, similar to the Admirally

SPADE LABOUR.—The Duke of Marlborough is improving his land by spade labour, and has now 250 labourers employed at good wages, in double digging Bladon-heath, Oxon.

It is reported that the King of Sweden has offered a reward of 10,000 dollars to the person who shall contrive the most efficient apparatus for converting sawdust into charcoal without waste.

A letter from Vienna says, "In the memory of man there never was such a winter, or rather we have not had any winter at all. The temperature is generally 11 depressions there are a few icicles in the Danube, but the arrive from Bavaria, and melt as soon as they mix with the river here. The trees are in flower, everybody wear are clothes, and the promenades are through as it in the height of suppose." height of summer."
FAMINE IN SWEDEN,—A letter from Stockholm of the

15th January, states, that in the provinces of Upsal, Booksholmlan, and Westmanland, the scarcity has reached states. degree of intensity that it is feared generally lest a new unfortunate persons rush to Stookholm, which would be to be t vitably produce a famine. In Upland there are 14,000

sons without food or shelter. HEALTHY LOCALITY.—It is an extraordinary feet

HEALTHY LOCALITY.—It is an extraordinary feet with a population of between seven and eight thousand sons in Chelmsford, there has not been a death registration of the parish for a month.

A MIRACLE!—A baker of Critch is astonished townsmen by exhibiting an egg, on the shell appears, in relief, the words, "The soul that shall die: repent." The baker pastends that one of many shall die: repent." The baker pastends that one of many laid the egg a few days ago, and that the inscription the shell when it first came forth!

On Friday the first pile of the Nore visible Mountrath, was driven to its place, and the menced:

manaed:

THE LEAGUE.

No. 128.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1846.

[8d.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

MR. VILLIERS'S MOTION—POLICY OF THE LEAGUE.

The fate of Mr. Villiers's motion for making the Premier's total repeal of the Corn Law immediate was certainly about the strangest result of a strange concurrence, or conflict, of circumstances, that any legislative assembly ever witnessed. It was not, as in times past, when the honourable member for Wolverhampton had to fight the hard, up-hill battle of fact and argument against half-friends, who thought him "right in principle," but mildly consured him for "going too far;" and declared opponents, who condemned him and his principles as wrong altogether. This time everybody agreed with him, and judged him to be altogether right. The motion was a thoroughly good motion-well principled, and well timed. There was no denying his premises—no resisting his conclusion. It was impossible there could be two opinions about it. Everybody felt, and almost everybody said, immediate repeal was the very thing. It was best for the British farmer, best for the Irish peasant, and best for the political peace and quiet of the country, which would then be totally and immediately relieved of the "machinations" and of the presence of an "unconstitutional" League. The emergency demanded it-sound principle required it-and public opinion could not be satisfied without it. There was scarcely a breath of doubt uissent. Ministers "could not deny," and Opposition orators "frankly confessed." Sir Robert Peel was clearly of opinion that his plan was " not quite so complete" as Mr. Villiers's, and "less perfect" than Mr. Cobden's. Lord John Russell deemed the League scheme " both more wise as an abstract, and more effective as a practical proposition" than that of the Government. The protectionists, themselves, had said as much-only their memories failed them when the time came for saying it once more, with effect; and they had forgotten all about it. Never was such unanimity. Nobody pretended to think Mr. Villiers mistaken; yet, when it came to the point, Mr. Villiers found himself out-voted by a majority of more than three

This calls for explanation; and the explanation is certainly of the oddest. The fact is, it was found, or fancied, that if the bill was made too good, it; could never do for that mysterious "other place" which so many dark and enigmatical allusions in the course of debates. Honourable that the course of debates, Honourable that the course of the cou

the character in the ch

unseen spirit of this "other place." Sir Robert Peel said, it was totally impossible he could answer for the effect" that might be produced in the "other place," by making the bill as good as he thought it ought to be-though he was chivalrous enough to volunteer braving the torrors of the "other place," in case of need. Lord John Russell "would not take the responsibility" of troubling the "other place" with anything like a perfect bill. With a glaring fault or two on the face of it, the bill might have a chance of respectful treatment in the "other place;" but everybody shook his head at the notion of sending a faultless bill to try its fortune in that quarter. It was impossible to say what might befall the bill in the "other place," unless its worst flaws wore carefully preserved in their "integrity." Honourable gentlemen seemed, one and all, to have the worst possible opinion of the "other place."

Was there ever such a satire on an existing institution of the country, as that impliedly east, all through the discussion of Monday and Tuesday nights, on the hereditary branch of the British legislature? It seemed to be taken for granted that their lordships of the upper house are naturally inaccessible to reason. Nobody was disposed to give them credit for believing the most indisputably-authenticated facts, or drawing the most irresistibly-obvious inferences. The general sense of the house was strong against putting too great a strain on their lordships' logical and statesmanlike faculties. Nothing could make truth go down in the "other place" but a moderate admixture of the false and foolish—as one sweetens physic for squalling children not arrived at years of discretion, without inquiring too curiously whether the sugar will improve or detract from the efficacy and wholesomeness of the doso. The faithful Commons apologise to one another and to the country for not doing the right thing by throwing it on the Lords' want of sense. The "lower" house must condescend to the mental debility and limitation of the "upper." Accordingly, all the faults are cautiously retained for the express gratification of the very peculiar tastes so freely attributed to the denizens of the "other place"—on some such principle, we suppose, as that on which the waggish toper, after having carefully taken the flies out of the decanter of wine, as earefully replaced them on the termination of the afternoon's proceedings; "for, though he did not like drinking flies, perhaps others might."

The policy of the League, in bringing forward at this particular juncture a motion having the formal character of opposition to a Free Trade Government, has been-or rather, had been-objected to by certain of our over-sensitive and cautious friends. That policy is, we presume, by this time, justifled in the opinion of the most scrupulously-timid of them all. Independently of certain highly instructive and monitory incidents occurring in the discussions of this week-such as Lord George Bentinck's menace about "fighting the battle from pillar to post"-there is everything in the present state and prospects of the question to warn us against relaxing one iota of our demand, or recoding by a hairs' breadth from our vantage ground of principle. If any of our friends have been flat. toring themselves with the belief that we are already out of the wood-that the bill is safethat the majority of ninety-seven has settled every. thing—that the lords will be compliant—that there will be no dissolution and general election before the business is over, they have probably seen or heard that within the last few days which may go far to undeceive them. The bill is not safe. The majority of minety seven has settled nothing, so far as regards the events of the next three or six

months. For the compliance of their lordships, no human being can answer. dissolution and general election before the business is over, never looked likelier than at this prosout moment. A flat defiance of the Ministry, the House of Commons, and the country-a direct new gative to the Government measure—a categorical No-a determination to maintain "protection in its integrity"-is, perhaps, not to be expected. But there is, just now, very great reason to expect that their Lordships will damage and destroy the bill with ' amendments." Rumours of a " fixed duty" have been much affeat of late. The atmosphere of the lobbies and the club-houses is charged with "fixed duty," as the thick air is charged with thunder on a sultry summer's evening. These floating rumours have, within the past day or two, assumed a disagreeably definite shape. On Thursday morning, the Chronicle startled the good easy folks, who had been so pleasantly saying to one another, "all right," with the portentous announcement, that-

Statements are now made of so positive a character, and with such special reference to persons and plans, as to leave no doubt that a very serious opposition to the Ministerial Bill in the Upper House is intended. Looking merely to the opinions of the leaders of the protection party, it might be inferred that a simple and direct negative upon the measurement to the protection. sure would be the course taken to ensure its defeat. This mode of proceeding would no doubt be most consonant with the feelings of the Duke of Richmond. A little reflection, however, must convince the most impetuous opponent of Sir Robert Peel that such a plan would have slight chance of ultimate success. * * * * Whatever may have been ultimate success. the first thoughts of the protectionist peers, it is not likely that their deliberate resolution will be in favour of an extreme course. It is much more probable that a compromise will be attempted; and although nothing of this sort can in reality meet with better success than would attend an unqualified opposition to the bill, the chances may appear to be more in its favour. Supposing that the high protection peers can be got to abandon their present position as untenable, and to join with men of more moderate views in making a stand for a low fixed duty, it may be imagined that, on that ground, a compromise can be effected. The advocates of such a course will urge that several of those who voted for Sir Robert Peel's bill supported the man rather than the measure, and that a reform less sweeping, if sanctioned by the House of Lords, will find a majority of the Commons to accept it rather than leave the question to be settled by a general election, carried on under circumstances of fierco excitement and exasperation. Upon some such calculation as this the intention is entertained of opposing to the Covernment Bill, when it reaches the Upper House, the proposition of a moderate fixed duty!

The notion of the protectionists taking up with a" low fixed duty," or a "moderate fixed duty." may seem chimerical to many of those who have still ringing in their cars the old Bond-street shouts of "No compromise," and "No surrender." For ourselves, we can perceive nothing at all chimerical in it. The world has seen enough, during the last week, in the sudden oblivion which overtook the landlords, with respect to everything they had so long been saying about the "infinite preferableness" of immediate to deferred repeal, to be able to judge, what these passionate and random dieta of landlordism are good for. "Small fish better than none," or "half a loaf better than no bread." will now be the Richmond motto. Now that "protection in its integrity" is done for, we may expect a stout fight for the fragments. The morest odds and ends will be thankfully received, or impudently solicited. There are men among them, we do believe, who would risk a revolution for a " protection" sixpence. We think it in the highest degree probable, that the Morning Chronicle's oxposition of protectionist policy is true to the letter.

Now, what is the country's security, in the event of this daring experiment on the public patience being actually tried? Suppose the lords really do that which it is said and believed they mean to do; suppose the ministerial measure thrown out by "amendments;" suppose a dissolution of Patliament, and an "appeal to the people;" where is our security for the instant and crushing defeat of the audadious attempt?

Simply that which the League, and the League

Parliamentary friends have taken, from first to last, and especially during the past week. If Sir Robert Peel cannot pass his measure, we, who have nover linked our cause with Sir Robert Peel and his measure, are ready to go on with our measure. We have kept our old faith; we have maintained our old impregnable position; we have placed and kept our cause out of the reach of party politics and Parliamentary diplomacy; and we are prepared for all contingencies. Even a Ministerial and Parliamentary compliance with protectional suggestions of" amendment"-a thing, however, which it would be most unjust to Sir Robert Peel to speak of as in any way probable-would make no other difference to us than a difference of time. We should do with the new Corn Law exactly that which we have done with its two predecessors-only we should make much shorter work of it. Happen what will, our course is plain before us. We have not made Sir Robert Peel's bill our bill-his defeat would not be our defeat-his submission would not be our submission. In any and every contingency, we have the whole undivided and unbroken force of our principles to fall back upon. The lords may do what they will ;--our position is exactly that which it was, three or six months ago -- with no other difference than that of the prodigious and incalculable increase of force derived from everything that has happened in the interval.

against a blind and careless over-confidence? We entreat our friends everywhere to be watchful and alert; to keep their heads cool and clear; to take nothing for granted; to be on the look-out for "dangers, traps, and pitfalls;" to be prepared to hear, some day soon, of a ministerial defeat, a crisis, and a dissolution of Parliament; and to have every thing in the best working order for answering her Majesty's "appeal to the people." That the issue of their lordships' experiment would be sure and swift destruction to the last remnant of protection is no ground whatever for believing that the experiment is not going to be tried.

FREE TRADE AND PEACE.

Notwithstanding the menacing tone and complexion of the recent intelligence from the United States, we still hold to the belief that there will be no war-can be no war-between nations whom the ties of commercial intercourse and amity are about to bind together in a more effectual union even than that of a common descent and language, and similar laws and institutions. Were the ease, indeed, merely and exclusively one for diplomacy to settle, there would really be ground for well nigh despairing of a pacific adjustment. All overtures of compromise successively rejected; arbitration twice offered, and twice refused; formal notice about to be given, that a settlement of some sort must be had without further delay; -- all this has unquestionably a most bellicose aspect. At this moment it is certainly impossible to see how war is to be eventually avoided without concessions either by one party or the other, which there is no apparent reason for expecting that any party will consont to make. Still, though not seeing this, we entirely believe in the sure predominance of the mutual necessities and common interests created by free commercial intercourse over the war madness just now raging among a portion of the American people. By pursuits, habits, and interests, they are essentially a pacific people, despite all the flerce and foolish talk with which their halls of legislation have lately echoed. Their history is proof enough of this. For sixty years and more that they have been an independent nation, they have most perseveringly kept the peace, with the exception only of a brief contest provoked by oursolde Luke this is a good deal more than any to convention can say for itself. We are unable the worth at now, when a now and potent stimulus to be offered to their peaceful industry, in

n a large and permanent new market for

they will suddenly be found untrue to induring interests, their habitual character,

had their traditional maxims of policy.

It will, of course, be borne in mind, that those recent acts of the American Cabinet and Congress, which look so warlike, were determined on in ignorance of fliat approaching change in our commercial policy which will effect so thorough and sweeping an alteration in the mutual relations and interests of the two countries. The resolution in favour of giving the twelve months notice to terminate the joint-occupancy convention (which notice, by the way, is not necessarily and intrinsically a war measure) was adopted, it will be remembered, on the 9th of February-only five days after the sailing, from our shores, of the monthly packet which carried out the intelligence of the Ministerial plan of Free Trade, announced to the House of Commons in the last week of January. That that resolution would not have been carried, had the arrival of this intelligence preceded the conclusion of the debate, is more than we can venture to affirm, in view of all that had previously taken place. But we are fully persuaded that its arrival now will be a vast accession to the moral and political force of the peace party, and render it next to impossible for any class of politicians to hurry the American people into a palpably suicidal contest. We are confirmed in this conviction by the intelligent Washington correspondent of the Times, who, on the 4th of February, wrote from the scene of action as follows:

"If Great Britain desires to settle by negotiation the dispute respecting Oregon, and at the same time strengthen the honds of peace between herself and the United States, let a commercial treaty be negotiated. Settle the Oregon question by dividing it by the 49th parallel, and then negotiate such terms of admission into the English ports for the pork, beef, grain, bread-sinffs, cheese, butter, lard, rice, &c., of the United States as shall make you the best customers for their cotton, and you immediately unite the whole farming interest with the present peace party, and you forge a bond of union between the two countries which it will be almost impossible to sever, or disturb by war."

The writer was not aware that the "commercial treaty" was in process of formation and announcement at the very moment he was penning his recommendation of it—and this without troubling the diplomatists. We have learned at last how to make our "commercial treaties," without wasting time and patience on "negotiation." Renouncing all pretence of making a good bargain-asking for no "reciprocity" stipulations—waiting for no foreign signature or ratification-we have taken the commercial law of the world into our own hands, and are about establishing that surest and simplest of all "commercial treaties," of which merchants are the only negotiators plenipotentiary, and ledgers and bills of exchange the only diplomatic notes and protorols. Some time about the 20th of last montheleven days after the passing of the obnoxious resolution of Congress, the American people would becomo acquainted with the fact, that the best and richest corn-market in the world is about to be thrown finally open to the produce of their agricultural and corn-growing western states-and not a syllable said of "terms." A few days will new bring us their first answer to this "message of peace." We shall be greatly surprised if that answer be not such as amply to justify the faith of those who look to Free Trade to unravel the entanglements of diplomacy, and avert the horrors and miseries of

What a significant tribute it is to the truth and power of the great principle in whose name we have leagued ourselves, that in all difficult and anxious exigencies—foreign no less than domestic—a Free Trade policy presents itself as the only sure resort of baffled and harassed statesmanship! All the lines of sound and wise policy converge to one point. Whether the peril be famine in Ireland, or "a cloud in the west;" whether the problem to be solved be, how to feed and employ our own people, or how to avert with honour an insane and destructive war;—in either case, the solution is the same. At home and abroad commercial liberty forces itself on our statesmen, as the only solid-guarantee against national calamity.

STATE OF TRADE.—MANCHESTER, Tucsday.—The Indian letters have this morning been received. They are not favourable. Sales were tady, and prices declining. Month also continued tight. The war had a project to the continued tight.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846

Seventh Week, ending Saturday, March 7.

Although the events of Friday night, the 27th of February, are familiar to all our readers, the historical importance of an occasion so memorable will excuse our reverting to it, more especially as we could not do so in our last publication.

It will be recollected that the early part of Friday was occupied by Mr. Ferrand, after his peculiar fashion, and in that style on which, amongst every member of the House of Commons, there is but one opinion, and thata very decided one. Perlag, we overrate the fact in using the phrase "everymenber." Lord John Manners is esteemed for his amighlity, and he is enthusiastic, on all occasions, in praise of chivalric feeling and our "ancient aristocracy He usually sits beside Mr. Ferrand, or rather Mr. Ferrand usually sits beside him, in that portion of the house where the protectionists cluster, or, as Mr. Conden terms it, in a phrase which is become ing a noted one, "under the gangway." There is no disputing tastes; if Lord Manners likes Mr Forrand, it is nobody's business: but, after all, the majority of the House of Commons is composed of gentlemen, and though not indisposed to use a boisterous, blustering, bawling "fugleman," when he serves a turn, it is clear that there prevails a very general distaste of the manners of Lord John Manner's companion.

But Mr. Ferrand was the unconscious cause of performing a good service on Friday night. Mr. Bright reminded him how he shrunk from non. taining, in a court of justice, his base allegation that the chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League, Mr. George Wilson, and Mr. Rawson, were present at a public meeting where the idea of assassinating the Prime Minister was started This point was taken up by Mr. D'Israeli, in speech in which he criticised the Anti-Corn Law League, praised the purity of his own motives, and censured with a bitterness amounting to cold fercity, the manners and conduct of Mr. Rochuck. This brought up Sir Robert Peel; and the First Lord of the Treasury handsomely retracted the imputation which he had thrown out, three years ago, on Mr. Cobden. He ought to have done it loss ago, but "better late than never;" and now that it is over, the scene deserves to be recorded, not menty as exceedingly creditable to both gentlemen, but also for the moral which it conveys. Had hir Cobden been actuated by the pride and the passion of the school of false "honour," had he even actedon the suggestion thrown out at the time by a leading weekly organ of the liberal party, he would have given Sir R. Peel the alternative of retracting his words. or of " naming his friend." But he has waited for and obtained a nobler, a godlike satisfaction-the voluntary, unsolicited, expression of regret-a regret which, we believe, has long filled the mind of Sir R. Peel-that he should have been betraved into throwing out a shocking insinuation.

The debate was commenced by Mr. Bankes. whose sounding platitudes invariably weary the house. Mr. Bickham Escott, who has become an especial object of dislike to the protectionists, followed in an admirable speech. Captain Gladstone the brother of the Secretary for the Colonies, and who represents Ipswich, declared himself an advacate of protection; and then came the speech, not merely of the night, but even of the debate. When Mr. Connen rose, all around him set up a hearty cheer, as if to mark their gratification that his recent illness had not prevented him from showing himself at the closing scene of this never-to-be-forgotton Waterloo of Free Trade against Monopoly. It was gratifying to observe that, not merely the members on the treasury and ministerial benches joined in the cheer, but even some of the protetionists showed their good feeling by participating in it. This grateful tribute over, dead silence en sued; and Mr. Cobden began in a low voice, which, however, gathered strength as he want on and warmed to his subject; but from the first, so per feetly still and quiet was the assembly, that not a rectly still and quiet was the assembly, that he word was lost. He commenced by stating that he had carefully read over every word of the debate, although he had been unable to at said the house in person, and it appeared to film that it highly conveniently distributed under two heads. Was merely the investigation and it will be the chief whom they had lost. before legislating on this measure, and slightly on

the merits of the case.

To those who have never heard Mr. Cobden speak in the House of Commons, it will be difficult to convey an idea of the effect which such a speech as the one on Friday night produces. No matter how entangled the debate may have become (and entangled enough it was after three weeks discussim), it instantly assumes the shape of a clear, explicit account, in which all the items are balanced, and their precise value assigned. You marvel that you have not seen all this before; and you perceive that the assombly he is addressing is marvelling at it too. But this is very far indeed from being the sole merit of a practical, acute, and sagacious intellect. The members of the House of Commons-at least a majority of them-are shut up in circles, clubs, and coteries; and Mr. Cobden walks into the house as if he had come from another sphere, purposely to enlighten " honourable members" as to the nature of a world of which they are wholly ignorant. Every man listening to nim felt that he was tearing away the veil from the face of delusion; and placing the actual state of the country before the legislature. Admirably he treated the demand for an "appeal to the country." Assuming for a moment, for the sake of argument although he utterly denied the fact), that they could obtain a numerical majority in that house, of whom would that majority and of whom would the minority be composed? Why, in the minority would be found the representatives of every town in England that held 25,000 inhabitants-the sixteen metropolitan members, and the members for the metropolitan county—the representatives of Edinburgh and of Dublin, of Manchester, Glasgow, and Liverpool-all the intelligence, all the active power of the country. Contrast the significance of the votes of the members for London, and that of the representatives of Woodstock or Buckingham. Public opinion would be represented by that minority, while the majority would be composed of the representatives of the pocket boroughs and the nomination counties, with their 501. tenants-at-will. Public opinion, said Mr. Cobden, is of such force, that in 1745, had the same unanimity existed in favour of the Stunrt dynasty, as at this moment exists in favour of this measure, that dynasty would at this moment have been sitting on the throne of these realms.

The happy manner in which Mr. Cobdon meets interruptions was strikingly exemplified repeatedly during his speech. When the protectionists were shouting out "No, no," to his test of public opinion, he asked, "What, then, will you take as a test? Do you require to be tossed in a blanket?" This

raised shouts of laughter.

After Mr. Cobden had concluded, Mr. Spooner and Mr. Borthwick both spoke, but/the house was not in the slightest humour to hear either of them. Then Lord George Bentinck, son of the Duke of Portland, who had been in training for a fortnight, delivered a dreadfully dreary speech of nearly three hours, commencing before twelve o'clock, and not concluding till twenty minutes to three. Nothing, however, put him down; and consequently he had the benefit of having the best part of his speech to himself, for the house only listened at brief intervals, and the newspapers have given it/very. short. Then came the division-

Against it 337

Majority in favour of the Government plan, 97 Much cheering marked the announcement of these numbers,

On Monday both branches of the legislature were engaged in listening to the accounts given, by the Earl of Ripon in the House of Lords, and by Sir Robert Pool in the House of Commons, of the re cent military operations in the Punjab, and voting the thanks to the Governor-General of India, and to the officers and troops, by whom the dearly-

purchased victories of December last were gained. In the House of Commons, Mr. Craven Berkeley moved for a Committee of Inquiry into the circum stances attending the getting up of a petition, pur-porting to come from Cheltenham, but bearing the Manchester post mark, to which cortain signatures were alleged to be forged. Mr. Bright satisfactorily explained the circumstances, showing that an irregularity had occurred, but no fraud. The opportunity had occurred, but no made, opportunity, however, was a tempting one for the ferrand and Newdegate section is advance a charge of wholesale manufacturing of petitions by the Anti-Odricka, League, Norting, however, was

made out of this, and the Committee of Inquiry was appointed. But on Tuesday Mr. Nowdegate moved that it be an instruction to the committee to inquire into the system of objecting to votes in the registry, which led to a lengthened, though aimless discussion. All that Mr. Newdegate took by his motion was a very unequivocal demonstration of the fact that the innocent Conservatives have most extensively played at a game, which has now been turned against them by their opponents, Sir Robort Peel and Lord John Russell joined in the discussion; and Mr. Charles Baller resolved the whole argument into a tu quoque one, and showed that if an inquiry were gone into at all, it must not be a one-sided one, but embracing the conduct of both parties and all parties. Mr. Nowdegate is not a peculiarly bright young man; but he opened his eyes wide enough to see the consequences of his motion, which he withdrew.

On Monday night the house went into a committee, without objection from any one. Speaker having vacated the chair, the mace was placed under the table, at which Mr. Greene, the chairman of committees, took his place. Thon

Mr. Villiers rose, to make his announced motion that the repeal of the Corn Law should be IMME-DIATE. The speech in which this was done was pithy, terso, argumentative, and, though short, completely exhausted the reasons for an immediate as well as a total repeal. When he had concluded, Colonel Sibthorp got up, and played a variety of anties, which, though amusing at first, grew tire-some. The whole fun of the gallant colonel lies in his manner. Sir John Tyrroll has really some humour in him, but Colonel Sibthorp has none; and when he makes one laugh, it is simply because of the absurdity of his assertions, and the superfluous gesticulation with which they are accompanied. For instance, when some members, tired of his nonsense, called out "question," he waved his hand, pointing grandly towards the door, and explained that if they were tired they could walk out! Again, when he found that he could not read his "documents," (he never gets up without sets of papers in his hand, though what they relate to is scarcely ever known), he avowed that his eyes were decaying, but, tapping his breast, he exclaimed, 'It's all right here.

In the course of the night several agriculturists spoke, but they all shrunk from "immediate" repeal, notwithstanding their loud taunts. One of them, Mr. Goring, revived the old "whine" about incumbrances; which led to a happy reply from Mr. Bright. He told the agriculturists that their perpetual complaints were more pitiable than the appeal of the candidate in Mr. Dickens's portrait of $m \dot{V}$ oto for Scroggins und $\it cleven$ $\it small$ $\it children$!"

The chief speakers of Monday night were Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Bright, and Lord John Russell. The noble Lord told the House of Commons that it was as competent to alter the protective system, as the House of Commons, which passed the septennial act, was competent to prolong its existence from three to seven years. This argument put the protectionists "under the gangway" into a terrible passion. There they sat, Lord John Manners, along with such eminent public men as Lord George Bentinck, Mr. Forrand, and Mr. Borthwick; and they were determined to "kick up a row." cordingly, they moved the adjournment of the debate, which, after a division, in which 227 were against 70, was ultimately yielded, for when a few men are determined, they can renew motions for adjournment till the House is wearied out.

On Tuesday the adjourned debute was renewed by the perpetual Mr. Bankes, and Mr. Peter Borth wick amused the house by informing it that he was in the habit of retiring into his "library" to study the political economists, who, however, had fulled in convincing him of the practical advantages of Free Trade! Again, there was Mr. Liddell, who placed Bremen in the Baltic!—a blunder which was corrected by Mr. Hutt. Lord George Bentinck, too, told the house that the protectionists were determined on resistance, and will fight the battle from post to pillar, and from pillar to post. Napoleon, he said, had remarked that the English never knew when they were beaten; and so the protectionists never were to know when they were beaten. This bravado brought up

Mr. Cobden, who, in another of his powerful speaches, placed the case in its true light before the house. He reminded Lord George Bentinck that the protectionists were beaten by-Englishmen; and warned them against a protracted resistance, which will compel the Anti-Corn Law League to maintain its organisation, and concontrate its

energies. Mr. Ward, and other members, as Mr. Hudson, Sir John Honmer, Colonel Sibthorp, Mr. Wakley, Mr. T. Duncombe, &c., took part in the debate, which terminated by a division.

For Mr. Villiers's amendment . 267 Against it dijoiti for Govornment plan.

On Thursday night, the knot of protectionists under the gangway," showed their sense of what is due to the great interests of the country, Under the leadership of statesmen of the weight, character, and influence possessed by Lord George Bontinck, Mr. Peter Borthwick, and Mr. Ferrand, they mustered to annoy the Government, and carry out the " post and pillar" policy. " Notices of motion" take precedence on Thursdays; and on last Thur day, the first on the list was a motion by Mr. Etwall, the member for Andover, for a committee of inquiry into the Andover Union case. Sir James Graham offered to produce all the documents and correspondence; and Mr. Etwall evinced a disposition to postpone his motion. But this did not suit the protectionists. Solemn Mr. Newdegate had a motion for a select committee, to inquire into an alleged organised and extensive system of fraudulent and vexatious objections to the votes of a great number of duly qualified electors for the northern division of Warwickshire, the northern division of Staffordshire, and certain divisions of other counties. And on this motion there was an amendment in the following form:

Mr. Charles Buller, To move, as an amendment to Mr. Newdogate's motion, That Leave be given to bring in a Bill to prevent frivolous objections to persons registered as electors for Members of Parliament for Great Britain.

Mr. Newdegate was determined to bring on his motion; and so Mr. Etwall, seeing that his with drawal would not expedite the Government busi-

The case took up the entire night. For about two hours, the house was so thinly attended, that it might have been "counted out?", But about nine o'clock the protectionists came down, and took their stations "under the gangway." There was Lord George Bentinck, who is trying the "doctrine of chances" - not on the turf, but in the House of Commons; whether or not he has any heavy beta depending on the issue, we cannot tell. There was placid Mr. Peter Borthwick, whose great stake in the country compels him to take a leading part in the "post and pillar" policy. And there was Mr. Ferrand, whose incessant cheer rises above all other sounds, and pierces the ear like the war whoop of a wild Indian. These men are bent on showing this they come up to Mr. D'Israeli's notion of a statesman," in the possession of "a great idea." Their "great idea" is, that any stick will do to bent a dog with; and any sort of obstruction will answer the purpose of impeding the Government measure. Sir James Graham gave way to what appeared to he the feeling of the house, and consented to a committee of inquiry. At this concession such a burst of cheering surgestic cheering came from " under the gangway," as was quite wonderful to hear. But then Sir James Graham refused to include in that inquiry an investigation into the enuses which led to the resignation of Mr. Parker, the Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, who Ind been concerned in the Andover case. This was all that the protectionists wanted. They were getting afraid that they would not have their "division." An amendment was moved. Judas spake, not because he "cared for the poor," but because he "bare the bag,". The protectionists voted, not because they were anxious about Mr. Parker, but because they saw they had a chance of beating the Government; and the Government were beat. There were 92 to 69, being a majority of 23 against Ministers.

The following are the amendments which have to to be proposed in committee on the Government resolutions:

Mr. Monekton Milnes, To move the omission of all words, in the resolution respecting the importation of corn, referring to the cessation or alteration of duties to be paid in the year

The object of this amendment is to render the reduced sliding scale permanent, instead of ending in three years.

Mr. W. O. Stanley,—To propose as an amendment to Sir Robert Peel's plan, That is lieu of the duties now payable on the importation of corn, grain, meal, or flour, the product of Foreign Countries, there shall be paid a fixed duty of five shillings per quarter upon Wheat, two shillings and sixpence on barley, and two shillings on outs; meal and flour in proportion.

This of course is a five shillings fixed duty Mr. Blackemore,—To propose, instead of the propositions of Sir Robert Peel,—

That, in lieu of the duties now payable on the importation of corn, grain, meal, or flour, there shall, from the passing of the act, be paid the following duties, viz.

If imported from any foreign country, s. d. of Barley 2 0 of Onth 2 0 Ditto Ditto

Other kinds of grain, meal, &c. in usual proportions. That the said duties shall, as received, he paid into the Bank of England, to the credit of the Poor Law Com-

That the money to be raised hereafter for the relief of the poor, the rates for levying the same shall be made upon land, distinct and separate from the rates upon dwelling-houses, buildings, and other property, and shall be distinguished by the name of "The Land Hate."

That the Poor Law Commissioners shall, every half year, apportion the money so placed to their credit in the Bank of England, to each of the unions or parishes. In England and Wales, for which rates to the said land rate was made in tital proportions as his amount of the land land rate are to each union or parish and but rates to cash union or parish shall bear to the sage that

amount of all the land rates of England and Wales collectively.

That on the sums thus apportioned being ascertained, the said Poor Law Commissioners shall transmit an account thereof to each of the unions or parishes to which the same has been apportioned; whereupon the Commissioners shall be rated in the land rate for such union or parish at the sum so by them stated and apportioned, and shall pay the same in like manner as other rated persons; and the sum so rated and paid shall be considered as paid in liquidation of the land rate, and be deducted therefrom, and the amount remaining after such deduction shall be the sum to be raised on the several persons rated to the said land rate in equal proportions in the pound, according to their several assessments.

IMMEDIATE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS. MR. VILLIERS'S MOTION. DIVISION.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, TUESDAY, MARCH 3 .- Ayes, MAJORITY-AYES.

Emlyn, Viscount Emlyn, Viscount Entwisle, W Feilden, W Ferguson, Sir R A Ferrand, W B Filmer, Sir E Finch, G

Gladstone, Captain Glynne, Sir S R Gordon, Hon Capt

Halford, Sir H Hall, Colonel Hamilton, W J Hamilton, Lord C

Gore, M Gore, Hon R

Forster, M. Tox, 8 L

Douro, Marquis of Lockbart, W Drummond, H.H. Lyall, G

Duckworth, Sir J. T. B. Lygon, Hon Gen Duke, Sir J. Macaulay, Rt Ho

Duke, Sir J
Duncombe, T
Duncombe, Hon A
Du Pre, C G
Egerton, Sir P
Ligerton; Lord F
Effice, Right Hon E
Endyn, Viscount
Entwisie, W
Feithen, W
Ferguson, Sir R A
Ferrand, W B
Macachay, Rt Hn T I
Mackenzie, W
Mackenzie, W F
Mackenzie

Finch, G Squite, Rt Hon F Mildmay, H St John Fitzneutrice, Hon W Milnes, R M Fitzroy, Hon H Morgan, O Fleetwood, Sir P H Napier, Sir C Flower, Sir J Forster M

Goring, C Penmant, Hon
Goulburn, Rt Hon H Philips, G R
Granby, Marquis of
Grey, Rt Hon Sir G
Greyan, E
Hale, R B
Haler, R

Macaulay, Rt Ha T B

Masteriann, J

Maule, Rt Hon F

Newdegate, C.N. Norreys, Bir D.J.

Palmerston, Viset Patten, J. W

Peel, Rt Hon Sir R

Pennant, Hon Col.

Ropton, G W J. Rolleston, Col

Round, J Rumbold, C E

Russell, Lord J Ryder, Hon G D

Sandon, Viscount Scott, Hon F

Smollett, A Somerton, Viscount

Spry, Sir S T

Stanley, E Stanley, Hon W O Stanton, W H Stewart, J Stuart, H

Sutton, Hon H M

O'Brien, A S Packe, C. W.

Palmer, R Palmer, G

265; Nocs 78. -A dand, Sir T D Acland, T.D. A'Court, Captain Acton, Colonel Adderley, C.B. Agliomby, H.A. Alford, Viscount Allix, J.P. Arbuthnott, Hon H Archbold, R. Astell, W. Astell, W Austen, Colonel Bagge, W Baget, Hon W Bailey, J. jun Baillie, Colonel Baillie, H. J Baine, Walter Bankes, G Barkly, H. Baring, Itt Hon F.T. Baring, T Buring, Itt Hon W B Fuller, A E Barrington, Viscount Goskell, J M Barnard, E G Bateson, T. Beckett, W. Bell, M Benbow, J Benett, J Bennet, P Bentinck, Lord G Beresford, Major Bernal, M Bodkin, W H Boldero, H G Borthwick, P Bottiold, B. Bowes, J Bowles, Admiral Boyd, J Branston, T W Brisco, M Broadley, H Broadwood, H Brooke, Sir A B Browne, Hon W

Hanner, Sir J Harcourt, G-G Hatton, Captain V Hawes, B Henley, J. W Henley, J W Seymour, Lord Herbert, Right Hn S Sheridan, R B Hervey, Lord A Hildvard, T B T Sibthorp, Col Hinde, J H Smith, A Smith, J A Smythe, Hon G Holleson R Smith, A Bruce, Lord E Bruce, C. L. C Buck, L. W Buller, Sir J Y Butler, P.S. Campbell, Sir-H Hodgson, R -Hope, Sird Cardwell, E Hope, A Hope, G W Carnegie, Hon Capt Carnegoe, Hon Capt Hope, G W
Cayendish, Hon G H Hornby, J
Cayley, E S Horsman, E
Chandos, Marquis of Hothan, Lord
Chicken, Viscount
Chickester, Lord J L
Childers, J W Howard, Hon E G G
Childers, J W Howard, P H
Churchill, Lord A S
Cheek, D C Line S B G Clerk, Rt Hon Sir G Hughes, W B Clirton, J T Hume, J Clive, Viscount Hurst, R H Cockburn, Right Hu Hossey, T irton, S Cole, Hon II A James, W Colebrooke, SigT E Collett, W R Colquboun, J C Compton, H C Jermyn, Earl of Jocelyn, Viscount Johnstone, Sir J Johnstone, H Councily, Colonel Corry, Rt Hou H Jolline, Sir W G H Jones, Captain Courtenay, Lord Cowper, Hon W.F. Craig, W.O. Kelly, Sir F Kemble, II Kirk, P Kidght, F.W. Cripps, W Lathous Deedos, W Denison, E B Lambton, H D'Eyncourt, Rt Hon Law, Hon C E

Douglas, Sir C E Douglas, J D S Bannerman, A. Burkeley, C Berkeley, Hu Capt Berkeley, Hon II F Blewitt, RJ Bouverie, Hon E P Downing, Dr Brotherton, J Busfeild, W Chapman, B Christie, W.D Cobden, R Colborne, Hn W N R Collett, J Grawford, W S Currie, R Dalmony, Lord Dalrymple, Captain Demisione, J Dingan, Viscount— Dungan, G Dundas, Admiral Ebrington, Viscount Ellos: B Elphinstone, H

Escott, B Etwall, R

Dickinson, F.H.

Douglas, Sir II

Disraeli B

Dodd, G.

Evans, Sir De Lacy Ewart, W Fielden, J. Ferguson, Col Fitziov, Lord C Fox, C R Gibson, T M Hall, Sir B Hastic, A Hindley, C Holland, R Langaton, J. H. Layard, Captain M'Carthy, A M'Taggart, Sir J Marjoribanks, S Marshall, W Martin J Mitchell, TA Monatt, G Morpeth, Viscount Morris, D O'Connell, D O'Connell, M J O'Connell, J Oswald, J Mr. Alderman Humpbrey paired of with Mr. Mackingon on Tuesday night, the former in favour, the lutter against Mr. Vil-liers's motion.

Hon H

Lawson, A Legh, G. C

Loch, J

Lamon, Bin C

Lockhart, A'E

Sutton, Hon H M
Thesiger, Sir F
Thompson, Alderm
Tomine, G
Trench, Sir F W
Tufnell, H
Vernon, G H
Vivian, J H
Vivian, J E
Vivian, Hon Captain
Vyse, R H R H
Waddington, H B
Wakley, T
Walpole, S H
Walsh, Sir J B Walsh, Sir J B Wellesley, Lord C Wifshere, W Wodehouse, E Wood, Col T Worsley, Lord Wortley, Hon J S Wrightson, W B Wyndham, Col C Yorke, Hon B T Lennox, Lord G H G Liddell, Hon H T Tellers. Young, d Baring, H MINORITY-NOES. Parker, J Pechell, Captain Philips, M Plumridge, Captain Protheroe, E Ross, D.R Russell, Lord E Stansfield, W R C Standion, Sir O T Stuart, Lord J Strutt, E Tancred, H W Thornely, T Trelawny, J. H Troubridge, Bir E. T. Walker, R Warburton, H Ward, II G Warn, J.T. White, 8 Williams, W Wood, O Yorke, H R Tellers. Villiers, C Bright J

ANALYSIS OF THE DIVISION ON SIR R. PEEL'S MEASURE.

We are anxious to direct attention to the analysis of the division on Sir Robert Peel's measure, which will be found below. This statistical examination of the relative condition of the protectionists and Bree Traders, shows that the strength of the former consists mainly in the pocket boroughs and nomination counties. But before entering further into figures, we must notice those places, the representatives of which voted on different sides, such as South Laneashire and Liverpool. It is voluntary disfranchisement to send an "aye" and a "no" to the House of Commons. It is worse than a compromise, for it is an utter annihilation of principle; and we trust, therefore, that the places which now present the contemptible aspect of "halting between two opinions," will, at the first opportunity, redeem their character, and take their stand either for us or against us. We firmly believe that if such an opportunity were afforded to these neutralised constituencies, they would, in the great majority of instances, if not in all, return Free-Traders. In all the large constituencies, the repealers of the Corn Laws are found to predominate; but as the number of electors diminishes, the number of monopolist representatives will be found to increase in the same proportion. The members for rotten boroughs were unable to resist the real representatives of the people in the struggle for reform, and the present division of forces is in all respects similar to that which existed when the first division was taken on the Reform Bill. But though an examination of the relative strength of parties gives to the Free Traders an assurance of victory, they must not believe that this victory will be won without great labour and exertion. The struggle will not end with the present Parliament; the protectionists vaunt that they will renew their efforts at the next election . and our analysis must be an important guide in the preparations to be made for that event. We exhort the Free Traders, in all those places where the representation is divided, to form electoral associations without delay. To many of the counties we can declare that the day of their redemption is not distant; and we believe that the cause of Free Trade is not hopeless in many boroughs now misrepresented by monopolists. It is necessary to make early preparations for the contingency of a dissolution; and the tabular view we have given will not only aid in the examination of the general policy to be pursued, but will point out the special duties which devolve upon Free Traders in their several localities.

The following is a tabulated statement of the total number of Boroughs and Borough Electors, represented by the majority and minority who voted for and against Sir Robert Peel's measure: -

F	o n.	ł	AUAIN		
Boroughs.	Aggregate	Boroug	hs.		gregate
	No. of	i			No. of
	Electors.				loctors.
English & Wols	th 122 230 ,350	English 8	daloW ş	. 41	28,712
	25 21,938	Irish	,.		
Scotch	19 34,079	Scotch		1	. 000
				1.0	 .
	280,373				31,268
		<u> </u>			
ACCEPEG	ATE ANALYS	ts of B	OROT	A HD	ו מא
AUGUNEU	TY MEMBER			11122	.,,
		o on bo	ro Fo	111/11/0	Acolomi
Augroyate l	NO. OI		67		Against 149
County Mon	ibora				05
Borough Me	inbers, England	ana wates	190		5
Irish Boroug	to viemoers	• •	97		7
Broten Boro	ugh Members	••	21		34
Nentralists -					
			339		242
• • • •	***		991	'	214
	*				
The following	is the party an	alvsis of th	ie divis	ion:	•
Liberals		•		227	
TATOLITE	Absortees .	•	• •	30	
11	Paire .		• •	11	• •
))	Against	• . • •	•	111	
Vacant			• •	1	
Speaker	(Mayo) .	•		•	
Oheskor	فتنشيب فالمناف المتاثب			98	·
Torios f	n#	1.1	٠.		~
	gainst .	• . ••		2	
	airs .	•	•		3
. , .	MII		. •	• • • •	•

Absent

Vacant-

Absent
--Notts (2)...
Bridport
--Wigain
--Disfranchised, Sudbury

COUNTY MEMBERS.

For going into Com-

County.

Against,

Acheson, Viscount
Acheson, Viscount
Acheson, Viscount
Acheson, Viscount
Acheson, Viscount
Armagh
W Somorsetshire
ditto
E Somersetshire
M ditto
Invernese-shire
B Durham
Vane, Lord H G
Browne, Robt Dillon
Browne, Hon Wm
O'Connell, Morgan J
ditto Browne, Hon Wm
O'Coimell, Morgan J ditto
Butler, Col Pierce
Butler, Pierce S
Byng, George
Wood, Lt-Col Thos
Carew, Hon R S
Cavendish Hon G H N be Carew, Hon R S Waterford Cavendish, Hon G H N Derbyshire Evans, William ditto Chapman, B J Clements, Lord Westmeath

Corbally, M E Meath
Corry, Hon H T L Tyrone
Hamilton, Lord C ditto
Dalrymple, Capt John Wigtonshire
Dawson, Hon T V Louth
Daylele, W Stretford N Waswickel Dawson, Hon TV Louth Dugdale, W Stratford N Warwickshire

White, Samuel

Dundas, David Egerton, Lord F B Lanc
Patten, John Wilson N ditto
Drunmond, H H
Egerton, W Tatton
N Ches Legh, Geo C ditto

Fitzgerald, R A (llynne, Sir S R Hatton, Capt V F Power, James ditto Herbert, Hon Sidney S Wilts

Howard, Sir Ralph Johnson, J J H Lambton, Hedworth Lemon, Sir C Pondarves, E W W

Lockhart, E A Macnamara, W N McNeill, Duncan Morpeth, Lord

O'Connell, Daniel O'Conor Don, The O'Ferrall, R M Oswald, Alexander Pennett, Hon Col Smollet, Alexander Stewart, Patrick M Trail,George Seymour, Sir H B Stanley, Hon W O Wellesley, Lord C

Wood, Col Thos Wortley, Hon J S Wynn, Sir C W Young, John

Kilkenny Middlesex

Leitrim ditto 8 Shropshire N ditto Clive, Hon Robt H ditto Meath

> स्र वार्ति ditto B Lancashire Perthshire N Cheshire

Tipperary Flintshire Wexford

N Wilts
ditto
E Cumberland
ditto
W. Cumberland Howard, Hon C W G. James, William

ditto ditto E Cornwall

Selkirkshiro

ditto Morison, Maj Gon W Clackmannan and Kinross-shire

Cork Roscommon Kildare Ayrshire Carnarvon Antrim' Anglescy

Breconshire Buteshire Cavan

N Devonshire ditto S Devonshire ditto Glamorganshire Bedfordshire ditto Cambridgeshir**e** ditto E Surrey ditto W Surrey Kincardineshire W Kent ditto E Kont ditto W Norfolk E Norfolk ditto Denbighshire. ditto' Herefordshire ditto Linlithgowshire Dorsetshire ditto

Berkshire ditto ditto Londonderry ditto of Northumberland N Northumberland W Suffolk ditto K Suffolk ditto 8 Emex ditto N Essex ditto

ditto Berwiekshire Down ditto Na Lincolnshire ditto 8 Lincolnshire ditto K Gloudestershire

Carlow

Verner, Col William Miles, William Ingestre, Viscount Addorley, Chas B

> Newport, Viscount Clive, Viscount Gore, Wm Ormsby

Nowdegate, C.N. Brook, Lord 8 Shirley, Evolyn John Sutherlandshire Entwisle, William Clifton, John Talbot

8 Cheshiro ditto Egerton, Sir P Tollemache, John

> Benett, John Long, Walter Sotheron, THS

Irton, Samuel Stanley, Edward Acton, Colonel W Dumfrieshire. N Durham W Cornwall Liddell, Hon H T

Carew, Wm II P

Claro
—Argylishiro
W Riding, Yorkshire Denison, F. B
E. Riding, Yorkshire Broadley, H
Hothan, Lord ditto Hotham, L N Riding, Yorkshire Cayley, E Duncombo, Hon 0

Dumbartonshire Renfrowshire Caithness-shire

8 Hampshire N Hampshire Montgomeryshire

Compton, Henry C Heathcote, Sir W

Maxwell, Hon J P Acland, Sir T Buck, Lewis W Buller, Sir J B Y Courtonay, Lord Adaro, Viscount Alford, Viscount Astell, William Allix, John Peter Yorke, Hon ET Antrobus, Edmand Kemble, Henry Trotter, John Arbuthuot, Lt-Gen Austen, Col Thos Filmer, Sir Ed Doedes, Wm Planiptre, John P Plamptre, John P Bagge, William Chute, Win Lyle W Burroughes, H N Worlehouse, Ed Bagot, Hon W Wynn, Sir W W Hailey, Joseph, Jon Baskerville, T B M Hoskins, Kedgwin Baillie, William Bankes, George Flover, John Floyer, John Beymer, H K Barrington, Visct Palmer, Robert Putey, Philip Bateson, Thomas Bateson, Thomas
Jones, Capt T
Bell, Matthew
Ossulaton, Lord
Bennett, Phillip, Jea
Waddington, Harry
Goool, E L
Rendlesham, Lord
Bramston, Thos W
Pelmar, George
Round, Charles Gray
Tyrrell, Bird T, Barl
Bruen, Col
Banbury, Thomas

Bruen, Col Bánbury, Tacrasa Gampbell, Sir H PS Cambell, Sir H PS Cartleraph, Vient Hill, Lord A E Gliristopher, Bit A Worsley, Trifflop, Sir J Saft Trifflop, Children Collegated, S. S. Collegated, S. S. Collegated, S. S.

	For going into Com-	County.		Against.	For going into Com- mittee.	Borough.	No.o. Elec- tors.	Against.	For going into Com- mittee.	Borough	No.of Elec- tors.	Against.
	Company of the Control of the Contro	Queen's County ditto Carmarthenebli Buckinghamsh		Coote, Sir C H, Bt Vescy, Hon Thomas Davies, D A S Dupre, C G Fitzmaurice, Hon W		Greenwich ditte Great Grimsby Guildford ditte	3610 515 495	Heneago, Edward	Evans,GenSirDI.acy Loader, John Temple	Wenlook ditto Westbury Westminster	i	Forester, Hon GCW Gaskell, Jas Milne Lopes, Bir Ralph, Rt
		ditto ditto Pembrokeshire N Leicestorshir		Tower, Christopher Emlyo, Viscoupt Farnham, Edward B	Protheroe, Edw. jun. Wood, Charles		873 988	Drisco, Musgravo	Bornal Ralph Christio, Wm D	Weymouth ditto Whitby	4.66	Chapman, Aaron
		ditto B Leicontersbir		Manners, Lord C B Halford, Sir H, Bart Packs, Charles W	Philips, Sir Rd B P Price, Sir Robert, Dt	Haverfordwest Helston	720	Vyvyan, Sir R R, Bt	·	Whitehaven Isle of Wight Wilton	DOM	Attwood, Matthias Hon W II
	•	Huntingdonshir ditto Rutlandshiro	ro	Pollower, Edward Thornbill, Guorgo	Pulsford, Robert	ditw Hertford ditto	014		Neville, Ralph Reid, Col Geo Alex Thornley, Thomas	Windsor litto Wojverhampton	2040	
	• • •	ditto filigo ditto		Finch, Georgo Heathcote, O J Ffolliott, John Gore, Win R O	Baillin, Col H D MoGeachy Forster A	Honiton	360	Hurst, Robert H	Villiers, Hon C P	ditto Woodstock Wycomba	l	 Churchill, Lord A H
		Bussex ditto		Forbes, William Frewen, C H Fuller, Augustus E	Majoribanks, Stewart	Huddersfield Hythe Ipswich	. 862 500 1000	Fox, Sackville Lane	Rumbold, Chas Edw		1001	
		W Sussex ditto Aberdsenshire		March, Earl of Wyndhain, Col C		[Kendal	59F 351		and a marking an arriginal distribution control of the field of the same	TRELANI		e graph and destroyed in the contract to the c
		Hartfordshire ditto ditto		Gordon, Capt Hon W Halsey, Thomas P Ryder, Hon G D Smith, Abel	Godson, Richard Hanmer, Sir J. Bart		4707		For going into Com- mittee.	Borough	No.0 Elec tors.	Against.
,		Dublin County ditto Oxfordshire		Hamilton, Jas H Taylor, Thomas E Harcourt, George G	D'Eyncourt, Rt Hn C		0517 0517	Ferrand, W. Busfeild Lawson, Andrew	Rawdon, Lt Col J D Collett, John	Athlono -	H0:	
		ditto ditto Edinburgh Con		Henley, Joseph W Norreys, Lord Hope, Sir John, Bt	Hawes, Ben, jun Bowles, Admiral Aldam, Wm, jun	ditto Launeeston Leeds	300 6183		Chichester, Lord J. L. Ross, David Robert Layard, Capt B. V	ditto Carlow	4234	
		N Nottinghams 8 Nottinghams W Worcestershi	nre	Honldsworth, Th Rolleston, Col L Knight, F W	Beckett, William Easthope, Str J, Bt Ellis, Wynn	ditto Lefcester ditto	3687			Carrickforgus Cashel Cloumel	1324 207 647	
	•	ditto E Worcestershi 8 Northampton	ro altiro	Lygon, Hon H B Taylor, James A Knightley, Sir C Vyse, R H Howard	Elphinstone, II Fitzroy, Hon Henry Mostyn, Hon E M L		900 870		Boyd, John, Dr M'Carthy, A Somerville Sir W M	Coleraino Cork Drogheda	398 436 508	1
		N Northampton ditto	shire	Maunsell, T P O'Brien, A Stafford		anto Lincoln ditto Liskeard	1041 280	Collett, Wm Rickford Sibthorp, Col C		Dublin Univer- eity Dundalk	635	Shuw, Right Hon F
		Longford Monaghan ditto		Lefroy, Anthony Leslie, C P Shirley, E P	Lyall, George Masterman, John	London ditto ditto	19964		Northland, Viscount Bridgeman, Hewitt	Ennis Enniskillen	190 230 179 1600	Cole, Ho 1 H Arthur
	ing series and series	Lanarkshire Westinoreland ditto		Lockhart, Wm Lowther, Lt Col H C Thompson, Ald W Mackenzie, Thos	Pattjson, Jumes Russell, Lord John Mackinnon, W A	ditto Lyme Regis Lymington	277 305	Hussey, Thomas	Blake, Martin Joseph O'Connell, John Meynell, Capt Henry Ferguson, Sir A, Bf	Kilkenny	20°	
		Ross and Cromé Peeblesshire Galway		Mackenzie, W F Martin, Thon B	Stewart, John Brocklehurst, John	ditto Macclesfield ditto	908		Norreys, Sir O.J. Bt Gore, UonMobert Damer, Rt Hn G.L.D.	Mallow New Ross	331 277 188	
,		Monmouth Cardigan shire Merionethshire Roxburghshire		Morgan, C O S Powell, Col W E Richards, Richard Scott, Hon F		Maidstono ditto Maldon	1	Dadd, George Hope, A.J. B Dick, Quintin		Sligo Tralce	8.21 27s 140s	
	•	Radnorshire Fermanagh	alen	Walsh, Sir J B Brooke, Sir A B, Bt Bruce, O Lennox O	Howard, Hon J K	ditto Malmesbury - Malton		Round, John	Wyse, Thomas Esmonde, Sir Thos, Cavendish, Hon C C	ditto Waxford 1	40 40 498	
				·	Denison, John E	ditto Munchestor ditto	12150	•		SCOTLAN		•
	BOROUG	II MEMBERS	E	NGLAND.	Hall, Sir Benj, Bart	Mariborough ditto Marylebone	291 11625		For going into Com- mittee.	Borough.	No.01	
	For going into Com-		No of Elec	Against.	-Napier, Sir C Guest, Sir J John	ditto Merthyr Tidvill Midhurst	201	Walpole, Spencer H	Bannerman, Alex	Abordeon	101% 2189	
	The siger, Sir F	Abingdon	323 323			Monmouth Montgomery&c Morpeth	9459	Cholmondeley, Hn H		Ayr, &c &a Dumfries	1897 1897 977	! !
	Etwall, Ralph Paget, Lord William		242	1	Hamilton, W.J	Newni k ditto Newport, Isle	1130 669	Stuart, John	Craig, Wm (1, Jun Macaulay, Rt Hn T B	Dundee Edinburgh	27 9 6343	
	Hindley, Charles	Ashburton Ashton-under- Lyne	269 071			of Wight Northallerton Northampton	281 2057		Baird, William	Elgin, &a / Falkirk Glasgow	619 1 869 8211	
	Tancred, Henry W Duncan, Viscount	Aylesbury Banbury Bath Htto	386 3119	Clayton, Rice Richd	Smith, Rt Hon R V Douro, Marquis of Smith, Benjamin	ditto Norwich ditto Nattingham	4834 5435		Baine, Walter	Greenock Haddington	1113	Bolfour, J Maitland,
	Paget, Licut Col F - Polhill, Capt Fredk	Beaumaris Bedford litto	_ 29 5 878			ditto ——— Oldham Pembroke	1409 1179			Inverness Kilmarnock Kirkoldy	75) 1962 657	}
	Hogg, James Weir 1 Townley, John 6 Winnington, Sir T Eil	Beverley Buto	1003 429		Plumridge, Capt I H Vivian, Capt J C Fitzwilliam, Hn G W	Penryn and Falmouth	886 509		Hume, Joseph Hustic, Archibald	Montrous, &a Paisley Porth	1403 1329 1082	
	Homby, John	Blackburn litto Bodmin	912 339	Gardner, John D	Heron, Sir Robert	ditto Peterstield		Jolliffe, Sir W G H	Dalmeny, Lord	Stirling, &c Wick, &c	1111 717 593	
,	Ainsworth, Peter Bowring, Dr	litta" Bolton litto	1471	Spry, Sir Samuel T	Oill, Thomas	ditto	542 1837		BOROUGH ME			·.
	Mitchell, Thomas A	Bridford,Yorks Bridgewater Bridport	65H	mounition, memy	Staunton, Sir G T Fleetwood, Sir II, Bt Strickland, Sir G, Bt	Preston	3633			PRESENTAT	7 177 108, 80.06	
	Pechell, Captain G Re	Brighton litto Buckingham	2533 391	Chandos, Marquis of		Radnor Reading ditto	1140	Price, Richard Chelson, Viscount Russoll, Charles	For going into Com- mittee,		Elec- tora.	Against.
	Walker, Richard Fitzroy, Lord Charles I	litto Bury Bury St Edmds	790 704		Colborne, Hn W N R	ditto	10k 289		Forster, Matthew	Barnstaple Berwick Birmingham	755	Holpson, Frederick Hodyson, Richard Spooner, Richard
	Kelly, Sir Fitzroy Sutton, H.T. Menugan	litto Calno Cambridgo	170 1857		Crawford, Sharman		314 944		Duke, Ald Sir J Whitmore, Thes C Berkeley, Hon F 11-F	Bóston" Bridgenorth Bristol	10K1	Brownrigg, J.S. Pigott, Sir R. Bart
	Howard, Philip Hy	Jardigan Carlislo Litto	803 953		Brotherton, Joseph Troubridge, Sir E T Johnstone, Sir J V B	esnord Sandwich Scarborough	2519 977 559	*	Goalburn, Ron H Smythe, Hon G A	Cambridge Uni, - versity Canterbury	1774	Miles, Philip W S Law, Hon C E Bradshaw, James
	Hughes, W Bulkeley (Byog, Rt Hon O S	'armarthen Jarnaryon Dhatham	977 1037 877		Trench wil-Gen an F	Shaftesbury Shefield	491 4\451	Sheridan, R Brinsley	Smith, John Abel Gregory, Wm Henry Hill, Lord A M O	Chichester Dublin Kvesham	12290	Hennox, Lord II Orogan, Edward Borthwick, Peter
	Grosvenor, Lord R. Jervis, John	Dicetor Chester litto	1718 2170	1	Hope, George Wm Wawn, John Twizell Rumphrey, Ald J	New Sharaham l	1984 1403 C80	Goring, Charle	Tollemache, Hon F J Attwood, John	Exetor Grantham Harwich	1 (81)	Duckworth, Sh.I T B Welby, Glynne Earle Borosford, Major Wm
	ţo	Thippenham litto Thristchurch	260	ucato, a osebit l	Molesworth, Sir W 🗀	Southwark ditto Histori	5047 1265		Poel, Col Jonathan Jocelyn, Viscount Green, Thomas Barkly, Henry	Buntington King's Lynn Lancaster Leominster	1311	Borosford,Major Wm Baring Thomas Benthek, Lord G Marton, Georgo Arkweight, Geo
ľ	Carlwell, Edward	Arencester litto Litheroo	554 380	·	Carnegie, Mon S T	litto H took port litto	1970		Sandon, Lord Bottield, Beriah	Liverpool Lautlow Nowomtle-un-	14070	Douglas, Sir H. Ackers, James Colombour, J.O.
	Hareman, Edward	Cockermoutly litto Colchester litto		Sanderson, Richard Smythe, Sir G II, Bt.	Copeland, Alderman Scrope, G Poulett Stanton, Wm Henry	Stoka-on-Trent Stroud litto	1623 1202		Buckley, E Ord, William	der Lyne Newcastla on- Tyne	4590	Hinde, J. Hodgson
	Williams, William	Dov ontry litto	3610	**************************************	Court, Capt E H Peel, Sir R, Bart	lwanses Fainworth litto	1917 601		Estcourt, T G B	Oxford Oxford Univer- sity		Marlean, Douald Inglis, Sir It II, Bt.
	Moffat, George Mainwaring, T	litto Dartmonth Donbigh		Neeld, John	Labouchers, RtHn H Russoll, Lord Ed	litto l'avistock	101r 347		Milnes R Monekton Vernon, Granville H Botkin, Wm Honry	Pontefraet Kast Retford Rochester	07M/	Pollington, Viscount Duncombe,Cm HnA Douglas, J. D. S D'Ismall, Banj
	Hirett, Edward	Derby litid Devizos	1820 375		Martin, John	litto Cowkeabury Chetford Uito	400 160		Tomline, George Clerk, Bir G, Bart Barcley, David	sprewspury stamford funderland	0701 1067:	Oranby, Marq of Hudson, Goorge
	Cirry, Sir Geo, Bart I	litto Dévonport litto	2121	Hencago, G H W	Reathcoat, John	lillo Flifek Fiverion litto	3 27 400	Nell, John	Recott, Bickhain Wilde, Hir Thomas	Crupo Vinchester Vorcostor Vock	01H	Vivian, John Shuis Dast, James Buller Bailey,Joseph Lowther, Sir J. H.
	Benhaw Jakes	Orchester Dovor Proitwich	808 1740 807	Packington, J 8	Baldwin, Chas B Seymour, Lord Clay, Sir Wib, Bort	l'oines litto l'ower Hamlets	341 13651		•			
	Brighte wohn	Adley Siriam	1031 1031		TWO COLLEGE AT ON TA SA LA	litto Lynemonth Vakefield	7174 805		Ashley Conjor, Hon A chestor Blakemore, R. Wells, I "Hurroll, Sir C. Now 8	II, Dor- *Har Hum	ily, J, ky, A	Bradford Ediabury
	Dolksley/Bla D. D.	Hint.	77.	di .	Scott. Robert	Wallingford	1837	Blackstone, W 8	Makemore, II, Wella, I "Hurroll, Sir C, New S Doudoawell, W, Torki	ioralian Korr		
	Hamadan Puller Bridge	Marian			Odline, William Designate M.C. 2 Hayter, Will C	Maroliam Martington (14) Warwick Waltwick Welly t	411	Ores, J. A Blackburne, J. w I	Doudeawell, W. Tewki Poreman, T.S. Bailgon Hamilton, Diji, C. P. Hampden, II, Orbat M These marked (*)	are stated to b	e III.	H. H. Honmouthen

Gra. ger, T. Durbain City Gertlan, Il Mouth County Hallyhurton, F.G. Factor blee Molnie a., Gen, W.A. Oldham Kelly, J., Lam. del. City Maher N., Tipperary County

LIBERAL ABSENTEES -39. LIBERAL ABSENTERS -39,
Archbold, R. Kildare County | O'Brien, J. Limerick Oity
A grather, in A. King - County | O'Brien, U. Limerick County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Kildare tersh | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Koschanty | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
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Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, C. Chae County
Bellew, R. M. Leuth | O'Brien, R. M. Bellew, R. Taite, H M, We tmeath County Watson, W.H. Kinsele Weiny es, Capt, Filesbire We-theren, H., Cl. King & Cuty White, H Longford County

Nowey, Lord, Newry Blake, Sir V. Bott, Galliny Deal on, W.J. West Surrey Darele , V. Orkie y and Zetland Jojla, d, R. Hasting gpra, it, irraings jawak Lad, iit Albans Martland, T. Korasedidightelia Cansas by, C. Podla Rutherford, Rt Hon A, Leith Stanei: h C. Weg un Staneit, W V. Waterford County Alexander, N. Antrim County Bernard, Lord, Bandonbridge. Alexander, N. Antrim County.

HS.
Wyndman, J. H. C.
Nicholl, D., Cardiff, &c.
J. Trevor, R. Carmaethenshire
H. phurn, Sh. T., Haddingtonch
J. Lindsey, H. Sandwich
T. Jon, Copt Cambridge, hive
Branchy, J. E., Wores, ter-hire
Archdall, C. pt., Fermsough
— County

THE LANCASHIRE MEMBERS IN THE DIVISION.

(From the Munchester Guardian.)

A very natural inquiry in this neighbourhood and district is, "How have the Lancashire county and borough members In all, this county sends twenty-six representatives to Parliament, -four county, and twenty two borough, members. We are sure that all who desire to see signs of progress, will feel the deepest mortification to find that both the northern and southern division of the county have on this occasion been neutralised, in voice and vote, in the legislature, the members of each division having voted on opposite sides; so that neither North nor South Lancashire, by its representatives, has been able to Say either yes or no, to the ministerial measure on the Corn Laws. In the southern division, Lord Francis Election rays "Yes;" Mr. William Entwisle cries "No." In North Lancashire, Mr. William Patten supports Sir Robert Peel; Mr. Talbot Clifton votes against him. Two Lame shire boroughs are in the same unenviable condition, Liverpool saving "Yes" by Lord Sandon, and "No" by Sir Howard Douglas; and Laneaster, by Mr. Greene sup porting Sir Robert Peel's measure, and dealing it a back handed blow by the vote of Mr. George Marton. We comstate of things to the cornect consideration of the county and borough electors; it is for them to say whether they shall in this way be virtually deprived of all "voice potential" in the legislature, on one of the most important questions that ever agitated Parliament and the country. Only one Lancashire borough has, by its member, voted wholly the wrong way. Mr. John Treland Blackburne has thus added a further stimulus to the Free Traders of Warrington, to return a better man at the next general election. Wigon has been reduced to one vote on this occasion, by the recent determination of Captain Lindsay not to defend his Bent; but that one yote, as every body would be sure who knows Mr. Standish, was rightly employed, that gentleman Inving paired off with Mr. A. B. Cresswell, the protectionist member for Northumberland. Oldham, too, was temporarily deprived of one of its votes. General Johnson being amongst the absent (without pairing), it is probable from ill health Mr. John Fielden voted with ministers. The other borongis of Lancashire were all on the right side; all, by their memhers, supported the Free Trade measure of Sir Robert Peel, Ashton, Blackburn, Bolton, Bury, Clitheroe, Manchester, Preston, Rochdale, and Salford, -all the members for these boroughs swelled the ranks of the majority in the memorable division of Friday last. The position of the Lancashire members, then, may be thus analysed:—

Voted for Sir R. Pecl's measure.......... 18 Paired in its favour...... 1 Voted against it...... 0 Absent Vacant.... 1

RUPRESENTATION OF BRIDPOUT .- Mr. Cochrane made his entree on Friday. In the ovening the late member delivered a Free Trade address. An address, with a long re quisition, was carried the same day on behalf of Mr. Romilly, n consistent Liberal and Free Trader, who, it is understood will stand the poll. The protection candidate has been annonneed, but, in the present state of parties here, it is not expected he will be put in nomination.

BRIDGORT ELECTION .- The nomination takes place today. The canvass in favour of Mr. John Romilly is said to have been highly promising in its reception by the most inthuential inhabitants of the borough. Mr. Cochrane has striven hard, with slender success, to explain his inconsistencies; and there is the fairest prospect of Bridport returning to Parliament a representative able and willing to co-ope rate with Mr. Mitchell in an honourable, genuine, and vigorour support of liberal principles and liberal institutions.

REPRESENTATION OF LINCOLN.-A report is in circulation amongst the electors of Lincoln, that Mr. Alderman Rudgard has received a letter, which states that if Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton can be shown, that with the present state of parties, he has any chance of being returned as one of the representatives of Lincoln, he will again become a candidate. A public meeting is to be forthwith called, to take the matter into consideration.

REPRESENTATION OF LYMINGTON.-Mr George Keppel, a native of the town, has announced his intention of offering himself as a candidate for the representation of Lymington, Hants, at the next election. On the motto, a The greatest good to the greatest number," he says his political views are based. It is not his wish, he adds, to disturb the town by a premature cunvass .- Post.

NORTH NOTES.—The final close of the poll was, for Lord Henry Bentinck 1,741; for Lord Lincoln 218.

SALISBURY.—Lord Ashley is spoken of as likely to be a candidate for the representation of this city, whonever a vaonney coours.

THE "INFAMOUS FABRICATION."

(From the Times.)

The public will not forget that from the 4th of December. upon which day we announced the determination of Sir R. Peel and his colleagues to repeal the Corn Laws, until the meeting of Parliament, when the truth could no longer be concealed, we were twice a day assailed with whole columns of the grossest abuse by the Mrs. Gamp and Mrs. Harris of the press,-that, not only was our announcement stigmatised as an "infamous fabrication," but that the conductors of this journal were accused of having wilfully set abroad a falsehood for the purpose of profiting by alleged operations in the stock, share, and corn markets. We have hitherto left these decrepit scolds unnoticed; the events of the last month have been a sufficient refutation of their calumnies; but a confession is so rare among those convicted of falsehood, that we cannot refrain from giving the first of the crones who has shown symptoms of repentence the benefit of the following extract, from an article which she published

"On the evening preceding that announcement of The Times, which we contradicted by authority, being instructed (unconsciously on our part) to "tell a lie in the words of truth," an insult and an injury which we must ever rememher, on the evening of the 3d of December letters were, we know, despatched to public men of influence in the United States, by officers of the Government, making announcements similar to that made by The Times of the 4th. We have indeed, now little doubt that the article of The Times proceeded directly from the Treasury, and that the false part of it, the alleged decision of the Cabinet, was thrown in with a view to American use."

THE LEAGUE AND THE REGISTRATION COURTS.

(From the Daily News.)

This is the first year since the passing of the Reform Act in which the people have had fair play in any portion of the county registration. It is the first year in which, to any great extent, organisation has been confronted by organisation, claim by claim, and objection by objection. The squires have had it all their own way hitherto; and in their new affected purism must submit to be reminded of their past misdeeds. They have crammed the lists with sham voters. The the Lengue upon the registration hid bare a mass of falsification. Last year, a commencement was made with South Lancashire. The result was, that 878 objections were sustained; considerably more than annihilating Mr. Entwisle's majority. In the West Riding of Yorkshire, 1,212 names were expanged by the revising barrister. During the last revision, the objections pronounced valid were, in East Glo cester, 249; East Somerset, 358; South Cheshire, 177; East Surrey, 367; North Staffordshire, 700; South Staffordshire, 442; North Cheshire, 349; Middlesex, 869; North Lancashire, 715; South Lancashire, 251 (in addition to last year's expurgation). A total of 6,600 nonlegal votes in ten counties, argues an industrious manufacture. It was time to search into this abuse. Of course there must be many struck off, to whom it would be absurd to attribute fraud. But as in all this operation the League has been put to a very trilling expense for costs, which are given when the objections are frivolous and vexatious, a arge amount of fraud is presumable. To those who hold their seats by such means, it must seem very desirable to raise a dust and stop the progress of detection and correc-

There are forty-two counties in England and Wales (not reckoning the electoral subdivisions) yet untouched. The registration ought to be cleansed in them also, before that appeal to the electors, for which some protectionists are so clamorous. It is not probable that they are in any better condition. The preference, for the commencement, has been simply founded on local convenience. Manchester, Leeds, and London have been its central points. The forms required by the Act render officers and agents necessary, for copying, witnessing, and many other operations, besides ascertaining whether there be grounds of objection. But no county ought to escape. The landlord influence has ample strength, when reduced within its legal boundaries. It must be taught to couline itself to the limits prescribed by the Act. It has no right to fictitious constituencies. Nobody suspected the extent of the imposition. Once ascertained in about a sixth representation. that the remaining five-sixths should clude a like searching examination. The vote-factories must all be overhauled.

This work, though carried on conjunctively with, is in itself quite independent of, the introduction of new voters by their purchasing the legal qualification. It is merely a purification of the existing registries. It reduces them to legality. It carries the law into practical effect. The law may be good or bad. The disfranchising limitations may be wise or foolish. The squires had a hand in making them, which is more than can be said of the Lesgue. If nuwiso or unjust, let them be repealed. But anyhow, there must be the same law for both parties. That is only now beginning to be the fact in practice. The abuse has been untouched. Fraud has stalked abroad triumphantly, buckling swords and spurs upon its chosen ones. They must now produce their representative title deeds. Shearing pigs auggests but a faint idea of the consequent outery.

The chance of a fair registration for counties is contin gent on the existence of some such body as the League, at the head of a popular agitation. Individual exertion is utterly incompetent; and the little Subscription Societies, which have here and there existed, are almost as fruitless. It requires clear heads and active hands; a large establishment and a long purso. The law is made for landlords. In ordinary times any struggle is vain, either with their legitimate power, or with its fraudulent additions. For electoral right in countles, the Lengue is a godsond. People should make the most of it. They have never had such a chance before, and never may again. Let them watch closely the attempt to obstruct its progress.

If, rather than endure further exposure and the loss of logislative honours and political power which must follow such exposure, the protectionists will honestly consent to simplify the system, they will, we are now, most with condists co-operation. But it must be no one-sided reform. The

franchise must not be parrowed. The expense and trouble of these registration battles must be materially abated. The technical conditions of a legal vote must be reduced; and so reduced as to render it much more easy for the honest, and more difficult for the fraudulent, to get upon the list. Re-peated objections, the circumstances being the same, must be repressed by heavy penalties. A simple uniform suffrage, like that of the 10% householders in towns, would perhaps be the best remedy. Or a general registration of huded property, large and small, in which all charges of ownership would be recorded. Abusing the League does not mend the mischief in the least. It only shows that they have laboured not in vaju, and have known how to plant their blows en the weak and sore places of monopoly. They will not fail to profit by the further knowledge of that kind which the present discussions afford, and for applying which there will be plen tiful opportunity during the ensuing three years of petulog. ging protection and continued struggle.

GENERAL DEBIT AND CREDIT ACCOUNT OF THE SPECIAL BURTHENS AND EXEMPTIONS OF LAND.

(From the Economist.)

Judging by the language held by some of the most infuential members of the House of Lords, we are led to expect that the Corn Law repeal will be opposed, in their House, chiefly on the ground of alleged burthens peculiarly home by land; and, at least, if they agree to the measure proposed by the Government, we may look for some attempt to change the present distribution of taxation, local or general. in some way which they will deem more favourable to the agricultural body as a class, and to land as a property. Such is the distinct object for which Lord Beaumont's Committee was sought and has been granted. Now, we feel assured that no proposition of the kind will be accepted by the Hone of Commons or by the country, whether attached to the new Corn Bill, as a condition of its passing, or passed as a separate and independent measure. We own we are not without considerable apprehensions lest an attempt be made, if not to defeat the bill in the House of Lords by attaching some such condition, at least to delay its progress on the pretence of waiting for the report of that Committee. No effort should be saved to prevent such a catastrophe.

The great object of complaint in the distribution of local burthens is, that real property only is rated to them, by which means all capital represented in stock in trade and money in the funds escape any charge for the maintenance of the poor and other local objects. This objection is make with more semblance of good reason, from the fact that the statute of Queen Elizabeth providing for the poor expressly includes all such personal property as rateable therein. It has, however, long been abandoned as an impracticable at tempt to rate personal property, although the exemption is provided for only by an annual bill. This exemption, ever, of personal property is by no means the partial mea sure which those interested in land are in the habit of re presenting it, or that it may at first sight appear to be. All real property, of whatever kind, whether consisting of land. houses, mills, docks, canals, or railways, is rated to these burthens; and by the most recent Parliamentary papers, it appears that land does not now represent quite one half of the whole. But then it is complained that stock in tradand capital employed in commerce, from which large profitare derived, are exempt. True; but the stock in trade of the cultivator of the soil, whether owner or tenant, consist ing of machinery, implements, cattle, flocks, and corn, and the whole capital engaged in his trade, are also exempted. And if we are to accept as an approximation to the truth of the computations made by Mr. Allison, Mr. M'Queen, and others, of the comparative annual value of the products of the sail no rout of mind annual value of the products of the soil, no part of which are rated, and those of trade and manufactures, the exemption must be very greatly in favour of the land. Now, it is obvious that any tax placed upon farming stock or capital would indirectly be a charge upon the rent of the land; therefore, as between land as a properly and all other capital used in other pursuits, the exemptions would appear to be balanced. Land, in round figures, at present pays one half of these rates-other real property pays the other half. Include in the assessments the capital and stock used in both classes of pursuits, and while the nominal rate "in the pound" would be greatly reduced by hommat rate "in the pound" would be greatly reduced by being spread over a larger surface, yet still land and its stock and capital would pay the one-half, while other property and its stock and capital would pay the other half.

But even admitting, which clearly cannot be seriously insisted upon, that the whole share of the poor rates payable by land is a burthen upon land, and not shared by other capital and stock, we have already shown in our article of

capital and stock, we have already shown in our article of the 11th that there are other exemptions in favour of land which do not apply in any degree to personal properly which more than counterbalance this and all the other alleged special burthens.

The same remarks that we have now applied is respect to the poor rates and the apportionment of their assessment, apply in every respect to the highway rate and the church rate. We showed in that article, by reference to Parliamentary documents, that the proportions of the poor and county rates, and of the highway and church rates, contributed by land, are as follow: buted by land, are as follow:

buted by land, are as follow:
Proportion of poor's and county rates collected from 400911 hand Ditto of highway and church rates, ditto £9,503,611

Admitting, therefore, the whole allegations respecting the exclusive payment of those burthens as really true, which they are obviously not, then this sum represents the whole amount neid by land, then this sum represents the state amount neid by amount paid by land. Be it always remembered that a similar amount is paid by other kinds of property, and that if other capital and stock are exampled in trades and management of the contraction of the

factures, so they are also in farming.

With regard to the alleged builtism of tithe, ye have been already shown (in our article of the 14th) that there are be no excuse for stating it as a charge on the owner of the land. It is a portion of the property, neither inherital not purchased, and is no more a charge upon the rand what the landowner receives than would the share of the landowner her which might be not a constant. the mindowner receives than would the snare of the be, which might be paid to a co-profit of a To recompense the owner of land fortification would make him a prosent of it, as much a like well as more of the mindown
proprietor.

With regard to the male duty, this to the consumer of the consume in the same way as the is

the customs duty advanced by him. But it is alleged that the interests of the land are injured in consequence of the demand for barley being diminished from the lessened con-sumption caused by the tax. This, no doubt, is so far-true. But if the consumption were ever so much increased, it could not be supplied by barley of English growth, as already we are obliged to import largely every year of this grain. An increased consemption, therefore, could only cause an increased use of foreign barley. But were it otherwise, can anything be more preposterous than to set up this claim? Exactly analogous to it would be the demand of the grocer, the tea dealer, or the spirit-merchant, for compensation for the necessary limit which the enormous duties imposed on those articles place upon their respective trades.

With respect to stamps, we have in our former article

shown that this branch of the public lucome is as nearly as possible charged in equal proportions on all classes of the

Turning then to the exemptions of land. In our article of the 14th we show, by a calculation in every respect favourable to real property, that its exemption from the probate and legacy duty amounts at least to 1,675,9167, annually. We, however, committed an error in placing the whole of this amount as an exemption in respect to land only, as the calculation, in which land was stated as bearing a proportion of 52 per cent to the whole, included all real property. We are, therefore, only entitled to claim 52 per cent of that sum as an exemption to land, which will be 871,1917, annually. The next item of exemption stated was in respect to the horse duty; -in respect to which we made too low an estimate, as we only included the number of horses which had been charged, and for which exemp-tions were granted subsequently. We find, however, that it is not the custom for farmers to make any return of such noises at all. The number we stated as exempted from daty in 1841 was 435,002. In 1814 this class of horses, now exempted from duty, paid a low tax, and the number then was 937,898. It is not possible that this number can have diminished, but when we consider how much land has been brought under tillage during that period, it must be greatly increased. The exemptions from horse duty may be thus stated :-

In 1841—claimed for riding horses used by farmers reating under 5001. a-year, where only one horse is kept, 51,898 at 11.88.9d. each, and 10 per cent.

Horses employed in husbandry, at the average of the progressive duty taken as in 1814,937,898 at 11.188.3d. and 10 nor cent. £ . 1,981,633 and 10 per cent. and 10 per cent.

In 1811 horses exempted, specially, occasionally employed, otherwise than in agriculture, 17,056, at 17,184, 364, and 10 per cent.

In 1841 horses brod by bailiffs and hordsmon, exempted, were 1601 at 17, 88, 9d, and 10 per cent. 2,531

Total horse exemptions £2,102,104 The total of the horse duty exempted from land amounts to a larger sum than the whole amount paid by that property to the poor rates altogether!!! This exemption, however, must be taken under one qualification. The amount of poor rates stated apply only to England and Wales. The exemption of the horse duty includes Scotland. When, however, we consider that we only calculated the same number of horses as now engaged in agriculture that paid duty as such in 1814, we make an ample allowance for the small portion of the whole, belonging to Scotland. The exemptions from windowduty claimed, in respect to houses occupied by labourers and farm houses of farms, under a rental of 2001 a year, amounted in 1811, to 28,2841. And the exemptions on 66,778 dogs employed in the care of cattle and sheep amounted to 32,090l. Then there is an exemption from the duty on fire insurances, and also from the payment of tolls on the turnpike roads. There are no precise means of discovering the amount of these exemptions as applicable to land, but we may arrive at

an approximation. By the finance accounts for the year ending April 5, 1845, the amount yielded by fire-insurances was 1,003,009l. Taking it for granted that one-half of this sum represents moveable stock, and the other half buildings, and taking, it for granted, that the amount of farm stock insured throughout the country equals one-half the amount of stock in other trades, including household furniture, which we believe to be near the truth, then the exemption in favour of land will amount to 250,0171; which sum, considering the rapid increase of the number of fire-insurances effected of late years,

appears below the real amount. With regard to the exemptions from tolls on highways. By a l'arliamentary paper, 580, Septomber, 1848, it appears that the total revenue from turnpike roads in 1841, was 1,574,518l. It is impossible to compute what addition would be made to this sum, if all farmers' carts, waggons, and riding horses, going to and from market, conveying produce or manure, or being empty, paid the usual tolls; but when we consider the recurrence of one or two market-days in each week, in each market town in the kingdom, and the immense number of farmers with earts, waggons, &c., who attend each, to say nothing of their use of the roads on other days, it would certainly appear that it would amount to a sum at least as large as is paid by travellers of all other classes. In agricultural and rural counties it must far exceed that sum. But to avoid the possibility of any exaggeration, we will consider the exemptions from toll to equal only one-half of the sum contributed by others; and this will show a yearly sum exempted in favour of the land of 787,2001.

We have now passed every item under consideration, and if with a leauing at all, towards the land. We will now put them together in the form of a clear debit and credit account. Debit and Credit Account of the alleged Special Charges on Land, and of the Special Examptions under Statute of Charges to which all other Property or Classes are liable:

To exemption from le-	Gredits. &
Pho Insurance	land 2,096,037 By ditto highway and church rate
£4,079,506	£4,072,695

Balance down against the land, £1,479,084. Now we entirely deny, for reasons, already explained, that rither the poor rate, or the nounty rate on Arghway rate, or thurst rate, are special burthens on land. All other property pays a sum equal to the land, and if the other capital and stock belonging to traders does not pay thereto, neither does that belonging to traders does not pay thereto, neither the that belonging to traders does not pay thereto, neither does that belonging to traders does not pay thereto, neither it, as is a second to the contract of the

favour of land amounting to a sum exceeding those charges by 1,479,0842, and without any corresponding exemptions whatever in favour of other classes

One remark more and we close this case of the distribution of local and general taxation. Whatever may be the distribution of taxes, whother equal or not in the first instance, it is quite clear that they are soon equalised by the relative value which property chargeable thereto assumes; and though a tax unequally distributed may, at the time of its first imposition, act unfairly upon some classes of property, yet all subsequent possessors, whether by inheritance or purchase, have received it at a value proportioned to their burthens, and have therefore no right to complain of them, even if they existed. A new distribution, even though apparently more equal, would only be a new act of injustice, in exonerating one kind of property from a tax to which it had been subject when purchased, and imposing it on another which had been exempt therefrom when purchased.

Our space will not this week permit us to follow up the consideration of the relief which land as a property, and the agricultural body as a class, have derived in the amount of the local and general taxes to which they are chargeable, by the increase of trade and manufactures; and we must, therefore, defer it till next week.

MORE SACRIFICES OF OLD FRIENDS.

(From the Spectator.)

A new light has dawned upon the House of Lords. Year after year for more than a century have they, in combination with the Commons, been sharpening the law against yulgar destroyers of hares; but now hares are to be exterminated all the same as magpies. The Duke of Richmond declares they are "nothing but vermin"; and that ever since he be came possesed of property he has destroyed all the hares upon it. Such being his grace's views, it is passing strange that he has never thought of interfering in behalf of his fellow labourers in the task of extirpating this "vermin," whom his brother landowners have been in the habit of sending to gaol. The Duke of Richmond chaims credit for destroying hares; but the labourer who emulated him, instead of receiv ing so much per head, has been fined and imprisoned.

The unkindest cut of all to these ex-pets of the aristocracy has been inflicted by Lord Ashburton. On the same evening that the Duke of Richmond propounded his new definition of the genus Harc in the House of Lords—on the second read ing of Lord Dacre's Game Bill—Lord Ashburton proposed that hares should be "struck out of the class of game alto gether." Not a voice was raised in favour of the poor animal whom he proposed to degrade from the patrician caste of The scene reminded one of Gay's "Hare with many game. Hares collectively, as well as individually, are petted and praised only so long as they cost nothing. While hares were supposed to be fed exclusively at the farmer's ex pense, they were preserved (" protected") à l'outrance. But it has been found out, es the Unko of Richmond says, that "they not only injure the farmer, but the landlord, as they bark many of his most valuable trees." The barking of hures disturbs the noble duke's slumbers worse than the barking of dogs. The caitiff hares no longer deserve the honour of dying by aristocratic triggers; they are to be consigned to a more vulgar doom. Ere long we may see here catchers as much run after as mole-catchers or rat catchers. The "baredestroyer to the Duke of Richmond" may rival in celebrity the "bug-destroyer to her Majesty."

If the hares but knew what is awaiting them, they would be as active at this crisis as the other agricultural interests. While the landlord endeavours to persuade tenant farmers and labourers that the Corn Law is as much their question as his, the hares might address appeals quite as moving, and more convincing, to the partridges and pheasants, "Lord Ashburton," we think we hear some veteran puss -- some Miles or Richmond of the leporine race-address the assembled Preserve, " Lord Ashburton may believe, or affect to believe, that by sacrificing us 'all complaints would be speedily got rid of. But what says Lord Hatherton ?-- 'he had de stroyed hares and rabbits, and had found the pheasants and partridges increase in consequence.' Will these avaricious farmers, who seek to have the protection of the Game Law withdrawn from us, tolerate this increase? Their success in obtaining an ostracism of hares will only encourage them to demand the proscription of pheasants and partridges. The grouse and black-cock may be left for a season unnolested in their heathy retreats, but all the game of the cultivated land will speedily share their doom. True conservatives ought to concede nothing; for every concession but encourages to fresh demands. If the stroke of a pen-the wording of an act can make hares, who have been game for centuries, no game, will not the prestige which attaches to all kinds of game be weakened? I may go further: if an act of Par-liament can unmake game, it may also unmake Peers. Our peerage and our game both came in with the conqueror. Let the peers beware, lest in making no game of us they teach Radicals to make game of them. with his tail, he may protest that it is not for himself, nor even for the dear and numerous progeny around him that he cares, but for the throne and the altur.

THE PROGRESS OF THE LEAGUE.

(From the Glasgow Argus.) When, in our progress towards Free Trade, we have at-

tained, as at present, a high and commanding eminence, it may be well to pause a little, and look back upon the thorpy and discouraging path we have trodden. The reflection may stimulate us to further exertion in promoting the cause of sound legislation, notwithstanding all the discouragements with which it may be apparently beset.

"Cobden and the League have done it all," say the pro-tectionists now, in the auguish of their bearts.

Hear how Cobden and the League were spoken of some two or three years ago, by one of the great organs of the protectionist party. In "Bluckwood's Magazine" for October, 1848, appeared an article, entitled "The Last Session of Parliament," which was cried up at the time as a most masterly essay, and as giving the death-blow to Free Trade agitation. Thus were Cobden and the League spoken of:

Corn Law agitation is that mammoth nuisance of our times by which the gaiety of nations is colleged. We are thankful that its damnable iterations have now placed it beyoud the limits of public toleration. No man hearkens to euch-debates any longer; no man reads the reports of such debates; it has become orininal to quote them; and recent estables of torpor beyond all toroor, on eccasion of Cobden intellines estonget the indemmeble section of our population, beyon the tot the poorest of the poor are any longer to be dupid not to be roused out of spathy by this intolerable

fraud. Full of gifts and lies is the false, fleeting association of these Lancashire cottoners. But its gifts are too windy, and its lies too ponderous." And so on for several pages.

How must the writer of these vituperative words, of these

andacious sentiments, have stared lif he he still alive to sture) on reading the report of the proceedings in the Commous last Tuesday, to learn that the "nulsance" man would listen to line been adopted by a great majority of the nation—by almost every unblassed man of sound sense and good feeling in it—that the "lies" of the League have been adopted as the principles of the Premier; and that the "intelerable fraud' in about to become the basis of a b eno ficent and wise legislation?

OUR COMMERCIAL MARINE.

(From the Nautical Herald.) In 1813, the first blow was given to the monopoly of the trade with India, but the hon, company did not yield up the exclusive power, which they had so long possessed, without a severe struggle to retain it, and they and their partisans, both in and out of Parliament, argued that our great prosperity in the East arose from the affairs of the Government of India being administered, and from the commerce with the natives being controlled, by a few Directors of unsurpassed honour, wisdom, and talents; and they holdly asserted if the trade were thrown open it would fall in the hands of needy, ignorant, and unprincipled adventurers, by whom it would be destroyed, and who would involve themselves and the country in 'irretrievable losses and ruin, and would disgrace and degrade the great name and character of Englishmen, so highly appreciated and honoured by the native merchants. much discussion, Parliament decided that the Bust India Company should retain the exclusive right of trade with China, but that the trade to the other ports in India should be free to ships licensed by the Company. The trade under these restrictions was partially thrown open and we must judge from the result how far the prophecy of its ruin, and the destruction of the British character and capital has been fulfilled-perhaps the names of Green, Money Wigram, J. and W. Smith, Wimble, Somes, Toulmin, and many others we could select of the hon, and rich merchants and shipowners, in whose hands and by whose capital and talents the commerce with India is now carried on, is a triumphant answer to the one part of the phophecy, and the advantages of monopoly will be best appreciated and answered by the fol-

Number of ships and their tonnage which cleared out from London to China and the ports of India, during the following years of the monopoly of the trade by the East India Company.

Years.	•	Ships.		Tonnage.
1803		65		48,948
1808		4.1		40,235
1813		44	• •	38,556
		1 41.		

Here, then, is a decrease each five years of the monopoly, and between the years 1803 and 1/13 a decrease is shown of 11 ships, and nearly 10,000 tons. Now for the seven years after the trade was thrown open

Number of ships cleared out from London to China by the Company, and from Great Britain by the Company, and by licensed traders.

Tonnage. Ships. Year. 1820 Increase since 1813, ships, 65; tonnage, 31,042.

Thirteen years after, when the trade was thrown open and unrestricted to China, as well as to all the ports in India, the ships cleared out from Great Britain to India were

Tonnage. Ships. 259 1833 which shows a further increase from 1818 of 150 ships, and 46,005-tons:

Did the trade fall off after that it was wholly free? Let the returns speak. Cleared out in the Tonnage.

Ships. Year. 100,352 which shows an increase from 1833 of 152 ships: tonnage, 74,760.

Let us conclude our statistics with the returns of last year :-

Ships. 620 1845. Increase in the last five years, ships, 109, tonnage/101,646. And since 1813, the last year of vaunted monopoly, and under which monopoly the trade had in the ten preceding years decreased nearly one fourth, the Free Trade in creased to—ships, 576; tonnage, 253,143.

Conn Laws.-Yesterday a Parliamentary paper, obtained by Mr. Moffit, the member for Partmouth, was issued, showing the number of addresses and memorials presented praying for the opening of the ports and repeal of the Corn Laws, since the 1st of September last. From the first branch it seems that 111 "addresses praying for the opening of the ports and repeal of the Corn Laws have been transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Home Depart ment, and presented by him to the Queen, since the lat of Soptomber, 1845." Of that number 46 were for opening of the ports; some of the addresses were for opening the ports and for a Repeal of the Corn Laws. The memorials of the city of London, Liverpool, and Manchester, appear in the document. There were, it appears, by the second part of the return, 168 memorials addressed to the First Lord of the Treasury, the Lords of the Treasury, the Lords of the Treasury, the Lords of the Privy Council, &c., praying for the opening of the ports, since the 1st of September, 1845, and two for the importation of

ALARMING PROSPECTS OF THE POTATO CHOP.At the ordinary meeting of the Horticultural Society, held yesterday, Dr. Lindley exhibited specimens of new frame potatoes as well as those grown in the open ground, from various parts well as those grown in the open ground, from various parts of the country, which appeared to prove that the disease will be greater in the ensuing, than it was in the past season. Dr. Lindley further stated that on Saturday he had received, from Lord Abordeen the correspondence with the different British. Cousuls abroad upon the subject; amongst the most inter-eating of which was that from Weshington, in which it was stated that the disease first appeared at Massachusets in 1848, stated that the disease first appeared at Massachuse's in 1848, and went on increasing in intensity the last two years. The same course might be expected in this country, and it required the utmost cattlet to guard against the effects of its progress. That the disease was not confined to notates was apparent from some carrois exhibited by the Marquess of Lanagowne which were laid on the table. It had shown itself also in official which high six kept this season, while nearly all the Datch hyseinths are in a similarly affected state.

Application of the second seco	
TR. COBDEN'S SPEECH in the House of Commons of Price One Print Thousand. Price One Print, 1848.—Revised. Price One Print, 18	*Grime, John. Surgeon, Blackburn . 1 0 0 *Marshall, Richard, Market-stret-lane, do, . 1 0 0 *Clarke, Eden, 77, Oxford-road, Manchester . 1 0 0 *Wrigley, Edwd., do 1 0 0 *Weigley, Edwd., do 1 0 0
MR. BRIGHT'S SPEECH in the House of Com- mons on Tuesday Right, Feb. 17. Price One Penny.	*Mide, Jose, 69, Grosvenor-st, Con M, do, 100 Armitage, T. and Bons 14 *McKinley, Wm. and John, Clarence-st., do, 100 Milhodes, George, and Son 14 *Shaw, Jas., 42, Clarence-street, do, 100
MR. GIBSON'S SPEECH in the House of Commons on Monday Night, Veb. 16. Price One Penny. Learner Office, 07, Pleet-street, London; J. Gadsby, Newsli's Buildings, and 5, Old Miligate, Manchester.	*Hordern, James, 177, Oxford-road do 100 *Haliday, Wm
Where may be had, THE GOATACRE MEETING.	*H. A., Newcastle on Tyne 1 0 0 Kelley, Rairfax 0 15 *Priestman, Jonathan, jun., Summor-hill, do. 10 15 *Rect County Co
Just published, price One Penny, or 5s. per 100, VERBATIM REPORT OF THE MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS AT GOATACRE, printed in a	*Oliver, Timothy, Unfön-street, do 1 0 0 Walker, James 0 10 Walker, James 0 10 Walker, James 0 10 Walker, James 0 10
tract form, 12 pages. Rold at the Leaver Office, 67, Picet-street, London; and by J. Gadshy, Newall's Buildings, and 3, Old Miligate, Manchester. Upwards of 100,000 copies have been printed.	**Hall, Edward, 45, Pilgrim-street, do 1 0 0 Batley, Joseph 0 8 **Steven, James, Greesstreet, do 1 0 0 Armitage, Robert 0 8 **Tesshale, Robert, Westpatent at the control of the
Any of the above may be had at 6s, per 100, Thawn ISLAND. By Miss Martineau. Written	*Nuttall, Edward, Hope-hill, Stockport, 1 0 0 Heckmond-France, Roebnek 0 6 *Tombinson, Edward, Little Underbank, do 1 0 0 wicke. Crowther, Wm 0 5
"I > express) for the Great Hazaar. Price 2s. 6d. "The getting up is superb: equal to any specimen of typographical ar that ever not our eyes.". Hentinch.	*Roylance, Charles, Longsight, Manchester 1 0 0 *Fritchie, Geo., St Peter's-st, Derby 1 0 0 *Whitehouse, John, Redgearne Ironworks, West Broin.
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Strekhouse, Joseph F., Malton *Thompson, Henry, Northwich House, St. John's Wood Thomp on, Mrs. Henry, do *Diagnose, M. do 1 0	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ quested to send a list of all the subscribers up to the present period, and to continue the same from	South Shields—Mr. James Bell. Stourbridge—Mr. E. Baylie.
The mpson, Miss Charlotte Eliz, do do 1 0	time to time till all have appeared. These lists, it may be well to state, are to con-	Strood—Mr. John S. Cobb. Swaffham and West Norfolk—Arthur Morse, Esq., Swaff- ham.
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A FEW GLIMPSES OF THE LORDS AND COMMONS.

BY REUBEN. THE DEBATE ON THE CORN LAW-LAND THROWN OUT

OF CULTIVATION -- WHO DISTURBS TRELAND? ONE of the Parliamentary reporters, employed for a daily paper, mentioned to me one day during the long debate, that as I was desirous to look at the members, and listen to their speeches for a night or two, he would endeavour to obtain an entrance for me to some part of the house, where the members could be seento the reporters' gallery, if possible. But, he regretted to say, his turn was that night in the House of Lords. And although there was sometimes a debate there, and often a conversation on a variety of topics, he did not know what topics would be introduced that night, though he believed there was a likelihood of some debate. I said it did not matter much to me whether I listened to the lords or the commons; I had only once had a glimpse of the commons, and had never seen the lords at all; if he could prosure me an entrance into the House of Lords, I would gladly accompany, him.

Passing some policemen in the doorway of a house, which was screened from the street by a temporary boarding, we passed through a lobby, turned to the left through a narrow passage, passed a barrier and two more policemen, went through a small apartment where ten or twelve men were sitting round a table, went up a steep and narrow stair, then up another steep and narrow stair, and again up another, as if we had been dreaming of going up the cabin stairs of a small Thames steamer, and never getting on deck; but at last reaching a narrow cabin, which was lined with hats and coats hanging on pegs, and which was small enough to seem nearly filled, with half a score of people in it.

These were the gentlemen of the press; those their hats and coats; and this their place of waiting—an apartment seemingly made out of a part of some old passage. We added two more hats, a stick or two, and a coat to those on the pegs. And, coming out, took a peep through a door, opened just the least thing in the world, and saw over the heads of the reporters down into the House of Commons. A member with a thin voice was speaking on the right hand side of the house the ministerial sides and seventeen gentlemen were sitting on the seats opposite to him. I did not see how many were on his side, but was afterwards told that there were not at that time seventeen there. This was between six and seven o'clock on the ninth night of the great debate on one of the mightiest questions which has engaged the deliberations of a senate.

"Where are all the members ?" I asked. "I see nothing but rows of empty seats, with red backs, and green or black leather coverings, save those few in a kind of knot near that pillar; and the few others imperfectly visible near to where the voice is speaking. Where are the 'hears' and the 'cheers,' the conflicts of counties, cities, and boroughs, the war of pocket interests and national interests? Where are the concentrated voices of agitated England? Where is the British Lion? Why roars he not throughout this mighty strife, in which he has proclaimed that his very existence is perilled?"

"This is the time of dining. The dinners last three or fourthours. No question, not even that which is said to peril the very national existence, detains the gentlemen from their dinners, or draws them numerously here until about nine o'clock. 'The Lords usually try to get their debate over in time to go home to dinner. Let us 'close this door and go to them."

So spoke my companion, and he closed that door, Turning from us a few steps he found another, and this ded us into the gallery of the House of Lords. We went down some steps having some rows of seats on our left, hand, the ends of the seats towards us. These were occupied by an auditory. Then we passed, still going down some steps, two or three empty sents. Then we went within a barrier where there were two rows of seats, the front one filled with reporters, writing what the Earl of St. Germains was speaking below, on the floor of the house; and the second seat partly filled with other reporters, waiting until the clock, which was fixed above one end of the seats, showed that the three quarters of an hour allotted to each member had expired.

A broad, square looking table, with books and papers on it, stood in the centre of the floor. Three clerks of the house, in black gowns and grey wigs, sat at the table, and Lord St. Germains, a plainly dressed gentleman, stood at one side of the table, speaking in a simple style with a pleasant voice, on one of the most unpleasant subjects-grievous, horrid subjects I should say, that can be thought of the new Coercion Bill for poor

"That old gentleman in black, with the white hair, seen below his hat, just sitting behind Lord St. Germains, on the front seat, with his arms folded across his !

breast, and his head bent down, as if asleep-that is the old Duke.

"That one sitting on his left, on the same seat—the good-looking man, listening intently—that is Lord Ellenborough.

"The lights hide the Lord Chancellor and the woolsack from us, and the throne behind him. He is at the farther side from us; but we can see the white hiwn of the bishops in therecess, towards the right of the throne.

"On this side of the table, opposite to the Dake, the Whig lords sit. That is Lord Cottenham, with his hat on; and that olderly gentleman, with the whitish grey hair, next to him, is the Marquis of Lansdowne.'

The Marquis rose, and addressed the house, when Lord St. Germains concluded. Having always supposed, from reading the marquis's speeches, that he must be a quiet, unimpassioned speaker, I was surprised to see his animated gesture, and hear his loud voice. But both gesture and voice were pleasing rather than otherwise. I only regretted that they were raised for the punishment of crime, and not for the removal of its causes. I have been on the marquis's Irish estates. There has been some wrong done there! One of his bailiffs, two or three years ago, was shot at. That was wrong; very wrong. But it was not the first wrong perpetrated. The marquis does not seem inclined to redress first wrongs; but he is for coercion, to put down their offspring.

When I had been in the gallery a few minutes, I rose half up, and stretched over the front seat to see who were immediately below. One of those there I took to be Lord Brougham, though I was not quite sure. I had looked down upon the crown of his head, and saw that head hald on the top, with gray hair on the sides. I looked again, and now I saw his profile, for he had turned round to talk to another lord, and I knew him by the profile. A minute after I looked and had another view of him. His feet were stretched out, and his body was thrown back in a position of rest, so that the tweeds which he wore, with the dark dragon-like stripes up the sides, were exposed at full length.

Again I looked, and he was in another position of He had thrown himself upon the other side, and was speaking to another lord over his shoulder.

Two minutes, exactly by the clock, after this, I looked over again, and he was not there, but had removed to another seat, and was sitting composedly with his arms folded. The noble lord was now within view. He was close to Lord Cottenham, and very nearly behind the Marquis of Lansdowne, who was speaking. He let his arms drop quietly, turned round, and spoke to the Marquis of Charricarde. He turned from the Marquis of Clanricarde, and removed half way back to the seat where I at first saw him sitting. Here he sat down and seemed to be at ease with his feet stretched out, his frock goat thrown back, his right elbow on the back of the seat, and his left hand rubbing a prominence behind his left car.

I withdrew my eyes to look elsewhere; and when one minute by the clock, or hardly so much, had elapsed, I looked again, and he was not there. One of the clerks had gone out and left a vacant seat at the table, and the noble lord was in the occupation of that seat examining a large book which was lying on the

In about five minutes the clerk returned, and his lordship, giving him his sent, went across the house, and bent himself down as if speaking to Lord Ellenborough. Then he returned to his original seat, and sat about a minute and a half, looking to and listening to Lord Lausdowne, with his right hand placed on the top of his head backwards. Thus I left him sitting while I glanced across the house to a noble, lord who sat on a back seat with a florid open countenance, and a white waistcoat on his broad ample chest. Behold, in a twinkling, the erratic lord was at that side of the house stretching over the front seat, and speaking to this nobleman. This was the Earl of Wicklow, so I was told.

From the Earl of Wicklow his lordship glided up the house near to the bishops, and disappeared in the rays of light which, as already said, hid from me the Lord Chancellor and the woolsack.

All these movements were made while not one other peer, or bishop, or person, in the house, save the clerk who went out and came in, had moved from his place. The Duke of Wellington still sat with his hat over his eyes, his arms folded, and his venerable head bowed down.

Once again the peer, who seemed to have no restingplace, emerged from the offulgent obscurity before the throne, and returned to his original scat. Here, one hand was on his knee, and the other was as before rubbing the prominence behind his car. Then he threw himself back on the seat, and leaned his head on his open right hand, stretching out his feet, as if he had at last attained repose.

self, and sat down beside the solid Lord Campbell, Two minutes after this he was at the table, and again back to his original place, where he sat with his hands alternately on his knees and on his head, rubbing his fingers behind his cars one moment, and the next moment on the upper part of the posterior region.

At last he sprung to his feet, forward to the table, and addressed the house. He, like the previous speakers, and like all who spoke that night, was for coercion to Ireland; only, in his estimation the coercion bill of the Government did not go far enough.

There was nothing said by Lords Farnham, Clinricarde, Campbell, Grey, &c., who afterwards spoke, with which the public is not already acquainted. So I shall not repeat what they said. But as I went at a later period of the evening, and several evenings since, into the House of Commons, and there listened to a repetition of what Mr. Cobden Las since called his " (3) friends, the fallacies of six and seven years ago," the chief of which fallacies is the throwing of land out of entire vation, and the laying of it down in grass, if protection is removed, I think it is worth while to compare the doings of the Lords with the doings of the Commons.

Roscommon is one of the recently disturbed counties of Ireland. The greater part of Roscommon is laid down in grass. The policy of the landlords there is to discourage cultivation, to have as little land under culture as possible, and as much in grass as possible. They can get a ready market for their stock in England, and having soldiers, police, bayonets, bullets, gunpowder, and any other, or every other element of force, at their command, they can remove animals from the land by force, and sell them. When they have a population living on their estates by the culture of the land, they cannot prevent that population from eating a part of the cultured produce. That population, therefore, resolves to take spades and forks in its hands, and it takes them and goes into the grass fields, and digs them up, and swears there, in the face of the soldiers and armed police, that the land shall not lie in grass, that it shall not be thrown out of cultivation, that the land shall be cultured.

The police fire on the people to prevent them from digging the land; the people are not armed, and cannot fire again. They retreat and go home; but being yet unconvinced that land is best left in grass, to fatten cattle to feed England, while they are without work and without food, they still resolve to cultivate, and they take secret vengeance on some of those who are foremost in preventing them. In Roscommon, it is a war of men compelled to be without work and without fou! and the owners and agents of the lands out of cultivation, wherein men say we must and shall work and dig, and plant the land, and raise food from it.

In Tipperary, where there are disturbances, the case is not quite the same; the land is there cultivated. it is divided and subdivided, and relet and sublet, into the smallest patches; and the competition for it is so great, that rents of 10l., 12l., and 14l. per acre, for one season, are eagerly offered. The inability of the people to pay such rents, the distraints which take place in consquence, the foreible sales of potatoes, the foreible transference of them under escorts of soldiers and police to the scaports, where, like the cattle and the corn they are shipped off to England, to which also the money received in payment, and paid in rent, goes; these lead to the agrarian crimes of Tipperary.

The new coercion bill may allay the popular diturbances for a time. A fire may be obscured and altogether hidden by the quantity of fuel heaped on it, Yet it will burn all the fiercer at some future time.

Employment, wages, and food are what the Irish want. The general purpose of many the owners of lish land is to lay it down in grass, and make work, and wages, and food still more difficult to obtain.

The Earl of St. Germains told how the armed constabulary of Ireland had been augmented, and took creditto the Government for the augmentation. I would beg to remind the readers of this paper of a series of letters which appeared in it two years ago, descriptive of a district of Ireland, near Kilkonny, which was peace. able and without crime, until a landlord erected a police barracks, and got a detachment of armed men to reside in it. He then made use of those armed men to offect illegal distraints upon his tenants—tenants who owed no rent. He used the armed constabulary to eject tenants from their farms who held on long leases, who hold on legal covenants, as good as ever were written on parchment, actually written on parchment, yet who were ejected. Those tenants brought actions against the landlord, were awarded damages in courts of law; but did not recover them because the landlord refused to pay damages; and not only related to pay, but continued to distrain on other tonants who owed no rent and held on least he in the meantime appealing to a higher court against There was no repose. He suddenly removed him- the decisions given in the lower course

He was at last shot at, or protonded to be so. Whether shot at, or only protending so to have been, it was a great card for him to play. He threw the main witnesses into prison, charging them on suspicion of being concerned against his life, and his appeals were some of them decided in his favour, because those witnesses were not in the court.

When the necessity for their absence was over, they were allowed to leave the prison. When new trials were coming on, they were again put in prison once more, charged on suspicion of having shot at him.

In two years and a half from the time of getting the armed police on his estate, he, with only 70 tenants, was involved in, or had been involved in, fully 200 actions at law, or criminal courts.

A troop of dragoons was also brought into the neighbourhood, and the infantry was augmented from a depot to a full regiment. Two pieces of cannon were also added to the police barrack. Many men were imprisoned, several transported, and two hanged. The leases were broken, the tenants ruined with law costs, beggared and ejected to perish, and some of them did perish. The houses of others were pulled down about them by men supported by the armed constabulary and the soldiers, though the inmates had built those houses at their own expense, on land held on lease, and though the leases were unexpired, and they owed no

With the law as it is, a landlord, if a political protestant, may attempt any enormity in Ireland, and ultimately succeed in it. All the functionaries of the law, from the lord-lientenant to the hangman, are on his side.

What they will be able to do when they get a permanent cocreion bill-it is fearful to think on. May the merciful God look down upon Ireland!

STATE OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN HANTS AND PART OF WILTS.

FEBRUARY 27, 1814.—The protracted debate on Sir Robert Peel's measure--the depression in the markets-the almost total impossibility of effecting sales at any price, added to the general apprehension or fear of ruin entertained by the farmers in this neighbourhood, have caused some to discharge or suspend many of their labourers; others have reduced the already too scanty wages of from 8s. to 0s. to from 6s. to 7s. per week. At the village of Amport (which parish extends six miles), Hampshire, to the borders of Wiltshire the labourers fortunate enough to get employment are paid but from 6s. to 7s., one with a wife and six children but 8s. per week, out of which sum 1s. goes for rent weekly, not one of his children in work, his youngest five years, his eldest fourteen; consequently eight hungry and almost famished beings have to exist on 101d. each per week. Clothing they have scarcely enough to cover their makedness—with out shoes or hats. The cottage without windows, or at least most of them broken; not thatched sufficiently to keep out the wet; neither bed nor bedding to keep them warm. Asking the wife how long it was since her or her family had tasted meat or any other food than bread, she replied "more than two months since," and then a neighbour killing a pig, gave her the "chitlings." She further ejaculated, "now their potatoes were all gone. God of heaven only knew," bursting at the time into tears, "what would become of them all."

At Quarterly, Grately, Shipton, and other agricultural villages in Hants, wages have generally been reduced to 8s. per week within the last three weeks, for married, and to hs. or 6s. for single men. At Almesbury and other villages in Wiltehre, the wages now paid do not exceed 8s. for married, and 6s. per week for single, strong, hearty, and ablebodied

Potatoes in Wiltshire seem generally to have escaped the maludy or disease so much complained of, as has also some part of Hampshire. At Marlborough, Devizes, Salisbury, &c., good sound kidneys can be purchased at 5s. per sack of

At Newbury 7s. per sack is demanded, while as much as 14s. is obtained at Winchester for similar kinds. Many are coming a great distance into Wiltshire for potatoes to set this spring; some out of Sussex, others from Somerset-shire, Gloucestershire, and Herefordshire, which will no doubt tend to increase considerably the prices there in a

THE POTATO FAMINE.—Potatoes in the midland counties continue still to advance in price and degenerate in quality. Those kinds which sold in our markets this time last year at 8d. per peck, are now selling as high as from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d. per peck. This is a serious calamity for the working classes. What aggravates the case, bread maintains a high rate, and notwithstanding the prospect of cheaper corn, the increased demand from a diminished supply of potatoes, will, we fear, serve to keep the quartern loaf at a price which few persons, with present rates of wages can afford to pay. Some uncasiness has been felt in regard to the obtaining of a supply of seed potatoes for planting the next and following month; plr of seed potatoes for planting the next and following month; but as it appears that the potato blight has not at all affected the potatoes grown in the north of Scotland, where there was also an abundant crop, an ample supply is expected from thence, via Hull, for all our wants. Yorkebirs has got its potato seed for many years from the north of Scotland, where prices seldom exceed do. apeck, and Warwickshire will, it is hoped, this season be able to import a good many from the same quarter. Nor will there be any risk of potato riots in that district of the far north, inasmuch as the potatoes there raised for the exportation are generally what are termed raised for the exportation are generally what are termed "forced" pointoes, good for seed but had to eat.

Patitions on the Gorn Laws.—From the eighth report of the committee on public petitions, it appears that the aggregate number relating to the subject of the Corn Laws, personned up to the State of Rebreau, inclusive; was — For result, putitions 688 s. All matures 1804, 691. Against repeal, petitions 1808; All matures 1804, 691.

· 中國的權利的學 (1967-1967年) [1967-1967 [1966-1967]

AGRICULTURE.

LANDLORDISM UNVEILED. FARMERS, YOU MUST AID YOURSELVES

A man has been sent up fresh from Dorsetshire by the squires to represent, as he says, the tenant farmers of that county in the House of Commons! and what is his first essay? Why, with infinite simplicity, he talked in the House as squires talk among themselves, and told, as the most proper and natural occurrence possible, how the tenants of certain Free Trade landowners of Dorsetshire declined to sign a requisition to him (Mr. Seymor), a monopolist, until their landlords had given them leave to do so! This was letting the cut out of the bag, with a vongeance! What becomes now of the protectionist ardour of the tenant farmers? What is the rear of the "British Lion" worth? The truth is, that the tenant farmers, as a body, have long ceased to care much about "protection:" and a very considerable and daily increasing minority of them wish the whole delusion to be put down forthwith. Mr. Gibson remarked, in the House of Commons, on Monday night, that he always found, in his personal intercourse with farmers, that " they utterly disregard the question of the Corn Laws as a matter of business." This is perfectly true. We met with a striking illustration of this the other day. Wishing to learn the opinion of the farmers of a county in which some of the most frantic monopolist nonsense has been uttered by squires in the name of the farmers, as to the Government measure, we made the inquiry of an intelligent farmer, who constantly attends the principal local markets, and received this answer: "The farmers consider the whole question at an end, and would\ gladly have a Free Trade at once, that they might come to a settlement with their landlords; and so indifferent have they become to the progress of the Government bill, that I assure you I have scarcely heard the subject alluded to by a furmer during the three weeks the discussion has been going on; and on the day (market-day) when the news of the division arrived, I did not hear a single comment on the subject by a farmer throughout the day."

This is significant. But it may be said, how is it that the farmers are got together to shout at protection meetings, and to vote for monopolists at county elections? The new Dorsetshire member has afforded a clue to the solution of the paradox, Farmers don't sign requisitions to candidates till they have the word from their landlords, and they do go to protection meetings and county elections at the bidding of their landlords and masters. No one who has mixed with farmers can doubt that farmers do not, and dare not, act upon their own convictions in public affairs; and simple Mr. Seymer has innocently let out the truth, that squires would as soon expect to be opposed in public affairs by their own monial servants as by their te-

This is a state of things which must be amended before farmers can take their proper station in society; a new arrangement of the social relations of landlord and tenant must take place before husbandry in England can rise from its present inferior and depressed state. The domineering insolence of the squirearchy is not confined to political matters; it extends into all the intercourse of landlords with tenants. For instance, there is a minor landowner in Hertfordshire, who has lately taken to game preserving with great strictness, and he has recently sent verbal messages by a servant to three of his tonants to say, that if they did not keep their dogs tied up, he would turn them out of their farms!!! All these farmers are men of capital and intelligence, who are fully alive to the deep degradation to which their position as yearly tenants has compelled them for a time to submit. Can such a state of things continue? We say, unhesitatingly, it cannot. We have reason to believe that at this time the monopolist landowners are endeavouring to enforce, with more than usual stringency, that semi-feudal system which is the bane of agriculture in England; and they do so from a cousciousness that the tenants are writhing under a vesselage which they will, ere long, arouse themsolves to shake off.
The infillord's heel hever pressed so heavily on

We publish the following letter, which has been

addressed to us by Mr. Warnes, of Trimingham, Norfolk, and it deserves the attention of farmers upon two grounds; first, that in the cultivation and

the neck of the tenant as it does at this moment, Yet is the day of redemption at hand; for the time is coming when no landowner will be able to maintain the present system of management except by the sacrifice of half his income. But tenants must assert their own independence, and refuse any longer to occupy as yearly tenants, or to submit to agreemonts which render them mere vassals. Now, Free Trade in grain will greatly assist the emancipation of tenantry, and in this way: -when the world's market is open, it is highly improbable that the price of wheat in England will, one year with another, average more than 45s, a quarter; and to enable farmers to carry on their business with a profit, more capital and more skill must be applied to farming than is now the case with the class which may be called average farmers. To this the chief obstacles are, yearly holdings, obsolete, unnecessary, and restrictive covenants, game preserves, timber and hedgerows, and a superstitious reverence on the part of the landlord for natural pastures. There are often other landlord-imposed burdens of a local or peculiar nature, but those we have enumerated are almost universal. Together they form the cause of the backward state of English husbandry, the reason why the land produces little, if any, more than the half of what it might be made to produce with moderately good farming. Now the present rental of farms so burdened will be found from 30 to 50 per cent, too high; when the price of wheat shall have settled down to about 45s, a qr., and struggle as they may; landlords who won't relinquish those burdens must ultimately undergo a considerable reduction of income. But how many of them can submit to such a reduction? Will their mortgagees look on quietly at such a wilful sacrifice of property to prejudice? Will the squires themselves like to feel themselves sinking in the scale of society? Woll, then, look to the alternative. Rents are not in general too high, if the farmers had long leases, with no burdensome restrictive covenants, no game, nn-extensive clearance of timber and hedgerows, and liberty to break up a considerable part of the permanent pasture lands. We believe, that when prices have become natural and moderate, the majority of landlords, perhaps in some in stances, after a period of fruitless struggle, will adopt the course of rational men, and let their farms upon fair terms, that is, without the landlord-imposed burdens. Then will the tenantry be in their proper position, and the English farmer will no longer be open to the reproach of being a laggard amongst the industrious capitalists of this country. To hasten the advent of that period, every farmer should join in demanding immediate as well as a total repeal of the Corn Laws.

Since writing the above, we have a most decisive admission of the necuracy of our views in Sir Thomas Adand's speech upon Mr. Villiers' motion. In declaring his intention of voting against immediate repeal, the monopolist member for Devonshire said, " he was aware there was a difference of opinion upon this subject between landlords and tenant farmers. He believed that tenant farmers thought that the arrangements between the landlords and their tenants would be in a very unsottled state. He took an opposite view of th matter. He should be glad to come to a right understanding with his tenants as soon as the measure passed, for three years, which would give time to see how the proposition of the right hon baronet would work, AND THEN TO MAKE AN ULTIMATE ARRANGEMENT." That is what we say. That is our case on behalf of the tenant farmers against suspended repeal of the Corn Laws. To this Lord Worsley-who is the most rational man amongst the active protectionists-added " that from extensive inquiries he had made among the farmers occupying large farms, he believed their wish of the two things was, if there should be a repeal of the Corn Laws, that instead of three years it should be immediate. What farmers were most anxious about was, that there should be at least a settlement of this question.

AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE.

preparation of flex, the means of profitably employing the agricultural population of all ages, at good wages, is found; secondly, that by the use of boiled linseed, barley meal, and straw chaff, cattle may be fattened at something less than one-half of the cost of feeding on oilcake, or meal alone. Nobody can deny the vast importance of these things to the agricultural interest; and we believe that when once the incubus of "protection" shall be totally removed from agriculture, both subjects will receive more attention from farmers than they have hitherto done. We have used the mixture, for all kinds of cattle, with the most satisfactory results; and a farmer in a home county, who at our recommendation has this winter fattened forty head of cattle on the linseed compound, declares that he never before fed stock so cheaply, so rapidly, or with so good a profit. We believe we saw some of the beasts Mr. Warnes mentions in his letter, at the latter end of September last, when they had just begun to feed, they were decidedly lower in condition than farmers commonly like to begin with:

CULTIVATION OF FLAX.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE. "Stu,-Several years have clapsed since the meeting of a society, that I had been instrumental in forming, took place. It was called the "Norfolk Flax Society," and was held in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich.

"Present were the Lord Lieutenant and the High Sheriff of the county, the Bishop of Norwich, with a large assembly

of nobility and gentry.
"I had the honour of moving the first resolution, to the effect, that flax culture, as a means of employment to the poor, ought to be vigorously promoted by every true lover of

"The success of my advocacy, on that memorable day, was of short duration. For, in less than twenty-four hours after the meeting separated, a cloud, charged with mischief, arose to mar the bright prospects that I had so recently

depicted. "Eventually, I resolved to pursue alone that path, which

I in vain pointed out as the only way to success.

"The cloud is now removed; my work complete; and the unobstructed sun of prosperity shines upon the flax cause; the two main points that I endeavoured to enforce, viz., profitable employment to the poor, and reduction of rates, being clearly established.

I now invite all thoughtful, prudent, and philanthropic persons to visit Trimingham, in order that they may see how far I have carried out the spirit of my resolution, and witness the realisation of the above statements, with the happy effects of constant work at adequate wages.

"They will also discover that if flax had been cultivated to the extent, and in accordance with the plans I recommended, every parish in the county might, at the present time, have been rendered as free from rates as Trimingham; where one quarter's poor-rate only, of the past three, at 3d, in the pound, has been required for the support of the infirm, and for Union charges; all hands being employed in dressing that, that would otherwise have been maintained in idleness. As a proof, Mr. Brown, who has greatly contributed towards the clucidation of this subject, left his farm at Michaelmas, engaged another at Rackheath, and took his flax with him. In consequence, several young persons were thrown out of employment; some of whom were lately obliged to take refuge in the workhouse, where they must still have remained, held not received them into my flax establishment.

" To remove all prejudice would be to alter the construction of human nature: a thing impossible -- so innumerable are the secret springs of opposition. But justice to the poor, whose cause I advocate, and for whose sake the Norfolk Flax Society was formed, demands the strictest investigation. I would therefore just observe, that the system of preparing flax for market is reduced to so great a certainty upon my premises, that I am now able to afford assistance to any part of the kingdom; and that, under the instruction of Belgians from the celebrated Courtrai district, young men, women, and children have become expert flax-dressers, carning from 3s.0d, to 10s. per week. For instance, the wages of Thomas Sirly, aged 13, exceed, upon the average, 0s. a week.

"In conclusion, allow me to subjoin the copy of a letter,

addressed to a nobleman on another part of my advocacy, of the utmost importance to the agricultural interests of the country; and to say, that I this week, sold seven bullocks, fattened according to the system recommended, from the resources of my own farm, that paid 771, for less than six months keeping :

"My Lord,-The people in this neighbourhood were once as stubborn and as stiff-necked as those who inspect your ballacks, nor would they acknowledge the superiority of the compound feeding system, till they had themselves reaped the profils I described. Now, they are a plant, communicative, and, I wish I could add, a grateful race.

" But, I am righly rewarded by the testimonies of an extensive and enlightened correspondence; and it is with pleasure that I knewer your lordship's present inquiry. I wish, however, first to observe, for the instruction of those parties who admit that your bullocks are doing well, and who will not allow 'the cheapness of the food upon which they are fattening, that linseed can be purchased at less

m mey per ton than the best oil oake. " For instance, I was offered, on Saturday, at Norwich, linseed at 43s, per quarter, weighing 30 st., while oil-cake was 117, 10% per ton. Now, where farmers are so prejudiced against the new system as not to perceive the superiority of the pure seed over the refuse formed into cake with all kinds of rubbish, no arguments can produce a contrary conviction; and they must be left, till compelled by cicenmstances, like many in Norfolk, to try the experi-

"Your lordship will discover by the above prices, that linseed and cake are about 1s. 3d, per stone cach; and that, if a compound of barley and linseed is made, consisting of a seed, and f barley, at 3d, per stone, [at which price thousands of quarters may be purchased], it will amount to 7l. 7s. per ton, exclusive of the water; but, when that all-important ingradient is incorporated according to the receipts in my book, the price will be reduced to 45s, per ton + and those who adopt only this part of my systems. ing of a seed, and f barley, at 9th per stone, [at which price thousands of quarters may be purchased], it will amount to 7th 7s, per ton, exclusive of the water; but, when that all-important ingrationt is incorporated according to the receipts in my book, the price will be reduced to 45s, per ton, and those who adopt only this part of my system; the Corn Laws are to the corn and those who adopt only this part of my system; the Corn Laws are to the corn and those who adopt only this part of my system; the Corn Laws are to the corner prosperity.

obtain five tons and a half of the incomparable cattle compound at the same sum, which others give for a ton of comparative rubbish.

I do not say that the same effect will be produced from a ton of compound as from a ton of cake; but I know of no instance where the superiority of the former has not been acknowledged, without taking into calculation the advantages derived by consuming so large a proportion of native

"My Lord, I thank you for having instituted an inquiry into this subject, which I should not otherwise have criticised so minutely, and which I shall expect to turn to some

"Hoping that I have succeeded in resolving the problem contained in your lordship's note, I have the honour to remain, your obodient servant,

JOHN WARNER. Feb. 10th, 1846. "It is not my intention again to enter the lists of controversy, and, in closing this more arduous part of my labours, I am abundantly gratified by the many expressions of benefits conferred, by the glorious prospects of the future,

and by a mind conscious of right. " Hoping that this letter may find a place in the columns of your paper, and in those of every patriotic journal in the United Kingdom,—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, "Trimingham, Feb. 17th. John Warnes."

MR. COBDEN AND THE LEAGUE.-Mr. Cobden spoke as a triumpher. His speech was a perpetual defiance hurled at the landed aristocracy. It is not only the Tories who ought to have trembled on their seats. The Whig party reckons in reality more real aristocracy in its ranks than the Tory. The "League" saps and mines their influence as unconsingly as that of their opponents, and it is easy to understand that the most political and enlightened portion of the English oligarchy chooses rather to deaden the influence of this dangerous confederacy, by yielding to it now, than to allow it to go on pursuing its crusades against the prepon derance of landed property. We have often heard our readers remark how much the interference of the League in election matters tended to modify the elements on which the balance of the great political parties had hitherto reposed. The fact is, that of late years, this formidable association has almost effected a revolution in the representative system of England. Nor did Mr. Cobden conceal this fact; on the contrary, he boasted of it. He laid bare the basis of aristocratic influ ence, and complacently showed the ravages that had been com mitted upon them by the repented assaults of the League. He reminded the great families which possess the land that their power reposed on about 150,000 electors, who hold farms without leases, and who are thus, at the mercy of their landlords. "But," said he, "we can also create voters, and the most enlightened of you well know that we shall effect our purposes? It is a fact worthy of notice that the English aristocracy now finds itself beaten with the weapons which it forged itself. In fact, in a country where wealth and power are concentrated in a small number of hands, the more the electoral basis is enlarged, the more the influence of the aristocracy augments; the more poor electors, the more multiplied is the action of the rich. the time of the Reform Bill, it was the aristocracy that, quite logically, introduced or maintained on the electoral lists the greatest possible number of persons whose comparative poverty necessarily ensured dependence. But here, in face of the great influences of family and fortune, is a collective influence which resists concentration by combination. In face of the great landowners, with their millions of revenue, here is a League organized, which opens subscriptions and also collects millions. These coalesced cotton spinners also apply themselves to the fabrication of votes; they buy freeholds they range the country and sow gold in their path, like the dragon's teeth in the fable of Ovid; and the new born electors everywhere spring up beneath their feet. "You call that revolutionary," cries the great Leaguer, "why it is you that are the revolutionists. It is you that have put these arms into our hands." The "most enlightened" of the aristocracy have perceived that it was time to put an end to this anomalous position, and to put a period to a struggle in which they were losing ground day by day. In spite of the cries and the rage of the vanquished it is probable that the Peers will deem it prudent to be their own executioners. It is clear, that if they were to reject the measure, and so necessitate an appeal to the country, the new election would not give them a majority. Even if they gained a few votes, they would not gain enough to be masters of the field. They are a lost party.—Journal des Débuts.

Initial Provisions.—On Monday, the 23d ultimo, five vessels arrived at the port of London from the Irish ports, bringing collectively 2,205 quarters of oats, 1,887 packages of butter, 1,914 packages of bacon, 169 of pork, 87 of hams, 401 of eggs, 570 of land, in addition to a quantity of tongues and various other articles of Irish production. On Thursday, three vessels arrived in the river, bringing 205 quarters of onts, 1,038 packages of bacon, 560 of pork, 160 of beef, 569 of butter, 284 of land, 152 of hams, 110 of eggs and other articles. One vessel arrived on Friday with 1,020 quarters, and one on Saturday with 1,380 quarters of oats. The imports into the port of Bristol, in the same period, consisted of a large quantity of lineus, malt, ontmeal, seed, 69 packages of lard, 330 of butter, 171 of bacon, besides barley, outs, &c. The arrivals at the port of London from the same quarter at the beginning of the present week have consisted of 308 packages of bacon, 57 of butter, 207 of lard, 193 of pork, 189 of eggs, 94 of hams, 189 of beef, 80 packages of lineus and cottons, in addition to oats, malt, yarn, and various other articles the produce of the Irish soil. The following is the list of provisions imported from the Irish ports into Liverpool from the 20th to the 20th ult., inclusive: -2,002 firkins, 84 hulffirkins, 1,120 other packages, 108 boxes of butter; 203 sacks, 44 tons, and 1,050 quarters of wheat; 4,740 sacks of flour; 3,218 quarters, and S sacks of oats; 282 sacks, 231 other packages, 181 tons, 282 skins, and 4 barrels of oatmenl; 108 sacks, and 56 tons of meal; 407 sacks of mait, 6 tons of seed, 508 boxes and tierces, 27 bundles, and 10 other packages of linens and cottons; 812 barrels of bacon, 83 casks, 180 firkins, and 600 kegs of lard; 350 barrels, and 80 kegs of pork; 20 barrels of beef; 03 hogsheads, 0 tons, 33 barrels, and 10 other packages of hams, 20 barrels, and 10 kegs of provisions; 48 kegs, and 10 barrels of tongues; 102 bags of farine, in addition to 43 casks of whisky, 28 bags of

REVIEW.

Trade and Travel in the Far East. By F: David. son, Esq. London: Madden and Malcolm.

This pleasing and instructive volume contains the recollections of a residence of 21 years in or near the islands of the Indian Archipelago. With these islands, our country had an opportunity of forming interesting and valuable commercial relations; but the ignorance of Lord Bathurst, and the blundering vanity of Lord Castlerengh, led to the sacrifice of our advantage at the treaty of Kenna Our duped negociator not only complimented away the trade of England, but the rights of the natives of Java, at the very moment when the exortions of Sir Stamford Rulles had opened marts for commerce, and stimulated the energies of the Javanese by affording them security to person and property. Under the Dutch Government the natives have fallen back to that indolence which prevails in every country where labour is uncertain of obtaining its reward; and this want of industry is a prominent feature in the prospect from the inn of Buytenzorg:

"The scenery is magnificent; and the view (well known to every visitor) from the back verandal of the inn, is the finest that can be imagined. Standing on the steps of this verandali, you have, immediately under your foot, an extensive plain, thoroughly cultivated, sprinkled with villages, each village being surrounded with evergreen trees, and the whole almost encircled by a river. To the left of this valley rises an extensive and picturesque mountain, cultivated almost to the summit, and dotted here and there with villages and gentlemen's houses. Looking into the valley at early morn, you will see the lazy buffalo, driven by an equally indolent plough-man, dragging a Lilliputian plough through the slimy paddy. field; the lazy Javanese labourer going to his work in the field; the native women reaping, with the hand only, and stalk by stalk, the ripe paddy (rice) in one field, while those in the next are sowing the seed; the adjoining fields being covered with stubble, their crops having been reaped weeks before. Upon the declivity of the mountain is seen the stately coffee tree, the plantations of which commence about 1300 feet above the level of the sea, and proceed up the hill till they reach the height of 4000 feet."

The conduct of the Dutch to the native chiefs is illustrated by their treatment of the gallant Diepo Nogoro:

"During my first stay at Batavia, from 1823 to 1826, the celebrated Java war broke out, the so called rebel army being headed by a native Chief of Djockdjocarta, named Diepo Nogoro. Shortly after the first outbreak, the then Governor-General, Baron Vander Capellan, called on all Europeans between the ages of 10 and 45 to serve in the schuttery, or militia. An infantry and a cavalry corps were formed, and I joined the latter, preferring a ride in the evening to a walk with a 14 pound musket over my shoulder. After a probation of pretty tight drilling, we became tolerable soldiers, on nothing a day and finding ourselves,' and had the good town of Batavia put under our charge, the regular troops being all sent away to the scene of war. As I do not intend to return to the subject, I may as well mention here, that the war lasted five years, and that it would have lasted five years longer, had Diepo Nogoro not been taken prisoner-I fear by treachery. I saw him landed at Batavia in 1829, from the steamer which had brought him from Samarang. The Governor's carriage and aides-de-camp where at the wharfto receive him. In that carriage he was driven to gaol, whence he was banished no one knows whither; and he has never since been heard of. Such is the usual fate of Dutch prisoners of state. Diepo Nogoro deserved a better fate. He was a gallant soldier, and fought bravely. Poor fellow! how his countenance fell—as well it might—when he saw where the carriage drew up! He stopped short on putting his foot on the reasonable stilled the reasonable stilled to the reasonable still still stilled to the reasonable still still stilled to the reasonable stilled to the reasonable still still stilled to the reasonable on the pavement, evidently unwilling to enter the gloomylooking pile; cast an enger glance around; and seeing there was no chance of escape, walked in. Several gentlemen followed, before the authorities had the door closed, and saw the fullen chief, with his two wives, consigned to two mise-rable-looking rooms. Java has been quite tranquil ever

That great precursor of Free Trade, the smuggler, is hard at work in upsetting the system of exclusive commerce established by the Dutch authorities:

"Singapore is annually visited by a large fleet of vessels from all parts of Java: the most important of these are what re commonly called Arab ships; that is, ships fitted out and owned by Arabs residing in Java. They carry the Dutch flag, are commanded by Arabs, and manned by Javanese. If fame does not belie them, these Arab commanders are notorious smugglers. This is certain: that they take goods from Singapore in argument for the acceptance for the acc from Singapore in exchange for the coffee, sugar, rice, &c., which they bring from Java, and that they give prices that would leave them no margin for profit, if his Netherlands Majesty's duties were paid on them. For this sort of illicit trade, the coast of Java offers many facilities in its numerous small rivers, with which the Arch ship master is infinately small rivers, with which the Arab ship master is infimately acquainted. The article of opium, though strictly prohibited by the authorities of Java, is taken by the Arabs from Singapore in considerable quantities, noiwithstanding the pains and penalties attached to its being found on board their vessels; and appropriate the pains of the property of the prop sels; and smuggled into Java the drug most unloudtedly is, let the Dutchman boast of their spies and custom-house catablishment as they will. These Arab ships are built of teak, ranging from 100 to 500 tons per register, and are altogether remarkably fine vessels."

1.

The condition of Bencoolen affords another proof of the miserable incapacity of the British ministry of 1815; the ministry which imposed Corn Laws to cripple industry at home, and abandoned advan-tages to prevent the extension of British commerce

transfer, in 1825, to the Dutch, great exertions were made to render this settlement important for its exportation of spices of all descriptions; and so far as regards natures, mace, and cloves, those exertions were eminently successful. Planters and others, however, soon found that, on the hauling down of the British flag, and the holsting of the Dutch, their prespects underwork a very material charge action. their prospects underwent a very material change, arising from duties and other charges laid on the commerce of the place. Most of the capitalists retired with the British esta-blishment, of which indeed, they formed a part. A hard struggle was maintained by those planters who remained behind, but without success; and the place is now very little more than a station for a Dutch Assistant-Resident and a

In this arrangement the wishes and rights of the natives were as ostentatiously disregarded as the commercial interests of England:

The transfer of this settlement to the Dutch (in exchange for Malacca) in 1825, was a severe blow and great disappointment to all the natives, both high and low. At a meeting of chiefs held at the Government house, at which the English and Dutch authorities were both present, for the purpose of completing the transfer, the senior Rajah rose to address the assombly, and spoke to the following effect:-'Against this transfer of my country I protest. Who is there possessed of authority to hand me and my countrymen, like many cattle, over to the Dutch or to any other power? If the English are tired of us, let them go away; but I deny their right to hand us over to the Dutch. When the English first came here, they asked for and got a piece of land to build warehouses and dwelling houses upon. That piece of land is still defined by its original stone wall, and is all they (the English) ever got from us. We were never conquered; and I now tell the English and Dutch gentlemen here assembled, that had I the power, as I have the will, I would resist this transfer to the knife. I am, however, a poor man, have no soldiers to cope with yours, and must submit. God's will be done. This was a bold, straightforward speech; but it was thrown away upon the callous ears of the hearers. Delivered in pure Malay, it sounded stronger than in this translation. The speaker was an old man, with whose power and will for mischief, in former days, the British had good cause to be acquainted.

As another specimen of the Dutch policy which the imposers of the Corn Laws established in the Indian seas, we quote an account of the disguised slave-trade at Padang:

"There is a disgraceful traffic carried on between Padang and the island of Nias, a little further up the coast, by Chinese, who visit that island, and purchase hundreds of its inhabitants, for whom they find markets all along the coast. Those brought to Padang, are not, indeed, sold as slaves; but they are registered at the Resident's office, and held as bond-debtors for different terms of seven, fifteen, and even twenty years. During this servitude they are treated as slaves, but free at its expiration. They have also the option of buying their liberty in the meantime, if they can raise the means; and the proprietor is not at liberty to refuse a sum equivalent to the value of the unexpired term of service. This value is fixed thus: on the registering of a debtor, a certain sum is put down as his value or debt; say 400 rupees; of this sum a certain proportion, say 20 rupees, is placed to his credit for every year he serves; so that, if he serves his master for five years, his debt is reduced to 300 rupees; and this sum, the master is compelled to accept as the price of his liberation. If a debtor has a hard master, he is at liberty to induce another to buy his services; and the transfer cannot be declined, if the sum due is forth-

Mr. Davidson resided for three years in New South Wales, and estimates very highly the advantages it offers to agricultural emigrants, notwithstanding the drawbacks of convicts escaping to become highway robbers in the bush, the ravages of occasional droughts, and the depredations of the cockatoos. The last is a plague very perplexing to the farmers:

While on the subject of the settler's troubles, I may mention, that the cockatoos annoy the farmer in Australia, as much as the crows do in England: they attack his wheat and maize, when the grain is ripening, by hundreds; indeed I may say, by thousands; and it requires a very active watchman to keep them from doing serious injury to the crop, not so much from the quantity they eat, as from what they destroy and scatter. These birds, which, by-the-bye, furnish an excellent dish that occasionally formed part of our dinner, are remarkably cunning: while the flock are busily feeding on the farmer on some neighbouring trees to keep watch; these, on the approach of danger, give a loud, shrill scream, which at once puts the thieves to flight, and renders it very difficult for the sportsman to get a shot at one of them."

Mr. Davidson's account of Hong-Kong is too superficial to be of much value, and more recent information has refuted several of the speculations in which he indulged. We, however, join with him heartily in recommending that all the English establishments in the Indian and Chinese seas should be declared "free ports," and that the revenues necessary to defray colonial expenses should he raised by direct taxation. The experiment has been tried with complete success at Singapore, and Mr. Brooke has adopted the same course in Borneo. Monopoly is nothing more than legalised piracy, and the Government that sanctions it has no right to complain that the Malay pirates carry out the principle in their own way, and even contrive to better the instruction.

Narrative of a Four Month' Residence at the Marquesas, or, a Peop at Polynssian Life; by Horman Melville. London: Murray.
We have more than once had occasion to refer to

that most interesting series of amusive and instructive volutions which Murray is publishing in a series of amusive and instructive volutions which Murray is publishing in the series of any further blokes will be interested and the most and positive will be interested and the most and positive will be interested and the most are the most

that no publisher has been more successful in combining cheapness with excellence, and that there is not a single volume in the whole series which we should not grieve to lose from our collection. The work before us contains the adventures of an American mariner, who descried from a cruel captain, and sought shelter among the natives of the Marquesas; it offers much for extract, and little for comment, and is therefore a book more gratifying to the reader than useful to the critic. Melville, though an American, does not disguise the atrocities which his countrymen have committed in the islands of the Pacific Ocean—atrocities which have provoked fearful retaliations, though the vongeance has chiefly fallen on the innocent. He thus describes the exploits of Captain Poiter, of the United States navy, during his campaign of 1814, against the Typees:

"On that occasion I have been told that a considerable detachment of sailors and marines from the frigate lissex, accompanied by at least two thousand warriors of Happar and Nukulieva, landed in boats and canoes at the head of the bay, and after penetrating a little distance into the valley, met with the stoutest resistance from its inmates. Valiantly, although with much loss, the Typees disputed every inch of ground, and after some hard fighting, obliged their assailants

to retreat and abundon their design of conquest.

""The invaders, on their march back to the sea, consoled themselves for their repulse by setting fire to every house and temple in their route; and a long line of smoking rulus defaced the once smiling bosom of the valley, and proclaimed to its Pagan inhabitants the spirit that reigned in the breasts of Christian soldiers. Who can wonder at the deadly hatred of the Typees to all foreigners after such unprovoked atro-

"Thus it is that they whom we denominate" savages are made to deserve the title. When the inhabitants of some sequestered island first descry the 'big canoe' of the European rolling through the blue waters towards their shores, they rush down to the beach in crowds, and with open arms stand ready to embrace the strangers. Fatalembrace! They fold to their bosoms the vipers whose sting is destined to poison all their joys; and the instinctive feeling of love within their breasts is soon converted into the bitterest hate.

The enormities perpetrated in the South Seas upon some of the inoffensive islanders wellnigh pass belief. These things are seldom proclaimed at home; they happen at the very ends of the earth; they are done in a corner, and there are none to reveal them. But there is, nevertheless, many a petty trader that has navigated the Pacific whose course from sland to island might be traced by a series of cold-blooded robberies, kidnappings, and murders, the iniquity of which might be considered almost sufficient to sink her guilty timbers to the bottom of the sen.

"Sometimes vague accounts of such things reach our firesides, and we coolly censure them as wrong, impolitic, needlessly severe, and dangerous to the crews of other vessels. How different is our tone when we read the highlywrought description of the massacre of the crew of the Hobomak by the Feejees! how we sympathise for the unhappy victims, and with what horror do we regard the diabolical heathens, who, after all, have but avenged the unprovoked injuries which they have received! We breathe nothing but vengeance, and equip armed vessels to traverse thousands of miles of ocean in order to execute summary punishment upon the offenders. On arriving at their destination, they burn, slaughter, and destroy, according to the tenor of written instructions, and sailing away from the scene of devastation, call upon all Christendom to applaud their courage and their justice.

Melville left the ship with a companion he calls Toby, and fled towards a ridge of hills in the interior. The obstacles he met on his route were of a formidable nature. Let us select a specimen:

"When we arrived within a short distance of the ridge, we were stopped by a mass of tall yellow reeds, growing to gether as thickly as they could stand, and as tough and stubborn as so many rods of steel; and we perceived, to our chagrin, that they extended midway up the elevation we purposed to ascend.

"For a moment we gazed about us in quest of a more practicable route; it was, however, at once apparent that there was no resource but to pierce this thicket of canes at all hazards. We now reversed our order of march, I, being the beaviest, taking the lead, with a view of breaking a path through the obstruction, while Toby fell into the rear.

hree times endeavoured to insinuate n between the canes, and by dint of coaxing and bonding them to make some progress; but a bull-frog might as well have tried to work a passage through the teeth of a comb, and I

gave up the attempt in despatr. " Half wild with meeting an obstacle we had so little anticipated, I threw myself desperately against it, crushing to the ground the canes with which I came in contact; and, rising to my feet again, repeated the action with like effect. Twenty minutes of this violent exercise almost exhausted me, but it carried us some way into the thicket; when Toby, who had been reaping the benefit of my labours by following close at my heefs, proposed to become ploneer in turn, and accordingly passed altead with a view of affording me a respite from my exertions. As, however, with his slight frame he made but bad work of it, I was soon obliged to resume my old place again.

"On we toiled, the perspiration starting from our bodies in floods, our limbs torn and lacerated with the splintered fragments of the broken caues, until we had proceeded per-laps as far as the middle of the brake, when suddenly it ceased raining, and the atmosphere around us became glose and saltry beyond expression. The elasticity of the reeds, quickly recovering from the temporary pressure of our bodies, caused them to spring back to their original position; so that they closed in upon us as we advanced, and prevented the circulation of the little air which might otherwise have reached us. Besides this, their great-height completely shut us out from the view of surrounding objects, and we were not dertain but that we might have been going all the time

mink down for a moment with a wort of dagged apathy, from which I was aroused by Toby, who had devised a plan to free us from the net in which we had become entangled.

"He was laying about him lustily with his shouth-knife, lopping the canes right and left, like a reaper, and soon made quite a clearing around us. This sight continued me, and seizing my own knife, I hacked and hewed away without mercy. But, alas! the farther we advanced, the thicker and tailer, and apparently the more interminable the reeds be-

"I began to think we were fairly snared, and had simust made up my mind that without a pair of wings we should never be able to escape from the toils; when all at once I discorned a peop of daylight through the canes on my right, and, communicating the joyful tidings to Toby, we both fell to with fresh spirit, and speedily opening a passage towards it we found ourselves clear of perplexities, and in the near vict-

After enduring terrible hardships in the defiles of the mountains, the adventurers at length reached an uninhabited valley, where they discovered two figures half hidden in the bush:

"My mind was at once made up. Dropping my staff, and tearing open the package of things we find brought from the ship, I unrolled the cotton cloth, and holding it in one hand lucked with the other a twig from the bushes beside me, and telling Toby to follow my example, I broke through the covert and advanced, waving the branch in token of peace towards the shrinking forms before me.

"They were a boy and girl, slender and graceful, and completely naked, with the exception of a slight girdle of bark, from which depended at opposite points two of the russet leaves of the bread-fruit tree. An arm of the boy, half sercened from sight by her wild tresses, was thrown about the neck of the girl, while with the other he held one of her hands in his; and thus they stood together, their heads inclined forward, catching the faint noise we made in our proress, and with one foot in advance, as if half inclined to fly from our presence.

" As we drew near their alarm evidently increased. Apprehensive that they might thy from us altogether, I stopped short and motioned them to advance and receive the gift I extended towards them, but they would not; I then uttered a few words of their language with which I was acquainted, scarcely expecting that they would understand me, but to show that we had not dropped from the clouds upon them. This appeared to give them whittle confidence, so I approached neaver, presenting the cloth with one hand and holding the bough with the other, while they slowly retreated. At last they suffered us to approach so near to them that we were enabled to throw the cotton cloth across their shoulders, giving them to understand that it was theirs, and by a variety of gestures endeavouring to make them understand that we entertained the highest possible regard for them.

The frightened pair now stood still, whilst we endeavoured to make them comprehend the nature of our wants. In doing this Toby went through with a complete series of pantomimic illustrations-opening his mouth from ear to car, and thrusting his fingers down his throat, gnashing his teeth and rolling his eyes about, till I verily believe the poor creatures took us for a couple of white cannibals who were about to make a meal of them. When, however, they understood us, they showed no inclination to relieve our wants. At this juncture it began to rain violently, and we motioned them to lead us to some place of shelter. With this request they appeared willing to comply, but nothing could evince more strongly the apprehension with which they regarded us, than the way in which, whilst walking before us, they kept their eyes constantly turned back to watch every movement we made, and even our very looks.

They were at first uncortain whether they had fallen in with the cannibal Typees or the more innocent Happars. It soon appeared that their hosts were the dreaded devourers of human flesh, but they nevertheless received the fugitives with great hospitality:

"Reclining upon our mats, we held a kind of levee, giving audience to successive troops of the natives, who introduced themselves to us by pronouncing their respective names, and retired in high good humour on receiving ours in return. During this ceremony the greatest merriment prevailed, nearly every announcement on the part of the islanders being followed by a fresh sally of galety, which induced me to believe that some of them at least were innocently diverting the company at our expense, by bestowing upon themselves a string of absurd titles, of the humour of which we were of course entirely ignorant.

"All this occupied about an hour, when the throng having little diminished, I turned to Mehevi and gave him to understand that we were in need of food and sleep. Immediately the attentive chief addressed a few words to one of the crowd, who disappeared, and returned in a few moments with a calabash of "poce poce," and two or three young cocanuts stripped of their busks, and with their shells partly broken. We both of us forthwith placed one of these natural goblets to our lips, and drained it in a moment of the refreshing draught it contained. The poce-poce was then placed before us, and even famished as I was, I paused to consider in what manner to convey it to my mouth.

"This staple article of food among the Marquose islanders is manufactured from the produce of the breadfruit tree. It somewhat resembles in its plastic nature our bookbinders paste, is of a yellow colour, and somewhat

tart to the taste. "Such was the dish, the merits of which I/was now eager to discuss. I eyed it wistfully for a moment, and then unable any longer to stand on ceremony, plunged my hand into the yielding mass, and to the bonsterous mirth of the natives drew it forth hulen with the possepose, which adhered in lengthy strings to every finger. So atubliorn was its consistency, that in conveying my boavily-freighted hand to my mouth, the connecting links almost raised the calabash from the mats on which it had been placed. This display of awkwardness — in which, by the bye, Toby kept me company—convuised the bystanders with uncontrollable

One of the most remarkable objects in the Types valley appears to have been the Taboo ground of the tribe, which is thus described:

"Here were situated the Tabor gives; of the valley the science of many a provide the "Be-science of many a prolonged feats, of many a horid rice." Be-meath the dark alladovic of the conservated bread fruit trees

there reigned a solemn twilight—a cathedral-like gloom. The frightful genius of Pagan worship seemed to brood in silence over the place, breathing its spell upon every object around. Here and there, in the depths of these awful shades, half screened from sight by masses of overlanging foliage, rose the idolatrous altars of the savages, built of enormous blocks of black and polished stone, placed one upon another without cement, to the height of twelve or lifteen feet, and surmounted by a rustic open temple; enclosed with a low picket of cames, within which might be seen, in various stages of decay, offerings of bread fruit and cocou-nuts, and the putrofying relies of some recent sacrifice.

e In the midst of the wood was the hallowed "hoolah, hoolah," ground - set apart for the celebration of the fantastic religious ritual of these people—comprising an extensive oblong pi-pi, terminating at either end in a lofty terraced altar, guarded by ranks of hideous wooden idols, and with the two remaining sides flanked by ranges of bamboo sheds, opening towards the interior of the quadrangle thus formed. Vast trees, standing in the middle of this space, and throwing over it an umbrageous shade, had their massive trunks built round with slight stages, elevated a few feet above the ground, and railed in with canes, forming so many rustic pulpits, from which the priests harangued their

"This holiest of spots was defended from profunction by the strictest edicts of the all-pervading 'taboo,' which condemned to instant death the sacrilegious female who should enter or touch its sacred precincts, or even so much as press with her feet the ground made holy by the shadows

entrance on one side, facing a number of towering cocoanut trees, planted at intervals along a level area of a hundred yards. At the farther extremity of this space was to he seen a building of considerable size, reserved for the habitation of the priests and religious attendants of the

"In its vicinity was another remarkable edifice, built as usual upon the sumult of a pi-pi, and at least two hundred feet in length, though not more than twenty in breadth. The whole front of this latter structure was completely open, and from one end to the other ran a narrow vermidal, fenced in on the edge of the pi pi with a picket of canes. Its interior presented the appearance of an immense lounging-place, the entire floor being strewn with successive layers of mats, lying between parallel trunks of cocon-nut trees, selected for the purpose from the straightest and most-symmetrical the vale afforded.

"To this building, denominated in the language of the natives the 'Ti,' Mehevi now conducted us. Thus far we had been accompanied by a troop of the natives of both sexes; but as soon as we approached its vicinity, the females gradually separated themselves from the crowd, and standing aloof, permitted us to pass on. The merciless prohibitions of the tuboo extended likewise to this edifice, and were enforced by the same dreadful penalty that secured the Hoolah Hoolah ground from the imaginary pollution of a woman's presence."

While Melville was laid up with sickness, his companion disappeared, having it seems found an opportunity of escaping in some European boat. Melville, however, feared that his companion might have been sacrificed by the cannibals, and his Typeo associates tried to console him in vain for some days, but they finally succeeded.

"The combact of the islanders appeared inexplicable." All reference to my lost comrade was carefully evaded, and if at any time they were forced to make some reply to my frequent inquiries on the subject, they would uniformly denounce him as an ungrateful runaway, who had deserted his friend, and taken himself off to that vile and detestable place Nukubeva.

place Nukubeva.

"But whatever might have been his fate, now that he was gone, the natives multiplied their acts of kindness and attention towards myself, treating me with a degree of deference which could hardly have been surpassed had I been some celestial visitant. Kory Kory never for one moment left my side, unless it were to execute my wishes. The faithful fellow, twice every day, in the cool of the morning and in the evening, insisted upon carrying me to the stream, and bathing me in its refreshing water.

"Frequently in the aftermoon he would carry me to a particular part of the stream, where the beauty of the scene produced a soothing influence upon my mind. At this place the waters flowed between grassy banks, planted with enormous bread-fruit trees, whose vast branches interlacing overhead, formed a leafy canopy; near the stream were several smooth black rocks. One of these, projecting several feet above the surface of the water, had upon its summit a shallow cavity, which, filled with freshly-gathered leaves, formed a delightful couch.

Here I often lay for hours, covered with a gauze-like veil of tappa, while Fayaway, scated beside me, and holding in her hand a fan woven from the leaflets of a young cocoanut bough, brushed aside the insects that occasionally lighted on my face, and Kory-Kory, with a view of chasing away my melancholy, performed a thousand antics in the water before us.

"As my eyo wandered along this romantic stream, it would fall upon the half-immersed figure of a beautful girl, standing in the transparent water, and catching in a little net a species of diminutive shell fish, of which these people are extravagantly fond. Sometimes a chattering group would be seated upon the edge of a low rock in the midst of the brook busily engaged in thinning and polishing the shells of coconmits, by rubbing them briskly with a small stone in the water, an operation which soon converts them into a light and elegant drinking vessel, somewhat resembling goblets made of tortoiseshell.

"But the tranquillising influences of beautiful scenery, and the exhibition of human life under so novel and charming an aspect, were not my only sources of consolation.

"Every evening the girls of the house gathered about me on the mats, and after chasing away Kory-Kory from my side—who, nevertheless, retired only to a little distance and watched their proceedings with the most jealous attention—would anoth my whole body with a fragiant oil, squaezed from a yellow root, previously pounded between a couple of stones, and which in their language is denominated aka. And most refreshing and agreeable are the juices of the "aka," when applied to one's limbs by the soft palms of sweet nymphs, whose bright eyes are beauting upon you with kindness; and I used to hall with delight the daily recurrence of this luxurious operation, in which I forgot

all my troubles, and buried for the time every feeling of sorrow."

We shall now turn to the feast of calabashes, given by the chieftain to the members of his tribe:

"What lavish plenty reigned around!—Warwick feasting his retainers with beef and ale was a niggard to the noble Mehevi!—All along the piazza of the Ti were arranged blaborately corved canoe-shaped vossels, some twenty feet in length, filled with newly made pose-pose, and sheltered from the sam by the broad leaves of the banana. At intervals were heaps of green bread-fruit, raised in pyramidical stacks, resembling the regular piles of heavy shot to be seen in the yard of an arsenal. Inserted into the interstices of the huge stanes which formed the pi-pi were large boughs of trees; hanging from the branches of which, and screened from the sam by their foliage, were innumerable little packages with leafy coverings, containing the meat of the numerons hogs which had been slain, done up in this manner to make it more accessible to the crowd. Leaning against the railing of the piazza were an immense number of long, heavy bamboos, plugged at the lower end, and with their projecting muzzles stuffed with a wad of leaves. These were filled with water from the stream, and each of them might hold from four to five gallons.

"The banquet being thus spread, nought remained but for every one to help himself at his pleasure. Accordingly not a moment passed but the transplanted boughs I have mentioned were rifled by the throng of the fruit they certainly had never borne before. Calabashes of poce-poce were continually being replenished from the extensive receptacle in which that article was stored, and multitudes of little fires were kindled about the Ti for the purpose of roasting the bread-fruit.

"Within the building itself was presented a most extraordinary scene. The immense lounge of mats lying between the parallel rows of the tranks of cocoa-nut trees, and extending the entire length of the house, at least two hundred feet, was covered by the reclining forms of a host of chiefs and warriers, who were eating at a great rate, or soothing the cares of Polynesian life in the sedative fumes of tobacco. The smoke was inhaled from large pipes, the bowls of which, made out of small cocoa-nut shells, were enriquely carved in strange heathenish devices. These were passed from mouth to mouth by the recumbent smokers, who, taking two or three prodigious whiffs, handed the pipe to his neighbour; sometimes for that purpose stretching indolently across the body of some individual whose exertions at the dinner-table had already induced sleep."

A far different feast revived Melville's early horror of a continued residence among the Typees:

The sound of the drams continued, without intermis sion, the whole day, and falling continually upon my ear, onused me a sensation of horror which I am unable to describe. On the following day hearing none of those noisy indications of revelry, I concluded that the inhuman feast was terminated; and feeling a kind of morbid curiosity to discover whether the Ti might furnish any evidence of what had taken place there, I proposed to Kory-Kory to walk there. To this proposition he replied by pointing with his finger to the newly risen sun, and then up to the zenith, intimating that our visit must be deferred until noon. Shortly after that hour we accordingly proceeded to the Taboo Groves, and as soon as we entered their precincts, I looked fearfully round in quest of some memorial of the scenes, which had so lately been acted there; but everything appeared as usual. On reaching the Ti, we found Mehevi and a few chiefs reclining on the mats, who gave me as friendly a reception as ever. No allusions of any kind were made by them to the recent events; and I refrained, for obvious reasons, from referring to them myself.

"After staying a short time I took my leave. In passing along the piuzza, previously to descending from the pi-pi, I observed a curiously carved vessel of wood, of considerable size, with a cover placed over it, of the same material, and which resembled in shape a small canoe. It was surrounded by a low railing of bamboos, the top of which was scarcely a foot from the ground. As the vessel had been placed in its present position since my last visit, I at once concluded that it must have some connection with the recent festival; and, prompted by a curiosity I could not repress, in passing it I raised one end of the cover; at the same moment the chiefs, perceiving my design, loudly ejaculated, 'Taboo!' But the slight glimpse sufficed; my eyes fell upon the disord and mombers of a human skeleton, the bones still fresh with moisture, and with particles of flesh clinging to them here and there!

"Kory-Kory, who had been a little in advance of me, attracted by the exclamations of the chiefs, turned round in time to witness the expression of horzer on my countenance. He now hurried towards me, pointing at the same time to the canoe, and exclaiming rapidly, 'Puarkee! puarkee! (Pig, pig). I pretended to yield to the deception, and repeated the words after him several times, as though acquiescing in what he said. The other savages, either deceived by my conduct or unwilling to manifest their displeasure at what could not be remedied, took no further notice of the occurrence, and I immediately left the Ti."

His desire of escaping was increased when he saw that he had given grievous offence by refusing to be tattooed. The natives, however, were very unwilling to part with him, and long refused the ransom proffered for him by the captain of an English vessel. At length he was rescued partly by purchase, and partly by force. The Marquesas are now one of the colonies into which the French are introducing the same system of civilisation that they have established in Tahiti and Algiers, so that this volume may be regarded as a record of customs, which in a few years will have disappeared for ever.

WHEAT IMPORTED PROM CANADA.—It appears from a return issued by the House of Commons, that the quantity of wheat and wheat flour imported into the United Kingdom from Canada, in the year ending the 5th January, 1840, was 239,441 quarters (certified as the produce of Canada, under the Act 6th and 7th Vip. c. 29); three quarters of foreign wheat were also imported from Canada, making altogether a total of 229,244 quarters.

REGISTRATION APPEALS.

NEWTON, APPELLANT, v. MOBBERLY, RESPONDENT. CHIEF-JUSTICE TINDAL-In this case the revising bar. rister appears to have reserved two questions for the opinion of the court; first, whether the circumstances attending the execution of the grant of a rent-charge are such as to show the grant to be void as founded on fraud in fact; and, secondly, whether it is void as being made for the purpose of splitting freeholds and multiplying votes at elections in viola-tion of the statuto 7 & 8 Wm. III., c, 25. As to the first point, whether there is fraud in the making of the grant itself. the revising barrister must in all cases find the fact one war or other for himself; it is not a question that ought to be teferred to the court. And it is further to be observed, that in this case he has expressly stated his own opinion to be that there was no fraud in fact. As to the second point, we dink there was no traid in fact. As to the second point, we und the case comes directly within the rule laid down by the court in the case of Alexander, appellant, v. Newton, re-spondent; and the consequence of holding this case to fall within that is, that the decision of the revising banister ought to be affirmed in this case; and also in the following case on the list, that of Newton, appellant, v. the Oversers of Crowley, respondents, which arises on facts substantially the same as the present.

JUDSON, APPELLANT, v. LUCKETT, RESPONDENT.

CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL. In this case, the nature of the qualification in respect of which the appellant claims to be placed on the list of voters made out by the overseen is "part of a house:" the revising barrister held the description to be manificient. The question reserved is, whether such a description is sufficient in point of law? We have already laid down in more than one instance the mere occupating by a party of a portion of a house is an occupation separatel from the residue as to constitute an occupation as a tenunt within the meaning of the 28th section of 2 Will. IV.; and in this case no question is raised as to the occupation being separate in that respect, but solely on the point whether the description of the qualification on the list is sufficient? We think it is: it is precisely true, in fact, according to the common understanding of the word, and may well denote such a case as will confer-and we must take it in this case that it does confer-a qualification. It becomes therefore unnecessary to consider the second point reserved, namely, whether the revising barrister had the power of amending under the inh section of the Registration Act? The third point reserved was as to the rating. It appeared the landlord occupied one part of the house- and the appellant the other; no question being before us as to the sufficiency of the occupation. The landford's name was on the rate for "a house" opposite to his name, and the appellant's name under that of the landford, but nothing was carried out under the name of the appellant, nor were the names connected by brackets or otherwise; and in this state of facts the barrister held the appellant not rated. And we think on this state of facts the name is on the rate as a person charged to the rate which might will be considered to charge the appellant in respect of the permises inserted opposite the fandlord's name in the line above, just as if the word "ditto" had been inserted without any bracket to connect it. We think therefore the recising barrister was wrong on both these points, and that his decision should be reversed, and the name of the appellant restored.

COLVILLE APPELLANT, v. THE OVERSEERS OF CHATHAU, RESPONDENTS.

CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL .- In this case, the point of law reserved by the revising barrister for our determination was whether, in the case of a person claiming a right to vote for the borough, by reason of the occupation of a house as tenant, the bare value of the rent was a proper criterion of the value, without deducting the landlord's repairs? And we are of opinion the revising barrister is right in holding the bure annual profit, without making such deductions, to be the clear yearly value within the meaning of the statute, 2nd Wm. IV, chap. 45, sec. 27. It was contended before the revising barrister, not only that the average annual value of the landlord's repairs should be deducted from the rest paid by the occupier, but the landlord's expense of insurance. But this latter appears so plainly to be a voluntary charge on the part of the landlord, who insures his own house for safety, that we think such an opinion cannot be declard. Of course, the landlord's insurance never could be held a ne cessary deduction in order to ascertain the clear yearly value of the premises; and we think the same as to the deduction of the landlord's repairs. This is the case of the occupier of a house as tenant, who pays a rent of ten pounds per annum, exclusive of rates and taxes; that is, so far as the tenant is concerned, a clear yearly rent to the landled of ten pounds per annum. If the statute requires that the house must be of the clear yearly value of ten pounds in order to confer a qualification, it is undoubtedly not enough to find that the tenant pays the rent that is imposed, as such rent is not a measure of the true value; it may be an exorbeen fraudulently fixed at that sum to confer a vote. It is necessary in order to satisfy the statute to show further the house is of that clear yearly value, that it is therefore a house worth ten pounds per annum as the fair rent of the premises. And whether this is proved to have the the clear yearly value, that it is therefore. be the clear yearly value is the question before us. There is some difficulty in ascertaining the true meaning of the act in the use of the expression. Where the right to vote depended as it did formerly on properly only, there was no difficulty in distinguishing its yearly value in the case of counties, as the Sth Henry, v. 0, c. 7, named that the knights of the shire should be chosen by the negative of whom every one should have a freshold land or people, of whom every one should have a freehold land or tenement to the value of forty shillings by the yest, at least, above all charges. And again, it appears the lash Geo. II. c. 18, s. 5, enacts that "no person shall rote any such election without having a freehold tenement of the clear yearly value of forty shillings above all rents and charges payable out of or in person of the same." It was charges payable out of, or in respect of the same. It was easy to arrive at the clear yearly value, more especially as the sixth section of the late act had defined the nature of the charge intended to be created, by enacting that no public or Parliamentary tax should be deemed to be any charge payable out of or in respect of any freshold estate within or Parliamentary tax should be deemed to be any charge payable out of, or in respect of, any freshold estate within the meaning of the act. But in the present case, the register created a new qualification for voting in boroagus, register created a new qualification for voting in boroagus, and that of the good piercas language of a bouse of he case of a tenant the description and description to the case of a tenant the description and description which, in strictness of language, and under former elements belonged exclusively to the owner elements. The property in strictness and propriety of language, and under former than the fact of the case of a tenant of language, and under former than the case of language, and under former than the case of language.

and its capabilities for occupation, and other circumstances We cannot conceive the under the control of the landlord. legislature could have intended the right to confer a vote should be dependent on calculation so nice as this, and of so difficult an application; and though it would not be easy to give effect to all the words of the section, we think it may well hear the meaning that where a house is occupied by a tenant at the clear yearly rent of 10%, if such house be really worth that rent to any one wanting to occupy it, if the party was able to pay such a rent, the house would be clearly worth not less than 101, as for as the tenant is concerned for we think the legislature intended that any person who is in such a condition as to pay such a cost charged by the owner of a house that is fairly worth the sum of 10%, and shall become a tenant thereof, is a fit person to have a vote at an come a tenant thereof, is a nit person to have a vote at an election of members of Parliament for the borough. In the course of the argument we were referred to the cases of rating under the Settlement Act, 43 Car. H., ch. 42. We think the appellant can derive no benefit from those cases; the rate able value of property has been considered to be what it will be the first or travent paring all such public hardways. fairly let for to a tenant paying all such public burthens as those that are attached to his occupation. In consequence of the disputes as to the principles on which parties should be rated, the statute 6 and 7 Wm. IV., ch. 96, was passed, to state and describe the mode of ascertaining the rateable value of all kinds of property; namely, that it should be a net annual value left after making certain deductions specified in the act from the rent. But if you find in the 2 Wm. IV., ch. 45, s. 27, the expression, rateable value, we must ascertain what that is by applying to it the provisions of the 0 and 7 Win. IV., ch. 96, where the expression is construed as clear yearly value without any deductions; that is the mode of ascertaining it. Considering that these statutes are made in diverso intuito, it does not, we conceive, inflitate against the principle laid down as that which we ought to give in interpreting the 27th section. For these reasons we think the decision of the revising barrister ought to be affirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

. To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

Stalevbridge, March 3, 1816.

Sin,—I am a constant reader of your paper, and saw Mr. Ferrand's speech, in the House of Commons, of last Tuesday. Did I not believe that the house had ceased to place my credit in Mr. Ferrand, or his statements, I should be surprised that the members of the manufacturing districts did not rise as one man to contradict the scandalous assertions of that gentleman. It would be well for that gentleman if, instead of making statements on hearsay, he would visit the manufacturing districts and examine for himself. Let him come to our own town for instance, which contains 20,000 inhabitants, and some of the largest concerns in the kingdom; let him ask, one by one, and I think he would not find manywho would change their present situation to go into the country, and work for 9s. or 10s. per week. Let him visit our churches and chapels on a Sunday, and he cannot (I say it with pride) tell an operative from his master. Let him visit our railway stations on a Saturday night or Sunday morning, and see the hundreds that are going to see their friends, or on parties of pleusure in the country, and when he has done all, let him show us an agricultural town where the labourers can afford these privileges; and yet we are to believe that we are ground to the dust by our tyrannical masters, the cotton lords. I will not trespass on your paper by giving the amounts of wages which an operative can earn, but I know many who have saved a deal of money by economy and steadiness. I know a boy, only 16 years of age, who is the sole support of himself and his aged father, keeping him out of the workhouse, and who is only a weaver; yet so intense is Mr. Ferrand's hatred against this manufacturing system, that I believe, had he power, he would consign it all to one grand ruin.

I know a firm in Rochdale who are intimately connected with the League, and who have not escaped from the vita-peration of Mr. Ferrand, who engage a town missionary at their own expense, and give him money to distribute among the poor and afflicted in that town, yet they are among the immber of cotton lords who are accused of such "tyrainy, cold-blooded crucity," and other abominations too numerous to mention. I have lived amidst the din of factories all my life, yet 1 never witnessed any of the cruelties which Mr. Ferrand has talked so much about: If you could put this letter in a corner of your paper, you will oblige me. I am so unlettered man, but what I have said is true, which is more than the (honourable?) member for Knaresborough can say. Wishing you every success in the good cause in which you are engaged, I am, Sir, yours &c.,

AN OPERATIVE.

Warwickshire, Feb. 24, 1846. Di va Sir,—Having engaged to subscribe to your Fund of a Quarter of a Million M., as my first mite, I berewith send M. by post-office order, with an engagement to forward M. when the send M. wh ill. when wanted, or at your request. IInd I, Sir, the wealth of some of our loids, dukes, and nobles (so called), or some of the wealthy ignobles, it would not be the gift to your funds of 51., or of 50001., that would please or satisfy by mind in these days. Nay, Sir, I believe, that had I as much as some of the mean and little-minded nobles of our day, who realise from 100,000l. to 800,000l. per annum, I would give the whole of my year's income to accomplish the sonable, unchristian, and cruel laws on our statute-books, which are contrary to the laws of God, as revealed in the book of heavenly inspiration, opposed to truth, and which do not scruple to denounce as most vexations and oriminal Among these are the Corn Laws, the Provision Laws, the

Game Laws, the Poor Laws, and the Income Tax.

It is many months since I last troubled you with a line from my pen and I now forbear saying much, knowing that time will you must be very precious. But, Sir, I feel as the result of reading and thinking, &c., what I know most of the members of her Majesty's Cabinet Council, and her lords and gentlemen of both houses caunot feel, whilst they are trifling with the weighty and all important national con-

trifling with the weighty and all important national concerns of the present very awful orisis.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

AN OLD MINISTER OF GOD OUR SAVIOUR. To George Wilson, Esq.

To the Editor of Tan Lacous.
"There is that scattered and yet him.

Sin I is with more planted that I do.
receipt of II. nom als. C.O. Takes of Old

the medium of Mr. R. Fletcher; and 1/. la. from Mr. W. Riley, Chapel on-le Frith, Derbyshire, for the use of the poor in my poor neighbourhood

My friends may fully depend upon my making a scason-able and prudent use of the fruits of their benevolence.

As there will be a time-and that time is now at bandwhen thousands of the English passantry will ask, "What shall we do? we have no potatoe seed!!" I have not lost sight of this heartrending fact; and therefore I have it in my heart, and hope to have it in my power to procure tity or sixty bushels of potatoe seed for the most distressed fieldhabourers in my own neighbourhood. I hope this will prove a new hint to those good men who, I rejoice to see, are inda new hint to those good men
tating me in pleading for the poor.

1 am, Sir,

W. Furauson.

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Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application inmediately.

The Society's Offices will be open for receiving subscriptions and the general transaction of business, every Tuckday and Friday evenings, from 6 to 9 o'clock.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 7, 1816.

In political contests, as in military struggles, great danger arises from underrating the strength of the adversaries. The Austrians had actually won the battle of Marengo, when Mehrs, instead of pursuing his advantages, stopped short to enjoy his funcied triumph, and thus afforded Napoleon an opportunity of reversing the fortunes of the day. Though the ministerial measure has been sanctioned by a majority of ninety-seven, the protectionists assure us that they are far from recognising its destiny as decided, and that they will use their most strenuous efforts to defeat, to mutilate, and to repeal the measure. They have received a large infusion of fresh courage from the recent defeat of the ministers, though on a question of minor importance, and they vaunt that several peers, on whose neutrality the ministers had counted, will join in active opposition, and defeat every measure of Free Trade in the House of Lords. Their avowed object is to precipitate a dissolution, and to strain all the energies of deception, intimidation, and corruption, to obtain a majority in the next Parliament. It is the duty of every Free Trader to prepare for such a campaign. Let no one say to himself that the protectionists, are too pradent to enter on such a desperate course. Sir H. Hardinge formed the same opinion of the Sikhs, and clung to it even when they had actually began to cross the Sutlej. We have reason to know that the protectionists, like the Sikhs, will make more desperate efforts in their cause of peculation and plunder; and we are therefore anxious to see the League fully prepared for the encounter. It is for this reason that we again implore our friends not to slacken their efforts in obtaining contributions and subscriptions to the great Quarter of a Million Fund It has been hitherto the most efficacious force to terrify our adversaries, and to animate the exertions of our friends within and without the walls of Parliament. Supporters and opponents look to the list of subscribers as to a kind of Free Trade guage, for measuring the strength of public opinion; they

with lingering expectation. But, as Mr. Cobden has very justly said, the time for speaking has passed, the period of decisive action has arrived. We recommend the Free Traders to hold subscription meetings for themselves in their several localities; the silent eloquence of the sums attached to their pames will now be of more avail than the most powerful orations or the most convincing logic. The thick skulls of opponents may resist the force of reason and argument; but they are open to the convincing argument of a strong array of figures. Though they cannot put two ideas together in their heads, yet most of them are able to count upon their fingers.

The mission of the League is not completed until Free Trade be the established law of the land, and so established that the revival of monopoly shall be impossible. We have done much with the registration; but we have to do a great deal more. The counties must not remain the recruiting depots of the monopolists; the registration movement must be continued, must be extended, and must be urged forward with increased vigour, not only to ensure success, but to secure what may be won. The Free Traders have taken a position as a constitutional force "in the presence of men and angels," which they cannot abandon without proving false to themselves, to their principles, to their country, and to future generations. They must achieve the liberation of British industry, not only from the shackles with which it has been fettered, but from the domination which may retain the power of imposing new chains. This can be done by one great and decisive effort; nover had we a more favourable opportunity. Let us, then, avail ourselves of "the tide which taken at the flood leads on to triumph;" for if we neglect it, our future will inevitably be "bound in shallows."

SIR ROBERT PEEL'S POLICY .-- A meeting of the inhabitants of Chelsen, adjourned from Friday last, was held last night at the Commercial rooms, King's road, for the purpose of expressing "their grateful sense of the patriotic, wise, and statesmanlike conduct of the Prime Minister, in proposing to Parliament, under the sanction of her Majesty, the mea sures now under its consideration, for removing restrictions on trade." On the motion of F. Lloyd, Esq., the gentleman by whom the meeting was called, Mr. Jeffree, the senior churchwarden, was called to the chair. Mr. Lloyd proposed a petition in favour of the ministerial measure, which was seconded by Mr. Burgess. Mr. Anderson moved an amend ment in favour of Total and immediate repeal, which was seconded by Mr. Murray, and supported by Mr. Ryder. Mr. Dowling, a working man, thought that instead of thanking Sir R. Peel, they ought to thank the Anti Corn Law League, and their 40s, franchise movement (cheers). The amendment was carried by a large majority, and embodied in the petition, which was adopted. It was then resolved that the county members be requested to present and support the prayer of the petition. Colonel Wood, M.P., would be most happy to present the petition, concurring as he did in every word of it (cheers,—but how he would vote was mother thing. He firmly believed that the immediate repeal would be far more advantageous to the entire community (cheers), and more especially to the agricultural interest (cheers). But he feured, voting for it under the present circumstances would endanger the great practical object for which they were all struggling (bear, hear). The hous member, after some personal explanations, addressed the meeting at great length in support of Free Trade, and concluded by calling on the meeting and the public to give a cordial support to the right hon, baronet. Mr. Ryder moved the thanks of the meeting to their representative, Colonel Wood, for likekindness in at-tending the meeting, which was passed with accumution. Thanks having been voted to the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

FREE TRADE PRINCIPLES IN FRANCE.—The Presse publishes a letter from M. Blanqui on Free Trade, in which we find the following remarkable passage :- " Do you know what really would occur if we enjoyed freedom of commerce to morrow? We should see in Paris some of those rich Turkey carpets which I contemplated at Smyrna with eyes of envy. But we in return would export light curpets to the East, to which climate they would be better suited, and we would in return receive in exchange warm carpets, such as Aubusson dare not manufacture in consequence of the absurd duty of 22 per cent. imposed upon foreign wool. We should receive Swedish from by which our cutlery would be raised to a level with that of England, and we could sell in return to the Swedes, who drink heer at present, some Bordeaux wine. We should receive Bohemfan glass, and the Bohemian ladies would receive in return millinery from Paris. Every one would have a part in the feast, for our imports could not increase without a corresponding movement in our exports. We could not continue to buy without selling, unless foreignees should make us a present of their superfluous produce, which I would not be ashaned to receive were it offered to me."

require to be taught that the spirit of the British
people is not "below proof."

During the present crisis it would be impossible for the leaders of the League to hold public most ingo in the leaders of the League to hold public most ingo in the countless places; where their presence is ardently desired, and where indeed it is waited for now.

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Ajoved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Thomas.—That this meeting considers the conduct of the Directors, in waiving their right to recoive or claim any advance from the Company during the first 12 months, as highly honourable, and deserving of the sincere thanks of the meeting.

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But I am the cause of those books, you must know.
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And look at my colours, are attracted by you,
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THE LEAGUE.

No. 128.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1846.

GRATIS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE CORN LAW DEBATE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27.

On the question that the house on its rising do adjourn till

Monday,
Mr. FERRAND defended himself from the attacks which had been made upon him in his absence on the previous evening. Mr. Roebuck, who had commonced the attack, was the last person who ought to have used such language. Mr. Roebuck had once, with language far more violent and indecent than any which he had used, flung down The Times newspaper upon the floor of the house, and recommended its members to horsewhip a gentleman in every way his superior. He believed that the public held Mr. Roebuck in such estimation that they would not give a quarter of a farthing estimation that they would not give a quarter of a farthing for his opinions; and among all his other failures in life the knowledge of that fact rankled most deeply in his breast. Adverting to the speech of Mr. Bright, he showed that Mr. Bright had put words into his mouth which he had never used. Having repeated to the house the words which he had actually employed respecting Mr. G. Wilson, he observed that the Manchester Guardian never denied the fact of Mr. G. Wilson having convened and presided at the meeting of starch Wilson having convened and presided at the meeting of starch manufacturers, although it did deny that which he had never asserted, namely, that Mr. Wilson had been part of the starch deputation which had waited on the Government. Mr. Bright, however, was not a person entitled to attack him on the score of veracity, for two meetings had been recently held in Lancashire to rebut a statement which he had made in his place in Parliament, respecting the reluc-tance of the working classes at Preston and at Rochdale to support a ten hours' bill. Dr. Bowring had also put in his mouth words which he had never uttered, for the purpose of damaging him in the estimation of the house and of the country. Mr. Ferrand then re-stated and justified the words which he had actually used respecting Mr. II. Ashworth. He appealed to Dr. Bowring, as a member of Parliament and as a gentleman, to retract the charge which he had cast upon him. Turning next to Lord Morpeth, he assorted that had been sold that the resistance of the local market to Lord Morpeth. that he had never said that the petition from Union Mill was not a free and unbiassed petition. What he had said, was, that petitions against the Corn Laws had been in many instances signed by the workmen in the manufacturing disinstances signed by the workmen in the manufacturing districts against their will, and at the compulsion of their masters. He concluded by declaring that it was high time for the house to take into consideration the manner and extent in which petitions against the Corn Laws had been forged and manufactured by the Anti-Corn Law League.

Mr. C. BERKELEY corroborated the statement of Mr. Porgand respecting the manufacturing of petitions. The hold

Vhen mady, pplicid a stito was ag the air oblicient at inill the names aing a tina
LOage to street, foring o voye than

Ferrand respecting the manufacturing of petitions. He held in his hand a petition which was delivered at his house on Wednesday last, purporting to come from Cheltenham, and to be signed by 594 inhabitants of that borough. There was, to be signed by 394 innabitants of that borongh. There was, however, the Manchester post-mark on it, and that led him to make inquiries, which convinced him that the petition ought not to be presented as a petition from Cheltenham. On Monday he would bring forward that petition as a breach of privilege, and he called on the members of the Anti-Cornaga Lagrange to support him in his demand for inquiry into Law League to support him in his demand for inquiry into

the source of this imposition.

Mr. BRIGHT expressed his readiness to second Mr. C. Berkeley's intended motion for inquiry into the source from which these fabricated petitions proceeded (hear, hear).

After all that had fallen from Mr. Ferrand that evening, he was prepared still to say that Mr. Ferrand's statement respecting Mr. Geo. Wilson was unfounded. He then read a letter from a Mr. Rawsthorne, declaring that Mr. Geo. Wilson did not issue the circular convening the meeting of starch manufacturers at Manchester, that he did not preside at that meeting, and that no such deputation as that of which Mr. Ferrand had spoken had ever waited on the Government. He then adverted to some charges which Mr. Ferrand had brought against Mr. Rawson and another member of the League, as assassing, and which, he said, Mr. Ferrand shrank from substantiating in a court of law. In conclusion he repeated that the in a court of law. In conclusion, he repeated that the charge of Mr. Ferrand was calumnious and unfounded alto-

gether. Dr. B OWRING observed that Mr. Ferrand had accused Mr. 11. Ashworth of "cold-blooded cruelty" in having caused the distress and misery which existed in his neighbeurhood. He appealed to Lord J. Manners, who had visited the establishment of Mr. Ashworth, whether Mr. Ferrand's

statement was correct.

Mr. ROEBUCK had nothing to say, but what he had said

Mr. ROEBUCK had nothing to say, but when he spoke, lest night; if Mr. Ferrand was not present when he spoke, the fault was Mr. Ferrand's, not his. He would not say one world was Mr. Ferrand's, not his. word respecting the attempt at sarcasm just made upon him.
It he had failed in his career in life, it was his consolation that in all his misfortunes it had never been his fate to have a unanimous resolution of the House of Commons but on record against him, that what he had said was a cadumny and a falsehood. He denied that he had ever dealt in personalities, unless, indeed, they called direct accusations

Mr. D'ISBAELI regretted that Mr. Ferrand made these Mir. D'ISRAELI regretted that Mr. Ferrand made these stacks on gentlamen connected with the manufacturing districts. Lie had often remonstrated with Mr. Farrand on that bleet, but in vain, for it was Mr. Farrand's honeat contition that those attacks were necessary and just, and if it, Ferrand entertained that conviction, he had not done attacks on the consume of the house. r. Ferrand entertained that conviction, he had not done sylling on this occasion deserving the cansure of the house. I did not know Mr. G. Wilson personally, buthe did know it he had been for many years an agitator, and was there was sorry to find that he was so his patiented when his manifold. With regard to Mr. Ashworth, he was a similar to had substantially allowed the substantial sylling in the settled substantial sylling in the settled substantial sylling in the settled sylling in the sylling in the settled sylling in the sy

Mr. Ferrand would not give the League an opportunity of discussing them in a court of justice. Now, the same charge had been brought against the League by Sir Robert Peel, and Sir J. Graham, and why did not the League, instead of chasing such small deer as Mr. Ferrand, proceed against the anticred monarchs of the wood? Mr. Recbuck, too, had made too much of the resolution of the house against Mr. Ferrand. He thought that resolution ridiculous. Sir J. Graham and Sir R. Peel did not wish for it, and were very unwilling to have it messal. It originated it, and were very unwilling to have it passed. It originated from the same source from which all matters, which were disagreeable in that house, originated, namely, from Mr. Roebuck himself. When Mr. Roebuck said that no other member had been so stigmatised, he forgot that a similar re-solution had been passed against Mr. O'Connell. He ut-terly denied that Mr. Roebuck never dealt in personalities; on the contrary, he was perpetually offending against the rules of the house and the ordinary rules of gentlemanly decorum—no man more so. Corrupt motives had been attributed to himself by Mr. Roebuck. Well, the tree must bear its fruit; the crabtree must produce crab apples; and a man of said mind must of course must produce crab apples; of acid mind must, of course, make acid speeches. He held up to well-merited scorn the melodramatic malignity and the Sadlor's-wells surcasm with which Mr. Roebuck looked duggers, though he used none. If such gesticulations came from a person entitled to use them, he should merely say that they were ridiculous; but coming from Mr. Roebuck, they were not only ridiculous but offensive.

Mr. O'CONNELL had never been accused of calumniating any members of that house, nor had any resolution ever been passed against him for such calumnies. He had said, that the system of trying elections was a system of fraud and perjury. For that assertion the Speaker had read him a calamy leature. him a solemn lecture. As soon as it was concluded, he repeated the words: and the house proved the truth of them

by repealing the system altogether.

Mr. W. BERESFORD animalverted with great warmth on the language of Mr. Roebuck, and complained that three years ago he had been very acrimoniously and unjustly treated by the election committee of which that gentleman

was chairman.

Lord JOHN MANNERS gave his testimony in favour of the mode in which Mr. Ashworth conducted his mills. He believed that Mr. Ashworth, as an employer of labour, was as deeply impressed with a deep sense of the responsibility cast upon him as any baron of the cotton system : but that was no answer to the statement of Mr. Ferrand, respecting his negotiations with the Poor Law Commissioners.

Mr. FIELDEN bore testimony to the truth of Mr. Ferrand's statement respecting the distress of the hand-loom

Sir R. PEEL said, I did not mean to take part in this dis cussion, and should not have done so but for some observations that have fallen from the hon, member for Shrewsbury, in which he recalled to recollection something that occurred, I think three years ago, in the course of a debate at that time, in which I put an erroncous construction on some remarks of the hon, member for Stockport (hear, hear), That hon, gentleman made an explanation of the meaning of the expressions he then used; I followed the hon. gentle. man in the course of the debate, and my intention, after that explanation, was distinctly to relieve him from the impute tion I had cast on him under my erroncous apprehension of the remarks he had made (hear, hear). If any one who was present at that debate had hinted to me that my reparation was not complete, and that my acceptation of the disavowal was less unequivocal than it should have been, I should have taken the earliest opportunity of stating what I meant to convey. This was my intention, and I think a reference to the record of the debate will show that this must have been my intention. I am sorry, Sir, that the hon, member for Shrowsbury has thought fit to revive the subject; at least I should be sorry that he has done so, if it did not give me an opportunity of stating what my intention was, and of entirely withdrawing the imputation I threw out under what was at the time an erroneous impression (hear,

Mr. COBDEN (who spoke from the lower part of the house) said-I feel happy that the right hon baronet has had an opportunity of correcting what fell from him on a former occasion. At the time the occurrence took place I did feel, and I think the country felt, that the right hon. baronet's language did not convey that distinct disavowal which it might have done, and which was due to me (hear, hear). Still, the matter itself was so extraordinary, and so incapable of bearing the interpretation which many on that side of the house put upon it, that I did not see how I could return to it. I take the present statement, however, as a full and entire disavowal of the imputation made by the right hon. baronot, and I am glad it has been made, since it gives me, the opportunity—quite as pleasant to my feelings as to those of the right hon. baronet, of expressing my regret that whilst the remembrance of what had passed in this house was rankling in my mind, I have alluded to the right hon, gentleman in terms which I lament having adopted. After the explanation that has been given, I hope no one will-feel justified in ever hereafter alluding to the matter (likar, hear),

The discussion then dropped.

ADJOURNED DEBATE. The valigue had distributed in the Customs and Corn Importa-don Acid with the Communication the impropriety, in Constitutional point of view, of Sir R. Peol's addressing to

her Majesty, in his capacity as a private individual, an important communication for the purpose of influencing her mind on a great public question. It was the first time in the history of Fingland that any individual, who had been Prime Minister, had ventured to tell his sovereign that he would give his support to his successor, whoever he might be, if he entertained such and such opinions. It was this coalition between the Whigs and the broken party of Sir Robt. Peol which had prevented her Majesty from appealing to the constituoncies of the country on the great change which was now proposed in our commercial system. He denounced this coalition, be it secret or avowed, because it involved the this coalition, be it secret or avowed, because it involved the sacrifice of principle somewhere, and the knowledge of that fact had always rendered all coalitions in England unpopular. Everywhere, without exception, the elections showed that the mass of the constituency was in favour of protection. Was he, then, asking too-much, when it was admitted that the fate of Ireland did not depend on this measure, the asking to have the opinion of all the constituencies in Great Britain upon it. If that demand were refused, many individuals would begin to doubt whether the existence of Parliament had not better be limited to a less period than Parliament had not better be limited to a less period than seven years. After the lesson which had been administered to the house that night, it could attach but little weight in future to petitions. That circumstance rendered him more anxious that the representatives of the people should see their constituents fice to face, explain their sourshould see their constituents face to face, explain their sentiments to them on this question, promise them what course they would parsue upon it, and then take care to perform the promises they made. At present he felt that the house was not justified in belying the expectations of those who had elected it—that the members of it would not be acting honourably in entertaining this question with a view of carhonourably in entertaining this question with a view of carrying it now—and that they ought, therefore, to oppose it in timine, especially as they disapproved of it entirely in detail. Feeling the weight of the combination now formed against the agricultural interest by men who never before were united on any subject, and whose union the country saw with inexpressible grief, he still believed and trusted that in another place such delay would occur in the progress of this another place such delay would occur in the progress of this measure as would give the constituencies an opportunity of declaring their opinion on this important question, "Would they be parties to this great, extraordinary, and extravagant

Mr. B. ESCOTT gave his vote in favour of the measure Mr. B. ESCOTT gave his vote in favour of the measure of Government, in the strongest hope and confidence that it would be productive of benefit to the country. After what had occurred in the early part of the evening, he would not enter into the slightest collision with Mr. Ferrand; but would merely observe that the statement which that gentleman (Mr. Ferrand) had made the other evening, that he (Mr. B. Escott) had been called upon to resign his seat, and that he was acting inconsistently with his private honour in retaining it, was utterly unfounded. The question then before the house divided itself into two parts: the first, whether this great measure was likely to benefit the community? ther this great measure was likely to benefit the community? and the second, whether it was possible, in the present condition of the country and of parties in it, to prevent it from being carried? He maintained the affirmative of both these being carried? He maintained inejamrmative of both these questions, and implored the protection party to prepare thomselves for what they could not prevent whilst there was yet time. One reason why they could not maintain the existing Corn Laws was their extraordinary choice of leaders. Their fault was in deposing the Duke of Buckingham from the agricultural throne, and in elevating the Duke of Richmond to it in its stead. The Duke of Buckingham had never argued on the starvation principle. But could the same be said of the Duke of Richmond? He was famous for two circumstances—his predictions about wool, and his declaration that Sussex did not grow grass but timber. That was tion that Sussex did not grow grass but timber. That was proof of his selfishness; and on such grounds Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Cobden, in the present state of the constituencies, would heat the Duke of Richmond and twenty such as him out of the field. Under these circumstances, the protection party had better put up with what they could not avoid, and cease to exasperate by their resistance a people who were all but within the grasp of famine.

Captain GLADSTONE briefly explained the reasons why he was compelled to conose the proposition of the Government.

was compelled to oppose the proposition of the Government, and to support the amendment of Mr. Miles.

Mr. COBDEN—I assure the house that it is impossible for me to trespass long upon their notice, but I am anxious to say a few words before the close of this pro-tracted debate. I have had the good, or the ill fortune, to listen to many debates upon this subject in this house, and although it has not been my fate to listen to this, at all events I have had the merit of perusing every word of it. On former occasions I have had to complain, that although the object and purpose of the motion was to discuss the principle of the Corn Laws, yet that hon. gentlemen always ovaded the question, and tried to discuss every other rather than the particular question before the house (hear, hear); but however I may have had to complain of that on former occasions, I think it will be admitted that extraneous matter has been introduced into this debate by hon, gentlemen opposite to a much greater extent than before. It appears to the that one half of the debate has turned upon the conduct of her Majesty's ministers, and nearly the whole of the other half upon the necessity of a dissolution and an appeal to the country (hear, hear). Now, though there may be ground, I will not say there may be just ground. for hon, gentlemen below the gangway assaling the ministers for the course they have pursued; you the country. I assure them, will not sympathies with them in the quarrel with their leaders, nor will they be without some suspicion that that grievance has been dwell upon to avoid that discussion of principle (hear, hear) for I wish to bear in mind that, on former occasions, by discussion are means, you did by to avoid these discussion. In 1841 you denounce the leaders of the Whiga as full outly as you denounce the leaders of the Whiga as full outly as you denounce the leaders of the Whiga as full outly as you denounce the leaders of the way of the leaders.

now; and when I came into Parliament, in the apring of 1842, I must say that I myself and the members of the Anti-Corn Law League were as much the objects of your vituperation as the ministers are now country, therefore, will not sympathise with you; and, on the other hand, it will doubt whether or not you have introduced these personal topics because you cannot justify the Corn Law (hear, hear). Now, if hon. gentlemen opposite have any fear that their present leaders contemplate, after the repeal of the Corn Laws, doing something clse which they may think injurious to their party interests. I beg to assure them that they are taking the most effectual means of arming the present ministers with the power of accomplishing something else, if they wish it; for the more they attack them, the more oblong they load them with, the more will the country sympathise with them out of doors. Why, you are making the present ministry the most popular men in the country (cheers). If the right hon, baronet the First Lord of the Treasury were to go into the manufacturing districts of the north, his journey would be one continued triumph (hear, hear). The right hon. Home Secretary was not personally very popular two or three years ago (a laugh). It is a difficult thing for a Home Secretary in troublesome times to become popular; but the magnificent contribution the right hon, baronet (Sir J. Graham) has given to our good cause, by his able speeches and authoritative statements of facts, has sunk deep into the mind of the country; these, and still more the martyrdom you are nightly inflicting upon him, have candered him so popular that I don't think we could parade any one in Manchester or Liverpool who would meet with a more cordial reception. I don't think you (addressing the protectionists) are pursuing a good party course. I think you are as badly off on the score of good judgment and tactics as ever you were (a laugh). I will now, however, draw your attention to the second topic to which I have referred, and which is of still more importance. If I understand your position rightly, it is this -von say, " We wish for an appeal to the country , if the country decide that Free Trade shall be the national policy, we will how to that decision" (" hear, hear," from the protectionists). I believe I am fairly interpreting your meaning. I tell you, then, in the first place, that if you are believers in the truth and justice of your principles, you are unworthy advocates of those principles, if you would think of abandoning them on such grounds. If you believe in the truth of your principles you should not bow to the decision of a temporary majority of the house. When I came into Parhament, in 1844, I met you with a majority of 91 in your favour. Did I then bow to that majority and abmit to the Corn Law (hear, hear)? No ; I felt as confident in the triumph of justice then as now. I said I would never cease my exertions till you abrogated that law. If you have confidence in the truth and justice of your principles you should use the same language. You should say, "It is not one defeat that shall make us abandon those great principles which we consider essential to the welfare and prosperity of the great mass of the people. No; if we are thrown to the ground now, we will spring up with renewed determination and vigour' (cheers, and some cries of "yes" from the protection bouches). You say "Yes, yes," to that sentiment, but you had already told me by your cheers that you did not intend to do anything of the kind (laughter and cheers); I am conscientiously of opinion that you are unbelievers in the doctrines you advocate (shouts of "oh, oh !" from the protectionists). But I will assume that you can carry out your object that you can force a dissolution; and to this point I wish particularly to draw your attention, and what is of still more importance, the attention of persons in another place. We have had some pretty frank allusions, especially in the peroration of the speech of the hon, member for Dorsetshire (Mr. Bankes), to what is to be done in another place, where there is no representative with this measure of the middle classes -no merchant, no manufacturer, no spinner, no farmer. In that other place, however, what I now say on the subject of a dissolution may probably be read. You want a dissolution in order to ascertain the opinion of the country. Have you ever thought, or considered, or defined what the opinion of the country means (hear) ? Do you think it means a numerical majority of this house? We shall have that to-night (loud cheers). ationed with that (hear, hear). You are proaching the democratic doctrine, that this question must be referred to the people (hear, and a laugh), Now, I want to have well defined what you mean by public opinion. You will perhaps say, "We will abide by the decision of a numerical majority of this house returned at another general election," and you will consider that the decision of the country. Well, I totally disagree with all those who believe for a moment that you would obtain a numerical majority in this house in the event of a dissolution (hear, and cheers). I ought to know as much about the state of the representation of this country, and of the registration, as any man in the house (hear, and cheers). Probably no one has given so much attention to that question as I have done; and I dis tinetly deny that you have the slightest probability of gaining a numerical majority in this house, if a dissolution took place to-morrow. Now, I would not have said this three months ago (hear). On the contrary, at a public meeting three months ago, I distinctly recognised the great probability of your having a numerical m jorny in the event of a dissolution. But your party is since broken up. Though you may still have a firm phalanx in Dorsershire and Buckinghamshire, what has bean the offeet of the separation from you of the most anthoritative and intelligent of your party upon the boor the country of the country of the towns of the country were almost to a man, the country were almost to a man, the country were the covernment represented.

by the First Lord of the Tressury and the right honourable Home Secretary (hear, hear). Every one acquainted with the towns in the north of England will bear me out when I may that those Conservatives who follow the right honourable baronet (Bir R. Bael) comprise at least four fifths of the party, while the remainder may look up to the Duke of Richmond as their leader, and sympathise with the section below the gangway. That large portion of the Conservative party in the north of England has ever been in favour of Free Trade. The language they have used to Free Traders like myself has been this: "Sir Robt. Peel will do it at the proper time (hear, hear, and cheers). We have confidence in him, and when the proper period arrives he will give us Free Trade" (renewed cheers). Then I say, that in this state of your party, I wholly deny the possibility of your gaining a majority. But I will assume, for the sake of argument, that, in the event of a dissolution of Parliament, you obtained a numerical majority. Let us see of what that majority and of what the minority opposed to you would consist (hear, hear). There are 18 represcutatives in Parliament for this metropolis, and there are two members for the metropolitan county. We have the whole 20 (loud cheers). They represent 110,000 clectors; they represent a population of 2,000,000 of souls (hear, hear) - the most intelligent, the most wealthy, the most orderly, and notwithstanding my acquaintance with the business habits of those in the north of England, I must add, with respect to business and mechanical life, the harde t working people in England (hear hear). Do those people express public op nion think you? Why, this metropolis assumed to itself, conturies ago, the power and privilege of closing its gates in the face of its sovereign, a power which is still retained, and which is exercised on state occasions. This metropolis is now twenty times as populous, as wealthy, as important in the world's eye as it was then; and do you think it will be content that you count it as nothing in your estimate of public opinion (hear, hear, and cheers)? But turn elsowhere. What says the mo-tropolis of Scotland, Edinburgh? Do you reckon on having a member for that city to vote in the glorious majority which you anticipate (hear, hear)? Turn to Dublin. Will you have a representative for that city with you? Go to Glasgow, Manchester, Leeds, Birmingham, and Liverpool; take every town containing 20,000 inhabitants, and I defy you to show that you can reckon on a single representative for any town in the kingdom which has such a population. I tell you that you have not with you now a town in Great Britain containing 20,000 inhabitants ("oh, oh !" from the pro-"Liverpool," and "Bristol"). No, no, no; you have Leither Liverpool nor Bristol (a laugh). That shows you have not weighed these matters as you are bound to weigh them (laughter). Don't be led away by the men who cheer and hallo there, like the school boy whistling in the churchyard to keep up his courage. Examine these facts, for those who were formerly your leaders have weighed them already (hear, hear, and cheers), and there is none among you deserving to be your leaders unless they have well considered these important matters. I repeat that you cannot reckon upon any town of 20,000 inhabitants sending up a representative to vote with the great majority you expect to obtain. True, you will have your pocket boroughs, and your nomination counties (hear, hear). And I will say a word or two directly as to the county representation; but I now place before you broadly the situation in which you will find yourselves after a dissolution. I will assume that you have a majority, derived from pocket boroughs and nomination counties, of twenty or thirty members. But on this side you will see the representatives for London, for South Lancashire, for West Yorkshire, for North Cheshire, for North Lancashire, and the members for all the large towns of England, Ireland, and Scotland; nav, not one member will come from any town in Scotland to vote with you (hear). Now, what would then be your situation? Why, you would shrink aghast from the position in which you would find yourselves. There would be more defections from your ranks, pledged as you are-steeped to the chin in pledges. So much alarmed would you be at your position, that you would cross the floor to join us in larger numbers than you have ever yet done (laughter). I tell you would be no safety for you without it. I say that the members who came up under such circumstances, to attempt to maintain the Corn Laws, from your Ripons and Stamfords, Woodstocks and Marlboroughs, would hold those opinions only till they found it was determined by public opinion to repeal them. They could not hold them one week longer; for if the country found that they would not give way to moral force, they might think it requisite to place them in another Schedule A (laughter). Now, I have told you what, in my opinion, constitutes public opinion. Had there been such an amount of public opinion as now exists in favour of the repeal of the Corn Laws, in support of the Pre-tender in 1745, the dynasty of the Stuarts would now have occupied the throne of these realms. That amount of public opinion is sufficient to change the constitution of this country; to alter your forms of Government; to do anything, in short, that public opinion is determined to effect. But you may probably tell me that though we have the electors of the great constituencies I have mentioned in our favour, the great mass of the people are not with us. This is a rather democratic sontiment (hear, and a laugh). You never heard me quote the superior judgment of the working classes in any deliberations in this assembly. You never heard me cantabout the superior claims of the working classes to arbitrate on this great question. But you say the mass of the people are not wish us. What aying the is there that this is the case. Will you shut your eyes to proceed will you go blindfold against authorization and the petitions presented to this houle layer the later.

honestly signed ("hear, hear," from the protectioning) honestly signed ("near, near, from the protections). I cannot disprove that assertion. It must go for what it is worth. But we have ten times as many signatures to our petitions for Corn Law repeal as you have to your protection matitions (cheers). You may assume that the alguatures to those petitions are fictitious. Do so if you please. I will give you another test. I will challenge you to the old Saxon mode of acceptaining what are the opinions of the country, by calling public meetings. Now, if you really entend in democratic opinions, this is the way in which to elevate the working man to an acceptance with his magnetic are the same acceptance with the equality with his master; aye, to an equality with the peer of the realm,—bringing them out into public assemblies, where every man has an equal vote—assemblies which make laws for the conduct of their own proceedings, and cleat their own chairman. Call your public meetings to support the Corn Laws (hear, hear). challenge you to call one anywhere. Why, it is not in the manufacturing districts alone that meetings have been held since the 1st of November last. Public meetings, convened by the authorities, have been held in every large town,—meetings not confined to a particular class, or consisting of men pledged to particular opinions, but convened to determine, any or no, whether the people should petition for Free Trade or not These meetings have not been confined to the manufacturing districts alone, they have been held at Exeter, Brighton, and Oxford, and the opinion of the people was as unanimous at those places as at Bolton, Stockport, and Manchester. Now, cannot you call a public meeting and test the opinions of the people? Would not one meeting, at all events, be sumething like a proof that you are practical men, and not disposed to be misled by the chimeres of those hot-headed, half-witted people who try to deceive you? I have seen some of your notices calling protection meetings. One was forwarded to me from Epworth, in Lincolnshire, by a gentleman who complained that the notice was so framed that protectionists only could attend, and that no amendment could be proposed (cries of " hear, hear"). Why, in the purely agricultural district of Haddingtonshire, in the centre of the Lothians, a protection meeting was called about six weeks ago. All the neighbouring nobility and landed proprietors attended; they talked of the British Lion, and of the nation being with them (hear). Soon after, another meeting was held, whon it was proposed to petition for the repeal of the Corn Laws. The protectionists fled from the room, the largest room in the place; but it was quite full without them, and resolutions in favour of repeal were adopted. Was this evidence of public opinion (a cry of "no," from the protection benches). Was it not? Then what will teach you what public opinion is? Must you be tossed in a blanket (laughter)? Must you be swept out of this house into the Thames (a laugh)? What must be done to convince you that the feeling of the nation is not with you? You will be abandoned to fatuity and destruction if you are left to persons who have so little mercy upon you as to delude you on this question. I said that I would refer to the county representation. You are pluming yourselves on the result of recent county cleations, and you are reckaning, no doubt, on the attainment of great strength from your purely agricultural counties in the event of a dissolution; but I beg to remind honourable gentlemen that the county representation under the 50% tenant-at-will clause of the Reform Act is not the old county representation (hear, hear). We never heard, 20 years ago, of requisitions being got up to candidates by tenant farmers. The requisitions were then got up by freeholders (hear, hear). You introduced into the Roform Act, by a great mistake (cheers) on the part of those who then had the power to have prevented it, a clause innovating on the old constitutional custom, and giving tonants-at-will a vote for counties. Do you mean to tell me that the votes of these tenants-at-will are an evidence of public opinion? We heard a definition of tonant-at-will votes last night. which, with the permission of the house, I will read. The hon. member for Dorsotshire, (and I congratulate the Free Traders on his advent here,) told us with great natvete, "He (Mr. Seymer), with his hon colleague. came forward at the recent election for Dorset, in consequence of a requisition signed by the great body of the tenant farmers. Three or four of the largest properties ounty were in the hands of Free naturally the tenants on those estates held back and refused to sign the requisition till they knew what were the wishes of their landlords (cheers), for it was noterious that English tenants generally wished to consult the feelings of their landlords. He (Mr. Seymer) did not think tenants to blame for that. Knowing that their landlards were Ereo Traders, the tonautries in question made inquiry, previous to signing, whether these land-lords would object to their taking the course their conscience dictated; the landowners, very much to their credit, said, that this being a farmer's question, they would not interfere, and then, almost without exception, the farmers on those properties signed the requisition (cheers). Yes, west, it is all very well for those who get the consent of their handers to you, but recollect what the hon, gontleman says at the commencement of his consent of the commencement remarks. He talls us that he and his colleague were put in nomination in consequence of a requisition signed by tenant fastners, that is in consequence of a requisition got up by command of the landlords, and signed by the farmer (cries of "oh." from the protectionist). Now, I put it to you candidly, is it not an undested of question counties that one properties who is a said of the landlords.

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intention and desire to do so (renewed cries of "no")? Well, there are only two or three faint nots (laughter, and cries of "order"). I think the syns have it (laughter and cheers). But, however, this point at all events is admitted, that as a rule farmers vote with the landlords: that the vote goes with the land; nobody denies that the farm carries the right. What right, then, have you to call this the opinion of the furmer? You cannot have it both ways. It cannot be both the opinion of the landlord and the opinion of the tenants. What becomes then of all those interesting romances in which the Duke of Richmond has indulged in public, about the hold, independent, and gallant yeomaury of the country (a laugh)? Why, those are the men who have not the right of using their suffrages (hear, hear). It is your own statement (cheers). This country certainly will not be governed by a combination of landlords and tenants (hear, hear). Probably you are not aware on what a very narrow basis this power of yours rests. But I can give you some information on the subject. There are about 150,000 tenants who form the basis of your political power, and who are distributed throughout the counties of this country. Well, let it come to the worst; carry on the opposition to this measure for three years more; yet there is a plan in operation much maligned by some honourable gentlemen opposite ("hear, hear, from the protection benches)-and still more maligned in another place, but which, the more the shoe pinches and the more you wince at it, the more we like it out of doors (hear, hear). Now, I say, we have confronted this difficulty, and are preparing to meet it. We are calling into exercise the true old English forms of the constitution (cries of "oh, oh," and cheers), of five centuries antiquity, and we intend that the ancient 40s, freehold franchise shall countervail this innovation of yours in the Reform Bill (hear, hear). You think that there is something revolutionary in this ("hear, hear," from the protection henches). Why, you are the innovators and the revolutionists who introduced this new franchise into the Reform Bill (hear, hear). But I believe that it is perfectly understood by the longest heads among your party that we have a power out of doors to meet this difficulty (hear, hear). You should bear in mind that less than one-half of the money invested in the savings'banks, laid out at better interest in the purchase of freeholds, would give qualifications to more persons than your 150,000 tenant-farmers (hear, hear). But you say that the League is purchasing votes, and giving away the franchise. No, no; we are not quite rich as that; but be assured that if you prolong the contest for three or four years (which you cannot do); if, however, it comes to the worst, we have the means in our power to meet the difficulty, and are prepared to use them (hear, hear). Money has been subscribed to prepare our organisation in every county, and we are prepared to meet the difficulty, and to overcome it (hear, hear). You may think that there is something repulsive (hear) to your notions of supremacy in all this. I see a very great advantage in it, even if the Corn-Laws were to be repealed to-morrow ("hear, hear," from the protection benches). I think that you cannot too soon widen the basis of our county representation. I say, with respect to a man, whether he be a small shopkcoper or a mechanic, who by his prudence has saved 50% or 100%, and is willing to lay it out in the purchase of a cottage or land bringing in 40s, a-year as n freehold, - I say that it is to that man of all others that I would wish to intrust the franchise (hear, hear). Let it be understood that all this extrançous matter is not of my introducing; for your debate has turned on the question of dissolution. No one can complain of my having, on this question, been guilty of often intro-ducing irrelevant matter. I generally keep close to the argument; but you have chosen to say now that you will not settle the question by argument, and by an appeal to facts and reason in this house; that you will have nothing to do with this house, but that you will go to the country (hear). I do not ask you to take my opinion for it; but, as mischief may be averted from yourselves, more from another place to which allusion has been made than from others-I do ask you to take these facts home, to study them for yourselves, to look over the registry, to count the population of the towns, and then to come down and say whether you think the public opinion of the country is with you or against you (clicers). ussion has turned on this extraneous question, and what little argument has been addressed to the merits of the case has been so abundantly answered by other persons (shouts of "oh, oh," from the protection benches), that it would be impertinent in me to trespass at too great length on the time of the house ("oh, oh"). Well, I will tell you what my thoughts were as I sat at home patiently reading these debates. As I read speech after speech, and saw the old protection fallacies which I had knocked on the head seven years ago re-appearing afresh, my thought was, what fun these debates will afford to the men in fastian jackets (hear, hear, and laughter). All these fallacies are perfacily transparent to those men, and they would laugh at you for putting them forward (hear, hear, hear). Dapendence on foreigners (laughter)! Who in the world could have supposed that that long buried ghoat would have come again to light (cheers and longhter)? Drain of gold (laughter)! Wages rising and falling with the price of bread (continued laughter)! Throwing land out of cultivation, and bringing corn here at 26s. per quarter (cheers and laughter)! You forget that the great mass of the people now take a very different view of these questions from what you do (hear hear). They formerly seven years ago, did vive in, to a certain extent to your relievants.

able baronet the Home Secretary, are not suspected by the Ruglish people of having such motives on these quations (hear, hear). The English people have no disinclination to defer to high authorities on these matter:. They assume that mon high in office have access to accurate information, and they generally suppose that that those men have no sinister motive for deceiving the great body of the people on a question like the present (hear, hear). You see, I do not underrute the importance of your leaders having declared in favour of Free Trade (hear, hear). On the contrary, I avow that that has caused the greatest possible accession to the ranks of the Free Traders (hear, hear). Well, then, the working classes, not believing that wages rise and fall with the price of bread, when you tell them that they are to have corn at 25s. a quarter, instead of being frightened, are rubbing their hands with satisfaction (cheers and laughter). They are not frightened at the visions which you present to their eyes of a big loaf, seeing that they expect to get more money, and broad at half the price (hear, hear, and a laugh). And then the danger of having your land thrown out of cultivation! Why, what would the men in smockfrocks in the south of England say to that? They would say, "We shall get our land for potato ground at a id. a lug, instead of paying 3d. or 4d. for it" (hear). These fallacies have all been disposed of; and if you lived more in the world, more in contact with public opinion and less within that charmed little circle which you call the world, but which is really nothing but a clique—if you gave way less to the excitement of clubs, less to the buoyancy which arises from talking to each other as to the effect of some smart speech in which a Minister has been assailed, you would see that it was a more child's play to attempt to baulk the intelligence of the country on this great question, and you would not have talked as you have talked for the last 11 days (cries of "hear, hear," and laughter). Now, with respect to the farmers, I will not deny that you have a large portion of the farmers clinging to their landlords on this question (hear), They have been talked to and frightened by their landlords, as children by their nurses, and they dread some hideous prospect or some old bogie, ready to start up before their eyes (laughter). They do not know what is to happen; but they have not strict and implicit faith in you. They are afraid lest anything should happen to render them unable to make terms with the lords in the matter of rent; or otherwise they are perfectly easy and willing to receive Free Trade to-morrow (hear, and laughter) are afraid of how the adjustment might be conducted; and the question, therefore, I have no hesitation in saying, is a landlord's question. On this subject the farmers have had some hints given them in the following paragraph which appeared some time ago in the Standard newspaper: "Under what head then is the farmer to look for relief? Under the head rent. The landlord must reduce rent; but the farmer knows, by rather bitter experience, the process by which this reduction must be effected. He must be first himself rendered unable to pay rent, and then the landlord will yield, and not before." This is the character given by the Standard newspaper of the landlords, and in this consists the great difficulty with the farmers. I do not think that the farmers generally believe all that you have told them. I believe that farms let as high now as ever they did. There is something remarkable in this. Since the right hon, baronet has proposed his measure, I have directed my attention to this point, because I conceive that it solves much of our difficulty. I have inquired of land agents, land proprietors, lawyers, &c., as to whether land has suffered any depreciation in value in consequence of the proposition on this subject made by the Government? Now, it is remarkable, that land seems to be the only commodity not injuriously affected by the proposed measures of the Government, that though French silks are for the moment rendered almost unsalcable, and though the proposed change has produced almost a paralysis in every trade touched, yet land is letting and selling for higher prices than ever (hear, hear). Now, I will give you an example. I will mention a case, and I am at liberty to mention the name. The hon, member for Somerset will corroborate what I am going to state. Mr. Gordon, a near neighbour of that hon, member, has made the tenants upon 60 of his farms an offer their land off their hands on equitable terms at Lady Day; yesterday was the last day for giving notice of accepting his offer, and not one farmer proposed to do so (hear, hear). I think it is not very complimentary to the hon, member for Somerset. Mr. Gordon is a near neighbour of his, and his tenants of course have had the privilege of hearing those eloquent addresses which the hon. member has made in Somerset, wherein he has told them that land will not be worth cultivation at all, or, at least, that there will be such an avalanche of corn from the Continent and from America as will quite supersede home cultivation, and yet these farmers seem to have so little alarm that they are willing to hold their farms at their present rents (hear, hear). Let me read you, too, the account that is given me by a gentle-man in the city, an eminent solicitor, whom I have known for some years, and who is largely interested in landed property: "I have for many years been con-nected with the management of landed property, and with the purchase and letting of estates in several dif-ferent counties, and an at this time negociating for the renewal of leases and letting of lands in Bedfordshire, Herts, and Essex. In the latter county, the tonant who has potential a farm of 500 acres for 14 years under a inas occupied a rarm of our acres for 14 years under a least, and who has always spoken of his rent as somewhat high, and of his own farming as the best in his own neighbourhood, has now offered a considerable increase of 14 years, and to strength works of the farm, his to strength of the farm, his control of all his circles electron asknowledging that the control of the farm, his control of the farm of the fa

the increase of rent. The furmer has another occupation, and is not therefore under any fear of baing without a firm. He is a protectionist in words, and a supportor of Sir John Tyrrell. Under the rumour that this farm might be given up, there were eight or ten most respectable applicants for it. In Hertfordshire I am at this moment renewing leases upon two large farms, both with the offer of increased rents and with covenants for greatly improved cultivation, particularly as to underdraining. In Bedfordshire upon two moderate-sized farins the same has been the result, and on the application for one of them, which the farmer is quitting in consequence of age and infirmity, the following conversation took place on the application to me by an intelligent farmer for the farm :- I understand, Sir, that you have the letting of Mr. L'schrm, as he is quitting.-I have, -I should like to have the offer of it. My name is ---, and I can refer you to the clergyman of my parish, and to several gentlemen, for my character and responsibility. -- You are, I presume, a farmer ?-- Yes, Sir, I have one farm, and I should like another to extend my occupation, as I have sufflclent capital .-- You know the farm, I presume, and the rent which the present tenant pays. Yes, Sir, I know the farm and the rent; and as we are no longer to have any protection, and the Corn Laws must now be repealed. I hope you will consider that point in the rent .- Pray, as you say that the Corn Laws will be repealed, what in your judgment will be the effect?—Why, Sir, the first will be the waking up or thousands of farmers who have hitherto been asleep (cheers); and we must look to increased offorts and increased production (renewed cheers) .- With respect to rent, I must have a small increase, and I must require covenants for better cultivation, more especially as to underdraining, which must be done very extensively ?-Sir, my intention is, if I have the farm, to underdrain the whole of it, being allowed tiles.-Well, as you are a manof olservation, and acquainted with different districts in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Herts, tell me whether I am right (so far as your observation goes) in saying that under improved cultivation one-third more corn can be grown, and the sample much better ? -I have no doubt that you are right. -Then, if I am right, what have you to fear from the abolition of the Corn Law ? - Nothing at all, Sir (cheers). This person has hised the farm at increased rent, and undertaken to underdrain the whole, if required by the landlord so to do Now, hon, gentlemen must, of course, be botter able than I can be to judge from their own experience whether this be a fair statement of the case or not; but I would put it to them, are any of them prepured to sell their own estates for one furthing less now than they were twelve months ago (cries of "bear, hear") ? But if farmers will take the land at the same rent, and if you will not take less than 30 years' purchase now upon the present rental, where are the proofs that you are in earnest in all that you predict as the consequences of the repeal of the Corn Laws (cheers.) Nay, this is a proof that there has been a system of mutual self-delusion, or mutual deception between you and the farmers (cries of "order," "hear, hear"). You have preached doctrines which the farmers have affected to believe, but which neither of you has believed at heart (" order, order"). Either you have been doing this jointly, doing it that you might practise upon the credulity of your countrymen, or else you are now pursning a most unworthy and inconsistent course, because, after telling the farmers at your protection meetings that wheat is to be sold at 30s. or 35s. a quarter, and that they cannot carry on their business in competition with the Russians and the Poles, even if they have their land rent free, with what fairness or consistency can you now let your land to farmers at the existing rents (cheers)? But the truth is, that you know-that the country knows- that there never was a more monstrous delusion than to suppose that that which goes to increase the trade of the country and to extend its manufactures and commerce -- that which adds to our wealth, increases our population, enlarges the number of your customors, and diminishes your burdens by multiplying the shoulders that are to bear them, and giving them increased strength to bear them, can possibly tend to diminish the value of land (hear, hear). You may affect the value of silks, you may affect the value of cottons or woollens; transitory changes of fashion may do that changes of taste; but there is a taste for land inherent in human kind, and especially is it the desire of Englishmen to possess land (hear, hear), and therefore, while you have a monopoly of that article which our very instincts lead us to desire to possess, if you see any process going on by which our commerce and our numbers are increased, it is impossible to suppose that it can have the effect of diminishing the value of the article that is in your hands (cheers). What, then, is the good of this "protection?" Why, the country have come to regard it, as they regard witcheraft, as a mere sound and a delusion (a laugh). They no more regard your precautions against Free Trade, than they regard the horseshoes that are nailed over the stables to keep the witches away from the horses (cheers and laughter). Plicy do not believe in protection; they have no fear of Free Prade; and they are laughing to scorn all the arguments by which you are trying to frighten them (hear, hear). How can protection, think you, add to the wealth of a country? Can you, by legislation, add one farthing to the wealth of a country? You may, by legislation. lagislation, in one evening destroy the fruits and accumulations of a century of labour (cheers from the promulations of a century of labour (cheers from the protection benches), but I defy you to show me how, by the legislation of this house, you can add one furthing to the wealth of this country. That springs from the industry and intelligence of the people of this country. You cannot guide that intelligence; you cannot do better this leave fully the country.

direction to trade and industry, it is a thousand to one that you are doing wrong; and if you happen to be right, it is a work of supercrogation; for the parties for whom you legislate would go right without you, and better than with you (hear, hear). Then, if this is true, why should there be any difference of opinion between us? Hon, gentlemen may think that I have spoken hardly to them on this occasion; but I want to see them come to a better conclusion on this question. I believe, if they will look the thing in the face, and divest themselves of that crust of prejudice which oppresses them, we shall all be better friends about it (hear). There are but two things that can prevent it; one is, their believing that they have a sinister interest in this question, and therefore not looking into it; and the other is, an incapacity for understanding political economy (hear, hear, and a laugh). I know that there are many heads which cannot comprehend and master a proposition in political economy. I believe that study is the highest exercise of the human mind, and that the exact sciences require by no means so hard an effort. But, barring these two accidents-want of capacity, and having a sinister interest -I defy any man to look into this question honestly, and come to any other than one conclusion (cheers). Then why should we not concur in this matter? Why should there be any triumph for either? I want no triumph (hear). Come down to us, and let us hold a Free Trade meeting in our half at Manchester; come to us now, protectionists, and let us see whether we cannot do something better for our common country than carrying on this wrife of parties (hear, hear, and cheers). Let us once for all recognise this principle, that we must not tax one another for the benefit of one another (renewed cheers). Now I am going to read you an authority that will astonish you. I am going to read you an extract from a speech of the Duke of Wellington, in the House of Lords, on the 17th of April, 1832. It is his opinion on taxation : -" He thought taxes were imposed only for the service of the state. If they were necessary for the service of the state, in God's name let them be paid; but if they were not necessary, they ought not to be paid, and the legislature ought not to impose them." Now there, that noble duke, without having time to study Adam Smith or Ricardo, by that native sagacity which is characteristic of his mind, came at once to the marrow of this question (hear, hear). We must not tax one another for the benefit of one another. Oh, then, divest the future Prime Minister of this country of that odious task of having to reconcile rival interests; divest the office, if ever you would have a sagacious than in power as Prime Minister, of the responsibility of having to find food for the people! May you never find a Prime Minister again to undertake that awful responsibility It belongs to God and to nature,-to those laws of trade which Burke says are the laws of God and of nature,it holongs to them, and to them only, to regulate the supply of food, and of every commodity for the use of mankind. When you shall have seen that the abolition of these laws in three years is inevitable, you will, I feel assured, meet the wishes of the farmer by making the repeal immediate, and dissolve the League, as in good faith it will be dissolved (loud cries of "hear, hear" from the protection benches). I say that when you find it to be inevitable, as inevitable it is, you will come forward and join with the Free Traders (cheers and laughter); for if you do not, you will have the farmers coming forward and agitating in conjunction with the League (cheers). You are in a position to gain honour in future ; you are in a position, especially the young members among you who have the capacity to learn the truth of this question, they are in a position to gain honour in this struggle; but as you are going on at present your position is a false one, you are in the wrong groove, and are every day more and more diverging from the right point. It may be material for you to get right notions of political economy; questions of that kind will form a great part of the world's legislation for a long time to come (hear, hear, and cheers). We are on the eve of great changes (cheers and counter-cheers). Put yourselves in a position to be able to help in the work, and so gather honour and fame where they are to be gained. We are the aristocracy of the human race—not the privileged aristorney, but the aristocracy of improvement and civilisation. We have set an example to the world in all ages; we have given them the repre entative system. Why, the very rules and regulations of this house have been taken as the model for every representative assembly throughout the whole civilised world; and having besides given them the example of a free press, of civil and roligious liberty, and of every institution that belongs to freedom and civilisation, we are now about to offer a still greater example; we are going to set the example of making industry free (cheers)—to set the example of giving the whole world every advantage in every clime, and latitude, and production; relying ourselves on the freedom of our industry. Yes, we are going to teach the world that other losson. Don't think there is anything solfish in this, or anything at all dis-Cordant with Christian principles. 1 can prove that we advocate nothing but what is agreeable to the highest behests of Christianity. To buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest. What is the meaning of the maxim? It means that you take the article which you have in the greatest abundance, and obtain from others that of which they have the most to spare, so giving to mankind the means of enjoying the fullest abundance of every earthly good, and in doing so carrying out to the fullest extent the Christian doctrine of "Doing to allmen as ye would they should do unto you." (The honourable member sat down amidst loud and pro-

longed cheering).

Afr. SPOONER thought that if a stranger had entered the house during the last speech, he would have supposed that the debate was on the propriety of repealing the 00% clause,

or of passing a new Reform Bill, but would never have imagined that it was upon going into a Committee on the Customs and Corn Importation Acts. He then proceeded to express the reasons which induced him to support the amendment in preference to the proposition of the Government but the interruptions in the house were so freugent that it was impossible to follow the chain of his arguments.

Mr. P. BORTHWICK followed on the same side amid still

greater interruptions.

Lord G. BENTINCK condemned the proposition of the Government as vicious in principle and likely to be deeply injurious not only to agriculture but to all the great interests Certainly it could not be carried in what he emphatically called a protection Parliament without a loss of honour to public men. The alleged change of circumstances in the state of the country, combined with the experience of the last three years, formed no justification for Sir Robert Peel in abandoning the whole course of policy he had pursued for the last 30 years. Accepting the challenge that had been thrown out to name any articles on which the repeal of prohibitory or protective duties had operated injuriously either to the consumer or producer, the noble lord adduced a variety of statistical details connected with the silk, woollen, spelter, and timber trade, for the purpose of showing that a relaxation of the protective system had, in those instances, signally failed. In fact, the Free Trade doctrine was an absolute delusion. The price of wheat was now actually lower than the average of three years before 1842. He contended that the rate of wages would fall with the price of corn, and the working-classes would be better off with undiminished wages and wheat at 70s. per quarter, than with corn at 45s, and reduced means of procuring it. approhension of famine was altogether a mistake. The crop was more than an average one, and in some parts of the country, in Scotland particularly, there was a positive reple-tion. The potato murrain was by no means so extensive as it had been represented; indeed, he complained that only one side of the question had been stated to the louise. He had individually made some inquiries relative to the subject, and he discovered that in Roseommon there was no disease at all, while in Tipperary and Queen's County it prevailed but very partially. According to his noble friend, the Marquis of Clanricarde, one half of the evil was attributable to the conduct of the Government in sending commissioners to Ireland and creating alarm. The potatoes were dug up before they were ripe, and they rotted. The cry of famine was a mere pretence for a party object. The Duke of Wellington had admitted that there was no scarcity of food in Ireland, and Lord Cloncurry declared that there was a sufficiency of oats now in that country to feed the whole population. Never was there a change of so extensive a character proposed, on so slender a basis, and with so little just cause shown. He should not have objected to open the ports had that been necessary; but he could not see how the necessity alleged by Government could be met by Free Trade in corn three years hence. Much greater benefit would be derived by the public from a remission of the duties on tea and sugar, two of the main necessaries of life, produced by countries favourable to commercial intercourse with England, and which came into no rivalship with our domestic produce.

The house divided at 20 minutes to three o'clock. The numbers were-

Ayes Noes 240

Majority against it The main question was then put and carried.

The house then resolved itself pro forma into committee. The chairman was ordered to report progress, and to ask leave to sit again on Monday.

MONDAY.—FABRICATED PETITIONS.

Mr. C. BERKELEY rose to call the attention of the house to the petition which he had presented on Friday last, complaining that a petition had been forwarded for presentation to that house, ostensibly from Cheltenham, but in reality it was from Manchester. This, he believed, the house would agree with him in saying was a breach of its privileges; and, having laid the case before them, he would willingly adopt any course which might be pointed out for vindicating those privileges. He could prove that many of the signatures to that petition were forgeries, and that many names were added which were not on the original sheet. As a breach of its privileges, he would leave the house to deal with the case as it might deem proper. He was the more anxious that the house should take the matter up, because complaints were very general out of doors that the petitions of the people did not receive that attention from the house to which they were entitled; but this fact could not excite surprise in any one, from the manner in which petitions were got up in many parts of the country. If the house would give him a committee of inquiry, he would put the fact of the fabrication and residue. etitions and the forgeries of signatures beyond all doubt. He would now move that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the presentation of certain forged petitions and signatures, and under what circumstances those signatures had been attached.

Mr. NEWDEGATE, in seconding the motion, said that the hon, member had very properly called the attention of the house to this subject; but there was another subject to which that attention should also be given. He alluded to the practices of the agents of the Anti-Corn-Law League is the manufacturing of votes at the registrations. He thought the manufacturing of votes at the registrations. He thought that the privileges of that house were in greater danger from such practices than even from petitions with forged signstures. He did hope, therefore, that if the committee should be appointed, its labours would not be confined to the one subject mentioned by the hon. member (Mr. C. Berkeley), but that it would also inquire into the proceedings of the Auti Corn-Law League at the registrations, by notices of objections which were utterly without foundation. It was stated to him that in one case 710 notices of objections had been sent by one individual. In the parishes of Birmingham and Edgbaston, such notices of objection were given and delivered later than the time allowed by law. In the statement to which he had referred, it will said that 80,000 notices of objectious had been posted one night in Manchesr. The hon, member was proceeding, when Mr. HUME rose to order. The hon, member was enter-

Mr. HUMF rose to order. The hon, member was entering on a subject which had no reference to the motion before the house. What had the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-Law League to do with the privileges of that house? If the hon, member would move for an inquiry into the circumstances to which he had referred, he (Mr. Hume) would support him, but he would put it to him whether, considering the important matters which were about to be subjituded to its consideration, he could be compared to its consideration, he could be subjected.

by matters which had no reference to the subject before it He hoped the hon member would take another time for his

Mr. NEWDEGATE shid he was in the hands of the house, and would do as it might wish; but, whatever course he might take, he did not think he was out of order in stating that which could be put beyond all doubt, that the privilege of that house had been violated over and over again by the agents of the Anti-Corn-Law League.

The SPEAKER said, although the subject referred to by the hon, member affected the privileges of the house, it was not analogous to the subject of inquiry of the proposed committee, and therefore there would be a difficulty in making the addition the hon, member desired to the motion of the

hon, member for Cheltenham.

Mr. NEWDEGATE then gave notice that he should move an instruction to the committee, if appointed, to the

same effect as the proposition.

Mr. BRIGHT observed that he had offered the other night to second the motion of the hon, member for Chelten. ham, but he had since received an explanation, which, per-haps, he had better submit to the house before the motion was disposed of. He had in his hand a letter from the Secretary to the Anti-Corn-Law League at Manchester, which he would read to the house:

"National Anti-Corn Law League, Manchester, Feb. 28 " Dear Sir,-I see by the newspapers of to day that you have had a stir in the house about a petition from Chelten ham, which was sent from this office on Tuesday last; and, as you have promised to second the motion of which Mr. Berkeley has given notice, I may as well put you in possession of the facts, as far as I know anything of them. You know that in January we sent out from this office a circular, of which copies were addressed to our Free Trade friends in all parts of the kingdom, ang gesting the sending of petitions for immediate repeal. Among many hundreds of replies to that circular was one from Peter Vines, of Cheltenhum, and of this I enclose a copy. In consequence of the request of Mr. Vines, I ordered copies of the printed form of the South Lancashire petition to be sent to him, with a few of the other bills he mentions, and we heard no more of the matter until last Tuesday, when we received (I believe by post) a number of sheets containing the signatures, which we had to paste together, and attach the head. Mr. Septimus Prucu, a respectable solicitor of Cheltenham, sent the sheets to us. As Mr. Berkeley is member of Parliament for the borough, I ordered Mr. Walters, our clerk, to send the petition to him for presentation. I can say nothing as to how the signstures were obtained, except that as Mr. Pruen and Messrs. Bishop and Vines had the management of the matter, i should have had the fullest confidence that all would be done honourably and fairly. I did not expect the sheets to be sent to us, but that the whole would be forwarded direct from Chelt nham to London, as has been done in almost all other cases. I have written to Mr. Pruen to day, and re quested him to inquire into the matter, and to communicate with their M.P. 1 ought to mention that four or five names which appear on the first sheet were copied from the head of one of the other sheets, and these five names as originally signed, were pasted over, and this was done by Mr. Walters by my direction.—I am, dear Sir, yours very truly, Joseph HICKIN.

From this fact had arisen the circumstance that there were only five names on the first sheet, and that they appeared to be written in different ink from the rest was a corroboration of the statement in the letter (hear, hear). The honour able member for Cheltenham had referred to the case of a gentleman named Perry, whose name appeared in the petition, although he had not signed it. On this subject he (Mr. Bright) had received a letter from Mr. Hennessy, a gentleman connected with the League at Cheltenham, written in consequence of having read what occurred in the house the other night:

"4, Essex-place, Cheltenham, Feb. 28.
"Sir,—The Hon. C. F. Berkeley is reported in the Morning Herald of this date, in presenting a petition from this town on the subject of the Corn Laws in the House of Commons, to have read a letter from his agent, in which the following passage occurs :- 'I have seen Mr. Perry, the miller, of Alstone-mill, whose name is to the first sheet, he says he never heard of it before.' I was present when Mr. Peny signed the petition in question, and believe his signature follows my own. I am sure he will remember it when I name the circumstance to him. I have deemed it right, as you promised to second Mr. Berkeley's motion for an inquiry on the subject, to put you in possession of the above fact, and believe the other signatures to be genuine. The fact is, no effort was made to obtain signatures to the petition, sheets were in the shops of two tradesmen, and an announcement stating the simple fact appeared in their windows, beyond which no further trouble was taken.

"I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
"J. Bright, Esq., M.P." "John F. Hennessy. He (Mr. Bright) thought it right to state to the house there was no charge against the genuineness of more than five of the signatures. The individual who changed them had acknown signatures. The individual who changed them had acknowledged the fact, and although it was not one of the most product or regular things to do, yet it might have been done without any intention to infringe the rules of the house, of to substitute false names. He hoped the house would be said. fied with this explanation, and would not think it necessary
to take any further steps; but if they did, he would be most
happy to second the motion for a committee.
Mr. F. MACKENZIE inquired whether the petition itself.
as well as the signatures, had been sent from Cheltenham, or
whether it had been sent from Cheltenham, or

whether it had been manufactured at Manchester? Mr. BRIGHT had no doubt the petition had been written at Cheltonham, and sent from there, as the wording was not the same as that suggested in the circular of the

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Mr. FERRAND inquired whether it was competent to him to move an amendment? He had received a letter from Sheffield, bearing out the statement he had made the other night as to the manner in which pelitions were signed; and he had also an extract from another communication, reterning to the same proceedings at Leeds, and there was actually in the Illustrated London News a drawing of the manuer in which Illustrated London News a drawing of the manuer in which signatures are made to the London petition on London bridge. Boys and children signed their names three or four times over. One letter he had received be would read to the best "If the following letter will be of any service to the best opposition to the League—(an irondeal alters from the of persons who was simployed by the league from the of persons who was simployed by the League for the names and received in the service of persons to their production one of them to their production of the pro

He (Mr. Ferrand) wrote to the person for a reference as to his respectability; he then went to him, and had a personal interview, and he found the whole of the writer's statement to be correct. He was in possession of the names of the witnesses whom he was prepared to produce before a committee, and he would therefore move as an amendment, that the inquiry of the committee should be generally as to the manner adopted by the League to obtain signatures to pe-

Lord J. MANNERS said, that as he was walking the other day down Grosvenor place he heard a comfortable-looking baker's boy say to his companion, "I say, old fellow, have you signed the Anti-Corn-Law petition? I have signed it three times" (a laugh). This was no isolated case (hear, hear). Such things had occurred daily in all the great throughfares of London (hear, hear). He regretted this the more, because they were bound to pay the utmost attention

to petitions legitimately signed.
The SPEAKER said the hon, member's amendment must

be moved as an instruction to the committee.

Mr. C. BERKELEY said he had certainly viewed with suspicion a petition from Cheltenham which came round by Manchester (a laugh), for he knew enough of the people of Cheltenham to believe that they would, as they had done for It years (hear), post their petition direct to himself; he also had received a letter from Mr. Honessy, and, without wish ing to say anything offensive to the natives of the Emerald Isle, he feared that letter would fully sustain their character for making blunders. The postscript of Mr. Hencssy's letter said, "If you will refer to the petition, I think you will find that my signature follows Mr. Perry's, or his mine." Now, the (Mr. Berkeley) had searched the petitions, and Mr. Hennessy's name was not attached to any of them.

Mr. ENTWISTLE inquired whether "transferring" meant cutting names off one sheet to add to another, or re-writing

Mr. BORTHWICK suggested that some rule should be made by which members could in some way vouch for the

petitions they presented.

Mr. BRIGHT (unfolding the petition alluded to) said, that the five names referred to were still there, although that the five names referred to were still there, although they had been pasted over. Thus, though there had been irregularities, there was no fraud. There was the name, too, of Mr. Stephen Reid, who it was said had not signed the

Mr. FERRAND moved, as an instruction, what he had previously moved as an amendment. He added that the honourable member for Cheltenham had stated that Mr. Reid had never signed the petition. Probably, all the signatures had been affixed at Manchester by some person emplayed by the Lengue, who adopted the process of the person to whom he had referred, who had signed 14,000 names in

Mr. HUME did not see that the Anti-Corn-Law League had been connected at all with the matter. He would not, however, object to the instruction, if it were intended to in-

clude protection societies also (cheers).

cande protection societies also (circuis).

Sir R. PEEL had no objection to a general inquiry into the practice complained of. But would it not be better to confine the committee to the specific case brought forward by the hon, member for Cheltenham, in which a petition had bren presented as to which there appeared some informality and impropriety? There might be another committee for the general question. The second inquiry might be extensive and prolonged, while it might be necessary to report on this specific case at once (hear).

Sir R. INGLIS concurred in this suggestion, and with respect to what had fallen from the hon, member for Montrose, he would suggest that the protection societies could scarcely be put, in respect of these charges, on a footing with the Anti-Corn-Law League until some hon, member was able to stand up and pledge himself personally to bring forward similar charges against them.

Mr. NEWDEGATE gave notice that he would, to morrow, move an instruction to the committee, if appointed, to inquire into the case of the North Yorkshire registration. He did not believe the case would occupy so much time as

the right how, baronet apprehended.

Mr. S. O'BRIEN recommended the hon, member for Knaresborough to withdraw his amendment. They (the protectionists) had been taunted by the hon, member for burham, in his speech the other night, with not having presented enough petitions to that house. The difference was now explained. At least they had never been charged with presening petitions the signatures to which were forged (hear).

dr. HUT' was not aware that any allegations of forgery had been made against the protectionist petitions: but from the striking resemblance which they all bore to one another, in substance, allegation, and even in external shape, he suspected that, although they possibly came from the places whence they were said to emanate, they had certainly been previously manufactured in Bond-street (hear, hear, and a

Mr. CHRISTIE reminded hon gentleman opposite that several petitions had been presented, complaining of the manner in which protectionist petitions had been got up. He protested against the assumption that any forgery had been committed in this particular case. At all events the expression of such an opinion had better be deferred till the committee had reported.

Mr. FERRAND apprehended there was no doubt forgery had been committed. The hon, member for Durham had himself admitted this (loud cries of "no, no"). There could be a superior of the country o be no difference between transferring signatures and forging

then (loud cries of "oh, oh").

After a few words from Colonel SIBTHORP and Mr. COL.

LETT, the instruction to the committee was withdrawn.

CORN LAWS.

On the motion of Sir ROBERT PEEL, the house went into committee on the Customs and Corn Protec-

Mr. VILLIERS, pursuant to notice, brought forward by way of amendment on the first resolution, his motion that "all duties on imported corn do now cease and determine," and in doing so said-I assure you, Sir, I do not rise for the purpose of making a long speech, nor is it my desire to trespass longer on the time and attention of the house than may be necessary in explaining the considerations which have weighed with me in inducing me to propose this amendments. Nothing can be posalbly more remote from my intention than a desire to impode in the slightest degree the object which the Ministerial measure has in view, or to propose a hostile amendment (hear, hear). I had intended to have brought occurred at a later period of the spirion, a distinct model, with a view to carry out the object which

this amondment contemplates, namely, the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and to that intention I would have adhered, were it not that recent events and certain statements which I heard made in the course of the long debate, have induced me to believe that the wiser and more expedient course is that which I am now adopting (hear, hear). The house has very wisely resolved to take into consideration the protective system with a view to its ultimate abolition (so far as its operation on the supply of food to the people is concerned), and my amendment, admitting the principle of Free Trade to the utmost, has only reference to the period at which we are to enjoy the advantages of that measure. The Ministerial measure has distinctly recognized the policy of allowing perfect freedom of trade in the supply of the necessaries of life to the people of this country; but it has postponed the full application of that principle until the 1st of February, 1849. In my opinion that delay is not called for (hear). It is my conscientious belief that the full advantage of the Ministerial scheme may be extended to this country at once, without danger or inconvenience to any class of the community; and it is because I hold this opinion, and am anxious that the country should be placed in the immediate enjoyment of the beneficial results which may be expected to flow from a sound and judicious policy, that I now propose this amendment (hear, hear). I do so in consistence with the motion to the same effect, which for some years it has been my practice to submit to the house in the course of every session. The measure which has united so large a number of the protective and industrious classes in its favour, has been for the immediate repeal of all obstructions on trade, and that proposition has not been made without consideration (hear). You cannot but be aware that from the day when the Corn Laws were first introduced, there has ever been in this country a large party who complained of their injustice and impolicy, and who have always been anxious for their removal; but of late years a question has arisen whother it is possible for us to remove them, and pass to a sounder, wiser, and more rational policy, without come danger of inconvenience in the event of the transition being immediate (hear, hear)? This question, I admit, I have ever regarded as well worthy of consideration, and I have accordingly given it the most serious attention. It was urged that such a panic would be created by the prospect of an immediate transition, that those who have invested their capital in the soil might be so much alarmed in contemplating the possible consequences of a Free Trade policy, that they might abruptly withdraw their capital from the agricultural interest, in fact, from the cultivation of the soil, and that this might be productive of results exceedingly injurious to the country (hear, hear). I admit that this consideration had great weight with me, and were it not that I have ascertained from the testimony of persons who, being themselves personally and deeply concerned in the welfare of the agricultural interest, ought to be best qualified to pronounce an opinion on the subject, that this apprehension is totally without foundation (hear) - that it is, in fact, altogether a mistake to suppose that you cannot pass at once, without danger or inconvenience, to a sounder policy—I repeat that if I had not had the most satisfactory evidence of this fact, I would not be instrumental in submitting to your consideration the proposition which is now before you. But I made it my business to obtain the most authentic information on the subject by consulting those whose personal interests were immediately involved, and having found by their testimony that there was no foundation in truth for the apprehension, I hesitated not to advocate the measure of total and immediate repeal. In the year 1843, when I brought this motion forward, I was strongly influenced to the course I adopted by the perusal of a pumphlet which had just then been published by a farmer, who expressly declared it as his opinion, that whenever the legislature should decide on the total abolition of those laws, it would be for the interest of the furmers and the agricultural community in general that the abolition should be immediate. I mentioned this fact in the year 1843. It was not the statement of one farmer merely, but that of a man who might not unfairly be considered to speak the sentiments of his class, or, at all events, of a very large section of them, for his opinions were universally looked up to with respect; and those in his own vicinage and the farmers of his own county, the county Down, gave a singular attestation of the confidence reposed in him by selecting him to preside as chairman over a meeting of their body (hear). I was induced, moreover, to advocate the proposition for immediate repeal, because I found that men of high rank and of the first order of intelligence, who were themselves inti-mately connected with the agricultural interests, were not opposed to it. For instance, Lord Spencer was of opinion that if the law were at once abolished, the effect would be to equalize the prices in this country, on the Continent, and In all those countries from which a supply of foreign corn might be expected (hear, hear).
Lord Spencer did not at all share in the apprehension that if the price were to fall here and to rise on the Continent, there would be any such enormous influx as would blight the prospects of the farmer, and injure the ngricultural interests. The same opinions I found to exist in other high quarters, and I was yet more strongly confirmed in my own views on hearing the voluntary declarations of two distinguished personages in the other house of Parliament, who are supposed to have the welfare of the British farmer poculiarly at heart. I allude to Lords Ducia and Radnor, who voluntarily declared their balief that it was for the interests of the farmers that the abolition of the protective system should be immediato; and who also stated that this opinion was

was vested in the soil an opportunity of preparing for the transition, the postponement would full of its object, because they might rest assured that preparation would never be made by the farmer, until the duty had been actually abolished (hear, hear). There would still be a delusive hope on the part of the landlords, that they might be able to retain protection, or to revert to the old law, and the farmers, with prospects so uncertain before them, would never think of going to the trouble and expense of making preparations (hear, hear). They argued, however, that exactly the reverse would be the case with the foreign grower, for that he would watch with a jealous eyo the period for the opening of the markets, and proceed to make his preparations on so extensivo a scale, and at so liberal an expenditure of capital, that the instant our ports were opened, he would pour in his supply in such profusion as would render it impossible for the native corn-grower to enter into competition with him (hear). This was my view of the question in the year 1843; and now let us consider whether in the present aspect of affairs there be anything to warrant us in adhering to the opinion with renewed energy. If there be any subject on which there has been complete unanimity of opinion, it appears to be the proposition, that if you are to repeal the Corn Laws at all, you should do so at once. I think that of this fact we have had ample indications in the progress of the debate. Honourable members who are hostile to the principle of Free Trade have, without any promptings from this side of the house, volunteered the statement, that if we are to have it, it were better to have it at once (hear, hear); and this they have given not as their own opinion only, but as the feeling and opinion of the farmers all over the country (hear, hear). It is not denied that certain personages who boast to be the farmers' friends, and who profess to have the agricultural interests especially at heart, immediately after the meeting of Parliament declared unsolicitudly to the world that it would be for the interest of the farmers that the Corn Laws, if repealed at all, should be repenied immediately (hear). I allude especially to the noble duke in the other house, who, the week after the ppening of Parliament, volunteered the declaration that his opinion, and the opinions of the farmers generally (with which he was intimately conversant) was, that it we were to have repeal at all, it was desirable that it should come at once (hear, hear). The honourable memher for Somersetshire, who is regarded by his party as an oracle in everything affecting the farming interests, made a statement, as you must all remember, to the same effect (a voice, "no, no"). I beg your pardon. The honourable member volunteered the assertion that the farmers, if they were put to then election, would prefer immediate to protracted repeal; may, he pledged his honour to the fact; and turning round to the friends behind him, he asked them if it were true, and they answered by a unanimous cheer. There is no county in England which has been more forward in declaring in favour of protection than the county of Lincoln, and yet my noble friend the member for Lincoln (Lord Worsley) was, I believe, the very first to see the advantage of immediate repeal. Three months since he made the declaration in favour of immediate repeal (if repeal at all) so decisively, so unequivocally, that I had expected he would have originated some measure in favour of it (hear). So that from every quarter-from every authority from which you could expect to learn what is the opinion of the friends of the farmer, you learn it is for the immediato repeal (cheers). Sir, I do not exactly perceive upon what ground then it is that any party in this house should object to the amendment which I now propose, because the hon, gentlemen opposite, who represent the protection interest, are quite angry if any one distinguishes their interest from that of the farmer ("hear, hear" from the Opposition). I am sure they would be angry if I said they had, and I do not wish, on this occasion, to provoke their anger by saying, they have an interest distinct from the farmer, but I know it is said, that the landlords have an interest in this matter, which is distinet from that of the farmer (hear). I know it is said, that the farmer wants an adjustment, that the farmer wants an arrangement with the landlord, that the farmers want to come to some terms with the landlords on the subject as soon as possible, but that the landlords are come to that adjustment or arrangement ("hear, hear" from the Opposition), that they do not despair yet of being able to retain protection and keep up some part of the sliding scale, that they are not willing to come to terms with the farmers but hope to keep up the prices by retaining the protection (" liear, hear," from the Opposition). If hon, gentlemen opposite desire to do justice to that interest about which they are apparently so solleitous, and about which they have been talking so much in this bouse, I do not think they can refuse to vote for this amendment after what has occurred in this house (cheers from the Opposition). has been so much consideration of the general interests in the measure that has been proposed, that I am disposed to rost my proposition alone on this ground, that 't is for the interest of the agriculturist -that it is for the Interest of the farmer, and of those for whom alone there seems to be some consideration shown in urging the post-ponement of this measure (hear, hear). I cannot help remarking -I have remarked already upon the opinions of the agriculturists-I cannot help remarking upon the opinions of her Mujesty's Government, and the position in which they stand with regard to the amendment I propose (hear, hear). I beg to say that I do not do that in any hostility to the measure that is proposed, or in forgetfulness of the difficulties the Government had to encounter in the matter. But I must call the attenshared in by their own tenants and by all the farmers of shared in by their own tenants and by all the farmers of the adjoining districts (licar, lear). Their reasoning tain much four himself respecting the instant suspension was this, that if the time for the abolition were to be positioned with a view to afford to parsons whose capital understand his statement to this house on the 1st of Novi tion of the house to the fact, that the right honourable

vember last, he considered that there was a very great apprehension of a want of food in England, and he conceived it would be safe and wise instantly to suspend. the law, which would be practically to abolish it (cheers from the Opposition). I do not collect from the right honourable gentleman that his apprehension is less now than it was then (cheers from the Opposition). He apprehended a deficiency of food on the 1st of November in some parts of the United Kingdom, and deemed a suspension to be necessary. From what has fallen from him since the session commenced, it appears that his apprehensions have not abated (hear, hear). His fears are as great-quite as great as they were on the 1st of November (hear, hear). It certainly strikes me that the right honourable baronet has no fear himself of the consequences to the country or to the agricultural interest from the immedia e suspension of the law, for he proposed that suspension as a mode of extending relief. to those persons who were likely to suffer from an apprehended deficiency of food (loud cries of "hear, hear"). The right honourable gentleman seems to have stated very properly his reasons for permanently abolishing the law, and to linve satisfied himself that at a certain time the trade in corn should be free, and those laws permanently abolished (hear, hear, and loud cheers). He seems to have reasons why he should immediately suspend the law, and to have reasons also why it should be permanently abolished (hear, hear). That is what I propose to do now. I propose that it should be immediately and totally abolished (cheers from the Opposition). The right hon, gentleman (if he supports the immediate abolition of the law), has only to look round the house, and he will see what he could not expect to see on other questions, friends on all sides of the house (hear, hear). If he looks to that bench (pointing to the protectionists), from which there has been a somewhat fierce opposition since the session commenced, he will find that he gets a sanction from them (cheers from the Opposition), a sanction indicating there is no danger to be apprehended, and no ground of alarm from immediately suspending the law, for they said that ro far as an immediate abolition or instant suspension of the duty on corn they are ready for it, they believe it might be done safely—they urge it to be done. So we have it on the best authority that the immediate repeal will be attended with no evil at all (cheers from the Opposition). Well, then, if the right honourable gentleman will look opposite to him (to the Opposition benches) he will find the party, at the head of which is my noble friend, the member for London, who is perfectly ready, and on whom he can rely, to support the immediate abolition of the Corn Laws (cheers). My noble friend has expressed this view of the question, and entertains the opinion positively, and every person who knows him knows this - that when he expresses an opinion they may rely upon him (loud cheers). Therefore, if the right hon, gentleman (Sir Robert Peel) will adopt the amendment I propose, which is for the immediate, total, and permanent repeal, he will find authorities on that side of the house (pointing to the protectionists) to assure him that it will be safe, and he will find the requisite support and strength on this side of the house (cheers). And it is impossible to avoid inferring, from what the right honourable gentleman has said himself, that he has no fears on the subject. The hon, member for Somersetshire has actually elicited his opinion on the matter. The right hon, gentleman stated what his own views were when he proposed for some time the postponement of the repeal of the law, and he stated, in answer to the member for Somersetshire, that he had been apprehensive of some panic and alarm being spread among the farmers, and he was desirous to give them time for some preparation for the change; but the right hon, gentleman must be relieved by the speech of the hon, member for Somersetshire, for he told him there was no ground for fear or alarm, and no need of preparation—the farmers were all ready (cheers). The right hon, genthoman has proposed the abolition of the law out of deference to the agricultural interest; but it would appear that they do not require the postponement. It is impossible that the right honourable gentleman himself is not in favour of the immediate and permanent abolition of the law. I cannot understand, then, why he should object to it, or why he has not come to that conclusion. Every person seems to be ready for it, there is no mended from it, and there is a majority in the house in favour of the amendment I propose (hear, and cheers). If, then, Sir, there are no objections to, or inconvenience attending the adoption of the amendment, are there not some advantages (hear, hear)? There is one that I should name before any other, that there would be then no impediment to the supply of food for the people in case of need (hear, hear, hear); and let me say that is a most important consideration this year, and perhaps more so than any other for many years past. There are several reasons why a deficient supply may be expected this year. The harvest has been bad in Europe-bad in the grain-growing countries, and also deficient in other states not usually dependent on other countries for supply; our own harvest has been deficient a there has been a failure in an important articlo of subsistence in Iroland, and there is an unusually great consumption of wheat in this country (hear, hear) -there is little to come from America this year, and we must expect less than usual from the Baltie. The prices are high in neighbouring countries, the ports are open for import, but shut for export. Already wheat, destined for this country, has not wnited for the passing of this measure, but has proceeded to Antwerp, and found a market (crics of "hear, hear"). There was a profit to be obtained from the price, and there was no We are then in a state to want food this year, and yas mour the risk of not obtaining it (hear, hear). Wo have no indiseason of the harvest yet for the coming year, and have the months are ever we may be suffering from a denotated a paying a high price, and the business.

of the country disturbed by it (hear, hear). Every sixpence of duty may tell upon the supply and the price this year. He asked if that was just towards the people, or if it was wise, after the admission that had been made of the errors and mischief of the law, and whether it was politic to let the people see so clearly the object and the cause of their suffering (hear, hear). This daty of 4s. might be as effective in excluding food a short time hence as the present duty of 17s. (hear, hear). It would not, perhaps, be fair to suppose that the Government had retained the duty from choice, and not to notice the surposed means of its retention. It is said that they have contrived their scheme with a view to its success, that they have secured a certain amount of support for the measure as it is, but if they were to alter it in this particular, they might risk the loss of the measure. and he understood that would weigh also with some of his own friends, who were anxious to see the measure safe. There might be prudence no doubt in this course, and he did not impugn their judgment; at the same time he felt it his duty to state the reasons distinctly to the house that he thought ought to weigh with it, and decide it to adopt the amendment. He was sure they were such that justified its being proposed (hear, hear). Before he sat down he could not help submitting one other consideration to the house bearing upon this subject. He referred to the statement made by his honourable friend the member for Stockport, during the last debate. He stated that that great organisation of the people of which he is at the head was formed and existed for the single and simple purpose of obtaining the removal of all obstructions to the trade in the necessaries of life; and he answered for the good faith of those who followed him, that the day after this law was repealed that this association would dissolve (hear, hear, hear). Now it is not underrating the services which he (Mr. Villiers) considered the League had rendered to the country, to say that this would be a great advantage. He believed that the time would soon arrive when the service of the Lengue would be fully and duly appreciated by the whole country; for his part he should always look back with satisfaction at having co-operated with it, and joined in their exertion as far as he was able (hear). They had sought to disseminate the views and opinions of those clear, calm minds who had enlightened the country on the difficult science of commercial economy (hear, hear). They had sought strength by appealing to the reason of those whom they addressed (hear, hear), and he honestly believed that they had, during the long period of their agitation, given as little real cause of offence to those opposed to them as any body of men that ever were united for a common purpose (hear). But, doubtless, it was an evil that such a combination should exist. It was impossible for them to proceed without exciting bad feeling and great animosities between classes (hear, hear). He for one, as he deeply regretted that result, so was he anxions that they should have no reason for the continuance of agitation (hear, hear). That could, as his honourable friend the member for Stockport said, be only effected in one way, for he knew that both he and his honourable friend the member for Dorchester were deeply bound to those who trusted them that they would not cease their exertions until the object was attained (hear, hear). He did not say that this ought to be binding on the legislature if any evil was likely to follow from it; but his case was, that there was no evil likely to ensue, nothing, indeed, but advantage to the interest in question, added to which would be the blessing that those classes who had been brought into collision would, after the repeal of this law, cease to struggle with each other, and only see their common interest in promoting the prosperity of each other, and of the community at large (cheers). He begged, therefore, to move this amendment, "That all duty should henceforth cease."

Colonel SIBTHORP had no hesitation in saying that he considered the honourable gentleman, the member for Wolverhampton, in the whole course of his conduct on this important question, as an upright, honest, and straightforward man, in comparison with the members of the Government (cheers and laughter). He had never deceived the public. He was straightforward in his declarations, and persevered in his objects; and whatever might be the result, he was bound to give him credit for a manly and honest course, and he wished he could say the same for others (cheers and laughter). He (Col. Sibthorp) would refer the house to a speech made by the right hon, gentleman (Sir Robert Peel) at a dinner given to him in the year 1838, in Merchant Tailors' Hall. There were present on the occasion (besides Tailors' Hall. There were present on the occasion (pessues Sir Robert Peel) Lord Francis Egerton, Mr. Goulburn, Lord Stanley, Sir Robert Inglis, Sir James Graham; and the Marquess of Chandos, now Duke of Buckingham, was chairman (hear, hear). [The gallaut Colonel read along extract from the speech of Sir Robert Peel, on the occasion referred to, in which he recommended the formation of a most Coupervative party to get vide of the Whice and their great Conservative party, to get rid of the Whigs and their Radical and Repeal allies; and also that the strictest attention should be paid to the Parliamentary registration. Such was the language of the right honourable baronet in 1831, when he was entertained with a dinner; and it was sometimes said in vino veritas. but he did not know how it was on that occasion (laughter). The truth was, that either the right honourable baronet wanted moral courage to resist agitation, or he was of the same opinion then that he was now, At any rate, he (Colonel Sibthorp) was sorry to say at that time he placed implicit confidence in the right honourable baronet which he should ever regret (ories of question" from the Opposition). The honourable and gallant member, looking to the opposite side, exclaimed, "If you are tired of hearing me, walk out" (laughter). He would tell the right honourable baronet that the eyes of the country were upon him, and when it observed that he said a thing was white one day and black another, that no further confidence would be placed in him. With respect to the diestron, he thought that there was very little difference between the proposition of the Government and total and immediate religion, and there was no confidence that the right honographs baronet would appear to the three years. This honographs member for Wolfshiampson said that it was for he was rest of the farmer that there should be immediate rest.

Now he heard the farmers were a shrowd and intelligen class of men, and they believed that neither the honourable member or the right honourable baronet dared anything member or the right honourable paronet dared anything about their interests (hear, hear). The country ought to know what were the solid grounds which induced the right honourable baronst to change his policy. Were they to believe that it was the fear of a deficiency of food? If that was the case, the noble lord (Lord G. Bentinck) hear him had demonstrated, in his able speech the other night, that had been was no reason for any such apprehension. there was no reason for any such apprehension. He felt that, after all which had passed, he had a right to believe that the party to which he belonged had been grossly determined by the state of the party to which he belonged had been grossly determined. ceived and betrayed by the right honourable baronet. On that ground, as well as from a sense of duty to the country, be should take a firm stand in opposing the right honour. able baronet on every occasion that he could do so. In the present instance, he felt therefore bound to explain, as he understood there would be a division on the amendment of the honourable member opposite, that on going out at the same lobby with the right honourable baronet, in opposition to the honourable member for Wolverhampton, he would do so from no attachment, from no affection, or from no regard to the right honourable baronet, or to any one member eit. ting on the Treasury bench (hear and laughter). Between two evils he should like to choose the least, and it was on that principle he would act. In conclusion, he cantioned the right hon, baronet to beware of now sowing the seeds of revolution, and cautioned him as to those with whom he associated (laughter); and not to neglect, until he would find it to be too late, the advice of the party who had bitherto

been his friends and supporters (hear). Lord WORSLEY and: As the hon, member for Wolverhampton had alluded to him, and to a statement which he had made on this question on another occasion, at a time when it was thought impossible the question could be met as a mere matter of compromise, and when he supposed that the House of Commons were to decide by a large majority, that no alteration of the Corn Law should take place, or else that there should be a settlement of the question either by a total abolition, or by such an arrangement as those who alvocated total abolition would assent to, he wished to state to the house the grounds on which he intended to give his vote on the present amendment. It was now proposed by his hon. friend, the hon, member for Wolverhampion, that all duties on the importation of foreign corn should/totally and immediately cease. On the other hand, it was proposed by her Majesty's Government that until 1849 there should be a continuance of the sliding scale, on a much lower rate of duty than that now in operation. His (Lord Worsley's) impression was that if the measure rested solely between the motion proposed now by the hon, member for Wolverhampton and that of her Majesty's Government, it would be much better that they should now decide in favour of immediate and total repeal than that they should be forced to remain in a state of constant uncertainty during a period of three years from the present time (hear, hear, hear). On those grounds, if the house had to decide simply between those two propositions, he certainly should be in favour of the proposition of his hon. friend the member for Wolverhampton. But he had to look to the question in this light: he felt that if he were to vote in favour of the motion of his hon. friend the member for Wolverhampton, and if that motion were carried by the house, he would thus aid in precluding himself from considering other amendments which were to be proposed by other hon. members on this question (hear, hear). It might be considered that in adopting this course he was not quite cousis tent in the opinion which he had before expressed in favour of a desire to set this question at rest, but he hoped be could satisfactorily explain to the house that the charge of inconsistency could not be brought against him, and that he was justified in taking the course which he adopted because he believed that the propositions to be brought forward by the hon, member for Anglesea (Mr. O. Stanley) would be a settlement of the question, and because he was anxious to give that proposition his support. The amendment intended to be proposed by the hou; member for Anglesea, was, that in lieu of the duties now paid on the importation of foreign com and grain, there should be paid a fixed duty of 5s. a quarter on wheat, 2s. 6d. a quarter on barley, and 2s. on oats. Now. it might be said that those who had hitherto advocated a total repeal of the Corn Laws, would not be satisfied with that arrangement—that it would not come up with their expectations or desires—but, on the other hand, the persons who had hitherto supported them could not but feel that such a plan would not materially enhance the price of food, whereas it might afford some protection to the agriculturists of this country, and it would also supply that loss to the revenue which a total repeal would effect, and which should other wise be made up by the imposition of some other burden (hear, hear). The hon member for Wolverhampton must know better than he (Lord Worsley) did the opinions of the persons to inlead he will be the control of the co persons to whom he alluded, but it was not improbable that though they had asked so much, they would take less than omanaed hear, hear). He remembered the Reform Bill had been proposed, they were told that nothing short of vote by ballot, and a considerable extension of the franchise would at all satisfy the country, and yet when a measure much shorter than these demands was proposed, it was admitted to be a greater step than it was thought possible to obtain (hear, hear). He did not consider the state of th sider that the amendment about to be proposed by the hon-member for Poutefract (Mr. R. M. Milnes), would prove a settlement of the question. That was, that the sliding scale, as proposed by her Majesty's Government in the present instance, and which, by the proposition of the right honourable baronet, was to cease allogether in 1819, was to continue after the proposition of the right honourable baronet allows. tinue after that period; that it was to be a permanent siling scale varying from 10s. to 4s. a quarter on whest. This proposition would not, he was convinced, be considered satisfactors by the laws: tisfactory by those who advocated an alteration in the laws; whereas, by adopting a fixed duty of 0s. a quarter open wheat, as proposed by the hon, member for Angleses, he considered the corn merchant would be satisfied, as he would then the considered the corn merchant would be satisfied, as he would have a satisfied as the confidence to the corn merchant would be satisfied, as he would be satisfied. considered the form merchant would be satisfied, as he would then he've a regularity in the payments he would have to make, while many who now opposed any alkanion in the existing his would also give such an arrangement that so port (hear, hear). The honourable rentleman the manner for Bedford (Captain Politil) had also given notice of amendment which he thought he could show it would utterly impossible to garn. The amendment the effect. "That, in the avant of this house consenting to distinct proposed by hor hour hor through the first hor the proposed by hor hour hor through the first hor the proposed of the smooth of the importation of the proposed by hor hour the importation of the same than the first hor the proposed by hor hour the importation of the same than the smooth of the proposed by hor point of the same than the same

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select committee of this house that they have been ruined, impoverished, or deeply injured by the lessening of the protection they now possess." He thought the house would agree with him that it would be nitterly impossible to have a committee to decide who had been ruined by the reduction of protective duties, or who had not, and to hear the comthey would complain might not be owing, not perhaps to the effect of a change in the Corn Laws, but to ineautious or improper arrangements entered into by particular individuals. If the majority of the house should support the views of his hon. friend the member for Wolverbampton, he should thereby be precluded from supporting any other proposition silvocating a higher amount of duty, and he could not, therefore, give any assistance towards bringing about such a result. On the other hand, he thought there might be very serious evils arising from the course proposed by bor Majesty's Government. How, for instance, could they avoid the difficulty which would arise when the auticipations which had been expressed, and which he understood it was generally believed out of doors would be carried into effect, namely that an endeavour would be made on the part of the farmer and those by whom they were advised, to get back at the next election the protection of which they were now to be deprived, by returning to Parliament none but members pledged to support a Corn Law, and to get rid of the measure which her Majesty's Government were now prepared to -when such anticipations might be realised; and while such a course of proceeding was threatened, could those who were the advocates of the Anti-Corn-Law League be expected to persuade the members of that association to disselve their body (hear, hear)? They could not expect that such a course would be taken; and in stating that, he would support the motion of his hon. friend the member for Wolverhampton, if the question were simolv between it and the propositions of the Government. He did so, because he was not one of those who would delude the farmors—he could not call it by any milder term (hear, hear)—with the idea that they could get back again the protection which was now proposed to be taken from them. If he were to hold forth that language to the farmers, he felt that he would be taking a dishonest part, because he did not think the agricultural interest had the least chance of ever recovering the protection of a Corn Law if it were once taken from them (hear, hear). He could not therefore give any vote that would hold out the least expectation of such an event taking place. If he opposed the motion of his hon. friend the member for Wolverhampton, in order to support the measure of the Government, it might lend to an expectation out of doors, that he thought there was a chance of the agriculturists again getting the protection of which they were now to be deprived. He did not think there was the least probability of such an event taking place, and believing such to be the case, he could not do otherwise, acting as an honest man, than show by his vote the view which he entertained of the question. In voting against the amendment of his honourable friend, he wished also to show that he believed it was utterly impossible the agriculturists could ever again possess such an amount of duty as they at present enjoyed

Mr. MILNER GIBSON said he was one of those who never entertained any sanguine expectations that those hon. members who advocated protection would support the mo-tion of his hon. friend. He felt that when the proposition of immediate repeal was submitted to the house, those honourable members would find very good reasons for not giving it their support; but at the same time he was extremely glad to hear from the noble lord who had just sat down, that he did not withhold his vote from his honourable friend (Mr. Villiers), because he would wish to encourage the feeling among the tenant farmers that the protection which was now about being withdrawn from them could ever again he restored. His noble friend had told them that if he were to take such a part he would not be acting honestly couscientiously britishing, as he did, that protection once withdrawn could never be again conferred upon them. But such being the conviction of his noble friend, he would necessarily he perfectly justified in giving his vote in favour of the motion of his hon, friend. He thought his hon, friend the member for Wolverhampton had taken a judicious course in submitting this measure to the house. He thought it was due to the country, to those who had acted cordially with him in this Free Trade movement, and due to the hon. member himself, to submit this proposal to the house (hear, hear) It was a proposal, as his honourable friend had very justly observed, which had been taken and adopted as the motto of the Free Trade movement after due consideration (hear, It had caused some unpopularity to the advocates of Free Trade. It had been said that the question of immediate repeal of the Corn Laws was a proposition which over-looked the sufferings that might arise to the agricultural body from the immediate transition from monopoly to complote freedom of trade. All these things were taken into consideration, and formed the elements on which the gentlemen who had conducted the Free Trade movement had question should be settled by the mode of immediate and unconditional repeal (hear, hear). Fig thought that his hon friend himself, hearing taken so prominent a part in the promotion of the repeal of the Corn Law, was entitled to be heard in respect to the matter about to he made. His coision that it was better for the agricultural bon. friend himself, having taken so prominent a part in the promotion of the repeat of the Corn Law, was entitled to be heard in respect to the settlement about to be made. His hon, friend must take a very large share of the responsibility on his shoulders, and on the shoulders of his friends must also rest much of the responsibility of the future consequences of this measure. Therefore he would say his hon, friend was entitled to have a voice in the settlement of the question (hear, hear). With regard to the allegation that they would endanger the plan of the Government by asking for something more than was proposed by the right honourship would exist if they succeeded in indusing the Honse of Commons to carry his hon, friend's propositions. As to what would take place sleewhere, with that, he submitted, they not a single supporter of the right inaspurable haronet on his own side of the house, who had spoken during the late measure, in consequence of the high this missing the late afforded to the strictural inverteid, while miny oppositions for immediate who had stated that he give his support to the afforded to the strictural inverteid, while miny oppositions for immediate the free strictural inverteid, while miny oppositions of the measure had appeared the measure had appeared the measure had appeared the miny oppositions for immediate the strictural inverteid, while miny oppositions for immediate the free strictural inverteid, while miny oppositions are remaining the first that we have the measure had appeared the first that we have the hose that the strictural inverteid, while miny oppositions are remaining the first that we have the measure had appeared to the measure had appeared the measure had appeared to the measure had appea

stated by the first minister of the Crown. The first minister had told them that he had two objects in view; one to settle permanently the question how the future commercial policy of the country should be conducted, and the other was how at the present moment they were to overt a great national calamity. Now, his hon, friend had reminded the house that in November the right hon, baronet had thought that no measure short of opening the ports and a complete freedom of the corn trade won)d satisfy the present emergency, and he had also contended that nothing short of total repeal would be a final adjustment of the Corn Law question. Under these circumstances, it appeared to him that there was no course which the House of Commons could in common reason and with consistency adopt at the present moment but total and immediate repeal. Nothing short of such an adjustment could meet the present exigency in Ireland, and he would beg to remind the right hon, baronet that, though he might grant these three years' grace to the agriculturists, it was a question whether, considering the accounts which were received from that country, be could maintain this degree of protection even until the mouth of July next (hear, hear, hear). How could be, when he knew that famine and fever were making pro gress in Ireland in consequence of the want of food-how could be possibly maintain any duty on the importation of foreign corn (hear)? He would ask, if it were right to open the ports in November last, how could a maintenance of the duty be defended at the present moment, especially when he considered that the circum-tances which justified the opening of the ports in November had become more and more pressing at the present moment (hear)? His noble friend had touched on the duty on wheat, but they should also look to the effect of the duty on barley and outs. Taking the present prices of barley and oats, the scale of the right honourable baronet would amount to an actual prohibition (hear, hear). No barley or oats could be now introduced into the country, and sold at the present prices, if they had to pay half-a-crown duty. How then could they for a moment suppose it was possible to maintain a duty to the proposed extent under the emergency at present existing in Ireland? The duty of 2s. upon oats and barley was, after all, 10 per cent, upon the value. He believed, that taking the price of barley in this country at the present moment, it could not be imported and pay duty at a profit. Those duties would cause considerable supplies of oats and barley to be thrown into the English market, and to be diverted from foreign markets, and this when we were told that every grain of corn that could be imported into this country was necessary to avert the calathity with which we were threatened. That immediate, instead of deferred, repeal was better for the agricultural interest, there could be no doubt. He himself did not believe the farmers cared anything about the Corn Law question (cries of "no," from the protectionists). He declared, positively, it had struck him as something most remarkable when he was in the country, to find that as a matter of busi ness the tenant-farmers did not appear to care one straw about the repeal of the Corn Laws (lond cries of "hear. bear," and cheers). As a matter of politics they might have some concern upon it; as a matter of opinion they had not ("oh, oh," from the protection benches); but if gentlemen opposite were right in saving that the farmer was entitled to a reduction of rent in consequence of the withdrawal of protection, when the farmer came to ask them for an adjustment, what would be their answer (hear, hear)? Would they not say, "Wait, and see what the effect of Free Trade will be?" His honourable friend the member for Stockport (Mr. Cobden) had informed the country that prices would not be affected by the repeal of the Corn Laws; and, therefore, they (the protectionists) said to their tenants, Wait till the 1st of February, 1819, and see whether it will then be necessary to make a re-arrangement of rent, or to lay out capital in particular improvements." He (Mr. Gibson) believed that the change inpending over the agricultural body till 1849 would cause many improvements to be postponed till that period, which, if the repeal took place now, would be carried into effect before (hear, hear). If a man was ordered to be executed this day three years, did the house suppose he would occupy the interval in preparing for eternity (cries of "oh")? Nothing of the kind (a laugh) He would be calculating how he could avert the sentence, The position of the protectionists was exactly the same. Pro tection had been fairly put upon its trial; it had been found guilty of high crimes and misdemeanours, and condemnation had been passed upon it by that house. All that was asked for now was its speedy and immediate execution, and no respite. A respite instead of being a kindness would be a ornelty; and he called upon the house to adopt, as the best measure for the agricultural interest, as the most in ac cordance with the justice of the case, and the most equal to meet the pressing emergencies of Ireland, the amendment proposed by his hon, friend the member for Wolverhumpton hear, hear).

Mr. B. ESCOTT said if no danger could be proved to arise from the amendment of the honourable member for Wolverhampton he would vote for it; but if anything occurred in the course of the debate to make him seriously believe that the eventual success of the measure proposed by her Majesty's ministers would be endangered by the amendment, however much he might respect the honourable member (Mr. Villiers) for an advocacy of this cause—and no one could honour him more for it than he did—then, upon the principle laid down by the noble lord (Lord J. Russell) at the commencement of the session, in order to save that great measure, he should vote against the amendment. The question he asked himself, as determining the principle upon which he should give his vote was this: Under the existing direumstances of the country, is it right and just that the price of the food of the people should be increased by restrictive laws? If e had attended a meeting of his constituents in November last, and he told them that in his opinion the only justification of the ports holug closed was the fact, then supposed to exist, that there was no Covernment responsible for the affairs of the country (a laugh). The statements made by the First Lord of the Treasury during the last debates fully supported him, when he said, "as that time there was no Government responsible for the affairs of the country," and it was notorious that his right honour able friend could not open them, in consequence of certain leaves there was no Government to be no restrictions on the importation of food. He flought everything had happened to make the unrestricted importation of food. He flought everything had happened to make the unrestricted importation of head of the great to the farment; be should vote for the amendment, unless he found that by coing he should vide red with regard to the farment; be should vide red and with regard to the farment; be should vide red and with regard to the farment.

on the benches near him who would tell the farmers differently; but it was mere delimion to tell them anything else. This being the case, he asked whether it would not be better for the interests of the farmers, for the interests of trade and commerce, and for the credit of the House of Commons, to repeat the Corn Laws at once (crics of "no, no," from the protection bandles).

protection banches Mr. R. COLBORNE, not having had any previous opportunity of expressing his opinion on this subject, wished to state the grounds on which he should give a cordial and sincere support to the amendment of the honourable member for Wolverhampton. He had given his support to the right honourable baronet, not because he believed that all the details of his proposed measure were perfect, but because the measure itself vas right in principle. The arguments and reasoning of the right honourable baronet had clearly proved Free Trade to be right in principle; but, notwithstanding this approbation, he (Mr. R. Colborne) reserved to himself the right of voting against whetever parts of the measure he might think proper. That measure was a Free Trade measure, but it would have to d better upon the country if it had included the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. The noble lord (Lord J. Russell) had told the house it was not his wish that the amendment should be carried for fear it should endanger the ministerial measure; and on this point he would allude to one subject upon which he feared there would not be found many to agree with him. He referred to a dissolution of Parliament upon this question. He believed if Parliament were dissolved, the cause of Free Trade would gain; but when he heard the noble lord say they dured not oppose the measure, because he thought if there was a dissolution upon it there was not sufficient spirit to carry him through, he (Mr. R. Colborne) would ask what stronger proof there was of it than the arguments urged by honourable gentlemen opposite in favour of an appeal to the country. Before this measure was fluilly settled there must be a new Parliament, for it was impossible to call the doubt and hesitation of three years a settlement. There must, in short, be a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, otherwise the question would be agitated again and again. The only chance of carrying the ministerial measure to the satisfaction of the country, was to make the repeal total and immediate (hear and obsers). Flonourable gentlemen must get ready to fight the buttle (hear, hear, and cheers), and as the battle must be fought, he urged upon the house to adopt the principles of total and immediate repeal that evening. He did not urge this with any object of party triumph over the right honourable baronet, but because he wished him to have the satisfaction of carrying a great and important measure. Beforehe sat down he wished to refer to one point upon which he was personally concerned. In one of the newspapers of yesterday he had been mentioned as a political apostate. He was not an apostate, and the editor had apologued to him for the expression, and there the matter ended, circumstance because it had always been his opinion, notwithstanding the eloquent speech of the honourable member for Wolverhampton, that protection affected the landlord alone, and not the tenant; but at the same time he believed the landlords were prepared to make all reasonable sacri fices. He had voted in favour of the noble lord's proposition (Lord J. Russell's) for a fixed duty; but it was not his opinion now that a fixed dary would be the best, because sacrifices must be made where the food of the people was concerned. He was in favour of an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, but without applying the principle to every other article. If they were to do away with all import duties, and to throw the whole burdens of the country upon direct taxation, he should be opposed to Free Trade. one direct tax from which the country would be glad to be relieved, and there would not be a more cordial supporter of that object than himself; and there were certain articles the duties on which might not be relaxed, but additional revenue obtained. The right honourable baronet has boasted that although he had taken so many taxes off there had been an increase of revenue. Why did he not apply that principle to the consumption of tea, sugar, and coffee? If they were to legislate let them legislate for the labouring man who toiled from morning till night to earn a scanty support for his family-legislate for the artisan, and all the good expected by the right hon, baronet would arise (hear)

Mr. GORING, who was very imperfectly heard, said he should give his strenuous opposition to the amendment. He could not see the grounds for the preference of a 4s. daty on corn to the 8s. daty proposed by the noble lord (Lord John Russell). After the speeches which he had heard from the Treasury benches, he really was astonished that the right hon, gentlemen on those benches should go down to that house, and ask the landed gentlemen to make sacrifices. The house must remember, however, that it was not the large landed proprieter who would be injured by such a measure as that proposed by the Government; for he, by the extended use of machinery, and the application of capital to the cultivation of the soil, might be embled to meet the difficulty; but the small landed proprietors it was, with encumbered estates, with rent charges and mortgages, who must inevitably suffer (loud cheers and laughter from the Opposition). However, the tithe-owner and the farmer also, he contended, would be considerable sufferers if the proposed measure were carried into effect, and he should, therefore,

give it all the opposition in his power.

Mr. BRIGHT: I rise principally with the view of making a few observations upon the speech of the noble lord the member for Lincolnshire (Lord Worsley). The noble lord said he was of opinion that even now the imposition of a fixed duty of 5s. would settle this question. Now I have here a speech delivered by that noble lord in Lincolnshire, and as he, upon one pees sion, amused the house with long extracts from the speeches of members of the Government, perhaps he would not object to hear read a short extract from one of his own, delivered as recently as three years ago (cheers and a laugh). At a meeting held in Lindolfishirs, the noble lord said—" Something had been said about compromise. About a year ago he thought something like compromise might have been effected, but that day had gone by. There was at present only one ground of compromise, and that was a final sottlement of the question, whereby agitation would be for over stopped. It was agitation on this subject that was doing all the injury, and the stopping of that was the only compromise that sould be for a moment entertained. Some had supposed that it was the intention of the property of the pr

That would not stop agitation. It would go on as violently as ever until the last shilling of duty was removed." He then gives a dissertation upon the peculiar burdens on land which it is not necessary for me now to quote. I quite agree with the noble lord that there can be no cossetion of the agitation of this question until all the duties upon the importation of corn are finally abolished (cheers); and I am sure that he who thinks differently must have formed, indeed, an imperfect idea of that amount of public opinion which is now concentrated in one universal demand for the total and immediate abolition of the Corn Laws (renewed cheers). The honourable member who preceded me has referred, and I wonder at his imprudence, to the mortgages and incumbrances upon the property of landed proprietors (cries of "oh!" from the protectionists). Now I hope that the time has nearly come when the landed proprietors in this house will not subject themselves to such imputations as have with some justice been heaped upon them, by again bringing forward their own extravagancies or imprudence, their mortgages and incumbrances, as the justification for a law to raise the price of food in order to secure to them a rent for their property which, in reality, it is not worth (cheers and "oh!" from the protectionists). I recollect in one of Mr. Dickons' works that he gives an account of an election for the dignified office of parish beadle, on which occasion the walls were covered with placards, with "Vote for Scroggins and cleven small children" (a laugh). Why, there is scarcely even in that anything more pitiable than it is to witness the great landowners of this country coming here and talking of the incumbrances upon their estates, or of the necessity of providing fortunes for their grown-up daughters (hisses and groans from the protectionists, cheers from other parts of the house). To come, however, to the question more immediately before the house. That question is now greatly narrowed, and it is no longer whether we shall have protection or not, but whether protection shall be immediately abolished, or shall linger on for three years more. Now, I do not like to say anything which may appear in opposition to the ministers (hear, hear, and a laugh), because in the speeches which they delivered in the last debate upon this question I have observed so much of what I believe to be perfect honesty and sincority in the course which they are now pursuing, that I feel unwilling to say anything which might make it appear that in my opinion they are falling short of the duty which at this important period they owe to the country (general upplause). But I must say that her Majesty's Government have admitted all our case (cheers); and if there be any man on either side of the house who, in consequence of the speeches of the members of the Government, have come to the conclusion that protection should be abolished, I can't think it possible that such a man would say that he should wait for three years before that abolition took place (hear, hear). I think that every argument offered by the gentlemen in justification of their measure, justifies still further our proposition for the immediate repeal (hear, hear); and I think it would be a condemnation of the arguments of the Government if we now stopped short of immediate repeal. The impending famine in Ireland is either a reality or it is not (cheers and counter cheers). The Government tells us that they have established stores for the accumulation of grain, to be sold to the people at a moderately low price. Both the right honourable gentlemen who have spoken said that they could not come to this house and call for a vote of public money whilst there was a law in existence imposing a duty of 16s. or 17s, upon the admission of foreign corn. I would ask him, could they come and demand 200,000%, 300,000%, or 400,000%, as they may be obliged to do in the course of this session, and ask the clergy and the public generally to subscribe money in charity to fend the people of Ireland, while this house maintains a law which imposes a duty which narrows the circle whence our supply of food can be drawn, which must make prices higher here, and must limit the whole supply from which the people of the United Kingdom can be fed (cheers)? The right hon, gentleman said he could not propose to allow maize and the inferior grains for the food of pigs and cattle to be admitted at a nominal duty, whilst there was a heavy duty upon the nobler grain—wheat, which was more especially the food of man. I know not, then, how he can reconcile the imposition of a duty varying from four to ten shillings on the food of man in this period of great scarcity, whilst he allows maize, the inferior grain, to be admitted duty free (hear, hear). The reasons for the delay in removing the duty stated by the Government were curious. One of them was, that the right hon, goutleman thought that the measure might most with rather loss opposition. Now I suspect the right hon, gontleman has found out by this time that that idea was altogether erroneous (hear, hear). I believe it would have been impossible, whatever were the measures proposed, even if they had come directly from the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law Loague, that they would have met with a more determined resistance than they have already encountered, or than they are about to encounter, both in this and the other House of Parliament (cheers). The right hon, baronet, in his speech the other night, almost said that he was willing to accept of immediate repeal; and I believe every one must feel that there are no honourable members in this house, not even amongst those who sit on this side of the house, who are more firmly of opinion in their conscionce that the immediate repeal is the best thing for this country in every way than are the members of the Government themselves (cheers). The protectionists can scarcely have any objection to it, for they have always said that it was a farmer's question, and not a landlord's question. If it is a farmer's question, then, why not settle it as the farmers wish it to be settled

(hear, hear)? There cannot be a doubt of their opinion upon the subject (cheers, and cries of "oli, oh " from the protectionists). Then, if there be, I challenge honourable gentlemen opposite to point out one case in which any number of farmers have agreed that three years' delay previous to the removal of protection would be preferable to the immediate abolition which we propose (hear, hear). You say that the agitation of this question is the worst thing that can happen. The noble lord the member for Lincolnshire says so distinctly. What guarantee have you that you will not have as much agitation now as if the law had not been altered in the least? I am afraid that honourable gentlemen opposite are still clinging to the gains of that protection. I believe that you cling to the three years' delay because you fancy you can gain something from it. As far as I am associated with the Anti-Corn Law League, I can assure you that that agitation will go on till the question is fairly settled. We are bound by hundreds of pledges to bring this question before the house, and still more are we bound to do so by a firm conviction of the necessity and the justice of the measure we propose; and I am sure that the Free Traders throughout the country will thank my honograble friend the member for Wolverhampton for giving the house this opportunity of deciding once for all upon this question (cheers). If the house pass this measure, it will have again to discuss it before this session is over, and if we do not gain the immediate repeal this session, we shall have to discuss it every session until the law has been fairly abolished. We commenced our agitation with that object—we have carried it on for no other-and you may rest assured that we shall continue to persevere in the principles which we believe to be right, and to press them upon this house and the country until this great question is finally and

fairly settled (cheers). Sir ROBERT PEEL said: I presume it is not wished by honourable gentlemen on either side of the house, that the debate, which has already occupied twelve days in discussion, should be much longer continued (cheers). There are many points which have arisen in the course of the debate-some, at least, on which I should be anxious to offer an explanation; but I think it probable the there will be an opportunity in the future stages of the bill-the second reading, for example; and if that be so, I would rather postpone any explanation which I may wish to make till that period (cheers). Therefore in what I have to say now, shall certainly confine myself to the question before the house, which is, whether the repeal of the duty upon the importation of foreign corn should be immediate, or whether the duty should continue as proposed by her Majesty's Government for the period of hree years? Now, Sir, I am bound to say, if you look simply and abstractedly to the emergency which exists in Ireland, that I cannot deny that I think the preferable measure would be the immediate suspension of all duties-that is, if there were no other questions to deal with than the emergency existing in Ireland (hear, hear). Suppose I took the course which has been taken in former years, and suspended the duty of the Act of Parliament for a period of eight months-till August or September next—there would then be an absolute repeal of all duties, or the maintenance only of a nominal duty; but what would Parliament do in the interval? What provision should be made with respect to the period when the suspension would expire (hear)? Those who contend for the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws would, of course, be perfectly satisfied with the immediate repeal. It would provide for their permanent object, and it would also provide for the removal of all duties during the apprehension of scarcity in Ireland. But that is not the universal opinion. There are many who think that the Corn Laws ought not to he repealed (loud cheers from the protectionists). Her Majesty's Government, however, having to decide this matter on the 20th of December, when they were again recalled to office, thought that there might be at the same time an opportunity of making provision for the emergency in Ireland, and of laying the foundation for a final settlement of the Corn Laws (cheers). I have frankly admitted that the provisions which we have made to meet the present emergency are not quite so complete as they would be if you removed the duty altogether; but what her Majesty's Government had to consider was, on the 20th of December, as I have already stated, how they could best effect the double object of providing for the emergency in Ireland, and at the same time of try ing to gain the assent of the legislature to laying the foundation for the total removal of all duties; and in the hope of reconciling those two objects in the best way possible, her Majesty's Government framed the proposition which is now under the consideration of the house (hear, hear). With respect to the apprehensions of scarcity in Ireland, we certainly do not altogether remove the duties on grain, but we propose to remove the duty altogether on Indian corn; we propose to remove altogether the duty on rice; and though not, perhaps, so nearly affecting the people of Ireland, we propose to remove it also altogether from cattle and mont. With respect to wheat, too, we place that in a very different position to what it was in before, and we materially reduce the duty which at present absolutely prevents you taking out of bond that superior description of wheat, which is most important for the purpose of mixing with the inferior descriptions which enter into the market generally and affect the price of the other (hear, hear). I have before me a me-morial signed by the whole of the millers of New-castle-upon-Tyne, and they state that the general weight of the bushel of corn in ordinary years averages from about 61 lbe. to 63 lbs., whilst in the present your it is not above 58 lbs. They say it would be of the utmost importance if they could have access to the better qualities of wheat, which are in bond, for the

purpose of mixing with the inferior wheat, and they, therefore, now pray for immediate repeal The duty at present upon that wheat, however, is 174, and as there is a great quantity of inferior wheat in the market the price appears to be low, and the duty con. sequently remains high, so high as to operate almost a a prohibition to taking out of bond that quality of when which it is of the utmost importance to have for mixing with the inferior wheat (hear, hear). The present preposal of her Majesty's Government certainly does my remove the duty on wheat altogether, but it will considerably reduce the present duty of 17s. And it will do more; it will give a guarantee that in no one case can the duty rise above 10s., and there must be a very rapid fall in the price of wheat, which cannot be calculated on, to bring the duty up to 10s. The maximum duty at present is 20s. Under the proposal of her Ma. jesty's Government the maximum would be 108, and it is not probable even if the price should fall to some extent, that it would be more than 5s; or 6s. for some time to come (hear, hear). That is the proposal of her Majesty's Government with respect to wheat. Then with respect to barley. The present duty is 7s.; we propose, certainly not to reduce the duty to a mere no minal one; but we believe that it would not exceed 2, instead of 7s. The duty upon oats is now 6s. Under the proposal of her Majesty's Government it will not exceed 2s.; but both in the case of barley and oats observe the guarantee which is given as an encouragement to in portation. In barley there would be a guarantee that the duty should not rise above 5s., and in the case of one not above 4s. a quarter. The duty on rye is at present 8s. 6d. Under the proposal of the Government it will be reduced to 2s. The present duty on beans is 6s. 6d., which will also be reduced to 2s. On peas, I believe, a similar reduction will be made. I am speaking now of the apprehension of a scarcity of food in Ireland, and I admit that the proposal is less perfect than if the duty had been altogether removed. But I say that, in the present state of public feeling in this country, you cannot look at this question abstractedly (cheers). I think it would be a very inconsiderate course, at the present moment to propose a mere suspension of the duty, to endure for eight months; for we should make no advance by such a suspension towards the final settlement of the question. At the end of that period the difficulties in the way of dealing with the question would be just as great as ever, the public feeling would be equally excited; and I confess I cannot see at all how a suspension of duties for eight months would lead to a satisfactory settlement of the question, which is by far of the most paramount importance, of the footing on which the Corn Laws shall hereafter stand (loud cheers). My opinion is decidedly that it is for the public interest that the Corn Laws should be either at once settled, or that the foundation for a settlement should now be laid, and that there should be a certain assurance on the part of the country that at no remote period the duties upon the importation of foreign grain should cease. The proposal of her Majesty's Government gives that assurance. I was certainly impressed from what passed the other night, that the honourable gentlemen on this side of the house were inclined to prefer the immediate repeal (cheers from the Opposition, and expressions of dissent from the protectionists). When I use the word "repeal," I mean the reduction to a nominal daty. The honourable member for Somersetshire certainly did declare positively in favour of immediate repeal (cheers and dissent). I may be erroneous in my impression of the degree of assent which the honourable member gave to the immediate repeal-I speak merely hypethetically; but when the honourable gentleman spoke. his declaration was certainly received as implying a preference of immediate repeal, nor was any dissent then expressed by him (hear). Her Majesty's Government have proposed a suspension of the repeal for the period of three years, partly from the impression that that proposal was preferable in itself to the immediate repair partly from a hope that it would be more acceptable to those who represent the agricultural interest thear. hear), and it was under the impression that the immediate repeal was viewed by many, as I know it is, most decided friends of the agricultural interest and the main advocates of their rights, with the same approbation uted to the expressions of the nonmember for Somersetshire, that I said, as I now repeat, that if the representatives of the agricultural interestif those best acquainted with the feelings and wishes of the agriculturists should really prefer immediate repeal to a suspension of the repeal for three years, I have no doubt whatever that, under those circumstances, by uniting their forces with those of the honourable gentlemen who sit on the opposite side of the house, they would be enabled to carry that proposition (cheers). The paramount object being to lay the foundation of an adjustment of the repeal of the Corn Laws, I shall accept the amended proposal of an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws (cheers from the Opposition). But, at the same time, my own opinion in favour of the gradual removal of duties proposed by Government remains nuchanged. Well, the hon. gentleman, the member for Parlum, threatons us with a continued agitation. Sir, I am very sorry for it (ironical cheers from the protectionists). I think such an agitation will be unreasonable (theers from a large part of the Opposition). I cannot answer for the agricultural for the agricultural party as to the course they would pursue in case a great change of this kind were carried but I don't think an attempt would be made by them to disturb a settlement when once made (this appeal to the protectionists was received in silence). But it there was protectionists was recaived in silence). But if there we a general acquiescence in the measure, I must a like the continued agitation of the Anti-Corn-Law Law to considering that there would be a Parliament. I must that the duty would case at the end of the Winter and the duty would case at the end of the Winter and the duty would case at the end of the Winter and the duty would case at the end of the Winter and Wi

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agitation for an immediate repeal would be increasonable (protectionist cheers), and further, I do not think it would be successful (loud cheers from the same quarter, and from some on the Opposition side). The hon, gentleman (Mr. Bright) says, that year after year the motion for an absolute repeal would be made, but as year after year the time for absolute repeal became nearer, I cannot see that very much interest would attach to that motion (cheers). I think a great number of persons would withdraw from the ranks of the Anti-Corn-Law League; that a great number of men would say that our proposal was not an unfair one, considering the differences of onimon which exist, considering the prospect there is of the duty expiring in three years, and that every day we are advancing towards a total repeal of the duty, which, after the proposed reduction, would be much lower than at present. My belief is, notwithstanding the me-naces of agitation, that there would be still greater opposition to our measure if it proposed at once a total repeal. That proposal for total repeal is received now in a very different spirit from that in which it would have been met if the Government had not made another proposal. I am confirmed in that view by the demand of the hon, member for Somersetshire for an immediate repeal instead of a gradual repeal. I cannot help thinking, if we came forward in the first instance with a proposal for the total repeal, the measure would have encountered such a degree of opposition that we must have abandoned all hope of ultimate success. Another proposal has been made, partly from a preference to its abstract merits and partly from a sincere desire to conciliate the wishes and to meet the feelings of the more immediate representatives of the agricultural interest. If the measure be carried—that is, immediate instead of deferred repeal-I shall accept the amendment (though my conviction of the policy of my measure remains unchanged), and yield to the opinion of the majority of this house, though it is totally impossible I can answer for the effect of such a change in the passing of the measure. I prefer the deferred to the immediate repeal on this, among other grounds, that the Government intend to accompany it by other measures. I am told that, at the end of three years, we shall have a panic. I don't see any panie now at all events (loud opposition cheers). I am strongly of opinion that our protracted debates have had a great effect in depressing the price of wheat (renewed opposition cheers). I have a very strong impression that every quarter of wheat which is now sold, is 1s. 6d. or 2s. less than would be received for it of this measure was once carried, -it being quite notorious that there is no great amount of supplies in other parts of the world, and that since we began this debate the exportation of grain in those countries was prohibited. I can't help thinking that the tenant farmers will have to look forward to a degree of competition, which will be very limited, and when once the mind of the legislature is declared, and that we have a settled trade in corn, there will be an immediate increase of price (cheers from the Opposition). Considering, too, that we accompany this measure with another for affording facilities for the drainage of land (a cry of "they won'y he accepted from the protectionists"). There is no compulsion to accept them, but if they be accepted, there will be an opportunity in cases of settled property of raising money for improvements on more moderate terms than it can be produced at present. I cannot help thinking also, that as there is a knowledge there is to be a competition at the end of three years, the minds of landed proprietors and of tenants will be directed to the improvement of land, and that at the end of three years, partly by the aid of public money, and partly by the exertions of individuals, we shall place ourselves in a more favourable position to compete with the produce of foreign countries than if we opened the ports immediately with the possibility of a good harvest all over the Continent before us. We don't think there will be the panic some apprehend at the end of three years. If the foreign corn grower thinks he can overwhelm our market at a duty reduced from 4s. to 1s., I think he will be very much mistaken. If there should be a great demand here, the result will be a rise in the price of land in foreign countries, a consequent rise in the cost of production, and diminished advantages to the foreign producer. These were the general reasons which induced her Majesty's Government to introduce this they can to carry it; but, again, I say, if another pro-Will do what posul is approved of, they will not from pique or mortilication abandon their own measure, but will give effect to that so amended by those who are the best judges of the plan most conducive to the agricultural interest (cheers).

Mr. G. PALMER thought the ground for proposing the Government measure untenable. It chiefly rested on the failure of the potato crop in Ireland. Some of the witnesses said that crop was one-half, others one-third below the average. Now, if we take the mean, it would give us a crop only one sixth below the average. The right honourable gentleman condemned the threatened agitation of the honourable member for Durham Was there a doubt that agitation would never cease whilst a change remained to be demanded (protectionist cheers)? The right honourable gentleman assumed the protectionists were in favour of immediate repeal. The only ground for this assumption was, that the agriculturists demanded, if sentence of execution was pronounced against them three years hence, they should prefer it to be executed at once. But he was totally opposed to the repeal of the present protection, let the proposal come from what quarter it might (protectionist cheers). Still further was he from whaling that the agriculturists should become their own executions. The himourable sentimen proceeded for some ten minutes, but the chorus of groaning kept up by the Opposition, and the counter cheering from the minutestal benches, prevented one sentence from reaching the galaxy.

Lind Committee with a great spain of the minutestal benches, prevented one sentence from reaching the galaxy.

on the second reading of the bill, to state to the committee my views on the various propositions now before us. I will take this course, because reference has been already made to one of those propositions, and I think it may be most convenient, under these circumstances, to take a view of the whole of the amendments in question. But before I do this I am anxious to explain, with regard to a statement of the hon, member for Somersetshire, to the effect that I had maintained that the agricultural party wore not willing to allow that there should be a suspension of the Corn Laws during a time of searcity. Now, I never said so. My statement was, that supposing that famine was not so near as had been anticipated—supposing that the potatoe crop had not failed, as was imagined, that there now existed a good opportunity for the settlement of the question of the Corn Lays, and that we ought not to wait for a time of greater scarcity. That is the view with which I lo ked upon this proposition. I do think that we are at a time when it is most desirable to obtain a sottlement of this question (hear). Now there are various propositions made as amendments upon the plan brought forward by the right honourable baronet. Among the rest, the noble lord the member for Lincolnshire (Lord Worsley) has alluded to a plan to which I was attached, the plan of a fixed duty of 3s. per quarter. Now, I do not think that the objections which have been made to a fixed duty on its own merits are objections fatal to that proposition. I have never considered if we had a duty of 5s. or 8s. per quarter that the prices would be raised in the same proportion. I rather lean to the opinion of the hand-loom commissioners, to the opinion of such men as Mr. Senior and Mr. Jones Lloyd, as being nearer the truth, when they state that a duty of 58, on imported wheat would probably raise the price about Is, per quarter; but I should not wish to vote at the present time for a proposition which would not be a settlement with respect to the Corn Laws. I do think that a fiscal duty of even 8s. in 1811, or a fixed duty of 5s. during the last year, would have been a settlement for a number of years. I be lieve there would have been a regular trade in corn, and such large importations that those who complain of the present law would have been satisfied with that arrangement. But I would not permit myself to vote for a proposition at the present time which would be likely to continua agitation, and keep the farmers in a state of prolonged uncertainty (hear, hear). Having been told in 1842 that the act of that year was a final settlement of the question, and having been told in 1816 by the authors of that act that it was a complete and signal fullure—that the sliding-scale, far from being a scale which, as it was once represented, would provide for years of scarcity as regularly and exactly as for years of abundance, was, on the contrary, in the very first year of difficulty found to be a sliding scale which would not slide at all, and therefore one which must be abandoned-after that had taken place, if any plan of protection were to be introduced as a plan of perfect settlement, and they saw, as the would see, the League reinforced by numbers who would consider it as the conquering cause—the triumphant flag—the farmers, still more auxious and uncertain, still more ignorant in what manner to make bargains with the landlords, still more doubtful as to what would be the probable scale of prices for a number of years were all these effects to follow, as they would follow such a course, you would have but a renewal and a continuance of violent agitation (hear, hear, hear). Therefore, while I regret that my noble friend did not in former years concur with me that a fixed duty should form the ground of settlement of the question, I cannot say to him, or to any one who is now convinced that that should effect the settlement, that it would be advantageous to the agricultural, or indeed to any other interest. I need not, of course, notice the proposition for the continuance of the modified sliding scale for three years. With respect to the proposal for the continuance of the duty beyond three years, I think it is liable to the same objections as those I stated to the fixed duty. It would continue agitation; it would be the cause from this time to the general election, and from the general election for a long time afterwards, of disunion, heart burnings, and discord between the different classes of the community; and we should have little chance of seeing honourable gentlemen arrive at that consummation so much to be desired of a general acquiescence in, if not a general agreement on, a plan of settlement (hear). I next come to the proposition before the house—the proposition of the hon, member for Wolverhampton—who now proposes that the duties on corn should forthwith cease. Now I must say, comparing the two pro positions as they were made by two independent members of this bouse, that I should consider the proposition of the honourable member (Mr. Villiers) both more wise as an abstract and more effective as a practical proposition than that of the right honourable baronet (Opposition cheers consider it so, because I do think that instead of that which has been and may again be the condition of the country/ when the home harvest has been abundant, and plenty of low-priced corn could have been brought in from abroadthat the present time, foreign stores b by the great demand upon them from Belgium and other countries, and the harvest of last year being not of a quality so good as to make it likely that there would be any great depression of prices during the present year that such being the case, I repeat that I do consider that at the present time, were the Corn Laws to be immediately repealed, no panic would follow that repeal (hear, hear). The right honourable baronet said, and most truly, that there had been no panic in consequence of his proposition, and yet his plan would let in corn, for some mouths at least, at a duty of is.; and I, for one, do not think that that amount of duty would make the difference between panic and no panic (hear, hear). If there be no panic at the prospect of a duty of 4s., there could not be any panic at the prospect of immediate repeal (hear, hear). But if you had that repeal, there would be no longer any question on the subject; the farmers would at one apply their minds to that which your present laws have prevented—to the consideration of the means of drawing from the soil the largest amount of produce by means of the utmost exertion of intelligence, of activity, and skill, and all those qualities which we know it is the effect of monopolist, restrictive, and protective laws to relax and enfeeble (hear, hear). But if there is to be pro-tection, varying from 10s. to 4s. the quarter, I think it is not likely that there will be the same amount of exertion, that likely that there will be the same amount of exertion, that that protection will be counted on for a time, and that there will be speculation, nursed and kept affect, as to what may happen in 1849, some speculating upon that being a period when there will be a great indux of foreign corn, and the deviate there will be a great indux of foreign corn, and the deviate and subject of the second state of the second state of the second sec

stractedly the best. But the case I have now to consider is the case of a Government proposing a plan for the settle-ment of a great question on which hitherto there has been a great resistance on the part of this house, and on which there may still be some resistance and apposition on the part of the majority of the other house of Parliament (loud and significant cheering from the protectionists). I am not aware of the view which the other house may take of this I must listen, therefore, to what is said by the Prime Minister, and to his plans for the settlement of the question. He has undertaken it, and did he bring forward a mere abstract scheme, were it objectionable, I might fat-your an amendment, and demur to the proposition. But he has undertaken it in such a way as that three years will produce a certain and complete scitlement of the question. He has told us that he had reasons which induced him to profer his own proposition. I own I do not think that these reasons are conclusive. For example, he talked of his plan being more favourable than total and immediate repeal to the landed interest. I will not say what view the landed interest may take of it, but I more said more concur in the opinion that the farmers do not at all value the three years' reduced protection. I think the reasons which the right hon, baronet gave in respect of the Canada corn bill only confirm the view which we took at the time of the impolicy and danger of introducing a bill to confer a monopoly on a single colony, which it never had before, and which you could not withdraw without leaving the feeling rankling behind that injustice had been committed. But, Sir, quite apart from these minor considerations, the right-honourable baronet makes another statement; he says that, although, were the house to decide by a majority in favour of immediate repeal, he would then use his best efforts to promote the success of the measure so amended, yet he asserts that he will not answer for the result, and he states likewise, and a most important statement it is, that in his opinion if ho had brought forward a project of immediate repeal, instead of the measure which he has introduced, that he should have failed in his endeavour to settle the question (bear, hear). I never think it right to vote in this house for any measure or resolution which I should not wish to see succeed (hear). The proper way to consider any motion I take to be, to ank oneself the question, "Should you desire to see this succeed?" Now, if the honographe member for Walzerband cced?" Now, if the honourable member for Wolverhampton should have a majority, and I should be one of that majority, I should have in terms a better settlement of the question than the right honourable baronet proposes (cries of "hear, hear"). But looking at the comparative advantages of the two courses, I, for my own part, say that I will not incur the responsibility of assenting to the motion of the honourable member for Wolverhampton (hear, hear). It is far better, in my opinion, to promote the measure of the First Minister of the Crown, and I believe if the house carried it by so great a majority as voted for the committee, that the Upper House will accept it more readily as a mea sure of that Minister. I feel, too, that it will be regarded with a degree of confidence which would not have been extended to the other measure, which must have been regarded as in some degree objectionable as being the offspring of the Anti-Corn-Law League. I consider the carrying of this measure by the present Parliament without any conflict of interests, as of the greatest possible advantage. I believe that after it has been carried there may be some excitement in the country, which will, however, subside, and the different classes of society will be better reconciled afterwards than they have been for many years past (hear, hear, and cheers). Speaking, besides, on the Corn Law to any one who possessed a feeling for the institutions of the country, that was a most important consideration, because it is impossible not to see that a great political agitation prevailing on this subject for a length of time, may extend itself to other matters, and be directed to other purposes. I wish, most certainly, to see the question settled in the best possible manner, and I think on the whole that the way most conducive to its best and most effectual settlement, is to support, against every amendment, the proposition of her Majesty's Government (cheers). I do not consider that the question should be looked on in an abstract light alone, but that its settlement should be regarded with due reference to the time and to the circumstances of Parliament. I beg leave, however, to notice the statement made to night by the right honourable gentleman opposite; who said that if he proposed the imme diate repeal he thought the proposition would have failed. I understood him on a former night to state his regret that I had not undertaken to make that proposition (hour, hour). I was surprised to hear that statement, for though I believe the right honourable gentleman would have given me overy support to any measure I brought forward, which be con ceived to be for the public good, yet I think he must have heard, since that time, objections and statements strong enough and numerous enough to have convinced him that those who would have followed him, and supported me in office, on such a proposition, would have been a very small number indeed, as compared with the H: members who have now voted with the right honourable members who have now voted with the right honourable gentleman (hear and cheers). I must fairly say that I do not believe there would have been more than 40, or perhaps 50, members to have voted with me (loud cries of "no, no, not so many"). Some honourable members say I am making an exaggerated estimate of the number oven at fifty; but, at all events, be that us it may, I do not believe if all the members of the present Cabinet had given including the members of the present Cabinet had given included support, there would have been a sufficient number to have obtained for me a majority on my first proposition for going into committee (chiers from the protectionists) My honourable friend stated to-night that he understood me to say that I should be very sorry to see a dissolution of me to say that I should be very sorry to see a dissolution of Parliament, because I believed a dissolution would not have given us a uniformly for the repeal of the Corn Laws. My honourable friend has not rightly understood me. I said I thought, as I still think, it desirable there should be no dissolution of Parliament on this question. I think all this statements which have been made to the effect that this House of Commons is not competent to decide the question of the Corn Laws, are founded on ignorance and misanural contents of the minelules of one constitutes. question of the Corn Laws, are founded on ignorance and misapprehension of the principles of our constitution (cheers). I consider that when a Parliament has been elected, it is to provide for all the most important affairs of this country, whather foreign or domestic, according to the best of its imagness and discretion (hear, hear). I cannot conceive any american to the effect that this Parliament is not competent to decide the question of the Corn Laws, which would not lead to the doctrine that the house was not competent to decide any question of great infortunes, and the decide of great infortunes and massife had been expressly cleated by the property continues and massife had been expressly cleated by the property described the factor of the

unless closted with that object, mambers of the house were not justified in giving their votes on any great question whatever (hear, hear). I speak now of the general powers of the House of Commons, the exercise of which for greater bbjects is undoubted and undenied. A great question arose after the settlement of the House of Hanover on the throne and the Parliament elected for three years considered itself Justified in prolonging its existence to seven years, for the purpose of saving the country from confusion and anarchy (hear). Will anyone say that the House of Commons, which could prolong its existence from three to seven years, could not settle such a question as the Corn Laws (hear)? The question which arose on the union of Scotland and of Ireland were cases in point equally analogous. As to the question of engagements of particular members with their constituency, and with regard to considerations affecting their private honour and public character for consistency, -I will not meddle with the matter; I am now merely speaking of the principles of Parliament. It is my view that this house, as at present constituted, is perfectly competent to settle the question of the Corn Laws, and unless there were very great and very general national feeling evinced on the subject, I believe that no person is entitled to contradict that assertion. If I am asked, why I think it desirable there should not be a dissolution, I reply, that I think it desirable to avoid ft; not that there would not be a Parliament in favour of the Corn Laws-for my belief is that there would be a ma jority in favour of repeal-but that I believe that majority would be obtained by the greatest collisions of opinion, and by the exhibition of much angry feeling at the elections (hear, hear, hear). I think, Sir, a majority so elected would hardly have the weight with the other house of Parliament which the majority of the present house is likely to receive. I think the whole question, in the event of a dissolution, would be made, much more than it is at present, one of discordance between all classes; that many more men would be prepared to stand to pludges they had given in defiance of their better and more calluly considered opinions, and that the country would be plunged into an agitation highly injurious to its best interests (cheers). For these reasons, Sir, I am going to take that course—the only course which it seems to me, after deeply pondering over this matter, and reflecting over it to the best of my abilities, that I ought to take which I believe to be my duty to my country-namely. to vote with her Majesty's Government against the present amendment (cheers); and not only against this amendment, but against any other to be proposed hereafter in committee (loud cheers). I shall be prepared to vote with her Majesty's Government not only on this but in every stage of the bill; and I think the interests of the country deeply involved in the immediate, complete, and tranquil settlement of this question (loud cheering from both sides of the house).

Sir WILLIAM JOLLIFFE rose for the purpose of say ing a very few words with regard to the vote which he was going to give. He had always consistently voted against the propositions of the hon, and learned member for Wolverhampton, and it was still his intention to vote against him, but without some explanation the opinions which he (Sir W. Jollaffa) held on the subject might be misrepresented. He still cherished the hope that the measures brought forward by the Government might be defeated, but at the same time he could not help asking whether, if any change was to be made, the time was not now come when it could be made without the least danger to the country. At present the farmers were in a flourishing, and, he might say, a happy state -a state which was about to be overturned in a gradual and insidious manner. He should vote against the hon, member's proposition, because, although the Government measure had neither justice nor common sense to support it, there would be greater advantage in defeating the scheme of the hon, and learned member for Wolverhampton than in defeating the Clovernment on such a

Mr. HUME hoped that the speech of the hon, member who had just sat down would show those who were about to divide the Liberal ranks the risk of such a division. He thought that, whatever opinions those of his own party might entertain, they ought, under existing circumstances, to support the measure of her Majesty's Government.

Mr. BORTHWICK (amid lond cries of "oh, oh," which

rendered him almost inaudible) said, that as many bon. gentlemen were anxious to address the house, he should, without further preface, at once move the adjournment of

the debate (great uproar).

The Marquess of GRANBY would only say a very few The noble lord the member for Lincoln had said that the house was in a situation to settle this question, Now the noble lord and admitted that if he had undertaken the Government he would not have been enabled to have carried the present measure through the house by a majority of above 10 members. The noble lord, therefore, was not in a position to have carried the measure without an appeal to the country, and he asked the house whether the opinion of the house or of the country was satisfactorily ascertained reumstances? He maintained that neither the opinion of the house nor of the country was properly collected at present, and therefore he considered that some other steps must be taken to ascertain it.

After a few words from Mr. BORTHWICK, Lord WORSLEY rose to explain. He feared his noble friend (Lord John Russell) had misunderstood what he (Lord Worsley) had said in an earlier part of the evening, when he declared his intention of supporting the proposed duty of 5s., not as a measure of protection, but as one from which a revenue would be obtained. He would also take the opportunity of declaring that he sew nothing inconsistent in those opinions, or in the vote he was about to give, with the speech quoted by the hon, member for the city of Durham,

Mr. Bright (hear).
The Earl of MARCH said that the house was in such a state of confusion that they seemed to have forgotten the question before the committee. He understood that his hon, friend the member for Evesham had moved that the chair man should report progress and ask leave to sit again.
A vote was then taken on the motion for adjournment.

The numbers were Per the motion

.. .. 227 Against it:

Against it

Majority

Lord J. MANNERS reminded the noble lord the member for London of a time when the Whig government of a for London of a time when the Whig government of a former day was afraid of an appeal to their constituency. He know not what were the noble lord's opinions as to the politic constitution of this house; but should the noble lord, in his anxiety to prolong the life of that Parliament, which is propose a decennial duration, he (Lord J. Manners) should be one of the first to vote against him. If the private librour of 100 of 200 members of Parliament was compressionally

mised, could it be hoped that by a constitutional fallacy their public honour as a public assembly could be maintained (cheers)? If he had wanted any justification of the course which the great minority of the Ifonse of Commons had adopted, he should find it in the speech of the noble lord; and he would ask the house, after such a speech, after such arguments, whether they could refuse to adjourn for any number of nights that hon, memners might choose to discuss the question ("oh, oh," and cheers)? He could conceive no such arguments in favour of the motion of the hon, member for Evesham, as those which had been heard from the noble lord; and after much a speech as that of the noble lard, so long as the hon, member for Evesham chose to divide the house on the question of adjournment, he (Lord J. Manners) would divide with him (hear, hear).

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said he was sorry he had incurred the displeasure of the noble lord (langhter), but really the penulty of adjournment seemed too heavy for merely a speech of his (Lord J. Russell). There might, however, he one advantage from such a course, for according to the published opinions of the noble lord, so far as he could collect them (loud cheers, which drowned the conclusion of the sentence). The noble lord had formerly considered protection as necessary and beneficial, but the noble lord on being elected into a new Parliament, had then considered it his duty to vote that protection an evil. But now the nobte lord, to judge from a letter he had published, was of opinion that it was good, and that the Corn Laws, instead of being changed, should be maintained (hear, hear, and laughter).

Sir A. BROOKE complained that several Irish members and waited for 13 nights, wishing to speak on this question, but never getting an opportunity. This night, the whole time had been occupied by the hon, members for Durham, Manchester, and Wolverhampton, by the noble lord the manber for London, and the right hon, baronet the first Lord of the Treasury, so that those who were in favour of protection had been prevented from speaking. Under these circumstances, he thought the call for a division very unfair, and should move that the house do now adjourn (laughter)-that this debate be now sijourned.

Sir R. PEEL said, If they came to a vote now, it would not close the question on the resolution. There were other amendments before the house, but probably the best course would be to dispose first of the amendment of the hon, gen-

Mr. FERRAND said he was prepared to justify the course they were pursuing that night, by reference to a speech of the right hon, bart, delivered on the 31st of January, 1810 (laughter, and cries of "oh, oh"), in the debate on the vote of want of confidence in ministers. Substitute the name of Stanley for that of Howick, and the exactness of the application was perfect. The hon, member then read the passage referred to, to the effect that Lord Howick had quitted the ministry of Lord Melbourne, because he had no confidence in its principles or professions. le concluded by moving that the chairman do now leave the chair

Lord J. MANNERS assured the noble lord that if he would have the kindness to refer to his published letter with greater care than he seemed to have done, he would perceive that the inferences he had drawn were not justified.

Mr. M. J. O'CONNELL thought it too had they should have nothing but quotations from former speeches. What had a speech on a vote of want of confidence to do with the question that the chairman report progress? He should not protest against it, but that he felt the character of this house would be lowered in public estimation. Let not hon, gentlemen opposite pursue this course, or their compact minority would speedily dwindle into a contemptible band of 70.

Mr. O. BANKES protested against the manner in which the observations of the hon, member for Essex had been received.

After a few words from Lord C. HAMILTON

Mr. FERRAND said he was ready, not only with one quotation, but with flfty (great laughter). He was determined to proceed, and hold up the hon, bart, to the scorn and derision of the country.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL remarked that the discussion now going on did not bear upon the question of the immediate or deferred repeal of the Corn Laws. He would suggest that the motion be withdrawn, and the chairman report progress and ask leave to sit again, by which course hon. gentlemen would have an opportunity of expressing their

The Chairman then reported progress, and the debate was

TUESDAY.—ALLEGED FRAUDULENT OBJECTIONS IN THE REGISTRATIONS.

Mr. NEWDEGATE rose to submit the motion of which he had given notice, but, owing to the information which he had since received, he was induced to alter the terms of his motion, which would now stand thus:—"That it be an instruction to the Select Committee on the petition from Cheltenhain, presented on the 27th of February, that they do inquire into the alleged organised and extensive system of fraudulent and vexations objections to the votes of a great number of duly qualified electors for the northern division of the county of Warwick, the northern division of the county of Stafford, and certain divisions of other counties, to be returned on the registration of the said counties. His complaint was, that this organised system was not only practised in one, but carried to an immense extent in many counties, to the great annoyance and expense of the parties against whose right to vote the objections were made. Those whom he represented had been attacked, apparently more for the purpose of putting them vexatiously to expense than for any other object, and as a committee had been mared for by the honourable member for Cheltenham, for an analogous purpose, he did not think there was any impropriety in his endeavour to include this subject in their inquiry. That house had always considered fraudulent in terference with elections as a breach of its privileges, and tribunals were created in the house to try such cases. How much more necessary was it to inquire into the interferences with the registrations! They had the highest authority for the opinion that the battle of the constitution was to be fought in the registration courts (hear, hear). He had already, on a former evening, stated to the house the ground of his present proceeding. A great number of objections to the votes of electors for North Warwickshire had been served, which were all signed by one parson, a resident at Covening, and the greater part of which alsogether failed on their ments. The most remarkable instance of these objections had, however, obtained in Thirding Many where, in two parising alone, no less than 700 hotios was:

served, all signed by the same person who had signed then As he had already stated, the postmaster of Manchester had had no less than 80,000 notices of object tion posted in his office in one night. He (Mr. Newdegate) believed that he should be able to trace a counsolion between these cases of the service of notices and certain gentlemen who were members of the Anti-Corn-Law League; he could mention in particular the names of Mosers. Ackland Morris, Beswick, and Bury (as we understood); and by thought he should also be able to show that the League had employed a person not of the best character to signa great number of notices, he being a voter for North War. wickshire. It was observable that in most of the instances of which he complained, the parties served with notices were persons of large property, and those were selected who were resident at the greatest distance from the northern division of Warwickshire, and on whom, there fore, the greater expense and inconvenience would be entailed, The person used as the instrument of this organised annov ance was named Worthington, a person of no property, and who was almost labouring for the means of subsistence; but after a great number of his objections had been tried, and an immense number of persons had been obliged to appear (2000 notices having been served), the agent of the League ordered their objector to leave the court, and said he would not pay any more expenses (hear). It was manifest that if such a system as this was to be pursued the franchise could never be maintained; year after year persons would be brought from great distances (some in the cases he referred to came from Wales and the Isle of Wight) for the purpose of defending their votes against these objections, and they would then find them abandoned, while they were themselves unable to obtain even the small compensation which the law allowed for expenses (hear). The hon memher then proceeded to state that the party he referred to William Worthington, who had signed these notices of ohection, had been examined in court as to the genuineness of his signature. He swore to it in several cases; but that afterwards, on a man named Stafford being produced, who stated that he himself had written the signatures under Worthington's direction, Worthington retracted his former statement (hear, hear, bear). A similar system of organised vexatious objections to that he had referred to as existing in North Warwickshire had been pursued elsewhere, and he pledged himself to trace it to the Anti-Corn Law League. he hon, member for Stockport the other night said that the interference of the League with the franchise was a benefit, inasmuch as it extended the ancient franchise; but how came it that their new qualifications were given exclusively to those who favoured them, while their wholesale objections were made to those who were opposed to them? The system was, in fact, one of a most grievous character, and if it was intended by the Anti Corn-Law League that it should be pursued in those conaties which had been threatened by the hon, member for Stockport, it could only end in their atter disfranchisement (hear, hear). He hoped that the right) baronet at the head of the Government, after what he had said the other night, would offer no opposition to such an inquiry. It behaved the right hon, baronet to show that there was no collusion between himself and the League; but out of doors a deep impression prevailed that the Government had not been altogether uninfluenced in their recent course by an agitation which had been maintained by such practices as he had described. He trusted, therefore, that the right hon, baronet would not lend himself to the avoidance of this inquiry. It was no question between the protectionists and the Anti Corn Law League; but it was a question between the house and the League, whether the house would allow its franchises to be tampered with by that association. The hon, member concluded by proposing Mr. FERRAND seconded-the motion.

Mr. R. YORKE thought the committee should have its attention confined to the inquiry which it had been specially

appointed to conduct.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE was of opinion that the house could not adopt the motion. He perfectly agreed with the hon, gentleman (Mr. Newdegate) in thinking he had no light case, that case consisting of charges of perjury and the prosecution of a system of annoyance to elector. But what had the house to do with that or the committee to which the honourable gentleman proposed the investigation of his charges should be referred? That committee was appointed to inquire into a breach of privilege which had taken place by the addition of signatures, alleged to be fraudulent, to a petition presented to that house. But he did not see how this was a breach of privilege. A man committing perjury in a revising barriater's court was amenable to the law. Neither was the alleged annoyance to which electors were subjected by the service of notices a breach of privilege. He knew not under what denomination of offences it would come. It was, no doubt. very harassing to electors. But it was part of the whole aystration (obeers) with which he ha found fault in that house, though he could not get hon. gentlemen to agree with him—they were so proud of the exist ing law. Now, however, they began to feel the inconvenience of a system which had been pursued in reference to elections in boroughs, by urging objections on the score of nonpar-ment of rates and taxes. Now it was beginning to ful on the counties, on the tenants-at-will; and hon gentlemen were now complaining. There was no case of bresch of privilege, and no occasion for interference. The hon genileman might, if he liked, move for a committee to inquire into the whole system of registration, and take steps for amending the Reform Act; and he (Mr. Duncombe) would be happy to assist him; but he did hope the right bonom able baronet (Sir R. Poel) would not give his apport to the motion of the hon. gentleman. His (Mr. Duncombes) name had been put down on the committee to which it was proposed to water this california. proposed to refer this additional matter for inquiry but if that course were adopted, he should certainly decline serving

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Mr. NEWDEGATE begged to state, in reference to the suggestion that proceedings might be taken at common law on a part of the case, that he and his friends had no wish to prosecute the unhappy tool of the Auti Corn Law League, in carrying out the system it had arganised. (Orie of "Spoke, spoke.") The committee, on which had been inposed the duty of instituting induly into the forgety of the patterns to a petition traceable to that association, best swited for pursuing a further induly relating in the body and its interference with the slecite franchise.

Mr. ADDERLEY thought there was an about the subject which the committee has a should be the subject which the committee has a should be subject which the committee has a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject which the committee has been as a should be subject to the subject which the committee has a should be subject to the subject

suffordalilie. Eneroschments on the privileges of electors had a close resemblance to attacks on the privileges of the bouse. A bill had been drawn up on the autheor by a friend of his, and he hoped some investigation would take place before its introduction. A petition had been entrasted to his charge in which the electors by whom it was signed complained that parties who had been for a number of years on the register, and whose right admitted of no dispute, had been served with notices, and that no fewer than 2000 of these had been issued this year, signed by an inhabitant of the county, but posted at Manchester (obcors).

Mr WAKLEY considered the present system of registration a bad one. Under it the most fraudulent practices frequently took place. But the matter was certainly of too much importance to be incidentally referred to a committee to consider another subject with which that of the system of registration had no legitimate connection. He trusted the motion would be withdrawn. The question which had been raised was of great importance. The Government, he was sure, would feel prepared to lend their aid in the correction of the system, which could not be effected in the clumsy way now proposed. The honourable gentleman dealt very hardly with the Auti-Corn Law League. He had charged a man with forgery, and yet adopted the testimony of that man (cries of "no, no"). Yes, he took that testimony as suffi-cient to warrant him in accusing and condemning the Leagne; and so lightly and delicately had they dealt with that man, that though he is charged with atrocious crimes, they had done nothing to bring him to justice. He (Mr. Wakley) could not take such testimony. The question with reference to the registration system was one which he trusted the Government would take up on some early occasion, and into which it would be of advantage to institute an inquiry by a committee.

Sir R. PEEL: When this question was brought under the notice of the house, I stated that in my opinion it was not advisable to devolve on the committee appointed yesterday any other inquiry than that which had been specially referred to it, but that it would be infinitely better that the committee should direct its attention exclusively to the alleged breach of the privileges of this house. That opinion I still maintain. It is very easy for the hon, gentlemen to make an insimuation of collusion between a Minister of the Crown and an honourable gentleman a member of the house (hear, hear). There is not the slightest foundation for the honourable gentleman's remark, which is of such a kind as to place an individual in my position in this situation, that I am obliged to give it an answer, or pass it by, though were I remaining silent there may probably be persons who would in these times draw injurious inferences. And, therefore, rather than such inferences should be drawn, I tell the honourable gentleman, that neither on the subject of the Corn Laws, nor cu any other public subject, or private subject, had I any communication, direct or indirect, with the Anti Corn Law League, or with any member of the orn Law League, so far as I remember (hear, hear). The honourable gentleman founds his surmise upon what passed the other night, in-consequence of a reference made by the honourable member for Shrewsbury (Mr. D'Isrseli) to an imputation from which I thought at the time I had relieved the honourable member for Stockport (Mr Cobden). At any rate there could be no concert between myself and the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League, for it was on the hon, member for Shrewsbury's allusion to the circumstance that spentaneously, and as any gentleman would (cheers), I rose to declare the fact that I had long before stated that the imputation did not rest on the hon, member for Stockport. That is the circumstance on which the hon. gentleman founds his insinuation. I repeat again that I don't recollect holding any communication with any member of the Anti-Corn-Law League. I now come to the real merits of the question. I understood the hon, member for Staffordshire to state that some person not connected with the county objected to voters upon the list. I thought it a gross abuse. If it is alleged that the party in question objected indiscriminately to some thousand or two voters, the tendency of such a practice is to interfere with the privileges of the electors; and the Anti-Corn-Law League, or any other body that employs such party, in giving its sauction to such proceedings, pursues a course which ought not to be pur sued (cheers). I retain my objection to the transference of this inquiry to this committee; but if, as I understand, the right hon, gentleman has a petition on which his allegations are founded, it may be a question for him whether or not le may not propose the appointment of a committee of inquiry

Mr. SPOONER said, the person who had been described as the agent of the League in the registration courts, had his costs paid by the League in all the cases that were given against him, and therefore no doubt could be entertained of the character in which he acted. The man who signed the objections lived in a very remote part of Birmingham, but every one of the objections applicable to that district came through the post-office at Manchester (cheers). They were posted at Manchester so late, that they could not be forwarded in time for delivery before the last legal day for service expired; though the notices were good in law, if posted in such a mancher. This were a matter which required posted in such a manner. This was a matter which required investigation. He had been objected to himself, and had only time only time enough left to give instructions to his solicitor to appear for him in defence of his franchise.

spicer for him is defence of his franchise.

Sir G. GREY hoped the fuquiry if gone into, would not be narrowed to the facts alleged (cheers). It should extend to the whole working of the Registration Act. He had before expressed the opinion that the provisions of that act exposed voters to recognize approach to the constructions of the constructions. exposed voters to very vexatious proceedings. Objections of much force had been stated from the Opposition side of the incian; but there was no remedy. He thought it but a just arrangement that those parties who had once established their right to vote should not be liable to have their right challenged from year to year. The evil was then more felt by hon, gentlemen on that side of the house (obsert). The shoe now minched outless they aid. show now pinched on the other side. He trusted this inquiry, when instituted, would be carried out with a view to remove the sources of vexation, which parties of different political opinions avail themselves of not for honest purposes, but for the more sale of automatical discourses.

the mare sake of annoyance (cheers).

Mr. D'ISRAELL wished, as his name had been very unexpectedly brought into the discussion, to say a few words in explanation. It had been stated, that some observations explanation. It had been stated, that some observations which fell the other evaning from the right hon, gentlemen (8h-R-Peel), were called forth by an allusion he (Mr. D'Israeli) had made in the course of discussion—as if in smarthing he had said he had been ripping up old griev states. He had said he had been ripping up old griev states. He had said he had been ripping up old griev states. He had said he had been ripping up old griev states. He had said he had been ripping up old griev states. He had said he had been ripping up old griev states. He had said he had been ripping up old griev states. He had said he had been ripping up old griev states.

Durham (Mr. Bright) intimated, that if they could have fixed that charge on the hou, member for Kuaresborough, they would have prosented him. On hearing this statement, he (Mr. D'Israeli) reminded the house that a similar charge had been made in that house by the right hon. baronet (Sir R. Peel). He had read that the hon member for Stockport, considering the charge unretracted, had deplaced it utterly impossible that he could hold communication with the Prime Minister (cheers). Therefore the house would see that he (Mr. D'Israell) had not been ripping up old grievances. The right hon, gentleman said to night that he had taken the first opportunity of putting himself right, it having been supposed that he had thrown out such an imputation. But he (Mr. D'Israeli) begged to remind the right hou. gentleman, that he referred to the very same circumstance last year, under circumstances, too, of excitement. The right hon, gentleman did not then show that extreme alacrity in putting himself right for which he had taken credit

Sir R. PEEL said-I wish to refer to what I did say on that occasion. The hon, member for Stockport had stated, "in what I said, I intended—and I believe everybody understood what I meant-to speak of the right hon. barovet at the head of the Government; I used the words 'individually responsible, as the right honourable baronet uses the personal pronoun when he says, I passed the tariff, and you supported me. I treated the right honourable baronet as the Government." I followed the hon, gentlemen in the debate, and I then said, " I am bound to accept the construction the hon. gentleman puts on the language he employed, but he uses the words in a marked manner, and others put a different interpretation upon them, and thought that by 'individual' he meant 'personal.' I admitted at once my error, and if any one at the time had intimated to me that my reparation was not sufficient, I would at once or on some other day, have taken the opportunity of stating what I did mean; the facts of the case justified me in the impression, that I meant at the time to withdraw the impu-

Mr. W. ELLIS said, the system of making objectious had been acted on for many years past; he had himself been objected to during the last year. On inquiry it would be found that no less than 2000 had been so objected to, and all the objections proceeded from the Conservative party (hear, hear). If the Auti-Corn-Law League had adopted the same system, they had only acted on the example of the other

Lord SANDON said the system was an improper one, and he did not care with which party it originated. At present every man was bound to be at his town or country residence a certain time of the year to protect his vote; if absent, it was endangered. That was an unconstitutional impediment to the free enjoyment of the elective franchise. In Lancashire, 2000 objections had been sent, and they all came through the Manchester post-office (hear, hear); they were scattered over a period of three weeks, and the result had been that many gentlemen of undoubted property had been struck off the list. He hoped this system would be put an end to.

Mr. LAWSON said the right hon, baronet had told them that he was of the same opinion to day as yesterday, and appeared to think that such an assertion would hardly find predit with the house, for he had repeated it twice. ("Oh, oh!" and laughter). He hoped, on other occasions, the right hon, baronet would be holding the same opinions as on the day before. ("Oh, oh!" and "Question"). He was glad to hear the right hon, baronet deny that he had any connection with the Anti-Corn Law League; but, from what they had seen this session, he thought the hon. member for Warwickshire had some cause to imagine such a connection might exist; but as it had been denied, of course he and other gentlemen were bound to believe there was

Mr. BROTHERTON said, formerly the hon. gentlemen were the objectors; in his own borough 700 objections had been served, his own vote being among them. He had been objected to for four years successively. He should be glad to see the system rectified; indeed it had rectified itself to a considerable extent. When it was found by gentlemen on this side of the house that they could get no redress from the house, they adopted the same policy. "When had men combine, good men must unito" (hear). He thought the Anti-Corn Law League had done much service by the exertion they had made; they had also endeavoured to create a constituency in the different counties, and they might depend that if the League was not put down, by enacting the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, it would go on to an extent that honourable gentlemen opposite would not like. The right honourable baronet had shown more foresight as to the mode in which the Lengue was to be put down. The upper men in the employ of the manufacturers of Lancashire were purchasing cottages and freeholds, and felt pride in having a voice in the representation of the county; they would send up men who would enect such laws only as were just, and for the good of the whole community. No part of connected with the purchase of freeholds; they were bought by persons who had saved money to do so, and who had as great a right to the franchise as the owners of the largest estate (hear

state (hear).
Mr. FERRAND said they did not quarrel with making good votes, but to sending objections to votes known to be good votes, but to sending objections to votes known to be good before, which was quite the reverse. The same system of objecting had been carried on in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and the noble lord (Morpeth) was returned in consequence of the wholesale objections that had been made against the voters of that district; his vote had been objected to for four years in succession, and he could get no redress till he threatened to bring an action against the objecting party for the costs be was put to. The same system had been carried on in every county, and if the League was permitted to pursue this course, in a few years they would awamp all the bond fide voters, and be able to return members who would not represent the honest electors, but would be re-

would not represent the honest electors, but would be returned by a minority, the inspority of voters having been destroyed by a wholesale system of perjury and forgery.

Mr. P. MAULE said, the members on his side of the house had for years tried to get this grievance remedied; but as the shoe did not pipoh their own feet, they could get no assistance from the other side. Now the system osme home to thom, and be beged an inquiry would be made into it, both in-trained and Scotland, as well as in implicant.

Mr. PAOKE said, in the county he represented (Lelcestershire), 1000 objections had been made in this manner.

Mr. Q. Buttalishesis is different is opinion from home sign, ganglanes, on both sides of the house. At a did not see the see its factors in the see the see its factors in the see the see its factors.

extent of the evil, and was perfectly prepared to give a favourable reception to the remedy. He did not know whither it would be a proper amendment to move upon the motion of the hon, member for Warwickshire, but he confessed he felt inclined to move that leave be given to the hon, and gallant member for Staffordshire to bring in the bill he had got in his pocket (hear, hear, and hughter). There were, no doubt, cases in which inquiries of this kind were necessary to lay the foundation of legislation; but they had often seen them entered into for the purpose of preventing legis-lation (hear, hear), and the house might full into this evil on the present occasion. The abuse was acknowledged to exist, and to exist on both sides; they had followed the laudable example set them by the gentlemen opposite. The extent of the abuse had often been deplored by them, yet, year after year, when they brought in measures to prevent these abuses, the gentlemen opposite, as much those below the gangway as above it, denied the evil and opposed the remedy (hear, hear). He was delig sted to see that the example set by the hon, gentlemen behind the Treasury benches was imitated by the hon, gentlemen below the gangway; they did not blush to get up and repeat, as their own, the very doctrines those around him had formerly asserted. Now, let them have no more recrimination (hear, hear); there had been a great deal of sinning on both sides, from the time of the Charles street Society down to that of the Anti Corn Law League ((hear, hear); the tuetics of that society had been only perfected by the agency, agility, and capital of the League; but as it was a bad practice, imitated from each other, let them put an end to it; it was a practice detrimental not to party alone, but to all representative Government and the best interests of the country. He believed they would find in the bill of the noble lord (Lord J. Russell) an attempt to remedy this abuse, and as it was the fashion to adopt their measures on the other side (hear, hear), he could not recommend a better course than to adopt that measure and put an end to the evil.

Lord INGESTRE perfectly concurred in the observations of the hon, and learned member for Liskeard; the effects of the abuse were fatal to the constituency at large. He thought a name once placed on the list and projerly proved ought to remain there.

Mr. C. WOOD said, the hon, member for Knaresborough had complained of the objections served in the West Riding of Yorkshire, but the hon, member had been himself as great a sinner in this way as any one (hear, hear). On one oc casion a great number of notices of objections were sent, signed by the hon, member himself (hear, hear), and one of them was delivered to his own uncle (hear, hear, hear, and laughter) whôm he knew to have as good a vote as any one in the West Riding.

Mr. FERRAND.—When?

Mr. C. WOOD could not say in what your; did it signify in what year it was? The fact was so, and he did not sup pose the hon, gentleman would deny it, for an hon, gentle man was present to whom a notice was sent, signed by the bon, member (hear, hear). He thought the hon, member should be more cautious in the accusations he brought against others. With regard to the West Riding, it was not true that the objections were made by the Auti Corn Law Lengue; there were registration societies in that district, conducted by respectable men, belonging to both parties, and they made the objections and defended them. The system of registration had become such, that it could only be worked by such bodies; a single voter could not defend his franchise unless he belonged to one or other of the great parties. This was a great practical grievance which called for a remedy.

Mr. FERRAND begged the indulgence of the house while he replied to the personal attack just made on him by the hon, member. When the hon, member talked of what took place several years ago, he should have said that he bad just been prompted by some one within the last half minute; the hon, gentleman would not deny that,

Mr. C. WOOD: I do deny it most distinctly (hear. hear).

Mr. FERRAND: The hon, gentleman had instinuted that he had been objector general to votes in the West Riding; that he had made objections to a great number of votes. In that division he was, as chairman of the Registration Committee, called upon, and he did sign notices of objection; but at all times when doing so he had stated distinctly, that nothing should induce him to be a party to the objecting to votes unless good grounds were shown for the proceeding. He had objected to the vote of the hon, mem-ber for Brudford, his (Mr. Ferrand's) relative, and he had done so for this reason—that a person for three years in succession had objected to his (Mr. Ferrand's) vote, had receixed a silver teapot for his services, towards the payment of which his relative had been a subscriber (Great laughter). Ito (Mr. Ferrand) had then, inconsed at this, declared that if he received in the fourth year another objection, he would, in retaliation, object to his relative's qualification (laughter). It was on that ground alone that he had so acted, and he considered that he was fully justified (hear, hear, and laughter).

Mr. WORTLEY was enabled, fully, to confirm the statements of the hou. member for Halifax touching the system which was being curried on in the West Riding of Yorkshire. He (Mr. Wortley) had his own vote objected to three years running; on the last occasion, the notice being signed by a person bearing the name of Ashworth, and coming from Manchester, and emanating, it might therefore be concluded, from the Anti-Corn Law Lengue. ("No, no," from Mr. Bright and others). So totally unjustified, and so vexations were these notices, that he had at last threatened to bring an action against the interfering parties to recover the costs of defence, and if he had not himself been a member of the bar, such was the course which he would have adopted, It would give him great pleasure to see an end put to the aystem and facilities given to recover the expenses of the defensive litigation. In dealing with the matter, the house should not lose sight of the subject of the creation of votes (hear, hear). The West Riding had recently been the seems of an experiment in that way, and it had been so far successful, that by the means of the Anti-Corn-Law League some 2000 new votes had been added to the previously existing registration. Were those, as he did not viquely existing registration. Were those, as he did not say they were not, bone fide votes, there could be no dissatisfaction, but the prevailing opinion in the district affected be could assure the house was, that directly the reverse was the fact. Such a case as this had been, it was runquest, of frequent occurrence. A gentleman, having influence over a body of workmen, and who lete cottages to them to rept, paramaded them to antar conjointly, but the purpless of a coverage tie, agent of the Anti-Corp Law League being called upon to agent at the Anti-Corp Law League being called upon to agentate the transaction; the proprietor of the coverage leagues leagues, acceptant, made to the workmen, took

a promissory note for the payment, and stopped the interest from the weekly wages. Such a system as that could not be got in the revising barrister's court, or at any rate not without extreme difficulty. To the truth, however, of the report he was far from wishing it to be understood that he plodged himself.

Mr. BRIGHT desired to assure the hon. member for Butoshire (Mr. Wortley), that Mr. Ashworth, of the Anti-Corn-law League, had taken no part in the signature of the objection which it was mentioned had been received by the lion, member, With respect to the creation of freeholds, he (Mr. Bright) was enabled with equal confidence to declare that the Anti-Corn-Law League had not only never recommended the creation of such votes in the way alluded to, but had consistently, both in the speeches of its lecturers and in its authorised writings, given the public to understand that such votes were untenable, unjust, and in deflance of every fair principle of registration founded upon the possession of property (hear, hear, hear). He knew of no instance of such a vote having been obtained through or with the approbation of the Anti-Corn Law League. The advice of the League always had been, and still was, with the view of inducing every man to save as much money as would qualify him, by a bond fide purchase of a sufficient amount of property; and he (Mr. Bright) defied any man in the house or elsewhere, who cared for the spirit of the institutions of the country, so far as these were valuable, to say that a freehold, possessed on that principle, was injurious, or could, in any degree, be interfered with (loud eries of "hear, hear"). It was refreshing to see that when hon, gentlemen opposite were in extremis as to the Corn Law, they found some consolation for that which was gone and passed away in a testy examination of the organization of the League. The case which the hon, member for Warwickshire spoke of had been dealt with in the newspapers, and had even been diluted upon in the speeches of the hon. member; but since that, the hon, gentleman, either at Willis's Rooms, or at 17, Old Bond street, had joined in the adoption of a resolution, by which the protectionists declared that they would fight the League with its own weapons (laughter). The hon, member for Knaresborough, with not an unusual lack of caution, had made a statement relative to the West Riding. He (Mr. Bright) could only say, that if the hon, gentleman went to the proper offices, and consulted the proper papers of the registration for the West Riding, of protectionists and Free Traders, he would flud, that in the last year the monopolists made a far larger number of objections to Free Traders, than the Free Traders did to monopolists. Mr. Ferrand. -What did they do the year before? The Lon. member could not deny that. He (Mr. Brig t) had once been called from Northumberland and once from Scotland to defend his vote. The agricultural party had well obeyed the injunction of the right hon, baronet to register. As had been said by the hon, member for Shrews-bury, "How we did register!" (laughter)—and how could they find fault with the League for acting in self-defence (hear, hear)? He had been told that the other day a noble duke, through his agent, put four sons of a farmer, with the farmer himself, into one lease, with the object of gaining so many more votes; and he had also heard that in Scotland another noble dake had taken the means to give nincteen persons the power of voting on one farm. So long as the monopolists were fighting a battle against the country, and so long as they thought there was a chance of obtaining power, there was nothing which went against the spirit of registration which they would not do-no conduct too unscruptions they would not no no conduct too unscruptions they would not practise. Now the tables were turned, and the game was up (hear, hear, and cries of "Oh!") They had warred against the general interests and common sense, and now they were a broken party. The Free Traders, on the contrary, were a compact body, with an invincible principle which they were determined should be the basis of legislation, and to secure the presence of a majority in the house to vote for the abolition of the Corn Law, there were no means which the law allowed, and which justice sanctioned that should be left untried (hear, hear). They had made up their minds to do that, but they would go with the Government in any proposition to give the proper advantages and defence to the honest elector. By every new change which was to make the system a better system the Free Traders would gain. Hon, gentlemen might seek to revenge themselves on the League, but the fact had gone forth to the world that the law was as good as dead, and not all the spee hes they could muster not even those of the hon, member for Warwickshire (Mr. Newdegate), solemn as they were, would over wake from the grave that which, with all due ritual, had been

Mr. S. O'BRIEN regretted that anything had occurred to disturb the celestial serenity of the hon, member who had just spoken (laughter). The cvil to which attention was wing drawn was a plain one, and should be dealt with, None could deny the existence of an extensive association, with enormous funds at its command, one of the great obeets of which was systematical tration of every county in the kingdom. The effect was to marshal every county into two parties -to fight the battle of registration by subscription- and to injure most deeply, as a necessary consequence, those who were unwilling to go to extreme lengths, either on one side or the other, in politics (hear). The matter was not introduced at the present moment, breause, as the hon, member had facctiously said, the Corn Law was dead, but they brought it forward to the notice of the house because they saw an association, a vast moneypower, such as he had described, interfering in an uncon stitutional manner with constitutional rights, and which was either to be left to its evil operation, or to be effectually enconnected, to be met by a similar association, thus perpetuacing a similar evil (hear, hear). They asked the house to decide the case between them. That was the question before them. As to the resolution passed at Willis's rooms, he had not heard any hon, gentleman on that (the ministerial) side of the house, propose or approve of the adoption of any such system as the creation of falso votes (hear, hear). The contest was unfair; on the one side an enermone money power at work, and on the other no such thing

Mr. E. ELLICE, Jun., understood hon, goutlemen opposite to complain not that it was necessary a battle should be fought, but that the weapons provided were unequal (hear, hear). In the county with which he was connected, the system condemned so londly existed in full force, but practised by the party in whom the complaint originated. There a Conservative registration association was formed by all the enough man, the end sought after being to destroy, as far as was possible, the prependerating power of the reformers,—a wealthy party attempting to suppress freedom of opinion in the district boroughs, which were composed of the poorer

classes (hear, hear). The evil was in Scotland incalculable, for unless assistance was afforded to the poor voters to go 20 miles to the Sheriff's Court, and defend his qualification, his name was struck off the list. If the hon, member for Butsshire doubted the existence of flotitious votes, he had only to examine the avidence taken before a committee of the house, asked for some years ago by the hou. member for Cockermouth (Mr. Homman), to convince himself of the fact being as had been stated. It would give him (Mr. Ellics) great gratification to see a corrective measure emanate from the Government.

Mr. BORTHWICK thought that an interference with the registration, in the manner in which the League interfored, could have but one object; that object was, most unquestionably, unconstitutional, and justice demanded that a check should be given to the system. If the electoral body wers left alone, its opinions would be more clearly expressed as it at present was, an unnatural amount of opinion on the

wrong side was induced (laughter).

Mr. O'CONNELL wished to say one word only-one word for Ireland (hear, hear). He understood the complaint was that frivolous and vexatious notices of objections were served, necessitating the taking of long journeys by the bond fide voters, for the purpose of proving the qualification. Now in Ireland, by the Irish law, it was not necessary to serve such objections, for every voter must go and state his case without any notice whatever. He must travel 20 miles, and in the county which he (Mr. O'Connell) represented, 50, to put his case on record, and if he failed to attend and personally prove his qualification, he could not exercise his right to vote. There was no necessity for any notice of objection; if any body questioned the vote, the case must be heard to the satisfaction of that individual.

Mr. FERRAND.—Is that annually?

Mr. O'CONNELL.-No, not annually; and that was another grievance; for the consequence of the registration system in Ireland was to afford facilities to the committing of fraud; so that the thing was worse. In the county which he represented, in three or four populous parishes there was not a man who could register a vote without travelling fifty miles or more, first, as in a cuse of ejectment, to substantiate his right. And what was the result? He represented a county with a population of 735,000, and only 2300 were on the registry. He stated these things as useful to know in an inquiry. They were evils which, years ago, he had urged in vain to gentlemen on his side of the house. He was not aware if he might entertain a hope of meeting with better success from the powerful party (laughter) on the opposite side; but, if not, he would content himself with having exposed what was, practically, a grievance (hear, hear).

Mr. M. MILNES said, he should not have risen but

for the asumption of the hon, member for Liskeard (Mr. C Buller), who had attempted to lay down the position that the guilt had been equal on both sides of the house, or, if possible, greater on his (Mr. Milnes's) side. This position he disputed. If the protectionist party had chosen to avail themselves of such means, they could have beaten, the Anti-Corn-Law League out of the field. One nobleman, in the county in which he lived (Lord Harewood), alone could have done so. But he rejoiced that the landlords of England had never encouraged so unworthy a practice. The true spirit of the constitution, as to county registration, did imply residence; and he could only say that, if the large sums collected by the Anti-Corn-Law League were devoted to the sole purpose of enabling the farmers of England to give Anti Corn-Law votes, it would prove rather an expensive proceeding; it would be difficult for the League to accomolish this object by their half million or quarter of a million of money. It was alleged that this money was to be spent only in facilitating the obtaining of votes. They all knew what facilitating votes was; that it could not be certain that the agents appointed throughout the country would carry on their operations in a legal way; and how the 2000 votes could have been added to the register of the West Riding of Yorkshire by a fair means he could not understand. He trusted that a remedy for this evil would be provided by the legislature, for in his opinion it was only by a legislative proceeding that any good could be done, and he thought the proposition of his honourable friend the member for Staffordshire would rather embarrass than lead to any good

Lord J. RUSSELL said, he had always thought that the serving of hundreds of objections to votes, without inquiring whether there was a ground of objection or not, was a very great abuse, and some years ago he had introduced a bill into the house, providing, as he thought, a remedy—that, wherever an unsuccessful objection was twice made to a vote before the registration court, that vote should not be liable to be again questioned, unless some alteration had been made,—as that the amount had been diminished, or the freehold had been parted with. That was his remedy, and he considered that it was an abuse which ought to be remedied by Parliament. He did not see that it made any difference whether this was done by the Anti-Corn-Law League, or by any other persons. Would hon gentlemen say that this ought not to be done only because the Anti-Corn-Law League did it. He would not say that this was wrong if done by the Anti-Corn-Law League, and leave it to be done by any other political party. He thought, with the honourable and learned member for Liskeard, that there should be a general remedy, to prevent any party, for any purpose, from interposing vexatious dolay and expense, which had the effect of unjustly disfranchising a great number of voters. The hon, and learned member for Bute (Mr. S. Wortley) had alluded to the creation of flotitious votes, and he (Lord J. Russell) believed the practice prevailed parables to a greater extent there is Scattered. tice prevailed nowhere to a greater extent than in Scotland, where men not worth hs. a-year in land voted as if possessed of 10%. a year, and many elections had been carried by such votes, and not by the property in the county. That was a practice which ought to be corrected, and he hoped that whatever remedy should be applied would be a general remedy, and not for any particular purpose, or directed against any particular body. As to parties being encouraged by the Anti-Corn-Law League to purchase frecholds, and to become voters, if, as the hon member for Bute stated, in Vantables. in Yorkshire, men who had no real property in the county had votes, that was a fraud, and ought to be stopped; but, on the other hand, if a man gained 501, or 601, by his own industry, and chose, at the instigation of the Auti-Corn-Law League, or any other body of men, to purchase land, and esta-blished his right to a vote, he (Lord J. Russell) said that bushed his right to a vote, he (Lord J. Russell) said that such a vote was as good as any other (hear). The honourable member for Pontefrack (Mr. M. Milines) had said that freshold votes implied residence; but he (Lord John Russell) denied this, and the right hon, baronet would recollect that, in obtaining all the points which arose in the discussion on the Reform. Bill, that point was well considered, and it

was deliberately determined that the right of non-residen voting had been exercised at all times, and he (Lord John Russell) was always opposed to any plan for disfranching

non-resident voters.

Mr. M. MILNES, in explanation, said he had not denied the right of non-residents to vote, but had said that it was not a constitutional exercise of the franchise.

Mr. HUME said his vote had been objected to for three successive years. He hoped the time had come when there was a disposition in both parties to look fairly at the subject and that they might have as many votes as possible who were honestly entitled to the franchise; for he was anxions to create protectionist as well as Free Trade voters. With to create protectionist as went as 1100 11au votein. With this view, he hoped that, as the matter was before the house, the Government would bring in a bill, as they had single evidence before them.

Mr. AGLIONBY said, with respect to the crimination

and recrimination upon this subject, he thought one party had been as much to blame as the other. The only question to be considered was, whether they should proceed by inquiry, or by bringing in a bill. He hoped that the admissions made on all sides would preclude the necessity of a committee; both sides seemed anxious that a bill should be brought in. But he warned whoever brought in that bill never to attempt to tamper with the registration, which would not remedy the abuse. Much might be done by simplifying the suffrage, and more by extending the suffrage; they would do little good if they did not largely extend the suffrage, stopping not much short of household suffrage. He agreed with the noble lord, that the moment a created total was actually made it was as good as any other; but supposing the Anti-Corn Law League—he put the supposition in-their case not by way of complaint, but of illustrationsupposing that or any other body, with large funds at command, were to employ them in procuring votes to a great extent throughout the kingdom. They did not purchase votes, but they persuaded people to purchase votes; so far, so good but suppose some great body persuaded people to purchase votes, they would get a set of machines for their own purposes. Their object might be good or bad; he believed the object of the Anti-Corn Law League to be a good one: but if it might be employed for a good purpose, it might be abused for a bad one. Every voter so made would be, pro hae vice, a mere machine in the hands of the makers, for there could be no guarantee. Was it to be believed that a voter so made would immediately turn round (hear)? Any large body, with money, going through the country, employing their funds for a bad purpose, might put a set of tools upon the register (cries of "no, no")—he did not mean to use the word " tools," and he retracted that word; he meant merely to say that such persons would vote asthey were desired to vote. He would legalise votes so largely that there could be no motive to create votes.

Lord EBRINGTON rejoiced to hear what had fallen from the honourable member who had just spoken. He had been auxious to state, with reference to the question of the Co Laws, a burden which fell upon real property. It was no cessary that associations should be formed to defray the expenses which offered an impediment to a poor man buying real property, consisting not only of stamps to the revenue, but lawyers' expenses, owing to legal formalities. An association was obliged to be formed to enable a poor man to obtain what all were desirous he should get.

Mr. NEWDEGATE said he begged to withdraw his

motion.

The motion was accordingly, by leave, withdrawn. Mr. C. BERKELEY moved that the following members be upon the select committee on the petition from Chelton ham in favour of a repeal of the Corn Laws :- Mr. Craven Berkeley, Mr. Bright, Mr. Newdegate, Mr. T. Duncombe, Mr. Ferrand, Mr. R. Colhorne, Sir R. H. Inglis, Mr. E. Yorke, Mr. Repton, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. F. Mackenzie, Mr. C. Villiers, Major Beresford, Lord Worsley, and Mr. Bankes. The hon, member begged the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League, who were members of the house, to understand that he was influenced by no motive of hostility to them in moving for this committee. He thought it was a rule, not only in privite but in public life, that where fraud or imposition was allegel, it ought to be traced up. Long distribes had been directed against him, charging him with being actuated in moving for this committee by general hostility towards the honourable member for Durliam, because he had moved for acom mittee on the Game Laws, and other allegations much too contemptible to mention. He atterly denied that he was influenced by hostility to the gentlemen of the League, or to

any other person whatever.
Mr. BROTHERTON recollected that another committee, which had done little or no good, had cost the country from 300%, to 100%, and he was afraid that this committee would

cause expense without any good whatever. The motion was agreed to.

ADJOURNED DEBATE. The house resolved itself into committee of the whole

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was resumed. Mr. G. BANKES said the right honourable barenet had, in a late speech, made an allegation and drawn an inference, in both of which he had reason to believe the right honourable baronet was entirely mistaken. The right honourable baronet had alleged that the honourable member for Somerset (Mr. W. Miles) had said in his place, that he was deci dedly in favour of the immediate and entire abolition of the Corn Law in preference to the proposition of the Government. He was not in the house himself at the time when his honourable friend spoke, but hearing that such an inference had been drawn, he asked his honourable friend whether such was the fact, and had been told directly the contrary, and that his honourable friend had not used any words from which such an inference could fairly be drawn. The right honourable haronet proceeded to say that no one of those who sat near the honourable member for Somerset had an pressed any dissent from that ollegation, but of course they could not have expressed any dissent, if no suph allegation was made. His hon, friend was at this time absent, he was happy to say, on account of a joyful occurrence in his family but with respect to the other absence to which the right bon baronet did allude, and alluded in the absence of his hon-friend, he was sure the right honourable baronet—who had spoken apparently with some humouras to his having about the tactics of a skilful leader—would he sorrer to hear that the tactics of a skilful leader—would be sorry to hear the twas caused by the denth of his nearest relative. He was the was caused by the death of his nearest relative.

Sure the right honomable baronst was quite partitle cause of his honomable friends absence on the
sion referred to; nor could the right honorable has made the attack on his honourable relative
to the part he had taken as to the right of the first of the right honorable to the right of the first of the right honourable through the right had not referred to a refe

great advantage to Ireland in the immediate abolition of the Corn Laws. If that were so, he could not understand why the right honourable baronet, when he found such general assent in that house, did not proceed to open the ports at once, and thus secure the means of affording greater relief to Ireland. The right honourable baronet had greater relief to Ireland. I by fight honourable baronet had said that the reason why the ports were not opened in the first instance was, that if they had been he would not have had the power to shut them again. Why the right honourable baronet should have thought he would not have lind that power, with such a majority at his back, he (Mr. G. Bankes) did not see. But, at all events, if it were really the fact that Iroland would derive so much greater benefit from such a course, why not open the ports now? The honourable member for Wolverhampton said all the corn that might have been entered for consumption had now been re exported; but he had made inquiries on this subject, and from a letter he had received from a member of one of the most eminent commercial firms, it appeared that the amount of corn in bond on the 5th of January was 1,075,000 quarters, while at the expiration of a month, on the 5th of february, that quantity had been increased by 168,000 quarters, making a total of 1,243,000. The letter further stated, that the arrival of supplies in this country continued, while the shipment to foreign ports was very triffing. He wished to allude to a statement made by the honourable memher for Durham in a former debute, to the effect that the Duke of Rutland had paid, for damages done upon 389 acres of land, the enormous sum of 1000l. He had the best authority for saying that this was entirely incorrect, and that the sum was really paid for damage done upon a large estate. last night the noble lord the member for London, when answering some of the allegations of that (the protectionist) side of the house, with respect to the propriety and expedi ency of passing this measure in the present Parliament. had, by altering the terms of the argument, gained a great advantage, because he had assumed that the protection party had questioned the competency of the house to deal with this subject. Now that was a very different thing. It might be difficult to question the competency of the house, when it appeared in the elementary books of the constitution that Parliament was omnipotent. propriety and expediency of a Parliament dealing with a measure for which there was no necessity might very well be questioned, and particularly when there were circumstances which rendered it inexpedient and improper for the existing Parliament to deal with the measure. If the noble lord would take the words as they were spoken, confining them to expediency and propriety, not competency, it was probable that the noble lord himself would not differ in opinion as to the impropriety of a measure like this being carried by a large majority, every one composing which was pledged to the opposite course (loud cheers, and pries of "no . Well, he would give them the odd number between 97 and 112, and perhaps that would be as many as were specifically pledged. The noble lord had alleged that the peers would regard with greater attention a measure passed by the present Parliament; but how that could be, he (Mr. Bankes) could not perceive, when the House of Lords were cognisant, by the votes of the Commons, how often they had recorded an opinion adverse to the measure. He could find no valid reason against the dissolution which had been so often demanded; it would appear indecent in the eyes of the country that the measure should be passed by a majority which had changed their opinions, and he trusted the llouse of Lords would insist upon appealing to the people, to ascertain whether they really and truly desired the measure, upon the ground that they (the Lords) might be sanctioning that which the constituencies of the country might hereafter repudiate. He preferred even the scheme propounded by the Government to the proposal of the honourable member for Wolverhampton, because, before the proposed term of three years should have expired, an appeal to the constituency would be had. For his own part, he should be satisfied when the voice of England had been really and unequivocally declared (hear, hear); but considering the immense majority that had been sent to Parliament against the principle involved in this measure-larger, he believed, than upon any specific question before-he had no reason to suppose that the people had changed their mind-unless, indeed, he was to be guided by the petitions; and the house had already had specimens of the manner in which they were got up (hear, hear). The honourable member concluded by expressing his sense of the importance of the alteration proposed to be made in the law of set tlement, which he hoped would very shortly be laid on the

Sir ROBERT PEEL said that there was one part of the speech of his honourable friend which had surprised him very much. In the course of the few observations he (Sir Robert Peel) had made the other night, he had assumed that the honourable member for Somerset had intimated the opinion that immediate repeal, if the Corn Laws were to be altered at all-not expressing that opinion abstractedly in favour of suming that the Corn Law was to be extensively altered was preferable to deferred repeal. He (Sir Robert l'eel) had assumed that, first, because he thought he had beard with his own cars the honourable member utter that opinion (hear, hear), and had observed him turn round to honourshie gentlemen in his neighbourhood, and receive, as he (Sir Il. Peel) thought, their assent. He had assumed this like-wise, because he had put that construction upon the speech in the presence of the honourable member for Somerset himself. honourable gentleman had put that construction upon his words, and the honourable member permitted him to do so without the honourable member permitted him to do so without dissenting in the slightest degree from that construction, nor had any other honourable member intimated that there was any mistake in it. Those were the circumstances, and yet he now heard that he had made a complete mistake, for not only had the hon, member for Somerally set not expressed his preference for immediate repeal, but was in favour of the Government measure. He owned he

had never been in greater error.

Mr. BANKES shortly explained.

Mr. BRIGHT repeated his statement regarding the sum paid by the Duke of Rutland for damage done by game; adding that the court to which he had alluded was near adding that the estate to which he had alluded was near

adding that the estate to which he had alluded was near Bakewell, in Derbyshire, and comprised about 8700 acres.

Mr. C. W. HOWARD shortly expressed his intention to support the Government measure. He had no faith in the predictions of injury to result to the farmers; and he had that reliance upon the skill, industry, and perseverance of those in the north of England, which assured him that they would find the general property of the country a better restellable than any the decidence of his potential with the restellable than any the decidence of his potential than any the decidence of his potential property of the country a better restellable than any the decidence of his potential than any the decidence of his potential than the restellable than any the decidence of the country of the country as the potential than the restellable than any the decidence of the country of the c

advice of the noble lord, for he thought that farmers had now had sufficient experience of attempts to raise their prices, and that there never was a time more favourable for

the repeal of the Corn Laws (hear, hear).

Sir JOHN HANNER strongly deprecated the protraction of the debate, as being most prejudicial to the country (hear, hear). If he could look upon the question purely abarratedly, his vote would be for total and immediate re peal; but he was bound to look at the practical position of the Government in dealing with the subject; and therefore, although his constituents were most auxious for total repeal, and he had presented petitions from the town he repreconted, from their town council and chamber of commerce for that measure, he felt it right to dissent from them in this respect, and he should give his cordial support to the Government (hear, hear).

Mr. MOFFATT said he had no explanations to give, having been recently sent to that house to support every re laxation in the Corn Law. He warned the protectionists against the course they were taking in delaying this question, as being detrimental to their own interests as well as those of commerce. Let them look at the corn markets of the kingdom, and they would see everything now paralysed, and a vast amount of capital locked up. He put it to them

if they were acting wisely.

Mr. FINCH did not mean to say that he approved of the Government proposal, but he preferred it to that of the hon-member for Wolverhampton, for he would, at least, main-tain the three years' modicum of protection, for if during that time any great distress should occur, the legislature would have the opportunity of retracing their steps. He contended that under the protective system the agricultural interests had prospered to a most remarkable extent in this country, and that the practice and science of agriculture had of late years progressed to an unexampled degree. He ven-tured to assert, and he said it advisedly, that in the whole world there was no other country so well cultivated as England (hear, hear). The English breed of cattle was decidedly the best in Europe, as was attested by the fact that the agricultural societies of Belgium, Prussia, and France were continually in the habit of sending over to this country for animals to improve their own stock; and our soil was tilled with a degree of taste, science, and skill, no parallel to which was to be found in other lands (hear, All this was the work of the industrious tenant farmers of England; and he must say that he thought it was a little too hard that not only were their interests to be disregarded, but that their reputation should be run away with as it had been by honourable members on the other side of the house, and that they should be spoken of as though they were nothing better than lazy drones (hear, hear). With respect to the contemplated abolition of the protective system, he would convey his opinion of it in a very few words, by observing that he regarded it as the most ruinous measure that had ever been introduced into that house. Its consequences would prove to be most disastrous to the farmers for let hon, gontlemen disguise the fact as they might, there could be no doubt but that the immediate and inevitable result would be to throw our ports open for such an inunda-tion of foreign corn as would completely glut the market, and render it impossible for the home grower to enter into competition with the farmers of the Continent (hear, hear) He regarded the ministerial scheme as objectionable enough in all conscience, but he was yet more strenuously op posed to the proposition of the honourable member for Wolverhampton. The indecent haste with which, even under the ministerial system of proceeding, they were hurrying the measure for the abolition of the Corn Laws through the house, had already excited the indignation of the country (loud laughter); but if the honourable member's motion for immediate repeal were carried, the consequences would be yet more calamitous, and the indignation of the country still greater. What a moment they had chosen to propose this measure, when the question of peace or war with America was trembling in the balance ("hear, hear," from the protectionists). When it was Important to secure the loyalty of the Canadian people, they treated them with injustice and contumely; and it would not he surprising if they should exhibit towards this country a measure of indignation greater even than that expressed by the insulted British agriculturists (cheers from the protectionists). He complained of the manner in which this measure had been hurried on. He conceived that, in the first instance, they should have the financial statement laid before From the language held by the right honourable baronet in former times, it was to be expected by the agriculturists, if a change of this kind took place, that the malt tax would be abolished (bear, hear). It was desirable, therefore, o see the financial statement, to ascertain whether these hopes could be realised (hear.) If compensation to the extent of 500,000/, was to be given to the agriculturists—if 500,000/, were to be voted to the navy—if money was to be granted for Ireland, and about half a million more for other purposes-he did not think, when the accounts of the next quarter, there would be a surplus of two and a half millions of revenue over expenditure. Therefore, there was a greater chance that there would be an increase of taxation at the end of three years, than that an expectation could be held out that the malt tax would be taken off ("hear, hear," from the protectionists). It should be recollected that they were in a precarious state with regard to America, and he conceived it to be one of the maddest schemes that ever was thought of to propose to open the ports and establish a Free Trade with the chance of a war taxation (hear, hear, from the protectionists). The consequence would be that they would have a ten per cent, property-tax; a house-tax, and a beer-tax (hear). However, if a measure of the kind were to be passed, he would prefer the measure as brought forward by the stelly hear hears it to be passed, he would prefer the measure as brought forward by the stelly hear hears it the measure as property. by the right hon, baronet to the measure proposed by the

by the right hon. baronet to the measure proposed by the amendment (hear, hear).

Mr. WARD was understood to say, that not one syllable of the speech of the honourable gentleman who had just sat down, with the exception of the last sentence, bore on the question before the libitse (laughter). This was particularly hard on the house. The hon. gentleman had an opportunity of being heard in the course of the debate; but it would seem that he then forgot one-half of his arguments, that the other half occurred to him afterwards, and that he took this opportunity of inflicting it upon the house (laughter). Some of tunity of inflicting it upon the house (laughter). Some of tunity of inflicting it upon the house (lauguter). Some or the honourable gantleman's commercial principles were so uniquable and so unsound, that it was impossible to avoid giving them a reply; but in referring to them, he (Mr. Ward should abettin as much as possible from going at present into any other part of the military was in the househild gentleman taked of the replaced the mail at his accordance of the replaced the replaced the mail at his accordance of the replaced the replaced the mail at his accordance of the replaced the replaced to the replaced to the replaced the replaced the replaced to the replaced

tax, they must substitute a proporty tax, and let them recollect how much of that would go out of the pocket of the the furmers (" hear, hear," from the Opposition.) Yet that was one of the boons that the furners friends wished to confor on them (theors from the Opposition). There was a Spanish proverb, "God preserve me from my friends;" and it might be said by the farmers, God-preserve us from the friendship of the honourable gentlemen who talked of the repeal of the malt tax as a boon to us (Opposition cheers and langhter). The honourable gentleman had said that this Parliament was utterly incompetent to decide this question. Now, what the Reform Bill did for the rotton boroughs the present measure would do for the Corn Laws. There was, however, this difference between them; for six years this question has been discussed; now facts were every day foring themselves upon the common sense of both sides of the house, leaving the Parliament free to legislate on this subject (hear). He (Mr. Ward) would now come to the question of his honourable friend (Mr. Villiers), and he would confess that he never gave a vote on any subject with more difficulty and doubt than he felt on this subject. He en tirely concurred in every word of the wise and statesmanlike speech that was delivered on the preceding night by his noble friend the member for London (Lord John Russell). If he (Mr. Ward) thought that his vote would endanger the present bill, or that by giving it he would run any risk of depriving the country of the great benefit which had been placed within its reach by the measure of the Government, he would not vote for his honourable friend's amendment (cries of hear, hear, hear). He told him in the first instance, if the right honourable baronet said he would be no longer responsible for the success of the measure if an amendment of this sort for immediate repeal were carried, he (Mr. Ward) would, for one, take the measure of the Government. He had no sort of influence pressing on him from outside, for his constituents were satisfied with the measure which the Government had proposed, and were anxious to see it carried out. But he (Mr. Ward) formed his opinion solely on grounds that had presented themselves to him in that house. If he saw, on the part of honourable gentlemen opposite, the slightest disposition to meet on a middle ground, and not to carry on the most factious opposition that he had ever seen during his experience in that house (hear, hear, from the Opposition)—if he saw any intention on their part to regard the decision of the other night as a final decision on this subject, then he would say he would give the measure of the Government all the support he could. But when he looked to the conduct of the honourable members opposite, he found a justification for voting for the amendment of his honourable friend (Mr. Villiers), for he saw they looked upon the decision of the house as nothing, and that they would be satisfied with nothing less than a fresh appeal to the constituencies (hear, hear, hear). Had those who concurred with his honourable friend any right to abandon one hair's breadth of the position they now occupied when such extreme opinions were urged by gentlemen on the opposite side of the house (hear, hear)? When they said that for three years this was to be the con stant themeof agitation, and that nothing but an appeal to the constituencies would satisfy them, those who concurred with his honourable friend (Mr. Villiers) were bound to keep the ground they had at present (cheers from the Opposition). And though his (Mr. Ward's) noble friend, the member for London, acting on a high and honourable feeling, felt him self bound, after what had passed with an august personage, to take the Government measure in preference to any other, he (Mr. Ward) held that, as an independent member of that house, who concurred with the Anti Corn-Law League, and thought they had done inestimable service to the country he was equally bound to follow his honourable friend (Mr. Villiers) in the course he proposed to take to make the repeal immediate (cheers). He (Mr. Ward) did not pass the whole week in that house. He passed a portion of the week in a less heated atmosphere than he breathed there.' He mixed with men in the country who had nothing to do with their party questions, and he could say that the tenant farmers in many parts of England -men who differed with him for the last 10 years on this question of protection -- were now all rejoicing at the largeness of the majority by which the question was decided; for they said they hoped this would settle it (hear, hear). They said they trusted they would not have an agitation kept up for three years -that they would not have to endure that protracted uncertainty, but that they would be looking-not to a dissolution, or to a new battle to be fought-but to Michaelmas next, like practical sober men as they are, to enter into new arrangements with their landlords to meet the new state of things that had arisen from the proceedings in that house (cheers from the Opposition). That was the general feeling that prevailed almost everywhere through the country, amongst men who were not tainted by the atmosphere they breathed in that house, who did not spend their time in clubs discussing those questions, or in ransacking Hamard for quotations from speeches, to tuat was admitted, that the opinions of public men on the Corn Laws had undergone a change (hear). It was said by some of the honourable gentlemen opposite, " If we are to have the repeal, let us have it at once." we are to have the repeal, let us have it at once." A great many of them said so; he had the pleasure to hear that opinion generally expressed; but "a change came e'er the spirit of their dream" (laughter), and they did not now recollect the sentiments they had expressed but a few weeks ago (loud cries of "hear, hear"). If they would consult their own interests, get rid of the party feeling that influenced them, and look at the question in a plain and practical point of view, they would see that the worst service they could do themselves, as landowners, was to keep this they could do themselves, as landowners, was to keep this question open (hear, hear). By doing so they had been literally outling their own throats, and the result would prove that those with whom he (Mr. Ward) acted were right, and that the gentlemen opposite remember, that in all their than their own suggestion. future arrangements with their tenants their own speeches would be quoted against them (laughter and cheers from the Opposition). For instance, their towartry might hereafter say to the members for South Durham and Someweishire, and to other honourable members—"You told us that we and to other honourable members—"You told us that we should be all destroyed, root and branch, that we laid no chance of competing with the Poles, and other foreigners—that English capital and science would go for nothing—bow then day you expectate to enter upon a competition which you yourselves problem to be so unfair that the race is decided before it is run "(hear, hear). From his (hir. Ward's) experience, he felt convinced that the people were inclined to say let bygoins be livedness; and were desirous to have the office settled without any unaccessary or protrected delay (1931, hear). That was the protrected that the felt of the voise, and that was the ground on which they felt to the true was the ground on which they felt to the true the would the this your in favour of his honourable.

friend's amendment. He did not think he risked the measure of the Government by giving that vote. If he thought so, he would vote in favour of the Government measure, for he thought it would be a great boon; but it would better answer its own ends if it at once came into operation (hear, hear). He, therefore, would record his opinion in favour of

the amendment of his hon. friend (cheers). Mr. LIDDELL said, the two grounds on which the pro-position of the honourable member for Wolverhampton were sustained were these:-first, that there was an impending famine in Iroland, and that an additional supply of food was necessary for that country; and secondly, that considering the state of the corn in the whole universe, and that no superfluity of corn existed anywhere, and also conaldering the failure of the potato crop, and that the price of the Continental market was more equalised with the market in this country than at any other period, it was a safer thing now on the part of the agricultural interest to consent to the immediate repeal of the Corn Laws then to wait for three years, when they would have greater difficulties to contend with, and when greater preparation would be made in the oreign market to send in supplies of corn to this country. Now, with regard to the question of the alleged impending famine in Ireland, be (Mr. Liddell) said, for himself, and he might say the same thing for those who surrounded him, that if the Government came forward and said it was necessary to provide against that danger, the gentlemen on his side of the house would have no objection to suspend the Corn Law, for the purpose of removing that danger (hear, hear, hear). He was sure they would consent to any modification or suspension of the law that would have the effect of removing evils of so disastrous a nature as were said to be apprehended in Ireland; but the Government, on whom the responsibility rested, had taken a different view of the subject, and they had not called for the suspension of the law or the immediate repeal of the law on any such ground (hear, hear). They considered, no doubt, that in calling for a supply of public money to be expended on public works in Ireland, and taking the measures they had adopted to give an additional supply of food to the people of that country, they had done their best to guard against the impending evil (hear, hear, hear). He could not consent to an immediate repeal of the Cora Laws from any apprehension of the danger of famine in Ireland. With regard to the second point, as to the deficiency of a supply of corn in the Continental markets, and the assimilation of prices which now existed in the markets of this country and the Continent, he would only say that this point, considered by itself on this narrow ground, would, per se, be a strong argument in favour of the motion of the honourable member for Wolverhampton. This consideration, however, no doubt received the attention of her Majesty's Government, because they adopted their present proposition of moderate protection. But no one would tell him that they could not get a large supply from those countries at low prices in average years. He had been informed that they could get as much wheat shipped from the Balticat the lowest possible freights, and, as an instance of this, he had been informed that wheat had been conveyed from Bromen to Newcastle at a shilling a quarter (a cry of "No"). He had this from unquestionable authority, and he was satisfied that the state ment was true. The reason of this low charge of freight was, that coal was taken out to the Baltic, and wheat was brought in return, rather than let the ship return in ballast. He did not attempt to derive any important consequence from this, but he merely stated it as a fact. Under all the circumstances of the case, he thought that it was proper that before repeal there should be two or three years experience as to what would be the character of the foreign corn trade, so that ample opportunities would be afforded of making-arrangements between landlords and tenants, and above all for the sake of those of the latter class hold ing leases. He should also oppose the amendment, as the Government proposition appeared to adhere more nearly than that did to the principle of protection.

Mr. HUTT wished to correct a geographical error into which his honourable friend had fullen. His honourable friend stated that Bremen was on the Baltic, whereas it was much nearer to this country.

An Hon. Member on the protectionist bouch asked

where it was,

Mr. HUTT replied, that if he was rightly informed Bremen was situated on the Elbe, which fell, not into the Bultic, but into the North Sea or German Ocean. If such a proceeding as had been referred to had taken place, the ship must have been on a voyage of discovery, and was glad to take in any cargo. He must, therefore, congratulate his hon, friend on the discovery of a mare's nest.

Mr. PETER BORTHWICK was anxious that this debute should be protracted, as he wished to hour more reasons from the Treasury bench than he liad hitherto heard, which operated to induce the Government to make such a great change. He had the authority of Mr. M'Culloch, in his work on taxation, published in the year 1845, for stating that the injurious influence of the Corn Laws had been most stupidly and factionals avaggregated. Refere here exceed the statement of the content of the tionally exaggerated. Before hon gentlemen had asked him to agree with them in favour of Free Trade, they should have shown him that other countries with which Free Trade. was proposed to be established were as heavily taxed as England. It was said that the principle of Free Trade was common sense, but while he admitted that such was the case in the abseract, he felt that this country was placed in such a highly artificial state that such abstract principles could not be made applicable to her. The trade of Great Britain stood shackled on the right hand by domestic taxation, and on the left by foreign turiffs. There never was a grosser insult to the doctrines of Free Trade than the assertion that the abolition of protective duties by England under her peculiar circumstances, while they were maintained by other Eurepean nations, was deserving of that name. He would rather be convinced by one year's practical experience, than by all the arguments which he had heard from the right hon. baronet, and he would therefore have given his support to the Government if the proposition had been an immediate but temporary opening of the ports to meet the distress existing in Ireland. The hon, member for Stockport had told them (the protectionists) to study political economy, but them (the protectionists) to study political economy, but he found that there was not a single writer on that science who sanctioned the present policy of the Free Treders. Phay all agreed with the noble lord the member for the city They all agreed with the noble lord the member for the city of Loudon, that it was absolutely necessary for every sound and wise government to sustain a prependerating influence in the hot of land. Absolute Free Trade was a dogme of the Auti-Corn Law League alone, and until some other authority was shown to him in its favour, he should decline recording his vote in favour of it.

Mr. HUME, amidst some cries for a division, said he must say a few words in reply to the honourable member who had just an down. The bonourable member for Durham (Mr. Bright) had congratulated himself that protection was dead and buried; but it assmed to have risen again, not exactly like a giant refreshed, in the person of the honourable member for Evesham (laughter). That honourable member, amongst many other curious observations, had said that not one of the writers man political economy, had written more one of the writers upon political economy, had written upon the policy of the right hon, baronet. How the deuce could they write upon it (laughter)? The right hon, baronet, much to his (Mr. Hume's) satisfaction had come forward with a most comprehensive plan, and he did not at all wonder that the honourable member had not been able to find in his library (a laugh) any authority upon the subject. Protection, said the honourable member, was considered robbery by no one. He (Mr. Hume) asserted that protection was robbery; and that the landed interest would never have been able to have imposed additional and unnatural prices upon the food of all the other classes in the state, if the House of Commons had not formerly been composed of agricultural proprietors (hear, hear). Until a few years ago no individual could sit in that house unless be had a qualification in land; and it was not to be wondered at that agricultural proprietors should have established the doctrine when the power was exclusively in their own hands. This, however, was not the question. The question was, whether the laws of this country should be equal, and whether there was any justice in permitting one class-those who possessed the land—to tax all the other classes. was the effect of protection; and therefore he denied the justice of protection. The whole object of the right honourable baronet's policy was to remove this injustice, and to give to all classes equal rights with regard to food. This measure would not lower prices, but it would equalise them all over Europe. Ninety years ago, when the ports of Holland were free, the average price of wheat was upwards of 47s. 6d., from which there was not much, if any, variation in England. He had a right to expect that as improvements took place, prices throughout the world would be cheaper and why should not England be placed in the same situation He did not believe they would fall more in England than elsewhere, and he was certain we should have our food at the same prices as other countries. And why should we not? Was it just to see every year fifty millions of exports, created by our artisans, and those artisans obliged to pay lucker prices for their provisions than those of any other country in the world whose products came into competition with theirs in foreign markets? The artisans of England, of France, of Belgium, and of America, would, by this measure, be placed as nearly as possible upon the same footing as regarded food. The labour of our workmen, therefore, would find its reward in neutral markets: thus the country would be benefited, whilst our artisans would not suffer from inequalities in the price of food (hear, hear). The late debate had exhibited, as it appeared to him, an amount of selfishness which he did not suppose to exist among gentlemen on the opposite benches. The house had heard of nothing from them but an anxiety for the landed interest, as if they paid all the taxes necessary for the support of Government, whilst they paid only a fraction. But he would ask whether it was becoming in them to wish to put their hands into the pockets of every other class, which he contended they did. He might be told that this was an unfair statement; but he was prepared to support it. The income tax of five millions annually was assessed upon 200 millions of property. Of those 200 millions, the whole land of England was assessed at only 32 millions, manufactures at 41 millions, and trade at 50 millions. Yet, although the land was assessed at less than trade or manufactures, the claim was made that all the other interests should pay to it a higher price for their food. He would now come to the immediate question, as to how he should vote this evening. He looked upon the measure of the right hon baronet as a comprehensive scheme. It was not confined to corn, but it embraced the whole tariff, except a few articles It was a greater, more extensive, and more useful scheme than he had anticipated, and he was not willing to risk, in any way, its failure. He had, therefore, determined to vote with the right hon. baronet, whose measure he would take now, and see how much more he could get afterwards (derisive cheers from the protectionists). He advised his hon friends near him to adopt the language which was used when the Reform Bill was before that house, and take the measure, the whole measure, and nothing but the measure (hear hear). He was sorry he could not on this occasion vote for the amendment, but he should not be considered the less a Free Trader, for he had supported every proposition made for th ab dition of the Corn Laws. He still believed alse that tot. I and immediate repeal would be the best course in every way; but fearing that any attempt at interference might risk the whole arrangement, he should give his support to the measure proposed by the right hon. baronet.

Lord G. BENTINCK said the honourable gentleman

(Mr. Hume) had asserted the landed interest could not be content with their fair share in the Covernment of the coun-If they had their fair share of it, there would be very little doubt how the measure now under discussion would go in that house (protectionist cheers). If the honourable member meant to say the landed interest wished not to bear their share of the burdens of the country, he (Lord George Bentinck) could easily show that so fur from not bearing their fair share of the taxes, they bore a much larger proportion than their fair share (cheers from the protectionist benches). The honourable member said the landed interest was assessed to the income-tax at 32 millions. He (Lord Cheers) believed it into account at more and the 187 G. Bentinck) believed it was assessed at more, and that 37 millions was the amount. Then it paid fifty-two hundredths of all the poor rates, whilst the others paid but forty-two hundredths. With regard to the motion now before the house, whether they should consent to an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, or accept the proposal of her Majesty's Government, he took leave to say that his honourable friends around him had been much misapprehended on this subject. It had been alleged that his honourable friend (Mr. Miles) had stated on behalf of the agricultural interest, that the farmers of England would prefer an immediate repeal to a repeal in three years, as proposed by the right honourable baronet. This was correct, but his hon. right houserable baronet. This was correct, but his hon-friends did not consider repeal quite so certain at the end of three years (cheers from the projectionists). They might receive "a heavy blow and great discouragement" in the de-section of their leaders. They had been fold by the noble lord (Lord John Russell) that if he had been fold by the noble lord (Lord John Russell) that if he had been fold by the could ment, he would have been in a minority of 40. He could assure bisnoble friend that he (Lord C. Bentinck) coddishly comparried in the accuracy of that attached, for being in London during the short interregum which had vectored.

he must say that this was just the sort of sentiment of many gentlemen who voted differently now, whose supporting noble friend would not have received. And, perhaps, if the country were appealed to now, gentlemen would be returned of the same mind as when her Majesty made the appeal in 1811 (protectionist cheers). They (the protectionists) had received a check, and had been repulsed for a moment, but they did not think themselves half beaten yet Napoleon used to ray the English army never knew when it was beaten; and he (Lord George Bentinck) trusted the same result would be found with his honourable friends (much cheering from the protectioniata). It might be through ignorance, but it was still their inten-tion to fight the battle from pillar to post; and if they were defeated again, as they wore on Saturday morning, they would retreat and rally their forces (cheers). They would carry this question before the country; they would keep in the minds of the constituencies the manner in which honourable gentleman round the Treasury bench had discharged the trust reposed in them; and he thought, before they had done, they should drive her Majesty's ministers to have recourse again to the opinions of the people (renewed cheers from the protectionist benches). They did not despair of eventual success (hear, hear); and this was the repair of eventual success (near, near); and this was the reson why it was possectly consistent with the opinions of the farmers and the landed interest of England that it was better to have an immediate repeal than total repeal at the end of three years. They knew that in the interval the member of that house must be returned to the people, and they hoped to restore things to what they were before (protectionis) cheers). With respect to the prices of corn, which had been referred to the would quote a few figures from Porters tables derived from the Prussian Royal Gazette. For the 18 years, from 1820 to 1837 inclusive, the average price of corn in the ports of Prussia was 25s. a quarter; and if the freight to London was taken at 6s. more, the price would be 31s.; but in the course of that long period there were five consecutive years, from 1833 to 1837, when the average price was but 23s., and five other years, from 1823 to 1827, when the average price was 20s. Id. (cries of "hear, hear")
These figures (said the noble lord) show that wheat can be imported at a very low price when the Corn Laws are entirely repealed. I have other communications, one from Mr. Taylor, from Yorkshire, who has been 10 years in the corn trade, and whose respectability, I have no doubt, my noble friend opposite (Lord Morpeth) will confirm. He says he has purchased beans at 10s. 6d., oats at 7s. 6d. to 8s., and wheat at from 18s. to 23s. a quarter at Hamburg Another statement, in confirmation of my honourable friend, the member for Northumberland, is from Mr. Gonter, who has been 40 years in the trade (hear). He says he has purchased in Holstein several thousand quarters of good wheat, as fine as could be grown, at prices varying from 18s. to 21s. 6d. Freight was 3s. 6d. a quarter. Taking the highest price at 21s. 6d., it will be clear to the farmers at what sort of price wheat can be brought into compeniou with his. There is another paper from Norfolk, from Messrs. Reardin and Co. In the very last year they say they pur chased 807 quarters in Hainault, at 20s. id. Taking all expenses at 6s would give the price here at 32s. 4d.; and that is the price at which, in June last, wheat weighing 62lbs. to the bushel was imported into the port of London. If gentlemen will take the trouble to add the present duty of lis. to the cost of that corn at Mark lane, they will find the importers can afford to pay the 17s. duty, and clear 11s. profit (cheers from the protectionists, and cries of "no, no," from the Opposition). I challenge any honourable gentlemen to disprove that statement. Well, then, is not that a pretty strong proof that, according to the measure introduced by the Government, who think so much of taxing the people, and who pretend that even if the people of Ireland were starting they could not think of coming to this house and asking the people of this country to pay 17s. a quarter on foreign wheat, it is clear into whose hands the difference between a 4s. and a 17s. duty will go (protectionist cheers)? I am going now to refer to a fellow labourer of mine, one of your committee, who, to get up a little diversion (though I can't exactly see what it has to do with the subject), stated the damage paid for by the Duke of Rutland on the score of game. It is right I should inform the house that the witness in question was a Quaker (much laughter). I enter-tain no disrespect to the order of Quakers; but so great was the aversion of this gentleman to shedding blood, that he went even further than those gentlemen at Reading, who were disinclined to thank the British army for their services in India (expressions of disapprobation). Though this gentleman admitted the Duke of Rutland to be a kind man. that he would not allow a poor man on his estate to want for anything (protectionist cheers), though he admitted he was a nobleman who could not find it in his heart to turn off a farmer, though he was a bad one, because his ancestors had long been on the estate (renewed cheers)—but still this not for the life of him understand what possible delight could be taken in spilling the blood of partridges and pice. sants (laughter); and such was his prejudice on the question of damage, that he could not see anything in the true light, for he went the length of saying that the damage done by game, even to meadow land, was 30s. an acre (renewed laughter); and when I took the liberty of crossexamining him I found that the land itself was letting for
25s. an acre (cheers from the protectionists). I can inform the honourable gentleman also, on the authority of my noble friends the sons of the Duke of Rutland, that he was not antisfied with a valuation of 954L in 1839, and of 961L in 1844, and having appointed new valuers, they set down the dumage at 2001. or 3001. I trust, then, I have answered my follow laborated the second seco fellow labourer in the game committee as to the charge which he brought the other evening (loud cheers from the protectionists)

Mr. COBDEN—The speech of the noble lord illustrates the narrow spirit in which this debate has been conducted; for half of it was consumed in showing how chest comwould be if the present dity was abbished, and the chest half in reference—I believe a disorderly reference—to the proceedings of the chest was a second or the chest in the c proceedings of a committee which has not yet reported (hear, hear). I pass over the very courteous reference to my honourable friend the member for Durham, and I also my honourable friend the member for Durham, and of the my honourable friend the member for Durham, and say again, what I before urged as to the first part of the noble lord's speech, that those announcements will be releved by the people with great excitation at the present amount of injuries has been practiced on them by preventing these room having the corn they and a substitute of the present amount of injuries has been practiced on them by preventing these room having the corn they and a substitute of the present amount of injuries and the property of the present amount of fat

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there is not a railway navigator who is not now determined that when corn can be imported free of duty be will have all his supplies from the honourable member for Sunderland (much laughter, in which Mr. Hudson Joined). Now, Sir, the question before the house is a very narrow one, and I promise not to deviate from the strict discussion of it-it is whether there shall be an immediate repeal of all duties, or whether they should be abolished at the end of three years. Now I would say, in reference to the motion of my honourable friend the member for Wolverhampton, that I think it unfortunate he should have brought it forward at this time; but I believe there is no other way, consistently with the forms of the house, in which it could be brought forward -it must be taken now or not at all (hear, hear). I believe if this discussion had come at a period when the temper of the house was in a better state for calmly considering the preposition, and when those below the gangway are more reconciled to the inevitable passing of the right hon. gentleman's measure-I believe there would be an unantmous feeling in favour of immediate, as contradistinguished from deferred repeal (bear). I don't include amongst those who would receive such a proposition with satisfaction, the land agents. Most of the men paraded at various protection societies as farmers are land agents (" No," from the protectioms is). I have paid some attention to your proceedings, and I repeat that the generality of your speakers have been land agents or auctioneers. I have been at meetings in almost every county, and when I have asked one of your professed farmers whether be was not a land agent, the burst of laughter which followed instantly, confirmed my suspicion (hear, hear). Land agents and auctioneers have a sinister interest in delaying the immediate settlement of this question, for from the failures and embarrassments amongst the farmers they derive some of their emoluments. But I challenge any honourable gentleman, who is a representative of farmers in this house, to get up and say that the farmers do not prefer, immediate to postponed repeal (cheers). Then what is the ground for resisting this motion put forward by those opposite—that the question is not to be settled by the division we are now about to take? If anything could justify my honourable friend's motion it is the assertion that the battle is not now decided (hear, hear, hear). noble lord says his party is not thoroughly beaten; that they will keep up the fight from post to pillar, and from pillar to post. The noble lord says that Napoleon exclaimed as to the English, "they know not when they are beaten." But I must remind the noble lord that it is by Englishmen and not Frenchmen that he and his party have now been beaten much Opposition cheering). This declaration, then, is a strong confirmation of the motion of my honourable friend. What is the object of that motion? That we should keep the same position, the same impregnable position by which we have been enabled to heat, and soundly beat, the noble lord and his party (cheers). The honourable member for Montrose chides us for supporting this motion, and says that we are thereby disuniting our friends. On the contrary, that motion is founded on the bond of our union (cheers). I say this with deference; for no man has more right to speak on this question than my honourable friend the member for Montrose, who fought the battles of Free Trade in this house long before it was the fushion to do so; and I for one can never consent to rob him of the laurels to which he is justly entitled. But I ask him now to say whether the question of Free Trade would ever have occupied the position in this house it now does, if it were not for the Free Trade organisation out of doors (cheers and counter cheers)? The ho-nourable gentleman must have too keen a recollection of the unseemly sounds which groeted his ears when he ventured to utter the name of corn, not to be satisfied that it is only by the powerful organisation, founded on open discussion, out of doors, that the question of the Corn Laws over obtained a fair hearing in this house. And now, if we depart from the principle which we have hitherto maintained, and which alone has enabled us to hold together, if anything could arise which would have the effect of disbanding and dispersing us, that the people should lose their confidence in those who hitherto guided them, and that that wholesome pressure from without which regulated the views of many in this house, were withdrawn-I ask, if such a state of things were to arise, what chance would there be of your carrying your Free Trade measures to a successful issue (hear, hear, and cheers)? Well, then, my honourable friend is emided to the thanks of the Free Traders out of doors for having brought forward this motion, and everything which has occurred in the debate has justified his determination. It was already said by the honourable member for Dartmouth that everybody who had spoken approved of the motion. All are about to vote against it ome on one ground, some on another-but not on the gound that we are wrong. Now, I say, when we are right in principle, we can never be wrong in the eyes of the country (loud cheers). The noble lord the member for the city of Loudon takes exception to this motion, because he could not do marting. not do anything that would endanger the measure of the right honourable gentleman at the thear, hear). In the first place, I don't see there is any such danger, seeing all the gentlemen opposite (the protectionists) are in favour of the retention of the duty for three years, arowedly on the ground that they hope to keep it on in perpetuity or to recover their last protection. Now I beg to ask my friends around me, has the right honourable gentleman given us any guarantee that he will secure his proposal shall pass into a law? I perfectly understand the cautous hint thrown out at an early past of this discussion, that the right hou gentleman is less able now than he might have been supported by the cautous statements and the cautous statements. have been at a former period, to predict what will be the fate of the measure in another place, and if I understand the language of those below the gangway, they look to the rejection of this measure elsewhere. Now, seeing the right hon gentleman does not and cannot give us any guarantee that the measure will pass into a law, we are not in a position to entertain the question of surrendering up the principle which has united us out of doors, and enabled us to necupy the position in which we now stand (cheers). I admit the measure of Government to be very little inferior in principle to that which we advocate. I will not for one moment attempt to undervalue its importance (cheers). I have stated out of doors what I now repeat, that it gives us have stated out of doors what I now repeat, that it gives us 17s. 6d. in the pound, and that we have good security for the other half crown. I said that neither the Free Traders nor their leaders desired the least obstruction to the passing of the meanre. The right hop gentleman has allayed agitation by his proposal. The country is tranquil. The country is in suspense, within the passing of this measure, but the country is one that the measure of the passing of this measure that the country is one of the measure of the measur did not happen, what he certainly did not expect, a great change h Breat revulation, which could arise from no other course than from the discovery that they had been in error, which could arise from the other course than from the discovery that they had been in error, which could be a such revulation, look place, this measure did that they had some and they had think would revert to their topics common than they had all they had some and they had they had some and they had t

the measure was passed and acquiescool in it would be impossible to maintain or excite any intense agitation against the law (cheers). Now, I am perfectly frank (hear, hear). The law would have little more than two had a half years to run, and the English who are a practical people, would say, "What's the use of creating an agliation as to a principle which is acknowledged in the act; the act provides for the extinction of all duties, and though we would prefer that this should be done at once, yet before an agitation could be excited, so as to tell at an election, the law will have expired" (hear). But you (the protectionists) have placed things on a totally different footing. You have justified what I thought a somewhat impetuous remark of my honourable friend the member for Durham. You have rendered the course we propose imperative. You tell us you will not pass thus measure if you can, and if it is forced on you, that you will go to another election to undo it. I say that is the desperate course announced by 100 gentlemen opposite (cries of "more"). No, I don't think you are more (cheers). But there are 100 of you determined in the desperate course of taking any steps consistent with the forms of the house, and consistent with honour, not only to frustrate this measure-which you cannot do-but also at the first convenient opportunity to place the Government in a minority (cheers from the protectionists). I see danger to the right honourable buronet's measure in that, and I can foresee, too, the chances of some little delay in another place. There are motions now on the paper which, if brought on during the progress of this measure, may throw the right honourable baronet into a minority (loud protectionist cheering). I can see the possibility of Government being out of office before its measure passes through this house (cheers again). I do not know whether their tenure of office be worth six weeks or two months' purchase (enthusiastic protectionist cheers). But still I do not see the policy of the course you are adopt ing in your attempts to turn the right hon, baronet out, However, that is your business, not mine. Mine is to keep this question wholly out of your power and your reach to touch it. I say that this question with the country is safe. While we are united in principle, no power on earth can prevent us from carrying the total abolition of the Corn Laws (hear, hear). And it is because I foresee danger -because L foressee a course of factious policy adopted towards the present ministers - a course to which I for one will not lend myself (cheers)—it is because I see in all these insidi ous amendments, and in the amendments spoken of in another place, not only so many dangers, traps, and pictalls laid for this measure -- it is, therefore, I say, that I am auxious we should preserve ourselves intact with the country; and if you (addressing the protectionists), if you do defeat this measure, may, after or even tamper with it, then will we fall back upon the country ten times stronger than before (loud cheers). After the division upon this question I shall support the ministry -support them cordially, heartily -1 shall be absent from a division or a debate; and now I shall say to honourable gentleme · opposite, to these who, because they have taken an enlightened view of the interests of the country, have greatly, I doubt it not, to the sucrifice of their own feelings, given their support to the measure of Government, when they see that with us of the Free Trade party there is no disposition to obstruct, but every disposition to assist them -that our policy is formed to attain the end which they as well as we have in view--then would express to them my hopes that if we unite cor dially, and if any accident should cause a dissolution, I say, I hope we shall find that those honourable gentle-men opposite who have stood by Government, will, more particularly when they have ascertained that this at tempt to conciliate the protectionists by granting them a three ye is respite, has failed, that instead of diminishing, it has increased the intensity of their opposition; when they see, and the country sees, all sorts of factions opposition resorted to, then I hope that the honourable gentlemen on the other side of the house, who support the mea sure, will come to this conclusion, that when we do go to the country-if go we must-we shall all go united, with but one principle-with not a vestige of the old spirit of Whig or Tory remaining -determined manfally to struggle for and hopefully to abide the final settlement of this great question by the voice of the country (loud cheers). As to the comparative benefits of a total repeal three years hence -so far as the means are concerned - my opinions are known, and I will not now reiterate them; I hope that after this question has been fully debated, when it is seen that the measure is inevitable, I Gope, notwithstanding all this irritation and recrimination, that the formers, looking at the matter coolly, will come to the decision that an imne the matter coony, whi come to the accision that an immediate repeal is best for their interests, and believing this, I do not despair that even after the meas re is carried—we may, by a short bill subsequently introduced, be able, even in this session, to carry that immediate repeal (lond cheers and language refers to when the language reflect on when tionists). Do let honourable gentlemen reflect on what they are going to do. They are about to promote, to compel, the continuance of our agination. Let them bethink them if they are in a fit position to abide the contest (cheers). Why I, as one of the members for the Lengue, shall be almost ashumed to enter the field with the odds so fearfully against my opponents (laughter and cheers). Broken, dispirited, without leaders or council, I confess I do not think you will put us to much trouble (laughter) in the way of agitation. Why, the ghost of the League, should it be dissolved, will be more than a match for the flesh, blood, bones, and sinews of protection (cheers and laughter). Take a clear view of the case. I hope that view will be taken here—nay, even in another place; and that a better decision will ultimately be come to. And if the Hous: of Lords will take my advice (loud protectionist langliter) if they will in another place, instead of taking your advice, take mine; if they will graciously say the country scoms to profer immediate I reo Trade, and we will pass a measure accordingly; if they say this, then the upper house will be doing much to restore itself to the estimation of the country cheers, and "oh, oh"), and the country in return will receive, and "oh, oh"), and the country in return will receive the exclamation, already so famous, "Thank Heaven, we have a Floure of Lords" (bear, hear)!

Sir T, D. ACLAND blamed the League for the ungracious and ungenerous osgerness with which it sought-oven after its principles had been conceded, and the victory placed within its grasp—to set about the work of guthering up the spoils. What could it matter to them if the final change be deferred for a poor two years and a half—if, indeed, there

gracefully exult when they had attained their object? Why did they so proudly and imperiously interfere to dictate the exact ferms upon which the trace was to be concluded (cheers). He was aware that a difference existed smong farmers and landlords as to the three years. For his own part, he thought that the time in question would serve to smooth the way to the new state of things, and he would be very glad to take advantage of the experience of the effects likely to flow from Free Trade which it would afford, to enable him to make arrangements with his tenants. After this division he did not wish to interfere with the right hon. baronet in carrying out the details of his plan. It was his and his alone. If it succeeded let his be the credit; if it failed, let his be the responsibility (hear, hear).

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE had on a former occasion stated that he would support the ministerial measure. He was aware that in acting upon this resolution he would be giving an unpopular vote, but he wished to give a practical one (cheers). The right honourable baronet had stated that he could not be responsible for the success of this great measure should the unendment of the honourable member for We ice champton be agreed to (hear). He added, that if the proposition came from their own side of the house he would be happy to accommodate the protectionists (checis and laughter). Heartily wisking that such a proposition had arisen from such a quarter, he would yet be obliged, as it had not, to vote with the right honourable baronet for the measure as it stood. He felt that were he to desert the Government now, the right honourable baronet would have the right to say to him, "You left me on the question of the repeal of the Corn Laws, when you knew that our proposition amounted to deferred repeal. You have no right to require us to stand by another part of the plan- the retrospective alterations in the law of settlement (hear, hear). True, the protectionists had at first said that they did not want tho three years' grace; but when put to the test, they would go out -they who were every day abusing and vilifying him-with the right honourable baronet. Really he feared that the right honourable baronet would hardly be safe in such company (lond laughter). It would hardly be safe for him to go into the lobby with them (longliter). He was sorry that the honourable member for Wolverhampton had brought forward this motion. It was said it was done to satisfy the conscience at d honour of the League—they said they were pledged to vote for Free Trade. Why so was he. He had so voted, he had been so pledged long before the League merchers came into the house (cheers). Looking at the matter in a practical point of view, he felt that however unpopular the League might make his vote, still it was his duty to go out with the minister (cheers).

The Parl of MARCH was at a loss to know into which lobby some honourable members could go with safety (cheers and laughter). The honourable baronet opposite told them that the right honourable becomes would not be sufe i lobby, but he (Lord March) should think, from the circum stances which had taken place within the last few years, that the right honourable baronet the Home Secretary was not safe in the same lobby with the honourable member for Finshury (cheers and laughter). However he might venture to assert that the right honourable baronet at the head of the Government would not meet with any great degree o personal inconvenience from the honourable members who sat about him (a laugh). He would not have riven had it not been for the pointed remarks of the honourable member for Stockport with respect to his noble relative. The hon, member had stated that his noble relative had declared in another place that he was for an immediate as well as total repeal of the Corn Laws. That statement he beyged leave most distinctly to deny (loud cheers). He had the best reason for knowing that what his noble relative really said was, that he thought it better to have a total and immediate abolition of all duty on corn, rather than a diminishing duty for three years; and then a repeal of all protection, supposing that the present measure was inevitable, and that the proposal of her Majesty's Government be earried (hear, hear). But his noble relative felt that the measure could not be carried, and entertaining that belief ho was of opinion that it would be the height of folly to advocate an immediate and total repeal of the Corn Laws. What reason had his noble relative for believing it could not be carried? One of the strongest was contained in the state ment of the noble for I the member for London, who lust night expressed his firm belief that if he had been in power, and had proposed a measure precisely similar to that brought forward by the right honomable baronet, he would have been in a minority, even though he had been supported by that right honorable gentleman in his individual capacity as a member of the House of Commons (hear and cheers). In expressing that belief, the noble lord in effect said that the uniformy of the House of Commons was opposed to this mensure of the right hon, gentleman (cries of "no, no"). It was clear that the case was so from that statement. The was clear that the case was so from that statement. The country certainly was against it. Let the house look to the nt elections in proof of that. Let them look to the returns for two divisions of Nottinghamshire, for Gloucester, and for Westminster (oh, oh, and great hughster). Hon, gentlemen might hugh, and think that he had forgotten that the honourable and gallant officer who had been returned for Westminster voted with the Government Change bean Manny Containing and the honour wall but her (hear, hear, hear). Certainly not; he knew it well, but he referred to that election because it proved that the people of Westminster were better gratified - were in fact de-lighted to return the honourable and gallant officer whose principles they were acquainted with — rather than the gallant officer, a great friend of kis (Lord March), who professed one principle in 1811 and another in 1810 (cheers). The electors preferred a man who adhered to his opinions and pledges and did not deceive them (hear, hear, hear). The hour member for Stockport said he would fight the gligst of the Anti Corn Law League against the flesh, and blood, and sinews, of the protectionists (laughter) To that contest he ofullenged the hon, gentleman (lond cheers and laughter), I'ld the hon, member, when he made that offer, recollect the position in which he placed the budy he so ably represented in that house? Did he forget that before he could produce the ghost of the League, he must entirely annihilate its substance (hear, hear, and laughter)? Whilst he gave the hommonior for Stockport every credit for consistency, and he is a consistency, and he is a consistency. member for Stockport every credit for consistency, and he lieved he was actuated in his course of conduct by a desire for the welfare of his country, he could not but say that it was most inconsistent for a Government brought in on the privalples of protection to British industry, by a unifority of 9), to bring forward a measure for its destruction, and that they ought first, in common bonesty, to appeal to the people, of this country is a common to the people, of this country is but was for some time insudible, in considering of tries of a division. The honourable many ber was at tength independent to say that he would not have

risen but for the remarks of the hon, member for Stockport, who, in the course of his speech had, he was sure unintententionally misrepresented what had fullen from him on a previous occasion. He (Mr. Hudson) had stated most disthethy, over and over again, that he believed the probable average price of corn in the year 1840 and subsequent years, would be from 35s. to 30s. a quarter, and not 25s. as had been stated by the hon, member. He could not imagine how the hon, member had fallen into the mistake after the pains he had taken in reading over the reports of the debate; but he (Mr. Hudson) could assure him that he never had placed so low an average on the price of corn. The conduct of the League, which had excited the jealousy and indignation of the people of England, was most reprehensible in withholding the knowledge of the fact, that whilst all duties were to be removed from the importation of agricultural produce, manufactures continued to enjoy protection. The hon, member for Montrose would tell the house that the silk-weavers had plundered the public. Certainly, if there had been any plunder in the case of those duties, the manufacturers had enjoyed the advantages of it as much us the agriculturists (hear, hear). With respect to the assertion, that the farmers of England would prefer an immediate and total repeal to the measure proposed by the right hon, baronet, he could only say, that he had some knowledge of the feelings of the large holders of land, and knew they gave a decided preference to the relaxed protection for three years, because it would give them an opportunity of preparing for competition. He hoped the Government would consider, meantime, the propriety of removing some of the burdens on the landed interest, more particularly he would specify the malttax (hear, hear). He would be enabled to prove to the house that it would be the greatest boon to the farmer to be permitted to mail his own barley, and in saying so he spoke independently, for he was much more largely engaged in commerce than in land.

Lord WORSLEY, who rose amid loud cries for a division, was understood to say that he was acquainted with many persons who were extensive farmers of land, and as far as he could ascertain their opinions on the subject, he believed that their wishes were that the repeal of the Corn Lawa, if carried at all, should be immediate. He believed that they now anxiously wished that there should at last be a settle-

ment of the question (divide, divide).

Colonel SIBTHORP wished to say a few words before the committee divided. As some of her Majesty's ministers were still without seats in Parliament, he would, in the exercise of that Christian charity which was due even to the right honourable baronet and his cabinet, suggest to the house the expediency of restoring the elective franchise to Sudbury (loud laughter). In the bill to be brought in for that purpose, it would be necessary to insert a special provision, enacting that the borough of Sudbury should return to Parliament those ministers who had been rejected by the other constituencies of England (hear, hear, and laughter). Mr. WAKLEY: I regret exceedingly, Sir, to find that

the honograble and learned member for Wolverhampton persists in dividing the house upon his motion. However much I may approve of his intentions, and however highly I may commend the purity of his motives, I cannot conceive a more inexpedient course can be pursued by any member friendly to the measure of her Majesty's Government than by dividing the house upon this question. I believe that he has taken this step in conformity with pledges given elsewhere, and, therefore, that the honourable and learned member does not feel at liberty to abandon the course which he is about to pursue. I feel, however, that it is a most unfortunate step, because out of doors it may have the effect of producing an impression that there is on the part of those who are friendly to the measure of the Government a divided opinion on this great question. But, Sir, there is no division among them (hear, hear), and I think that the country will find that those who go out into the lobby with the honourable and learned member for Wolverhampton are the most carnest, the most serious, and the most strenuous advocates of the measure of the Government (cheers). Honourable gentlemen opposite may imagine that a different opinion will obtain among the people. But how little do those gentlemen know of public opinion. So mistaken are they upon the bearing of public opinion on this question, that a noble lord who addressed the house a fow minntes ago claimed Westminster as a proof that public opinion was in favour of the party to which he belongs. Why, Sir, there were two candidates for Westminster, one of whom had long been a determined repealer of the Corn Laws; the other, one who had received some new light on this question (hear, hear, and laughter). Whom did the electors choose? They chose not the man who had taken a transitory view of the question, but him who had for years been the steady friend of a repeal of the Corn Laws. The Whigs, also, have no distinct a state that state that state and a later to the state of the st right to claim that election as being in favour of their views. They have no right to set up such a claim, because at the last general election, when three candidates presented themselves to the constituency, representing the Tory, the Whig, and the Radical parties, the electors of Westminster chose a Radical, and they have chosen a Radical now. I beg the house to understand that Radical principles are on the advance and in the ascendant. I regret that the motion of the hon, and learned member for Wolverhampton has been made, but chiefly on the ground that an impression may exist out of doors that a division of opinion prevails among the supporters of the Government measure. I can assert, however, without fear of contradiction, from my intercourse with the middling and working classes of society, and the impression is all but universal that the sight hon become the flow is all but universal that the right hon, baronet, the first Minister of the Crown, has done all he could in introducing his measure in its present shape (hear, hear). But one hougentleman opposite says—"We must go to the country;" then, of going to the people, because they have hands as well as you (a laugh). You dony to the unfortunate being whose labour goes to create food a voice in the election of a member to represent him in this discussion, and I am sure from what I have seen that the voice of the people is against you (question). If hon, gentlemen wish that the discussion of this topic should be deferred, I am quite willing to sit down. The honourable member concluded by imploring honourable gentlemen opposite not to offer any opposition to the measure of the Government, but allow it to take its

Mr. NEWDEGATE said the noble lord the member for Lincolnshire (Lord Worsley) had declared that the opinion of the tenant-farmers of this country was in favour of the immediate repeal. He admitted that in the litter

disappointment some might feel at the mad and unaccountable change they had witnessed in the opinions of those in whom they had trusted, such expressions might have fallen from them, but he distinctly denied that the tenant-farmers were now of opinion that total and immediate repeal was any more desirable now than it had been for many years With respect to what had fallon from the honourable member for Finsbury, he firmly believed that a radical and democratic feeling was rising in this country, and he told her Majesty's ministers that it might grow in a class where they did not expect to find it ("oh, oh," and confusion). Mr. VILLIERS replied. The hon, member for Warwick-

shire disputed that the farmers were in favour of immediate repeal. Would the hon, member be content to decide the point by reference to the opinions expressed in that news-Would the hon, member be content to decide the paper, which was said to be expressly the organ of the tenant farmers, the Mark Lane Express? In referring to the speech delivered by the hon member for Northamptonshire (Mr. Stafford O'Brien), that paper said, they had, after mature consideration, come to the conclusion that the honouroble gentleman and his friends were entirely mistaken in supposing the Corn Law to be a tenant farmer's question. He did not rise to speak on his amendment, because the merits of the proposition were not disputed; he would state his motives for proposing it. He certainly had been assailed for doing so from quarters whence he had little expected attack (hear). The honourable member for Finsbury had recommended a show of hands as the best mode of ascertaining the sense of the country; and he had been not a little surprised at hearing similar advice from the honourable member for Montrose and others. He would not inquire what might be the view of these honourable mambers in separating from the course which the great majority of their party deemed expedient; but if any inscription were to be placed on their monument, he would suggest that it should be written as for men who had done some little good to their country by disregarding the opinion of their friends. He would not say anything against those members who thought it right to support the measure of her Majesty's Government in preference to his amendment. He thought they were quite right to exercise their judgment in the matter, and if they thought they would support the cause of Free Trade better by doing so, they were quite right to vote for the measure of Government. Everything that had fullen from any body had shown that his proposition would be an amendment, and injustification of his motion he must say that he had every reason to believe it would not do any harm to the measure before the house, and would be well supported. He was astonished to hear the reason urged by the noble lord the member for Lynn for him and his friends not supporting it. From the moment this session began he had given notice of his amendment, and he had been told by them that he did not mean to bring forward the motion, because he knew that they would support it. This was not only what they had told their friends in private respecting his intention, but what they had circulated in every part of the country where they possessed either authority or influence. The farmers were told that protection could be still maintained. Now was that a way to propare them for the change which was about to take place (hear)? If the noble lord the member for Lynn persuaded the furmers that the old protection might be maintained, would that be as good a way to prepare them for the change as if they were induced to invest capital in the cultivation of their farms, and adopt a better system of agriculture (hear, hear)? If farmers believed that the old protection could be maintained, it would have the effect of preventing them from preparing for the change which was about to take place, and if foreigners believed that the Government measure would be successful, and prepared themselves for it, then the transition would be more serious to the farmer (hear, hear). He could not suppose that honourable members opposite believed that they could retain the old protection, and the tenant farmers he knew did not believe it (hear, hear). An acquaintance of his was at a large market town on Saturday last when the intelligence of the division arrived, and it did not, he was informed, cause the least interest amongst the farmers, nor was it once mentioned at the market dinner. And why did the intelligence possess so little interest for the farmers? Because they believed the Government measure would be carried, and all they were now desirous of was to see the question settled (cheers). When the noble marquess, whom he did not see in his place, was returned for Gloucestorshire, the other day, he presided at a meeting called for petitioning for a continuance of protection to agriculture, and so strong was the feeling in the town in favour of Free Trade, that they would not allow the meeting to separate without adopting a petition in favour of Free Trade (chcers).

The committee then divided, and the numbers were-

*** For Remainder of Debate see our Regular Paper,

MISCELLANEOUS.

JOHN COLLETT, Esq., M. P., AND THE GAME-LAWS.—This gentleman is as great an object of terror to the game-preservers as Mr. Cobien to the Duke of Richmond, and we preservers as Mr. Colden to the Duke of Richmond, and we fancy a recent act of his, relative to these laws, will not diminish his character in their eyes. In a recent number of the Hampshire Independent appeared an account of a little hoy, aged cleven, being sentenced by the Bench of Magistrates at Romsey, for worrying a hare, to pay a fine of 10s. and costs, and in default was committed to Winchester Bridewell. This attracting the attention of Mr. Irwin Willes, a solicitor, residing in Maddox street, Hanoversquare, he addressed Mr. Collett a letter on the subject, and within a very few hours was requested to wait upon him. within a very few hours was requested to wait upon him. Upon an interview with that gentleman, after expressing his abhorrence of the case, he requested Mr. Willes to proceed immediately to Winehoster and release the infant possible from confinement. Mr. Willes on reaching the Bridewell found that the child had not been committed there (the bench having determined not to enforce the penalty until after the expiration of ten days, and then only at the desire of the prosecutor, Sir John B. Mill. Bart.) Struck by the appearance of three fine youths, aged 10 and 17, who were inmates of the Bridewell, on account of breaches of the Game Laws, of the Bridewell, on account of preaches of the Came Laws, and learning that their conduct in prison had been unexceptionable, he mantioned their case to Mr. Collett. That gentleman no scoper heard of it than he dispatched Mr. Whies, instantly to Winchester, and within a few hours the yould were released from the Bridewell, and restored to their

parents. The fines and costs in these cases amounted to the gratitude of the poor fellows at their unexpected the charge was unbounded, and blessings loud and deep rest heaped upon the head of the hon member for Athlers to the same the for their misfortunes, and his liberality in the his sympathy for their misfortunes, and his liberality in the behalf .- The Sun.

A CONVERT TO FREE TRADE.—In Mr. Evelyn Denison speech at the South Nottinghamshire nomination, he said Some one might say, you tell me of changes among state. men, can you show me any change among farmers—among steady practical men? Mr. Denison would try to find them one, and without going out of their own district (cheer), Suppose, he said, if he showed them a gentleman of angless family, the owner and cultivator of a patrimonial catale, family, the owner and contivator of a patrimonial estate, of bad land, strictly entailed, and having a family of children to provide for. Well, that's just the man who would be first to suffer by the new law. So thought the gentleman in question. Alarmed at Lord John Russell's duy of the country for many of you have Rs., he galloped over all the country (as many of you have been galloping lately) to oppose the ruinous scheme of the Whigs; something more—he wrote a pamphlet on protection, which was highly applauded by that gentleman's authority, Mr. Alison, the historian of Scotland. The election over, two good Conservatives returned, my friend next thought that the best thing he could do for the cause would he to answer their opponents of the Anti-Corn-Law League He collected their pamplilets and their speeches, &c., and retired with them to his study. But the process of refut. tion took another course; instead of his refuting the pamphlets, the pamphlets converted him. The pen fell from his hand, and Mr. Nevile, who stands at my right hand, is so convinced of the justice of his views, that if any genils. men there present was alarmed, and had a property of medium extent to sell, he believed he should not misrepresent Mr. Nevile, when he said that he (Mr. Nevile) would be happy to buy it at thirty years' purchase on the present rental

FOREIGN CORN.—The Commissioners of the customs have issued instructions to the collectors and comptrollers of the revenue, at every port throughout the kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to prepare and transmit to the examiner and principal comptroller of accounts, with the least possible delay, the undermentioned accounts, according to an approved specified form, so far as the same relates to their respective ports, viz. :—A return showing the number of quarters of foreign corn, meal, and flour, remaining under the Queen's lock on the 12th of February, 1846, instant, together with the total quantities of the same imported by each individual. The return alluded to is to contain the quantities of corn of various kinds, meaning the produce of the British presentation. and flour, not the produce of the British possessions abroad, held by each importer on the day mentioned, and is to consist of distinct and separate accounts, containing the numbers of quarters and bushels of wheat, barley, oats, peas, beans, Indian corn, or maize, wheaten flour and oatmeal, respectively. The principal officers before mentioned at the various ports of the kingdom, have also been directed to prepare and transmit to the Registres. (teneral of Shipping, with the least possible delay, the ander-mentioned account, according to an approved specified form, so far as the same relates to their respective ports, viz. a return of the number of ships laden with foreign corn entered inwards at the ports of the United Kingdom, between the 5th day of January, 1845, and the same date in the present year, specifying the kinds and quantities of corn, the ports of lading and the ports of discharge, and whether in ships of the United Kingdom or in vessels of any other na tion, and to what nation they belonged .- Times.

THE TIMBER DUTIES .- SUNDERLAND, FEB. 23 .- The shipowners of this port being, like Sir Robert Peel, ashamed of the opinions recently expressed to the legislature by the committee of the General Shipowners' Society, have set on foot a petition in favour of even a more extensive change in the timber duties than is proposed by the Government. The petition, which has already been signed by many of the largest and most influential shipowners and merchant of the port, is as follows:—"To the Hon, the Commons of the largest and most influential shipowners are more property." United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament The petition of the undersigned shipowners of the port of Sunderland, humbly showeth—that your petitioners, since the conclusion of the reciprocity treaties, have been unprotected in their intercourse with foreign nations. That your petitioners, therefore, consider that they cannot in justice be called upon to contribute to the protection of other interests. That your petitioners are of opinion the heavy duty now levied on foreign timber is of that description, as it raises the price of British and colonial umber used in the construction of vessels; and this extra element in the cost of vessels fulls heavily on the shipowners, since, besides the interest on the extra capital invested, there are to be added the heavy items of insurance and annual deterioration in value from natural decay. That your petitioners, from the circumstance of the colonial timber being better adapted to a greater variety of purposes than foreign, do not consider that the colonial trade would be materially affected by the moval of this duty; but, on the other hand, that a most augmented trade might be carried on with distant countries where the present high duty acts as a writing hition. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the hon, house will wholly remove the protecting duty on total

THE FOREIGN CORN GROWER (by James Pillans, the Mark Lane Express).—As regards the cost of growing corn abroad, at least in Italy (which must enjoy equal. vantages with Poland, if we may judge from Italian vantages with Poland, if we may judge from Italian at the shipping ports being quite as cheap as Pollahy ports of the Baltic), it varies little, if at all, from the England. It is true the agricultural labourer in Italy only 8d. to 10d. a day; but it is well known he dollawork than the English labourer by one-third or and the price of all agricultural implements. Italy than in England. The taxes which hear directly land in the cornercying districts of Italy amounts. the land in the corn-growing districts of Italy amo or 30 per cent in some cases, are even higher, all advantage appears on the side of the linglishing and when it is considered that the intelligence will which have hitherto been applied with us to me alone are now being directed to agriculture it seem reasonable to suppose that England hand for all able to grow corn on more favourable terms handly in Europe

to the residence of the

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SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1846.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

LANDLORD CURIOSITY, AND MINISTERIAL DISCRETION.

Our readers must have been highly diverted, and the public in general have, no doubt, been greatly edified, by the very characteristic and instructive incident which, on the night of yesterday week, enlivened the tedium of Parliamentary discussion. The protectionists, speaking by the lips of Lord George Bentinck and Mr. Finch, were, it will be remembered, extremely anxious to get Sir Robert Peel to put a price on their corn. Never was so eager and pertinacious an importunity. "Had the honourable baronet at the head of the Government made up his mind" as to what wheat would fetch, when the new law came into operation? "Has he able to form any calculation as to what the price of corn was likely to be?" . He must see that the demand was reasonable. He had had time enough, over and over again, to go into the investigation, during the six weeks that his bill had been about. What was the result of his researches? How many shillings, now, per quarter, could be undertake to guarantee? Or could be give some sort of general "estimate?" Could he name a figure as likely to be somewhere near the mark? It was no mere speculative curiosity that prompted the query. The highest interests of Britain were at stake. Agriculture would be all at sixes and sevens, without a Parliamentary selling price for wheat. The very rent of land turned on it. "How could they," as Mr. inch emphatically asked, "in the absence of information on this subject, enter into any satisfactory arrangements with their tenants?" How could they "he in a position to tell them what their next in Juture was to be?"

Alas! it was but a vain "pursuit of knowledge under difficulties." Do what they would, they could not get to know. The dull, unfeeling Premier either could not, or would not, tell. He "could not answer the question of the noble lord." He had not the least idea what their selling price was going to be, and it was no use asking. " If he were asked to quarantee what hereafter would be the price of wheat, HR COULD ONLY BAY THAT HE COULD GIVE NO CUCH GUARANTER" Not so much as an "estimate" could he venture on—"it was utterly impossible." Quite true was it, as they repreachfully reminded im, that he had said something, in 1842, about some such price as Afty-six shillings"—but that the very reason why he could not commit him-If now; "it was because of his courage, in 1842, Since 1842, he had had his process. He had rieft that line of business altogether, and must positively decline over acting again as land-valuer and appraiser. Really, honourable gentlemen must excuse him. It was impossible to mind the corn market and the empire at the same time. Honourable gentlemen must please attend to their business as corn manufacturers, dealers, and chapmen, and leave him to attend to his business as statesman.

It is pleasant to be able to add, that the inquisitive agricultural mind was not altogether put off with these very unsatisfactory negatives. Our protectionists did get something positive at last, though not in the quarter to which their suit was more especially addressed. Mr. Villiers kindly interposed to do them a good turn, and volunteered a suggestion which, we will venture to say, will, if judiciously carried out, answer every essential purpose of the querists: "If honourable gentlemen wanted to know what would become of them when protection was withdrawn, why, he would tell them—they would be obliged to look after their property: they would cultivate it much better, and perhaps be richer and better men."

It is, however, we think, perfectly practicable to givo a direct and explicit answer to the landlord query, which the honourable member for Wolverhampton's general admonition seems to evade rather than to solve. What will the landlords' corn fetch under the Free Trade regime? Why, it will fetch exactly what it is worth. The misfortune is, they want more for their corn than it is worth. For these thirty years past, and more, they have been doing nothing else than devising expedients to make their corn sell for more than it is worth, by foreibly proventing people from dealing at any other than their own shop, 'No wonder they are puzzled. They have never been used to fair market prices. The notion of honest trading puts them quite out of their calculations. They cannot in the least comprehend the come-down, from the stilts of protoction to the level ground of vulgar supply and demand.

May we suggest one consideration that strikes us as fitted to soothe the agricultural feelings, under the rebuff which a cold-hearted and worldly-wise Premier administered to an illicit curiosity? Suppose he had been malicious enough to indulge his old friends with an "estimate!" What an opportunity for gratifying vindictive and angry feelingwere his nature susceptible of an impulse so ungenerous! He had nothing to do but name some extraordinarily and alarmingly low figure-and where would they have been then? Fairly pinned. There would have been no getting out of it. They must have accepted the Peel valuation, as asked for; and acquiesced, without more words, in the Peel estimate of prices, with rents to match. Happily, the minister was merciful, and scorned to take advantage of the simplicity even of the men who brand him with "perfidy." It is still an open question for them. They are still their own men, and may do the best they can for themselves. They can talk the matter quietly over with their tenantry. There is yet a wide margin of hope and possibility. We are quite sure they will be for looking on the bright side of things, when the time really comes for the dreaded adjustment of rents. We should not be surprised to see them take a decidedly sanguine view of the prospects of the corn market, and the capabilities and resources of rent-payers. We confidently expeet, that from the moment the new Corn Law gets fairly on the statute-book, they will begin to please themselves with the discovery that, after all, prices will not be much the worse, and that rents may very well remain for the present as they are.

This little Parliamentary episode is really, in every way, most instructive. We feel infinitely obliged to Lord George Bentinck and Mr. Finch—

to the latter gentleman, in particular, who is a fine specimen of that invaluable class of men who blurt out, with a sort of blundering honesty, things which the discreeter portion of protectionist mankind content themselves with privately thinking. It can never again be said, after this, that "protection" is not meant to raise prices, and that artifleially high prices are not coveted for the sake of artificially high rents. The design, and the motive, are now avowed. To fix the price which corn is to sell atand fix it high, in order that rents may be high, too is now the openly-declared intent of protectionist legislation. We have it from the landlords own lips. They tell us, in their places in Parliament, that a statesman's first business is to make wheat sell well, in order that wheat-growing land may let well. There is no disguise or mystification about it. "You, Sir Robert Peel, Prime Minister of tho British empire, are making a new Corn Law; now, we, the legislators of the British empire, deal in corn, and in the land on which corn is grown; and we particularly wish to know what prices we are to get for our corn, and what routs those prices will enable our receivers to pay us." We are obliged to you, Mr. Finch. You have knocked the right nail on the head, Mr. Finch. You did not mean it, Mr.

Did it never occur, we wonder, to our landlords, to ask, themselves what they would think if the cotton lords -- whose aggregate amount of annual production is on some such scale as their own-were to press Prime Ministers with this sort of questioning? What price does Sir Robert Peel consider calicoes likely to sell at? How much per yard will be guarantee for shirtings? And can be form any calculation, or give any estimate, with reference to muslin? Will be please be so good as to say, because in the absence of information on these subjects the cotton men cannot possibly be in a position to ascertain their profits, adjust their expenditure, and regulate the portions of their daughters. Were the cotton men mean enough, silly enough, and audacious enough, to talk in this strain, our landowners would perhaps be able to appreciate the sordidness and impertinence of wresting the powers of legislation to serve trading purposes. and calling on the Prime Minister of a mighty empire to officiate as a sort of general factory foreman.

Finch, but you have clinched our case.

We heartily congratulate the farmers on the result of this curious legislative interlude. They may now see -those of them who have yet anything to learn on this subject-what exactly it is that the "farmers' friends" really mean; - high prices by Act of Parliament, or a Parliamentary promise of high prices, to afford leverage for raising ronts. We especially congratulate them on the final stop now put to this hoax of Parliamentary prices. The delusion is now, once for all, exploded. Politics and agriculture are divorced. The Prime Minister formally declines acting any longer in the capacity of land valuer. Farmers will never again have to pay, out of their capital, rents adjusted by a fragile Parliamentary promise. There is no such promise now in existence. The Premier refuses to interposo so much as an estimate, or a guess, between the hirer and the letter of arable The two parties meet on perfectly clear and equal commercial terms - with not even a conjecture of "some such price as fiftysix shillings" to mystify the commercial character of the transaction. Renting a farm will, in future, be like renting a cotton-mill;-the lessee will look at the actual, natural state of the markets, make his calculations, and strike his bargain accordingly. Rarely has a statesman rendered a better service to his country, by the display of knowledge and foresight, than Sir Robert Poel has now done by a plain confession of irremediable ignorance.

NEXT WEEK—ANOTHER MONSTER DEBATE THREATENED.

The unexpected rapidity and facility with which the House of Commons has affirmed, in committee, without exception, every item of the Ministerial scheme, must not lead us to fancy that we are at the end of the business yet. Monopoly, it is generally understood, has still a vast deal to say for Itself-has a prodigious fund of talk -bottled up in reserve, wherewith to deluge a patient and long suffering public. The second reading of the Bill, founded on and embodying the resolutions of the committee, is fixed for Monday nightwhen, if rumour speak truly, we are to have another monster debate, another experiment in may art of talking against time. There are, it is paid, to be more crushing exposures of ministerial "inconsistency" -more select readings from Hansard -- more deminciations of the "perfidy" which a recreant and apostate Premier has practised on a confiding and betrayed "interest"-more laments over the setting "sun of England"—more "whinings" at the cruelty which compels agriculturists to manage their own business like other folks -more parroting of fallacies, at which even fustianjacketed operatives have almost left off laughingand more exhibitions of that statistical skill and science which conjure up the pleasing, though, we fear, baseless visions of a bread "immdation" from Ohio and Tamboff.

Now, we would take the liberty of suggesting to our Free Trade friends in Parliament, the advisableness of allowing all this to go on with the least possible amount of interruption on their part. Discussion is now a pure work of supercrogation. The country wants only to have the bill passed and it will pass the sooner, the less is said. The ques tion has reached a point at which nothing possibly can be said, on the one side, which the common sense of the country will not instinctively and intaitively meet with the proper answer; and nothing can very well be said on the other which the same common-sense will not have already anticipated. If there is to be a debate, we would like it to have very much of the character of a debate on the truth or falsehood of the multiplication table. Let monopoly talk itself tired--and the business will be over the sooner. Let no stimulants be administered, to prolong the sick life of an effete controversy. The clock will run itself down, and stop in due time, if nobody winds it up again. "Give them rope," is our advice. A cold and impassive silence is really the only reply to make, at this time of day, to the blundering sillinesses which constitute the staple of protectionist oratory.

The whole affair may now safely be left with the reading public; that is, with that fractional portion of the reading public for whom the argument, as an argument, possesses sufficient interest to render protectionist speeches readable. The case is one on which fustian jacket is perfectly competent to adjudicate, without prompting. For every variety and sub-variety of the monopolist logic, fustian jacket will be ready with a short and sharp answer. To the deprecased "dependence on foreigners," and the query, " What will you do in case of war !"-fustion jacket will only say-" The more dependence the better-the dependence being mutual, and mutually beneficial, and the surest preservative of peace." For the "inundation" nonsence, fustian jacket will have only a smile, or a sigh, --according as he hopefully takes the predicted inundation for true, or sorrowfully fears that it may turn out too good to be true. On "wages" fustian jacket will probably not be called upon for any opinion whatever. Of "peculiar burdens" likewise, we do not anticipate that very much will be said-that ground having latterly been marked "dangerous," Could one ever feel secure in prophesying, that landlordism will act discreetly, and not commit itself, we should venture on a pretty confident prediction, that little or nothing more will be said to set the industrious classes of the British people comparing notes on the anostion of taxation, overhauling fiscal legislation, and examining into their own "peculiar burdens" under landlord protection.

On the whole, we are sure that nothing will be lost by our Parliamentary friends keeping themselves pretty much in the backgroutid, from now until the passing of the bill. So many speeches saved will be simply so much time gained. Free Traders have nothing to do with the next week's debate, so far as we can see, but to take care to be present, in full force, from the first word to the last—ready, on the shortest notice, to bear their part in the division, and to send up the question to the peers, backed by an overpowering array of those statistics of the division lists, which are the sort of facts and figures best fitted to interest their lordships' attention, and sway their lordships deliborations.

FREE TRADE IN FRANCE.

We have already briefly noticed the first meeting of the Association formed at Bordeaux to promote the freedom of commerce. We are now about to give a more full and complete report of the proceedings, to show that the society has been instituted not in a spirit of imitation, but in consequence of the progress of sound principle,—that it is not based on the study of what has been said or done in England, but on a profound investigation of the commercial and industrial condition of France. The meeting was held in the large Concert-room of the theatre; from 500 to 600 persons were present. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and the sum of 50,000 francs was subscribed in the room.

The chair was taken by M. Duffour-Dubergier, mayor of Bordeaux and President of the Association, who opened the proceedings with the following address:

DISCOURS DE M. LE MAIRE.

"Aide-toi, le ciel l'aidera!
telle est la devise du sage, et
c'est celle que nous vous proposons de mettre en pratique.

"Jusqu'ici, messicurs, nous nous sommes bornes à nous plaindre, et il y a cinquante ans bientet que nous nous plaignous sans succes; on ne nous écoute pas; bien mieux, on a presque l'air de nous dire qu'on est fatigué de nos doléances.

"Aussi, messicurs, venons nous aujourd'hui vous engager de vous joindre à nous, pour réclamer comme un droit ce qu'on n'a pas voulu accorder à nos prières.

"Oni, messieurs, assez et troplongtemps nous avons été sacrifiés à des intérêts particuliers, à des préjugés surannes. Le jour de la lumière et du redressement

des torts est venu! " Pour reussir, il ne faut que nous grouper, car nous sommes les plus nombreux, les plus forts, et nous avons pour nous la raison et la justice.—Que voulons-nous, en Cest que chacun fasse ce qu'il suit faire, ne fasse que co qu'il sait faire, et qu'il celange le produit de son travail contre celui qui lui offre le plus d'avantage, c'est-à dire celui qui lui est offert en échange en plus grande quantité et en meilleure qualité.

"Assez et trop longtemps on s'est occupe des producteurs; c'est comme consommateurs et en leur nem que nous réclamons justice.

"Tout le monde ne produit pas, mais tout le monde consomme, et parmi ceux qui produisent, beaucoup produisent mal, c'est-à-dire cherement et en manyaise qualité.

"L'interêt des consommateurs, c'est-à-dire de la masse, c'est d'avoir des objets, bons et à bon marché, et leur droit est de les prendre là où ils les trouvent à leur convenance.

"Eliquoi! messicurs, est-il bien possible quo ce soit en France, dans ce pays où tout le monde parle de liberté, où l'on afait dix révolutions pour la conquérir, où l'on a tout nivolé, que l'on ose fouler aux pieds le droit le plus juste, le plus naturel d'un citoyen libre, celui d'employer son argont, des bras comme il l'entand, celui d'actister ce qui lui plait et où il lui plait.

"Vraiment, plus on y rêficchit, le, plus on voit que

ADDRESS OF THE MAYOR.

"'God helps those who
help themselves.' Such is
the motto of the wise, which
we intend to put in prac-

"Hitherto, gentlemen, we have limited ourselves to complaint. For nearly 50 years we have complained in vain; let us to day engage you to join us in claiming as a right what has been refused to our prayers.

"Yes, gentlemen, long enough, and too long, have we been sacrificed to private interests and superannuated prejudices; the day of intelligence and redress of grievances has arrived.

"To succeed, we need only combine; for we are the more numerous-we are the stronger, and we have reason and justice on our side. What is it that we ask?that each should do what he knows how to do, and not attempt that which he does not know how to do; and that he should exchange the produce of his labour with him who offers him the most advantageous termsthat is to say, with him who offers the largest quantity and the best quality.

"Long, and too long, has attention been exclusively paid to producers; it is as consumers, and in their name, that we demand justice.

"All do not produce, but all do consume; and among those who produce, there are many who produce badly—that is to say, at a high price, and of inferior quality.

"The interest of consumers—that is to say, of the mass of mankind, is to have good articles at a low price, and they have a right to take these where they can conveniently be had.

"Is it then possible, gentlemen, that in France, a land where all boast of freedom, and where there have been ten revolutions to win it—where overything has been levelled—that man should dare to trample on the most just and natural right of free citizens, that of amploying their capital and later their intelligence directs

l'esprit humain n'est qu'un composé d'absurdes préjugés. "Il y a cinquante ais que

"Il y a cinquante ais que nous luitons pour des titopies, que nous réclamons des libertés qui ne nous profitent en rien, et dans le même moment nous acceptons et supportons patienment que la première de nos libertés, la plus naturelle, la plus simple, la plus utile, nous soit ravie, celle d'employer notre argent comme bon nous semble et au mieux de nos intérêts. Nous nous berçons de chimérés et la réalité nous échappe.

"Et pourquoi n'en serait-il pas entre nations comme entre les individus d'une même nation?

"Pourquoi s'il y a des cordonniers, des tailleurs, des tisserands, et si chaque citoyen ne fait pas lui même ses souliers, ses habits, ses vétements, pourquoi chaque nation n'aurait-elle pas aussi sa spécialité?"

Pourquoi, si la division du travail, celle des industries est bonne parmi les individus d'une même nation, ne scrait-elle pas bonne entre les peuples? mieux, si le principe est bon entre individus, à plus forte raison doit il être bon entre peuples, car l'aptitude des individus à telle ou telle profession ne dépend que de l'habitude et du travail, tandis que celle des peuples à telle ou telle industrie, tient la plupart du temps au climat, on à des causes naturelles qu'il ne dépend pas de nous de changer.

"('e qui est vrai dans un cas, l'est donc à plus forte raison dans l'autre, et cependant nous admettons la spécialité des industries entre individus, et nous la rejetons entre nations, alors qu'ici la spécialité est basée sur les lois immuables de la na-

"Il faut donc le reconnaître, mossieurs, l'intérêt de la masse de consommateurs a été sacriffé à l'intérêt de quelques privilégiés, et c'est au nom de cet intérêt de la masse que nous venons protester contre cette injustice et réclamer le droit de la li-

berté des échanges.

"Il est vrai qu'on a su colorer cette usurpation des droits naturels d'une appareuce de raison. Il faut, dit on, qu'un peuple se suffise à lui-même; il faut favoriser le travail national.

"Mais cet argument n'est pas spécieux, car on pourrait tout aussi bien dire que chaque individu doit se suffire à lui même; mais de là resulternit la confusion des industries; des lors, plus de division de travail et partant la barbarie. Et quant au travail vraiment national, il ne peut y en avoir d'utile que celui qui est base sur la nature du sol et du climat; tout industric qui ne vit qu'à l'abri du privilège est nuisible et fatale, car elle empeche la véritable, la bonne industrie. celle que la nature favorise, de se développer autant qu'elle le ferait si elle pouvait cchanger son trop plein con-tro les produits de l'industrie étrangére : ce ne serait pas la cessation d'un travail national, mais bien la suppression d'une industrie parasite au profit d'une industrie vivace qui fournerait dix fois plus de travail, et emploirait dix fois plus de bras, et mé-riternit scule à ce titre le nom d'industrie nationale. " J'en ai dit ossez, mes

"J'en ai dit ossez, messicurs, pour vous faire comprendre le but de l'Association pour la liberté des
échanges: c'est l'association
des consommateurs contre
quelques producteurs, privilégiés; 'c'est l'affranchisement de la masse; le triomphe d'un droit inné; la
liberté que doit avoir chacun
d'employer-son-argent et ses
bras de la maniere qu'il croit

le plus utile à ses intérêts.

"Il semble, messieurs, qu'il suffise d'exposer feette dioctrins pour assurer son succès; ét, dependant, il n'est est has, il rais, la die, qui ait été plus controverses.

then,—that of buying what they please and where they please?

"Verily, the more we reflect, the more we find that the human mind is a mass of absurd prejudices.

During 50 years we have been struggling for visionary objects, demanding franchises which profit us not thing, and at the same time allow the first, the most natural, the most simple, and the most useful of our liberties to be reft from us—that of employing our wealth as our inclinations and our interests direct. We amuse our selves with fancies, and realities escape us.

"Why should it not be between nations as between individuals of the same nation?

"Why, if there are shownakers, tailors, weavers, and that each chizen does not make his own shoes, clothes, and shirts—why, I ask, should not each nation have its special branches of industry?

"Why, if the division of labour is good for individuals of the same nation, should in not be good for nations themselves? If good for in dividuals, a fortiori it must be still better for nations, since the aptitude of individuals for this or that profession depends on habit and practice, while the aptitude of nations for a special branch of industry depends on climate or other natural causes beyond luman control.

"What is true in the one case is consequently still more true in the other; yet we accept special pursuits for individuals, and reject them in the case of nations, where they rest on the unmutable laws of nature.

"We must confess, gentlemen, that the interest of the masses has been satificed to the interests of the privileged classes. It is in the name of the interest of the masses that we come to protest against injustice, and to claim Free Trade as a right.

It is true that this usurpation has been excused by plausible pretences. We article that a nation should depend on itself, and that we should favour our national industry.

"But this argument is not even specious; it might as well be said that every individual should depend on him self; but thence would result confusion in industry, the censation of the division of labour, and perfect barbar ism. A truly national indus-try must be based on the nature of the soil climate; every industry which can only be supported by pro-tection is injurious and fatal. for it prevents the development of the really advantageous industry, by preventing the exchange of its surplus for the products of foreign industry; free exchange would not be a cessation of national industry, but rather the suppression of a parasitical branch of industry for the advantage of a healthy branch of industry, which would afford ten times as much employment or cupy ten times as many hands, and alone would merit the name of national indus-

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l'ada,

"I have said enough, gentlemen, to explain the object of our association of continuous aumers against some privileged producers; it is an entranghisement of the entranghisement of the contranghisement of the contranghiseme

developing the consumption

of articles subject to impost

commodities which are now

excluded, and consequently

"Let us hope, then, gen-

tlemen, that the government

instead of viewing us with

fear, will favour our efforts

which tend to diffuse com

forts through our towns and

villages, and to consolidate

the system of peace. Yes

gentlemen, peace! for it

must be granted that one of

the greatest curses of the

protective system is to che-

rish and encourage inter-

national emmities, to see

rivals overywhere, and friends

nowhere. It is a system of selfishness, of isolation

raised into a principle; whilst

our system has for its object

to throw down the barriers

which separate nations, sc

to unite their mutual inte

resta as to form an associa

tion of brothers, and that

war, the result of rivalry,

should be henceforth impos-

dream of philosophers, uni

versal peace, and we shall

thus aid the royal sentiment

which for 15 years struggles

against prejudices, against

rivalries, against emnities, to

maintain the peace of Eu-

rope so often menaced by the

bad passions and ignorance

of the masses, worked upon by the ambitious for the pro-

motion of selfish interests.

Finally, then will be rea

lised the philosophic and

generous sentiment which I

heard uttered some months

ago by an august mouth, and

which so briefly explains the

object of our association that

we might take it for our motto-'May every French

citizen be able to procure the

" Thus will be realised that

sible.

pay no duty.

by attracting to our ports

et dont la réalisation ait à surmenter plus d'obstacles; et la raison en est facile à comprendre, c'est, qu'elle a h lutter contre les interets individuels; or, les individus interesses se groupent, s'entendent, forment corps, tandis que la masac est isolee, diseminee sur le sol, et ne comprend même pas son véritable interét.

"La mission de l'Association est donc de l'éclairer, de dissiper les ténèbres dont on a cherché à obscureir la vérite, et de rendre compactes et collectives des plaintes jsolees, qui n'ont, jusqu'a present, obtenu des gouvernements que des dénis de justice, et, j'ose presque le dire des dedains.

e Mais quelques justes que soient nos reclamations, il ne faut pas esperer vaincre sans

" Il fant du zèle, de la perseverance; il faut plus que cela, il faut de l'argent, beau-com d'argent, et la réunion danjourd'hui a specialement pour but de vous en demander l'appel fait à votre patrietisme ne restera pas sans fmir Bordeaux a toniours defendu les principes que nous soutenous. Sa chambre de commerce a, depuis cinquante ans, soutenu le dogme de la liberté des échanges; aujourd'hui qu'il faut agir, les Bordelais, nous l'esperons, ne reculeront pas; ils se montieront dignes de la grandeur de l'œuvre que nous sommes appeles à propager, et justifieront le choix qu'on a fait de Jeur ville pour 🔻 établir le berceau de l'association humanitaire de la liberté des

"Mais je laisse à Julie" bonche plus éloquente que la mienne le soin de vous exposer les besoins de l'Associntion et l'emploi qu'elle entend fiure des fonds que vous mettez à sa disposition, et jome hato de rentrer dans mon-

sujet. "L'œuvre que nous entreprenons demande, comme je le disais, du zele et de la perseverance; comment en serait-il autrement lorsqu'il faut en quelque sorte faire l'education de tout un peuple? Vovez à cet égard co qui s'est passé en Angleterre. Il a falla dix aus de lutte pour eldiger le gouvernement à entrer dans la voie des concessions. Que dis-je, dix ans! Il y en a cinquante et plus qu'Adam Smith a professé les principes que nous soutenons anjourd'hui. Il y en a trente bentot que j'ai entendu en Angleterre le peuple crier contre le corn-bill, et que jai vu afficher et colporter des pétitions, où l'on réclamait son abolition, et cepeudant il faut le dire. l'Augleterre était mieux préparés que la France à recevoir ces idea; les moyens de les y repandre sout plus faciles que chez nous, car on y lit, on discute davantage, et les masses se groupent plus faavec moins do desgers. Il ne faut donc pas nous faire illusion, c'est une centre immense que nous en-. teprenous; mals, je ne crains Pas de dire qu'elle cet aussi gloricuse qu'elle est immenso et je remercie pour ma part de la perseverance nous atteindrons le but que nous

nous proposons.

Mais pour l'atteindre, la première condition est de faire taire nos petits intérêts por-sonnels, d'abjurer tout préjuge, tout esprit de parti. Il faut, avant tout, que le gouhous ne voulons employer que les moyens légaux de la persuasion; qu'il n'a donc rien à redouter de nous parce que nous voulous fordre, le repose, la palx, l'aisance générale et oue I dance generale, of que nons savous que tout cela n'est has possible qu'avec an single possible qu'avec an single possible qu'avec an single possible qu'avec an single possible pour le pour le la language, n'est ha la language de disposé à lui préter appui.

"It seems, gentlemen, enough to enunciate this doctrine to ensure its success, said yet we must confeen that no doctrine has been more controverted; there is none of which the redisation has had to surmount more obstacles, and this for a reason which is easily underatood, because it has had to grapple with personal interests. Now interested individuals combine, consult, and form compact parties, while the masses are isolated, spread over the land, and often ignorant of their true

"The mission, therefore, of our association is to enlighten, to dispol the darkness by which truth has been obscured, to collect and combine the isolated complaints which have litherto received from the government only denials of justice—1 might almost say disdain.

" However just may be our claim, we cannot hope to conquer without a struggle.

"We must have zeal, wo must have perseverance, and more than that we must have money-much money; and special object of our meeting to-day is to raise funds. The appeal made to yeur patriotism will not be fruitless. Bordeaux has always defended the principles which we maintain. Chamber of Commerce has maintained the doctrine of Free Trade for 50 years, and now, when we must act, the men of Bordeaux will not hold back.

I leave to a tongue more eloquent than mine the takk of explaining to you the wants of the association. and the use we intend to make of the funds which you will place at our disposal, and I return to my subject.

"The work which we undertake demands, as I have said, zeal and perseverance; how can it be otherwise when we have to undertake the education of an entire people 2 See what has occurred in England. It required ten years to force the government to yield. What say I? Ten years! Fifty years and more have clapsed since Adam Smith maintained the principles which we maintain this day. For thirty years I have heard the English people cry out against the Corn Laws; I have seen them sign and present petitions demanding its abolition, and yet I must say that England was better prepared to receive these ideas than France. There are greater facilities for their diffusion there than here; the English read more, discuss more, and masses meet there with greater facility and less danger than here. We must not, therefore, deceive ourselves; the work we have to undertake is immense; but I do not besitate to say it is as glorious as it is immense, and I feel grateful to the I hanciation de m'avoir choisi pour son president. Elle a counted on my good will; I too rely on the zeal of my collegues, et. Dieu aidant, j'espere qu'avoo de la paradura son president. Elle a counted on my good will; I too rely on the zeal of my collegues, and with the help of God, I trust that we will attain the end at which association for having chosen

> "But to succeed, our first consideration must be to lay aside our petty personal in-terests, to abjure all prejudice, and all party spirit. Above all things we must show the government that we mean to employ none but legal means of persuasion; that it has nothing to dread from us, because we desire order, tronguillity, posse, general comfort, and that we know comfort, and that we know that none of these are attainthat none of these are attainable without its stability.
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> The from seeking to encould be allowed to enthe the stability of the sta

"Il fant qu'il sache enfin qu'en attaquant le privilège, nous n'entendons bas attaquer le revenu de ses dounnes. mais bien en favoriser l'augmentation en développant la consommation des objets qui en font la base, et en attivint chéz nous des produits qui en sont exclus aujourd'hui et qui no paient, par conséquent, aucuns droits au fisc.

"Espérans done, messieurs, que le vouvernement, loin de nous voir avec crainte, nous favorisera dans nos efforts, qui tendent à répandre l'aisance dans nos villes et nos campagnes, et à consolider le système de la paix. Oni, messiones, la paix! car il fant bien le reconnaitre, un des plus grands fléaux du système protecteur, c'est de favoriser, d'entretenir les latines internationales, do voir pertout des rivaux, jamais d'amis: c'est le système de l'égoisme, de l'isolement érigé en principe, tundis que notre système a précisément pour but de renverser les barrières qui separent les peuples, d'unir tellement leurs intérêts qu'ils ne forment plus qu'une association de frères, et que la guerre, résultat de l'autagonisme, devienne à jamais impossible.

" Ainsi se réalisera ce rève des philosophes, la paix universelle, et nous viendrous atust en atde à la pensée royale qui, depuis quinze ans, lutte contre les prejuges, les rivalites, l'antagonisme, pour maintenir la paix curopéenne, si souvent menacce par les mauvaises passions et l'ignorance des masses exploitées par des ambitieux ou des égoistes intéresses. Ainsi se r alisera enfin ce vœu philantropique et généreux que j'ai en le bonheur, il y a quel ques mois, d'entendre sortir d'une bouche auguste, et qui résume en peu de mots le but de notre association, et doit désormais devenir notre de-'Que chaque citoyen français puisse se procurer au meilleur marché possible le plus de jouissances possi-

bles.'
"Tive le Roi!! "'Vive la liberté des

greatest possible amount of comfort at the least possible expense, "Three cheers for the king!
"Three cheers for Free

(We/shall publish the eloquent speech of M. F. Bastiat, with a translation, in our next Number. We are sorry that our space compels us to defer it.)

Trade."

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE-STAFFORD .- Whom a vacancy was created in the representation of this borough By Captain Carnegie's acceptance of office as a junior Lord of the Treasury, a large number of the independent electors applied to Mr. Lawrence Heyworth to become a candidate. He consented; but before the day of nomination arrived, he had reason to fear that he might be involved in the bribery and treating for which Stafford has an unenviable reputation; and having tendered to his committee a sum sufficient to defray the legal expenses already incurred, he retired from the contest. On this the Free Traders requested that Mr. E. Watkin, of Manchester, would allow himself to be proposed, in order that some opportunity should be afforded for the manifestation of public opinion. Though quite unprepared, Mr. Watkin complied with the solicitation r and at the same time the protectionists brought forward the notorious Dr. Sleigh. At the nomination, the show of hands was decidedly in fa your of Mr. Watkin; but being unprepared with a legal property qualification, he declined to go to the poll, so that the contest lies between Captain Carnegie and Dr. Sleigh-The polling takes place this day (Friday).

Mn. CHARLES MACKAY .- On Friday last the Senatus Academicus of the University of Glasgow, by a unanimous vote, conferred upon Mr. Charles Mackay, the author of the "Hope of the World," "The Salamandrine," and other poems, the degree of LL.D.

THE PREMIER AND THE FARMERS .- Mr. W. Cross a respectable farmer in the neighbourhood of Dover, a few days since addressed a letter to the Premier, in connection with the proposed new plans of protective duties, in which he respectfully submitted, that, were the Income Tax levied on furners according to the profits derived from their farms, instead of, as now, on half their rental, this would be one of the best methods that could be adopted to afford compensation for the withdrawal of protection from agriculture. Mr. Cross instanced his own farm as having yielded little or no profit for several pears past. To this letter, Mr. Cross received, by roturn of post, the subjoined pithy roply,—"Downing street. Feb. 4, 1810. Sir,—I am desired by Sir Robert Peel to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday. Sir Robert Peel trusts that your farm will be more profitable under the learn which he have a which he have never the learn head of the learn which he have never the learn head of the learn head the law which he has proposed than it appears to have been under a system of high protective duties. He has no intention of making any sharation in the Income Tax. It is clear that, in such a case as yours, there could be no claim for compensation, as a change in the law can hardly operate to your injury.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. II. Sir. Phanasson.

attack protection we do not IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT. attack the revenue, but that we favour its increase by

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE anssion of 1846

Eighth Week, ending Saturday, March 14.

The Corn Law amendments, of which we gave transcripts last week amendments which threatened as with fixed duties and fixed miniature sliding scales -all disappeared on Friday night week, like snow under the influence of an April sun. The protectionists began to show symptoms of consciousness that they were, somehow or other, acting a factions part, and that the delay of the Government measures was really injurious to the best interests of the country. So, they abandoned their opposition, not, however, without much talk, especially from that "great man," Lord George Bentinck, who, on behalf of his country and the turf, has had to endure the brant of many a qui tum action. He insisted that Sir Robert Peel should inform them what would be the price of wheat under the new measures of the Government. This question is a perfectly legitimate one for a protectionist to ask. They have been brought up in the idea that an Act of Parliament can secure a given price for grain; and it is really a "crucifying of the flesh" to abandon the notion. Sir Robert Peel, in force spressed himself cautiously; but still he held out the hope that, so far as law could affect it, his sliding scale, which he was then proposing, and which he now abandons, would keep prices fluctuating between 54s. and 58s. But he is not so courageous now. Ever since 1815 the hones of the bewinnkers have been falsified; we have now to'try how prices will work when freed from the intermeddling of the Legislature. But though Bir Robert Peel declined to prophesy what would be the probable range of prices under his new measures, he expressed an opinion that protection had worked occasionally in an injurious way even for the protectionists themselves, for the exclusion of foreign corn frequently rendered prices lower than they might otherwise have been, as in 1895, when the average was 39s. In truth, protection, by confining our agriculturists to one market, enables them to obtain an unnaturally high price in scarce, seasons, but punishes them by giving them a low price in superabundant reasons,

Mr. Finch, the hero of Ruthundshire, was not satisfied with the answer of Sir Robert Peel. The Tree Traders, bethought, ought to know better. So he called on Mr. Conthen to foretell. Mr. Villennes took up the question, and answered it happily. An importunate beggar having sacceeded in obtaining a dole, was asked what he would have done had be not got it. "Why," replied be, "I should have been obliged to work!" So, as Mr. Villiers told Mr. Fineli, if protection were withdrawn, he would have to work-to look better after his property, and the result would be, that he would be a better, a richer, a Imppier man!

Opposition being all withdrawn, the resolutions were severally put and agreed to. And here it may be as well to refresh the memory of our readers as to the Parliamentary process. A simple bill is introduced at once. The member who has it in charge makes a statement, and waks leave to bring in the measure. If this be granted, and the bill is already prepared, it is frequently brought in on the same evening, and read a first time. Then, there are the stages of second reading; going through committee; and third reading. But bills relating to taxation, customs' duties, public money, and so forth, have a more protracted course. Thus, when Sir Robert Peel propôses to make a great fiscal change, or to impose a new tax, he moves that the house should resolve itself into "a committee of the whole house." The SPEAKLE quits the chair; the chairman of committees takes his place at the table; and Sir Robert Peel, makes his statement. Should this prove to be an important one, it is usual for the committee to be adjourned, in order to give time for due consideration. The next stage is the committee's passing resolutions, affirming the expediency of making the proposed alterations. These resolutions have afterwards to be reported by the chairman of committees to the Speaken: and it is not until the report of the resolutions is affirmed, that leave, is given to bring in a bill or bills, which have to go through all the usual stages of first, second, and third readings, with the intervening one of considering all the clauses in committee.

This gives room for protracted discussion; of which the protectionists have amply availed themselves. After Sic. Robert Peel had made his statement on the Corn Laws and the customs, a fortnight was given for consideration. Then came the three weeks' debate as' to whether or not the SPEAKER should leave the chair, in order to permit the house to resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, with the view of passing the necessary resolutions. This hoing over, and the house in committee, a long debate may arise on the resolutions. Should they be successfully carried, another debate may arise on the reporting of the resolutions. Parliament met on the 22d of January, yet leave has not yet been obtained to bring in bills embodying the Covernment measures, with the exception of the one on conn, the second reading of which is fixed for Monday, and on which it is expected that there will be another debute of a week. But Friday night (last night) will probably see some farther progress made with the remaining nieneures.

In the rambling discussion of Friday night week, Indian corn became a prominent topic, and Lord George Bentinck rose to express his conviction that the right course, with respect to Ireland, would have been for the Covernment to have bought up the Irish onts on the spot, instead of allowing them to be exported, and then have distributed them to the poor. The Premier pinned him to this point. White

would have been the effect of such a step? These only are new experted to Poghard to the consumption of Lancashire, Scotlan Level Weles. Now what would have been the condition of the population in these parts of the kingdom had they been forced to bil against the Government for their food? Moreover, the price of outs would have been raised to the Ifrsh people by such a proceeding; that is, of all outs not bought up by the Government. Sir Robert Frel informed the House that 40 5000l. had been expended in the purchase of maize for the relief of the Irish people. Mr. William Miles, who has a impestic way of looking at matters, in the course of the discussion on maize remarked that the United States produced annually seven bundred millions of quarters of that grain. Between this and the Tamboll wheat what have we to expect? Mr. Miles has a peculiar knack of blundering in his statistics. The laughter which his seven hundred millions of quarters created roused his faculties, and he corrected himself by subatituting bushels for quarters, which, as he said on Monday night, was equivalent to eighty seven millions of quarters.

The rapidity with which the resolutions were passing on Friday aborned Lord George Bentinck, and other largeminded men. Further progress was therefore stopped till Monday, with the understanding that there was then to be a debate on Indian corn.

On Monday Mr. O'Connell brought before the house the subject of the distrest now existing in Irchard, and pointed out the results that might ensue if speedy measures were not takéh by Government to provide an effectual remody. In reply, Sir Robert Peel restated the mature of the precautions which the Government have adopted; providing work, food, and placing grants of public money at the disporid of the grand juries. But though the efforts of the Goveriment were rotineous idenable, spontaneous charity must, after all, be the main reliance of the destigute, and they confidently expected that the handed proprietors will contribute their a.d. The Treasury also, as soon as the resolution is passed, will permit the introduction of Indian corn, buckwheat, rice, &c., at the reduced nominal duties, taking the usual precaution of a bond from the importers, to secure the payment of the higher rates, in case the measure should and become law. We must do the protectionists justice so far as to say, that they cheered the proposal of the Prime Minister to permit at once the introduction, for a limited perood, of Indian corn, in order to intigate the distress in Ice-But it was a wholly different thing to allow that it portation to become permanent. However, before we come -to the discussion on Indian corn; we must-notice wlittle prelimingry incident. When Mr. Greene, the chairman of committees, appeared at the bar, and brought up the report on the resolutions which were agreed to on Friday, that amu xing gentleman, Sir John Tyrrell, rose, and

"Trusted that the house would not think be unnecessarily occupied it cattention while Lettook the liberty of reading a 1 ster he held in his hand. He had no wish to interpose needless delay, and should therefore at once give the contents of the letter. The bonourable member for Stoke upon-Trent (Abbernan Combind), the other night, had mide a statement which evidently produced such a strong impres-हाला मुख्या the right-hosemable baronet (Sir Robert Peel) that he elected it most veciferously (loud laughter), and his supporters, on the opposite benches joined heartily in cheans Clear, Is as a. The letter be held in his hand refound to that statement, and for the contents of it he (Sir J. TyricH) would youch, and would communicate privately on the subject with any honoiriable gentlemon. It was from an 1 - ex buto...one of a body considerably allufed to in the course of the c discussions. He began his letter thus : - 'I see that Alderman Copeland mentioned on Friday night' (cries of " order, order"). He supposed he was out of order in giving the name of I see, said the writer, that the hon. member for Steke upon Trent' Chughter, and cries of "order"). He did not know how he was out of order.

The Service is No letter can be read taking notice of a

debate in this house.

Sir J. Tyrcke is would put it in another form: "I see that it has been abserted by a member of a corporate body (Laughter) that a bem in Yorkshire, containing nearly 900 neres, bus bitely been let to a tarmer from Essex, at an incrossed rept of 2007, per as mins, and that he preferred such facts to all the arguments and cloquence on the opposite side. I am tearful this statement will injure our cause (laughter), and as I know the facts of the case, having been requested to look ever it for my friend who hired it. I am induced to furnish you with the chemistances of the case, and shall feel oblight by ven mentioning them as soon as you can in the House of Commons, and you will do our cause much good, as you will find our worthy alderman had not stated the whole facts of the case. This farm had been let in 1832 at a reduced rent of 200L, making the rent 1200L, having been previously 1400L. The person who has now hired it did at last agree to give the old cent of 1400%, the company to whom this property belongs having determined to take no less than that rent. But my friend has now hired it on such conditions as to make the present hiring far prefetable to the old one. The landlords are now bound to expend a considerable sum, estimated by their surveyor at dani Sikki, in erecting new buildings, fences, to find all tiles for draining, to allow 60 neres of grass to be broken up and converted to mable, and this farm being of a fine rich, deep staple, the tenant is also allowed to farm on the five course system, taking oats after whear, which the old tenant was debuted from doing thear, hear). But above all, a clause is to be inserted in the lease, that in the event of agricultural protection being withdrawn (elicers), that the tenant is at liberty to quit the farm by giving notice, (cheering), in the event of its operation being to reduce the prices of his produce; and should his landlords not agree to let it to him on such terms as he might feel safe in continuing the occupation, he would be at liferry to leave it." Such was the letter of the I seex farmer, and he a Sir J. Tyrrell) regretted that the hone member to stoke upon Trent was not in his place that he might have heard it; he would have seen that his statement, though not exactly true, was extremely well invented. The fact was, that if you gave some things the alightest twist their appearance was entirely altered, The Lon, member for Stockport was not in his place; he had alluded to another Essex former, and had made a statement with just about as much foundation. However that hon. member was not present (crics of "here he is."),

The laughter which accompanied this statement was very great. The Essex baronet could not perceive that, like a awimming pig, he was cutting his own throat with every

But a much more important statement was made. Mr. Liddell intimated that he will abandon his threatened opposition to the reduction of the duties on timber. He came to this determination because he had reason to believe that the shipping interest were in favour of the measure of the Government with respect to timber. It was singular that this part of the Government scheme should have been opposed by the shipping interest; for the high price of timber employed in the building of ships is at present the heaviest drawback on the British shipowners; and were the duty repealed, or greatly diminished, it is the common opinion amongst ship-builders that ships could be built cheaper in England than in any other part of the world. Moreover, it was demonstrated, if we remember right, in the course of Parliamentary discussion, at any rate it is demonstrable, that pretty nearly whatever number of ships were thrown out of the Canada trade would be employed in the trade with the north of Europe. However, Mr. Liddell has withdrawn his motion. This is one more instance to be added to the many others of the return of the people of this country to sounder notions of economic science.

The resolutions which were agreed to on Friday night, incommittee on corn and customs, having been brought up,

Mr. Miles drew attention to Indian corn, which, of all the cereals, ranked next in importance to wheat, and the production of which in the United States was equivalent to 87,000,000 quarters, capable of being introduced, into this country at a cost of 20s, the quarter. It would, therefore, enter into active competition with our agricultural produce, as food not merely for stock but for man, and would seriously affect the English farmer. He did not intend to move any amendment, because he was willing that Indian corn should be admitted for a temporary period, duty free, in order to mitigate the distress in Ireland: but he protested against the repeal of the duty being rendered permanent.

Mr. Cardwell thought that the apprehensions of Mr. Miles were exaggerated, and remarked upon the importance of endeavouring to introduce among that large portion of the Irish people whose staple food has hitherto been the potatoa taste for a nutritious grain, which, in combination with opportunities for obtaining employment, might be the means of effecting a great social change in Ireland.

A conversational discussion ensued, joined in by a num. her of members, during which Colonel Sibthorp, on hearing that the average wages of the Irish peasantry were only 28. 1d. n-week, exclaimed, "The Lord have mercy on the people!" And Mr. Bright warned the agriculturists that their absurd opposition placed them in danger of losing not merely their Corn Law but their characters.

Sir John Rac Reid, who has been a Governor of the Bank of England, and is a great-"city" commercial man, also stated that the protraction of the debate on the Corn Laws and the Tariff was paralysing trade and commerce, and miged the house to bring it to a close as speedily as possible. He was biaself convinced that the measures of the Government were for the general benefit of the British empire.

Sir John Rae Reid was followed by another commercial authority, Mr. Labouchere, who, though not blaming the Government for imitating former precedents in appropriating public money for the purchase of food, in order to mitigate the present exigency in Ireland, protested against the principle as a dangerous one. One member, Lord George Bentinck, had told them that they ought to have bought up Irish oats. But no Government ought to act the part of a merchant. Burke, in his "Thoughts on Scarcity," had long ago pointed out how fatal it was for any Government to teach a people to rely on them for sustenance; and the soundness of the dectrine was unquestionable. Let themopen theschannels of trade and commerce; and in the introduction of such a grain as Indian corn, raise the bulk of the Irish people higher in the scale of social existence. He concurred with Sir J. R. Reid in deprecating further delay as most injurious to all our commercial and manufacturing interests.

The discussion, which turned on Indian grain, the duties of Irish landlords, and the extent of the potato rot, was closed by Lord George Bentinck, with some details of experiments on potatoes intended for seed. The report on the resolutions on the different corn duties was received and confirmed.

The House then went into committee on the resolutions for reducing the various duties in the Customs, which are included in the new tariff proposed by the Government. It was agreed that all opposition should be withdrawn, any objections to controverted items, as brandy and silk, being reserved to the bringing up of the report. The second read. ing of the Corn Bill is appointed for Monday next. But the discussion on the tariff did not pass without one interesting discussion. The interests of literature formed the topic of the night. Mr. Ewart proposed an amendment, when the article "books" was cited in the tariff, to the offect that the duty upon foreign books, the production of foreign authors, should, in l'adiamentary phrase, henceforth cease and determine. There is no doubt that the Government made a most clumsy defence. Notwithstanding that Mr. Ewart had duly entered notice of his amendment, it would have seamed as though her Majesty's Ministers had been completely taken

by surprise. No sooner was intelligence conveyed "up stain." that the Government were a little embarrassed, than Mr. D'Israeli, and a compact body, entered the house, and took up their stations " under the gangway." After considerable discussion, during which Mr. Ewart intimated his intention of pressing his amendment,

Mr. Curteis rose, and said that if Sir Robert Peel were placed in a minority, as he seemed likely to be, he would be justified in throwing up his whole commercial scheme He expressed his surprise that any member of the Anti-Corn. Law League should attempt to erabarrass the Government.

Sir Robert Peel felt much obliged to Mr. Curteis for the spirit with which he had spoken. But he was perfectly aware that, having undertaken this task, he would have many difficulties to encounter. It would, however, be a great thing to bring it to a conclusion; and even if placed in a minority on this point he would not abandon the Go vernment measures. But he hoped that members would look at them in the light of a comprehensive plan, and recollect that considerations of revenue frequently prevented for the time the adoption of propositions of which the principle was approved.

Mr. Gisborne and Mr. Wyse advised Mr. Ewart not to press his amendment, and to this appeal,

Mr. Ewart consented, feeling that the opinion of the house was with him, and that the question would be success ful next year.

Mr. D'Israelt sarcastically assured the Government that they need not now be afraid of being placed in a minority until the great and comprehensive scheme was passed. To morrow they would repent of their decision; but when the public inquired why they could not indulge in the luxury of a foreign author at a cheap rate, they would be told that it was because the Government was in danger of being placed in'a minority, and was rescued by an "Opposition" which supported instead of opposing them, but which was only ading them to their ruin.

The amendment having been withdrawn, the discussion on the other articles was proceeded with. Towards the close of the discussion upon the article of wool, Lord John Russell remarked that as the duty upon corn was to terminate at the end of three years, so also should the remaining duty of 10 per cent. on woollen articles. The Premier received the suggestion favourably, and left us with the impression that his idea was that every vestige of protection is to be swept out of the sustoms books of England. He is complete confirmed in his system, and takes every opportunity of declaring that he is determined to adhere to it at all-hazards All this is most significant, as affecting the decision in the House of Lords.

Ultimately the whole of the tariff was gone through on Monday night. We now, therefore, begin to see our way. The Corn Law Bill is in the house; and it is to be hoped that the remainder will speedily follow.

PLYMOUTH FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION .- FREE TRADE AND PEACE.—On Thursday evening, the 26th ult., the Rev. W.J. Odgers, Unitarian minister, of Plymouth, and the President of the Mechanics' Institute, delivered an admirable lecture to this Association on the tendency of Free Trade to promote universal peace. The hall was croyded with a highly respectable audience, many of whom were not meno hers of the Association, and the lecture was listened to with the greatest attention, the audience frequently testifying their pleasure and approbation by the most enthusiastic applause. W. Burnell, Esq., was in the chair, and briefly opened the business of the meeting, after which he introduced the lecturer. The Rev. W. J. Odgers then addressed the audience in a speech of great power. He considered the progress of international communication by steam and the rapid advancement of Free Trade principles as two great movements which were proceeding simultaneously to the accomplishment of the same grand object, "the wearing over the whole earth a web of mutual relations and dependencies, which, growing stronger and broader every year, must at length bind nations together in the bonds of peace. He then went forward into his subject, which he treated at great length, and enforced by a copious variety of argument and illustration. The rev. gentleman's speech was cloquent throughout, and frequently elicited the spplans of a gratified and enlightened audience. At the close of the address, Lieut. J. D. Haswell proposed in glowing terms a vote of thanks to the leadures. vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was cordially seconded by M. 13 hands by Mr. Edward James. The vote was greeted with the beartiest applause, and a gentleman proposed that the letture should be printed in a separate form, if the Rev. Mr. Odgers would consent to it. The rev. gentleman saidle had no objection, and having acknowledged the thanks to kindly voted to him, a similar proposition was passed to the chairman for the able and impartial manner in which he had performed his duties, after which the meeting broke up.

THE ALLOTMENT SYSTEM AT REDDITOR. The hos. R H. Clive has given directions for the division into guiten allotments of about 20 acres of valuable land in the impeli ate vicinity of Redditch. To prevent any supposed partiality in the distribution, the various lots were drawn for in the National Solicol-room, at Redditch, on Monday week under the immediate superintendance of John Maughan, Esq., the respected steward of the hon. R. H. Clive. Upwards of the persons have thus been supplied with ground, as a clean rent to grow sufficient respectables for Alain American There were to grow sufficient vegetables for their families. There were many more applicants than could be accommodated; but Mr. Maughan held out the hope that if the present experiment was found to work well. was found to work well, Mr. Clive would be disposed to extend it - Worcester Journal.

Sir Robert Peel has shown a disposition to detract from the grace of large and liberal concessions by palty reservations or postponement; and, on the principle of williams like man," Sir James Graham, in his very small way help imitating the Premier's policy. The shelliam of the principle of the property of the continued for three months in several way the Among the Chinese not relies becomes the boots that have been with by the continued for three months in several the boots that have been with by the continued for three months in several the boots that have been with by the continued for three been with the con

OUR FINANCIAL SYSTEM.

(From the Times.)
The papers laid on the table of the House of Commons on Monday night, and ordered to be printed, exhibit some very interesting results.

The first of these is an account of the number of yessels, the amount of tonnage, and the number of their crews, on the 31st of December in each year, from 1820 to 1811.

In 1820 the number of vessels was 25,874, the tonnage 2,448,593, the number of men employed 174,514. In 1841 there were 30,052 vessels, of 3,512,480 tons, manned by 210,108 men. In 1814 there were 31,320 yessels, of 3,637,231 tons, and 216,350 seamen.

The number of British vessels entered inwards in 1832 was 10,702, whose united burden was 1,036,840 tons; the foreign vessels were 3,865, of 561,047 tons. In 1845 the number of British vessels was 15,964, and their tonnage 3,669,853; the number of foreign vessels 7,805, and their ton nage 1,353, 735.

The declared value of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to foreign countrics and our colonial possessions was in-

		•	£
1827	 		38,860,378
[81]	 		51,634,623
1-15	 		47,881,023
1843	 		52,279,700
1814	 		58,581,393

The net revenue of the Customs, and the amount of duty received from corn, from 1839 to 1845, were as fol-

			Revenue.	Corn Duties.
			Ľ	I.
1820			21,583,997	1,008,858
1840	./•	• •	21,781,499	1,156,636
+1811	·		21,898,811	568,340
1813			21,025,145	1,363,969
1813			21,033,717	758,200
1811			128,100,55	1,098,383
1845			20,196,856	367,008

With respect to the silk trade, the returns are extremely full, but we have only room for one or two extracts. The quantity of silk of all kinds entered for home consumption in 1814 was 2,119,974lb., in 1824 it had risen to 4,011,018lb., but in 1834 it had only reached 4,522,354lb., while in 1844 jt amounted to 0,205,0211b.

The declared value of British silk goods exported from the Umted Kingdom in each year between 1826 and 1845 exhibits since the year 1835 a comparative decrease. The value of the silk exported in 1826 was 168,8011, but in 1835 this amount had increased to 973,786L; in 1837 it had fallen to 503,673/.; and although from that time the value declared continues to increase, it had in 1845 only reached 764,4247.

The quantities of foreign silk manufactures retained for ome consumption since the removal of the prohibition upon them in 1820, exhibit a gradual rise from 115,2781b. in 1827, 10.319,153lb. in 1845.

The table respecting wool and woollen manufactures is especially interesting, but we have only space to give a few of the results, which prove that an increased importation has had the effect of increasing instead of lowering the price of domestic produce. In 1824 the number of pounds of foreign and colonial wool imported was 22,564,485; and the price of Southdown wool 1s, 2d, a pound. In the following year the duty upon colonial wool was removed, the import increased to 13.816,966lb, and the price of Southdown wool simultatreonsly rose to 1s. fd. a pound. During the next 20 years the price fluctuated from 6d. to 1s.8d. a pound, and in 1843 it was at 11 d., with fan import of 47,785,061 pounds. In 1844 the duty upon foreign wool was entirely removed, the quantity entered for consumption increased to 65,079,52416. and the price of English wool rose at once to 1s. 2d. In 1845 the amount imported had further increased to 76,828,152lb., and the price of domestic wool had risen to 1s. 4d.

Between 1831 and 1845 the declared value of British exports of woollen manufactures had risen from 5,389,1241, to

In 1842 the total amount of revenue, exclusive of the corn daties, was 32,178,8147.; in 1845 it was 33,415,4317., although during that period the amount of Customs and Excise duties remitted was 5,197,074%.

The amount of reductions in the public expenditure effected by the repeal of the duties on auctions and glass, in 1845, is not less than 52,0361.

A number of extracts from the letters of glass manufacturers in every part of the kingdom, stating the immense in crease of consumption consequent upon the removal of the glass duty, is appended to the important paper from which we have made these extracts.

RESULTS OF THE EREE TRADE POLICY. (From the Morning Chronicle.)

A few days since Sir Robert Peel moved for the production of a number of accounts relating to the shipping, tevenue, and the exports and imports of the United Kingdom, calculated to illustrate the effects of some of the most important changes which have taken place in our commercial legislation, from the commencement of Mr. Huskisson's

reforms to the present day. The paper containing these several accounts was published yesterday.

As a display of commercial facts the paper moved for by Sir Robert Peel is one of the most important that has been presented to the public for a long time. Not that there is much, if anything, that is new in it, but that most of the great arguments of experience by which the triumph of Free Trade principles has been achieved are here marshalled in all the imposing array of an official review. Every line is an argument in favour of the Minister's policy, and every page refutes hundreds of fallacies, many of them so long interwoven, as it were, with our most cherished national prejudices and maxims.

We know not if we have been indebted to the childish and absurd petition of certain shipowners, against the introduction of good and cheap timber, for the timely production of these papers, but the accounts open with an unanswerable reply to the complaints of this class of inveterate monopolists. Shipowners are the only class of mercantile men who have fairly and perseveringly contrated with farmers the charesier of being the most aggreered men on earth. They foo, like the farmers, have divided their auxistics between the care of the Legislature and the dread of the demonts. Ever since a slipowner owned ships he has been an aggrieved man—hastening on to destruction. For the last twenty years, since Hastisson relaxed the navigation laws, the continuence of withit threatened destruction to our commerce, this class of men have beset Parliament year after year with

new representations of their woes and their wrongs, till at length we really believe they have got the world and even some of themselves to give credence to their statements. But what tale does the statistics of the Premier tell? Why since the period when the death-warrant of this interest was signed by Mr. Huskisson, in 1821, notwithstanding the yearly ruin falling on the poor shipowner, we find that, independent of all the ships built to replace those lost at sea, the entire shipping of the country has increased more than one million of tons! The following is the comparison of the property of this class, possessed in 1824 and 1814:

What disinterested men must these be, to increase so much their investments in a constantly losing trade!

But these gentlemen have not only so largely increased their stock of ships, but these accounts show that they have also been driving a most active trade. The tonnage of shipping entered inwards and outwards from our ports has, even since 1862, increased more than one hundred per cent.!

The following is the comparison;

	Ships entered inwards.				Cleared outw		
	Vennels.		Tons.		Vessels.	Tons.	
1832	 14,627		2,497,803		12,642	2,103,420	
1845	 23.859		5.023.688		21.771	-4.309.197	

True, says the grumbling shipowner, navigation has increased enough; but the Danes and the Prussians, the Americans and the Dutch, trade to our ports on the same conditions as our own "native ships," and run away with all the trade. But what says the Minister's facts? True it is that the entries inwards and clearances outwards of foreign shipping have increased each about 800,000 tons; but the entries inwards of British ships have in the same time increased no less than 1,700,000 tons, and the clearances outwards 1,300,000 tons. The comparison from these returns is thus:

	SHIPS ENTERED OUTWARDS.						
			British.		Foreign.		
1			Tons.	•	Tons.		
	1812		1,036,846		501,017		
	1612	• • • •	3,009,853	• • • •	1,353,745		
	ln		1,732,007		792,688		
		SHIPS	: PSTOROD Britisha	INWARDS.	Foreign.		
			Tons.		Ton		
	1803		1,637,693		466,553		
	1845	• • • •	2,947,257	.,	1,361,940		
	In	rrease	1,310,161		895,607		

The last 20 years has been a period of constant, unvarying ruin to the shipowner -- sometimes a little more, sometimes a little less—but still always of rain; nevertheless they have added to their tonnage by nearly fifty per cent, and while they have been driven from the field by the competition of Panes and Prussians, they have nevertheless and inged to sail two additional ships for every one that their competitors have forced—into our trade. And what an astounding fact for these gramblers against foreign competition to know, that for every additional ton of foreign ship ping that has been forced into the British ports under these acts of reciprocity, THEY, the British shipowners, have forced into foreign ports more than two additional tons of British While 895,607 tons of additional foreign ship ping have brought cargoes into our ports, 1,739,997 tons of British shipping have carried cargoes from here to enter their ports. Mr. Liddell has displayed a sound discretion in abandoning the case of the mulcontent shipowners, who think a carrying trade can be best improved by narrowing traffic and throwing impediments in the way of commercial intercourse.

So much for the shipowners. Then comes a table exhibiting the value of British and Irish produce and manufac tures exported in each year since 1827, distinguishing the proportions shipped to each of the chief quarters of the world. By this table it appears that the value of our exports, which in 1827 was only 36,860,376L, has increased until it last year amounted to 58,581,292L. In this increase we at once discover the great source from which new employment for an increasing population has been derived. What facts of immense social importance crowd upon the mind in contemplating this additional demand for more than twenty millions of value of our goods! How many families, who would otherwise have been steeped in pauperism, burthens to their country, have, by this employment, been raised into respectable and useful members of society! How much crime and misery have been saved, how much benefit diffused by this employment! But how could this increase of trade have been scenred, except by those mouns which Mr. Hus-kisson took to reduce the cost of our products, by the reduction of duties on all raw materials, and on the chief articles which constituted our imports? Cheap wool and cheap flax were necessary to made the cheap woollens and linens which would secure a market abroad. Cheap coffee and other produce, received in payment of our exports, were equally necessary to secure their consumption here. And, above all things, a free navigation was necessary to facilitate that intercourse

But this table exhibits a fact, often referred to by Free Traders against the principle of protection, which is not very tasteful to the self-love and prejudices of our countrymen, who deem all the world besides as deserving of so little consideration as compared with our colonial empire. For the sake of the trule to our colonies, no sacrifice has been regarded as too great. England has been always represented as repaid for the high price paid to Canada for bad timber, and to the West Indies for sugar, by the enormous amount of our goods taken by those colonies. Exports and foreign trade have been in the popular mind as much associated with colonies, timber, and sugar, as wages are with labour. A column in the table before us exhibits the proportion of our whole exports to those colonies in each year, and proclaims the unwelcome and humiliating truth to British prejudice, that while even in 1827 they amounted only to about per cent, of our whole exports, in 1814 they little exceed per cent, and that in fact they are the only markets to which, with all the care and protection bestowed upon them, our exports have remained stationary, the average of the last three years not being quite equal to that of the first three years of the period. The comparison between the first and last year of the period of the amount of our exports to the last year of the period of the amount of our exports to the different divisions of markets is as follows:

DECLARED VALUE OF EXPORTS.

		1H27	1844
Northern Europa	••	L'4,533,243	£14,390,707
Southern Europe	••	0.046.701	11,994,748
Africa	4.6	671.499	1,010,030
Asia		1,799 1 2	11,973,721
United States		7,018,274	7,038,070

British North America and West Indies 4 980,572 Foreign West Indies 1,173,9 3 5,439,508 Foreign West Indies 907,369 Central South America, including Brazil 4,001,319 Total .. #584,092

What pretence can now be found to reconcile the English public to continue to pay a high price for had timber, or a price for their sugar at least 50 per cent, above their Continental neighbours?

Sir Robert Peel appears to have been roused by Mr. D'Isruch's flight—or, perhaps, we should say descent—into the region of statistics. The member for Bhrowsbury, getting out of his element, found himself bowildered by the statistics of the import and consumption of silk, when, substituting for figures of mithmetic figures of speech, he held that the reduction of the silk duties had been a palpable failure. Ho quoted figures to show that the trade Ind fallen off. plain that Mr. D'Israeli had been houxed into the belief that Free Trade had converted our silk manufactures from what they were 20 years ago into a manufacture of a material the mere refuse of silk. The monopolists constantly assert that all the increase in the silk trade has been in what is termed "waste knubs and husks." It is quite true that in this, as in all branches, our trade has increased. But Sir R. Peel here gives us an account separating this description of silk from the fine raw silk, and showing the imports in each year since 1814. An abstract of that table, giving the quantities consumed in decennial periods, is attached, the result of which is as follows:

AGGIOGRATIC QUANTITITIS (ONG MED IN	TUS TRAUS.
Ran Silk		Thrown
	and Husley	
11.4,	1104.	Hest,
1814—1823 15,914,245	A9C-905	, 0.604,8722
184 - 1831, 12,016 90 /	1.1119,891,515	1572,62 8
184 49337,125,111	11,924,815	2,657 , 189
AVERAGE IN	EACH YEAR.	
1811-1821 1521,121	58, 91	1780 837
1821 1831, 0, 91,690, .		t (28) (8)
18.4 1813 3,749,41	1.199.181	1965.718
15.088		
1844 1,021,509	1,375,855	110,359

Mr. D'Israeli is quite right in saying that the consumption of samething called waste and backs, as of or refushe sancieus d; but here also is the andoubted fact that the five raw silk, the annual con moption of which, in the to years prior to the reduction of duty and the removal of the monopoly to the Spitalfields manufactures, was only 1,521,121lbs., had increased, in 1814, to 1,621 see lbs. !!

Sir Robert Peel follows up this display of the success of these measures by a still more startling evidence of the benefits of competition. When we look done sill, and highly proteeted silk goods, we might force our people at home to purthen them, but we could commund no lot that the Hence if the home trade was bad, Spitalfields bad no other resource than public charity; no foreign markets to full back upon. But with Free Trade and cheaper good, a foreign trade has rapidly risen in silk goods, as mall others. In 1-26, by the tables before my our exports of silk goods anounted only to 168,801/1; and in 184 eto 764,424/. But the most earlors fact shown by this table is, that, with the single exception of the United States, we now expect a begar quantity of salk pools to Pracee than to any other country in the world, and more then to all our colonial possessions together; another very unkind cut to John Buli's coloraid prejudices.

The Minister next goes on to show the result of the reduction in the timber duties in 1842. We recently alluded to this subject in detail, and shall again have eccusion to do so when the number duties come to be diver self. Under the reduction of duty a rapid increase of consumption has tol-lowed. The following is the comparison of the three years in which the low duties have been in operation:

a partition of	1 RG D TO	C COUNTRIBON.		
. Colon	from icu			
Deals, Batters,	Timber	Deale, Batience,	Tooler	
Sec.	heyn.	Sec	bewn.	
1 0000	Louis.	1.6a(1s)	Food	
P43 317,8	160 (2012	A 100 11 44	101,5010	
1944 395,101	5 (1.994)	34,19	att i autit	
1985-91	797,190	g. 31296)	1.76096	

The duty received has rapidly risen at the reduced rates, thus:

	the state of the s
1243	
1811	1/01/2/10
1.15	1.012.107

Thus, while the consumer is benefited, the revenue progresses by the increa ed consumption.

Sir Robert Peel next famishes the statistics connected with the import of wool, and the various changes in the duty upon that article. In an elaborate article upon the new commercial policy of the Government, published to Chronicle at the beginning of the recent debate, we laid all these particulers in minute detail before our readers. At the duty of 6d, per lb., in 1823, we imported 19,366,720 lbs. of

foreign wool; at that period the price of English South Down wool was is, 35d, the ib,, and that of heat wool is. the lb. In 1824 the duty was reduced to a nominal rate, and in 1814 removed altogether. What has been the result In 1845, the quantity of foreign wood imported was 76,808,152 lbs. (about four times the supply of i (1); the price of English South Down wool was is, id., and that of Kent wood is, 3d. Just imagine what increased employ? ment the consumption of that additional quantity of material has afforded to our people, and to the injury of no exist ing interest! The export of woodlen goods has increased from £5,636,586 in 1823 to £8,741,728 in 1845.

This interesting and important paper concludes by some statements exhibiting the great benefits which have resulted from the repeal of some of the excise duties, and especially of that upon glass. A statement is furnished of the particulars of the reductions effected since the repeal in 1845 of the duties on anctions and glass, in the Excisa establishment. The salaries thus saved to the public amount to no less a sum than \$52,636 per annum. At the same time, the most gratifying fact is announced, that most of the offcers so discontinued have been selected to fill other situations which have fallen vacant, and that no new appointment will take place till every displaced officer has been taken back into active employment.

In conclusion, we must repeat, that this document con-tains an array of facts which vindicate not only the wisdom, but also the benevolence of Free Trade; which prove that it has been, as far as applied, an unalloyed benefit and blessing. The importance of such a document at this time will felly Justify the length at which we have con idered it.

HOW CAN LAND BEST BE RELIEVED? (From the Economist,)

In microficle under this title, in the Economist of the Obst till, we endeavoured to show to what, extent the applicultural chass as a nody, and had as a property, have been relieved from public taxes and food burdens during the last thirty years, by the increase which has telen place during that period of the neconfecture and commerce of the country, first, by the means they have attorded at providing profitable complex meant for the whole addition to the population which has taken place; second, by one reinf which a distribution of the public taxes of the country over a prester number of persons has afforded to each, and to the agricultural class as schody in particular; and third, by the relief which land has obtained, by the greater amount of all other real property during that period, and consequently to e greater proportion of all buildens which such property bears. The Inion Ma gazine for the present month contains an article based on the same facts to which we alluded in our paper of the 21st tilt,, but worked out in greater detail, so as to show the exnet results of the operations of all these causes. Following our former remarks, and the calculations submitted by the writer in the Union, we now propose to place these results before our readers, as showing in a stronger light than any which we have yet seen, the enormous advantages which land us a property, and the agricultural class as a body, have derived from the rigid increase of our commerce, and our manufactoring system sudvantages of which that class has Inthesto been so unconcerous as rather to regard these rising interests as dangerous rivals than profitable affirm

In looking to the relief which had has experienced by the absorption of the sarplas population in manufactures, it is sory to refer to the fact that in the beginning of the present century the maintenance of the poor was becoming is charge which threatened the camillabation of cent altogeticar. The increase of this charge in the sixty-right years from 1550. to PSIs is thus shown by a recent Parliamentary return. The * unry raised in Lingland, and Wales, for the incontenunce of the poor, were, at the respective dates, as follows:

	•		1
1750	7.40 1 17	4501	L, 194, 205
1000			
11 1	2 [65], 30]	1:4:	9 520 (199)

It is then apparent that a rayed inroad was being made in the rent of property-an evil of itself so great, that had no means arisen to have relayed had from the threatened danper, the State rand have adopted songe expensive plan of doing so. But whatever plan might have been adopted, it must be obvious that it could only have been a temporary relief. Another carplus number would soon have risen up, and somer or later the whole value of the hard would have been swallowed up, either by the expense of emigration, or for the support of the population at home. For the haid tions which would profitably employ the people. To takeend our manufacturing system, hoppily for the lard, recents importance just in time to avert the cutastrophe with vinch haid wice threatened.

As nonced incour former article, we find by the last census returns that the proportions of the population emesged in agriculture and otherwise were, in the different years, as

	Engl	644	in a signifier	e.	ં છા	հ բր	ar ait .
1 · 1	1		3 sper cont.		٠.	1. 1	er cent.
1	1		33			1.7	
1.0	J		!! *		١	7.7	
1 1						7.4	

In the first ten years of the period in question only by a per cent, of the population was transferred from land to other pursuits; in the second ten years, five per cent.; and in the third ten years, six per cent.; nexting in the whole period thirders per cent, of the population which have been trans; ferred from a dependence upon agriculture to other pursuits.

Taking the two extreme periods, we then find the popula tion of Great Britain at each divided in the following pro-

•		•			The whole
		Donflore	in	Otherwice	population of
		arme dtu	10.	employed.	-Gréat Britum.
	1:41	4,114,60		8,193,991	 12,500,5003
	1541	4,147,57	٠.,	14,695,639	 15,511,431

Decrease 26 4405 Increase 6/40/36 Increase 6/217/641

We this see that while the whole population increased by 6,247,631 persons, or 49% per cent, the proportion employed magnetature actually diminished by 203,100 persons. If agriculture had maintained its own slave of the increase during that period, the distribution of the population in 1511 would have been as follows:

Limployed	111	agric	uit	ne,	,	Increase t		
1911	٠.		'		1,405,50	Pil per c	ent	6501256
Otherwise		٠.			A. 457,094	***		12,253,158

Total 12,596,503 Total 18,811,431 Which compari son above that, while hand at this time for nishes employment to 2.145,501 persons fewer in proportion to the whole population, that that number have found occupution in other pursuits.

We are very upt to underrate the importance of evils which have not really been experienced, but which, by the timely interference of some agency, have been averted. It is, how ever, clear, that but for the increase of our commerce and manufacturing system, which have ebsorbed not only the natural increase of the numbers belonging to them, but which have relieved the land of its whole increase of population during the last thirty years, the rents and profits of land would by this time have suffered a great reduction for the maintenance of an idle and unemployed population, which, on the contrary, have been converted into valuable customers as consumers of the produce of the soil. By this news the danger which threatened the absorption in time of all rent has been averted, and that which constituted the danger converted into a positive good.

It will be useful now to follow out the effects of this new distribute a of the population upon the general taxation and local burdens borne by each class. In a former article we have shown that the general taxation of the country amounted, in the year 1811, to 65,173,5451,, or at the rate of 31. 40s. 3df to each person of the whole population of the United Kingdom; whole in 1841 the general taxes amounted only to 51,011,5881, or at the rate of 11, 188, 10d, to each individual of the United Kingdom. The writer in the Union then shows the proportion of the taxation contributed by ench class at the two periods as follows:

1811 1811	Taxation: 1 65,176,515 51,911,888	Rate per	le ad. d 32	A wienford, population, 140880 1,119771	Their proportion, 4: . 15,982,100 . 8,049,700
				and i	

. , .	Taxation.		4	Ä.	4.		Other population	n,	Their proportion.
1411	 65,173,545		-31	10	:3		H.187.023		28,760,079
1841	 61,911,555	••	1	1,	10	.,	11,608,600		. 24,000,607
	 as contrib	أسلنا	ريا	r ul	hor	elas	844 8		.2:0,182

Of the reduction of the taxation, therefore, amounting to 13,954,957, between 1811 and 1611 for the whole of the United Kingdom, the agricultural class in Great Britain has profited to the extent of 7,933,4:11., while the other class, compaising the rest of the population of that part of the United Kingdom, has profited only by 220,1821. "If," says the writer in the Union," the general taxation of the country had been borne, in 1811, in the same proportion by the agricultural class, and the rest of the community, as they existed in 1811, the former would have contributed thereto 12,798,050% instead of 8,019,709%, and the latter would only have contributed 23,791,547l, instead of 28,539,897l. Thus, by the increase of numbers which had found occupation in manufactures, commerce, &c., the landed interest, as a class,

was relieved of taxes, on this account only, of 4,748,350l."

Passing on to the consideration of local burdens, we extruct from the Union Magazine the following calculations bearing on this branch of the subject :-

"The one rayion of the property and income tox also exhibits in a tribular number, the renef which land has experienced, in the proportion of the scan it burdens of the state which it is called upon to near. In 1.44, according to the Pacliamentary popers of that year, we find that the whole amount of income de-rived from rect property of various kinds was 57,129,0176, pro-portion of as follows:—

.. £37,666,317 or 66 per cent. y 19,462,700 or 31 per cent. All other kinds of property

£57,129,047 - 100 In 1843, eccepting to a Parliamentary return of lest wession the income from real property had increased to \$5,281,497L, proportioned as follows:---

.. £45,753,615 or 48 per cent. 49,530,882 or 52 per cent.

£95,284,197 "Thus, while land alone, in 1814, contributed 66 per cent, to the property lex, and all other property only 31 per cent, not-vided cading the increased value of 1 and from 37,666,3477, to 15.25 Cells, per annum, other kinds of property leve frisen into existence, chiefly the result of munificturing and commercial enterprise, tash are the burdens of taxation with the land, so that the latter now bears only 18 per cent, in tend of 65 per cent, as in 1804, while the former bears now 52 per cent, in place of 34 per cent, in 1804.

plote of 31 per cent, in 1894.

A According to a Parliamentary return, the property-tax under schelole. A xielded, in the year coded 5th of April, 1843, 2,150,1127. Had this sum been contributed by land mad other property in the proportion, which they have to each other in 1844, the sum charged on each would have been:

On Parall of one cont.

On other property, 31 per cent		. 731,141
		£2,150,412
" But, instead of which, this tax has	actually	been contributed

By land, 48 per cent. By other property, 52 per cent.	1.	£1,033,192 1,117,220
		•

Thus showing that, in this item, the relief which hand, as a

property, her experienced by the increase of other classes of property, is equal to 386,079% annually.

But to pass from general to local faxation, we will now consider the effect which the creation of so much real property, other than land, has lad in relieving the land from the charges of the *Poor Rate, County Rates*, and other local burdens. In 1814 the whole amount levi-d for the relief of the p**o**or was 8388.971), which was charged on land and other property, in the following proportions, assuming that property was rated for local purposes in the same proportion as to the property and

ncome tax :				
Land, 66 per cent		 	25,536,719	
(-)thren-prequesty::14-p	ሶ ፑ-የተዘቲ	 	-8'X",5",5".	

"The amount levied for the poor's rate, in 1843, was 6,552,8907. which, according to a similar principlo, was apportioned as

On Land, 48 per cent \Other property, 52 per cent	••	 £3,145,388 3,407,502

£0,552,890

24,324,906 2,227,981 On bind, 66 per cent. ... On other property, 34 per cent ... £6.559 800

which, when compared with the proportions really charged, show that had has been relieved of its relative share of this burden, by a sum equal to 1,179,5186, which sum has been transferred to the relative proportion of this charge borne by other property. Again, with respect to the county rate, we find a similar result. In 1814, the amount levied for 'county rate was 573,5044, which was a statishated in the following requirements:

as contributed in the following br	opornon	s:—		
By land, 66 per cent	• •	• •	£378,510	
By other property, 34 per cent	• •	• •	194,994	
		_		

£573,504 In 1843 the sum levied for this rate was 1,003,0517, in the following proportione: On land, 18 per cent.

.. 521,898 On other property, 52 per cent. £1,003,651

But which, if levied in the same proportions as in 1814, would have been contributed: By land, 66 per cent.

By other property, 34 per cent. .. 341,243 £1,003,651

which shows that lind contributes now relatively less to this object, by the sum of 180,655/, than in 1814, and that other property contributes relatively more by that sum. Every other local rate, chargeable on real property, has undergone during that period, a similar relative change in favour of land. "Leaving out of view altogether the actual reductions of bur-

dens, for general and local objects, which have taken place during the last 30 years, as not so distinctly traceable to the immediate influence of extended commerce and manufactures, wo will now sum up the relative difference which now exists in the with now saim up the relative difference which now extend in the propertion of those charges which attach to those employed in agriculture and the rest of the community—to land and other property now, as compared with 1814—which has been caused entirely by an extension of our trade, the additional employment it has afforded, and the new property which it has called into existence.

AGRICULTURAL CLASS, AND LAND. If contributed in the sume propor-tion as in 1814. Proportion of burdens notually contributed in 1843. 48,019,700 General taxation ... £12.719.050 1,419,271 Property tax Poor's rate 3.1 IO.388 4.324.006 481,753 602,408 County rate . 7

£12,710,012

£10,204,644

Annual relative saving to land, over and above the actual reductions of burdens	6,404,602		
ALL OTHER CLASSES PI	£19,201,014 AND ALL: OT reportion actual contributed in 1043,	HE	R PROPERT If contribution in the same; thou as in 18
General taxation Property tax Poor a rate County rate	28,339,907 1,117,220 3,107,562 521,808		201,7 61,747 731,741 2,727,764 341,241

"We thus arrive at the remarkable fact, that not only has the land been relieved of the maintenance of its own matural increase of population, amounting, in the last thirty years, to the fewer than 2.445,501 persons, but hand, as a property, and the agricultural class, as a body, have been relieved of taxes, general and local, to the extent of no less than 6.191,602L annually which and entirely by the increase of our commerce and manufacture, which have afforded profitable employment to such an increase proportion of the population, and which have led to the createn of so much additional fixed property in various ways, which as of so much additional fixed property in various ways, which is shared with land all the burdens chargeable upon red p.

This sum, however, of 6,494,602/ represents only the "re lative saving to land over and above the actual reductions of burdens," but the calculations furnish all the materials la which we can compute the actual increase of rental and do. minution of general taxes and local burdens which have on curred between the two periods in question:

In 1814 the rent of land returned to t	3	1 g 7 606 (g) 3,753(0)
Increase of rent	URTHERS.	8,051 55
Share of general tax- ation in 1811 15,982,190 15 Poor rate, 1814 5,536,719 15 County rate, 1814 378,510 15	n 1843	3,145 -
21,897,419 Reducti loca	burdens 10	1,676,557 1,220 563

Thus while the rental of this country has increased by 8,087,2087, the general taxes and local burdens contributed by land as a property, and the agricultural class as a body, have been diminished by 10,220,564t. annually, independent of the numerous special exemptions from particular taxes which have during that period been extended to this class.

We sincerely trust that the inquiry which has now been awakened upon these subjects will convince landowners hea much their true interests are bound up with an uninterrupte progress of the trade and manufactures of the country by which alone a profitable occupation can be found for the mcreasing population and the capital of the country, to the general benefit of all, and that from this source they will find the safest and surest relief of their existing burdens.

REGISTRATION APPEALS.

COOGAN v. LUCKETTA

Mr. Wellsby for the Appellant; Mr. Grove for the Respondent. CHIEF-JUSTICE TINDAL-This must be a question of

fact if anything can be a question of fact: the revising but fister has come to a conclusion, and he has not stated any

facts that enable us to say that he is wrong.

Mr. JUSTICE MAULE.—The principle in this case is not one of law, but a convenient using of fact. It might as well be called a principle of law to say that several surveyors were colled in to form an estimate, and that they were all of opinion that this was a clear annual value of 10l. There is clearly no question of law in this case; and therefore the decision ought to be affirmed.

Mr. JUSTICE CRESSWELL concurred. Mr. JUSTICE ERLE.—I think the test for annual value is that which I have endeavoured to express once or twice what the premises will let for fairly under ordinary circum stances, deducting what the tenant ordinarily had to partial the principle laid down frequently; and I think it is applicable in this case.

Decision affirmed.

BISHOP v. SMEDLEY.
Mr Arnold for the Appellant, Mr. Merewether for the Re-

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CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL.—It appears to me, the decision of the revising barrister was proper under the circumstances of this case. The 36th section of the Act says, that if the occupier's name is not on the rate, he may insist on having it put on; and if there is a refusal, it shall be a sufficient olaim to have the right to put it on, if he actually pays of tenders the full amount of the rate then due for that purpose. It is perfectly clear he did not actually pay, and it seems to me us clear that he did not tender the full amount of the rate due for that purpose; for it appears to me when he called upon the overseers, and after inquiring whether any rates were due, the overseers are the distance beautiful to the distance beautiful to the distance beautiful were due, the overseer saying he did not know, when he tells the overseer that he is prepared to pay what is due, and the overseer says, "I will submit," if he goes away land never comes again it seems to be submit, " if he goes away land never the same is the same that the same is the same that the same is the same that the same is the same that the same is the same that the same is the same that the same is the same that the same is the same that the same is the same that the comes ugain, it seems to me he goes away on the mutual anderstanding that the overseer is to look into the book and see what it is, and that when he comes again he shall know what it is. The case goes on to state that he never made any further inquiries. Therefore, the parties are to each other re infesta in the position of having begins transaction and not having a case of the case and not having come to a conclusion. Therefore, it is enough to say, without going into the two points made by the revising barrister, that he has decided the case rightly and as we have not felt any doubt in the case, in point of law, the decision must be law, the decision must be Affirmed with costs.

Mr. Wellsby for the Appellant; Mr. Grove for the Re-COOKE v. LUCKETT.

chief Justice Tindal.—The elecation being make in the statement of the case for our determination has relieved it, as it appears to me, of some difficulty. It appears now that the learned gentleman, the revising partial is that the mistake of No. 8 for No. 1 the case within the 75th section of the case within the 75th section of the case within the 75th section of the case within the 75th section of the case within the 75th section of the case within the 75th section; he mounts

amendable mistake, and held so under the powers of the Act. A doubt was raised whether it was such an alteration, and he thought it was; and therefore, so far as that part of the question is concerned, there is an end to that; and the point to consider is, whother the facts show the appel-Lant had been called upon bona fide to pay, and had done so in respect of such premises, which premises we must now take as rightly described. The facts showed that the tenant's name was upon the rate, but that having agreed with his landlord to give a larger sum of money for the occupation of the premises, it was on the landlord's part agreed that he would pay all the parish rates and some of the taxes. It ap pears to me that the payment of them by the landlord is bond nde under the circumstances of the tenant being rated, that the tenant is bona fide called upon to pay in respect of auch premises the rates of the parish, and that he has actually bona fide paid the same. I cannot understand that the words "bona flde called upon" means of necessity a personal call, or a personal demand of the rate; but it appears that the tenant's name being upon the parish rate, he is the only person who can in law be called upon by the parish officers to pay the rate. He is the person who must either answer it by actual payment through himself or through some other person, and he is liable to a distress from having his name upon the parish rate book; and therefore it seems to me he is called upon in law to pay the rate. There could be no greater notoricty than the actually calling at the door and asking him to pay the rate in consequence of seeing the name already in the rate book-therefore it seems to me to autisfy these words. He is called upon to pay it in person or be deputy-not necessarily by his own hand. It is stated be did actually pay, and as the words are satisfied, the decision

wrong, and must be reversed. Mr. JUSTICE MAULE.-I think also this decision must be reversed. I think there was a bona fide payment of the rate, and that the appellant was bona fide called upon to pay the rate within the meaning of section 75 of the Registration Act. It is by no means clear that it is necessary, in order to support his vote, to have recourse to that section, because I incline to think that without the assistance of that section, on a due construction of the 27th section of the Reform Act, the vote might have been properly allowed. The Reform Act is not entirely in the dark with respect to the purpose and intent of the different provisions of that Act. In section 27 of that Act the elective franchise is conferred upon persons occupying 10/. houses. There might be set up an occupation for the purpose of the franchise, where they were not bona fide occupiers entirely, and it may well be that they should be willing to take the benefit but not to incur the burthens of that occupation; and therefore the section requires, amongst other things, that the party shall be rated and pay the rates,not merely the putting himself on the list of 10%, house holders for the purpose of the franchise, but that he shall also submit to the liabilities of such a person in respect to the matters in the ordinary and usual course, such as Purther, another that he shall be the person who shall he called on by the purish, and those who have to make the rates as the person occupying the property, and to a sufficient amount. In order to effect that purpose, the 27th section says be must be rated, and that he must pay the rates. We have had several cases on the question of what payment of a rate amounts to, and it has been contended it must be paid by the very hand of the person liable to pay it. Now, generally speaking, the thing required to be done by the statute, or the law, need not be done in his own person unless there is some sufficient reason for it; and it clearly is of the least necessity that the payment should be made by a particular person by his own hand; because, if the money comes out of his pocket and goes into the pocket of the person entitled to re-ceive it, it seems perfectly immaterial whose hand it is that conveys it—the party paying and the party receiving being the same. Possibly we might quote cases in which the dif ference arises but there is no difference arising out of the intermediate adventure of the money in transitu. Therefore, there is no doubt that a person who gets another to pay for him out of his funds and allows it to another person in account, is the person who, within the meaning of this statute, pays the rate. This is meant to exclude a gratuitous payment by some person of that kind, who does not pay as the agent of a party liable, or out of his funds, or to be repaid by him; but a person who pays voluntarily a sum which he is m no way under a pecuniary contract to pay, but pays it so as to fall within some of the mischief intended to be prevented by Parliamentary law. But there cannot be a doubt that a payment which has been procured by the services of any other, bona fide, and which one man gets another to pay for him, is a payment by the person who has recourse to that means of making it. Here there was a complete payment within the sections of the Reform Act and the Registration Act. The main question that turns upon this is, whether the applicant can be said to have been, bona fide, called upon to pay. Now section 75 of the Registration it helps some new cases that would not hold by the 27th section of the Reform Act, but no doubt it is meant to apply to many cases in which that section of the Reform Act would apply without its assistance; but the 75th section is to relieve doubts that may exist in cases that ought to be decided in favour of the franchise independent of the new enactment of the statute of Victoria: and it is to facilitate the decision of such cases, and to relieve the obscurity, and to enable the court and the revising barrister to come rapidly and easily to the conclusion he ought to have arrived at, and would have done so, but with difficulty, under section 27. And therefore, that being the case, it must necessarily happen that there are many cases in which the decision would have been the same if the statute of Victoria had not been passed; and I am inclined to think this is one, and that within the 27th section the appelfant was rated for No. 3, which was called by mistake No. 4, as if it had been, that "a house in Black Lane" had been put instead of "Red Lane," which would come I think within the arise with respect to the words, "bonafide called on," for they are not in section 27, and not being so in the 27th section of the Reform Act, that therefore throws great light on the term in the section of the Act of Victoria; because that section is intended in the cases where there is innocent error and mistake without mala fide by substituting that which is substantially the same, in effect, as a formal compliance which is required by the 27th section, and a compliance would be to substitute that for a formal compliance which is the same in affirm line which is the same in affirm line which is the same in the same effect but not in form. Now what is the effect of being dis-effect but not in form. Now what is the effect of being dis-tinctly and accurately rated? Why, it is intended that it may effectually draw the attention of those parties whose, had been it is to be informed of the matter who it is is liable to not the rate and their in Arms by mittling that person on effect but not in form. Now what is the effect of being distinctly and accurately rated? Why, it is intended that it is described by the election of the said company of ——, entitled to vote in the election of members for the city of London; and the second says, "The following persons claim to have their names it is to be informed of the matter who it is is liable to pay the rate, and this is done by putting that person on freemen of the city of London, and liverymen of the several

the rate to inform him also that he is to be called upon in rospect of occupying certain premises, to pay a certain sum of money, being assessed by authority of law, and that such amount he is called upon to pay to the overseers. All that is the effect of accurate rating; and the statute of Victoria says, that when there shall be inaccuracy, which there possibly may be, that is to be removed ; not in all cases of mistake, but in such cases only where the substance has been complied with, not in those in which he shall either be on or off the rate, for there may be some cases where the rate did not show that the voter or claimant was called upon to pay so much to such persons; and you may take the call and the rate together, and say he was bona fide called upon by the rate, together with some other information he had received, so as to exclude everything from the case except a fraudulent mistake, so as to make the liability acknowledged by the claimant, and to make it notified by calling upon him. may be error, and I am strongly inclined to think the law on that point to be defective; the rating is not merely that he may know to whom he is to pay the amount, for that may be helped; if the overseers be in carnest in the matter by, calling upon him, and thus effectually give him the information,—it shows us merely the demand that the overseers might make, but it amounts to something a great deal stronger than that, namely, to the imposition of a duty on the part of the person to pay it, and a notification to him that he is to pay it. Not simply calling upon him, but writing in the paper that he is to pay so much per annum, and notifying to him and the rest of the world publicly, and in such a way, that if he does not pay it, he is liable to be distrained on for it. I am sure that it is stronger information than the knocking at the door of the party, and saying, "be so good as to pay me so much money." Therefore the revising barrister pay me so much money." conceived that he was called upon to answer a question quite independent of what passed between the oversecrand the landlord—the question, namely, that he was called upon bona fide to pay the rate; and that being so, he has actually paid it. Though the money is not actually disbursed by him, is received by those entitled by law to receive it, and I think he has been bona fide called upon, and has bona fide paid the money; and therefore his name must be inserted The rest of the court concurred, and the deon the register. cision of the revising barrister was reversed.

BAYLEY D. OVERSKERS OF NANTWICH. Mr. Cockburn, Q. C., for the Appellant; Mr. Wellsby for the Respondent.

CHIEF-JUSTICE TINDAL .- The case has been referred back to the revising barrister to certify whether any objection was made before him as to the address of the notice of claim to the overseers of Nantwich being the proper address: he has certified that no such objection was inade; and as it was admitted that all the provisions of sections 100 and 101 of the Registration Act had been complied with, the sole point referred to us was whether the duplicate notice of claim properly samped was conclusive evidence of its being in time? This was decided in the case of nodes of objection. and there is no distinction to be taken between the two cases: we therefore think the decision of the revising burrister is wrong, and that the same must be amended and be reversed, and the names of the 25 claimants inserted in the list of voters.

Decision reversed.

CROUCHER P. BROWN, Mr. Serjeant Kinglake for the Appellant; Mr. Russell

Gurney for the Respondent.

CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL.—The question appears to me to turn upon the proper construction of the 32d-section of the ? Wm. IV., c. 45; and I am unable to read that in other way than by seeing a marked distinction made between the burgess or freeman of an ordinary borough, and the freeman and liveryman of the city of London. The very first observation that arises is, when speaking of other boroughs or cities than London, using in the alternative the word burgess or the word freeman, though one would be synonymous with the other; but when speaking of London, it couples with it the character of freeman and also of liveryman: therefore I should say on the first inception of the case, when it is speaking of a right to vote of a burgess or of a livery and freeman, it couples with the character of freeman the neces sity of also having the character of liveryman; it makes the right to vote depend upon both. If you carry your mind through the enacting part of the clause, you will find the distinction is thoroughly kept up. It goes on to say, "he shall be entitled to vote in such election, provided such per son shall be duly registered according to the provisions here-inafter contained," which do not mean expressly to point to the proviso to this section, but to the general provisions in the act, for the registration of cities and boroughs. And then it goes on to say "that no person shall be so registered in any year unless be shall on the last day of July in such year be qualified in such manner as would entitle him then to vote if such day were the day of election, and this act had not been unicss where he shall be a burgess or freeman, or freeman and liveryman of any city or borough?—still pointing to the distinction, burgess or freeman of any city but Lon don, and liveryman and freeman of London, "where he shall have resided for six calendar months, &c." Then follows the clause which relates only to other boroughs than London, and then it drops the words liveryman and freeman, and only uses the words burgess and freeman. It contains a provision that applies to contributory boroughs; and therefore, not applying to London, it did not want the word. Now you come to the proviso, and you flud the same distinction, "Provided always, that no person who shall have been elected, made or admitted a burgers or freeman since the 1st day of March, 1831, otherwise than in respect of birth or servitude, or who shall bereafter be elected, made or admitted a burgess or freeman, otherwise than in respect of birth or servitude, shall be entitled to vote as such in any such election for any city or borough as aforesaid, or to be so registered as aforesaid." That exception, which is the disfran-chising exception, is in force with respect to the city of London, where you find in the other part of the clause it has considered the double character of liveryman and freeman to be necessary to give the right to vote. Look again at the schedules, and you find the same distinction prevails. In the schedule K, of the 2 W. 4. c. 45, the notices all show in the language they use, that the double character of liveryman and freeman is necessary: "I hereby give you notice that I claim to have my name inserted in the nompanies herein specified, in the election of members for the city of London;" and the same with number three Therefore when you come to the words at the end, " entitled to vote as such," it appears to me the revising barrister ounce to a right decision when he held that with respect to the qualification, it offered only to burgesses or freemen, and was not to include the right of those who claim to vote for the city of London. It has been asked, why there should be that distinction? I am unable, perhaps, exactly to point out why it should be. It might be thought perhaps, that in Lordon, companies being very various and numerous, that is a sufficient check against any of those malpractices which might take place in other boroughs where the whole depended upon the will of the corporation. Buch might or might not be. That appears to me to be the construction of the Act, and 1 think the revising barrister was right.

Decision affirmed.

LUCKETT v. BRIGHT

Mr. Grove for the Appellant; Mr. Wellsby for the Re-

CHIER-JUSTICE TINDAL. - The question put, I conceive, is whether the revising barrister was wrong? And, looking to the facts of the case to see whether he ought, on that state of facts, to have come to a different rough sion; in the first place you have all of these claimants election with the character of tenants; there is a lease made to them, and the case finds no other person as the budlord, and no other person to whom the rent is paid. Being tenunts, we are then told of the mode of their occupation, from which it appears that they are there just as often as they wish, not only for their own business, but some other particulars are told us which we are not to inquire into. We cannot inquire how the business of the association is carried on, and wo cannot say that this was an occupation neither by themselves or by some persons whom they let into possession, whether jointly with them, or severally from thom. The names, therefore, were rightly retained on the list.

MR. JUSTICE MACLE. I am of the same epinion. The barrister has found that the voter was the occupying tenant of certain premises, and the appallant, upon the point reserved, asks as whether we can say the barrister was wrong in coming to that conclusion? The case shows that the premises were let for 200% a year to five persons, of whom the voter in question was one; the use of the premises was by the five persons and other persons admitted with them, for some pure ses, using it for any purpose that they thought fit, and whenever they thought fit. They used it first for themselves in doing their own business, which could not be done by others, and which, therefore, they were obliged to do persomelly when in London. The house seems to have been in charge of some servants, who were the servants of the associntion, of whom the defendant and his co lespees were members; and it was used by the voter and the others who were engaged jointly with the voter in some pursuit which was the object of the association; and from these circumstances the latrister says they occupied as servants. Can we say he was wrong in that conclusion? It seems to me it was by no means an intreasonable conclusion upon the facts; and, therefore, I think the decision ought to be affraced.

Mr. JUSTICE CRESSWELL .-- I think the revising barrister was right in retaining these names on the list. The material question for us is, whether he was justified in finding that the parties occupied this house as tenants. It is stated on the case expressly that the respondent and certain others were lessees at a certain rate, and therefore were tenants of the house, and undoubtedly had a right to occupy the house. There does not appear, therefore, anything in the case to show that they have parted with their right to turn everybody else out at any moment they think fit. It does not appear that any persons came into the house at any time with out their consent. They are said to be the joint subscribers to the same fund, out of which the servants are paid who have the superintendence of the house. These servants are reported to be the servants of those persons who subscribe to the common fund. That shows that they are in the same position as the agents of any other person, and could have no right to be there a moment longer than the lessees chose; therefore the respon-dent reserved to himself the right to remain in the house as long as he pleased, not only for the business of the association, but for his own private business. There is nothing to deprive the revising barrister of the opportunity of finding that they occupied the house as tonants, and that therefore the finding was correct.

Mr. JUSTICE LIBER. I know of no definition of the word occupation" that can prevent the facts here found from amounting to occupation.

Decision affirmed.

SCOTCH LAW OF ENTAIL .-- We learn by an announcement which appears in our advertising columns, that the landlords of Scotland are in earnest upon the subject of cutalls. A requisition for a public meeting of landed proprietors to consider the subject has been headed by the name-of-the-Mai quis of Breadalbanc. It invites the proprietors of entailed estates in Scotland to meet together, "for the purpose of considering the great national coils connected with the law of entail, and the propriety of an immediate application to the legislature thereupon." The landlord proprieters have the warm wishes of the community for their success; for, as we have attempted to show above, however much these unnatural laws press upon the owners of land, they weigh with double injury upon all other clauses .- Glasgow Argus.

A lady once asked a gentleman what wit was like? To which he replied, "Like your ladyship's bottle of sal volatile -poignant at the first opening; but on being too much handed about, loses all its flavour, and becomes quite in-

CONSIDERATE.-When Sir Robert Peel brought forward his new grand commercial scheme, he kindly allowed the lapse of ten days, in order that the House of Commons might have full time to recover from the speech Mr. D'Israell made

on that occasion .- Punch. A printer at Wurtzburgh has been arrested for printing an almanack in 1812, in which the name of the Bishop of Wurtzburgh is placed before that of the King and Royal Family of Bavaria.

IMPORTATION OF CATTLE.—By a return obtained by Mr. Gogan (Dublin), printed on Monday, it appears that the importation of "live cattle" into the United Kingdom from foreign countries, for the year ending the other of January, 1840, was respectively as follows: Oxen and bulls, 9782; cows, 6502; calves, 580; sleep, 15,847; lambs, 112; swine and hogs, 1598.

A dreadful famine exists in Sweden, in the provinces of Upsal, Upland, Stockholmlau, and Westmanland. In Upland there are fourteen thousand persons without food.

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the present period, and to continue the same from time to time till all have appeared.

These lists, itsmay be well to state, are to contain only the gross amounts promised, and have no reference whatever to the instalments, which should be forwarded separately.

A few additions to the list of treasurers have been made since last we published it, which we

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MOVEMENT IN FRANCE IN FAVOUR OF FREE TRADE.

> To the Editor of The League. London, 11th March, 1818.

 $\mathbf{Sin}_{r}(-\mathbf{A}s)$ no small difference has been expressed in Parliament upon the views of the French upon Free Trade, I beg leave to offer to your readers' the result of personal inquiries in Paris, and in several departments, on the subject, during the last eight months, with some reasons in support of it.

That result is, a strong conviction that public feeling in France is begun to be roused in favour of a change from the system of protection hitherto in force,

These are my reasons:

Before the present crisis in England, and in the United States, the abarming decay of the French stapping had compelled the Government to do something for its relief. What it did was, to call upon the three general Councils of Trade, Agriculture, and Manufactures to give their advice on the point-whether foreign iron should be admitted duty free for ship building.

These Councils met in December, and sat till the Joth of January last, and with a large majority declared themselves in favour of the admittance. The motives of the Govern ment in calling these Conneils together on this topic, and their original report to this effect, were published in the Liberte du Commerce, of which I send you a copy,

The decline of the merchant shipping of France, which has led to this conclusion, is thus pointedly stated in the report:

"Here is a brief statement of the revolution our trade lms undergone since 1827 :

"In 1827 we had three merchant ships of 800 tons ouch; we have now none. We then had two of 600 tons each; we have now but one of that size. We had 13 from 500 to 600 tons; we have now only 6. We had 33 of 400 to 500 tons; we have now but 33. We had then 183 of 500 tons; we have now, but 479. We had 570 of 200 tons; we have but 433 now. All our other shipping, including our coasters, are sinking in the same way."-(Liberté du Commerce,

The document which I quote, explains the various causes of this astonishing fact; and the conclusion of the Conneils is, that "foreign tron ought be imported free of duty, as one

On the same occasion the Government called for an opinion of to the admittance of the foreign article to make Meel, with a similar result.

There these two topics stand at present; namely, the Gorument has yielded to the distress and a mixed body of men of business and property mges warfily apon the Government, the advantage of Free Trade in two great articles of foreign produce to relieve this distress.

It is said that the Government will not bring these subjects before the Chambers this year, for reasons unconnected with the subject in question.

On another article, sell, an analogous discussion took place last year in the Chamber of Deputies; and it is revived this year. This occurred on the motion of M. Demesmay for lowering the duty; and this gentleman's numerous essays and speeches on the subject, which I now send you, with the report of M. Dussauret, a ministerial member of the Chamber, added to them, contain a strong argument in favour of the Free Trade principle.

M. Bastiat's remarkable book upon our League is familiar to you. It is absolutely prophetic as to our proceedings of December and January; but it is written in terms of despair for the good cause in I'rance.

The zeelous author of this book might have been holder. He has himself been received honourably into the Institute of France since its publication-and along with what we see above, it has stimulated his own countrymen in the south west of Franco to form a League.

If such a society had rested there, it might be said that the personal influence of M. Baatint, and the interest of the vine growers of Bordenux, had created a mere local move-

Not so; I believe that in Margellina a similar society is forming; and I know that in Paris another is formed under the very best auspices, and with the prospect of combining the more divers classes in its operations. This has just occurred; and I assert as a fact, that individuals of the gravest character, not theorists, hold this movement in Paris to be extremely innortant.

It deserves also to be had in mird that the Chamber of Peers in France, so early as in January last, listened without disfavour to one of the warmest appeals ever made in any assembly, for the adoption of Free Trade.

I allude to the speech of the Due d'Harcourt on the 19th of January-twice republished since.

That speech, with a reply to it, by M. Fulchiron, may be found in the Liberte du Commercee, above quoted; and whilst M. Fulchiron deprecates an immediate and total change, he holds the principle of Free Trade to be good in itself, and he abandous prohibition as essentially bad.

But advocates of Free Trade have declared themselves from a very different class.

The Populaire is the organ of a numerous body of refleeting workmen in Paris and elsewhere in France. It is a great satisfaction to find such a body load in its praise of our present efforts.

Permit me to call your attention to the Populaire of Paris of the 26th February, and to ask a corner in THE LEAGUE for its leading article.

Publish it in French in your front columns, and you will do much to remove some of the hitterness, still too provident among our neighbours towards us, on many topics.

I have tropassed too long on your time; but if your accepturee of these hasty remarks should give them some value, I will repeat my communication with details of the constitution of a new society formed a few days ago in Paris, to represent the various interests of the north of France, and which I believe in of a character to promote these interests by an enlightened view of Free Trade. The north is one of the strongholds of protection in that country, as here of freedom. We have won the race by the spread of knowledge through the efforts of our northern men. The Frenchmen of the north are sacking knowledge too; and my object next week will be to show how it must lead them to the same goal.

A RESIDENT IN FRANCE.

* La Libert? (La Commerce is to be find at Mr. E. Wilson); Royal Exchange, piece 4s, 6d.

AGRICULTURE IN WARWICKSHIRE.

To the Editor of Tun Lesquy. Learnington, March 3, 1816.

The alumn of the effects of the Anti-Corn Law measure of the Government attributed to the farmers of this "connty led me to frequire what "cont is paid for land in War wickshire?

Small lots, styled "accommodation lands," are let as high es 4/, for erable, and 5/, for pasture; but the average rent of Eard let in Larger farms appears to be under M. per acre. The soil in this part of Watwickshire Cas. the flue oak timber in dicates r is deep, and, with good cultivation, productive. In a few rare instances, the farners plough as deep as 9, and even 10 laches, but 5 inches is more common; and the very name of a subsoil plough seems unknown.

Twelve sucks of wheat per acre is considered a good crop -a very small amount of produce for such strong land, which undoubtedly might yield more abundant crops.

The protectionist members of Parliament assert that the labourers are opposed to a repeal of the Corn Laws. The average wages of agricultural labourers in this part of War wickshire is 10s, per week, from which for house sent, in-creased by town-intes, in the case of a man with a family of five cloldren, you must deduct 3s., thus leaving for provisions and all other expenses, only 'cr. per week. Ask the labourer if he fears a eduction of voges by the admission of foreign Early? His reply is, that he looks for a reduction of price in various articles of consumption, and that, as the farmers now employ fewer hands than their land requires, they feel confident that their labour will be at least equally in the mand; and they hope that, stimulated by increased competition, the farmer will employ more manual labour, in order to raise from the soil a larger amount of produce. The labourers are quite above the ignorant prejudices, once prevalent in some English countles, against machinery, as they observe, that on farms where threshing mills are used, more bands are employed than where the grain is threshold by the

From some femant farmers themselves, when asked of they feared a repeal of the Corn Laws, 1 received this an ve been led to believe it will injur What we fear most is the uncertainty of markets by the three years Government plan. We would rather know at once what is to happen."

From these replies, Sir, we may fairly infer that the la

bourers are in favour of an immediate repeal, and that the tenant farmers, whaitting that a repeal is inevitable, are most anxious that the change should be immediate.

Allow me to take this opportunity of asking you to correct a slight error in aletter on "Labouters" Veges in Surrey," inserted in The League of the 7th alt. Instead of " with bread at 10d per pullon," it should have been " with bread at 10d, per gallon, more of our earnings is expended on bread that when at 1, we with a " than when at 1s, per gallon."
I am, Cir, your obedient servant,

A PROPRIETOR OF LAND IN SCOTIAND ON A VISIT IN WARWICKSHIRE,

TO FARMERS, - THIS IS THE TIME.

In a town in Somersetshire, some months ago, I met two gentlemen, inquiring into the state and prospects of the potato crops in that country. They had met by accident, in the same way that I had met with them. We staid together at the same im, and during our stay I ascertained that one of them was collecting information. for Government; and the other was proving the correctnow of information which had been sent to the Protestion Society by a Somerset Society, of which Mr. W. Miles is a leading member,

Having turned my own attention to the potato disease

in that country, I was willing to hear from each of the two gentlemen what they had learned of it, and I found that both had ascertained the same class of facts in the same places that I had; and I knew that both of them sent to their respective employers the same kind of facts which I had become informed of a namely, that the potatoes were fatally diseased in Somerest; that in all the chief potato-growing districts in the eastern parts of that country there were not more sound ones in November than the quantity of seed-plants put into the ground last spring; that taking a crop of 80 sacks to the acre, 70 sacks were more or less diseased; that the best of the diseased ones were sold for 1s, a sack for pig feeding, and 9d. a sack for starch making; that potatoes were the chief article of diet with the peasantry in Somerset; most of the working people, in the east and northern parts of the country, living on potatoes entirely in ordinary seasons, but that there was an impending, imminent, and unavoidable scarcity this season,

How Mr. Miles has managed to dress up his statistics in the House of Commons, so as to deny the failure of the potatoes in Somerset, I know not. But I do know that, apart from any reports sent to the protectionists by the gentleman just alluded to, Mr. Miles's Society in the first instance applied to the churchwardens of pari hes to get the information for the society. Thave before me, while writing, copies of some of the returns made by churchwardens; and a letter accompanying those copies of returns says, that few things ever attered in Parliament have at any time shocked conscientious men in the parts of Somerset referred to, more than Mr. Miles's denial of the potato failure there. And his denial, is the more noticeable that the persons most shocked at it are nearly all political friends of his own persons who once dreaded Free Trade, and still have fears that agriculture cannot stand on its own feet, yet who believe nothing is so likely to damage their cause as the falsitication of facts so notorious in their own county as the rotten potatoes,

Letters which I have received on the subject ask why such statements are suffered to go uncontradicted. But the reply is simply this; the alleged facts of the protectionists are self-destructive; and their arguments have been refuted over and over again. It is but to reap stubble to go to work with them now.

The question with which we have now to do is the question of time. Those who once defended monopoly have taken up the question of principle, and have abandoned its defence; and not only so—they are its assailants. Nothing is left for us to settle but the question of time. And this is the time.

Though the ill-humour of the representatives of monopoly in Parliament prompted them to say they would rather have repeal immediately than have it for certain three years hence, while their ill-regulated. Parliamentary conduct has since led them to retract that and contradict themselves, the tenant farmers are growing in number who say they will rather have immediate repeal; and their opinions are uniting and flowing in a stronger, wider, and more direct current to the point of final and immediate settlement every day.

I saw a member of the farmers' club this week -- a society embracing many of the leading farmers of England, Mr. Baker, of Writtle, being either its originator or one of its originators, and nearly all the members being persons holding the same opinions on protection as Mr. Baker; and the subject at present engaging the attention of the club is a reform of the terms upon which tenants hold farms from landowners. A committee of the most sagacious members has been appointed to devise a scheme of leases best calculated to ensure the safe and profitable occupancy of the land. As private individuals, they still speak of protection when they meet; but they see it to be hopeless, and feel that to struggle for it is to waste that strength, and time, and opportunity, which should be turned to a practicable and promable account in obtaining better terms with the land-

Farmers know how difficult it is to approach a landowner to make a bargain in ordinary times. They are therefore happy to hear the landlords say that new bargaints must be made and old ones adjusted. A farmer can go to market and sell his corn, or buy a horse, and he at least on an equality with the corn-dealer and the horse-dealer—he will probably think himself superior to both; yet even with those men he feels he must be keen in perception and ready in action to take advantage of any varying humour in making a bargain.

Keeping off the one act of a farmer's life—that of taking a farm—no class of men in England are so habitually used to buy and sell according to varying humours, low spirits or high spirits, as the farmers. They are so far removed from their landlords in the social scale, and being only able to approach them on business through agents, which agents are the paid servants of the landlords, that the taking of a farm is an exception to overy other trade-like transaction of their

lives. The landlord is so high above them; so many persons are seeking to have each farm that is to let; it is so beset in its tenure with covenants; there are so many nets in which they may be caught, and so few loop-holes to escape by; they are taught (that is, they have been) to depend so much on what the landlord will do for them and for agriculture, in his political character, that they never once appear as the dictators or independent negotiators in a bargain for a farm; they are from beginning to end the humble recipients or expectants of favours; the very first favour being the getting of the farm on any terms, even though he had a bad bargain.

Now, when farmers hear their landlords crying out that the removal of the Corn Law will cause them to enter upon new terms with their tenants, and that they must do so; that they will do so because, yet only because, they must; and when the farmers see, as see they do, and feel it, and believe it, and swear to it, that the Corn Law will inevitably be repealed, they say, and it is natural, and jut, and logical, that they should say, "Let it be done at once; this is the time."

This is the time. And were there no other reasons to make the farmers think so than the one now mentioned—the desire of getting their landlords to make new bargains, or amend the old ones by liberal covenants, while the landlords happen to be in a humour so to do, it would be a sufficient reason for the tenants to say, this is the time; for never in the annals of agriculture did the owners of land profess to be more compassionate towards the hirers and the workers of land than now; never did they promise to be so full of justice, so overflowing with conscientiousness as they will be if the Corn Law is taken from them. For then, say they, the farmers will be suffering; and they must suffer to relieve the farmers.

A few have said, perhaps prophetically of the greater number, that the farmers will be ruined, if they are to be ruined, before any abatement of rent is made. If there be any truth in this, it should only make the tenantry the more cager for an immediate settlement.

This is the time, because a year of prosperous trade has so enlarged the consumption of home-grown provisions that prices cannot fall, nor any very hurtful panic arise, though the importation should be immediate.

This is the time, because foreign corn growers have little to sell, and what they, have to sell is already rising in price, in anticipation of our Corn Law being abolished.

This is the time, because with lingering monopoly and bad harvests there may be bad trade and shaken credit, which always accompanies bad trade, and a stagnation in all national enterprises which always accompanies shaken credit—there may be all these in 1849; and if there be, the farmers having high prices, inferior grain, and the smaller quantity peculiar to a bad harvest, there will be a panie the most disastrous ever known to farmers when the free importation does begin.

This is the time, because if the repeal is delayed for three years, the foreign corn grower has three years notice to prepare for competition in the British markets,

This is the time, because, if the British farmer should have favourable seasons, and good harvests for the next three years, he will be at liberty to make the most of his land, and of the seasons, and of those facilities to feed cattle, and of the manures to be produced by an increased number of cattle, which the Prime Minister has said will profitably supersede the prodigious expenditure for artificial manures; whereas, if the question remains unsettled for three years, his now arrangements with his landlord will also be deferred, his new arrangements upon his farm will be deferred, no decided steps will be taken; no money will be invested in the drainage of his farm, and he will be, in 1849, in a worse position than he is in now, with the foreigner prepared to compete with him by a three years' notice, and the advantageous position which he now occupies with respect to his landlord frittered away.

This is the time, because nothing has hitherto retarded the profitable cultivation of the land so much as the continued expectation of Parliament doing something which it cannot do; and because Lord George Bentinck and some other members who act with him have declared that they are in favour of the three years rather than the immediate repeal, because they will not cease to agitate by every means in their power to have the present Corn Law restored. Other members have said they will endeavour during the three years to make the low duty perpetual. And the League, on the other hand is pledged not to cease in its operations so long as a fraction of a protective tax on corn exists. Consequently the farmers will be kept in the turmoil of agitation for three years longer, that such men as Lord Geo. Bontinck, who throw the dice again and again when they have lost all, may try for another chance-not to restore the Corn Law (as well may they seek to restore the age of pack-horse travelling instead of railroads, but to take whatever chance turns up in the meanting for themselves as politicians in Parliament.

This is the time, because the League is pledged to dissolve when all Corn Laws cease to exist, and not until then; and because the proprietors and occupiers of land have not yet lost the representation of the counties, most of which they will lose before 1849 comes to a close, if the Corn Law keeps the League in existence so long.

Other reasons might be given for saying this is the time; but they refer more to landlords and others than to farmers. I will only now say farther, that this is the time because not all the landowners combined, to say nothing of the fragments of parties, will delay the time beyond 1849—it is not in the power of political confederacy to do so, and we are all three years younger now than we shall be then.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURE.

We find in an American paper, received by the Hibernia a return made by the Marshal of the State of New York of the quantity of every kind of grain, per acre, growing in that great state last year, which ought to go far to remove the opinion that the whole of the United States is a region of exuberant fertility, in which the farmer has only to throw the seed into the ground and in the autumn to reap a harvest much heavier than can be obtained from the exhausted wills of Europe. The State of New York extends some four or five hundred miles into the interior, and includes much of the best land which is to be found to the cast of the Alleghany mountains; and yet it will be seen from the following returns, that the yield of wheat, oats, and barley, per acre, throughout the whole of this state, is scarcely half the yield, on the average, of this country, and not more than one-third the quantity which is frequently raised in the best cultivated districts of Norfolk, Lincoln, and the Lothians. The following is the table:

Aggregate of the agricultural statistics of the State of New York, furnished by the returns of the murshuls employed in taking the late census:

1	in tuking the late census:	
	Acres of improved land in the state	11,567,276
	" barley under cultivation	192,503
	Bushels of Larley raised	3,108,701
	Acres of peas under cultivation	117,379
	" rye sown	317,000
	Bushels of rye harvested	2,936,323
I	Acres of oats sown	-1.026915
	Bushels of oats harvested	26,323,051
	Bushels of oats harvested	7,761,503
	Acres of beans under cultivation	16,331
I	Bushels of beans raised	162.187
l	Acres of buckwheat under cultivation	255,495
Į	Bushels of buckwheat raised	. 3,631,679
ļ	Acres of turnips under cultivation	15,522
	Bushels of turnips raised	1,310,332
	Acres of potatoes under cultivation	255,762
i	Bushels of potatoes raised	23,653,418
	Acres of flax under cultivation	46,030
	Pounds of flax raised	2,897,063
	Acres of wheat sown	
	" wheat harvested	955,243
	Bushels of wheat raised	43,301,770.
	Acres of corn sown	595,134
	Bushels of corn harvested	14,722,114

From the above table it will be seen that the total yield of wheat on 1,013,655 acres was 13,391,770 bushels, or, as near as possible, 13 bushels to the acre. Now it is generally estimated that the yield of wheat in this country, taking the bal lands as well as the good, is about 24 bushels to the statute acre, and it is well known that from 36 to 40 bushels per acre is commonly raised in the best districts of England and Scotland. Granting, therefore, that the American does get he land considerably cheaper than the English farmer, the remarkable inferiority of the produce much more than compensates the latter for this difference. There is no reason to be lieve that the produce of the state of New York, which contains every variety of soil, and includes among other districts, the fine wheat-growing country of the Gennessee, is inferior to any of the states east of the Alleghauy mountnins. We know, from General Washington's letters, that the yield of wheat in Virginia was as small sixty years ago as that of New York is at the present time, and the same observation applies to all the Atlantic states. To chean returns resembling those raised in England, in quantity, it is necessary sary to cross the mountain, and to descend into the great valley of the Mississipi. There crops are grown which would becalled abundant even in England, but it must never be forgotten that these crops, when raised, have to be convered from 800 to 1000 miles, along rivers, lakes, or canals, before they reach the ocean, to say nothing of the freight between

the shipping ports and this country.

The yield of wheat is not smaller in proportion than that of most other varieties of grain. It will be seen that the average of barley is not more than about thirty bushels to the acre, which is less by 15 to 20 bushels than the average of that raised in Norfolk and Lincolnshire; and the yield of oats is not more than about 26 bushels to the acre, which would be thought a very poor return in any of the oat-growing districts of England. Even of Indian corn, which may be considered the peculiar grain of America, the yield would be considered very moderate in this country.—Liverpoor Times.

FREE TRADE IN DENMARK.—By a decree issued under date of the 48th ult., the import duties on cotton manufactured goods, shawls, handkerchiefs, unbleached linen, drugs, &c., into Danish ports, have been considerably reduced and it is confidently expected that a further medification will take place in the heavy imposts upon nearly all manufactured take place in the heavy imposts upon nearly all manufactured articles, levied for the sake of prosection the value of articles, levied for the sake of prosection that all Denmark has increased more than 50 per cent. The value of the last 20 years—a circumstance from which last the last 20 years—a circumstance from which last that side of the water whilst falling on that the competition of the foreign growth last that the competition of the foreign growth.

AGRICULTURE.

MONOPOLIST FALLACIES. The arguments of the protectionists have latterly become so stale, flat, and unprofitable, their statistical facts have been so invariably found to beto use a polite paraphrase—the reverse of true, and their predictions have over been so entirely falsified by events, that in the midst of the important and exciting topics of the last few months we have not thought their few attempts to argue their now forlorn hope worth notice. There has been, it seems, a pamphlet, published under the auspices of the Central Society, for the encouragement of British indolence, which the protectionists think a great card in their hands. It is entitled, "Free Trade Fallacies Refuted, by W. Hainworth, a Tenant Farmer," and purposes to refute the arguments, displace the data, and deny the conclusions of Messrs. Morton and Trimmer's able exposure of the ill effects of protecting duties on the profits of agriculture. Mr. Hainworth is a tradesman and a farmer of Hitchin, Hertfordshire, whose debut in public life was at the Protection Society, at St. Alban's, in February, 1841, where he comforted the frantic and foolish lords and squires there assembled-some of whom by-the-by have since shown symptoms of recovery-with a most imposing array of figures to prove non-existent "facts," and establish the truth of "impossible things." He was naturally a great light, and it appears that he has been selected by the 17 Bond-street publication committee to write a Look. The rapid progress of opinion and legislation adverse to "protection," would have left Mr. Hainworth's tract-written not in the best English-in its natural condition of obscurity, had nothis attack on Messrs, Morton and Trimmer induced those gentlemen to use his fallacies as the means of reenforcing upon the farming community the soundness of their previously published conclusions. Wo cannot on this occasion enter into any detailed examination of the fresh evidence which Mr. Hainworth's blundering arguments have enabled Messrs. Morton and Trimmer to adduce in support of the proposition that Free Trade will increase the profits of farming-that is, good farming; but we take the opportunity of urging overy tenant farmer to get the two pamphlets of Messrs. Morton and Trimmer, judge of their arguments for himself, and then soberly and like a man of business, see whether he cannot turn them to practical account upon his own farm. The time is now at hand which lords and squires have pretended to be big with ruin to tenant farmers. They will tell a different story when the tenants come to ask for reductions of rent; and it will not do for farmers any longer to shut their eyes to the real position, the difficulties, and advantages of British agriculture. They must be up and doing. The squires may live in "a fool's paradise" for the next three years; but that won't do for the farmers. They are under positive engagements to pay rents calculated on a scale of prices they never had received constantly, and never will obtain, except by accident. The landlords have in their hands that fearful engine of oppression and injustice, the law of distress; and the farmers can only retrieve themselves from the false position in which they have been placed by reliance on the delusion of protection. Farmers can and will do well enough, provided they can get real and permanent possession of their own farms, free themselves from the semi-foudal burdens of their landlords, and apply themselves with persoverance and skill to the development of the vast and hitherto latent fund which the soil contains. For these objects they must set about a businesslike examination of the real incidence of protection on agriculture, and see what alteration of system an intelligent self-reliance would dictate. As an aid to that practical examination, they will find Messrs. Morton and Trimmer's two pamplilots most useful.

THE HORRORS OF ABUNDANCE. If it were possible to feel anything like compassion for man who pleas themselves in such falso posttions as the public advocates of monopoly are now in,

we might pity the sorry figure the protection ists make in their pitiful opposition to the details of Sir Robert Peel's measure. Out of the House of Commons, the monopolists are obliged so far to conform to public opinion as to say they don't want to profit by artificial scarcity. Thus Mr. Sanford, once the Whig member, but who now seeks to re-construct his political fortunes on the protectionist delusions wherewith the constituency of West Somerset is supposed to be imbued, said, at a public meeting of monopolists, at Taunton, got up to call upon Messrs. Dickinson and Acland to resign, as Peel converts, said:

"It had been stated that they wished to prevent the people from being fed (no, no); now this was a groundless and scandalous attack upon the protectionists, who were the last men to stand in the way of the people being fed (hear). But it famine and distress had wisen—and he found that such was the case in one part of the kingdom—he fearlessly asserted that the measures of Sir Robert Peel would be the means of preventing the people being fed. If there was famine in some parts of the kingdom, it would be at least two months before the measure of the Minister, if he car ried it, could take effect. Could it, then, be a remedy for the famine? And if Sir R. Peel and his Government really were of opinion that there was starvation among the Trisb, through the pointo blight, they ought to have at once opened the ports for a temporary purpose; whereas they had delayed the importation of corn, instead of giving food at once to the famishing people. This was one reason why he was opposed to the new measure. But there was another reason, that if they were not to have a fair protection—such as he believed the sliding scale gave them— (then he (Mr. Sanford) was a total repealer at once. He would not have it said that that they had protection, when they derived no advan-tage from it."

And even these monopolists "no, no'd" the imputation of a wish to prevent the people being fed, and "hear, hear'd" the defence which alleged such an imputation as a "seandalous attack" upon the protectionists. Now, without stopping to contrast Mr. Sanford's declaration, that the protectionists " were the last men to stand in the way of the people being fed" with his assertion that the sliding scale-admitted on all hands to keep the people at times on the verge of famine-afforded the only fair protection to the landed interest, we may refer to the remarks of Mr. Miles, the monopolist member for West Somerset, who thus spoke in the House of Commons, on Monday night, in opposing the importation of Indian corn:

"He would now refer to the subject more directly before the house. The properties of Indian corn, or maize, were little understood in this country; but he trusted that the agriculturists of England would now begin to understand Maize was in itself/as to its quality, in cereal crops next to wheat. If they took a bushel of maize it was equal to 14 bushels of barley, and to 3 bushels of onts. As to matritive properties, that was the relative proportion between Audian orn and outs and barley. But how did it stand us to wheat? There could be no doubt Indian corn would be used largely *instead of barley and oats*. Alle understood from a friend of instead of barley and outs. The understood from a trient of his, that Indian corn could be brought to the port of Liverpool under 20s, per quarter. They were told that competition would have the effect of stimulating agriculture, but the agriculturists would by the present resolution be placed in this position, that whereas they could compete with foreigners in wheat, barley, and outs, with regard to In dian corn they could carry against them no competition at all. Mr. Cobbett had tried to introduce Indian corn into this country, but, from the temperature, had completely failed. This article appeared to require a temperature of about 70 in one month, and of about 75 or 80 in the other months. He had tried to cultivate it in the West of England rather largely, but he had only succeeded in ripening the maize once in three years. So it was quite impracticable for the English farmer to compete with the American grower. The great western States of America as well as the southern were very well adapted for its growth, but what he wanted to inquire was, whether its introduction note this country would only interfere by competing with bulley and oats? He said no. It would enter very seriously into competition with wheat. If the house looked to the quantity of wheat consumed in this country and America, they would see how completely it served as a substitute for wheat. Here the consumption of wheat was one quarter for each individual measurement. individual, whereas in America each individual merely consumed three and a half bushels (hear). Now, what could be the reason of this? Labour was better; employment more abundant; wages higher; and wheaten bread cheaper than in England. It arose solely from the constant use of Indian corn instead of wheat."

Here we have a significant commentary on Mr. Sanford's rash assertion, that the protectionists are "the last men to stand in the way of the people being fed." The redoubtable Mr. Miles then proccoded to descant on the herrible possibility of 700,000,000 of bushels of Indian corn being im ported into this country; and he added—

"Now, when they looked at the immense quantity produced in the United States, when they remembered that the temperature of that country was particularly fitted for it, and that the temperature of this country did not suit it; that he America it was useful in cleaning the land, and that the triple of the product of the p it could be brought into the English market at the price of 20s. per quarter, duty paid; they were bound to look at its effect, not only upon date and harley—much of which it would supprise out they night also to look at its effects, upon wheat itself. And afterwards-

" Ho (Mr. Miles) thought he had shown that malze would enter not only into animal but human food, and would, in a great degree, supersede the use of corn (hear). And that it would be impossible for the English fumer, whose wheat and barley were thus driven out of consumption to compete with the American at all in the production of maize (hear, ligar). It was idle to talk of stimulating the farmer's industry by the free action of prices in the market, when a positive natural impossibility was interposed against his production of the competing article."

Now, this is gross, perhaps wilful, agricultural ignorance. We should assuredly rejoice to see the potato-fed rural population of West Somerset and the other half-cultivated districts of England elevated into an Indian-corn-eating people; yet it is not so much directly as indirectly that the free importation of Indian corn will cheapen human food. Maine will, we dure say, be used to some extent in the manufacture of bread, but its great value will be for feeding stock, cattle, sheep, pigs, and thus by increasing the supply of manure, thereby furnish the means of increasing the production of wheat. Object to the importation of maize because the farmer can't grow it in this country!!

Why, a farmer who thrushes with a steam engine might as well be told that he shall have no coals unless he can dig them on his own farm! This is just the narrow, one-eyed view always taken by the protectionists; they seem to have no knowledge of the vast capacity for increased production which exists in our soil; they seem to be unable to comprehend the idea of an increased proportional return derived from additional outlay. The great problem of produce husbandry is, how to keep the largest quantity of stock at the least cost; and the free admission of all kinds of grain, pulse, and so forth, offers the readiest, perhaps the only solution. Speaking as farmers, looking to make the greatest possible amount by farming, we say Indian corn and other grain cannot be too cheap. If instead of 20s. a quarter, as Mr. Miles with such a sorrowful faco predicts, it should turn out that we can import it at 18s, a quarter, nobody should rejoice more than the farmers, as they will be able to increase their stock. When Free Trade has really come into operation, we have no doubt that the live stock kept by the average farmer will be as three to two compared with his present stock; but should it turn out that he can profitably double his stock, he will not only increase the growth of grain on his farm by the manure from the extra stock, but he will also increase the supply of meat. We say omphatically, that Free Trade will cheapen the food of the people at the same time that it increases the profits of the furmer. Will the House of Lords interpose their suspensive veto between the nation and such benefits?

IMMEDIATE FREE TRADE.

If there be one thing more than another which the tenant-farmers should deprecate, it would be the propoved suspension, for three years, of the total abolition of duties on imported grain. We can understand a tenant-farmer, who for thirty years has been told by his Inndlord, and his landlord's members of Parliament, that foreign corn can be brought to this country and sold for next to nothing, being alarmed by the bugbear, just as we can understand that an ignorant child, who has/ been frightened by its nurse's ghost-stories, should be afraid to be left in the dark; but ho the tenant-furmer is to be benefited by three years of uncertainty, three years of alarm-three years, during which he can make no safe calculation, or come to any adjustment with the landlord, it passes our imagination to conceive. Every man of ordinary judgment, who is acquainted with agriculture, says that, if Free Trade is to be, let it come at once. Peel converts and protectionists agree in this, If in nothing else. Thus we find Colonel Wood, member for Brecon, saying in his place in the House of

"He had voted for every Corn Bill for the last fifty years, and he admitted that every one of these Corn Laws had been a failure. He repeated it. From the year 1815 to the present time every Corn Act had been a failure. He would now tell the House why he should oppose the present and any amondment that should he introduced upon the measures of the right honour-able baronet. He would oppose every amendment because he wanted the present measures of the Government to pass. He trimted also that these measures would soon go to the other House of Parliament, and that no alteration or amend-ment would there be introduced in them. No—he did wish that one amendment abould be introduced in the upper, house. He did not want to monopolise all the good legis-

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lation to that house. He was desirous that some room for improvement should be left to the House of Lords, and he trained that they would introduce into the measure a clause by which the repeal of the Corn Laws should be imme-

So Mr. Sanford, the would-be monopolist member for West Somerset, speaking at a monopolist meeting at

"As he was addressing a number of tenant farmers, he would not them if it rould be expected that the landlords smould hegly to make arrangements to meet the altered state of things, before they saw what the effect of the measure Now three years would be a short time for any landlord to take an average, that being the time to be aflowed before all protection ceased; but it would be necessory, after this three years was expired to take three years more under the total free corn trade system, in order to see what the average was, so that there must be six years at least, under this precious measure, brought in by the Conservative Minister, before the agriculturists could see what the effects were likely to be."

These three years of uncertainty may be very pleasant to the squires, who are deluding their tenants with all sorts of false hopes, of re-establishing protection or making the proposed temporary scale permanent; but what say the farmers? Let the farmers only exercise their wits, and they will be at no loss to perceive a very sufficient cause why the political squires cling so tenaciously to this remnant of monopoly.

The monopolist landocracy is not just now in very good odone with the public; their grasping selfishness is thoroughly understood by all but the farmers, and the farmers have been very generally made to see that if there be profit from monopoly, the landlord has got the lion's share. Now, if a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws should take place at this time, the equirearchy would be hard up for an election cry at the forthcoming general election. And more than that, farmers instead of being satisfied, as the squires now expect they will be satisfied, with the harmless pledge on the part of the county members, to do all they can to retain or recover protection, will be very apt to talk about Game Laws, leases, the law of distress, temant rights, and various other uncomfortable rural topics which the most purblind county member must see looming in the distance. It is to stave of these things, and so retain their political influence over their tenantry until they can re-organise their forces, that the landed oligarchy has imposed upon Sir Robert Peel the three years' continuance of the sliding scale, as a condition to the passing of his measure.

REASONS FOR IMPORTING CAPTLE, FOOD.

The present high price of meat, which is seriously injurious to the consumer, is not, as some have supposed, vastly advantageous to the grazier.

The following remarks on the Smithfield cattle market, which appeared in the Mark Lane Express of last Monday, though with a different object, show most conclusively that a constant and regular supply of cheap provender in all seasons is essential to the gain of the farmer and the comfort of the consumers of meat:

'It has been asserted (says the writer) that production has not kept pace with the demand; and this assertion is supported by instancing the falling off which has taken place in the arrivals of beasts and sheep for the metropolitan mar ket since the commencement of the present year; hence it has been assumed the graziers are obtaining enormous pro-fits, to the injury of the great masses of people."

This assumption is not warranted. That there has been a deficiency of sheep is admitted, though their quality, from the abundant food of the past summer, " has seldom or never been equalled."

" Without, therefore, attempting to assert for one moment acactericy has not existed in the supplies of sheen, we at the same time deny that the graziers are obtuning those large profits which some parties would make it appear. For instance, the great scarcity of turnips, &c., experienced during the whole of 1811 and a portion of 1845 caused the prices of natural and artificial find to rise enormously high, as much as £14 per 1000 having been paid for lineced cake. This searcity of pubulum had another effect, equally injurious to the interests of the fleck masters -that of compelling them to dispose of their sheep in this and other markets, often in a half fat state, at ruinensly low figures. When, therefore, the period arrived at which store animals are usually purchased, many proviers, owing to their deffciency from the causes above assigned, and the consequent high intes at which they were held, were compelled, from encounstances ever which they hid no control, to have ten exanimals on their farms then could by possibility consume the immense produce of last year's green crops; such, too, is the case at this moment, and, as a striking illustration of our remarks, we may state that many famous who require the dand for spring corn are positively giving their turnips areay to those who will cart them off. What, then, we ask, has an about an income of the continuous transfer the continuous this income of the continuous that it is the continuous that the continuous the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer the continuous transfer that the continuous transfer th abundant sees and done for the grazier? Has it increased his returns? Certainly not."

At this moment the prices of store stock of every kind are so high, that notwithstanding the actual abundance of food, there is not the least chance of any profit being derived from grazing during the present year,

PROTECTION TO AGRICULTURE

It is to protect the farmer against foreign competition

yet, in the following act of wanton destruction, the farmers were the real sufferers:

CUSTOM HOUSE DESTRUCTION OF DAMAGED WHEAT -This week a quantity of foreign wheat, which had been imported by Messes. Philpotts and Co., of this port (Gloucester), but which had since become damaged, so as not to be worth paying 17s. duty upon, was destroyed under the supervision of a very active Custom house officer, by throwing it into the river Severn, and by keeping a very close official watch until it was carried away by the stream, or so intermixed with the mud that it could not be in any way used."-Gloucester Journal.

Now, had the trade in corn been free, this damaged foreign wheat would have been sold at a low price, and ground up for feeding cattle and pigs; and many hundreds of such chances for the farmer would occur in every year. We know an instance in which a good farmer, occupying a large farm, made a very considerable sum of money in a particular year from having had the opportunity of purchasing a cargo of damaged lentils, at a very low price. They were apparently so much injured by sea-water that nobody would look at them, supposing cattle would not eat them; but the farmer we allude to made the venture, and by spreading and turning the lentils in a barn, he so dried and sweetened them, that when ground, his beasts cat them readily, and fattened quickly. We have heard him say "that was the best year's farming he ever had."

A BUSINESS VIEW OF THE CORN LAW DEBATE.

The following extract from the Mark Lane Express review of the corn trade, shows the way in which those who write for men of business regard the present position of the Free Trade question:

"It appears that the ministerial plan is preferred to a repeal of all duties on grain. The other amendments have been disposed of in an equally summary manner, and it is now pretty certain that the measure—as first proposed—will, ultimately, become the law of the land; a month or six weeks may, however, clapse before the final settlement, and during that internal the trade will probably require in a state. during that interval the trade will probably remain in a state of depression: indeed, even if the success of the bill were placed altogether beyond doubt, the fact that the new scale of duties examot, under any circumstances, come into operation for several weeks, must act as a serious inconvenience. We have on-former occasions intimated, that though unforeseen events of a political character have hitherto prevented the advance in the price of wheat, which, from the indifferent result of the harvest and the disease in the potato crop, all parties engaged in the trade confidently expected would have occurred, still we can see no reason to alter our opinion as regards the facts of the case. The shortness of the produce of wheat, and the disorder which has affected potatoes, may have been made the most of for party purposes; still it can-not be denied that these two principal articles of food suffered so much from the excessively wet weather experienced during the summer and autumn, as to afford just reason for concluding that both will run short before the time can come round for gathering another crop. With respect to potatoes there is also ground to apprehend that the malady may not prove temporary; indeed it has been recently proved, by carefully conducted experiments, that the discused potatoes when planted—though they vegetate freely—do not yield a sound return, the young tubercles exhibiting the disorder of the seed at an early stage of their growth; we maintain, therefore, that abundant cause exists for surprise at the present position of affairs, and that there is every prospect of business assuming a more healthy fone so soon as the long protracted discussion on the Corn Laws shall have been disposed of in one way or the other.

We know from other sources that men largely engaged in the domestic corn trade believe that that trade will not assume the healthy tone so desirable for farmers' interests until the expiration of the three years of uncertainty proposed by Sir Robert Peel, in obedience to a dominant landocracy, to be inflicted upon the com-

FISH ALIVE, ALIVE, O!

It seems that even the "coroneted fishmonger," who cried out so wofully against the admission of foreign salmon, will, after all, suffer no damage even to his own sordid and solfish interest, We find the following evidence that Free Trade is ultimately the best for the protected interest:

PRICE OF SALMON IN THE NORTH.-The Duke of Richmond's sulmon on the Spey are selling at the high price of 2s. 6d. to 3s. a pound in the neighbourhood of the fishing grounds."-Inverness Courier.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA. - We have the important fact we are about to communicate from a confidential authority, in which we place the most implicit confidence, and from which it will appear that the effect of the development of the future commercial policy of the British Government is working away abroad, sooner, perhaps, than was generally auticipated by our merchants and the public. We learn from St. Petersburg, notwithstanding recent assurances from high quarters that nothing would be done with the Russian tariff for this season at least, that it is more than probable that, in in the course of a short time, a few days, an announcement of considerable reductions in the duties of the leading experts, and on many imports, will be made. These reductions, we are assured, will take effect this season.—Hull Packet.

Some of the newspapers are getting absolutely demented in their attempts to straiggle into fame and circulation. One that, as it is said, the Corn Laws have been queted; fortes, and a third two thousand pounds.

REVIEW.

A Summer Ramble in Germany, Belgium, and $\chi_{v,i}$ zerland. By J. W. Massie, D.D., &c. Ly.

The circumstances under which this work appears before us, must to some extent disarm criticism. houlth compelled Dr. Massie to make a Continents tour, and his congregation raised subscriptions to facilitate his journey. On his return, he delivered course of lectures on the countries he had visited, and the substance of these lectures is incorporated in the volume before us. Dr. Massie is a zealous minister of the congregationalist persuasion, the first sect which proclaimed liberty of conscience; but he carries his hatred of intolerance to an excess which renders him intolerant in his turn. We reget that too large a portion of his volume is occupied by tirades against the church of Rome, which are perversely introduced in the midst of graphic descriptions and elever historical dissertations, so as to infect every association with the bitterness of controversy. We regret this, because we find in the work elements of excellence, which ought to but been dissevered from such a connection. Dr. Masie is a shrewd observer, and a clever describer; to the descriptive part of his work we shall thereio. confine our attention, and leave others to delate with him on the points at issue between Rome and

The account of Namur, a city historically assect ated with the memory of Louis XIV; and William III, is a clever sketch of a Belgian manufacturing town:

" Namur is to Belgium what Sheffield is to England; the cutlery of the Netherlands is made there. Seruigue, more like a street for continuousness than a town for architecture. nearly a mile in length, stretches along upon the river Mense between Namur and Liege. An old episcopul residence, in which the prelatic princes of Liege resided in the times of foudal power and grandeur was a few years ago turned itse the vestibule and front section of a magnificent factory for casting and constructing machinery for almost every mechanism nical purpose; whether for peaceful arts, or as implements of destruction. The pulatral gardens,—no longer the luxurous retreat of lordly churchmen, but now made the storehouse of depository for crude and manufactured iron, and occupied with heaps of coal,-have altogether lost their episca aspect; and, while yielding to the darkening and some influences of some lifty wide monthed chimneys, and their issuing flaines or smoke, the prelatic dignity of the reco may seem to have disappeared—but a no less intellectual and industrious destiny prevails. Ingenuity and patient labor here preside; while nearly every description of iron-work is fabricated, from the heaviest and most potent engine to the most complicated or refined instrument of utility-from the monumental lion which couches on the field of Waterloo, to the lady's penknife, which is deposited in her releable. The vast pile of building forms a town within itself. The ostablishment possesses a great advantage in being plact over the bed of coal from which its exhaustless supply a dug; and the fuel being raised within the limits of the far tory, and close to the furnaces near to which the mineral or is found, the labour is much diminished compared with many English foundries. The workshops of the craftsmense situated upon the line of rallways on the banks of cause leading to the river. The blast furnaces, puddling furnaces, forges, and rolling mills, are on the opposite bank of the river from the houses of the operations that they maintain river from the houses of the operatives; but they maintain their intercourse between home and the shop by boats provided for their convenience and at their command.

"John Cockerill, as a prince among mechanics, was in partnership (a strange association, and uncommon for the trader,) with the late King of Holland, as an engine builder and machine-maker, which gave celebrity to this large esta blishment. There have been, and I presume there are sull. 3000 employed in these works, receiving on an average about 2000/, in weekly wages. Cockerill sought to extend be connections and mechanical fame, especially in regions where manufacturing skill was precious. He died at War saw, leaving his wealth to his heirs, and his name on many Continental locomotives.

"A company have undertaken the management of his ex tended works, and employ an equal number of men in the same branches of manufacture; making not merely implements of classical states of the control of the Works in Scotland, but also some of the first rue locome tive engines for Prussian and other European railway, which are rapidly multiplying. The cotton factory is also thence supplied with spinning jennies and other machinery. Thus the achool of Cockerill competes with the shops of Sharpe, Robberts, and other prime mechanists in England. The elements and constant of Cockerill's success aurant The elements and occasion of Cockerill's success sprang from a source which working men were not quick enough to discern-at least they did not soon enough discover and remedy the mistake. The law which short-sighted monopoly had chacted, as it was considered for the protection of the modline-maker in England, preventing the expertation of machinery from this to Continental countries, gave the st mulus and premium to enterprise in those countries. For a while the snuggler profited by the interdiet, and gambled on the chances of dataction. the chances of detection. The machine of human thought, the mysterious engine of the busy mind, revolved he power and principles in contract the mysterious engine of the busy mind, revolved he power and principles in contract the mysterion. and principles in contrivance and imitation for production and supply. No law could contrivene the laws of nature and the gifts of God. Gonius can summon its resources from Industry the Poles and Alexander and Alexander and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Poles and Industry the Industry t Indus to the Poles, and solf-interest has power around to bind the winds and seas, fire and vapour of smoke. Moso noly were defect and real vapour of smoke. poly was defied, and at length subdued.
"John Cockerill, and his friends, and men of like spirit.

exported the men of thought and genius from England, who went forth and became the tutors of the men of Relation It was not enough to work and execute plans, her and in others, for the training of handiors among who and in others, for the training of handler and ceived their instruction from English who have now filled the wholesof the Marie with foremen and men, abable, of machinery, and of invention with your most skilled engine

Cologne fares hardly at the Doctor's hands, and we think that the picture would be more perfect if the shadows were less dark:

Cologue itself contains a population of about (15,000), or from that to 70,000 people. As a town, it is one of the least inviting, the least handsome or spacious of all the cities I have visited anywhere, to be an ancient and a large city—the resort of imperial and commercial wealth, as well as ecclesisatical domination. The streets are narrow and nican: they are as contracted and impassable as the streets that I saw in the obsolete and decayed cities of the East, where the light of the sun never shone upon the pavement the houses having been reared so high as to keep out the sun, even though it was vertical. It might have been deemed the design of architects and civic authorities, from the days of Agrippina till the time when Hansentic prosperity declined, to keep out the beauties of heaven and the balmy breath of day from the pavement upon which the passenger trod. The streets of Cologne have been compared very fitly, by a Scotch writer, to the streets of the Old Town of Edinburgh,—to the West Bow, the Cowgate, the Grass Market, and various other places. The associations which these allusions will recall to a quondam visitor of Auld Reckie, at the hours of nine and ten o'clock, P.M., when the regime of malarious sewerage and loathsome effluvia gave character to the streets, however uninviting, will fitly represent the fithiness of Cologue. The poetry of Coleridge will better complete the picture than my harsh prose:

"Ye nymphs who reign o'er sewers and sinks, The river Rhine, it is well known,

Doth wash your city of Cologne;
But tell me, nymphs, what power divineShall henceforth wash the river Rhine?"

I may only add, that, to my apprehension, the Colognese seemed to prefer the luxury of carrying their sewers and inks upon the surface of their streets, to any under ground excavations and conduits which sanatory refinement might suggest. You may conjecture what would be the effluvia passing through a town with such accommodation. This ancient seat of power and commerce has, however, many circumstances connected with it of an historical character to excite an interest in it."

The view from Ehrenbreitstein "the broad stone of honour," above Cologne, is pourtrayed with great spirit and fidelity. On this elevated rock, the Doctor was raised above the sphere of theological differences, and was free to follow the impulses of his better genius:

From the top of this fortress the spectacle is magnificen and enchanting. Certainly the scene down the Rhine and up the Moselle, along the banks of the Rhine, and all across the valley through which the Rhine flows, is the richest of ell the scenes your eye can rest upon or survey. The wellded plains here and there; the vineyards in all their their beauty; the corn fields (it was one of the most productive seasons I fancy that Germany had witnessed)—the ripened crop of corn-fields waving in their golden beauty, inviting the scythe of the mower; whilst the sun rested with its chastest and yet richest rays upon the radiant scenery, and threw back those rays reflected from the glassy streams that flowed along. The Moselle was seen taking its course quietly, unostentatiously, but very determinedly, with a kind of independence, as a parallel and concurrent river, by the side of the Rhine, and they flowed down the channel together as twin streams, proving for miles and miles that they were able to maintain their individuality, though ultimately they were to be wedded and rendered indivisible for their future course. I crossed the bridge which passes from Coblentz to the Petersburg fortress; just below this point the contemplative tourist will often linger, to mark the superb view which may there be obtained of Ehrenbreit stein. The weather was bright and yet calm, presenting a midday scene of voluptuous indulgence and tranquillity. could realise all that the 'Pilgrim of the Rhine' has given as his impression. 'There stood 'the old herdsman leaning on his staff, and the quiet cattle knee-deep in the gliding waters. Never did stream more smooth and sheen, than was at that hour the surface of the Moselle, mirror the images of pastoral life. Beyond, the darker shadows of the bridge and of the walls of Coblentz fell deep over the waves, chequered by the tall sails of the craft that were moored around the harbour. But clear against the sun rose the spires and roofs of Coblentz, backed by many a hill sloping away to the horizon. High, dark, and massive, on the opposite bank swelled the towers and rock of Ehrenbreitstein, a type of that great and chivalric spirit-the nonoun that the rock arrogates for its name, which demands so many sacrifices of blood and tears, but which ever creates in the restless (unsanetified) heart of man a far deeper interest than the more penceful scenes of life by which it is contrasted. There still, from the calm waters, and the abodes of common toil and ordinary pleasure, turns the aspiring mind. Still, as we gaze on that lofty and immemorial rock, we recall the fandue and the siege, and own that the more daring crimes of men have a strange privilege in hallowing the very spot which they devastate!

"Helow, in green curves and minic bays covered with herhage, the gradual banks mingled with the water; and, just where the bridge closed, a solitary group of trees, standing dark in the thickest shadow, gave that melanoholy feature to the scene which resembles the one dark thought that often forces itself into our sunniest hours. Their bughs stirmed not; no voice of birds broke the stillness of their gloomy verdure; the eye turned from them as from the said moral that belongs to existence. Here, at the confluence of the rivers, the Roman Castrum was entrenched—hence the name Coblentz; and, in the middle ages, the Electors of Treves found a stronghold and a refuge; here Marshal Banfflers and a French army in vain carried on the siege and assault, conducted by Vauban under the personal auspices of Louis the Fourteenth; and here, again, the soldiers of the Revolution reduced the Prussian garrison, in 1790, to the most humilfating extremities, when, during the straitness of the siege wherewith they were besieged, a cat's head was sold for five shillings, and a pound of horse-flesh was bought for tenpence, or thirty kreutzers. It then fell into the hands of the French, who, before they evacuated the garrison, blew up its shattered walls and tower of victory 'on which the iron shower for years had poured in

The floating-baths, and floating-mills of the Rhine, suggest improvements which might be beneficially adopted on many of our British rivers, and we have now found them input limitly and sectoricity described him, by Days and sectoricity described him, by Days and sectoricity described him, by Days and sectoricity described him, by Days and sectoricity described him, by Days and sectoricity described him by Days and Sectoricity described him by Da

" Another arrangement which I observed appears worthy of notice, and might be imitated with beneficial results to the community in Britain and other countries. I alludo to the floating baths, which abound on the Rhine, and serve for more extensive purposes than individual comfort or profit—cleanliness and health. They seemed to be regarded as a part of the national economy. The youth of the localities resorted to them as a sort of gymnasium; and especially the young men, who anticipated employment in the army, assembled at them for daily discipline, and were taught to swim, under the direction of men appointed by the authorities for such a purpose. There are inclosured with awnings and shades, platforms, floating beams, buckets, and ropes, to afford every facility and inducement for the healthful exer-The rope was held by the hand, or girt around the waist, and the floating beams were moved to and fro, so that the noviciate might try his attainments, or be sustained in courageously venturing beyond his depth, and become ultimately independent, and capable of casting aside all aids; and, planging headlong into the stream, might dash forward with the freedom and indulgence of a pastine. Swimming is practised, not as a momentary recreation, but as part of a regular training, in which hours are spent. I think that, were there more bathing among ourselves, there would be more health; and were our youth more extensively taught to swim, there would be less fatality attending accidents, whether in rivers or at sea.

'My attention was attracted to the operation of the river flour mills, which are numerous on this majestic stream, and might be advantageously employed in other regions. Immediately contiguous to the bridges of boats, and in other parts, I suppose the more equable channels of the river, these dosting mills are moored, and kept in dully occupation. Their tacklings were fustened to anchors and powerful chains, or attached to the floating bridges. They were worked by external paddle-wheels, not dissimilar to the paddles of a steam boat. The constant downward current of the river acted from without with the same effect as steam from within does, in the propulsion of the sailing vessel. Thus the corn is ground by the operation of a generally equal force; which I believe, is always preferred by the miller. I counted as many as ten, and, in some places, as many 28 seventeen mills of this description at one station. A smaller number, however, repeatedly occurred; and all the grain was brought in boats to a platform in front of the full, and was returned to the storehouse on the banks of the river with the greatest facility. I do not know why such a mechanism should not be adopted, not alone on rivers, but also where the tide flows and recedes. The rise of the tide, flowing one way, might revolve the wheel; and the tide falling, sending the current out, might work it in such a manner as almost to secure a constant power; the engine being cupable of reverse action, on the same principle with the engine of a steamboat. Even in firths, or at the embouchures of rivers, independent of wind or steam, the miller's work might continue with but short intermission. I have adverted to these mills, not because I know much of the mechanical arts, or can profess to teach practical men; but as it is possible some intelligent mechanics, from the suggestion, may develop what vill profit or improve with far more readiness and sagacity than I can display.

Notwithstanding the pressure on our space, we must make room for the history of the Free Trade League of Mayence:

"Mayence boasts celebrity for other incidents in European history, which are interesting to all, and which may even yet secome the source of moral and popular power. which I would mention is not only for the locality the most important, but recognises within its operation principles of a just and wise political economy for all nations, applicable to all times, and promoting good will among all the tribes of the earth. Free Trade was first recognised by the citizens of Mayence, and first realised, through their instrumentality, among other cities upon the Rhine. Walpolden was a citizen of Mayence, who suggested the confederation of cities; vhich led first to the formation of a Rhenish, and then of the famous Hansestic League. The union which he recommended was to secure advantages which should be common to all, and which they should share in spite of feudal or baround power. Their plan was, to free commerce of the op-pressive exactions enforced by knightly highwaymon, whose fortresses were a refuge to the plundering robbers too proud to work, and too selfish to consider the claims of justice or the rights of fellow-men. The whole Continent was at that ime overspread with these haunts of rapine and excess. The Rhenish confederacy united for purposes of commerce, and, through Walpolden, obtained the counsel and senction of the emperor Rodolph of Hapsburgh. To effect their object, they assailed these fortresses, unroofed their castles, and sont their feudal chiefs forth to other regions. To this movement has been ascribed the numerous and far spread rains of castellated buildings on the Rhine. Their pleturesque grandeur serves a far more harmless, and even a more beneficial purpose now, in variegating the scene, and associating the present with memorials of the past, thun, as the hubitations of chivalry and martial parade, they could have done in their best days. They are land marks now for the navigator and adventuring trader; but then they excited terror, and repressed commerce by their signs of life and occupation, when the feudal chiefs employed their menials to intercept and plunder the vessel of the merchant who sought the gains of trade. The tourist, in search of the picturesque, and the mariner, can alike look on them now with undisturbed composure,

"The Rhenish League was a precedent for the subsequent Hanseatic League—a confederation of the Hanse, or free towns of the Continent—to which I may again refor. But it was also founded much in the spirit, and for objects very similar with the designs of a more modern confederacy, whose combined energies will do even more for the world than did Walpolden and his coadjutors. Though they may not leave so many fragmentary ruins to excite the admiration of future travallers, or fill the page of history with scenes of carnage and spoil, and tales of harole bravery in dismantling the beautiful, magnificent, and ploturesque mansions of lordly barons; yet the principle and process of Free Trade will have its achievements, its conquests, and its laurels; overcoming feudal tyranny and territorial domination; setting free the channels of commerce, the energies of men, and the wealth of nations."

Our last extract shall be the description of Berne, a city dear to all lovers of freedom, from its venerable associations with the patriots of old:

"Standing on an jethenia made by a carry of the Aar, 1800 het alone the level of the marend surmounted by a woodled entimal; If purely into along to the entry in made in

light of the tourist; and, encompassed by this blue gledle of water rapidly rushing on its three sides, its mass of piled buildings, hosped, turreted, and pinnacled, stands out to view, surrounded by lovely and andulating pastures and gardens, rising like terraces, one after another, from the river to the tall houses above. The scene will more than gratify -it will startle the curious by its beauty and abruptness. From the ramparts, the Alpine attractions, in their distant snow-clad ponks, which invite to further wanderings, appear in great grandeur. Were I to name more than the Jangfran, the Eiger, the Wetterborn, the Momeh, and the Schreckhorn, would be to bewilder the imagination and at nature's richest magnificence; while the expanding banks of the blue and levely Auricurling and murmuring far below, contrast with the grey sandstone habitations of the citizens, which rise to the height of six or seven stories, with crowded inhabitants from cellar to garret. The new bridge completed, gives a more modern and improving aspect to the More like a fortification than a republican town, it re mains as a monument of the law of the strong hand, which prevailed in the times when Berne was chosen for defence rather than commerce. It is now the chief place for the residence of foreign ambassadors to the Schwyz Diet; and is the centre of the most populous and wealthy of the cantons, The chief part of the town is the main street; and its houses extend over the foot pavements, forming pillared areades similar to those of Chester, but less roomy. These arches are filled by shopkeepers' goods, as in a lengthened bazaar; and thus the street is almost an impassable thoroughfare. The only means of enjoying ventilation for the inhabitants are their higher windows, which are furnished with cushions and balconies. The middle of the street is intersected, from end to end, by a channel large enough to be called a rivulet, which is supplied with copious streams thrown out continually from the fountains, surmounted by figures of bears, and men in armour, which at intervals, from top to bottom, are placed in the Rue Grand.

"The Bernese do not excel in their toilette. Their cos tume is simple, if not rude, and does not indicate a wide commercial intercourse with other lands. The women wear jacket and petticoat of coarse woollen, brown or blue, and the men have cont and trousers of the same stuff. The ordinary male and female attire, from head to heel, is made by themselves, of home manufacture, excepting a few noliday trappings, which their shops furnish. The women wear on the neck a black cotton velvet lappet, bound loosely under each arm, from back to breast, by a steel clasin; and decorate the. heads with bows of black ribbons and broad black lace. The whole people are accustonicd, men and women, to laborious country toll; and are cleanly, comfortable, and contented. The conjecture was warranted, that they make or mend their own shoes, as well as prepare the coarse fabries for their clothing at their cottage fire sides, by the exposure and purchase of pieces of leather at the market. Zeitglockenthurm, an ancient tower, stands in the middle of the main street, like Temple bar, London; a tall block of musonry, dating from 1191, which had been a portal in the walls prior to the extension of the town. Its custern side is furnished with the dial of a clock. The remarkable performance of its functions would not much interest those who treat such mechanism as toyish, rather than indicative of early progress; yet I will venture a brief description for my young friends. A strange whirring sound, a minute prior to the striking of the hour, gives notice of what follows. A variety of puppets, adjoining the dial, assume their functions; a cock flaps his wings, and crows; a king waves his acceptic; a troop of bears march round in procession; and the clock strikes the hour. The crowing, flapping, waving, and marching then again follow; and silence reigns for another hour.

Beyond the western gateway of the town, contiguous to the public promenade, is a well-constructed bear pit, in which the fattest and largest bears, as sincourists, are fed and pampered at the state's expense. The Bernese authorities iave always shown great respect for sinceure pensioned hears. I wish the English authorities had never kept or up-held any worse sinceured and pampered pensioners. The tradition of the bears is unique in Bernese history; but, 'at the beginning of the last century, an old haly dying, without near relatives, bequeathed her fortune of 60,000 livres to them. The will was disputed by some distant relative of the deceased; but the cause of the brutes was so ably pleaded by one of the most distinguished members of the bar of Berne, that the plaintiff was nousuited. The bears, declared the rightful heirs, were taken under the guardianship of the supreme council, who, treating them as wards of Chancery, or minors, administered their property. In order to maintain the succession to the estate, a pair of young bears was always reared, in case of the demise of the elders; and, to prevent too large an increase of the race, all that were born beyond this were fattened to furnish a dainty for the civin feasts of the Berne burgomasters. The bears, however, did not long enjoy their fortune. The French revolution broke out; and its sweeping consequences, not confined to growns and kingdoms, descended even to bears. The French army, having defeated the Swiss in several engagements, entered the town, (in 1788,) and immediately took possession of the treasury. Eleven mules were despatched to Paris, laden with specie found in it; two of them bore away the birthright of the bears, amounting at the fime to about two mil-lions of francs. The bears themselves were led away captives, and deposited in the Jurdin des Plantes, where one of them, the celebrated Martin, soon became the favourite of the French metropolis. When, after a series of years, the ancient order of things was restored at Berne, one of the first cares of the citizens was to replace and provide for their ancient pansioners. A subscription was ruled in consequence, and a small estate purchased; the rents of which, though diminished from various causes, are appropriated to their support. The cost of keeping them amounts to be-tween 600 and 700 francs per annum; and well-grounded fears are entertained that modern legislators, forgetful of the services rendered by Bruin for so many centuries, in figuring upon the shield of the canton, may soon strike him off the

We take leave of Dr. Massie, with greater admiration of his powers than of his prudence; controversial theology is bad seasoning to a book of travels, especially when no care is taken to sooth down condemnation by the more gentle feeling of pity for human error. With this exception, however, the tone of the book is vigorous and healthful, the descriptions very vivid, and the course of the narrative easy and flowing. A little less of contraversy, and a little thore of Christian charity, would have rendered in a secontable a companion and guide in a Continents tour as could well be desired.

UNITED STATES

LIVERPOOT, THURSDAY,-The serival of the New York packet ship Rochester, Chptsin Britton, at this port to-day, has put us in possession of papers five days: later than he fore, to the 21st, inclusive,

The delige upon the Oregon had been resumed in the Somete, but not yet brought to a conclusion. The speakers were for the most part on the paritie side of the question, but the arguments possess but little novelty.

The new Turiff, or Customs Duties, Bill, had been intro-

duced by Mr.-Walker, Secretary of State.

The steamer Cambria arrived at Boston on the 18th inst. She sailed bence on the 4th of February, and carried out news a whole month later than before, and news, too, it will be remembered, of the most intense interest. It was expressed to New York in 74 hours, and caused a great sensation. The New York Herald observes:

"The news is of the highest importance, both in a political and commercial point of view, and as it spreads through the south and west, must have a very favourable effect upon bosiness matters generally, and upon the prices for our prin-cipal staple productions particularly. The bill introduced into Parliament by Sir Robert Peel, in relation to a reduction of duties upon the importations into the United Eingdom, met with universal fevour, and had a very good effect upon trade in the manufacturing districts throughout the country. In many instances large purchases of the raw material lad been made, and arrangements commenced for extending the produce of the loom. "Should this bill of Sir Robert Peel's be completed, and become a law, the effect upon the most important interests of this country will be as great as on those of Great Britain; it will rement, the interests of both countries more firmly than they have ever yet been, and the political differences must be very much softened down by the increased liberality that characterises the commercial

systems of the two nutions.

6 The attention of the commercial classes of Great Britain is turned to this country, in expectation of a reduction in our tariff. There appears to be a determination in Parliement to bring down the tariff of Great Britain to the lowest point, and it is expected that a reciprocal movement will be made in reducing the duties on the manufactures of Great Britain, imported into this country. The two Governments Bave before them bills for the reduction of the fariff, and it is due to that Government that the most liberal compromise in our commercial system should be made. The bill proposed by Mr. Walker would be highly satisfactory to the commercial classes of Europe generally, and Great Britain particularly; and after the reported reductions made in the duties on Amereun produce in England, it is but just, it is but fair, that some concessions should be unde on our side. Reductions have from time to time been made in the British tariff upon our products, without a corresponding reduction, or even the alightest reduction, on the part of our Government; and notwithstanding these repeated disappointments, the Government of Great Britain have proposed another reduction, before the first change has been made in our tariff. In the face of these facts, it becomes necessary that immediate measures should be taken to adopt at once Mr. Walker's bill, and place the tariff upon the most liberal foundation."

Referring again to the state of the Oregon negociations,

the same paper observes; "The political news, also, possesses great interest, as it must give confidence in the permanency of our peaceful relations with England, and do away with many of those fears and darms which have for the past year had such a blighting effect upon commercial affairs. The remarks of Sir Robert Peel indicate an intention on the part of the Government to settle the Oregon question by negociations, if possible; and his affusion to the course pursued by Mr. Pakenham, in refusing the other made by Mr. Buchanan, is pretty good evidence that had the offer been submitted by Mr. Pakenham to his Government, it would have been very favourably received, and perhaps have been accepted. Mr. Pakenham therefore deserves the censure the Prime Minister gave him in Parliament, as the difficulties that have grown, and those that may grow out of this question, can be attributed entirely to the refusal of the last offer of Mr. Buchanan by Mr. Pakenham, without consulting his Go-

vernment.

(From the New York Tribune, F.b. 20.)
The news from Europe, by the arrival of the Cambria steamer, is of the highest importance, and was received here with the greatest joy. The British Government is determined on peace, which is proclaimed in the speech from the throne, and by Sir R. Peel in the House of Commons. This news is altogether unexpected, and so much better than was anticipated, that it had an instantaneous effect to advance the price of stocks, and to inspire confidence. The proposal to reduce the dates of American produce is all we can wish: those articles most important, such as beef, pork, and Indian corn, are to be admitted free or nearly so. These are the leading articles that the Continent of Furope cannot compete with us in, and which we can supply to almost any extent. The debates in Congress will be very much affected by the news, and it is believed will be shaped to a speedy and hoppy issue. The spring trade has commenced; marchants are here from the south and west; the anctioneers have commenced their spring sales, and our hotels are fast filling up. The weather has been quite stormy and severe, and the rivers remain closed; happily, however, the railroads have not been obstructed, and travelling has continued uninterrunted.

(From the Express.)

The intelligence we consider in some respects of more importance than any we have received for many years. The proposition of the British Ministry to reduce the duty on many of the most important articles imported from the United States is all that could be wished. The reduction is on the very acticles that the most experienced men in this country would have selected, if they had had the opportunity to frame the bill. One of the most important is that of Indian This is the species of grain that is raised in immense quantities in this country. By the census of 1840, the product of a single year was over three hundred and seventyseven millions of bushels, and the largest yield was in the state of Tenneslee. In the growth of this description of grain, no country on the globe, can/compete with us. We have, in fact, a greater monopoly in the growth of corn than wa have in that of course. The duty is now Pacents, a bushel, and by the proposed law is to be admitted free. The admission of pork and beef from this country, free, is an important ovent. Beef is already shapped from here in great quantities, and has become in high favour. Pork is also shipped freely from this country. The reduction of duties

bushel, is to be reduced to 6d, or 12 cents, a bushel, and a corresponding reduction in flour.

The intelligence, in a political point of view, is of the highest importance. Notwithstanding all the boasting and awaygering from this country, the Government of England are determined on peace,

The Queen's Speech is decidedly pacific, and Sir Robert Feel's is, if possible, more so. It is now certain that war mist come from this side of the water, if at all.

FAMINE IN IRELAND.

DUBLIN, MARCH 10 .- The subjoined remarkable statement was ununimously agreed to at a meeting of the magistrates, clergy, and respectable farmers of the parish of Killone, county of Clare, held in the National School-house of Newhall on Friday, the 6th inst., Mr. John Macdonnell, of Newhall, in the chair, for the purpose of urging on the members of the Scarcity Commission the necessity of affording immediate relief to the destitute unemployed poor of the dis-

triet:
"That there are in this parish 100 families and upwards in great want. The failure of the potato crop, the high price of potatoes in Ennis market (5d. yesterlay), the want of resident gentry to employ the people—all combine to appeal distress and misery throughout this neighbourhood. "That about 460 acres of the rich alluvial coreas land

adjoining the estuary of the river Pergus have been cultivated during the past year by the labourers of this parish, -the entire produce of which has been lost.

"That at the present moment there are in this parish more than 50 families in a state bordering on extreme destitution; or, in other words, that they frequently cannot procure even one meal in the 21 hours of the cheapest food, as they are

without money, credit, or employment.
"That in another month we shall have an additional number of 50 families and upwards in similar destitution, and that before the 1st of next May more than the third part of the inhabitants of this parish will have to depend, in order to sustain life, on the employment afforded by public works,

or the relief given by lumane landlords. "That the extensive farmers of the parish have lost almost the entire of their pointoes—hence the poor are excluded from the extensive charities hitherto given in the agricultural districts—hence likewise a great diminution of the employment heretofore afforded by the farmers to the neighbouring

poor.
"That there are not in this parish provisions sufficient, at

an average, to feed the inhabitants for a month."

A parish priest (the Rev. Mr. Lynch) in the county of Chare, has addressed a letter to a local paper, which gives a very gloomy account of the condition of the people in the

district over which he is placed:

"The potatoes (says the rev. gentleman) are all but gone in this district, while the people have no employment, for, as there is neither resident landlord nor agent in Kilmenly, they are left to their own resources. What will the public think when they are informed that in one parish (Kilmenly) there are more than 12,000 acres Irish to which the hand of industry was never applied, not from any want of disposi-tion on the part of the people, but from an unaccountable and insane apathy on the part of the landlords? What then are the people who are so neglected to do? Their food is nearly exhausted, and yet they have no employment in a district where industry is required in every form, whether it be in repairing of roads and bridges, making fences, clearing land, &c. Meetings have been called in other baronies and money applied for to meet the approaching famine, and why not hold a meeting in this barony? I would suggest the prudence of doing so, before a scene of anarchy may be acted which would be deplored by every lover of peace and religion. Principiis obsta was never more applicable than at the present time. It is a very dangerous experiment to try the patience of a hungry populace."

FREE TRADE CONTAGIOUS.

(From the Spectator.)

The protectionists are probably in the right when they maintein that Foreign Governments will not take off their restrictive or prohibitive duties on English produce because we take off our restrictive or probibitive duties on theirs. But the protectionists are wrong when they infer that restrictive or prohibitive dutle; on English gools will therefore remain as stringent after we have liberalised our tariff as they are at present. The Free Trade policy of England may work as an example, although foreign Governments do not reduce the duty on English cottons in order to reward Englishmen for abolishing the duty on their corn. For example—the best argument against the English Corn Law is that it creates scarcity by artificial means: it is the Corn Law that we have to thank in great part for the extent to which the potato has become a substitute for bread : under the Corn Law the food of the people has deteriorated in quality. A parallel case is at this moment engaging the attention of the French chambers. For many years the consumption of Jutcher-ment in France has been decreasing. In 1830, the annual consumption of meat was 124 kilogram tes per head; in 1840, it was only 11 kilogrammes: in the course of ten years the consumption of meat by the French population has diminished II per cent. This appears from official documents published by the Minister of Commerce in 1842. The chamber of deputies proposes to check this deterioration of the popular aliment by reforming the duties exacted by municipalities on all cattle brought into towns. While other deputies were dealing with the evil much after the fashion of our protectionists, M. de Lamartine struck at its root. He traced the increased price of meat and its decreased consumption to the duties levied at the frontier on imported cattle. M. de Lamartine has thus indissolubly associated in the public mind of France two ideas—searcity of animal food, and duties on the importation of foreign cattle to protect French graziers. The duties on imported cattle are about to become as odious in France as the duties on imported corn in England. The example set by England in the abolition of the Corn Law will be quoted in support of the abolition of the Frough restrictive duties on foreign cattle. Swiss and Bel-gian graziers will be permitted to compete on equal terms with French graziers in French markets, and French graziers will insist upon being allowed in like manner to purchase their cottons of foreign manufacture if they can got them quantities, and has become in high favour. Pork is also shipped freely from this country. The reduction of duties on foreign cattle he sholished in France; but its sholision on button candles, cheese, clocks, hams, hops, rice, and tallow its sufficient to allow very large shipments to be made. The duty on wheat, which is now 2s, sterling, or 48 sents.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We understand that Sir Robert Peel's new sliding seals finds very little favour in this neighbourhood, the generals, ing of the farmers being that, if they are to be subjected in competition with the foreigner, the sooner the measure cometinto full operation the better. They say, and with truth, that they are much more likely thus to enter into satisfactory arrangements with their landlords than if they are forther than the market with a given with a single forther than the same statement of the market with a single same series and series are same series. next three years to be mocked with a show of protection, which shall serve no other purpose than to afford an excusto those who may feel a disinclination to accommodate them. selves and those dependent upon them to the new state of things .- Salisbury Journal.

The Austrian Lloyd's, published at Trieste, states that three eminent engineers, of France, England, and Austria, are about to meet at Paris, to agree upon a plus forming a canal across the Isthmus of Suez. We believe that the it entirely incorrect as relates to England, which has no inter-q in the formation of such a canal, thoughlit would degice great advantage from the formation of a railway from Cairo to

The anticipated repeal of the Corn Laws does not been to create much alarm among the owners of the soil. A pact of copyhold arable land has just been sold at 900, per acre, at Donington, near Boston. The quality is not very good; and the price, with the court fees, will be about 1000, per acre. The purchaser was Mr. Cragg, supposed to be for Earl Broad-

The cost of the French War Department this year is a millions of francs, or about thirteen millions sterling, so that it seems that the luxury of making razzins on the poor Ambi is rather an expensive one.

An Irish paper mentions the case of a sick man, at Ther nendgate, who, in a fit of delivium, got up and ate several bank notes by way of disappointment to his expectant heis.

A Liverpool Tory paper speaks of the Reform Bill as a measure carried by "the congregated ruffians of England" Three-fifths, at least, of the constituency of Liverpool, would have had no votes but for the measure thus denounced,

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Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application invacidately.
The Modeley's Offices will be over the recognition and the

The Society's Offices will be open for receiving subscriptions and the general transaction of business, overy Tuesday and Friday cresings, for 6 to 9 o'clock.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 14, 1846.

PROGRESS OF FREE TRADE ON THE CONTINENT.

The movement in favour of Free Trade in France advances with a rapidity and an onthusiasm which could hardly have been anticipated. A popular journal laments that I rance had not taken the imtiative in the enfranchisoment of commerce, which it regards as the greatest social triumph that can be obtained by a nation. Lamartine, the poet of Christianity, and the most eloquent orator in France, has vindicated his high intellectual claims by taking the lead in the attack on monopoly. In another part of our paper we have inserted the practical and sound speech of the Mayor of Bordeaux, at the Free Trade meeting in that city; but we cannot pass over some of the powerful statements of the offect of protection on French industry addiced by M. Lamartine, during the discussion of the import duties on cattle, in the Chamber of Deputies:

"Those whom legislation should favour, (he exclaimed) are the masses that suffer from hunger! Our duty is to provide the workman's morsel of meat at a low price. If the nutriment of the people, and especially meat be bad, unwholesome, often insufficient and always dear, where less the fault?—In our short supply of cattle and of provander, and consequently in the high price of mest in our markets. In a family consisting of a husband, a wife, and two or the oblidren, if the wife wishes to have a bit of met, for diameters.

she must expend the day's wages on its muchase.
"The source of the evil is that with the source of the evil is the without the source of the evil in t

"I believe that such questions which affect the very life of our countrymen have a right to interest you as much as political questions. But they must be themselves political questions in an assembly where the support of the working classes and the comfort of the population must ever be the most interesting of political considerations. I repeat its questions of the supply of food are questions of life and death for a legislature.

"You import about 35,000 head of cattle, which pay a duty of 50 millions of francs. What is the result? You are levying a tax of 50 millions on the labour, the wages, the comforts, the very life of your industrial population. 1s this the policy of statesmen, or the policy of hucksters?

"You make bread dear, wood dear, iron dear, meat dear, when lowering their price would people your territory. Is * this economy?

"True political economy should have its morality; the low price of necessaries for the people is its virtue-a systematic raising of prices is its crime.

Every time that you vote a higher price for the necessaries of life to producers against the poor consumers, you are voting for privation, for miscry, for suffering, for nakedness, for famine, for disease, and for death itself.

Let a unanimous League of justice and benevolence be formed against this false economy. It is when we are disensking the life, the food, and the comfort of the people that great thoughts come from the heart; and I will add, great truths also. Know you what is the truth in all those questions of taxes, duties or imposts on the dwelling, the clothing, and the food of the people? Know you what is the truth before God and man, before philosophers as well as economists, before reason as well as religion? I will tell you in one sentence—it is cheap support of life, cheap conditions of existence for the people."

We rejoice to see the greatest of living poets thus eloquently plending the cause of the people in the sacred names of justice, humanity, and the brotherhood of nations. This is the true utility of genius; and this also is its highest glory.

Among the Free Trade pamphlets sent us from France, there is a speech delivered by the DUKE n'Harcourr, in the Chamber of Peers, which has been widely circulated and justly admired by our neighbours beyond the Channel, from which we must take some striking passages:

"Providence, in its wondrous wisdom, has spread the riches of the earth's produce in different climates, to force men to go in search of them, and form intercourse with each other by mutual exchange. To restrict such exchanges is to violate the laws of Providence.

"Barbarians are barbarians only because they have no wants, and no intercourse. Free Trade, then, is civilisation; and prohibition is barbarism.

"Archimedes said, 'Give me a resting point, and I will move the world;' and we say confidently, Give us Free Trade, and we defy religious animosities, national late, war, famine, poverty; all those evils which are the ordinary heritage of suffering humanity, to perpetuate their permicious existence. *

"We have a magnificent spectacle before us in England, a parallel to which cannot be found in history; it is that of the League, which has been formed, not merely to repeal the Corn Laws, but all those duties, fulsely called protective, but which should rather be called tariffs of oppression; for while they protect the few, they oppress and crush the many.

"When we reflect on the obstacles it has had to subdue and the enemics it has had to combat, it is impossible to withhold our just tribute of applause to a nation which has made such heroic efforts for the good of mankind. Statues should be erected to Mr. Cobden as a benefactor of man-

We quote these passages because they show that the Free Traders of France are able to command an audience, and to enlist large sympathies in their cause. Meetings have been held to inculeate these principles in the great cities; the press has, to a great extent, habandoned the narrow prejudices which led a great number of journals to support restriction; and the newspapers devoted to the cause of monopoly in France, are almost as few and as uninfluential as the Mrs. Harrises and Mrs. Gamps of England.

The progress of Free Trade in Germany is as steady, though not so rapid, as in France; in fact, the Kollverein, apparently established to support the protective system, contains in its inherent elements principles destructive of monopoly. It socuros internal freedom of trade so far as its association extends. To establish perfect Free Trade is nothing more than to include the civilised world in one Zollverein. The experiment successfully tried on a small scale not only suggests such an extension, but gives an irresistible impulse to its realisation. It is gratifying to find that the Continental nations which followed England's that example in the state of the late of the state
Secretal ..

THE FUNDS.

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Spanish 5 per Ct. Do. 3 per Ct. ex.dv.	2.7	l ::	::			::0
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MARKETS.

CORN_MARKET.

MONDAY, MARCH 9 .- With a short supply of wheat, both by Monoxy, March 9.- With a short supply of wheat, both by land carriage and constanys, factors are unable to establish an advance over last Monday's prices. In the morning, 1s. to 2s, more money was asked, but buyers were unwilling to accede to the increase in price, and the market closed without alteration from last week. Fine wheat was easier to sell. There is rather more inquiry for bonded wheat, but prices continue the same as of late, without much actual business passing. Barley is in short supply, and forches 1s, more money than last Monday for all descriptions. The arrivals of outs are also small. The vessels which brought the last large supply from treland are coming on demurrage; this causes inferior corn, of which the supply on demurrage; this causes inferior corn, of which the supply chiefly consisted, to be offered on late terms; but fine onts, both English and Irish, will sell readily at rather higher rates. Of beans and peas there is a fair quantity on sale; the former maintain their value, but the latter are difficult to quit.

maintain their value, but the latter are dimonit to quit.	
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Flour, Canada, fresh, per barrel of 196 lbs34	30		
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Australian, per sack of 280 lbs			
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Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from

Wheat. English 4417	Barley. 4019	Oats, 2402	Bouns. 1247	Poas. 710
Bcotch	:10	422		
Irish		2735		
Foreign, 11309	ا ا	2700	2439	1314
Flour	4000	. DAIR how	vola '	· .

FRIDAY, MARCH 13.—What Biglish Wheat appears in the return arrived in time for Wednesklay's market, and was nearly all sold on that day at quite the currency of Monday. To day there is scarcely any offering; Lut what there is solls at the same prices as before. About 12,200 quarters of Foreign Wheat have arrived. This trade continues dull; but prices are not lower than of late. Barley has come forward sparingly, and solls on Monday's terms: there is not much life in the trade. Only one small vessel from Ireland has arrived with Oats this week. The Foreign are being landed in bond, so that the supply of corn for consumption is very small; and added to that of inferior condition. The market is bare of Oats generally, and holders are are asking more money than on Monday; but it is not casy to effect sales, and quotations cannot be altered. Beans and Poas as on Monday.

Account of CORN, &c., errived in the Port of London, from the 5th of March to the 16th of March, both inclusive

English. Irish. Foreign. English. 7670 4300 Barley 120 0100 8040 Flour, 4890 sacks.

LON	DON	AVER	AOKE	for t	he Wook	onding	Marc	h10, 1	840.
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Barley		3486	Hein.	bd.	Beans		1318	Bis.	Od.
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30s. id.; Oats, 91s. 8d.; Rye, 33s. Id.; Bouns, 35s. 0d.; Poss, 35s. 6d. Post, 588, 6d.; Post, 188, 0d.; Barley, 8s, 0d.; Oats, 6s, 0d.; Ryo 9s, 6d.; Heans, 7s, 6d.; Post, 7s, ed.

Hock of Corn in Bond, Pels, 5, 1846.

Wheat, Barloy, Oats, Ryo, Boans, Peas, Plout

In London, 424256 13765 48060 ... Unit. King. 1001780 74407 82610 ... 4757 085814

MEAT MARKET.

MEAT MARKET.

The trade good upon the whole; but a heavy sale of Mutten owing to high prices.

PERSTONE OF Sibs. BT THE CARCASE.

Prime Beef. 1s to to 3s 8d | Middl. Mutten 4s 2d to 4s 0d Middling do. 3s 6d to 3s 4d | Veal, from ... 5s 0d to 4s 8d | Plain, or inferior Beef. ... 3s 0d to 2s 10d | Large, or inferior Beef. ... 3s 0d to 4s 4d | rior Pork ... 3s 0d to 3s 0d

THE LONDON GAZETTE,

FRIDAY, MARCH 6. BANKRUPTS

J. Shaw, Exeter Street, Knightsbridge, victualier. [Mr. Mac-

phall, Wilmington-square.

J. Hawkins, Hurst, Berkshire, butcher. [Mr. Rushbury Mitre Court, Phy. Place, Molborn.

B. L. M. Rothschild, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn-Fields, diamond merchant. [Messes, Dickson and Overbury, Old Jewry; and Mr. Tenguo, Crown Court. R. Blacklocks, Lydd, Kent, innkeeper. [Mosses, Baddelsy,

Loman Street,
Ann Martin, Sturminstor Newton, Dorset, linendraper.

[Messes, Soles and Turner, Aldermanbury, T. Lapton and W. B. Lapton, Leeds, day spinners. [Messes.

Wiglosworth and Co., Gray's Inn.
W. Bond, jun., Manchester, stretcher, [Messrs, Cornthwaite and Adams, Old Jewry Chambers.

M'Gibbon, Liverpool, boot and shoemaker. | Mr. Oliver, T. Magaire, Birmingham, draper. [Mesers, Motteram and

T. Maguire, Birmingham, draper. [Messrs, Mouterant and Knowles, Birmingham.
J. D. C. Wheeler, Torpoint, Cornwall, victualier. [Messrs, Surrand Co., Lombard Street.
S. Boord, Bristol, woolien draper. [Messrs, Linkhatar Lesdenhall Street.
J. Chough, Huddersfield, chemist. [Mr. Cumming, King Street, Cheapside.
B. Clark, Leeds, corn factor. [Messrs, Mitton and Co., Southampton Buildings.
G. Williams, Bristol, watchmaker. [Messrs, Hornby and Towgood, St. Swithin's Lane.
J. Hostings, Tredegar, Monmonthyhiro, drspor. [Mr. Cattlin,

J. Hastings, Tredegar, Monmonthyhiro, drapor. [Mr. Cattlin,

DIVIDENDS.

March 27, J. and J. Kesteven, Strand, mercers J. and T. Batt, Old Bond Street, silk dealers R. T. Jones, Oxford, chemist—E. Knyvett, Great Stanmore, Middleacx, music toucher March 31, J. M. Loader, Oxford Stroet, couch builder —Murch March 31, J. M. Leader, Oxford Street, couch builder "March 26, W. Faryon, Farringdon Street, victualler W. Hay and J. A. Titterton, London Road, oil and colourmen "April 1, T. Moger, Holborn Hill, and Coventry Street, poulterer "T. Mortimer, East Lane, Walworth, victualler (March 30, 8, Cullen, Notting Imm., chemist March 31, J. Harford, Bristol, and Ebbw Valotand Sirhowy, Monmouth hire, ironmaster April 2, J. Townsond, Honiton, Devon, and O. Brooke, Whimple, Devon, bankers "March 27, F. Fothergill and J. M'Innes, Bell's Close, Northumberland, lamp-black manufacturers "T. Wilkinson, Hardepool, Durham, draper W. Walker, Bermingham, hatter-"March 28, C. Bunn, Birmingham, gilt toy maker.

28, C. Dunn, Dirmingham, gill toy maker.

CERCIFICATES.

March 27, R. E. Walker, Liverpool, shipbroker--T. Hodgson,
Liverpool, bookseller-Sarah C. Fly, Margate, stationer--4,
Jones, City Roul, draper--E. P. Harding, Gravesoud, bookerJones, City Roul, bean Street, Soho, plumber J. Robinson,
Leeds, cloth merchant--C. W. Davies, Holborn, upholsterer
W. Faryon, Farringdon Street, victualler---March 31, R. Houdington, Bath and Liverpool, laceman.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS. J. Watt, Dundee, spirit and tea merchant.

TUESDAY, March 10,

CROWN OFFICE.
MEMBERS RETURNED TO SERVE IN THE PRESENT PAR-LIAMENT.

County of Nottingham (Northern Division).- William Henry

Cavendish Bentinck, Esq., commonly on led Lord Henry Bon-tinck, in the room of Hunry Gally Knight, Esq., deceased Borough of Bridport Alexander Baillio Rosa Wishart Baillio Cochrane, Esq.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. Collinson, Allerton and Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted BANKRUPTS.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Harding, Edward Street, Portman Square, turner. [Mr. Mordannt, Bolton Street, Plecadilly.

W. J. Harris, High Street, Southwark, tailor. [Mr. Wellborne, 31, Tooley Street.

J. Bowell, Oreat Dunmow, Essex, grooce. [Mossis, Wade and Pennington, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry.

E. Morgan, Lisson Street, Maryledone. [Mossis, Bicknell's Marghester Street, Maryledone.]

B. Morgan, Lisson Street, Maryletonic, Messers, Rickiela Manchester Street, Manchester Square,
B. Pritchett, and J. P. Oridge, Charlbury, Oxfordshire, glovo manufacturers. [Mr. Patten, Ely Place, Holborn,
W. J. Idenden, Salmon's Lune, Limehouse, tailor. [Mr. H. Taylor, Church Street, Spitchields,
W. F. Brewster, lato of Bath, but now of Trumpington, Cambridgeshire, chemist. [Mr. Wilkins, Furnival's Inn.
J. Blundell, Wigan, Lancashire, pawnbroker: [Mr. Barrow, Wigan.

Wigan.

J. Rayner, Stanningley, near Lords, cloth manufacturer, [Mr. Walker, Furnival's Inn.

A. Nichol, Newcastle upon Tyne, ship broker. [Mesers. Chisholme and Co., Linsoln's Lim Fields.

T. Harding, Lichfield, schoolmester. [Mr. W. H. Reece, Blemingham.

Birmingham.
C. Galdsmith, Bristol, saddler. [Mr. Wocks, Cook's Court, Lincoln's In W. Dalo, Liverpool, bricklayer. [Mossrs. Vincent and Co.,

R. Foulkes, Soughton, Flintshire, cattle salesman. (Messrs. Bridger and Blake, London Wall.

WHEAT IMPORTED PROM CANADA.—It appears from a return issued by the House of Commons that the quantity of wheat and wheat flour imported into the United Kingdom from Canada, in the year ending Ath of January 1846, was 220,241 quarters (cordised as the produce of Canada, under the Act Cit and 7th Victoria, c. 20); three quarters of foreign what were also imported from Canada, making a total of 220,244 quarters.

Mona Spanish Whitar at Hunt.—Mesers Crut, Helmsing and Gon of this port have received another saries of the Spanish white wheat, equal in weight and quality to the direct cargo, the arrival of which a few days ago, crusted as much direct, and which experienced a great demand both for grinding and sowing.—Hull Packet.

Price (fre Shilling: by sost, One and Stapence VIIAT TO EAT, DRIERK, and AVOID. Addressed to the Nervous and Dyspettle. By 16 2/Cer vrawser. M.D. Morber of the Royal College of Suryons, &c. Shorteng, 23, Paternostation, and all Brokallers, address from the Aschor, 2), Arundel street, Strand.

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QTOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION of the CHIST are entirely prevented, and gently and effectually removed in Youth and Ladica and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the Improved Elastic Crest Hypander, which is light, simple easily employed, outwardly or invisibly, without any unconfortable rearraint, or impediment a carrelise. Egat per post, by Mr. A. linton, sole Manufacture, and Propriets, 48, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, or full parties lars on receiving a postage stamp, Willi TOIJET.—No tailor can be considered complete by without a mercula attention to hat department which so materially and its the entile contour—viz. tracings, which both inquantity and quality best expected on most material afternation. That which is weak can be it in a state action of the contour material afternation. That which is weak can be it is actioned, and be made to receive a must be autifulgious, by artificial applications of the in a state of the properties in these respects that is due the character of OLDRIDGET BAIM OP COLUMBIA.

for its inviscosating, nutritions, and regenerating qualities. Sa. 6d., 6s., and the perbottle. No other pricease genuins.—Oldringe's Baim, 1, Wallington atreat, the second house from the Strand.

L'DUCATION. — The MISSES WICKHAM beg to I call the attention of Parents and Guardians to their Establishment for Young Ladies, situated in a healthy part, a short distance from town. Terms, including instruction in French, Music, Dancing, and the ragulates of an Bandish Education, from 20 to 22 per annum according to age. A vacuary for an articled pupil. Application at 2, Bello Vuo Terraco, Ball's Pond Road, Kingsland.

REEHOLD ESTATE FOR INVESTMENT OR CCCUPATION.—For said by Private Contract, a Valuable Frechold Farm, great and small title free, and land tax redeemed; comprising a respectable resistence and superior agricultural buildings, and 447 acres of sound land principally arable, well situate on a high road, 6 miles from a large market town and raitway station, and about 60 miles from London. Possession at Old Michaelmas next. Two-thirds of the purchase money will be allowed to remain, if required, at 34 per cent., for seven years certain. Apply to Charles smith, Estate Agent, Coggeshall, Pesex.

MILLER'S PATENT SAFETY REIN is warranted to afford an efficient control over Horses In Saddle or Harness un-all circumstancer. Manufactured and sold, wholesale and retail, by the l'atentes, at 27, Lothian-street, Edinburgh,

DRONZED SCROLL FENDER for 10s. Ornamental fron ditto, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; Chamber Fire froms, 1s. 8d. per set, Parlour ditto, 3s. 6d.; Superior ditto, from 6s. 6d. Their stock also consists of an extensive assortment of Drawing-room Stoves, London-made Dish Covers, Paper and Japan Tea Trays, superior Table Cutlery, Nickel Silver Wares, and every description of Furnishing frommonery, every article of which is marked at such prices that will fully son-vince purchasers of the great advantages resulting from cash payments.
Recursan and Joses Massa, 30s, Strand, epiposite Someres house. Their illustrated Cutalogue may be had gratis, or seat per post free. Esta blished bills. BRONZED SCROLL FENDER for 10s.

PERDOE'S LIGHT WATERPROOF OVER-COATS, guaranteed to exclude any rain whatever. The eatablished reputation of these garments has been so long and universally assumited, that continuing thus to notice them would be unnecessary, were it not that their well-known extensive sale is continually producing fresh attempts to mislead. For quality and style, ellictency, respectability, and real economy, these most convenient and admired garments are unquestionably still univalled. An extensive variety in Lamas, and other now materials, manufactured exclusively, for W. B. for the present season, now ready, or made to order at a day's notice (price 33s. to 50s.) only by W. BERDOIS, Tailor, Over-soat Maker, and Waterproofer, 50, Corabili (north side).

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CREAM (Pationised by Prince Albert). This inestimable Cream poseuses all the good qualities of the Finest Naples Scap, without the disagreeable smell inseparable from that article in a genuine state. It is of a white pearly silvery appearance, produces a creamy inther, which will not dry on the face, and emits in use the delightful flavour of the almond.

In Pois, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., &c.

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SAVE THE "CROWN!" - Brougham's Speech on AVE THE "CROWN!"— Drongman of Aver the Subscription Meeting on Thursday, Murch 19, 1846, the Entrance Fee on Shares in the PHST BRITISH BUILDING AND INVESTMENT COMPANY, will be increased from 58, to 10s. per Share.

By Order of the Board,
J. R. Macanthun, Manager.

SECOND BRITISH BUILDING AND INVEST-

MENT COMPANY. Rarolled under the Act of Parliament, 6 and 7 Win IV., cap. 32.

Passed for the Encouragement and Protection of Building Secieties, and established on Macaritur's Simplified and Improved Plan.

Monthly Subscription. 10c. per Share.

No Redemption Fee.

Office, 3, Ivy Lane, 8t. Paul's, London.

Hours, 18 till 1.

The PIRRY SUBSCRIPTION will be due in March, 1818, and will be re-

ceived each month, on the First Friday, at the British Schools, Denmark-terrace, Pentonville; Second Friday, at the Temperance Bull, Excter-street, Swane street

Chelses; Third Priday, at the Educational Institute, 131, Blackfriar's road, the Fourth Friday, at the Tetaperance Hall, Henry street, Portland Town;
From 7 to 9 in the Evening.

Fourth Friday, at the Tetaperance Hall, Henry street, Fortland Town;
From 7 to 9 in the Evening.

Disectors.

Disectors.

Mr. William Farmer, Chairman. Mr. Thos. Sheppard, Deputy Chairman W. Anderson, M. R.C.S., 12, Chadwell-street, Myddleton-square W. H. Beat, H. Grosvenor-square
W. H. Beat, H. Grosvenor-square
W. Farmer, 20, Charlotte terrace, Barnsbury-road, Islington John Finch, 57. West street, Smithfield
William Handley, 53, Chisavell-street, City
John T. Hind, 27, Cannon street road
Alexander McGiashan, 18, Long Aere.
Stephen Nicholas, 9, Buewer-street, Clerkenwell,
Thomas Sheppard, 5, Galasford-place, Harnsbury-road, Islington
James Staley, Sun Row, Tibberton square
Thomas Stoley, Sun Row, Tibberton square
Henry Underhill, Cross street, Hatton garden
William Anderson, M. R.C.S., 12, Chadwell street, Myddleton-square,
William Farmer, 28, Charlotte-terrace, Harnsbury-road, Islington,
James Staley, Tibberton-square, Islington,
Thomas Sheppard, 5, Gainsford-place, Barnsbury-road,
Arotroas.
One Gentleman, appeinted by the Directors, with two appointed by the
Bhareholders.
Mr. J. B. Mecanthan.

Shareholders.

Mr. J. R. Macarthur.

TREADARK.

Mr. William Handley, 58, Chiswell street, City

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SECREALIET BECREEURY Mr. R. Jessurun.

All communications to be addressed to the Second British Building and Investment Company, 5, Ivy-lane, St. Pinal's, London.

The British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the 4th September, 1848, in five months enrolled 1500 Shareholders, issued 200 Shares, and advanced about 2000 to its Shareholders for the purchase of property. Such success is unprecedented in the annuals of Building Societies. At a Public Meeting, at which unwards of 1100 persons were present, hold at the London Muchanics' Institution, on Tuesday, 17th Feb., 1846, Mr. W. Farmer, in the chair, the fellowing Resolutions were carried unautmously:

Moved by Mr. lieal, seconded by Mr. Loveloy,—That this meeting highly approves of the pian on which the Second Biritish Indiding and Investment Company is established; and cordially resommends it to the public as being based on equal justice to all, and providing for the members, desirous of purchasing property, the greatest advantages consistent with security to the whole body of members.

Moved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Thomas,—That this meeting considers the conduct of the Directors-in-waiving their right to receive or claim any advance from the Company during the first 12 mouths, as highly honourable, and deserving of the sincere thanks of the meeting.

highly honourable, and deserving of the sincere thanks of the meeting. The Prospectus may be obtained, gratis, of any of the Directors, and at the Sames Hall \$1, Leadeshall street, City, Conce Rooms, Exter-street, Stoane-street; Corne Itooms, Henry-hirest, Portland Town; the Mechanics Treet, Corne Itooms, Henry-hirest, Portland Town; the Mechanics Treet, Portland Town; the Mechanics Towns of Corners of C

TUMBER ONE, ST. PAULS GILLIRCHYARD, Lie PLACE FAR, and a bit property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the literature of the property of the

BRILING OFF CARPETS.

TUCK, KENT, and CUMMING, beg to inform the Akobility and Gentry, as well as their friends and the unlife that have removed their Business from Carpenter's Hall, London Walling established Warehouse, i, REGENT STILLET, WATERLOO poposite Howell and Jamess, and to 28, HATTON UARDER, HOLLING Where they trust that Patrenage will be continued which they have level for upwards of a century. A considerable portion of thair law of BRUSBRIS, KIDDERMINNSTER, and other Carpeting, to be said Great Beduction. In addition to Carpeting, they have at their was worthy of attention. A aplendid Carpet, of British manufacture, it is with a centro and berder, at less than cost price.

The first brought out, and have maintained their pre-eminence were since. Besides being used by the Merchants and linkers of Lasden, together with the gentlemen of the stock Exchange, these Pens are also patronized by Her Mejesty's Judges, and by a large number of the Clergy. Deanc's Two-hole black Pens are especially adapted for each tinuous writing, their elasticity affording an agreeable case, and their strength insuring the same character of writing for a long period together. Steel Pen and Cutlery Department of Deanc's Warshouse, show Resims, and Manufactories, opening to the Monument, 40, king William Street, London Bridge.

TENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.—Bright atest fenders, to 4 feet, from 30s each; rich bronzed scroll do, with steel bar, 10s 50; iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; wrought iron kitabase fonders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; bright register stoves, with bronzed orangests, and two sets of bars, from 95s; bed-room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s 3re-irons for chambers is 3d per set; handsome do., with cut heads, 18 4d. The money returned for every article not approved of. Dotalled catalogues, with sugravings, sont (per post) free.

Rippon and Surton's Stock of General Purnishing Ironmongery is literally the largest in the World. They regret they cannot employ any language which will convey an adequate impression of its variety andexisations, they therefore invite purchasers to call and inspect it—60; Oxford-spect (corner of Newman-street). Established in Wells-street, 1920.

LITHOGRAPHY.

MESSRS. MACLURE, MACDONALD, and MACLURE, MACDONALD, and MACLURE, MACDONALD, and MACLURE, and their system of conducting business: namely, their having a large and permanent staff of Assistants, in all the varied department of the Art, on the premises; which arrangement they submit gives a force and effect to immediate production unattainable by other means, and which is obviously of great advantage to those who may require their services, independent altogother of the excellency of their work.

London Establishment, Saville House, 6, Leicester Square; Liverpool Patablishment, 18, Fonwick Street; Ginagow Establishment, 57, Buchanan Street.

Street. Vacancies for two Pupils; one in Writing, the other in the Artistical

EAL and SON'S LIST of BEDDING, containing a full description of weights, sizes, and prices, by which purchasen are enabled to judge the articles that are best suited to make a good set of besting. Son free, by post, on application to their catablishment... Heal & Son, Fenther Dressers and Bestding Manufacturers, 196, Tottenham-sent-road.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE. A White Powder for the Teeth, compounded of the Choicest and most Resherche Ingredients of the Oriental Rechai; the leading requisites of cleanliness and efficer belog present in the highest possible degree. It bestows on the teeth a pear like whiteness and frees them from tartar; imparts to the game a healthy francess, and to the breath a grateful sweetness and perfume. Price 26.9d.

ness, and to the breath a graterial sweether and per liox.

CAUTON.—To protect the public from Fraud, the Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have directed the Proprietor's Name and Address to be engaved on the Government Stamp thus—

"A. ROWLAND and SON, 29, Hatton Garden,"

Which is affixed on each box.

Sold by them and by(Chemists and Perfumers.

All other Odontos are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!

THE Public are specially informed that a few days will complete the entire range of E. MOSES and 80N8' new primises in Aldgate and the Minories, and that due notice will be given of the

day of opening. Murch 12, 1846. E. MOSES & SON.

Murch 12, 1846.

E. MOSES & SON.

THE OLD HOUSE AND THE NEW HOUSE.—
The Old House of MOSES', a few days ago,
Was boasting of what it had been, you must know.
"I oft said the warehouse—you know which I mean)
Look back and consider how mighty I've been.
The flag of my triumphs has oft been unfur?d

Throughout the wide space of the populous world;
And still are my noble achievements the same—
Not a house in the kingdom can equal say fame.
Vast multitudes came to procure my attire,
And I'm able to farabsh with all they require.
In short I'm a famous Old Warehouse; and none
Can match the Old House of E. MOSES and SON."
Thus ceased the Old House, and the newly-bullt Mart
Begg'd to differ from what had been stated in part.

I do not dispute for a moment (said ho)
That you've been a great House, hor that still you may be,
I'm able, old friend, to oussival you far.
Only look at my bulk, and behold how I riso!
You perceive that I'm very near four times you size!
Though vast were your triumphs for MONES and SON,
Much more by the newly-built house will be done.
In ev'ry respect I intend to outdo,
And the Old House shall thus be surpass'd by the New."

LIST OF PRICES.

READY MADE.

Reaver Taglionis
Chesterfields or Codringtons
D'Orsay's, Athol's, Pembroke, and every description of winter coals
itoy's winter coats in every style
Winter trousers, lined Doeskin Dress Conts, edged Prock ditto
Roll collar Vests
Double broasted ditto
Boy's Husser and Tunic Sults Boy's winter Trousers Boy's winter Vesta

Winter Coats in every style and shape, handsomely trimmed Milled Coth Great Coats, velvet collar and cutts Tweed Wrippers
Ditto Trousers
Winters Vinter Trousers, in all the new patterns Beat, or Dress Trousers Dress Coats Press Coats
Pitto, best quality made
Prock Conts
Ditto, best quality made
Cashmere Vests
Satin, plain or tancy
Boy's Russer and Tunic Suits
Boy's Great Coats

Boy's Great Coats

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

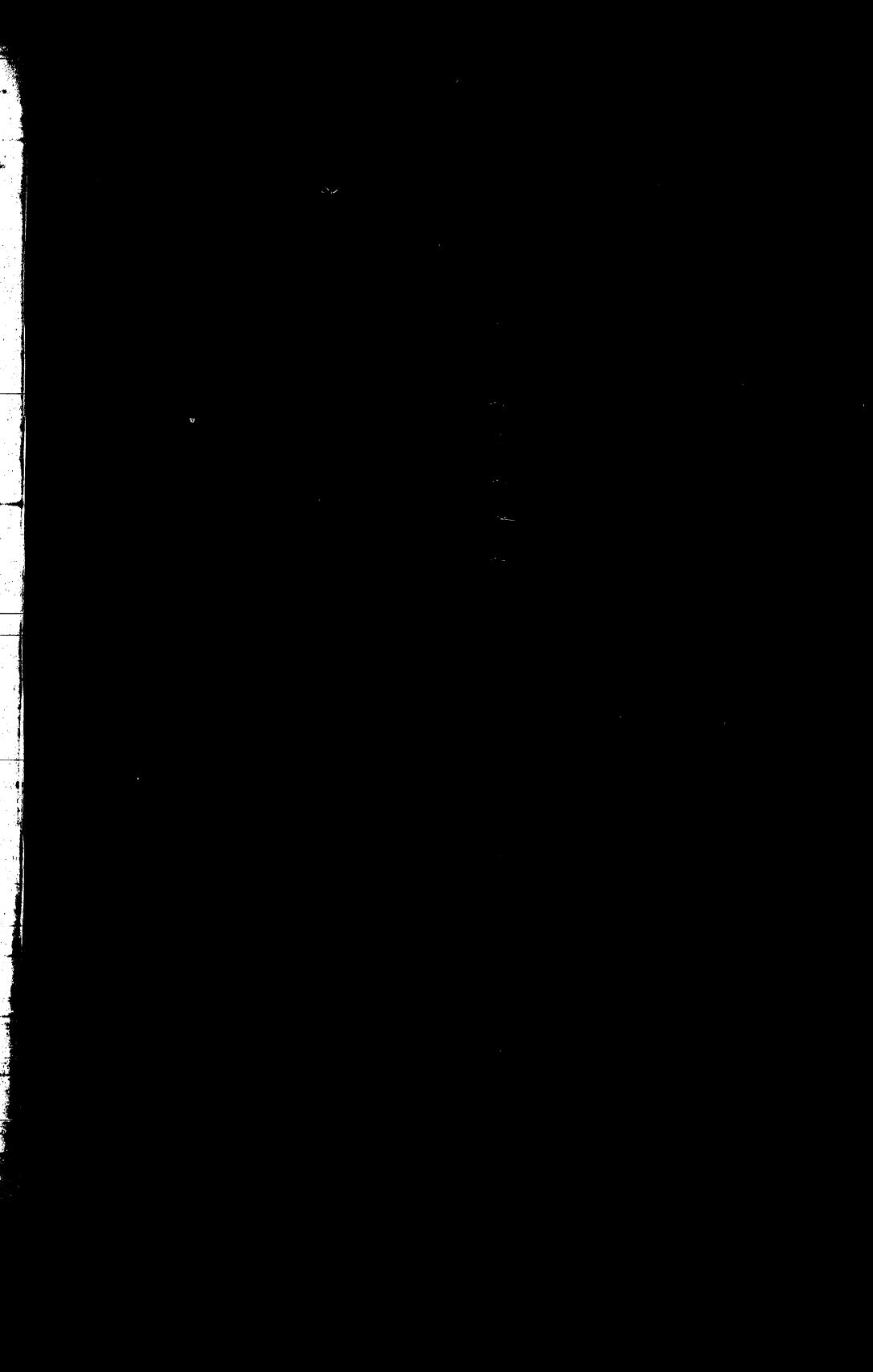
A new work, entitled "Rabilment Hall," with full self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded self-measurement, may be had not diverself to the mount can be had at five minutes hotion, in Man's Suits, dress coat, yest, and trousers

Ditto, Jacket, vest, and trousers

Important. Any article) purchased or ordered, if not application, or forwarded or the money returned.

Ossaws. B. MOSKR and SON, Tailors, Wholesale and drapers, Untritters, and General Warchousemen, 154, Minories, and Grapers, Untritters, and General Warchousemen, 164, Minories, and Indian on the consecution of the content of

Printed at the Whitehiars Printing



THE LEAGUE.

No. 180.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1846.

[8d.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE IMPENITENT FACTION.

Monopoly shows worst as it comes nearest its end. The old sinner is impenitent to the last. Not a sign of grace, or discretion, as the death-hour visibly approaches—not a vestige of repentance, amendment, or decent and half-virtuous regret—not a trace even of the shame with which detected and disabled vice is wont to view the unrolled catalogue of the misdoings of a life-time. Landlordism's last demonstrations are its worst. Nothing but maudlin whinings over the loss of ill-gotten gains—hypocritical sympathies and crocodile tears for the lowlier victims of a dishonest and hateful system—and blind, mad endeavours to lengthen out a losing fight, whose eventful issue is as certain as is the rising of to-morrow's sun.

If the faction were purposely bent on making the very name of "protection" detestable in the ears even of the most moderate and unimpassioned classes of the community-on concentrating upon itself, its leaders, and its cause, the maximum amount of odium and contempt of which the cool and quiet British commercial public is capable—the work could not be done better. Our protectionists are not merely offending and irritating-they are sickening and disgusting—the country. Commerce is at a stand still; industry is paralysed by a baneful uncertainty as to duties and prices, which cripples both buyer and seller; -and commerce and industry perfectly well know who they are that have "done it all." That commercial and industrial activity, which is the very life of the people of these islands, has been suspended for these two months past, awaiting the fate of those legislative measures which are henceforth to be the basis of its operations and development; -yet still these men go on with their spiteful or silly obstruction of an inevitable result—debating and dividing on the minutice of a tariff, every item of which is safe in an irresistible and irreversible majority. It is all in vain that "the great commercial houses in the city of London, almost all the merchants connected with the East India trade, and with the direction of the Bank of England," and other redignised representatives of the commerce by which England lives, urge, by their united petition, " the espediency of arriving at a decision, on account of the stagnation and empareassment to which delay was so many valuable intercite." What care they the seagnation of a commerce, and the embar-cial an industry of shigh they can never the seagnate of the state of the sta

they may but annoy and harass a Free Trade Minister? It is in vain that they are warned of the ruinous losses which their Parliamentary sport is daily and hourly inflicting on the poor hoaxed and gulled "British farmer"-whose market they are spoiling with uncertainty and panio-who, at this moment, is actually muleted, in hard cash, of some shillings on every quarter of corn that he is unlucky enough to be obliged to sell at those deprociated prices, for which he has to thank his "friends," and his friends' ridiculous predictions, of a chimerical "inundation" and an impossible cheapness. They heed it not, so that they may but teaze "Peel," and vent their hearded spleen on a minister who has dared to renounce his allegiance to their sordid and shabby "interest," and give it to the Queen and the people. With Ireland in its present state, the conduct and

temper of the protectionists are really horrible. Famine and pestilence are advancing in that wretched country with terrific rapidity. Already has the Home Secretary found it necessary to come down to Parliament, with the darkly ominous application for "leave to bring in a bill to make temporary provision for the treatment of destitute persons affected with FEVER in Ireland." The Minister, especially responsible for the peace, health, and life of the country, publicly avers before the representatives of the people, with the emphasis and authority of a man holding in his hands official chapter and verse for every syllable of what he utters, that a calamity of unexampled extent and awfulness is at the very door. He declares, that " distress now pervades the whole of Ireland;" that "it is to be found in every province, in every county, in every union or more minute subdivision, almost in every parish in Ireland;" and that, as the direct consequence of this all pervading distress, " in all the provinces, in almost every county, and in various localities of different counties, DYSENTERY, to a very formidable extent, has made its appearance, attended by fever in many instances,"-and justifying, in the judgment of the Lord-Lieutenant, AN APPREHENSION THAT THE FEYER WILL BECOME GENERAL." All to no purpose. It goes in at one car and out at the other-with no other visible result than that of confirming the faction's obstinacy in a course which, as is felicitously suggested by one of thomselves, "may almost appear inhuman." If Government would only be so good as to buy THEIR corn to feed Ireland, that would alter the case; they would then have no objection to believing in the famine—the hucksters! History will record, with indignant amazement, that in the year 1846, there were men who deemed it not unfitting the character of English Christian gentlemen, to deprecate an "inundation" of food, when four millions of people were pining in destitution, and had actually begun to die off in postilence—and who, in the face of as hideous a calamity as ever visited those islands, whine beggar-like for "two years longer" of protection from beef and mutton, and suggest "the introduction of a sliding scale on the importation of foreign cattle," to secure them the full benefit of "the destruction caused by murrain and sheeprot."

And there is nothing to be got by it. The protectionist opposition have not even the wretched apology of a possible success in their evil work. Not the shadow of a chance of success have they—and they know it; that is, those of them know it who are capable of knowing anything. They know that they are forsaken by the public—even by their own protected agricultural public. They know that no living statesman owns them, or their cause, any longer as his. They know that no imaginable in the people could then their minority into a majority. They know that no imaginable into a majority.

genuine unbought popular sympathy is with them. They know that they can't throw out the Bill-and that if they could, they would only throw the country into a confusion from which they and their class would nover again emerge as a great power in the state. They know that the Bill will pass, and pass now-and that if it did not, the only consequence would be, that a Bill they like still less would pass by-and-bye. We don't believe they wish to throw out the Bill; if they did wish this, they would send it to the Lords without more words, where alone it possibly can be thrown out. The obstruction cannot answer any purpose—is not meant or expected to answer any purpose-but a mischievous one. It is all a piece of mere factious spite-or of mere pudding-headed stupidity and doggodness.

The League have often been repreached, by those extremely good-natured and temperate friends who love to saunter leisurely in the rear of a great popular movement, with "violence," " harsh imputation of motives," and the like. Any attempt to take off the edge of such criticism on our sayings and doings would now be a sheer work of supererogation. The world can judge-and the world does judge. The quietest, soborest, discreetest, most sedate, and least impulsive classes of the English people are now learning for themselves to scorn these men's imbecility, abhor their sordidness, and loath their canting hypocrisy We tell the protectectionist faction, that every step they take in their course of heartless and brainless resistance to a measure which the intelligence of the country ap proves, and which the exigencies and will of the country imperiously demand, only sinks them and their order deeper and deeper in the mire of public contempt and disgust.

IRELAND AND THE CORN LAWS.

Far boit from us to deny the purity of Mr. W. Smith O'Brien's patriotism. He has asserted it so loudly and so frequently, that there ought to be no doubt about the matter; but we may be permitted to lament that he is an Othello in his politics, and that he loves Ireland "not wisely," however he may be said to love his country "too well." To ordinary minds, import of food would seem the proper remedy for famine; but the descendant of Brian Boru is not an ordinary man; and he therefore avers that the export of provisions is the great cure for searcity. He is quite pathetic on the horrible results that will follow from Irish wheat, oats, and barley, being kept to feed hungry peasants, instead of being sold in England to pay the rents of rapacious landlords. His remedy for distress is to send away stock, his cure for scarcity to diminish supply. The novelty of this plan deserves the praise of ingenuity, and the plainness with which it was stated has at least the merit of candour.

Lugubrious assertions in monacing tones, like a doleful ditty set to a martial air, are so ludicrous from their incongruity, that they unfortunately do not command their fair share of public-attention. The lament over the probable diminution of Irish exports failed to awake the sympathics of the compassionate, or to rouse the fears of the timid. Some very obstinate people found consolation in the belief, that if Irish corn should not be sent to England, it might have some chance of being consumed at home; and they were not so deeply grieved as they ought to have been at the probability of the labourer having a loaf, even though, at this crisis, the landlord should have a trifling loss. We regret that such obduracy should be found; we are grieved that the wisdom of encouraging the export of provisions from a country where the supply is already insufficient should have appeared to

vast majority such consummate folly as not even to merit a word of refutation. The economist from the banks of the Shannon is unfortunately without honour on the banks of the Thames. In their simplicity, people here have got to believe that imports have more to say than exports with the prosperity of a country; they have got a tradesmanlike habit of looking to their incomings as well as their outgoings; but then they do not wear fools' caps, nor deliberate on the shape of their peaks in the midst of a starving population. Living in 1846, they do not see the virtue of going back to 1782; they do not believe that exploded fallacies derive any merit from antiquity, or that a mischievous system should be continued because specious sentences in its defence can be slily taken from the writings of the eloquent

We, however, like Mr. W. Smith O'Brien, feel some anxiety about Irish exports; the sooner that Irish patriots follow O'Connell's example, and send away their fullacies of protection, their prejudices in favour of high prices, and their prizes on the export of the food for the want of which their countrymen are famishing, the better will it be for themselves and the country. From the very beginning of Free Trade agitation, O'Connell has carnestly protested against the taxing of the people's food, and has given the invaluable aid of his eloquence and his energies to hasten the liberation of commerce from its trammals. Ireland has had too many proofs of his tried elinearity, his persevering patriotism, and his experionced suggesty for us to fear that any other leader can weaken the influence of his counsels, or lessen the force of his recommendations.

FREE TRADE ABROAD.

SPEECH OF M. FREDERIC BASTIAT, AT THE FREE TRADE MEETING IN BOR-DEAUX.

We give insertion to M. Bastiat's speech, according to our promise, not that we exactly agree in all its views or sentiments, but simply because we are anxious to show in what light the proceedings of the League are regarded by an intelligent foreigner, whose attainments and position give his sentiments a powerful influence over the minds of his countrymen.

"Messiours, — En préimposante, qui réunit dans cetticenceinte tant de lamières, d'esprit d'entreprise, de richesses et d'influence, vous no serez pas surpris que Penrouve une emotion insurmontable, et que je commence par reclamer votre indulgence. Je parais devant vous, messieurs, pour mo conformer aux dispositions prises par notic honorable président. Eussions nous à notre tete un chof moins expérimenté, il fundrait encore nous sommettre a sa direcmemo mediocre que l'absonce, on, ce qui revient au memo, la multiplicité des plans. Mais puisque l'.fasoclation a cu le bonhour de remettre la conduite de ses operations à un de ces homines rares, à la tête froide et an cœur chaud, qui tiro plus d'autorité encore de son caractère personnel que de sa position elevée, il ne nous reste plus qu'à marcher au pas, sous sa conduite et dans un esprit de discipline volontaire, à la conquête du grand principe que nous avons innorit une notre bannière : La liberté des échanges!

" Messiours, la promière opreuvo i ar luquo lo est couentrepriso, o'est lo dénique. la pensée généreuse qui cherche à se traduire en fait. Grave an civi, la valeur indi-viduolio et l'enzomble impo-sant des noms qui figureront os sub su lies de notre acte de notre le notre de notre de maintantiens maintantes. On dire hien, en a dejà dit que notre Associa-

Discouns DE M. FREDERIC ADDRESS OF M. PREDERIC BASTIAT.

" Gentlemen.—In the presence of so imposing an nasembly, comprising so much intelligence, spirit of enterprise, wealth, and influence, you will not be surprised at my feeling insurmountable emotions, for which I claim your indulgence. I appear before you, gentlemen, in conformity with the arrangements made by our chairman. Had we met under a less experienced chief, it would still be necessary to submit to his directions, for even an imperfect system is better than the absence, or what comes to the same thing, the multiplication of plaxs. But since the association has had the good fortune to place its onerations under the guidance of one of those rare individuals with a cool head and a warm heart, who derives more authority from his persoud character than from his elevated position, it only re-mains for us to advance steadily and in a spirit of voluntary discipline to the establishment of the great principle which we have inscribed on our banners-FREE TRADE.

" Gentlemon, the first difficulty, through which our great enterprise is doomed to pass, is the necessity of exculpation from glander, always necessary for a generous thought about to realize itself in action. Thank Heaven, the individual value and the imposing assemblage of the names which will be subscribed to our doed of association this overling, must impose silence on maje. volcut insinuations. It may

tion est une copie, une pale copie de la ligue anglaise; mais, est-ce que les honimes de tous les pays qui tendent au même but no sout pas amenés à prondre des mojens analogues? Non, nous ne copions pas la ligue, nous obéissons aux nécessités de notre situation. D'ailleurs, est ce la première fois que Bordeaux élève la voix pour la liberté des échanges? La chambre de commerce de cette ville ne combat elle pas, depuis longues unnées, pour cette cause? Cette cause n'était-elle pas un des objets de l'union vinicole qui s'est fondée dans la Gironde ? Si tunt de nobles efforts ont échoné jusqu'ici, c'est qu'ils n'adressent à la législation qui no peut que suivre l'opinion publique. C'est done pour poser la question là où elle doit être préniablement vidée, devant le public que nous nous levous aujourd'hui en cela, si nous imitons quelqu'un, c'est notre advervaire, le monopole. Il y a longtemps qu'il fait ce que nous falsons; il y a long. temps quil a ses comités, ses finances, ses moyens de propagande, qu'il s'empare de opinion, et par elle de la loi. Nous l'imiterons en cela. Mais il y a une chose que nous ne lui emprunterons pas, c'est le mystère de son action. Il lui fant le secret, il lui faut des journaux nchetés par dessous main. A nous, il nous faut l'air, le grand jour, la sincérité.
"Et puis, quand nous imi-

terions la ligue en quelque chose! Sommes nous dis-pensés de bon sens et de dévoument parce qu'il s'est rencontré du dévoûment et du bon sens en Angleterro? Oh! plaise à Dieu que nous empruntions à la ligne ce qui fera sa gloire eternelle! Plaise à Dicu que nous apportions à notre œuvre la même ardeur, la même perseverance et la même abnégation; que nous sachious comme elle nous préserver de tout contact avec les partis politiques; grandir, acquerir de l'influ-ence, saus être tenté de la détourner à d'autres desseins, sans la mettre au service d'aucun nom propre. Et si jamais notre apostolat s'in-carne dans un homme, puisв --t-il, à l'heure du triomphe, finir comme finit Cobden. 11 y a deux mois, l'aristocratie anglaise, selon un usage inyariable, voulut absorber cet homme. On lui offrit un porteseuille; M. Peel est luimeme le fils d'un manufacturier, et Cobden pouvait voir, en espérance, son fils premier lord de la tresorerie. 11 répondit simplement : "Je me crois plus utile à la cause en restant son défenseur offi-cieux.' Mais, ce n'est pas tout. Aujourd'hui que la tout. Aujourd'hui quo la ligue l'a placé sur un piédestal qui l'elève plus laut que l'aristocratis elle-même, aujourd'hui qu'elle a remis en ses mains des forces populaires capables de tenir en échec les whigs et les tories, anjourd'hui que de toutes parts ses amis le pressent do faire tourner cette immense puissance à l'achèvement de quelque autro grande entreprise, sucune passion, sucuno séduction ne peut l'émouvoir; il s'apprête à briser de sos mains l'instrument de son elevation, et il dit à l'aristocratic. 'Vous redoutez notre agitation, vous craignez agitation, vous craignez qu'elle na se porte sur un autre terrain; la Ligue s'est fondée pour l'abolition des monopoles. Abolissez-les comatin, et, des ce soir, la lique sera dissoute.' Non, jamais, depuis dixhuit siècles, le mondo n's yu s'accomplir de plus grandes choses avec uno si adorable simplicité. "Mais si la ligue nous

offro de benux modèles, ce n'est point à dire que nous ayona à copior servilement sa strategis. A qui fera-t-on eroire que les hommes graves dont jo suis entouré, des négociants rompus aux affaires et versés dans la connels-nance des mateirs et des institutions des gauples, n'ajent pas compeis tout d'abord on

be said-indeed it has been said, that our association is a copy, and a poor copy, of the English Longue; but are not the men of all countries who aim at the same object obliged to employ analogous means? No; we do not copy the League, we yield to the necessities of our position. Besides, is this the first time that Bordeaux has raised her voice to demand Free Trade? Ilas not our Chamber of Commerce laboured in the cause for many years? Was not this cause one of the objects of the union of the wine-growers founded in the Gironde? If so many noble efforts have hitherto failed, it is because they are addressed to a legislature which is impassive to public opinion. It is to moot this question where it must be primarily considered, before the public, that we come forward this day; and thus, if we imitate any one, it is our adversary-monopoly. It has long done what we are doing; it has had its committees, its finances, its means of spreading its doctrines, that it might first take hold of opinion and then of legislation. We will imitate it in this course. But there is one part of its policy which we will not borrow, its mysteriousness of action. requires secrecy, it requires journals purchased by under-band bribes. We require publicity and sincerity.

"Even if we should imitate the League in some things, what then? Are we to abandon zeal and common sense, because seal and common sense are found in Eng. land? God grant that we may borrow from the League that which will constitute its eternal glory. God grant that we may bring to our agitation the same ardour, the same perseverance, and the same disinterestedness: that we, like it, may avoid contact with political partien; that we may increase and gain influence without being turned aside to other designs, and without rendering ourselves servants of any individual name. And should our mission ever be incarnate in a man, may he, in the hour of triumph, end as Cobden is ending! Two months ago, according to its usual custom, the English aristocracy endeavoured to absorb this great man. He was offered office: — Peel himself is the son of a manufacturer, and Cobden might hope to see his son First Lord of the Treasury :—his simple reply was, 'I believe that I can best serve the great cause I have undertaken by remaining its offi-cial defender.\ But this is not all: at this moment, when the League has placed him on a pedestal higher than the aristocracy itself; when it has placed in his hand popular power capable of holding both Whige and Tories in check; when on all sides his friends solicit him to turn this mighty force to the achievement of some other great enterprise, no passion, no temptation, can move him: he is ready to destroy the means of his elevation; he says to the aristocracy, 'You dread our agitation, you fear that it will extend to some other field of action; the League has been founded for the overthrow of monopolies; abolish your monopolies this morning, and before night the League will be dissolved. Never during 18 centuries has the world seen such great objects achieved with such admirable simpli-

" But if the League offers us a noble example, we are not, therefore, bound slavishly to adopt its tactics. How could it be believed that the grave men by whom I am surrounded, merchants trained in business, and versas-in, the manners and institutions of nations, should not come.

quoi notre association differe de la ligua auginise? "En Augisterre, le ayetème protecteur avait deux points d'appui : l'erreur économique et la puissance fécdale. On conçoit sans peine que l'aristocrutie, tenant en main le privilège de faire la loi, et avec lui, pour ainsi parler, le monopole des monopoles, les avait établis principalement en sa faveur,

"Lors donc que des réformateurs véritables, nou plus des Huskisson et des Baring, mais des réformateurs sortis du peuple, se sont levés contre le regime restrictif, il se sont trouvés en face d'uno difficulté dont beureusement notre voie est débarrassée depuis un demi siècle.

Il s'agissait bien, comme chez nous, de réformer la loi, de détruire le monopole; mais leurs adversaires avaient sculs le droit, non point seulement le droit actuel, mais le droit exclusif, liéréditaire, féodal, de faire la loi, de décrétor la chute ou le maintien

de leur propre monopole.
"Il falluit ou arracher à l'aristocratie le puissance législative, c'est-à-dire faire une révolution, ou la déterminer, par la peur, à abandonner la part du lion qu'elle s'était faite à elle même, par l'exploitation légale des tarifs.

"La ligue résolut, des le premier jour, de rejeter les moyens révolutionnaires. Il ne lui restait done qu'a in struire le peuple de la vérité économique, à lui faire com-prendre l'injustice dont il ctait victime et à lui en donner un sentiment assez vif et assez pressant pour le porter jusqu'a l'extrême limite de la légalité, et pour ainsi dire jusqu'a ce degré d'irritution au delà duquel il n'y a que convulsions sociales.

" Mais, si le poids que les ligueurs avaient à soulever était énorme, si énorme qu'on comprend à peine qu'ils n'en aient pas été effrayés, il faut dire que cette difficulté même mettait en leurs mains un puissant levier. Les mots magiques: liberté, droits de l'homme, oppression féodale, venaient naturellement se placer dans la question éco-nomique, lui enlever son hérédité et lui faire trouver le chemin de la fibre la plus vibrante du cœur humain. On parlait aux cœurs; on parlait même aux estomacs, car, par une coïncidence qui s'explique naturellement, il arrivait que la part de l'aristocratic terrienne dans la protection pesait sur tous les diments et principalement sur le pain. "Cette situation étant

donnée, on comprend les procedés de la ligue. Meotings monstres, souscriptions monstres, appels au peuple, éloquence passionnée, in-scriptions incessantes des ouvriers sur les listes électorales, enfin toute l'agitation nécessaire pour metire aux mains d'un seul homme, Cobden, des forces populaires capables de faire capituler la puissance réunie des whigs el des tories. Hé bien! qu'a de commun cette situation avec la nôtre? Si, comme les Angluis, nous avons un préjugé économique à détruire, avons nous comme combattre? Avons nous un 89 à montrar toujours au bout de nos efforts, commis notre ultimu-ratio i Non, 80 a passé sur la France. Nous avons des pouvoirs publics qui empruntent à l'opinion la pensée de la loi; c'est donc sur l'opinion que nous devous agir, notre missicn est purement enseignante; ce que nous demandens c'est cecl: Le droit de propriété est-il reconnu en France? Avons-nous ou n'avons-nous pas la propriété de nos fa-cultés? Avons-nous ou Avons nous

prehend at once the differ. ance between our association and the English Luague!

"In England the protective system had two sapports, economic error and the feudal system. It is easy to conceive that the aristooracy, holding in its hands the privilege of making the laws, and with it what may be called the monopoly of monopolics, should have made laws in its own favour

" When, therefore, the true reformers - no longer the Huskissons and the Barings — but reformers sprung from the people, 1682 against the restrictive sistem, they found themselve, in the presence of difficulties from which we have been free for more than half-a century.

"The reform of the law and the destruction of monopoly was their object as it is ours; but their adversaries alone had the right, not merely the actual right, but the exclusive, hereditary, feudal right, to make the laws which should decre the fall or the maintenance of monopoly.

"It was necessary either to wrest legislative power. from the aristocracy, that is to say, effect a revolution, or by an array of moral force to compel it to abandon the lion's share which it had arrogated to itself in the construction of the tariffs.

"The League resolved from the first to reject all revolutionary measures: its only course, therefore, was to instruct the people in eranomic truths; to explain the injustice of which the nation was the victim; to inspire sentiments sufficiently strong and sufficiently press ing to carry men to the extreme limits of the law; and to produce what we may describe as that degree of impatience beyond which there only remains social convulsion.

"But if the weight which the Leaguers had to raise was enormous—so enerment that we can scarcely comple hend how they were not daunted by it, we must also say that this very difficulty was a powerful leverage in their hands. The major words, liberty, human right. feudal oppression, were naturally blended with an ecopomic question, to deprive it of its heritage, and to make it touch the most vibratory chords of the human heart. The Leaguers addressed themselves to the hearts and even to the stomachs of their readers, for by a coincidence easily explained, it happened that the share of the land ed aristocracy in protection weighed heavily on the food e people, and especially on bread.

" This situation being un derstood, we can comprehend
the proceedings of the
Langue. Monster-meetings,
monster-subscriptions, appeals to the people, passionstate-leavance, adultmed to ate eloquence, continued re-gistrations of operatives as electors; in fine, all the agi-tation necessary to place is the hands of a single man, the hands of a single Cobden, an amount of popular force sufficient to compel the united Whigs and Tones the capitulate. What simithe united Whigs and Tones to capitulate. What aimited complete the situation and ours! If, like situation and ours! If, like the English, we have as economic prejudice to destroy, have we also a feuill power to combat? Have an or our effort and our situation of our effort and our situation of the form of the situation of the form of the situation of the situat

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que ce soit dans le moude, pour l'y troquer coutre une autre obose qui est plus à ma convenance, on du moins comment se fait-il que je ne puisse pas rapporter en France cette autre chose qu'on a consenti à me donner en cohange ?-Parce que, ditou, cela nuirait au travail national.—Mais en quol? un, cent, mille trocs de ce genre peuvent-ils jamais porter at-teinte au travail untional, puisque tout travail étranger que je fais entrer dans lo pays implique un travail national que j'en ai fait sortir? Je sais bien que le commerce ne se compose pas alnsi de troes directs entre le producteur immédiat et le consommateur immédiat ; mais tout ce vaste mécanisme qu'on appelle commerce, ces navires, ces banquiers, negociants, marchands, ce numéraire, peuvent ils altérer la nature intime de l'échange qui est toujours troc de travail contre travail? - Qu'on y regarde de près, et l'on se convainera qu'ils n'ont d'autre destination et d'autre résultat que de faciliter et multiplier à l'infini ces échanges.

"Ainsi, si nous n'avons as le levier populairo que la ligue anglaise a mis en œuvre, il ne nous est pas nécessaire. Nous n'avons point à exalter les passions démocratiques jusqu'à les rendre menacantes. Nous n'attaquons pas les interêts d'un corps de le gislateurs héréditaires; la scule chose que nous ayons à combattre, c'est une erreur, une fansse notion, un préjugé profondément ouraciné dans les esprits, et que développo sur sa tige ce fruit empoisonné, le monopole. Nous n'attaquons pas mêmo spéciniement telle on telle re-*triction en particulier. Comme le laboureur n'arrache pas un à un tous les jones qui infestent sa prairie, mais il la saigne, il en détourne l'humidité malfaisante qui leur sert d'aliment, nous attaquons dans les intelligences le principe mêmede la protection qui nourrit tons les monopoles. La tâche est immense, sans doute, mais no trouvons 'nous pas de puissants auxiliaires dans les faits qui s'accomplissent autour do hous? Les Etats-Unis sont our le point d'affranchir les importations. Qui n'a lu le message du président Polk et l'admirable rapport du secré-taire Walker? Le Zollverein suspend les réunions où devait se décider l'élévation de ses tarifs. Et que dirai-je de la grande meaure de sir Robert Peel, precedee d'expériences si reitérées et si décisives? A ce propos, qu'il me soit permis d'exprimer lei le profond regret qu'ont éprouvé les amis de la liberté commerciale, quand ils ont vu, dans cette magnifique conception, des lacunes et des táches contraires à l'esprit de son imposant ensemble. Comment le grand homme qui a aspiré à la gloire de cette réforme n'a-t il pas voulu que le monde, et l'Angleterre aurtout, en recueillent tout le fruit? Pourquoi a-t-il place dans l'exception les vins, comme pour attester qu'au moment même on il rejetait la déception de la réciprocité, fl en voulait retenir quelques lambeaux?

"Donc l'Angletarre, les Etats Unis, l'Allemagne, l'Italie même e'avancent vers fère nouvelle qui s'ouvre à l'inmanité. La France voupar quelques intérèts égois-tes, à la queue des nations?

"Proclamons le principe de la liberté, et laissons au temps d'en tirer les conséquences. Deparations la réferme, et laissons aux monopoleurs le soin de la modèrer. Il est des personnes qui resentation sarces. en'elles redoutent la liberte transpillation de la liberte transpillation de la liberte transpillation de la liberte de la liber

porty in our natural powers? Have we property in the work of our bands? If so, how happens it that articles, the fruit of my tolls, which I may consume directly or destroy at my pleasure, I cannot carry to any market in the world to exchange for articles which suit better my convenience? Because, it is said, this would injure national industry. But in what way? a hundred or a thousand exchanges of this kind could not injure national industry, for every article of foreign produce which I import, implies an article of national produce which I export. I know that commerce does not consist in the immediate barter between the direct producer and the direct consumer; but all this vast mechanism which we call commerceships, bankers, merchants, shopkeepers, accounts-can these alter the very essence of commerce, which is but the barter of one product of labour for another? Look close, and you will be convinced that they have no other destination, and no other result, than to facilitate and to multiply exchanges.

"Thus, if we have not the popular lever possessed by the English League, we do not require it. We want not to raise democratic passions until they become menneing. We attack not the interests of a body of hereditary legislators; all that we have to combat is an error, a false notion, a prejudice pro-foundly rooted in the mind, and which produces in its growth the poisoned fruit of monopoly. We do not attack any special or particular re-striction. As the labourer does not pluck up one by one the rushes which infest his fields, but drains off the injurious moisture which supports them, so we attack in the mind those principles of protection which are the aliment of monopolies. The task, no doubt, is immense, but do we not find powerful auxiliaries in the events which are taking place around Are not the United States about to emancipate their imports? Who has not read the message of Mr. Pre sident Polk, and the admi-rable report of Mr. Secretary The Zollverein suspends the meetings held for raising its tariffs. And what shall I say of the great measure of Sir Robert Peel, resulting from such re-iterated and decisive experi-And here let me exence? press the profound regret which the friends of commercial freedom have felt ut finding in its details defcots and faults adverse to the general spirit of its imposing plan. How is it that the great man who aspires to the glory of this reform has been unwilling that the world, and England in particular, should Why are wines an exception, as if to show that at the moment he rejected the decaption of reciprocity, he wished to retain some of its fragments?

" England, the United States, Germany, Italy itself, advance towards the new erawhich is opening for human-ity. Shall France be content for selfish interests to remain behind other nations.

"Let us proclaim the principle of liberty, and leave time to develop the results. Let us demand reform, and leave to monopolists the care of moderating it. Chere are persons who shun this asso-diation because they fear immediate freedom. Let them be tranquil: We are not legislessis; reform depends
not on our votes; intallistage vill not spread immedials, privilegs vill lays
something to take the

ne so fera pas instantané-ment et le privilège a tont le temps de prendre ses me-Oe mouvement sore memo un avertissement pour lui, et l'on doit le considerer comme un des moyens tant cherchés de transition.

"Je ne puis me défendre d'une profonde auxièté quand je penso à ce qui va se déci-der bientôt dans cette enceinte. Ce n'est pas seulement l'affranchissement du commerce qui est en question. Il s'agit de savoir si nous entrerons, enfin, dans les mours constitutionnelles. Il s'agit de savoir si nous savous mettre en œuvre des institutions acquises au prix de tant d'efforts et de tant de sacrifices. Il s'agit de savoir si les Français, comme on les en accuse, trouvant trop longue la route de la légalité et de la propagande, ne savent poursulvre que par des moyens violents des réformes épliémères, Il s'agit de savoir s'il y a encore parmi nous du dévoûment, de l'esprit public, de la vie, ou si nous sommes une société assonple, indifférente, léthargique, incapable d'une action suivie, et tout au plus animée encore par quelques rares et vaines convulsions. La France a les yeux sur vous, elle vous interroge, et bientôt notro konorable président prochmera votre répouse!

most desirable means of transittop.

"I cannot escape from deep anxiety when I reflect on what is to be decided in this assembly. It is not merely freedom of trade which is in question. We are discussing whether we shall at length adopt constitutional habits—whether we shall give effect to the institutions acquired by such great efforts and mighty saorifices-whethor the Fronch, as they are accused of doing finding the path of legality and persuasion too long, seek only ephemeral reforms by violent means — whether there is still among us devotion, public spirit, energy, or whether we are a drowsy indifferent, lethargic society. incapable of continuous ac tion, and only to be unimated by rare and vain convulsions. France has its eyes on you, it interrogates you; and our honourable president will soon proclaim your reply."

SPANISH IDEAS OF FREE TRADE.

(From the Madrid Eco del Comercio.) The English League which commenced in the year 1839 with three individuals, proclaiming the freedom of trade, has gathered spolia opima. It is now generalised, and in complete and harmonious organisation throughout the United Kingdom, with funds at its command which maintain innumerable halls, public schools, and travelling orators who teach the true doctrines of political economy. The influence of these societies, and of the instruction which they have scattered, has penetrated to the very core of the English Government. Thus is explained the fact, that not only are the Reformers (Progresistas) its supporters, but the Minister, Peel, with his Tory" Cabinet (of which no less a personage than the Duke of Wellington is a member)-or, what amounts to the same thing, those who a short time ago were the causes of commercial prohibition or restriction, are at present those who defend in Parliament and the press that freedom which we desire, but which our Government despises and disregards, without considering that the march of enlightenment and the spirit of the age develop, more quickly than it would wish, the humane doctrine which teaches mankind to create wealth, to distribute it, to circulate it properly, and to consume it by means of internal and external freedom of trade.

The Custom-house Union or Confederation of the north assembles in order to correspond with the Convocation of the English Cabinet, or rather with the opinion of the English nation. France is disposed to discuss spontaneously this most seriously important affair. At Bordeaux there has just been formed an association of capitalists, commercial men, and celebrated writers on politics and political economy, presided over by the mayor of the city, who is appointed by the Crown, and having for the result of its first meeting, or at the very moment of its establishment, a subscription exceeding 50,000f., for the purpose of carrying on the preliminary labours. But let us examine, before going any further, the speech delivered by the mayor from his presidential chair, he having spoken the first, in order to make known the objects of the association.

In the most effective terms that the completion of his liberal conviction produced, he declared, that "he had accepted the presidency in order to record the sufferings of France, so long undervalued, the petitions which always remained without having any influence with the Government, the unknown general rights which resulted in no other reception than a cold disdain." Thus did this functionary declare himself, whose elevated position and nobleness of character gave to his words, at once firm and serious, a characteristic sanction, which produced the most lively sensation in the assembly. So says the the Indicateur, the Progresista journal of that commercial district.

Well, then, is not this question, which so much affects our position and our finance—which is so much discussed in this unfortunate nation, and which has so often occupied our own attention and that of the Guia del Comercio—is not this question, we ask, worthy of being brought upon the theatre of discussion? Will it not move the trade of Madrid, the capitalisis that exist in the court, and the numerous pro-prietors who hold immense tracts of uncultivated land, and who live on the Breasury and the rents of the Royal patri-mony, because their own are not sufficient to maintain them with decency, for want of production and consumption? Are these blind courtiers—these elections palading of monopolice and privileges—perchance ignorant of the fact that freedom of trade would in a short time produce them infinite riches and more means of luxury and oscentation than many wellmai more means of luxury and ostentation than many would known princes and monarche are able to raise? Know they not all the came time, that by constituting their, own hap all the control of their families, they would suggest the same time of their families, they would suggest the same time of the covernment largest many in the covernment largest many in the covernment largest many in the covernment largest many and the covernment largest many in the covernment largest many in the covernment largest many to the covernment largest many than the covernment

coived systems, and to the ovil example of creating a set of idlars in order that half the Spanish people may be armed, and may be continually opproming and prying into the affairs of the other half, who vainly labour to maintain themselves and the former?

And will the Government of the country, which, one ought to suppose, is on the qui rive and dive to what is going on—which, one ought to believe, measures circumstances and events—which is acquainted with history—which is informed of facts—which has studied systems will this Government remain, as hitherto, paralysed, acting as if it does not perceive what has taken place in the United States of America, in Holland, in the Hanseatic Towns, and in all the nations and countries that have prospered by Free Trade? Will it choose to live, as hitherto, fenced in by its prohibitions, restrictions, limitations and monopolies, in everything resembling those barbarous lovernments, which make a monopoly of everything except the air they breathe, and turning its back upon the European enlightenment which pours down like a torrent upon the nation, and infiltrates of necessity the minds and conviction of all those who are able to read and make a right use of their reasoning powers? We shall see. Our cheeks glow with shame when we reflect that all are preceding us in the path of reform and perfection, and that the Spanish nation, after having been the first to receive the baptism of calightenment -after having known before all the influence that is possessed by entire freedom of trade in cherishing the general wealth, whose branches constitute agricultural, industrial, and commercial produce—after so many sacrifices have been made for the idea of harmonising the necessary reforms with the firm fixing of the crown upon the brow of Isabel 11.—it is sad, very sad and afflicting to think that we remain distaneed, and are the constant sport of the ambitious designs of foreigners, of those same kings who, in our days, grovelled in the dust, and who were rescued from their misfortunes and persecutions by those who now write these lines, and those who like us made heroic sacrifices and shed rivers of blood, in order that they may now abuse us, bind us hand and foot, and hinder us from being happy and independent. Ah! we cannot forget how the Journal des Débuts (the reputed organ of Louis Phillippo) would have insulted us (General Narvacz and MM, Mon and Martinez de la Rosa being in the Cabinet) with the disgusting, filthy, and repugnant words we are about to quote, and which it published with impunity;—"In Spain" (said the ribald writer) "there is nothing established but robbery." Shame! shame! a thousand times shame upon those who then ruled us!

We shall return to this all-important question, and prove that immediately an attempt is made to traverse Spain by internal communications for the conveyance of produce and goods from one extreme of one sea to that of another, Spain ill be the richest inition of the world by adopting absolute

The Courrier de Marseilles has the following remarks on the restrictions on French commerce :--

"The principles of commercial liberty have at last out-

stepped the limits of theory, and entered into practical existence; confined till now within scientific bounds, to day they occupy the first place in political debates. Commercial liberty! This cry, uttered in a corner of England, was Commercial caught up from mouth to mouth, and the universal should resounded in the councils of the crown; a great statesman chose it as the motto of a new system of policy, under which are ranked the better part of the British Parliament.

6 England reduces her tariffs, lessens her entrance duties,

and suppresses them almost entirely on raw materials. Is not the position evident at first sight, which this state of things will assign to British commerce over all the markets of the world, when it meets concurrence from the commerce of other nations? English commerce, by combining the prices of buying and selling, need not let any customs duties enter into its calculations; French commerce will have to calculate 10, 15, 25, and even 50 per cent, on merchandiso entering France; the former, therefore, can bid higher prices than the latter, and, therefore, command the market, choose the best quality and those best adapted to their wants, and thus maintain and increase their supremacy

"This motive is enough of itself to force all the nations of the globe to walk in the path that England has marked

Our tariffs pretend to favour our mercantile navy, and their first step is to prohibit foreign bottoms; they thus refuse the principal element of success to all commercial enterprise, cheap materials. Not content with obliging the owners to build their own vessels in France, the duty on the different articles necessary to their equipment, such as ropes, chains, anchors, &c., is so beavy that it almost amounts to a prohibition; and they do not stop here, for they impose a heavy duty on the muterials of which these articles are nemp, conton, iron, Drass, &c. our tariffs tie down our mercantile navy in the very cradle; but, if in spite of them, it yet breathes a little, and, with hands and feet tiad, still exists, our laws say—weigh anchor and we will protect you. And then those boasted protections in favour of the mercantile navy appear, consisting in taxes so heavy, that they most completely hinder a vessel leaving a French port unless she is certain of a return cargo; and if the voyage does not answer the expectations of the owner, his vessel lies idle, paralysed by the competition of foreign vessels, until the chances of commerce procure him a modest freight to enable him to stear homewards.

This is all that can be derived in the way of benefit from the navigation taxes. And of this profit, who pays the ex-penses? It is French industry, as they are obliged by law to import the raw materials in French vessels, paying double freight to what a foreign vessel would ask, or even a French vessel, if she was not iled down from her very birth by our tariffs, which alone are the cause of her inferior station. And what is the result? That the produce of our manufactories is dearer, and the consumption restricted both at home and abroad, that less materials are in requisition, and navigation lage; and thus protection proves a bar to

our activity. "Is it not the same in the whole system of Remeli indicator? Would our woollen tissues require protection duties if the raw materials were not cut to the very consist anomals."

duties?

"The same may be said as regards our district."

"It is thus that the protection laws, desired by an other, are nextons to the interests they are and tand to relaid industry, and the protection of the protection." country
The Countries Argencies pleasees, that

their Government, if they granted liberty of commerce to their subjects, that they would guarantee in return the disappearance of every motive of trouble and disturbance, and et they would establish a golden age and a reign of peace. Those political economists were regarded as Utopians, but events are now beginning to demonstrate that they were right. War retreats in face of commercial liberty. We have this day received accounts from America, in which political economists will find an admirable confirmation of the excellence of their principles, and in which they will see the au-nouncement of a signal victory which the application of those principles is on the point of giving to the cause of peace. The announcement in America of that great measure which put an end to the old system of political economy in England, and inaucorated in the world the era of commercial liberty, caused a real revolution in public opinion both at Washing ton and at New York. Warlike ideas were immediately laid aside, even by the most ardent adversaries of England. The Lugarge of the press, previously so menacing, became com-pletely pueille. The affair of the Oregon may consequently be considered, if not arranged, at least in a fair course of settlement. That, we repeat, is a victory of which the friends of commercial liberty may justly be proud. For our part, we find in those great events which have arisen on our Continent an additional reason to rejoice at this victory gained in America by commercial liberty.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE PREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE

Ninth Week, ending Saturday, March 21.

The conduct of the protectionists is as little to be calculated on as the results of a protective law. After behaving, last week, with something like a show of deference to public opinion, they commenced, on Friday last, a new course of obstruction, which has had the effect of delaying the whole public business of the country. If the section "under the gangway" were composed of men having weight, character, and influence, it would be as indecorous as absurd to complain of pertinacions opposition. This is one of the "prerogatives" of a representative assembly; and it is frequently one of the last resorts, when liberty is struggling with despotism. But to justify an unavailing pertinacious opposition, certain important elements are requisite. There must be MIND and CHARACTER; reason must be able to point to a future, when its influence will predominate over mere numhers; and PAITH must assert its power, declaring that though now the car of a political Juggernaut may pass over the bodies of its victims, a time is coming when the idol shall "bite the dust," and the car supply materials for its

Nothing of this sort animates the opposition of the protectionists. Go where you will—at No. 17, Old Bond-street, or the Carlton Club, in the lobbies of the house—the language is, if protection be removed now, it is removed for ever. This, as Mr. Cobden told them, indicates in the protectionists a and lack of faith in their principles. If, like the Free Traders, they had faith, even as a grain of mustard seed, they would submit to the passing of the present measures, in the confident hope that truth and reason will/produce their natural reaction. But they have no such faith—no such hope. Their characters and their arguments have a common sympathy, and a natural relation.

For, after all, who are the leaders of the opposition to the measures of the Government? Lord George Bentinck is the only conspicuous member, connected with the aristocracy, who resists pertinaciously. Yet the public character of Lord George Bentinck, correct and respectable as it is, has nothing about it to conciliate public regard. He is favourably estimated in clubs and coteries; and he is admitted to have done something towards purifying the turf from associntions as disreputable as unprofitable. All men who keep betting books owe a debt of gratitude to the noble lord, who has sedulously laboured for years to elevate gambling into scientific process. And though, after eighteen years of sitence in Parliament, he has only now found his tongue, it only confirms the popular opinion that no man, at any period of his life, need despair of becoming noticed and noticeable. Lord George Bentinck is, in fact, a living type of ction; the great principle of which is, obtain adventhions advantages by any means you can, and assert your right to 80s, or to 5%s, by law, as sturdily as you urge the necessity of honourably acquitting obligations at Tat-

Who else of the aristocracy take a lead in opposition? Mr. Miles, wealthy as he is, respectable as he is, belongs not to the aristocracy. He is an off shoot of the commercial interest, more especially connected with the West India trade, when has sanctioned a free importation of blacks from the coast of Africa, and rendered traffic in bodies and souls, blood and tears, a legitimate source of commercial profit. Mr. Miles is not himself a bad man—by no means; he is kingly, worthy, and respectable. Yet he occupies a leading position as one of the "roodometers" of the House of Commons; he begrudges the free admission of Indian corn, lest it should lower rents, and give the people too many puddings. Then again we have Mr. Stafford O'Brien, a really live Lung man. There are a number of "O'Briens"

really slove Jeing man. There are a number of "O'Briens"

130 of Commons, all more or less related; and
spirit of western or southern Irish feeling
to some king of the "O'Brien" tribe, who
the bogs with bare legs. This foolish adto seent " is one of the absurdities of aristoat by Popo, laughed at in painting by Hoincouled by every man of common sense. Yet
an important element in character—all other
elements wing present. Of Mr. Stafford O'Brien, we can

only say that he is a clever, smart young man, very gentlemanly in his manner, and very intelligent in his mode of expression, but all of whose speechus betray a latent con viction that, so far as protection is concerned, he feels himself on the wrong side of the box!

Who else have we on the side of protection? The great Mr. Peter Borthwick; the elever Mr. Benjamin D'Israeli; the amusing Colonel Sibthorp; and lastly, the droll Sir John Tyrrell? Nay, we have Mr. Bankes, who can perform the feat of speaking for two hours, without saying anything. Who else? Lord John Manners, whose "dream of life" is the abolition of the laws of mortmain, the change of monasteries for manufactories, the revival of the "Book of Sports," and the substitution of cricket for composure on Sundays. And, not to speak of Mr. Newdegate or the Marquis of Granby-darkling scintillations of protectionist light-we have Mr. Spooner, whose somniferous face is the brightest reflection of his colleague's beard, and whose incessant advocacy, in public and in private, of the currency crotchet, proves that the biggest bore in England may be made of "Brummagem" bra-s

Mr. Spooner was the lion of Friday night week. The resolutions which had passed through committee had to be reported-a process which, on ordinary occasions, is but the work of a few minutes. The chairman of committees appears at the bar; he reports that certain resolutions have been passed in committee, which he has been ordered to report to the house; and then the clerk at the table reads the resolutions seriatim, which are usually affirmed, without a word of remark. But the protectionists have taken the somewhat unusual course of objecting to the report of almost every resolution. Mr. Spooner led the way on Friday night week. His object, however, was merely to make that currency crotchet speech, which the house, on a former occasion, had unceremoniously "burked." Mr. Spooner is one of those men to whom Shakspeare's phrase of "most forcible feeble' strictly applies. Ilis manner is intensely energetic and redundant; his matter the most unimpressive and inconsequential that can be conceived. Mr. Muntz, his colleague, always receives far better attention in the house. Part of this is owing to his long beard, and his eccentric manner: but the greater part to a sort of sturdy honesty which seems to tower over even a gross deficiency in logic. The discussion on Friday night turned on "bronze," "buttons," "cheese," and "manufactured cottons;" and in the repeated divisions the Government were steadily supported by large majorities.

Before the business was commenced on Friday night, Sir James Graham obtained leave to introduce a bill to provide, temporarily, against the fever, a consequence of famine, now breaking out in Ireland.

So little progress having been made on Frinay night, the second reading of the Corn Bill was postponed, and ultimately fixed for Monday next, in order to allow the tariff to be proceeded with. The best way of exhibiting the nature of the opposition will be a selection of the "points" which have been raised during the debate.

On Monday night, Lord George Bentinck, with a somewhat sareastic view, inquired if the Government could reduce to any great extent the Custom House establishment, as a consequence of the reduction of duties. Sir R. Peel made an important reply:

"I hold in my hand (said he) an account, applicable to some of the principal ports of the empire, of the number of ships with cargoes from abroad arriving and entered. I am so desirous of affording every information, that I should rather wish to move for an account, applicable to all our ports, of the number of ships arrived and cargoes entered in different years; but at present I must content myself with the result in a few of the ports; and I will state what has taken place contemporaneously with repeal and reduction of customs' duties. The comparison is between the years 1842 and 1845, and it will be seen, that, both in the number of ships and the entries, there has been a considerable increase in the following six ports of the empire:

Ports.	Yoars.	Ships with Cargoes from Foreign Ports.	Number of outries.
London	1842	0370	484,000
	1845	7521	567,000
Liverpool	1812	3283	188,000
	1845	3900	220,000
Newcastle }	1842 1845	612	22,000 30,000
Dublin}	1842	961	21,700
	1845	307	30,219
Dundee }	1849	319	7,700
	1846	415	0,000
Olasgow	1848	280 418	22,000 30,700

My noble friend will see, therefore, that there has been an immense increase in the foreign trade of the country (loud cheers); that a much larger number of ships have arrived, and that there has been a vast addition to the entries. That circumstance alone, as I remarked, would prevent any decrease in the establishment of the custom house, because the greater the number of vessels the greater must necessarily be the superintendance. Therefore, though we may not have the same advantage in the customs as in the excise, there has, in fact, been a corresponding advantage of a more important description" (much cheering).

Mr. Plumptre raised a debate on the reduction of the duty on hops, which terminated in the following manner:

The next important item on which a debate of consequence arose was that of Silk. Mr. Bankes, the Dorset-shire Tory, and Mr. Brocklehurst, the Macclesfield Whigs combined on this occasion. There were, of course, a low jokes—such as they were. Mr. Wynn Ellis texed Mr. Brocklehurst with smuggling; Mr. Brocklehurst were the smuggling; Mr. Brocklehurst were the smuggling; Mr. Brocklehurst with smuggling; Mr. Brocklehurst were the smuggling; Mr. Brocklehurst were the smuggling; Mr. Brocklehurst were the smuggling; Mr. Brocklehurst were the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling is the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling in the smuggling

that he was unable to convert a shoemaker into a million. Mr. Newdegate, in his usual somniferous tone, declared the if anything could rouse him it would be the wrongs of the silk weavers. These are the principal faceties. But the facts speak for themselves. In the following years these were the quantities of raw, waste, and thrown silk imported into the United Kingdom, in lbs.:

			We	ato Knu	bø.			
1821 1822 1823	::	Raw. 1,864,513 1,993,764 2,051,895	an	d Hunk 105,047 64,921 62,302		Thrown 860,248 882,278 363,864	•	Total. 9,399,400 2,441,563 2,468,181
tt								

The duty then being on raw silk, not the production of the British territories in the East Indies, 5s. 6d. per lb.; want silk, 4s. per lb.; thrown silk, not dyed, 14s. 8d.; thrown silk, dyed, 2l. 5s. 6d. But in the years, 1842, 1843, 1844, when the duty was reduced as follows:—On raw silk, 1 1 20; waste silk from foreign countries, 1s. 3-5d.; thrown silk, not dyed, ditto, 1s. 3-5d.; thrown silk, dyed, ditto, 2s. 1 1-5d.—the quantities stand as follow:

Raw. 1842 3,936,714 1843 3,649,747 1844 4,021,808	and Husks. Thrown. Total 1,494,693
	figures that the protectionists and

Wagte Knuba

It was upon these figures that the protectionists endravoured to show that the silk trade had been injured sinthe modification of the duties. But, further, we not only
now export large quantities of silks, but it is important to
mark the countries to which we export them. France will
be found, for a large amount, amongst the number. Although
it be true that we import manufactured silks largely and
progressively, yet this cannot thrust aside the evidence derived
from the almost incredible increase in the quantity of ne
silk imported. The truth is, that the imports consist chiefly
of fancy goods from France or India, which have some pecaliar quality of taste or design to recommend them, and ever
of these a large proportion (especially of Indian bandans
after being printed in this country) is re-exported. These
facts may be left to speak for themselves.

The only important speakers on the question of silk, were Sir George Clerk and Sir Robert Peel. Sir George Clerk, in answer to Mr. Bankes and Mr. Brocklehurst, pointed out that the silk weavers have from time to time been distressed; but is this true only of silk weavers? In 1812, in 1816, under the protective system, were not their sufferings tenfold greater than at present? Mr. Bankes had made a most unfair comparison between the rate of wages now and formerly; because silk weavers are paid by the piece, and beyoud all doubt the labour required to produce a yard of silk now is trifling in comparison to what it used to be, when the weavers employed the same description of loom as had been in use amongst the French refugees-therefore you must not measure the wages of the operative by this standard. Sir G. Clerk found, by the report of the factory commissioners for 1843, that there were loud complaints of the millowners for want of hands. When labour, then, was in such request, could it be ill-remunerated? Mr. Powell again states that a sufficient number of workmen cannot be found to do the necessary work.

Sir Robert Peel enforced similar views; and he was followed by that rather extraordinary person, Mr. D'Isneli, whose reputation is certainly not advanced by dabbling in statistics. Perhaps the most powerful answer which could be made to the speech of Mr. D'Israeli, is the following extract from the conclusion of that speech, followed as it is by the results of the division:

"The manufacturers had made no complaint—had fould no fault with the measures of the Minister, for the very same reason that honourable gentlemen opposite were equally indulgent. They wanted the bill for the repeal of the Com Laws to pass (loud cries of "hear, hear"). He trusted, however, that the manufacturers of England, and honourable gentlemen opposite, would show to the right honourable becomet that there was yet some sympathy with the working classes of this country, and that economical blunders would not pass without criticisms when there was not some great object to prevent persons from being critical (laughter and others)."

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Majority against the amendment .. -100 On Tuesday night the protracted proceedings were resumed—not, however, without an ebullition from Mr. Sulford O'Brien, unworthy of his intellect and of his position. It so happened, that on Tuesday, Sir Robert Peel was not in the house by 20 minutes to six, although five o'clock is his usual hour. Mr. Stafford O'Brien got up, and with an air which is certainly not common with him, complained that the Government were not introducing their "other metsures, which were to "accompany" the repeal of the Cors Law. It would seem that the honourable member for North amptonehire wishes Sir Robert Peel to introduce the bills for the relief of the agricultural interest which are to accompany the Corn Bill, before the house is called upon to dacide upon the great measure. He is in doubt, forecoth, as to the lattude which is to be allowed to the word "accompany." So then, the commerce of Great Britain is to be kept in party This special pleading appears worthy of an old half berister of a very low stamp. rather than House of Commons. Surely the Covernment nounced, and the majority have over themselves to accept, their solicins in the Mr. Stafford () Brisn sommains that only speed meaning hear hear solicins and (blind sections).

needless embarrassment in the progress of the first through the house. It is physically impossible for the Premier to proceed with three measures at once, unless, like Cerberus, he had three heads. It is a pity that so olevers man as Mr. Stafford O'Brien should be degraded to a service like this. If Mr. Peter Borthwick had the pluck, it would better suit his position.

The first of the petty divisions of Tuesday night took place on the article of French brandy. We have always watched with deep anxiety the reduction of the duties on articles of French produce, as it is our firm conviction that there are few national objects of such deep importance as binding the two countries together by the ties of mutual interest. The insensible and gradual extension of commercial intercourse between the two countries is of more value than all the parchment treaties that have ever been signed by the diplomatic agents of France and Great Britain respectively. Connect Lyons and Manchester, Bordeaux and Liverpool. Marseilles and Bristol, by the indissoluble chain of " the ledger," and war-parties and jealousies will be heard of no more, or only heard of to be laughed back into oblivion-Mr. Cardwell gave the statistics to the house of our export trade to France. They run:

The extension of such a trade as this, and its beneficial

effect on both countries, is not a mere financial move; it is a political measure of the deepest importance. It means such a union of the two mightiest nations in the world as will enable them to dictate peace, civilisation, and good order to the rest of mankind. The ministerial measure was carried by 61 to 35.

The rest of the ministerial measures might have been ex preted to pass without opposition. But, no! on foreign cattle Mr. William Miles, as a matter of course, stood up to oppose the remission of the 11. duty. Colonel Sibthorp seconded the amendment, and took the opportunity of bringing the question of his jocose proposition to Sir Robert Peel to send Mr. Gladstone down to Lincoln to contest the city against him (Colonel Sibthorp) under the notice of the house, as immediately bearing on the topic under discussion. Sir R. Peel rose to demonstrate the fallacy of all these apprehensions of an inundation of foreign cattle. The right honourable baronet recalled to the recollection of the house tho predictions that had been hazarded on the subject of salt pork, when it was calculated, at the time of the tariff of 1812, that 100 sows in the Mississippi provinces would produce, in the course of a given number of years, 282,000,000 of pigs. Now, in the teeth of this it was found that the contract price of salt-pork per tierce of 320 lbs., which, in 1843, was 8/. 15s, 10d., was in the present year 6l. 12s. 11d. Was it not probable, looking at the result of the last three years, that a continuance and increase of the prosperity of the country would increase the demand, and therefore the price of meat? Considering, moreover, the advantages which the agriculturists would have in the increased facilities for fattening cattle, he felt bound to adhere to his original proposition. A solemn charge was made by Sir John Tyrrell against the Premier, proceeding by implication, perhaps, but still a charge; it was to the effect, that Sir Robert had been the cause of the disease which had affected the cattle of Great Britain for the last three years.

Mr. Peter Allix, one of the members for Cambridgeshire, made a most vigorous defence of the duty on clover seed. The measures of the Government, according to him, were to sholish the 50l. electors, to banish the rural gentry from their paternal mansions, and to extinguish the sun of England. It was impossible to witness a respectable-looking gentleman like Mr. Allix making such a speech, without a touch of sympathy for the idle fear, and a consideration for the stupid apprehension. Of all classes of men, country gentlemen are perhaps the most imbecile; and we have to humour some of them, just as a mother does a sick child who has the measles, or the scarlet fever. Yet in all these, discussions, it is impossible not to feel that there is a certain class of members in the house, who, when they come forward, affect us with feelings precisely similar to those with which we see a mummy neatly unrolled by Mr. Pettigrew, before the Asiatic Society. They are things of a hygone day, crustaccous formations of a preliminary era; they have nothing to do with the present, most assuredly will never be heard of in the future—they belong to the past. Of this class are Mr. Buck, Sir Charles Knightley, and some few others. Sir Charles Knightley, the representative of an ancient family, came forward on Tuesday night to inform the house that an iron steam-boat company was in process of formation, to establish a cattle traffic between London and St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg and Moscow were to be connected by a railway-branches of course were to be run into Central Asia, and the sheep and cows from the steppes and the wall of China, were to be conveyed bleating, lowing, and recalcitrating, to our markets, to the utter confusion of the British farmer.

All the talk on ruin proved useless—the division on foreign cattle was for Government-111, against 72; malority 80.

Tanned hides were the next article upon which it was thought advisable to divide the bonse. Mr. Lawson, the

tanned hides, had been dismissed from their employment They had all and several attained an advanced period of life far beyond the usual span which is allotted to mortals; indeed, when they had reached the three-score years and ten of the Psalmist, they must have been in the full vigour of middle age, for they were now, all of them, "upwards of or e hundred years old." A very remarkable case of longevity; more remarkable still is it, that they should have met by accident in the service of the same currier.

Now, however, they were cast on the world, and, as Sir John Tyrrell feelingly remarked, at that advanced age it was searcely probable that they could turn their thoughts to the acquisition of any fresh skill. However, their longevity could not save them from the ruthless Premier. The division on tanned hides was for Ministers-130, against 74: majority 56.

The next question was that of timber. Mr. Mitchell proposed and withdrew an amendment on the subject. This is, however, merely preparatory to a six hours' debate on the subject, which is to come off on Friday, as Sir Robert Peel has arranged matters. Then the Premier will be able to fix the debate on the second reading of the Corn Bill for Monday. "Of course," said Sir Robert, "all this with the understanding that the speeches of the homourable members would be so shortened as-"

The remainder of the Premier's sentence was drowned in shouts of laughter. No wonder: the talk has been the most inexorable thing ever known. But a noticeable speech from Lord George Bentinck deserves attention. He broke out with a threat that the House of Lords will not pass the Government measures:

"As far as he (Lord G. Bentinek) was informed, there was just ground for hoping, that whatever might be the conduct of hon. members on that (the Ministerial) side of the House of Commons, however much they might abandon their principles and desert their party (hear, hear), there was another House of Parliament which would not so disgrace itself (cheers from the protection benches). If the other house should reject this measure, and there should be an appeal to the country, then, judging from the results in Gloucestershire and Northamptonshire, and, above all, in his own native county (renewed cheers), the party that had honestly stood by its pledges, and not broken faith with the constituency, nor taken part in breaking the faith of Parliament, would come back to the house greatly strengthened by that constituency, which had been so betrayed in the present session (hear, hear).

Then again Mr. Villiers spoke, with his usual terseness and ability.

Mr. VILLIERS said that the honourable baronet (Sir John Tyrrell) certainly was innocent of having produced the panic of which he complained when the last tariff was passed, for if he remembered rightly, the honourable baronet had addressed his constituents on the occasion, giving them the benefit of his practical knowledge on the subject, which was certainly calculated to allay their fears, for he assured them that he knew that American slicep were of that description that anybody could read the newspapers clearly through them (a laugh), and that more than half the pork would be choked on the voyage (a laugh). Now as they had not much benefit as yet from the tariff, he was not prepared to say that the hon baronet's information was not correct (laughter); if such was the case, why should be be so much alarmed now (hear, hear)? and if the anic was such an evil, why should be endeavour to produce it? and if it did exist, he asked who had produced it (hear, hear)? Why, he did not besitate to say the honourable gentlemen opposite; it was just such speeches as they had heard from the honourable member for Somerset and the honourable baronet that produced it (bear, hear). This was a matter worthy of notice; for if it was impossible to draw their attention to the great interest the people had in the abundance of the necessaries of life, and if nothing could induce them to withdraw their opposition on that groundlet them reflect upon the injury they were inflicting on the very interest which they pretended to represent (hear, hear). What is the effect of predicting every calamity to follow from this measure? Why, that it depreciates the produce of the articles in question (hear, hear), and at this moment there is not the least doubt that prices are kept down by the delay that is occasioned by the motions and speeches of hon, gentlemen opposite (cheers and "oh, oh"). Hon. gentlemen opposite may cry" Oh," but the fact was as he represented it; and he knew on the authority of persons in the trade, that a serious loss is being sustained by them owing to this measure being suspended (Oh). Well, honourable gentlemen will have the opportunity of knowing the fact soon, and it will be seen whether he or they were right (hear, hear). They knew perfectly well that the measure would pass (hear), and it will be seen then whether the price of foreign wheat would not rise higher than it was at this moment (hear, hear); he put it to the honourable member for Somerset, who treats every appeal on the score of general interest with indifference, to look at the enormous injury he is inflicting upon the farmers, and the dealers whose interests he affects to represent (hear, hear). He was bound to say that the honourable gentleman, the member for Somerset, puts the interest of the consumer entirely out of consideration, for he treats the measure as one of gratuitous mischief wantonly inflicted upon the producer, and assumes that there are no interests, no wants to be consulted or satisfied by its passing. Throughout his and the speech of the hon, member for Essex, not one syllable has been said as to whether the poor had access to meat now, or whether the reduction of duty might not give it to them (hear, hear), and that in face of the complaint throughout the agricultural districts, that the poor hardly ever touch meat from one year's end to the other (hear, hear). He did not mean that they did not have becon, still they hald a dear price for it; and that was especially enumerated by the hopourable "other" member for Knarrishdrough, was the bold, bad man who did the dead. Sir John Tyrrell accorded the motion that we have heard the labourer complaining that for 40 years the bond as a still continue of his speech, possessed the house of a still continue had be noticed the motion that we have never touched a morsel of meat owing to its speech, possessed the house of a still continue had be noticed the motion of a still continue had be noticed the motion of a still continue had be not the house of a still continue had be not the house of a still continue had be not the house of a still continue had be not the house of a still continue had be not the house of a still be not to the notice of t

sit here in what was called a Christian assembly—an assem bly of gontlemen, who are not apt to underrate their own benevolence, and whose kind ours for the poor nobody win allowed to question (hear, hear); and to hear one after the other depicting the horrors of plenty, and endeavouring to raise the price of subsistence to the poor (cheers). Who could have supposed, after all the display of feeling last night about milliners and dressmakers, and the night before about the poor framework knitters, who were said to be starving, that to night the same gentlemen would be using the same exertions to deprive them of wholesome food; and if their wages were low, thereby to make their sufferings more intense (hear, hear)? Their condition was described to be actually bad, and had been so for years. To prevent food being cheap, therefore, was a positive evil to them as they were (hear). Really to hear the hon, member for Cambridge and the bon, member for Somerset, last night, one would suppose that the poor depended for life upon clover, and never desired to cat bacon (hear, hear). The honourable member for Essex was quite pathetic about protecting clover on account of the poor, and the honourable member for Somerset is horrifled at the abundance of bacon that might be poured into this country from America (hear, hear). He believed that the hon, gentlemen were confounding themrelyes with the poor when they talked about clover. It was they that were always living in clover (a laugh) -while the poor would be happy to exchange all the clover they had for all the bacon they could get (hear). The hon, member for Rutlandshire said he expected to have fair play at the hands of Free Traders, and he (Mr. Villiers) hoped the hon, member would give them credit also for common humanity, for that was their reason for advocating a change of system, to enable the poor to escape at least from scarcity of food (hear). The hon, member for Ruthandshire and turned to this side, to have his fews about this measure allayed; but really his own political economy ought to have done that for him without their help (hear, hear)-for when is the time that he says he apprehends this danger from removing the duty? Why, when the prices are low here—that is the time, he says, when swarms of cattle will come in, that is, when the market is bad; he does not want a duty when the price is high-only when it is lower than in other countries, Surely the honourable gentleman's own sense could as are him that unless the price was higher here than in other parts of the world, the cattle would not come here at all hear, hear). The honourable gentleman the other night wanted to know what would be the price of his wheat if the Corn Law was repealed, and now he wants to know what his cattle will fetch. Surely it is enough to console him for te night when he reflects that if the worst happen, it must be higher here than in any other part of the world, for its being so is the inducement for it to come (hear, hear). This, however, is particularly the time that the honourable member apprehends danger from the charge and why? Be cause he says the cattle have had the marcain, because mutton is unusually scarce, because people have less in this conetry than usual; this is the time, he says, that the consumer should be especially precluded from getting it elsewhere thear, hear). Really do let the honourable gentleman reflect upon the chance he would have of satisfying the consuming public of the justice of such a reason; and now, having, with his friends, eased their consciences by raising their voice against a plentiful supply, he did hope, for the credit of the house, that they would not press this singular motion to a division (hear, hear).

TRADE OF THE PAST AND PRESENT YEAR.

(From the Economist.)

The general result of the official tables of trade and mayigation show that the commerce of the country in 1845 for exceeded that of any other year on record, not even excepting 1814. The consumption of all the great articles of importation has considerably increased; and the amount of our exports, though not much in excess of 1344, shows a great increase on previous years. Our foreign shipping shows an increase of no less than 792,254 tons inward, and 629,131 tons outward, oven when compared with the trade of 1814.

The comparison which these tables furnish for the last three years of the quantities of the chief articles of trade consumed in each year is as follows:

PRODUCE	ENTERED FO	DR HOME CONST	'MPTION,
	1843,	1844.	1845.
Bugarcwt.		4,159,983	
Coffice 1b.		31,391,297	31,318,695
Tea lb.	40,301,407	41,300,251	41,183,125
Butter cwt.		150.965	240 110
Cheesocwt.		219,806	958,446
Graingrs.		2,533,031	
Plour, &c owt.		710,808	
Cattle No.		B,007	
Wine gid.		7,077,151	
Timber louds			
		DUTY THEF.	
Wool 1b.			76,828,159
8flb lb.		4,500,530	
Cotton owt.			0,142,176

The comparison of the total value of the chief articles of manufacture exported is as follows: 1843 .. 44,812,000 | 1844 .. 56,642,305 | 1845 .. 51 471,050

The comparison of the navigation of the kingdom during

anno muo nči		
-	Hhlps entered	Ships entered
•	inwards.	out vards.
	• Tons.	Tona.
1817	3,025,422	3,753,360
	4.991.994	
1045	A DOU FULL	

Such are the general outlines of the results farnished by hese annual accounts—results which have fully confirmed the hopes entertained at the beginning of last year. In summing up the prospects then before us, there appeared an unusual combination of circumstances to contribute to our pros-

regret that it is not now in power to congratulate the country on similar prospects.

Abroad, as well as at home, there are many offenmentances which cannot fell to exercise an injurious effect one general trade; and upon the employment of are some portion of our people.

In the first place, the failure of the list huvest, and the consequent high prices of provisions throughout upons, have sheady been found to exercise a more injurious and upon the consumption of all other articles. Upon these confidences are dependent for the specific of between yors and style per cent. of our whole experts. In

INLE, out of the entire amount of 58,581,2021, which our exports reached, our Continental trade took no less than to the value of 25.021,1851. Of conton goods and yarn alone, our texports to the Confinent are equal to 12000,000l, a year-being nearly one half of the whole of our foreign trade in those goods. It is impossible, then, that any material cause of depression should exist in those countries, without being immediately and injuriously felt in our manufacturing districts. If, then, we look to our great markets in the East the prospects are not much more promising. In British India, the enormous expend ture which must attend the war into which we have entered, has already cut off from that branch of our commerce a considerable portion of its pecuniary dependence. In China, the same complaint still exists, and even in a more aggravated form of the inadequacy of returns for our shipments; and the heavy losses now being anstained on the limited imports from that market, being in reality a reduction of the profits apparently made on our exports, will at least offer no inducement to extend transacfronk to that market. Again, in the important markets of South America, our prospects are by no means more succouraging. The war which has so long interrupted our trade in the f.a Plata, still continues. Our relations with Brakil are more unsatisfactory than ever, with no chance bliatever of an improvement as long as we pursue our present policy. We say it, on the best possible authority, that no treaty either of amity or commerce will be concluded with that Government as long as we persist in maintaining the Act passed at the close of last session, assuming for our Courts of Admiralty a jurisdiction over Brazilian subjects and ships, and as long as we persist in the exclusion of their angar. Again: those markets are so dependent upon the Continent of Europe for the consumption of their produce, that they cannot but be affected by the depression which, less or more, in felt in every Continental country. The Visited States and British America alone offer to us at present any good prospect of an increased trade. The former market will, however, be in some measure unfavourably affected by the greater or lesser probability of hostili-At present we are not disposed to consider that an important element in the business of this year. The probability of a modification in their tariff, of which we elsewhere give an outline, appears to us a full set off against that risk. The great demand for American produce, for European consumption, cannot fail to induce a larger import of goods in return; and this being generally their cheapest market, we may reasonably expect an increase of our exports to that quarter.

The activity and prospects in the British American timber trade, must, if not suspended by the deferred operations of the new proposed timber duties, lead to an increase of our exports in that quarter.

Turning from our foreign to our home markets, we find matters little more encouraging. Ireland is a large market for the manufactures of England, and the failure of their potato crop and the high price of food must materially reduce their demand, not only for clothing but also for other articles of consumption. All these causes acting together, cannot but diminish demand in our manufacturing-districts, and the employment of large classes of our own people, which diminished employment must again act prejudicially upon our own internal consumption. But the circumstance at home, which in our estimation most threatens to interfere with our recent prosperity, is the disturbance which has already been created in the capital of the country, for the present and future construction of railways, and which every day, for an indefinite period, must rather aggravate than ameliorate. This is by far the most alarming feature in our future prospects, and one which we freely admit it is extremely difficult to deal with. The rapid conversion of the floating capital now available for the trade of the country into fixed capital in railways, and that for a considerable period, entirely improductive even of interest, must cause its abstruction from other pursuits to an extent which we frankly own to be the subject of the greatest solicitude. We think there can be no doubt that the inconvenience recently experienced in all branches of commerce, oven with regard to money matters, has been greatly aggravated by the suspension of transactions since the proposed changes in the tariff were known. And it is to be expected that a favourable reaction will take place, as soon as these measures have been so far passed as to enable business to be resumed at the new rate of duty, which we hope may be the case before this reaches our readers. For some time, at least, an up usual activity may be expected, while exhausted stocks are being replenished, and provision made for the spring trade.

We must not, however, lose sight of the fact, that at this time we are committed to an expenditure of capital to the amount of nearly seventy millions for the construction of railways, independent of the numerous schomes now before Parliament : - that an absorption of capital in this one channel is at this moment going on, at the rate of little less than two millions in each month—all of which must remain unproductive for a considerable time to come. That a large portion of the schemes at present before Parliament will pass in the course of the session, there appearse little doubt. The struggle then which will take place among all these undertakings, to obtain the requisite capital to carry them into operation,—the attempts to raise by loan a portion of their capital, and the repeated calls, month after month, from the shareholders, who, having embarked so much, will make the greatest efforts to continue their payments to avoid the sacrifice of those already made; all these circumstances present an amount of future embarrassment, which we own

it difficult to see the end of.

Suppose that for three years consecutively we received no returns for one-half of our exports, what would be the consequence? We all know what effect was produced, in 1837, by the interruption to the regular returns for the credits given to the United States. The abstraction of floating capital from other purposes, for the construction of railways now in presecution, will be about equal in amount to the half of our experts in three years. But then the common reply is, that the one is expended in the country—the other out. Such is not the case. If one man manufactures goods to the amount of one hundred thousand pounds, the whole of their cost is, in the first instance, expended in wages and in other ways in the country; if he experts those goods, and his capital is not replaced by remittances, it is so much entirely abstracted from the available capital of the country; motwithstanding their whole cost went in the payment of wages and otherwise. So, precisely, if another man expends a similar sum in the construction of a railway, the whole money is expended in wages and materials in the country; but the capital itself is unverreplaces to the country. The most that can be said, even after it is paying a good dividend, is, that so much floating capital has been converted into so much fixed capital. The same, however, might be said if the ma-

nufactured goods which had been exported were sold in Brazil, and the money invested there in a mine, yielding a revenue to its owner in England. As regards the effect upon the available capital of the country, there is not the eligitest difference between making a railway at home, or exporting manufactured goods, selling them in a foreign country, and there investing the money in some security bearing interest to the owner at home.

There can, therefore, be no doubt that capital must be come scarce, and the rate of interest higher during a constderable period to come; and that the general trade of the country must feel the inconvenience which must necessarily attend such circumstances. There is every reason to be-lieve that imports generally will be received on a considerable scale during the year, and therefore the circumstances to which we have advorted, will probably be felt rather in producing low and unremunerating prices than in any very great diminution of the extent of the trade.

The present measures which are before Parliament, willno doubt, lay the foundation for great future prosperity, and they will have an important effect, even in the present year, in assisting to avert other obvious dangers to which we are exposed; but we must not expect their full benefits for some time to come.

NEW DUTIES,-The House of Commons having passed the following resolution, substituting new rates of duty on the articles therein expressed, viz.—Resolved, that in lieu of the duties of Customs now chargeable on the articles undermentioned, imported into the United Kingdom, the following duties shall be charged-viz., buckwheat, the quarter, 1s. maize or Indian corn, the quarter, ls.; meal, the cwt., 4½; rice, the cwt., ls.; ditto of and from a British possession, the cwt., 6d.; ditto rough and in the husk, the quarter ls.; ditto, rough and in the husk, of and from a British possession, the quarter ld:" the Commissioners of the Customs' Department have received intimation from Mr. Cardwell, secretary to the Treasury, stating that he has been commanded by the Lord Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to desire that they will admit the said articles at the new rates of duty specified in the said resolution, until the 1st day of August next, or until Parliament shall otherwise determine; taking, in each case, bond from the importers, to pay the duties hereafter chargeable, in the event of the duties imposed by the said resolution not being sanctioned by Par-This communication, accompanied by a copy of the order of the Government, has been transmitted to the principal officers of the revenue at every port throughout the kingdom, with instructions to take care that the directions contained therein be duly obeyed. The new duties, subject to the provisions mentioned, will be put into operation forthwith, or are even now in force throughout the united empire, with respect to the articles specified. The following is the copy of the new form of bond arranged for the purpose :know all men by these presents, that we (parties names) are held and firmly bound unto our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Ireland, Queen Defender of the Faith, in the sum of (double the amount of the difference of duty) pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid unto our said Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, to which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, and every of us, jointly and severally, for and in the whole, our heirs executors, and administrators, and every of them, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our scale, dated this Majesty, and in the year of our Lord 1840. Whereas, by an act of Parliament made and passed in a session of Parliament holden in the 5th and 6th years of the reign of her present Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled "An Act to Amend the Laws for the Importation of Corn," it was amongst other things enacted that there should be raised, levied, and paid, to her said Majesty, upon all corn, meal, or flour, entered for home consumption in the United Kingdom, from parts beyond the seas, the several duties specified and set forth in the table annexed to that act, which said duties by the act of the 8th and 9th Victoria, chapter 00, section 8, are to be raised, levied, collected, and paid, in such and the same manner in all respects, as the several duties of customs mentioned in the said act are directed to be raised, levied, collected, and paid. And whereas, a resolution of the House of Commons was passed in the mouth of March 1846, that in lieu of the duties of customs now chargeable on the articles undermentioned, imported into the United Kingdom, the following duties shall be charged (the general rates above mentioned are here specified, and need not be repeated). And whereas the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty, a Treasury, by Mr. Cardwell's letter, have directed the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs to admit the said articles at the new rates of duty specified in the said resolution, until the first day of August next, or until Parliament shall otherwise determine, taking, in each case, bond from the importers to pay the duties heretofore chargeable, in the event of the duties imposed by the said resolution not being sanc-tioned by Parliament. And whereas (quantity) quarters of (article, with each particular of importation, &c., specified) have been imported, which said (quantity again) quarters of (articles again) the said (parties names) intend to enter for home consumption, upon payment of duty, under the said resolution, upon bond being entered into, with the condition hereinafter mentioned. Now the condition of this obligation is such, that if there shall be, on demand, paid to the collector and comptroller of Customs, at the port ofdifference of duty between the duty charged by the said act of the 5th and 5th Victoria, chap. 14, and the duty paid under the said resolution, or the difference of duty charged by the said act and the duty which Parliament may otherwise direct to be levied upon the said articles, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue. The bond then concludes in the usual form .- Times. March 16.

COLONEL THOMPSON.—It is now certain that Mr. Leader will sit for Westminster only until the end of the present Parliament. We carnestly trust that Westminster will again right itself in public opinion. Some electors, we ballete, ontertain thoughts of Colonel Thompson. We could carnessly wish to see him returned as member for that ancient contains and the father of the Free Treat members. nearly wish to see him returned as member for that ancient constituency. As the father of the Free Trade movement as a consistent Radical Reformer—as a man of high integrity indefatigable energy, and great political angulty his would confer honour upon any borough, and deserves to be returned by the most indicential in the empire. We would not part the prospects in any other place; but is cartainly strikes in most forcibly that Westminster is the proper size for Coll Prompson; and plat Collogal Thompson is the plate man for Westminster. Nonconformal,

LIVERPOOL ANTLMONOPOLY A880. CIATION.

The annual meeting of the members and friends of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association was held on Monday eventing, 5th inst., at the Concert hall, Lord Nelson at. The chair was occupied by William Brown Esq. The hall was well filled, and upon the platform we observed the following well filled, and upon the platform we observed the following gentlemen:—C. Holland, Esq., C. E. Rawlins, jun., Esq., James Mellor, Esq., Thomas Bolton, Esq., Richard Sheil, Esq., Daniel Mather, Esq., John Finch, jun., Esq., G. Crosfield, Esq., Charles Robertson, Esq., Samuel Tonkinson, Esq., F. Boult, jun., Esq., Bamuel Bulley, Esq., Isase B. Cooke, Esq., John Taylor Crook, Esq., Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., the Rev. John Robberds, and C. E. Rawlins, Esq.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the business of the evening, said it was usual with the council of the association once a year to make a report to those gentlemen who supported that association, and to state to them what their proceedings had been for the past year. It had been delayed on that occasion rather later than usual, in consequence of the great quantity of labour that had devolved on the officers of the society in attending to the registration through the months of December, January, and February, and that must be the excuse to the members for not bringing before them the report at an earlier period. It would not probably be out of place for him (the Chairman) to take a short review of passing events since they last met. They then had great sources of congratulation; but on the present occasion they had still greater sources of congratulation in the measures which had been laid before the country and before the world by the Prime Minister (cheers). He and his Cabinet had placed before the world, in the fullest sense of the word, a full and unqualified adhesion to freedom of trade. It required no little moral courage on the part of Sir R. Peel to perform that duty to his country and to mankind, when the consequence was that it threw from him many of those old friends who had been his supporters for years—when it shivered a party at one time all but omnipotent, and when he ventured to throw himself on the mercy of his opponents To their immortal honour, instead of seeking to embarrass his measures by petty struggles or vexations divisions, they came holdly and fearlessly to his resons. It was incumbent on them not to forego their principles, and therefore Mr. Villiers found it necessary to bring forward his annual motion for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. Seventy-eight of their friends supported him on that occasion; but others, not less sincere, were afraid of periling the great measures of the administration by leaving Sir Robert Peel in the minority; the consequence was that they voted with the Premier, and enabled him, by a large majority, to carry the first stages of his measure. be a matter of very serious regret to them all, that instead of the House of Commons being an arena for the discussion of the officies of the nation, it had been made an arena for vituperating and abusing the Minister, who honestly and conscientiously did his duty to his country (loud applause). Nothing but honest and conscientious motives could have induced him to place himself in the perilous situation in which he had, and therefore they ought to give him credit for sincerity and truth (hear, hear). It was understood that, although he was perfectly safe as regarded his measures in the Commons, he might be defeated in the Lords; but be fore he alluded to the Lords, he (the chairman) would just allude to what had been said by one of their former representatives, who had been quoted as an authority by their opponents. Mr. Huskisson was advocating one of his Free Trade measures, and there was a great deal of opposition wit, when Canning got up, with all that cloquence, and all that force of reasoning of which he was capable, and said, Is it not doctrines and aspirit such asyours, which have, at all times, been at work to stay public advancement, and roll back the tide of civilisation—a doctrine and a spirit actuating the little minds of men, who, incapable of reaching those heights from which alone an extended view of human nature can be taken, console and revenge themselves by calumuiating and misrepresenting those who have toiled to those heights for the benefit of mankind?" He (the chairman) had adverted to the sentiments of Mr. Canning, and he might probably advert to what Mr. Huskisson had and amongst the last words of his life. He said, "It was in unalterable conviction that they could not uphold the existing Corn Laws with the existing texation, and increase the national prosperity, or preserve public contentment; but that those laws might be repealed without affecting the landed interests, whilst the people would be relieved from their distress he never had any doubt whatever." He (the chairman) was the more disposed to bring this under the observation of the meeting, because Mr. Huskisson had been arrayed against them as a protectionist. Now, he begged to ask them if there was one word of protection in what he had just quoted, or rather if there were not the very condemnation of it. It said that when the Government measure was the House of Lords, various amendments were to be proposed. One, that they should have a permanent and fixed duty; another, that they were to have a permanent and fixed duty, but the proceed to go towards the payment of the poor-rates with the view of relieving the landed interest of part of their mistaken burdens (cheers). Another, that the present sliding scale, as proposed by the Prime Minister, should be avaidable of the proposed by the Prime Minister, she present shding scale, as proposed by the Prime Ministry, should be made permanent. Another, that they would pass the present intended law, on condition that the subject should be taken up again three years hence and discussed. He (the chairman) was quite sure that not an individual who heard him would be willing to submit to any seek conditions. It therefore behaved them, in public and in privals, and by every means in their newer to convince the Lords, and by every means in their power, to convince the Lords, and to show Sir Robert Peel, that if they did attempt to force such measures on the country they would gain nothing by the movement. For the sake of peace and harmony they might submit to the Cern Laws being reprieved for three years, but if they must have a new Parliament, those caleria would be led to instant execution (loud cheers). A reversel genileman of the name of lateman—the Rev. H. Yateman—thade a flower speech the other day in Donate tree man—thade a flower speech the other day in Donate tree were the high sheriff took the chair. He (the chairmen was wilking to suppose that the press must either have his represented or misunderstood the reversel genileman, for he could not suppose that one of his alone could not suppose that one is a reversel genileman, for he could not suppose that one of his alone could not suppose that one of his alone could not suppose that one of his alone only suppose that one of his alone only suppose that one of his alone on the public. He will that the United States for suppose of the Salar suppose that one of the suppose that the press must be supposed to the public of the salar suppose that one of the suppose that the press must be supposed to the public of the salar suppose that one of the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that one of the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that one of the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that one of the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that the press must be supposed to the suppose that the suppose the suppose that the suppose that the suppose the suppose that might submit to the Corn Laws being reprieved for three

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verend gentleman to sand forth such statements to the pub hope the policy of their Free Trade measure baths with mose. The effect of their Free Trade measure baths with mose. The effect of their Free Trade measure bad caused the tierman confideration—the Zollverein—to pause in their tarde measure bad caused the tierman confideration—the Zollverein—to pause in making any alteration in their tariff unfavourable to England: France was establishing Froe Trade clubs, and Russia, and contemplated some rise in her duties, had been arrested in her progress, and the evident tendency now was downwants (applause). Before he sat down he begged permission to correct an error which he made on the last occasion that he addressed them-an error, however, which made altogether against his own argument. He stated that the North American colonies and the British West India islands had a commerce more important than they really had. Instead of the exports to these places being 9,400,000, and falling off to 8,800,000, the exports in 1835 were 0,500,000. and had fallen off to 5,500,000, being one million in favour of what their opponents seemed to value so much-protection (loud cheers.) The chairman then called upon the honorary sceretary to read the report.

Mr. C. E. RAWLINS said, when he looked around the platform, he missed the presence of one man on the present occasion whose name had always been associated with human progress and improvement-he meant Mr. Rathbone. A note, however, had been received from him that afternoon, saying that a prior engagement of long standing had prevented him from having the pleasure of attending the meeting (hear, hear). Mr. Rawlins then proceeded to read the report, a voluminous and interesting document, containing an able sketch of the history of the course of Free Trade during the last year of success and triumph. We have only room for the following extracts:

"The year 1815, the fourth of the existence of the Anti-Mono-poly Association, and the seventh of that of the Anti-Corn-Law League, has been distinguished her program as the Corn-Law league, has been distinguished by a progress more than usually rapid in the attainment of the object which has united us toge-

ther, namely perfect freedom of trade.

"In contributing to this result we, as the council of your association, have endeavoured faithfully to exercise the trust you reposed in us, to the fullest extent of our power.

"In addition to the ordinary means of agitation, by the distri-

believe to the ordinary means of agitation, by the distribution of tracts, and the assembling of public meetings, we underteek, in March last, the care of the registers for the borough, the Liverpool polling district for South Lancashire; and we have also been in communication with the Council of the League, relative to voters having qualifications in other districts or countries but residing in our care. ties, but residing in our own.

"Finding that the purity of the register greatly depended on the thorough honesty of the men who were returned to serve in our parish affairs, we issued an address to our fellow-towns men last Easter, entreating them only to elect men who would faithfully a liminister their trust, without using it for the benefit of any political party whatever. The call was at once responded to not be result of the poll was the triumph of our candidates. A further effort ought again to be made this year, to place the very on an equality with respect to parties. More than this we neither ask nor desire.

"The results of our registration labours have been very suc-

Borovou Register.-We have made a thorough revision of the brough register, and by objecting to a large number of bal votes, dead votes, and false duplicate votes (a work which that its next decision upon an election shall be in accordance with the undoubted opinions of the community at large, on the

Subject of Free Trade.

"County Register.—South Lancashire.—We have improved this district of South Lancashire, by placing on the list 43 new electors, 300 of whom were induced to purchase qualifications in shares. All these names were objected to by the newspolist party, and struck off by the revising barrister. We mosopolist party, and struck off by the revising barrister. We successfully appealed, however, against his decision to that of the Court of Common Pleas. The court not only restored the names, but Chief Justice Tindal characterised the desire for qualifying as a county elector, by a bona_fde investment of property, as highly commendable. The same efforts have been made in other districts of the county with equal success. We have thus secured the return of our townsman William Brown, Eq., and the Hon. C. P. Villiers, by a working majority of 3000 votes.

"South Christing.—For the Birkenhead polling district we placed on the present register 109 voters, and are in possession of 311 claims for next register, of whom 344 qualified by share property at our instigation. The total number of Free Trade property at our instigation. The total number of rree trade claims now ready for the coming register on the whole division, is upwards of one thousand, which will render the county perfectly safe on a contest after next December.

"In both counties we successfully objected to a large number of supplies to the counties we successfully objected to a large number.

"During the past year our members have very greatly increased. In 1842 they numbered 340; in 1843, 271; 1844, 404; We have to regret the retirement of Thos. Thornely, Esq.

by his own special wish, from the responsible office of president, which he has filled from the commencement of the association. which he has filled from the commoncement of the association. He has, however, consented to age as one of the vice-presidents, should the members continue to desire his services. Our thanks are due to Mr. Thornely for the attention which he has invariably given to the interests of the association, and his consistent advocacy of its objects both in and out of Parliament.

"It is deeply to be regretted that so hold and comprehensive asheme as that proposed by Sir Robert Peel should be defaced by the evidence of a still lingering prajudice in favour of the sibing wale. It is opposed to his experience of the sliding scale of 1828, which he altered because it did not accommodate itself to the wants of the community, and to that also of his own scale of 1828, which, as Sidney Herbert confessed, 'would not slide, when it was required. It is inconsistent with all the Premier's new convictions in favour of entire freedom of trade; and, show all, it is unjustifiable in the prospect, to which no one has oftener pointed than Sir Robert Peel himself, of an impending sear-tive of food. Alluding to the destruction of the position crop in Ireland, he declared, 'that at an early period of the antenn he was of opinion that it was impossible to meet the emergency without a suspension of the duties of corn and provisional a had spirit was fast spreading itself among the people. Many were then destitute of provisions, and the difficulty to be most was, how to deal with the evil, without waiting its further financian he looks forward to the month of May with the greatest apprehension. And yet, in the face of an impending famine among large massos of the people this year, which deficiency of earl phatoes, or a decay in those preserved, may probably remaining large massos of the people this year, which deficiency of heal phatoes, or a decay in those preserved, may probably remaining large massos of the people this year, which deficiency of heal proteins on the effect of limiting the supply of food, or at all events, of end as people, threatened with, nay, in some parts, actually sufferned a people threatened with, nay, in some parts, actually sufferned as people, threatened with, nay, in some parts, actually sufferned as people, the sufferned way and dissensation between different comilier, which all must regret, and to remove the sufferned way and dissensation between different comilier and parts. "It is deeply to be regretted that so bold and comprehensive

of morality, by diminishing those temptations to crime which arise from poverty and distress "-can that law be just," which has a tendency to limit the abdudance of food, on which these blessings depend; so that the soundance or man, on when those blessings depend; and which will be productive of appalling ovils in proportion as it effects its own object? If this scheme of a new sliding scale be not abandonal new, and if one-half the evils which may fairly be anticipated should arise, we believe it cannot survive the three years of its destined existence. Like

outnot survive the three years of its destined existence. Like a kindred measure of compromise with injustica—the apprenticeship system in the abolition of negro slavery—it will assuredly be annulled by the indignant voice of the people.

"What the agricultural interest (meaning thereby the real cultivators of the soil) have really most to fear, is a delay in the final settlement of this question. There will be no readjustment of routs and leases while the change is in process. All the disadvantages of a sudden ropeal are thus insured to the farmer, without any of its corresponding advantages to himself or the community. The evil may not be felt during 1816, because scarcity throughout Europe, preventing under any circumstances extensive importation, may prevent its operation. But during 1817-8, stocks of foreign com, prevented by the sliding scale from gradual importation, will, in all probability, accumulate in foreign ports, and, on the sudden fall of duty in 1849, be poured on the market, unnaturally lowering the price, to the great injury of the English producer.

"On these two grounds, then, first, injustices to the consumer by the centinued imposition of a duty for three years longer on

by the continued imposition of a duty for three years longer on the importation of food, unjust under any circumstances, but more essentially so in the face of impending scarcity; and, secondly, that protracted ropeal, especially when accompanied by a sliding scale, will be a serious injury to the home producer—we must express our strong disapproval of this part of Sir R. Peel's scheme. Peel's scheme.

"On the motion that the house should go into committee on the measure, Mr. Miles, M.P. for East Somerset, moved addrect negative; but, after three weeks' debate, the amendment has been lost by a majority of 97 votes.

"When in committee, Mr. Villiers moved his amendment for the total and immediate repeal; but the peculiar circumstances induced many strong advocates for this mode of settlement to vote against him, lest it might endanger Sir R. Peel's measure in

its subsequent stages.
"Seventy-eight members, however, have asserted the principle, which, in its simple unity and justice, has been the secret of the success of the league. But, failing this, they have now determined to give their strenuous support to the Ministerial measure,—a determination to which we accord our most anqua-

lified approval. inted approval.

"National revolutions have generally been bought with the price of blood; they have too often resulted only in the substitution of one despotism for another; they have almost always been confused, in their affects, to a single country. We are on the eve of a revolution precisely the reverse. It has been peaceful in its operation; it will be world-wide in its blessings. All honour be to the League that has prepared us for the change. This League was born in contempt—it rose, amidst success and contamely, into appular favour—it has triumpled suidst the se-In the league was born in contempt—it rose, amidst sneers and contumely, into popular favour—it has triumphed amidst the acclamations of its once most vielent opponents. We cannot agree with those who look upon the past existence of the League as an evil, only justified by a still greater one. It may be, that gentle and peaceful agitation is as necessary to the sububitity of the political atmosphere as to that of the material world; nex, that its severest storms have the same utility in the economy of the one as of the other. It so, the League has proved not an evil, but a good. It is certain that it has used its vast influence for high and noble numbers. In all respects it has been as infor high and noble purposes. In all respects it has been an in-tellectual agitation. Its magnificent bazaars, rightly considered, have been expositions of the triumph of mind over matter. Its tracts—and lectures have embodied—the soundest decrines of moral and political science. With the knowledge of the true principles of international intercourse, it has infused an intense love of international peace. It has awakened the most generous constinues of the assignable bears. If it has a graded the away of the particular of the particular bears. emotions of the national heart. If it has curbed the power of the aristocracy, it has purified the press, and exalted the people. On every suitable occasion it has repudiated the dectrine of physical force. It was not the League, but a minister of the physical force. It was not the League, but a minister of the Crown, who, while acknowledging that its agitation was 'not of force, but of reason,' said, that if reason were not yielded to, 'some day force might be added.' The League has never for a moment lost sight of the efficiety of its weapons or the justice of its cause. And when it has fulfilled its mission—when its mighty organisation shall have ceased to exist with the enormous wrong which called it into being, the names of its leaders -no less wise than powerful -Cobden and Bright, and Wilson and Villiors -will long be remembered as benefactors to their country and mankind.

Mr. Rawlins concluded by moving the adoption of the re-

Mr. J. T. CROOK, one of the treasurers, said their worthy secretary had moved that the valuable document just read be adopted by that meeting, as the report of the council of the Anti-Monopoly Association, and it gave him great pleasure to second the proposition that it he printed and distributed amongst the members, for he was fully convinced that a document of that nature would be instructive to the world. He hoped, however, that they would allow him to include in it the treasurer's accounts, as being highly important also. It was well they should be published, because, though the League might be dissolved after the Corn Laws were totally repealed, the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association remained until Free Trade in everything was obtained (loud cheers). Mr. Crook then read an abstract of the accounts, from which it appeared that the balance in hand was only 421. 3s. Od. be motion was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Thos. Borton moved the thanks of the meeting to the council of the association. In doing so, he congratulated the meeting on the prospect of Free Trade in corn. He much regretted that anything in the shape of a sliding scale should be extended for three years, and should have wished instead of that, something like a permanent duty of 4s. (No, no). He believed that Sir Robert Peel could not have carried on his Government had he tried for total and immediate Lord John Russell himself could not form a Government with any chance of carrying such a measure; he would never have been able to secure such a majority as Sir Robert Peel had gained for his-97; and they must all agree that Sir Robert had proposed the most liberal measure he could get his party to consent to adopt; and when all could not be got that was wanted, it was best to take the next best they could get. For his own part, he thought that a very small fixed duty would be necessary upon wheat, if only to pay the landing waiters' charges (cries of "no, no; no duty whatever.") Mr. Bolton then took a short review of the corn trade since the year 1815, and again reminded the meeting that if all things were admitted free of duty, the expenses of Government could not be paid (cries of "Put a direct tax upon property." Much cheering.) He would just remind them that an inquiry was going on before Parliament as to the charges upon landed property, and there was one thing he should like to learn from that inquiry, and that was, why the people of England should pay 40 per cent, more for their food than the people of other parts of the world (loud charges)?

cheers ?

Mr.D. Mathen seconded the motion, and he hoped the meeting would direct their serious attention to that part of the report which had been read to them, with reference to the repeal of the Corn Laws. He would remind them that it was not a total repeal they were going to have, neither total nor immediate; and he hoped they would never cease to think the question until that interested in getting the total and immediate repeal. They must not think of pring

satisfied with a sliding scale, or even a shilling duty (cheers) For so long as that one shilling remained, there was a chance that some future minister would mise it to two shillings, and another night make it three. Suppose the Pake of Richmond were to come in to-morrow, what would be not do. They are thou to go for total and immediate feebal. They could register cotton and other articles without a duty, and what matter if they were not registered, so that they had plenty to put into their bollies, what was the use of reportering it (laughter and choors). As to the sliding scale, it was all sliding nonsonse (laughter). The Premier and all the Ministers had been converted, because the people were going to be starved, and yet they elapped on a daty of 103 . to 1 is. That was like knocking their own arguments on the head. He could not see the use of their proposing anything of the kind. Sir Robert Peel lad ample means of passing the measure if he chose. He was delighted to find Mr. Cobden and Lord Morpsth had voted for the total repeal. Lord J. Russell had objected to it because he thought it would put Ministers in a fix; but Lord Morpeth did not think so. He was the man who would stand by them, but they could not put the slightest trust in Lord John Russell (cheers).

The CHAIRMAN said that, as they had elected him to the office of President for the next year, he would endewour to discharge his duty faithfully; but unless the Council were sustained with large funds, he was afraid they would not be able to get on so satisfactorily as might be wished (hear).

Mr. LAWRENCE HEYWORTH proposed the next resolution, which was to the effect, that while they stendily adhered to their object of total and immediate repeal of the Corn and Provision Laws, and of all differential duties, and on this occasion renewed their determination never to dissolve their association until protective duties were annihilated, they nevertheless approved of the policy which induced Mr. Villiers and the 78 members who voted with him, after failing in their endeavour to carry into effect their great principle in the House of Commons, to give their hearty support to the modified but still comprehensive measure proposed by Sir R.

Mr. RICHARD SHELL seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN begged to make one observation. He thought, from the remarks made by several of his friends. that they did not sufficiently understand the embarrassing position in which the Promier now stood. He had a difficult position to sustain. He was, as he (the Chairman) believed, as honest a Free Trader and as much disposed for total and immediate repeal as any man could be (cheers). But he also believed that it was a matter of policy on his part to frame his measure as he had framed it, in order that be might have a reasonable hope of getting it through the House of Lords; and unless he had so framed it, he would have had no hope of carrying it through at all. He appealed to the meeting, as men of business and reflection, whether it was not better to sustain the measure Sir Robert Peel had brought forward, than to be thrown into ten years' further agitation (hear)? With this view he hoped that on every proper occasion they would express themselves firmly and resolutely, and sustain the measure of Sir R. Poel until they got it fairly through the House of Lords (hear, hear)

Mr. C. E. RAWLINS reminded the meeting that Mr. Bolton was the first mayor of Liverpool who thought it consist ent with the duties of his office to call a town's meeting at such a time and such a place as would suit the convenience of the working classes of this town (hear).

Thanks were voted to the Chairman, and the meeting broke up, after giving three cheers for Free Trade.

REGISTRATION APPEALS.

PARIENTS P. LUCKETT.

Mr. Wellsby for the Appellant; Mr. Grove for the Ro spondent.

CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL .- I think the information derived by the overseers is to be thrown overboard. What the overseers thought proper to say-indeed, what they came forward to say, though they came forward as a hody corporate, is of little weight, for a few overseers are not to be listened to when we are explaining a written instrument. We are to give that written instrument a reasonable construction, and not by considering any other instrument of the same nature. When there was a column following the first name, that was to be filled up with the following name. It seems to me, certainly, that this construction must follow, that you must supply the name of Joshua Pariente as it appears in the preceding column. You find the numbers two and three in the margin, and Haynes's name and Pariente's name are put in the same subject matter of rating; there must have, therefore, been some some in Parlente's name being put there. It must have had some meaning, and I conceive it could have had no other than than that of supplying the blank in the column in the same way as Haynes's name, and applying it to the same subject-matter to which they are both rated. Therefore they ought to be restored.

Mr. JUSTICE MAULE .- With respect to the first rate, it is conceded that the person rated has done all to could him to come within the 80th section of the 2d William IV, chapter 45. That section gives this benefit to the claimant upon his doing all that is required without anything being done in compliance with it. Then with respect to the subsequent rates, the question is, whether the claimant is rated? That is to be decided by looking at the rate. without looking to anything that was said by one of the overseers; for the overseers said they put his mame on the rate in consequence of his claim, but without any intention to rate him for anything. They might have done all they did without any intention to rate him; they might have had an intention to do as much, and he would have no right to complain against them for not doing what they had done; yet they might have had no intention to confer any franchise which he wished to have. Whatever their intention was, they have done their duty when they might not have had an intention to do it. It is lucky for them to have done what they did, though they might have had an intention of omitting to do what they were bound to do, though it was done fore conscienties; they may have this consolation, they have not done the mischief they intended to do. The opinion of a witness with respect to what is the proper effect of a written instrument, is clearly admissable; and it seems to me the whole thing is otherwise beyond doubt, for the construction of the document is very plain. The barrister seems to have been actuated by an auxility to do justice between the parties, and has done something he ought not to

have done. The rest of the court concurred. Decision reversed.

And the second second section of the second		[Laure Old Di
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*Wilkinson Miss, 78, Stock-st., Chretham hill-rd., do 1 0 0 *Collison, Thomas, and Son, Sharp-street do 1 0 0 *Rawatone, James, New Zealand-road, Stockport 1 0 0 Wakefuld High. Heatterland.	Naylor, Jacob, Elmwood-terrace	*Halkot and Adam 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
*Pickering, Wm., Sherbourne Hill, near Durham 1 0 0 *Brown, W., Front of Schove Hill, Lewis 1 0 0 *Davis, Ebenezer, Priory Crescent, Southover, do. 1 0 0 *Lees, T. B., Padfield Brook, Glossop 1 0 0 *Collier, Thomas, tea dealer, do 1 0 0 *Criffith, Rev. Wm., jun., North Shiehls 1 0 0 *Coventry, A., Bedford-street, do 1 0 0	*Landale, David	*Steven, George, fronmorger 2 0 0 *Moon and Langlands 2 0 0 *Smilton, James 2 0 0 *Ritchie, P. D., Dundee and Liverpool Shipping Office 1 0 *Leask, Alexander 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
**Thillpeon, John, True street, do 1 0 0 **Clifton, John, Delph, Saddleworth 1 0 0 **Downtirst, James, 11, Broughton-street, Salford 1 0 0 **Chambers, John, draper, Presion 1 0 0 **Hates, Edw., Over Darwen, noar Blackburn 1 0 0 Miller, Afred, Staleybridge 0 10 0	*McDonald, Archibald 5 5 0 *Wotherspoon, William, and Son 4 0 0 *Beveridge, Mrs. George, Dysart 4 0 0 *Heron, Robert, and Co 3 0 0 *Greig, Peter 8 0 0	*Bett, William *Rough. George *Fenwick, James, carver and gilder *Brown, John. coal morehant *Marshal, Robert, Dundee and London Stoam Shipping Company
Couper, Sidney, High-street, Lewes 0 2 6 Butes, Mr., North street do 0 2 6 Cuulman, Proderick, Hancook-street, Manchester 0 2 6	*Ireland, James, and Co. 2 0 0 *Kny, T. and J. 2 0 0 *Kny, T. and J. 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 *Sharp, James 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	*Gray, Dr. 1 0 0 *Hpankio, Jamos, and Co. 1 0 0 *Registory, David, druggist 1 0 0 *Steven, Alexander, shipbuilder (*Tatlow, Joremiah, tape manufactarer 2 0 0
Padilam, Halm, James, Old Road 500 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	*Russell, John, spirit dosler . 1 0 0 *Anderson, Thomas 1 0 0 W *Handerson, Robert 1 0 0 *Stenhouse, Andrew 1 0 0 Galloway, James, Baker-st., Clairtown . 0 10 0 Smith, John 0 8 0 Williams, Andrew, Lochty Bleschfield 0 8 0	/irksworth. Mobeth, Isaso, baker 0 1 6 Gratton, W 0 0 6 Hudson, Thomas 0 0 0 0
Norton, C. B. Norton, William Norton, Henry O Carron of Carry O Carron of Carron o	Rigney, Martin	apiotou, J. A., 2, Tariston-street Lloyd, Rayner, 31, Schoolerset Syers, J. M., Church-road, Sampley, Old Swan Oorkguiters in thou Employ of Malcolm MoEnchan, I., Copper from Sharr, Charles, M. Physiocheterset Spain, Charles, M. Physiochet
Variantion. (* Figurali, George Vones and Philipps AVarren, E. B. Swilliams John	Ferguson, John 6 4 0 Stewart, Robert 0 4 0 Whyte, Thomas 0 4 0	Print Charles, M. Diverbarrent Permission Unit Description

	Company and the Company and March to the Company of				
	C. Buruley, Thomas		10 0) (O George Thomas £250 O E. S., por Geo. Th
	*Thornton, Benjamin *Crowther, Win., and Sons		10 0		O Joseph Euton John Wetherman,
	*Hwaine, J. and E., and Co.	•) (William Totall
	*Fillison, J. and F., Birkensbay, nea	r ''	8 0) (Nalah and Co 100 0 James Davis
	*Burnley, Firth, and Co. *Gomersall, J., Rawfolds, pr Clockhe	ator	4 0 12 0		
	*Knowles, Houghton and Co. *Hammond, William	••	1 4		William D. Wills 100 0 George B. Chick
' namal	*Taylor, Joshua	••	1 0		J. S. Fry and Bons 100 0 T. and A. Warren
Gomersal, near Leeds,	4.3.chnaton.Josiah	• •	1 0	Č	Charles Tothill and Co. 50 0 Henry Shule Nasl
•	Ross. Thomas "A Friend," per Wm. Crowther	• •	0 10	(James Jonkins 50 0 T. P. Collins
	Porritt, Bamuel	• •	08		The state of the s
	Smith Josiah Ellis, Benjamin	••	0 4		Bamuel Lang and Bons 50 0 Arthur Naish
	Riecle, John	::	0 4	Č	Barnes, Staples, and Co. 50 0 J. Cox
	Kershaw, Samuel Howarth, Henry, Birkenshaw, near		0 4	O	George Jones 50 0 A Friend
	(Sundries	••	0 6		Robert Charleton 25 0 Thomas, Fripp
13	(*Sattersfield, Messes, J. and Son *Senior, Matthew, and Sons	• •	1 4		W. H. Somerton 25 0 Thomas, nor R.
10 m	*Sattersfield, William, jun. *Sattersfield, Messis, John and Son.	• •	1 0		Philip D. Tuckett 25 0 Rev. Grouge Art
4.1.2.2.1.1.2.2.1.1.2.2.1.1.2.2.1.2.2.1.2	*Sattersfield, William, son. *Sattersfield, Jerembah		0 12 0 12	0	Daniel Wheeler 25 0 8. B.
enhill in the town- of Heckmondwicks	Walker, James	• •	0.12	0	James Hall 21 0 H. Senll
11. 11. 11.	*Sattersfield, George *Sattersfield, John, jun.	• •	0 6	0	A Friend per G. Thomas 10 0 Several small Subs
d o	Oddy, Chris., sen		0 6	0	William Butler 10 0
Kilper ship o	Ritchardson, John	::	0 4	0	Received since the Meeting,
, M	(Barby, John	••	0 4	0	Thomas Reynolds 25 0 William Knowles
	(*An Enemy to Monopoly, per Mr. Ho * Hindle, W. James	rve	y y 0 1 0	0	
	*Jubb, George, Thurgoland *Poles, William, Wentworth	• • •	1 0	0	
. '	Biram, B. do	••	0.10	0	LEICESTER SUBSCRIPTIONS.
	Beardshall, W., jun. do Cooper, Henry do	• •	$\begin{array}{cc} 0.10 \\ 0.8 \end{array}$	0	The following gentlemen have signified their i
	Henderson, Joseph do	• •	0 6	0	
Danular	Stone, Erasmus, jun. do	::	0 5	0	Richd Harris and Sons. 500 0 W. K. Eames
Ramaley - District.	Hague, Charles do	• •	0 5 0 5	0	John Biggs and Sons500 0 Rev. O. Legge, LL
	Firth, John do Mann, James do	• •	0 5	. 0	T. Stokes and Nephews 200 0 E. Newton Brewin and Whotstone, 200 0 Hiffe and Breward
**	Pallding, Francis do	••	0 8	Ŏ	J. Ellis and Son
	Cooper, Henry do	••	0 5	0	Whetstone and Gittens., 50 0 Mr. Clarkson
	Green, Thomas do Fallding, Joseph do	••	0 4	0	D. Orange and Co 50 0 Charles Bowmar N. Corah and Sons 50 0 J and J. Harvoy
	Buck, W. do Small Sums	• •	0 2	6	Charles Billson 50 0 T. and W. Archer Thomas Biggs 50 0 Joseph Swain
	(Stevenson, Robert	••		0	Alfred Burges 50 0 T. Thompson and
	Gildon, John, South-place		1 0	0	N. Westermann 50 0 field
	Barber, C. H., High-street Mountain, John, Market-placo	• •	1 0	0	R. Carter and Son 50 0 Geo, Vicars and So Joseph Underwood 50 0 Samuel Baines
Boston.	Howdon, W., engineer Baker, W., Wormgate	• •	1 0 0 10	0	R. Marston and Co 50 0 W. and G. Baines Frishy and Chawner 50 0 Robort Palmer
	Shurp, T., Witham Town Smith, J., fellmonger	••	0 5	0	C. Bedells and Co 50 0 DONATES
	Willson, A. Mounta'n, H., musician		02_	.,6_	Fleiding and How
				б	Hull and Shenton 25 0 J. Whitmore John Baines 25 0 S. Kirby
"l'erke (i. '	ph.and Sons, Champion Hill, Camberw Addle-street, City	ull 2 1	20 0 10 0	0	R. and G. Toller 25 0 C. B. Robinson Jos. Cripps 25 0 T. Paget
- "Ivimey, Jose	ph, 26, Chancery-lane and H., 6, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside	1	0 ŏ 5 0	0	Higginson and Coleman 20 0 J. and G. Thorp
TITLE TOTAL		• •	5 0	0	T. Sargoant and Sons 20 0 W.E. Hutchinson
Baird, John,	Brompton, Kent		5 0 5 0	0	
The Operati	casrs. W. and Co., 98, Hatton Garden ves of Warwick Works, Carlisle, p	. 4 er	4 0	O	THE QUARTER OF A MILLION I
Volckman, W	Vand C. Stratford Fagor	• •	4 0	0	The Council have, we believe, determi
TOMBING A	. D., 16, Park-terrace, Brixton pk, Regent-place, Birmingham		2 0	0	advertising upon a somewhat extensive
STOREST AND A STOREST	ur Dover			. O	promised subscriptions to the League Fur
Thom, Wi	arket-st , Hanley, Staffordshire Potteri n., merchent, Methyon, near Porth	ng i		0	continue the same at intervals, in order to
Davy, Edwar	d. Crediton Devenships	•	1 1	0	progress of the fund towards completion.
""KIMW. JOIN	1, 19, City road Flost-street]]	0	this effectually, they seek the assistance of
**************************************	13 Finaluse ganasa	.]		n O	committees and treasurers, who have
	978., and Swift. St. John's st., Smithfiel 8x., 13. Camomile-street, Bishopsystess	d. 1		0	quested to send a list of all the subscrib
Paull, Edwar	d 15 Chamaide	. i	1 1	0	the present period, and to continue the si
Grave, Arthu	rG W 41 Demonts 540	. į	Ö (0	time to time till all have appeared.
		. 1 . 1		0	These lists, it may be well to state, are
Harding Jan	108) Ough street G	. 1		0	tain only the gross amounts promised, and reference whatever to the instalments, which
Ei-dell, J. By	lug Rupdott atract Water and	. į	0 1	0	bo forwarded separately.
Polland, Win	Changland W. M. M. Permer, Bermondsey.	: <u>i</u>	l 0 (n	A few additions to the list of treasure
Aitken, Rich	ard, Mitcham Common	. ;		0	been made since last we published it,
Hogg Richar	d New Districts August 1 as m	. 1 . 1		n	subjoin:
Costoraliteo	and her animas thomas! Coreford' Glot	۱. ا	0 (0	Andover-James Baker, Esq., Prospect House.
*Milla, Wm., N *Chandler, Th	lidhurst omas, per Paul Anstie, jun., Bath-road	i	0 (, Ashton-under Lyne—Thomas Mason, Esq.
Bridger W	00.11	. 1	0 0	,	Aylesbury—J. P. R. Payne, Esq. Alawick—Thos. Duncau, Esq.
Smith, Thom	190, 111gh-street, Lowes 194, 48, Shepherd-street, Sheffeld Syke Works Treeston	. l . 1	. 0 (Ayr—J. Kinrosv, Esq.
"Hainsay Robe	the comment of the control of the co		0 0		Annan-Alex. Dounic, Esq.
Hawkey Charl	A STATE OF THE OWNERS OF	់ រ៉	0 () [Amersham—E. West, Esq. Beaminster—Mr. Jos. Tite, Clenham Mill.
otter, Thomas	, Garden street, Bury, Lancoshire н, Horseshoe-alley, Wilson-st., Finsbur	, 0 y 0	10 0		Bath-Admiral Gordon, R.N., Nelson-place, No
	Brook, Abrohom	. 1	0 0	- [cent. Barneley—J. S. Parkinson, Esq., Linen manufacti
i	Brook, William	. 0	8 0	1	Belper-Mr. J. W. Hanceck.
·	Brearley, Robert, jun	Ö	8 0) [Bromsgrove—W. A. Greening, Esq. Bridgewater—William Browne, Esq.
D	Thompson, John Dean, William	0	4.0		Burton on Trent-J. N. Hanson, Esq.
	Vewsome Ramual	0	4 0		Bristol-George Thomas, Esq., Great George street.
i	Ox. David	0	4 0		Burnley-Geo. Holgate, Enq., jun.
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	meard, Mrs. Ann	ŏ			Bridport.—J. P. Stephens, Esq. Barnard Castle.—Mr. Wm. Raine, Horse Market.
Those nor	nes marked with an asterisk are rous	0	3.0	1	Brighton—Isaac Gray Bass, End.
eriptions.	while will all designing are rough	wed	l sub-	1	Bury-James Kay, Esq., woollen manufacturer. Boston-Mr. Robert Stevenson.
h Leans v.	ERRATA.				Bolton—John Deon, Esq., Silverwell House.
BI Outpool to Table 1999	TESUIDES Ellio Disertante de la			1	Clackbacton Clac Andrews 23

In LEASURE No. 126, for S. Ellis, Birmingham, H., read & Wood, Moore at., Birmingham.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE, 250,000% LEAGUE

FUND IN BRISTOL.

The Committee of the Anti-Corn-Law Association have pleasure in informing the friends of the cause that the following sums were promised at the fee findesting, held on the lith instant, at the public rooms, Broadineed; and that these and further subscriptions, towards the cabove-named task, will be received con behalfor George Thomas, Esquiros Reading Street;

ł.	George Thomas	£250	Λ	E. S., per Geo. Thomas £10	œ
i	ł Joseph Euton		ă.	John Wetherman, jun 10	ă
ļ	Edward Thomas.	250	้ก	A. N. L. 10	ŏ
ı	I William Toolill	200	ň	A. N. L 10 Pratten and Waterman 8	ă
	Edward Kidd	100	0	A. B., per Geo. Thomas 5	ŏ
	Nalah and Go.	100	0	James Davis	ŏ
	James Charleton	100	ō.	Edward Holsall 5	ŏ
	Edward Kidd Naish and Co. James Challeton Thomas Sanders William D. Wills	100	ŏ	George Chick 5	ŏ
	William D. Wills	100	ň	George B. Chick 5	ŏ
	H. O. Wills	100	Ö	Rev. John Burder 8	Ö
	H. O. Wills J. S. Fry and Bons	100	ŏ	T. and A. Warren 5	ŏ
	Alfred Thomas	100	ō	Ehenezer Harris 5	ŏ
	Alfred Thomas Charles Tothill and C	o. 80		Henry Shule Nash 5	ŭ
	Robert Bruce	20		George Bendon	ŏ
	Robert Bruce James Jonkins Harman Visger S. P. Jackson	50	0	T. P. Collins 5	ö
	Harman Visuar	60	11	l Diobard Doug	ŏ
	S. P. Jackson	70	0	J. W. Wetherman 5	ö
	Samuel Lang and Son	H. 50	o.	Arthur Naish 5	ŏ
	Thomas, Pripp,&Thom		ö	Thomas Thomas 5	ŏ
	Barnes, Staples, and C	Co. 50	i)		ö
	A Friend, per G. Thon		0	1 A. W	ŏ
	George Jones	50	ò	A Friend	ŏ
	Win. Terrell and Sons	50		The Workmen of Messrs,	v
	Robert Charleton	25	a l	. Whattan Malou and	
	W. H. Somerton	25	0	Thomas, per R. Phillips	
	Francis Tuckett Philip D. Tuckett Joseph Rako Duniel Wheeler John B. Estlin	25	0	Thomas, per R. Phillips (foreman) 3 1 Rev. George Armstrong 3	n
	Philip D. Tuckett	25	io l	Rev. George Armstrong 3	3
	Joseph Rako	95	o l	Henry Wills Ditchett 2 1	ŭ
	Daniel Wheeler	25	0	8. B	n
	John B. Estlin	2.	δl	George Plan	ä
	James Hall	21	o l	H. Scull 2	ñ
	A Friend per G. Thom	as 10	0	Several small Subscriptions	•
	A Friend		Ò		t
	William Butler	10	Ö	The state of the s	• •
i			- •	the Meeting.	
	Joseph Ramadla	4000 BD	nce o		_
	Thurse Possells		21	William Francisco	0
	Thomas Reynolds Henry Turkett	. 2-1 ·1)-1	1	William Knowles 5	0
	Thomas Rankin & Soi	. 2.1	::1	Thomas Balo 21	0
	100 Zanaman manama	. 2.J	., .		

LEICESTER SUBSCRIPTIONS. The following gentlemen have signified their intention of bscribing the amounts which appear attached to their reective names:

ı	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	٠.	I	L	м
	Richd.Harris and Sons500	0	W. K. Eames 9	()	(
l	John Biggs and Sons 1,500	0		ł)	11
ŀ	T. Stokes and Nephews 200	()			
ı	Brewin and Whetstone, 200	0			
	Joseph Fielding	Ø	William Bates		
	J. Ellis and Son	0			
ı	Whetstone and Gittens., 50	0	Mr. Clarkson 1		
ı	D. Orange and Co 50	0	Charles Bowmar 1		
l	N. Corali and Sons 50	0	J and J. Harvoy i		
l	Charles Billson ., 50	0			
ı	Thomas Biggs 50	0			
I	Alfred Burges 50	0		5	
l	Stone and Paget 50		J. Burton and G. Small.	•	•
l	N. Westermana 50			5	,
ľ	R. Carter and Son 50			5	
ı	Joseph Underwood 50	0		5	
l	R. Marston and Co 50			5	
l	Frishy and Chawner 50	0		,	
ŀ	C. Bedells and Co 50	Ü			
l	Thus, Sunderland 25	0	bonations.		
l			J.W. Noble, M. H		,
	Hull and Shegton 25	0	J. Whitmore		
١	John Baines	ö	S. Kirby 10		
ı	R. and G. Toller 25	ő	C. B. Robinson 10		
l	Jos. Cripps 25	ö			
ı	Higgingon and Coleman 20		T. Paget 10 J. and G. Thorn		ï
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THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

The Council have, we believe, determined upon lvertising upon a somewhat extensive scale the omised subscriptions to the League Fund, and to ntinue the same at intervals, in order to show the ogress of the fund towards completion. To do is effectually, they seek the assistance of the local mmittees and treasurers, who have been reested to send a list of all the subscribers up to e present period, and to continue the same from ne to time till all have appeared.

These lists, it may be well to state, are to connonly the gross amounts promised, and have no orence whatever to the instalments, which should forwarded separately.

A few additions to the list of treasurers have n made since last we published it, which we

dover-James Baker, Esq., Prospect House. iton-under Lyne—Thomas Mason, Esq. esbury—J. P. R. Payne, Esq. wick-Thos. Duncan, Erq. -J.Kinrosa, Esq. ıan—Alex. Dounic, Esq. ersham—E. West, Esq. uninster—Mr. Jos. Tite, Clenham Mill. h-Admiral Gordon, R.N., Nelson-place, Norfolk-cres nsley – J. S. Parkinson, Esq., Linen manufacturer. per – Mr. J. W. Hancock. msgrove-W. A. Greening, Esq. gewater-William Browne, Esq. ton on Trent—J. N. Hanson, Esq. stell—George Thomas, Esq., Great George street,

rice.

Index. Geo. Holgate, Esq., jun.

Iport. J. P. Stephens, Esq.

nard Castle...Mr. Wm. Raine, Horse Market.

Ighton...Isaac Gray Bass, Esq.

Ighton...Isaac Kay, Esq., woollen manufacturer.

Iton...Mr. Robert Stevenson. Boston—Mr. Robert Stevenson.
Bolton—John Deon, Esq., Silverwell House.
Cleckheston—Geo. Anderton, Esq.
Cambridge—Chas. Newby, Esq., on, Regent-street.
Crediton, Devon—Edward Dayy, Esq.
Crayford, Kent—Henry Could, Esq.
Carlisla—L. Forster, Esq., Caldewgate.
Coline—Mr. T. T. England.
Cliorley—Mr. James Wallwork.
Carmarthen—Henry Norton, Esq.
Cingelen le-Frith—J. Carrington, Esq.
Congleton—J. Broadhurst, Esq., Jun.
Congleton—J. Broadhurst, Esq., Jun.
Devolucity—Semuel Oram, Esq., Market-sireet.
Derby—Messrs. Boden and Morley.

Dundee—Edward Baxter, Eag.
Donagster—Mr. Rebort Miner.
Danbur—James Wilson, Eag., Belhaven.
Dartmouth—Noah Clift, Eag.
Darlaston—Charles Green, Esg. Dunfermline-Mr. R. Robertson, Draper. Edinburgh-Messrs. Arch. Thomson and Co., Execo. Mr. Samuel Maunder.
Execo. Mr. Samuel Maunder.
Eynsford, Kent. Mr. II. Rogers.
Falkirk. John Smith, Lag., Writer.
Forfar. Mr. Win. Sturrock,
Gateshead. Geo. Crawshay, Esq.
Garstang. Dr. Bell, Chapel street.
Glasson. John Karrbon, 1862. Glossop—John Kershaw, 16sq.
Glossop—John Kershaw, 16sq.
Gloucoster—Samuel Bowly, Leq.
Horsbam—Junes Agute, Esq., North Parade.
Halifax—Mr. Thomas Denton, Old Market. Hinckley—Mr. Thom. Payno.
Hinckley—Mr. Thos. Payno.
Holywell—Thos. Mather, Esq., Glyn Abbot.
Hastings—Mr. Thos. Ross, Jun.
Hazel Grove—Mr. T. Wharmby
Huddersfield—Foster Shaw, Esq. Hundersheid -r oster maw, Esq.
Hull-Joseph Jones, Esq.
Hawick, N.B.—Mr. George Easton,
Idle, near Bradford, Yorkshire—Mr. Wm. Russell.
Inverses—Donald Frazer, Esq., jun. Jedburgh-Geo. Hilson, Esq., Manufacturer. Kendal-Geo, Charnley, Esq. Kelso-Mr. Alexander Dodds, Grocer. Knaresborough-Mr. Thos. Addyman, High street. Keighley J. Craven, Esq., worsted spinner,
Kirkaldy - Mr. Robt. Bryson,
Knutsford - Hanry Long, Esq.
London - A. W. Paulton, Esq., at the offices of the League
67, Fleet street. Luton-James Waller, Esq., morchant. Leek-Thos. Birch, Esq. Lancaster—George Jackson, Esq. Leicester—J. D. Harris, Esq. Leighton Buzzard - Thomas Price, Esq., Newtown, Leominster - Mr. J. V. Chilcott, Leoninster—Mr. J. V. Chilcott,
Landport, &c.—Mr. Thos. Ross.
Lishfield—Dr. Rowley, M.D.
Liverpool—Jas. Mullineaux, Esq., John Taylor Crook, Esq.
Leeds.—Samuel Birchall, Esq., woolstapler.
Maesteg, near Bridgend, Glamorganshire.—Mr. Jos. Crayne.
Mauchester—Mr. James Jones, at the offices of the League,
b. Newalls-buildings, Market street.
Maidenhead—Mr. Thomas Woodcock, draper.
Maidstone—Richard Nelmos Esq. 109 Wook street. Maidstone -- Richard Nelmes, Esq., 109, Week street. Maldon-O. W. Digby, Esq. Middleton, near Manchester-Mr. Daniel Burton. Montrose-Mr. John Muckart. Mottram-Mr. Saml. Oldham. Mitchain and Tooting, Surrey - Mr. Richd, Aitken, Newcastle-upon-Tyne-George Crawshay, Esq., and Mr. Daniel Liddell, Carliol-street.

Nantwich—Mr. Philip Barker. Newcostle-under-Lync-Mr. Elias Shaw. New Mills—John Yates, Esq. Oldham—John Platt, Esq., Hartford Tronworks. Ossett, near Wakefield -Mr. Frank Fearnside.

Ossett, near Wakefield -Mr. Frank Fearnside.
Potteries, The.—Francis Wedgwood, Esq.
Poole—G. R. Penney, Esq.
Pontefract—Mr. W. Kidd. news agent.
Pateley Bridge—Mr. R. Hurker.
Plymouth—Jno. Symons, Esq., Kinterburg-st.
Reigate Mr. Thomas Dann.
Ranagate—Mr. Henry Scott, 57, Queen-street.
Salisbury—Jno. Lambert, Exq.
Sevenocks, Kent—John Clark, Esq.
St. Columb—Mr. W. Brown, 3, Fuir-street.
Scarborough—Isaac Stickney, Esq.

St. Columb—Air. W. Brown, 3, Fair-street.
Scarborough—Isaac Stickney, Esq., Merchant.
Sheffield—William Hargreaves, Esq., Merchant.
Skipton—J. B. Dewhurst, Esq.
Southport—Richard Johnson, Esq.
Stockport—Mr. J. Heginbotham, Millgate.
Sirhowy, Monmouthshite—Rev. Richard Jones.
South Shields—Mr. James Bell.

Stourbridge - Mr. E. Baylie, Strood - Mr. John S. Cobb. Swallham and West Norfolk -Arthur Morse, Esq., Swall-

Swansea—Mr. Joseph Rutter. Stroud—Mr. T. Parsons. Stirling, Robert Smith, Esq. Sunderland-Mr. Edward C. Robson, Frederic street,

Bishopwearmouth. Stockton-on-Tees - J. B. Clepham, Esq. Shepton Mallett-- W. Richardson, Esq., Woodbourne Cot-

tage. Staloybridge—Henry Bayley, Esq. Sudbury - Colonel Addison. St. Austell - The Rev. Jas. Copc. Todmorden—W. Haworth, Esq., North View. Tewkosbury—Mr. Benjamin Harris. Thetford—Mr. Henry Brown Warminster—Mr. H. Bastings Wednesbury-Bonjamin Round, Esq. Wareham-J. Pike, Esq., Merchant, Westbury-N. Overbury, Esq.

Wigan-Thomas Taylor, Esq., Spinner, and Mr. Thomas Wall, Bookseller. Wirksworth-Mr. B. Street, White Lion Inn. Wakefield-Charles Morton, Esq., Whitwood Colliery.

Whitchurch-Mr. Richard Thomas. Weymouth-Mr. Charles Pope. Westbromwich-J. Spittle, Esq. York—Thomas Hwales, Euq., Lawrence street, Yarmouth—Mr. John Fish, Denes.

Mr. W. E. GLADSTONE.—We understand that a requisition was forwarded to this gentleman on Saturday last, signed by

many of the leading members of the Conservative and Liberal parties in Wigan, requesting him to allow himself to be placed in nonlination as a candidate for the brough, in the place of the Hon. Mr. Lindeny, who has resigned. It is generally expected that Mr Gladstone will accept this invitation, and that he will be returned without opposition.—Liverpool-

The Duke of Newcastle has addressed another letter to "his countrymen." His grace's plea for doing so is the "encouragement" he received on the former occasion. The subject of the present letter is the downfall of our syrical transfer. ral aystem. It is a "very melancilly and gentlemanlike" production, and is well calculated to "raise the waters," in the eyes of the British yeomanry.

A GLANCE AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. By Rieben.

Last Monday was a cold, ill-tempered day. Towards four o'clock, as the Lords and Commons of England. not already within the walls of Parliament on railway committees, come down Parliament-street and passed Westminster Hall, some to the entrance to the House of Commons, and others to the doorway of "another place;" some riding in the storm, with spurred and borded grooms after them, as if they were going to "mother place," further off than the House of either Lords or Commons; some cabbed and covered up, with outside tigers holding on their laced buts, and laced hats refusing to be held on; some coming along the foot-payement on such conveyances as nature gave them, of whom the Prime Minister was one; but even he, stepping out to escape the coming storm, which had wathered wind, rain, ball, chimney-pots, tiles, plaster, glass, straw and dust, and was about to harl them on the heads of every man, woman, child, and member of Parliament within reach - a kind of atmospheric Ferrand; even the Prime Minister, seeing what was to come, walked faster than his usually solid, grave, dignified pace. Such, at four o'clock on Monday afternoon, was the weather in Westminster, as the collective wisdom of the nation was collecting through the different channels of the West-end, but directly through Parliament-street.

It is at all times a sight worth seeing, that of the arrival at the doors of Parliament of the picked men of the nation. How oddly they come! how oddly they look! Now the fall man, now the short one. Now a venerable grey beard; and now a beardless bread-andbutter looking boy boys I should say; for the number of Parliamentary voiths astonishes the stranger more than anything he will see or hear in the house. Now there is the dark-featured, strong-bodied borderer, Sir James Graham; and now the tall, sprightly Sydney Herbert, of Wiltshire. A Lord Something, of brief stature, with hunch back and white gloves, is followed by some other ford, whom every on-looker at once declares to be a fine specimen of an Englishman. But both are Englishmen, and what of it ? Both have votes in the house, and both are the nominees of one duke.

But Monday was a day upon which the members passed into the house almost without criticism -an uncommon thing, certainly; but it was a day upon which country stragglers in London, who usually form fourfifths of the line of critics on the opposite pavement, could not keep their places, as the wind and Westminster Abbey raved and roared over that particular part of the street, as if they would close and grapple, and the one throw the other down. They did come to blows. but the Abbey only shook jitself, and tossed the storm into the street below -in which, while I was there, on my way to the House of Commons, to try to obtain an entrance to the Speaker's gallery, it seemed to be playing a kind of overture to the performances which were afterwards to be witnessed within the house, as if in anticipation of who were to speak, and of their manner of speaking.

There was the bitter gust, whistling from all points of the compass, insimuating itself into every street, lane, alley, and spider's hole; now buffeting the lords on the back who might happen to be passengers, and then smiting poorer men in the face, biting the very noses of the cabmen as if it would be satisfied if it could bite a nose off. Now whizzing round the cold bronze of Canning's statue, now rushing upon the pavement opposite, as it it would take the official papers out of Sir Robert Peel's pocket, and then whistling among his feet, as it it would trip him up, because he held the papers fast, The secwling cloud which gave forth this gust, and which, to look at, was enough to make ordinary mortals feel that nothing but bitterness could come out of it,this weather-sour fraction of discontented nature played in the overture an epitomo of what Mr. Ben D'Israeli had been, and was again to be that night.

Again the wind would cease, and all nature would seem to be empty for a space—as empty as some gambler's pocket; then, in a moment, the storm was high again, raised as suddenly as a gambler "raises the wind." Once more it would be dead still, and again it would move and stop, and rush on and turn the corners and come back again, and wheezle inharmoniously, as if it were fore-shadowing even at greater length and with more precision than an overture foreshadows an operate performance, the inharmonious sentences of the forthcoming speeches of the new orator, Lord George Bentinck.

Again the gale would recommence loudly, and continue loud yet unstable in its noise, softening where it was expected to be strong, bursting with strongth where one expected to hear it soft, as if it were already recchoing George Bankes, who was not yet on his feet.

The rain came on and poured, as if the tempest had

taken the Thames from its bed to carry it away, and the Thames was not willing to go any farther. I listened no longer to the elemental strife. It had been announced that the Speaker was at prayers, which announcement opened the doors of the committee-rooms as a knife cuts the straw band of a potato sack, and straightway there came rolling out upon the street dozens and scores of railway witnesses, engineers, attornies, barristers, clerks, and reporters. I went to look for some member who might oblige me by obtaining a Speaker's order, and though not fortunate enough to see one for nearly an hour and a half, a gentleman who has more than once been kind enough to put himself to some trouble to obtain this favour for me did to again.

The time was not lost. Indeed, I know of no other spot in London, or out of it, where an hour or two may be more agreeably, usefully—I might say philosophically—employed than in the lobbies of the House of Commons, through which the members are passing in and out, and in again every minute; and in which persons are standing in rows waiting to see their own member, or some one known to them, to get an order, or to deliver a message, or a letter, or a petition, or some papers which are to crain, as a silkworm is crammed with mulberry leaves, some George Bankes or Lord George Bentinek, who is to spin a silk-yarn speech, and has not got the material all at hand from which to make the speech.

Standing in the lobby for an hour or two with a companion, such observations as the following were exchanged:

"That gentleman carrying the black leather box in his hand, who is he?" "Do you mean that genteel man, slender, rather young, with light coloured hair?" "Yes." That is a member of the Government, Mr. Cardwell. He will perhaps speak to-night if he is not too hoarse; but he has got a bad cold. He is a good speaker, and has the promise of a statesman in him."

"Some of those men standing near that door are weavers, or pretended weavers, from Spitalfields. The silk question is expected to come on to-night if there is not too much debate on the items of the tariff before silk. We shall very probably see Lord George Bentinck, or Peter Borthwick, or D'Israeli, or George Bankes, or perhaps old Spooner of Birmingham, or Souire Newdegate, of Warwickshire, come and speak to them; they have sent into the house for somebody. I heard of a lady some time ago; she is the wife of one of the members of a borough, not over sixty miles from here; she has a certain kind of regard for the poor, and visits them in their own houses. Her chief object is to teach them not to waste anything, and particularly not to waste the skins of the potatoes; to show, that though a lady, she can eat a potato with nothing but salt to it, and very little of that; she cats a potato at their dinner tuble, with just the least thing in life of salt to it; and to show that poor people may cat the potato skins, she cats the potato with the skin on it. Now, those kid-gloved lords - here is Lord George Bentinck; that is he in white gloves; rather a goodlooking man when his hat is on; he is well whiskered, which shows favourably as he stands now; but he has an indifferent head, so far as the intellectual or moral power of it are indicated, which you can see when his hat is off. Those lords in kid gloves, hunting after the Spitalfields weavers, remind me of the lady who cats the skins of the potato; she, submitting to a kind of gastronomic martyrdom for five minutes out of the twenty-four hours; they, opening their mouths to be crammed with the statistics of the silk-trade and the sorrows of poor men, for this night only.' The lady could no more digest a meal of potato skins, day after day, than could those men who have suddenly become the weavers' advocates take in, understand, and intollectually digest, the statistics of the silk trade. It is a mere sham. The only thing in their favour is, that they have not intellectual capacity enough to know when they are blundering, as we shall hear if we get into the house tonight, and the house should get as fur through the tariff as the article silk."

"What reason have you for saying those are not real weavers?"

them pretended weavers, because they pretend to represent the weavers, and they only represent a few, and these not the most intelligent or most industrious. Moreover, they are not working men at present. They are in the pay of the corn monopolists to get up opposition to the Free Trade scheme of Sir Robert Peel. At the meeting held lately at Bremhill, in Wiltshire, where so many labourors and their wives attended, and told how poorly they were paid, how poorly fed, poorly lodged, and poorly clothed, one of these pretended Spitalfields men attended from London, sent down by agents of the monopolists here, and endeavoured to draw the attention of

the poor people there from the question of large loaf or little loaf, to that of machinery. He insisted that it was the threshing mills that had caused the misery of Wilt. shire; and the blockhead said that, not knowing that threshing mills were very little in use. But the people shouted-" No, it ben't the machines; it be the Com Laws that make little trade, little wages, and little loaves of bread. Don't come to tell we that we have nothing to do with the Corn Laws; we has more to do with 'em than any body, for we live on bread, and get nothing but bread!" And they at last drew him from the platform, and told him that they were determined to act peacefully, and not to be led by the like of him into mischief, to break machines, and get themselves hung, or transported. So the man decamped But within a few days, he was at a meeting at Birming. ham, and in a few days after at a meeting at Macelin. field-always in the character of a working man, and instigating the working men to follow after some other object than that which they were met about, the Corn Law. The purpose of the monopolists in paying the travelling expenses and the wages of this man to get up a crusade against the threshing-mills rather than the Corn Laws was plain enough. They were so well bepared to make use of such a perversion of the popular excitement, that two of the least discreet of them did make use of it, though it had never occurred Mr. J. Benett, one of the members for Wiltshire, and a leading protectionist member, had been so well prepared for what had been expected to follow the employment of such agents of the Central Protection Society at Anti-Corn-Law meetings, that he could not resist the temptation of standing up in the House of Commons and accusing the League of sending persons to Bremhill to incite the Wiltshire labourers to break machinery! And the Duke of Richmond's brother, in imitation of John Benett, said the same thing, and something worse, in the House of Lords. Now there, before us, in the lobby of the House of Commons, are some of those menspeaking to, and feeding, and cramming, as they would pigeons with peas, the members who are getting off the parts of poor men's friends for a night or two, that they, the said members, who are getting off the parts, may, under cover of this new disguise, continue to pick the national pocket and the weaver's cupboard.

"Why have those weavers, or pretended weavers, or whatever they may be, not given information to the monopolist members before this time? This does not seem a convenient place for such business."

"No doubt they have before. But they have come now to get into the gallery, and have perhaps brought something which was forgotten before."

We read of an animal which can be schooled to betray its fellows into a snare, by lavishing a spurious affection on them. This animal is not without excuse; it finds that its new masters have fed it better than it was fed before, and it is willing to lead as many of its kind as its arts can compass into the enjoyment of the same advantages with itself. Moreover it is not a man; it is only a four-footed beast. But there are men, the Pariah dogs of mankind, who for a bellyful to themselves will betray their fellows into the hands of those who have starved, will starve, and can only live by starving them.

Pots, pans, tin kettles, where are you all, that such dogs can go along the streets without one of you at their tails?

After passing a policeman, who asked me if the order I had was for the Speaker's or for the stranger's gallery, and being directed by him up a particular stair when I had said the Speaker's gallery, I went up that stair and another, and along a narrow passage, through abarrier, which was lifted to admit me along the passage still further to another barrier, where the order was asked for and delivered up; then through some place wider than a mere passage, with a table in it, a chair and a stove; then through a door-way into the region of the bude lights, beneath which I could indistinctly see the Opposition benches well filled with Opposition members. A voice was speaking, which I knew to be the somewhat thin, but clear and melodious voice of Sir R. Peel. In a few minutes I got a front seat. After Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Plumptre, of Kent, rose to arge that the excise duty should be taken off hops of home growth, and that the import duty on hops of foreign growth should not be reduced. All that was said by him, and by those who followed, has been before the public since Tuesday morning; and if it had not been so there was nothing in it requiring notice from me. A division took place on this question of hops, at least I read next morning that a division took place. All I know of it is that the Speaker ordered strangers to withdraw, and that two officers of the house pushed the strangers out into the place before mentioned, where stood one table, one chair, and a stove. It seemed to be the desire of most of them to famale as near the door as possible, to be the first or the other and some of

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stove and burned their fingers. In this way five or six or seven minutes passed over, and the green door was opened again, and we got to our seats; some to the front, who were behind before, and some to the back seat who were in front at first.

The clerk at the table read a number of articles from the tariff list, which, with the exception of straw plait, did not cause a remark, and that very little, until the article of silk was named. Shoes, for instance, in their different varieties, were specified, but met no opposition: which was attributable, I believe, to the fact that the 240 opponents of the tariff are corn growers and not shormakers; and partly also to the fact that the shoemakers have not gone up to the monopolist corn growers as a few of the silk weavers have done, to deliver themselves into the hands of the bread taxers, for the bread taxors' own sakes.

On the silk subject, Mr. Bankes, who moved that silk be omitted from the tariff, evinced much sympathy with the meetings of the weavers. I know a place not far from Kingston Hall, where working men would meet, but dare not (in the parish of Sturminster Marshall, Mr. Bankes's own property), where they do not earn onehal' of the wages of the silk weavers, poorly paid as the weavers often are. It is an odd thing for the squire of Kingston Hall to come to Parliament as the weavers' triend. I have the authority of the medical gentleman who relates the circumstance, to publish the following:

"It is, as I may say, within the shadow of Kingston Hall that I was sent for some time ago to see the family of a working man, some of the children being ill. I was sent for as medical officer of the Poor Law Union. I am not that now; but I was then. I found the family without bedding, and almost without covering of any kind, even to lie on the floor with. I saw the husband at work in the fields, and he told me he had no money, and had none to get. His wife said the some thing. I inquired of his master, who farms a large breadth of land, near Sturminster Marshall, and he said the man was a very industrious and sober man, that he thought the family was only so poor because they did not manage well, but that he was not so badly off as he said; he had 8s. a week'; this was pay day, and he had a month's wages to get—32s. I then returned, and asked the man why he had imposed on me, saying, they had no money to get anything for the children that were ill, and had no money to receive, when, in fact, he had 32s. to get that very evening. The man said it was more than he knew of if he had 32s., or any number of shillings to receive.

"I thought this very strange; and as I had time to make the inquiry, I made it. Going back to the farmer's house, I said, it is within a little of the time of paying your men : if you please I will just stay and see that man convicted of a falsehood with my own eyes; he still says he has no money to receive, and has not received any.

What can the man mean?

"Why" said the farmer, he is a very good, industrious, quiet man, himself-a very good man, but they don't manage at home, some way. Our people hereabout are always running out of provisions before they get their money; and, you see, we are obliged to get credit for them. Nobody would trust them if we did not go security. So I dare say the man has some shop debt to pay with part of his wages. But come into the parlour Sir; come in and take a glass of wine; you cannot stand all that time at the door.

"I saw the drift the matter was taking, and resolved to get to the bottom of it. I did not go in. I stood to see the men paid; and when the farmer was at last obliged to tell me that he sent his men to the shopkeeper, his brother-in-law, who paid them, I said I would go there. I did not know then, but I soon afterwards discovered that a messenger had been sent to the shopkeeper, to put him on his guard as to me. I was pressingly invited into the parlour to a glass of wine, or any thing else, as at the farm-house. I declined. The result was, that the man had nothing to get; instead of 32s. to receive, he was about 15s. in debt, and had been so for a long time, after paying his month's wages.

"All the men were obliged to deal there. All were led into debt just enough to bind them to that shop. They could never get clear, consequently they had to take any articles of provision, of whatever inferior quality, at whatever extravagant prices they were offered at, and could not refuse. Moreover, they were bound to the employer by the same means, obliged to bear any insolence or oppression because they could not leave him : this debt of 16s, was as a chain upon their necks. The man said to me after leaving the shop, " Now I have got 32s., or the worth of 32s., for my month's work? And he said he would have left that master if he could have got rid of this shop debt; but he had not been able to pay it, and he forced he never would

His account of losing his furniture was, that had ones resolved on secking work with another that had been and been the him.

resorted to the usual custom of sending round to the farmers a message requesting they would not employ this man. They, as is usual, in such cases, did not give him work. He was soon glad to go back and beg the pardon of this one, and seek to be taken on again, for his large family of children, and himself and wife, were starving. But no he could get no work there; he must go into the workhouse. So to qualify the family for the workhouse, they must sell their furniture. That was sold and the money spent; and as they were about to go to the union, the farmer came and said- You need not go; I require a hand, and will give you work.' Had the man refused to take this work, he would have been proceeded against as a rogue and a vagabond, for refusing to maintain his wife and family. And this was his punishment for having dared to leave one mustor to look

Now this took place within the shadow, not liverally, but almost literally, of Kingston Hall, Mr. Bankes's residence. And in that part of Dorset, it is a custom notorious to everybody, that men are thus compelled to work for any master, for any wages, bearing any oppression that may be offered to them.

Next to the oddity of Mr. Bankes coming out of Dorset -- and, of all places, out of the north-eastern parts of Dorset, to be a poor man's advocate in London, is that of Lord George Bentinck, who followed him in the debate, lumenting the increase of female prostitution, which would follow, he said, the increased importtation of French silk dresses. But of this, no more for the present.

AGRICULTURE.

HUSBANDRY RECOVERING FROM "PROTECTION."

The practical and rational tone which all discussions on agriculture amongst farmers are now assuming, fully bears out all we have said as to the direct and immediate value of Free Trade to the business of husbandry. Lords and squires may whine and cant about their fears for farmers, or their sympathy for labourers, and may asseverate that the cultivation of land will go back, and the demand for rural labour fall off, in consequence of a Free Trade in corn, but nobody believes them. Their ery of" wolf" has been too long continued to excite any other feeling than that of pity and contempt towards such purblind politicians. Farming land become worse cultivated! Rural labour less in demand! Why, the very propositions excite a smile with those who know what is the present state of English farming, and the actual demand for agricultural labour. The land is not now half cultivated. The amount of labour employed is scarcely sufficient for a system of half cultivation. there is an abundance of labour seeking, longing, begging for employment; there is capital to any amount ready to be employed in farming wherever land can be obtained on lease, free from obsolete rules, and landlord-imposed burdens. Hear what the farmers say upon this subject. Our readers are probably aware of the character Norfolk has attained for improved farming-and justly, for the average cultivation of Norfolk is high, very high, as compared with other counties—yet in Norfolk land is not nearly as well cultivated as it ought to be with a view to profitable farming; and there is generally believed to be in that county a superabundance of the agricultural population; that superabundance, however, is only apparent, for the general adoption of very moderate improvements amongst the Norfolk farmers would demonstrate that there is no superfluity of labour. And the farmers are aware of these things. A striking illustration of this is to be found in a very interesting discussion at the North Walsham Farmers' Club, which we find reported in the Mark Lane Express. The subject of discussion was, "On increasing the demand for labour"—a topic ovidently suggested by the supposed superabundance of rural labour to which we have alluded.

The following extracts form, incidentally, complete answers to the Parliamentary harangues of the monopolists, the self-styled "farmors friends," the professing patrons of the agricultural labourers. The first speech we find reported is that of Mr. Gower, who said:

oannot speak definitely, and will merely affirm that the are rage is low, considering the nature of the soi', which is generally speaking, suitable to almost any rotation. I would carnestly impress the members with the belief that capital employed in labour is a most profitable investment indirectly, as well as immediately, for by increasing the means of the labourer, it enables him to buy more of the farmer's produce. I would suggest the following alterations in farm practice-green cropping and stall feeding. It is an underlable fact, that double the quantity of stock may be maintained by feeding them in open yards, or, what is still more preferable, in covered boxes or stalls, and the extra manure thus made would amply repay the extra labour,"

And he referred to his own practice, thus teaching by example:

"I would beg to refer you to our report of last year for a system of cropping. I have begun in carnest to carry out that system, and shall have a piece of tye after wheat ready for soiling at the end of next mouth, which I intend to follow by tares, thus seeming a succession through the summer, and I think I may say that by this plan I shall employ two men and two boys extra for 26 weeks."

He then mentioned some of the obstacles to good farming which our readers will recognise as amongst the evils we have designated as landlord-

"Another important improvement and source of increased employment for the labourer is the better management of our fences, which have hitherto been great obstacles to good farming, as it is very evident, they injure the crops in their vicinity, and are nurseries for weeds which are continually fouling the land. When we consider the fact, that in overy 100 acres of land there are 10 in fences, it will be seen how desirable it is to do away with bull of them. I may be told that the landlord may object to trese alterations: but I believe this will rarely occur, as I am bound to say my experience has taught me the gratifying fact, that the landlord will always appreciate the efforts of the tenant to provide full employment for the poor. I am aware this question opens a wide field for discussion on the restrictive chaises of leases, and I do hope the enlightened spirit of the age will tend to simplify these. I do not intend to enter into this subject; but surely is would be sufficient security for the handlord if the tenant be restricted from taking two white straw crops in succession, except when the land has laid more than one year in grass, and if he be required to consume the produce upon the farm."

We suspect Mr. Gower spoke rather in the spirit of prophecy than of the actual system, when he said landlords will not oppose the removal of obstacles to good farming. Landlords will not object to remove the obstacles their prejudices offer to good farming when they find they cannot otherwise keep up their rentals. Till then, we doubt.

Mr. Cubitt, who is himself a capital farmer, said: "I am aware that I am in the presence of many farmers whose example I might well follow, but I'll defy any practical man to go through the eastern part of this county -yes, even this far famed county of Norfolk—without sceing thousands of acres most slovenly cultivated for the want of additional labour. To improve the condition of the labourers we must endeavour to keep them fully employed at fair wages, without which all other attempts will be perfectly futile; and I cannot but think it would be to the interest of every farmer in this county to allow each of his Jabourers a few rods of land for the growth of vegetables. Such a system judiciously carried out would tend more than any other to improve the character and the morals of the agricultural abourers, and I think it would assist in destroying the influence of that greatest of all his enemies--the village beer shop. But there is another point worthy of attention. It ought to be the duty of overy employer to watch over the interests of his labourers, and he has various opportunities of adding to their comforts with but little pecuniary inconvenience to himself; and depend on it, if a farmer expects to have good and faithful servants, he must first teach them that he feels interested in their welfare, and he will then achieve an object of no small importance to his own indi-

Mr. Cubitt then adverted to the question of the demand for labour, saying :

"I conscientiously believe that if all the land in this county was properly and profitably cultivated there would at the present day be a very great insufficiency of agricultural labourers. I shall commence with the root culture, and I challenge any practical furmer to ride through the more fer tile districts of this county without seeing a great annual loss in the turnip crops, arising from ineffectual tillage and the want of manual labour, a loss amounting on some farms to many tons per sere, which would more than repay the proper cultivation of the whole crop (manuring excepted). A heavy crop of turnips cannot now be grown where land has been long cultivated with that plant (as in Norfolk) without great care and trouble."

This points to the fact we have more than once mentioned, that there is a too close and bigotted adherence to the four-course system in districts where the farming is far above the average.

Amongst many other useful and practical suggestions, Mr. Cubitt thus mentions the importance of stock-feeding, and the landlord-imposed obstacles to its extensive adoption:

"Every farmer has become aware of the advantages of hox or stall-feeding, but I regret that that excellent system is not likely to become general amongst tenant farmers without the assistance of their landlords, for the majority of farm buildings in this neighbourhood are now one of the chief obstacles to good farming, being not only dilapidated, but constructed in such a manner as to tend more to the destruction than the preservation of the manure. In feeding cattle, I would recommend every farmer to make himself acquainted rar, grower, who said:

Of its amount of agricultural libour in East Norfolk I with cut hay, straw, chaff, or other provender; it makes excellent food in addition to turnips, is generally relished by all descriptions of stock, and enables him to keep an in-

And he afterwards, with reference to the same subject, added:

" I would call your attention to the unprofitable manner in which our artificial gruses are consumed. Where artificiel grass is required for fattening purposes, it might be cut up and mixed with a portion of boiled linseed; and at the early part of the scason it is advisable to cut and mix dry provender with green food. This plan, more than all others (of mixing our grasses) would prove a great saving, and increase the demand for labour."

Mr. Mott, who stated himself not to be a farmer, gave a very interesting account of some contrasts in farming he had met with in Dorsetshire. After giving some detail of the Rev. Mr. Huxtable's management of a farm of 230 acres, on which he pays 12l. a week for labour, Mr. Mott observed :

"We ought all to be much indebted to Mr. Huxtable for making these experiments, for they plainly show that capital may be applied, and labour profitably employed, from an improved system of farming; and I think you will all allow that these experiments on grazing are of the greatest value just now, when, from the depreciation which may take place in the price of corn, the attention of the farmer must more than ever be directed to that which is the most important and the most profitable."

Can we have more direct testimony to the fact that protection has provented the farmer from directing his attention " to that which is the most important and the most profitable?" And in the following reference to the Blackmoor Vale, we learn the more ordinary aspect of the state of Dorsetshire farming. Mr. Mott said :

"In the Vale of Blackmore (a few miles from Mr. Huxtable's) a friend of mine has some farms quite saturated with water, which he proposed to one of his tenants to drain, either finding all the labour himself and charging five per cent, or fluding the tiles if he would find labour. Both propositions were declined, as the farmer was perfectly satisfied to go on as he had done for the last twenty years. Now, I would ask, Is such a man fit to be a farmer? Do you think such a man, even if our worst fears are realised, can possibly be benefited by such a system? Would be not reap thirty per cent, by laying out his five per cent.? In other words would not the demand for labour be profitably increased Protection certainly has not benefited, and never can benefit such a man; and I fear he is by no means a solitary instance. But mark the consequences: Here is a man, with the labourers around him calling (as Mr. Huxtable lms justly observed) for labour and for bread; and he refuses to employ them, even when it might be done profitably to him self. The labourer is willing and auxious to work, but there is no one to hire him. A large supply and no demand; and what is the consequence? The labourer is half starved, and the land is half-cultivated. His miserable cottage and poverty stricken appearance in many parts of the county too plainly show that the rate of wages is generally very far below the average of the best cultivated districts. It is evident that such a state of things must continue wherever such a mise-rable system prevails. The land must be uncultivated, the tonant impoverished, the labourer degraded, until the agriculturist becomes persuaded, by the success of repeated ex periments, that capital may be safely invested, and that alteration in his practice may be profitably made in order to increase the demand for labour.

How much more of this is really attributable to the landlord than the farmer, we shall not now stay to distinguish; but in truth, monopoly-hopeless, helpless reliance on monopoly,-is the great cause of the backwardness of English agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL AUTIVITY. PLAX CULTURE:

Already agriculture gives signs that the incubus of "protection" is being loosened. Even now, with a prospect of reversionary Free Trade, farmers are making up then, minds "to do comething." They have ceased toregard the dreary and mindless orations which the Nowdegates, the Lord George Bentineks, and that sort of men persist in inflicting on the House of Commons, Many and various will be the resources which farmers in different localities will find to be within their reach when they have fully learnt to depend upon their own exertions, rather than an Act of Parliament, for profit. Now, besides the improvements which may be made in the existing system, there is a new branch of husbandry of almost universal application, which is attracting very much of the attention of the more intelligent gentlemen and farmers; we allude to the culture of flax. The persevering advocate of flax growing, Mr. J. Warnes-who pleasantly enough ealls himself a protectionist, from advocating the culture of an unprotected article as the means of redomption for "protected" farmers, we presume is now in London making another vigorous movement to bring the advantages of a flax crop before the agricultural community. He foels that this is the time when farmers are prepared to adopt how plans, and to seek from their own skill that protection which monopoly neverafforded them. That gentleman has favoured us with two letters, which have been addressed to him on the subject since the publication of his letter, a few weeks sluce, in The LEAQUE; they

show that men of the right sort are considering the subject. The first letter is from Mr. George Hope, the well-known Froe Trader, of Fenton Barns. It is as

Fenton Barns, 11th March, 1816. Sin,-I notice in THE LEAGUE that you purpose publishing a volume on the cultivation of flax, &c. If I will be able to get the book through any Ediuburgh bookseller, you may put me down for a copy. Some 10 years ago I grew nine imperial acres of flax, but the difficulty of obtaining labour in this part of the country made it two years before I could turn it into each. In the end I had to put up a simple machine, driven by a horse, to sid the scutching, or I would not have got it done at all. The flax was sold at Perth and Dundee, where it fetoled the very top price, if I remember right, 60%, per ton. I also sold the seed at a high price; the quality being excellent, it was re-sold for sowing. I found the trouble of personal superintendence greater than I could afford, in the cleaning of the flax, but were it made a trade and aided by machinery, the cultivation of it would pay the farmer handsomely, as, after deducting all expenses, it left a clear profit of 10t. per induction of the could be considered as a cons deducting all expenses, it left a clear profit of 10t. per imperial acre, which was certainly good, considering I was a novice at the business. Your efforts to call the attention of the community to this source of industry, entitle you to their warmest thanks; accept of mine, and believe me, Sir, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

John Warnes, Esq. George Hope.

This is practical and decisive testimony to the advantages of a crop of flax; it also points to the only difficulty in the way of a very general adoption of flax growing, viz., the deficiency of men skilled in the preparation of the fibre for market. To remedy this is the point to which Mr. Warnes is now directing his efforts. Of his plans for that purpose we shall say a word or two presently.

The following is the second letter we have referred to; it is from a gentleman of Manchester, Mr. C. Rigg:

Office, Dickinson-street, Manchester, Feb. 18, 1846. Dear Sin,—Your obliging letter of the 16th i.st., and interesting accompaniments, reached my hands this morning; the receipt of which I hasten to acknowledge, and thank you, most cordially, for jour polite attention to my

Although I am neither a grower of flax nor a manufacturer of linen—yet, from the experience of a long life devoted to commercial pursuits—a sincere love for my country, and my kind-and being not an inattentive observer of what has been enacted around me -I have always regretted that flax cul ture has never been made a prominent national object. In Ireland, in the days of Isaac Corry, it was so made; but, unfortunately, the linen trade was strangled by protection. And why? Because the protectionists were bats and moles, similar to the bats and moles of our own day, and could not (or would not) see the difference between encouragement

regards the beneficial effects which would result to agriculture, and the linen manufacture, no object can be of more national importance than the growth of flux.

With the exception of a portion of wool, all raw materials for our textile fabrics, are drawn from abroad. Our climate is unfavourable to the existence and labours of the silkworm. Cotton is a plant of other regions; but for the culture and growth of flax many large tracts of land in the United Kingdom are pre-eminently favourable. In fact, flar will grow in ordinary seasons, and come to perfection, on most soils of the United Kingdom, if properly attended To show that it is not a very coy plant, it will grow to a considerable height from seed put between the folds of an old and much worn wetted blanket (in a similar way that

eress and mustard are reared on ship-board, for salad.)

I am fully persuaded, from all I have read, heard, and seen, relative to the flax plant, that by the aid of chemical science, and with proper management, its cultivation will repay all and every outlay and attention bestowed upon it; and beyond this, that it will yield to the cultivator larger profits than those derivable from the growth of corn; or, indeed, from any other vegetable substance whatsoever.

Whenever the time arrives-and may it soon arrive !-that flax growing and the linen manufacture meet with the cucouragement their importance demand, in a national point of view-it may then be truly said that agriculture and manufacture go hand in hand; and foreign countries will soon learn, and understand, the value and effect of this union.

With very few exceptions, neither agricultural nor manufacturing skill, capital, and industry, have ever been brought to bear with sufficient power on the culture of flax, and the manufacturing appliances have brought to gigantic growth both the silk and extent fabricants.

growth both the silk and cotton fabrics—the raw materials of which are brought to us from foreign climes. And how does it happen that we are such large importers of linen cloth, as well as of flax, which could be grown at home; and which, in the preparation for the loom, would give em-

population?

If the landowners and the occupiers of land will but respond to the call of the manufacturers of homo-grown flax, properly prepared, and suitable for the loom and the twine croft, our merchants (among whom the writer presumes to class himself) will soon turn back the tide of linen imports, but he overwhelming flow of British exportations. by the overwhelming flow of British exportations.

Believe me, dear Sir, your most faithful and obdt. servant, To John Warnes, jun., Esq., Trimingham, Norfolk.

That flax is a highly profitable cropseems to be generally admitted; but a notion has got into the heads of the landowners that it is a scourging crop, and therefore its growth is almost universally prohibited by the agreements under which the tenant farmers of England hold their farms. This notion is, however, altogether erromeous. When the land is in good heart, it has been found that not only does a crop of flax not exhaust the soil, but that in fact it is a very good preparation for wheat. Mr. Warnes, and other flax-growers of Norfolk, have found that their wheat and barley crops, after flax, are at least as heavy as when they fall in the usual

routine of the four-course system; that when flax culture is carried on in connection with lineaed-feeding (as it ought always to be), there is no crop which affords such an abundant source of reproduction. The manure made from boiled linseed is as superior to oilcake ma. nure as ollcake manure is to the ordinary straw-yard manure. Instead, therefore, of flax exhausting the soil, there is no more ready way of increasing the fertility of the soil than by growing linseed and consuming it upon the farm. And here again we meet with an instance of the benefit to the farmer of the access to cheap grain when the corn trade is free. Not only is the feeding properties of boiled linseed and chaff greatly increased by the addition of a certain portion of barley, rye, or maize meal, but the cattle, being induced by the admix. ture to eat more than they would of linseed alone, become fat more quickly. This is the grand point for the farmer. Quick feeding is profitable feeding; slow feeding, the reverse. Flax, then, will furnish the means, not merely of keeping up, but of increasing the fertility of the land. But then the full profit of the crop depends upon the preparation and sale of the fibre. The mode of preparing the stalk is by steeping it in water so long as to separate the woody portion from the fibre without injuring the tenacity of the latter. Some skill and observation, the results of experience, are required for conducting that operation. The stalks having been then dried and bleached, are scutched—that is, beaten either by hand or machinery to separate the woody parts from the fibre. This part of the work also requires some skill; at all events, some instruction from those accustomed to

These operations may be either carried on by each grower upon his own premises, or the grower may sell the stalks of his flax, after he has beaten out the seed, to flax dressers, whose business it is to prepare the fibre for market. And the latter, we think, is the plan which will best suit the business of the farmer, and most tend to promote the growth of flax. The best practical means of providing for both are those suggested by Mr. Warnes. He says men are wanted who understand the growth and subsequent preparation of the fibre for market; and the way to supply that want is to establish a society for training workmen in the art. This must be effected by an extensive co-operation amongst those who would promote the improvement of agriculture and encourage new means of profitably employing our rural population. For the latter object, flux dressing has peculiar advantages; it is performed under cover, in the winter season, when other work is scarce; and women and boys may earn good wages at the employment. A society being formed, a committee might hire a farm in a central situation, where the growth and preparation of flax would be the primary objects. To this establishment, conducted of course by persons skilled in the art, men. would be admitted for the purpose of learning the business, so that in a very few years skilled flux dressers would be found in every district. In order to render such a model flax farm complete, the best modes of using the seed for feeding should be in constant operation; and thus men, alive to the full value of the flax culture, would be regularly furnished to all farmers or landowners who might wish to adopt it. This is one of the directions agriculture will take from the impulse Free Trade must afford, and is a signal instance of the utter folly of supposing that agricultural activity and rural skill can be promoted by a system which prevents farmers from relying on their own industry for success.

WHY IS THE DELUSION KEPT UP FOR THREE YEARS?

It is plain that farmers have got over their scar of Free Trade-that like men of business they are preparing to accept the benefits, and guard against the difficulties of a new order of things. This is obvious from the Mark Lane Express review of the present state of the corn trade:

"Though the opposition to Sir Robert Peel's new Corn Law has not been carried on so vigorously this week (several of the amendments, of which notice had been previously given, having been withdrawn), still it is very probable that the final settlement of the measure may be delayed for some the final settlement of the measure may be delayed for some weeks longer, and the trade be kept in a state of suspense. The wants of the millers have now become so pressing that they can no longer do without old wheat; and it is prely clear that, when the liberation of bouded does take place, a very extensive demand may be reckened on. We are, consequently, disposed to think that, happen, what may the present value of bread stuffs will be maintained; and we fell confident that, within a comparatively short period after the release of the lock wheat, any slight depression which may thereby be occasioned will be recovered. Judging free its

obliged them to accode to the terms of sellers. A rise under such circumstances is much more likely to be maintained than one caused by speculation; the upward movement having, in the present instance, been wholly produced by the applies felling short of the quantity required for actual and immediate consumption."

This, like all business views of the corn trade, shows how closely the farmer's interest is identified with a steady non-speculative demand, and how much he is injured by the fluctuations and uncertainties caused

We believe there are not two opinions amongst farmers as to the advantage of immediate over deferred Free Trade in corn. Hear what the Norwich Mercury. a journal deriving its agricultural intelligence from the best sources, says upon the subject :

"The corn trade, as might be auticipated from the political movements, has been in a most torpid state, and will probably remain so, until the great question of Free Trade be settled. There seems but one opinion, now that the result of the debate is known, as to the policy of having it immediate, instead of the deferred plan of the Government. We question, however, if those most interested in it—the tenants—will stir in the matter; and indeed there is but little encouragement to do so, after the great majority in the House of Commons against Mr. Villiers's proposition for total and immediate repeal, the debate on which proves, we think, that the souse of the house is exactly contrary to its Note. It is admitted now to be a sop to the upper house, a boon to the landlords, which we fear will be given AT THE TENANTS' EXPENSE.

ANTI-FEUDAL MOVEMENT.

It seems that the proprietors of entailed estates in Scotland have discovered that in retaining the fetters of feudalism on land, they are in fact restricting their own enjoyment of their own property. Landowners will become more and more aware of that truth, as soon as the delusions, kept up, perhaps, rather than created by the Corn Laws, have been completely dissipated. The following paragraph marks an important and hopeful movement amongst the Scotch landowners:

"THE LAW OF ENTAIL.—A meeting of the proprietors of entailed estates in Scotland was held in the Hopetoun Rooms on Thursday, for 'the purpose of considering the great national evils connected with the law of entail, and the propriety of an immediate application to the legislature thereupon. The meeting being a preliminary one, the representatives of the press were not allowed access to it. We have, however, been furnished with the following outline of the proceedings :- Sir David Baird, Bart., in the absence of the Marquis of Breadalbane (from whom a communication was made to the meeting) was called to the chair, and gave a lucid statement of the injurious effects of the law of entail in preventing free commerce in land, and particularly as preventing those improvements now rendered necessary to meet the expected competition of foreign corn, and the adjustment of rights between landlord and tenant. As was to be expected, when a subject of such momentous interest was brought before them for the first time, there were differ ent opinions stated by the proprietors present, as to the proper mode of following up the movement. We understand, however, that a unanimous resolution was entered into, remitting to a committee, of which the most noble Marquis of Breadalbane was to be chairman, and Sir David Baird, Bart., the convener, to consider as to the best mode of seeking t legislative remedy for the evils of the entail law, and to call other and more extended meetings as they might deem proper. The meeting, which was pretty numerously attended, lasted about two hours; and only one feeling was expressed as to the great national evil inflicted by the law in question; and subscriptions were entered into for carrying forward the magnetical and defeating the magnetical evil. forward the movement, and defraying the necessary expenses."—Edinburgh Witness.

The present state of the great mass of English landowners proves that the cumbrous machinery of settlements and entails has only preserved to aristocratic families the shell, and not the substance, of a large domain.

So general and heavy are the incumbrances upon the estates of the landed proprietors, that with the appearance and burthens of ownership they are little more than receivers and distributors of (nominally) their rents-In many cases, the political influence which the control of the property gives is by far the most beneficial part of the nominal owners' share of an estate. Hence the desperate struggles to retain monopoly and high rents by means of artificial scarcity. Indeed, the intensity of any landowners' protectionist ardour is a pretty good indication of the extent of his incumbrances. All the high-flying "farmers' friends," with very fow exceptions, are chin-deep in mortgages; to expect improvement of land in the hands of such men is to expect to gather grapes from thorns. There is nothing to be done with them but to deal with them as with other insolvents, that is, to sell the estates, and distribute the produce amongst the creditors. In most cases, with good management, a surplus would remain which might be really their own, and wherewith they would be far more happy and useful members of society.

AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE. . The following calculations, which have been forwarded to us by a correspondent, are said to have superiod some attention in a midland county. We see her in the see beginning, like other, men of bushage, to county nise and investigate the circumstances which affect their own business:

FREE TRADE o. PROTECTION.

No. 1.—100 acres of poor land, with protection, farmed under the old system. Wheat, 7a.; Barley, 3a. dd.; Onts, 2a. fd.; por bushel. The rent los. per core.

25 acres, fallow				~		
95 " wheat, 4 loads per acro, 100 loads.	at 6	δø.	• • •	175	0	(
20 , saeds, beans, or tares, less expens	98_		• •	20	0	1
10 , outs, 4 grs. por acro; or, barley	, 3	Q m	H,,	100	0	(
100			٠.'	300		
Year's rent, 100 neros, at 15s., "5l., rates and taxes, 25l.	0	0 (0	000		
men. 50/.	15.	0 ()			
Capital employed, 500%; interest 15 pr ct.	5	0 (0			
No. 2.—The same, with Free Trade, supposit	() () () air	educ	od	tc

6s.; barley, 2s. 6d.; and outs, 2s. por bushel. Rent 10s.

per acre.	of mir.from r	VIDER (-1)	1401	t zon.
05 00000/6031	•	•	£	s. d.
25 , wheat, 100 loads, at 25s.	••	••	125 25	0 0 0 0
25 , oats, 4 qrs. ; or, barley, 3 q	19. ; 3/. 4 s.	pracre	80	0 0
100 Year's rent, 100 acres, at 10s., 50%; 1	rates		230	0 0
and taxes, 18/ Keep, three horses, 60/.; wages, men. 40/.	£ 68 two	0 0		
Interest on 450/, capital employed, a	100	0_0_		
137 per cent	62	0 0		
Capital employed, with protection, Preo Trade	230 £500 450	•	oft,	£75 62
Capital less, with Prec Trade 15 per cent on 450%, £07 10 0 Profit 62 0 0	50	profi	t loss	13

No. 3.—100 acres of poor land, under protection, farmed on an improved system, with wheat 7s.; barley, 3s. 9d.; oats, 3s. On lease for 21 years, thorough drained. Rent, 11. ner acre.

Loss by Free Trade .. 5 10 0

25 acres, fallow, seeds, tares 25 ,, barley, 5 qrs.; 125 qrs. at 30s 25 ,, beans, seeds, or tares, 4t, per acre 25 ,, wheat, 6 loads; 150 at 35s.		•••	187 100 20 2	0	
100	5 0	0	550	0	-
men, 100%	0 0				
Interest on capital employed, 1000/., at 174 per cent 17	5 0	0			_

* This was 100/., and interest 12} per cent., 1254. The same, under Free Trade, supposing the price of wheat reduced to 5s.; barley, 3s.; oats, 2s. per bushel;

unt corn rents 10s, per acre.				
05 0000 6:11		£	в.	d.
25 acres, fallow, seeds, tares, &c.	• •			
25 ,, barley, 5 grs.; 125 grs. at 24s		150	0	0
25 , seeds, beans, or tares, 31. per acre		75	0	-0
25 ,, wheat, 6 loads; 150 at 25s	• •	187	10	0
100		412	10	0
Year's rent, at 15s./per acre, 751.; rates				•
and taxes, 151 £ 00 0	0			
Keep, four horses, 60%; wages, four				
nion, 100/ 100 0	-O ··			
Interest on capital employed, 800%, at				
201 per cent	0			
412 10	0			
Capital, with Free Trade £800 interest	•	l por	CO	nt.
" protection 1000 "	17	1	"	

In favour of Free Trade ... 2) per cent.

In favour of Free Trade

The calculation is No. 3 is made, supposing the farmer to lose 500, in feeding stock for the sake of the manure; and I feel quite satisfied that if the system was carried out fairly, it would prove still more in favour of Free Trade principles.

A rise in the value of dorn increases the cost of producing; it therefore does not give the farmer the increased profit that might be supposed at first sight, especially when corn is consumed to a great extent in feeding stock; then the high price produces a loss upon the stock fed, much greater than the grain upon the corn sold. upon the corn sold,

A REAL INUNDATION OF FOOD (NOT FROM TAMBOFF) FREE OF DUTY .- ALARMING TO THE PROTECTIONISTS. -The East of Fife Agricultural Society's Show, which lately gratified the good people of that district by a very maga dinner, at which the principal speakers were Sir Raiph Austruther, Lord W. Douglas, Mr. Gillespie Smyth, &c. At, or after, this dinner, a statement was made of a very striking character, on which the editor of the Fife Herald has the following remarks:—"One of the most remarkable incidents of the evening was a statement of an extraordinary nature by Lord William Douglas, which, when made public, will most assuredly startle the country from one end to another, as it certainly did those who listened to it at the meeting. His lordship gravely stated that he had, on the previous day, received from his son, who is at present at Constantinople, a letter with the marvellous intelligence that, in a district where famine had for some time prevailed, the people had been providentially saved by a fall of manna which covered the ground to the depth of about two inches. (Pro di-gi-ous! exclaims our P. D. This, if it came near ourselves, would be far worse for the 'agricultural interest' than the repeal of the Corn Laws!) It was further stated that the son had partaken of this singular species of food. Lord William, however, does not anticipate that any phenomenon of this extraordinary description will visit this country, and ergo the lauded proprietors and the farmers, must trust to their QWD resources.

The general belief in the political clubs is, that the measures of the Government, for the immediate reduction and eventual abolition of the duty on foreign corn, will be carried in the House of Lords by a majority of from 25 to 80.—Observer of Saturday.

The net income of the property and income tax, as appears by a Parliamentary paper, published on Eriday, was in the year ending the beh April, 1844, in Great Britain, 0,872,7564, 128,656, and in the year ending the on April last, 0,808,004,188,184, and in the year ending the on April last, 0,808,004,188,184, and in the year ending the one last, 0,808,004,188,184, and the year ending the one of the property of t

REVIEW.

The Life and Correspondence of the Marquess of Wellesley. By R. R. R. Pearce, Esq. London: Bontley.

In these instructive and amusing volumes, Mr. Pearco has given a vory able summary of the life of statesman, whose reputation and rewards have been very inadequate for the services he rendered his country. This is in some degree owing to the fact that the most brilliant part of his career, his Government of India, was cotemporaneous with a war which taxed all the energies and engressed all the attention of the British nation, and that his less conspicuous, but not less useful services, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, wore blended with discussions which had little attraction in themselves, and less importance in their consequences. Referring our readers to the work itself for the details of Lord Wellesley's laborious career, we shall merely regard him as an onlightened friend of education and Free Trade, at a time when neither of these great principles met favour from men in power.

As a patron of education, Lord Wellesley's most conspicuous exertions were his efforts to establish the college of Fort William in Calcutta. His proface to the regulations intended for that institution are as creditable to him as they are disgraceful to the monopolist who then ruled in Leadenhall Street:

"Whereas it has pleased the Divine Providence to favour the counsels and arms of Great Britain in India with a continued course of prosperity and glory; and, whereas, by the victorious issue of several successive wars, and by the happy result of a just, wise, and moderate system of policy, extensive territories in Hindostan, and in the Decean, have been subjected to the dominion of Circut Britain, and under the Government of the Honourable the English East India Company, in process of time a great and powerful empire Company, in process of time a great and powerful empire has been founded, comprehending many populous and opulent provinces, differing in language, manners, and habits, and respectively accustomed to be governed according to peculiar usages, doctrines, and laws; and whereas, the sacred duty, true interest, honour, and policy of the British nation require that effectual provision should be made at all times for the great great areas. times for the good government of the British curpire in India, and for the prosperity and happiness of the people in-habiting the same; and many wise and salutary regulations have accordingly been enacted from time to time by the Go-vernor General in Conneil with the benevolent intent and purpose of administering to the said people their own laws, usages, and customs in the mild and benignant spirit of the British constitution; and whereas, it is indispensably necessary, with a view to secure the due execution and administration of the said wise, salutary, and benevolent regulations in all time to come, as well as of such regulations and laws as may hereafter be enacted by the Honourable the English East India Company that the persons exercising high and important functions in the government of India should be properly qualified to discharge the arduous duties of their respective offices and stations; should be sufficiently instructed in the general principles of literature and science; and should possess a competent knowledge as well of the laws, government, and constitution of Great Britain as of the several native languages of Hindostan and the Deccan, and of the laws, usages, and customs of the provinces which the said civil servants respectively may be appointed to govern; and whereas, the early interruption in Europe of the education and studies of the persons destined for the civil service of the Honourable East India Company, precludes them from acquiring, previously to their arrival in India, a sufficient foundation in the general principles of literature and science, or a competent knowledge of the laws, government, and constitution of Great Britain; and many qualifications of constitution of Great Britain; and many qualifications of constitution of Great Britain; and many qualifications of the constitution of Great Britain; and many qualifications of the care of the constitution of the constitution of Great Britain; and many qualifications of the care of the constitution of Great Britain; and many qualifications of the care of the car extions essential to the proper discharge of the ardnous and important duties of the civil service in India cannot be otherwise fully attained than by a regular course of education and study in India, conducted under the superintendence, direction, and control of the supreme authority of the Government of these possessions; and whereas, no public institution now exists in India under which the junior servants appointed at an earlier period of life to the civil service of the Honourable the English East India Company, can attain the necessary means of qualifying themselves for the high and arduous trusts to which they are respectively destined; and no system of discipline or education has been established in India for the purpose of directing and regulating the studies of the said junior servants, or of guiding their conduct upon their first arrival in India, or of forming, improving, or preserving their morals, or of encouraging them to maintain the honour of the British name in India by a regular and orderly course of industry, prudence; integrity, and religion; the most noble Richard Marquess Wellesley, Knight of the illustrious Order of St. Patrick, &c. &c., Governor Coneral in Council, deeming the extrablishment of such an institution and system of discipline, education, and study, to be requisite for the good government and stability of the British empire in India, and for the maintenance of the interests and honour of the Honourable English East India Company, his lordship in conneil hath therefore enacted as follows.

The rules which followed were truly excellent, and show a thorough acquaintance with the deficiencies of the Company's government and servants, and with the exigencies of British India. But this accuracy and extent of knowledge was a great cause of the failure of the plan:

Both the college and its founder were, however, doomed to meet with the most severe disappointment. The Court of Directors, while professing to applaud the design and unequivocally sanction the principles on which Lord Wellesley had soled, for some reason never sufficiently explained, ordered the college to be abolished. The greatness of the expense was the excuse put forward; but the truth appears to be, that the men of mere facts, figures, and money-bage, were not responsed out of their predilection for the old routine of mere mercantile utility; they had not sufficiently entered into Lord Wellesley's enlightened and comprehensive views for tribling the obtainer of the natives of India.

and we fear we must add, that they were actuated by some until personal piques, because the governor-general had attempted to execute, on whi ale of such magnitude, so grand a design, without previous authority from Leadenhall

Lord Wellesley wrote in the strongest terms on the subject to Lord Dartmouth:

"I think it proper to apprise your lordship (and I leave it to your discretion to use the information as you think fit) that if the Court should altimately abolish this institution, it is my fixed and unalterable resolution to propose to Parliament, immediately after my return to England, a law for the restitution of an establishment which I know to be abso-Intely requisite for the good government of these possessions, Bo convinced was I of the necessity of this institution, that I am determined to devote the remainder of my political life to the object of establishing it, as the greatest benefit which can be impurred to the public service in India, and as the best security which can be provided for the welfare of our native subjects. The Last India Company can afford the expense of the institution. If, however, this proposition be contested, on just grounds, the public ought to indemnify the Company for the amount of the charge. Without such a system of discipline and study in the early education of the civil service, it will be utterly impossible to maintain our extensive empire in India."

His expressions to Lord Castlerengh are even stronger:

"I repeat to your lordship the assurance of my unqualified contempt and abhorrence of the proceedings and propen-sities of the court of directors, and of my determination to withhold any public reprehension of the wickedness of that graceless faction until I shall be embled to chim the justice of my king and country in my place in the House of Lords, before a tribunal with whom is righteous judgment.

Mr. Wilberforce not unjustly attributed the opposition which Lord Wellesley met to the hostility of the Court of Directors to the diffusion of Christianity in England. Those who have read the life of Henry Mortyn will be at no loss to understand the opposition which the monopolists of that day of fered to the presence of pious missionaries in India. Mr. Wilberforce writes:

"My DEAR LORD W., Notwithstanding your obliging permission to me to break in upon you to day, intimated to me last night by Mr. Welledey, yet knowing that just now your time and mind must be so fully occupied, it must name rully arise rather from your friendly disposition to comply with my request than by your own desire, I have resolved not to intrude on your lordship in person; but merely to send you a few lines, which cannot, like a conversation, draw on into a length that was unintended. That I may trespossion you as shortly as possible, I will confine myself to what requires immediate mention, and is, Indeed, Indispennable

"I know not whether your lerdship line heard of the un-reasonable clamour that has been raised by the Anglo In dians in the House of Commons, against all, even the most prodeut, attempts to convert the natives of India; and more especially against missionaries. Now let me hope -a hope which I share with, I am glad to say, a considerable number of men in the House of Commons, and with many more out of it that your lordship will to morrow use your just authority in putting to flight these vain fears. The rather because the abarmists are enemies of the system which your lordship certainly established, and which I trust you will confirm and revive—that, I mean, of diffusing useful knowledge of all sorts among the natives of India; and I confess for my own part that I have always held and still retain the opinion that education, the translation and diffusion of the Scriptures and advancement in general knowledge, would be fur the most powerful agents in the great work of Christianising the ma tives of India. Your weight, thrown into the right scale will make it preponderate.

I will only add, that your lordship can scarcely conceive tif I may judge of the House of Lords from the general condition of the members of the House of Commons) how ignorant their lordships in general are likely to be respecting India, and therefore how little they are qualified to ask ques tions in commutee. When your lordship can attend, I hope you will now and then look in, and there also prevent the examination from being repidered the excuse for condemning the population of India to ignorance and darkness so long as they continue under British rule. I remember my assurance. I break off, assuring your lordship that I am, my dear Lord W., your lordship's very sincerely, "W. Wilberronce."

Mr. Pearce dwells more brieflythan we could wish on the great measures of Free Trade established by Lord Wellesley in British India, which exposed him to much culumny and persecution from the monopolist Court of Directors, and were not appreciated by the incapable successors of Mr. Pitt. At a later period Lord Wellesley came forward as a firm oppo nent of the Corn Laws, and his conduct at this crisis is justly appreciated by his biographer:

"On the termination of hostilities with America and, the Continental war, the blockades which had disarranged the confinerce of the whole world, and committed havee on all regular trade, were removed. Commercial intercourse between nation and nation, it was hoped, would return to its former channels, and peace permit industry and enterprise to exert themselves without hindrance or limitation. A vast artificial system had grown up under the restrictions of rigid blockades and acts of non intercourse. From the year 1801 to the year 1811 the average price of wheat in England was 190s, per quarter. The handed interests were resolved, if possible, to keep up this scale of prices; and anticipating that the markets would soon be glutted with foreign corn, which could be sold at a much cheaper rate, they made preparations in the Legislature to regulate the corn trade by law. On the 10th of June, 1814, a committee of the House of Lords was appointed to investigate the circumstances of the Corn Trade: In seventeen days from that date they made their report, recommending restrictions on importation. The committee were, on the 27th of June, instructed to examine witnesses on the question, and make a second report. The result of the labours of the committee was, that they recommended that so long as the average price of wheat was under 80s. per quarter, the ports should be completely closed

against supplies from other countries—that till the average price of wheat attained the pivot of 80s, foreign corn should be absolutely prohibited. This was considered by the agriculturists as a very reasonable proposition, -- His. per quarter for wheat being accounted a very "low figure." Some of the witnesses were of opinion that the porus should be abut against foreign grain till the price of wheat was life, per quarter; and out of sixteen agricultural witnesses examined before the committee, but four suggested a lower standard than 80n. The second report on the corn trade was presonted on the 20th of July, 1811; but the country had not yet felt the evils of peace, the session closed without any other legislative proceeding relative to corn than the repealing the 5 tth of George III. c. 69, by which a bounty was given on its exportation.

"The recommendation of the Lords' committee produced violent tuinults in the metropolis, in the large towns, and in the manufacturing districts. Public meetings were held to petition against its adoption, and the whole country was in

a state of dangerous commotion.

"The average price of wheat in some months of the year 1814 was as low as 66s, and even 60s. The a riculturists became alumed. Ruin, they declared, was impending over British agriculture; and early in the session of 1815 a bill was brought into Parliament, giving effect to the recom-mendations of the committee of the previous session, and fixing 80s, per quarter as the point at which importation could be permitted; -positively prohibiting all foreign corn as long as prices were below that mark.

"The manufacturing population petitioned and remon-

strated; but as acither Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, nor the other great seats of commercial enterprise, were then represented in Parliament, their expostulations were unbeeded. Riots took place in many places, and a strong feeling of discontent and disaffection to the Government was manifested in different parts of Great Britain.

"The bill was warmly contested in Parliament, but the influence which the nomination boroughs secured to its promoters in the House of Commons enabled them to command decided majorities in its favour. At an early stage of the Corn Bill in the House of Commons a division took place on the proposition that 72s, should be substituted instend of 80s. The motion was negatived by an overwhelming majority; there being 35 votes for it; against it 164. On the 3d of March, the vicinity of the Houses of Parliament was thronged by a vast multitude in a high state of excitement. Several members were stopped and interrogated: some were roughly handled; and the houses of many of the advocates of the new regulations were visited by the populace. The military were called out; and it required great exertions to keep the streets clear. On this evening (the 3d of March) the gallery of the House of Commons was closed against strangers. Another attempt was made to mitigate the stringency of the law by making 74s, the standard instead of 80s. There were, however, but 77 votes in favour of the proposal, and 208 against it. On the 8th of May, on the bringing up of the bill, the advocates of Free Trade made another attempt to throw out the bill. -An amendment was moved that the bill should be read that day six months, and it was supported by many able speeches; but the amendment was lost, there being, 50 for it, 108 against it. A final effort was made to substitute a lower pivot price than 80s., leaving it to the house to determine what the precise sum should be: 78 members supported this motion, and 184 opposed it. On the 10th of March, the last attempt was made to arrest the progress of the bill; 77 voted for throwing out the hill, -245 for it. The Corn Bill passed the House of Commons by a majority of 168.

"In the House of Lords the measure passed with less difficulty. It was sanctioned by the Upper House on the 20th of March by a majority of 107;—there being 21 non-contents; among whom was the Marquess Wellesley. His lord-hip had, in his conflict with the Court of Directors while in India, exhibited a steadhist adherence to freedom of trade; and he opposed the Corn Bill of 1815, on the ground that it was wrong, on principle, to place restrictions on the supply of food, and that the general imppiness was best promoted by leaving commerce free. The arguments against prohibitions or restrictions on the importation of corn are most ably summed up in the well-known protest drawn up by Lord Grenville and the Marquess Wellosley."

Lord Wellesley lived to see the monopoly of the India Trade destroyed, and we feel our respect for his memory increased by having our attention directed to that subject, at a time when the still greater grievance of monopoly of food, which he so steadfastly resisted, totters to its fall.

CORN DUTIES -It will be recollected that, soon after Parliament met, Sir Robert Poel held out that so soon as the resolutions which he had to propose for the reduction of duties were passed in committee of the House, the new duties would come into operation; but subsequently, be stated that be was in error in making the promise, as the old duties must remain in force until the Bill for reducing them obtained the royal annotion. Technically, Sir Robert was quite right; but he has since departed from his own technical rule by agreeing that all the articles to which his new tariff applies, with the exception of wheat, barley, and oats, shall be admissible at the new duties from the date of the resolutions passed in committee being reported; and, as that has been done, the articles, with the above exceptions, and so admissible at the present moment. Indian corn, buckwheat, and rice, then, may now be imported and let out of bond at the nominal duty of one shilling; and a Treasury order to that effect has been issued.—Londonderry Journal.

FREE TRADE ORGANISATION IN MARYLEBONE. - A publie meeting of the electors of the borough of Maryleboue resident in St. Paneras, took place on Thursday evening the 12th inst., in the Bedford Saloon, Bedford Arms, Highstreet, Canden-town, for the purpose of forming an organisation in favour of Free Trade, and securing the return of two Free Trade candidates at the ensuing election, by a new and united Borough Reform Association. Joseph Ivimey Esq., of Ampthill-square, presided, and was supported by Messrs. Douglas, Dyke, J. Wells, Clarke, Vinco, Alldis, and other well known reformers of the district. Delegates else attended from Marylebone and Paddington; amongst them were observed Messrs. J. Williams, H. C. Wilson, W. Kennett, John Loveridge, Charles Nixon, J. Savage (Titchfield street), Thorne, Swaine, &c. &c.

Timi Works Worders.—It is remarkable that the majority in favour of Sir Robert Peel's message of total repedia the same almost to a unit as that with which the army Farliament rejected Lord John Russell's eight shillings duty! united Borough Reform Association. Joseph Ivimey Esq.,

RLYMOUTH FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

(PESTIMONIAL TO MR. SYMONS, THE HOW. SECRETARY,—On the 11th inst., a large and highly influential meeting was held at the Plymouth Mechanics' Institute in compliance with a requisition from the respected Prosident, C. B. Cal. mady, Esq., for the purpose of taking into consideration a proposition which that gentleman had to submit. The company generally were unprepared as to the object of the meeting, which was that of presenting a testimoulal to Mr. Sy. mons, the honorary secretary of the Association, for his velued and zealous services; but when they were made acquainted with its purport, they welcomed it with their most cordial approbation, and the only matter discussed in electric to two was as to the most effective way in which it should be carried out. In the course of the evening one or two other matters were touched upon incidentally—the members congratulated each other on the progress of their opinions they excited each other to further exertion in the good cause they excited each other to further excision in the good cause—they declared that their work was not yet fluished, but only commencing; and it was evident that they are determined to proceed with decision in unshackling our trade, and in giving greater freedom to our institutions. This is scarcely to be wondered at; the protectionists compel the continuance of the League and of those other bodies that have sprung up in opposition to monopoly; and we question whether they will not yet have great cause to regiet the partial continuance of their unholy laws, even for the space of

The Chairman opened the business by saying that he had taken the liberty of asking their attendance in onler that they might take into consideration a proposition which he wished to submit to them with regard to the services of their excellent Secretary, Mr. John Symons (cheers). That was the sole object of this meeting; and he felt that they must be unanimous upon two points—that he had done his duty efficiently, and that he had also done it gratuitously (loud

After further enlarging on the valuable services of Mr. Symons, the Chairman called upon other gentlemento address the meeting—an appeal, which was responded to by W. Burnell, Esq.; Lieut. J. D. Haswell, R.N.; the Rev. W. J. Odgers; G. W. Soltau, Esq.; Mr. Frian, Mr. Blackwell, and other gentlemen zendously devoted to the good and prosperous cause, in behalf of which the Association was formed. The Rev. C. Aldrick, a clergyman of the Church of England, read an admirable paper, expressive of the change which his mind had undergone on this question, entirely through the reasoning and information promulgated by the League, and that Association. The opinious of the rev. gentleman were expressed with great vigour and with much firmness, and the candour of his remarks led to frequent and enthusiastic cheering.

By unanimous concurrence, a committee was named to consider the most appropriate method of expressing their bearty estimation of Mr. Symon's disinterested and incessant efforts to promote the efficiency of the Association and the success of the cause. It was suggested that some honourable token, expressive of their gratitude and esteem, should be presented to Mr. S. at a general tea-meeting, of which due notice would be given, and at which it was hoped that they might both congratulate their secretary, and themselves, and the great interests of this country, on the general recognition of their principles, and the ultimate success of their efforts in agitating Free Trade.

AN ACT FOR THE ABOLITION OF "HANSARD."-We have determined, for good reasons, to draw a bill, which we beg Sir Robert Peel, the Cabinet, and Parliamentary converts to Free Trade at large, to accept. We shall not trouble them with this little bill. Unlike little bills in general, it is calculated to give them pleasure, and no doubt they will gladly pass it. Here it is: "Whereas, it is expedient that on divers subjects, topics, and principles of legislation, Members of Paulianeant shall many retional conviction, or an after Parliament shall, upon rational conviction, or on other grounds or inducements which need not here be alluded to. change and alter their minds, speak and vote contraily to their former professions, and veer and turn about in such manner as to them shall seem good and convenient, and that without let, molestation, or hindrance. And whereas, when disposed to make such change, the fear and dread of being twitted with inconsistency, and subjected autoirony, sarcusm, and ridicule on account thereof, is a serious let. a grievous molestation, and a strong hindrance to the accomplishment of this their design. And further, whereas any record or document containing and setting forth their said former professions, and the speeches, declarations, or votes, which they have made or given in time past, doth belp and enable any evil or maliciously disposed person or persons so to twit and ridicule them, and overwhelm them with sarcasm and irony. And whereas during a late debate numerous and several hon, members have been, after this fashion, by that kind of persons, twitted, ridiculed, and sarcastically and ironically reviled to their great annoyance and dis-comfiture, and to the infliction on them of a heavy blow and a great discouragement, by reason whereof they are well night unable to show their faces.

"And lastly, whereas there existeth a certain record or document of Parliamentary Debates, commonly called Hansard, which unhappily hath furnished the means and occasion their of citing, quoting, raking up, and casting in their teeth their former speeches, votes, and declarations aforesaid; and which, if it continues to exist and be in being, will afford a like handle on future similar occasions which may be confidently expected to occur. Now, in order to prevent and render impossible hereafter for ever such injurious and vexatious revival of things nest to the disconference and vexatious revival of things past, to the discomfort and detriment of hon members, and in particular to the affixing on them of the odious sickname of Rat; and also for their encouragement in the due and fitting change of their opinious.

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"Be it therefore enacted; and it is hereby enacted. That the said record or document of Parliamentary proceedings called Hansard be forthwith, altogether, and entirely sep-pressed, discontinued, abrogated, and utterly shollshed; suf-ficient and reasonable compensation to the printers thereof having been rendered."—Punch.

"PROTECTION."—Sir James Graham's annual let of graining parks took place less week, and atthough the spending of land offered for competition was considered has been less year, the total rantal obtained exceeded that of less year by upwards of 1004. This, in the fice of the park year by upwards of 1004. This, in the fice of the park is now tariff! Who shall say has our country and the department of the park is now that the department of the park is now that the department of the park is not because the latest the department of the park is not become the latest the department of the park is not because the latest the department of the park is not because the latest the lates

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REPRESENTATION OF OLDHAM .- On Monday evening a well attended and highly respectable meeting of the friends of Free Trade, convened by circular, was held at the King's of Free Trace, convened by circular, was near at the king's Arm's Inn, Town Hall Place, for the purpose of selecting a gentleman suitable to become a candidate for Oldham on Radical and Free Trade principles. About one hundred gontlemen were present, the greater proportion of them electors. Beloles Brierley, Esq., hat manufacturer, was called upon to preside. Jonathan Mellor, jun., Esq., sarnestly recommended the Liberals of the borough to be united above all things in this choice of a candidate to represent the borough in the their choice of a candidate to represent the borough in the room of General Johnson, who was expected to resign. He was extremely sorry to see the Radical and Free Trade party very much divided in their opinions as to the suitability of a candidate, but he denied that there was any truth in a rumour that had been circulated to the effect that he had identified himself. so far as support went, with the friends of Mr. John Cobbett.—William Simmons, Esq., hat manufacturer, introduced the name of John Whittaker Esq., of Higher introduced the mane of John Whittaker Esq., of Higher Humt, Ashton-under-Lyne, as a likely gentleman to be invited as a candidate, and after commenting in commendatory terms on the qualification of Mr. Whittaker, conditional and the invited to the invited to the conditional and the con cluded by proposing that he be invited to become a candidate. John Bentley, Esq., of Greenacres Moor, seconded the motion. John Philips Brierley, moved that the report of a and committee appointed at a previous meeting, recommending Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., of Liverpool, as a unitable gendeman for a candidate, be adopted.—Mr. James Butterworth, draper, of Greenacres Moor, seconded the motion. Mr. Rudeliffe, colicitor, secretary of the Free Trade committee, read a communication received from Mr. Heyworth by the Radical Election Committee, explanatory of his political views. Mr. Wrigley, the secretary of the Radical Election Committee, stated, by request of parties present, that that committee had twice determined that W. J. Pox, Esq., of London, was the most suitable gentleman to become a cardidate on thorough Radical and Free Trade principles. Mr. Radclisse real the communication received from Mr. Fox by the Radical Election Committee. Abraham Wild, Esq., of Marlam Mill, proposed that W.J. Fox, Esq., of London, should be invited to become a candidate. Mr. James Chadwick, of Lees Road, seconded the motion. On the suggestion of Mr. Bulley, the letters received by the Rudical Election Committee John M. Cobbett and James Holladay, Esqrs., were read. Mr. Wrigley stated that letters had also been received from Messrs. Sturge, Miall, and Vincent, but he had not them in his possession then. Mr. A.F. Taylor, of Haggate, Royton, observed that the friends of Mr. Fox had brought that gentleman forward solely with the object of uniting the Liberal party together. Mr. James Builey, of Oldham, remarked that he extremely regretted the divisions that had taken place in the Liberal party, but as it was very desirable that they should have a townsman as a candidate on Radical principles, he would at once propose that James Holladay, Esq., be invited to become a candidate. Mr. E. Barlow, publican, seconded the motion. The various motions being put to the meeting, and a show of hands taken, the numbers were; for Mr. Fox, 46; Mr. Heyworth, 7; Mr. Holladay, 4; Mr. Whit-taker, 1. The chairman declared Mr. Fox to have the majority, and in making the announcement pledged himself to do all in his power to secure his return. Jonathan Mellor, jun., Esq., recommended the propriety of each of the three Radical Election Committees appointing two or three persons from each to canvass the borough immediately, and ascertain which of the three Liberal candidates would have a majority, and that it should be arranged that the one who would be likely to obtain the greatest support should be then supported by the whole body of the Liberal party. Mr. Arrowsmith seconded the motion; and after some discussion, in which Mossrs. Bailey, B. Barlow, Taylor, and Dransfield took part, the motion was rejected on a show of hands, by a large majority against it. On the motion of Daniel Collinge, Esq., the following gentlemen were appointed a sub-committee to prepare a requisition to W. J. Fox, Esq., Messrs. Wrigley, S. Buerley, A. F. Taylor, John Holden, M. Scholefield, and J. Heap. The proceedings terminated by a vote thanks to the chairman.—Manchester Times of Friday.

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.

A. W. Paulton, Enq...

Richard Potter, Esq.,

William Leavers, Esq.,

William Leavers, Esq.,

William Leavers, Esq.,

William Leavers, Esq.,

If Hull, Bsq., U

Richard Burnet

J. Matson, Esq.

TRUSTERS. DIRECTORS. Ramuel Hagrison, Haq., Dr. James Carlisle, John Gadsby, Esq., H. Hull, Esq., Uxbridge, Richard Burnet, Esq.,

Dr. Thomas I'rice, 7, Highbury-terrace, Islington.
George Thompson, Esq., 6, Waterloo place.
Captain Cogan, Upper Mill, Hammermitth.

Mesers. Prescott, Grote, & Co.

SOLICITOR.

Josh. Ivimey, Esq., 26, Chassery-lane.

SURVEYOR.

Mr. Frederick Farrad. Priory Ville. Peakham.

riory Villa, l'e

Prospectures may be obtained, graffs, on application at the Society's Office, Raai Temple Chambers, Whitefrian-street, Picot-street. The Rules Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application jamediately. Termina courses to join the course; and receiving subscriptions and the immediately.

The Society's Offices will be open for receiving subscriptions and the general transaction of business, every Tuesday and Friday ovenings, from to 9 o'clock.

PREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION. As the Econd Subscription is about to be called for, parties intending to avail themselves of the benefits of the Aspeciation are requested to sake application for theres immediately. Until the Becond Subscription is called in, sharves can be obtained on the same terms as those which have whiteheave it is a sire in a subscription of the same the same terms as those which have whiteheave it is a sire in the Offices, East Temple Chambers, fix to Nine o'Clock

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 21, 1846.

We once more beg to impress upon the minds of our readers that the time has not yet come when it would be safe to relax our exertions or abate our vigilance. The policy of the protectionists is to delay the progress of the measures now before Parliament until shear weariness of watching may prodoes popular apathy, and thus furnish an excuse either for rejecting the Ministerial proposals, or so sufficient them is to destroy their effect. It is now certain that the Bin for repealing the Com-

Laws will not reach the House of Lords in time to pass before the Easter recess, and monopolists hope that the protraction of a settlement will produce a kind of careless auxiety to get rid of the contest on any terms:

For even with goodness men get discontent, When times are out of joint and virtue spent;

These tacties, openly and avowedly adopted by our opponents, point out to us the course which we must adopt: Perseverance, steady and continuous perseverance, can alone ensure final success. Any sign of wavering on our parts would stimulate the monopolists to some great effort to disappoint our hopes, and dash away the cup at the moment it approached our lips. Let us then remember that "the end is not yet." The harbour is in sight, but it is not yet safe to drop the anchor; there are rocks and shoals to be passed, before we can reach sure holding ground. Our pilets are watchful, our officers are steady; let not our crew give way to premature indulgence of triumph. It may be that the resistance we have yet to encounter may be greater than even the monopolists themselves have yet ventured to anticipate; but we may be assured that its strength will be exactly proportioned to our state of preparation. If we exhibit such an array of force, spirit, and determination, as to render the issue certain, the struggle cannot be protracted; but if we appear supine and acquiescent, the monopolists will not fail to profit by the opportunity-"While men slept the enemy sowed tares;" let us, therefore, not sleep, " but keep our loins girt, and our lamps burning.'

The monopolists are avoiding the final issue; they see that now the cause of truth and justice would be sure to triumph, but they also know that popular excitement is in its nature transitory, and that a people is in most danger during a period of reaction. We must show them that the demand for "Free Trade" is no sudden challition of passion, but the result of deep-rooted conviction and strong principle. Truth is the same to-day that it was yesterday, but zeal in the advocacy of truth is liable to fluctuations. The Free Traders have hitherto been as remarkable for their steadiness as for their sincerity; they have only to maintain their position, and the overthrow of monopoly will be complete, speedy, and irretrievable.

THE FUNDS.

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MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

Monday, March 16.—We are to-day again moderately supplied with English Wheat, both coastways and by land carriage. Fine dry White Wheat forches is, more money than last Monday, but all other descriptions sell at the same prices as on that day. In Bonded Wheat the transactions continue to be to a very limited extent, without alteration in price. The arrival of Burley to this morning a market is not large; the best samples sell readily at last week's prices, but inferior qualities hang rather heavily on hand. Altogether there are shout \$2,000 quarters of Oats in the return; of these about \$000 are Foreign, and are being landed in bond. The trade is not very active, and it is impossible to effect an extensive business; but the prices obtained are rather higher than last week. Beans and Poas in fair show, with no alteration in value.

S. H. Lucas.

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Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Mar. 9 to Mar. 14, 1816, both days inclusive.

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Foreign 18530	io 110 1459 sucks	8000 ; 1635 barr	añio ∫ el∎.	1507

FRIDAY, MARCH 20. During the week 25,000 quarters of Foreign Wheat have arrived to this market. Of English Wheat there is not much fresh up. There is no alteration to notice in the value of either English or Foreign from Monday. The tradecontinues dull. Very little Barley has arrived; and what is on sale fully supports Monday's prices. Several vessels, with about 12,000 quarters of Oats from Ireland, are reported in time for today's rearket. This is a considerable proportion of what was on the way from Ireland; so that the quantity at present estimate very limited. From Scotland also but few slipments are now being made. The trade to day is dull; but Is, more money is asked than on Monday, and what sales are effected are at fully dd, over the prices of that day. There is no alteration in the value of the prices of that day. There is no alteration in the value of Beaus or Peas. The duty rose yesterday has cach on Barley, Beans, and Peas.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 10th of March to the 20th of March, both inclusive

		-Irish.	koroten.
Wheat	2160	••	25000
Barley	970 9170	11500	iio
	Flour 1990 e		1 (99)

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week onding March 17, 1846. | DONDON AVERTACES for the veesk ending sharen 17, 1940, Qrs. | Price. | Qrs. | Price. | Price. | Qrs. | Price.
IMPERIAL AVERAGES, Weeks onding Wheat, Burley, Onto, Ryo, Beans, Pens, b. d. s. 28th 951 6...29 7 21 5...33 4 31 2 35 2 7th March ...51 10...29 3 ...21 10...33 6...34 11...31 8 14th 951 3...29 4 ...21 9 ...31 2 ...35 2 34 9

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks, Wheat, 54s. 7d.; Burley, 29, 11d.; Oats, 21s. 8d.; Rye, 33s. 5d.; Beans, 34s. 11d.; Pons, 34s. 10d.

Duty. Wheat, 18s. 0d.; Barley, 9s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye 9s. 6d.; Boans, 8s. 6d.; Pons, 8s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Feb. 5, 1846.

Whoat, Barley, Oats, Ryo, Boans, Peas. Flour

Cwts. -115436 In London, 424256 13765 48060 Unit. King. 1061780 74467 82619 4767 4175 686814 MEAT MARKET.

The supply of Beef being inadequate to the consumption

The supply of Beef being inadequate to the consumption very much advanced the price this week.

PER BY THE CARCABR.

Prime Beef... 48 tol to 38 8d | Middl. Mutton 48 2d to 48 0d Middling do. 38 6d to 38 4d | Veal, from ... 58 4d to 18 8d Plain, or inferior Beef... 38 2d to 28 10d | Large, or inferior Mutton 48 8d to 48 4d | rior Pork ... 38 0d to 38 0d

* FRIDAY, MARCH 13.
BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
Henry Pearson Coles, of Suffolk, innkeeper,
BANKRUPTS
Joseph Scholosfield, Cheapside, cutler. [Mosses, Reed and
angiord, Friday, street.

Langford, Friday street.
Miles Griffith and Philip Pearson, of New Bond street, tailors. [Messrs Wood and Fraser, Dean-street. Thomas Hubert, Hungerford Market, Strand, lighterman,

Thomas Hilbert, Hungeriord Market, Strain, Agagerman, [Mr. Tribe, Bargo-yard chambers, Bucklesshury. J. E. West and H. Tennant, Loods, stock brokers. [Mr. H. Walker, Furnival's Inn, London.
A. Shipton and J. W. Jenkins, Painswick, Gloucoster, clothiers, [Mr. W. T. Paris, Strond, Gloucostershire.
Thos. Sutton. Jun., Atherstone, Warwickshire, draper. [Mr. Wentalaw Raids.]

Wratislaw, Rughy,
W. Hading, Stockport, cotton manufacturor. [Mr.J. Coppock,
Cleveland-row.
D. Brondhead & A. J. Halero, Leeds, stock brokers. [Messes,

Williamson and Co., Gray's Inn. London. SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

R. Stevenson and Co., Chagow, sowed muslin manufacturors. J. Robertson, Glasgow, Iron merchant.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17. CROWN OFFICE.
MEMBERS RETURNED TO SHRVE IN THE PRESENT PAR-

Horough of Stafford.—The Hon. Swynfan-Thomas Carnogie, one of the Lords Commissioners of her Maleaty's Treasury. Horough of New Windsor.—Raiph Neville, Esq., one of the Lords Commissioners of her Najosty's Treasury. County of Mayo.—Joseph Milos M'Donnell, Esq., in the room of Mark Blake, Esq., who has accepted the office of Steward of her Migosty's Chilitere Rundreds.

SOOTOH SEQUESTRATIONS.
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James Cowner, Ricondellou, flumer.
Honey Reid and John Reid, Greenook, drysalter,

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Moved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Thomas,—That this meeting so skillers the conduct of the Directors, in waiving their right to receive or claim any advance from the Company during the first 12 months, as highly honourable, and deserving of the sincere thanks of the meeting.

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March 16, 1846.

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With be with them a memoratic day.

The Twenty-fourth of Mhrch! Its very mention speaks of a great event, and claims attention.

Let ev'ry lip proclaim the Twenty-fourth—
In all directions—cast, west, south, and north;
(in that great day King Fashion's new-built mansion Will rise to view in all its vast expansion;
On that eventful day will be display d
Another mighty monument in trade.

The Twenty-fourth of March! Its very mention Speaks of a great event, and claims attention. The bells that shall proclaim the hour of ten Will tell of yast advantages opening thou, And millions of the public will have reason To view it as a most important season;—MOSES and SON regard the day as such— MOSES and BON regular and an all of Twill prove the birthday to you all of

The Twenty fourth of March! Its very ment on Speaks of a great event, and claims attention. lot crowds on crowds amomble to survey, And make the time a public holiday; Let not the memorable event be made An ordinary circumstance in trade; An ordinary circumstance in trade; Let thousands come from east, west, south, and north, To view the opening on the Twanty-fourth!

The Twenty fourth of March! Its very mention Speaks of a great event, and claims attention. MOSIES and SON from this important date Make nobler promises to small and great. Their mightier mart is nothing but a sign Of squething mightier in their trade's design. Let crowds, thes, pass their harts trade's design. And honour thus, the Twenty-fourth of March.

A new work, entitled "Habiliment Hall," with the directions are solf-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded post first knowning to any amount can be had at five minutes period, the long prices.

Mourning to any amount can be had at five minutes action.

Mem's Suits, drees coat, vest, and irousers

Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers

Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers

Investatt. Any article purchased or erdered, if not appropriate changed, or the money returned.

Chesawu. M. MOSMS and SON. Tailors, wholesaway the dirapers, Outstiters, and observal warehouses, and for a continuous services. Moses and bor are obtained to money terminate the untrademanded with thus, or it's the case extensions many instances, and for obvious reasons with any other establishment in or wife of continuous continuo

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council, JOSEPH MICKIN, Secretary.

PLAIN HINTS TO ALL PARTIES.

We are afraid the people and the protectionists de not, even yet, quite understand one another. There is a mistako somewhere—a twofold and mutual mistake-pregnant with very serious consequences, to at least one of the parties concerned. On each side there is a disposition to take things for granted; and things taken for granted are apt to turn out unpleasantly. The people are too easy about the Bill-and the protectionists are too easy about the people. Agitation has had a lull, since Sir Robert Peel took the Free Trade business in hand; and the landlords flatter themselves they have seen the worst. They do not discriminate—they mistake/the quiescence of confidence for that of indifference—the repose of conscious power for lassitude and weakness-a momentary halt for a final retreat. Because we feel ourselves so sure of our revolution that we can afford to take it composedly, they fancy we are willing to let them off, and go without our revolution. As they have neither been tossed in a blanket, nor brushed into the Thames, they take heart and play their antics-and, "thank God," they have not been in a hurry—and don't mean to be in a hurry, for who knows but the chapter of accidents may turn up something to their advantage?

We warn both parties not to be too sure. The people will do well not to take for granted anything about the Bill that it is not in their own power to realise. It is anything but cortain that the Bill will To be sure, Sir Robert Peel has made a Government measure of it, and the Premier has got a reputation for passing his measures; but we have nothing that can be called a guarantee for the passing of this measure. Sir Robert Peel can give us no sort of assurance that his Bill will encounter, unharmed, the ordeal of that "other place" to which it will be forwarded some time between now and next Christmas. Sir Robert Peel's jurisdiction does not, in the estimation of some of our best and most modern political geographers, include that "other place." The Duke of Richmond, the other day, on catching the words "Corn Bill," "repeal," and "delay," as read from a petition, interjectionally speculated, "I do not say that it will pass at all;" and we, for our part, are not prepared to contradict positively the vatioinations of a prophet who possesses, we know not what power, of verifying his m prediction. We "do not say that it will pass ilf " i.e., that Sir Robert Peel's Bill will pass at We can only say, that we can't say. We only the Bill has a

statute book, and there is no counting and measuring chances. We nover heard yet, on reliable authority, that a majority of lordly votes would so much as affirm the second roading-to say nothing of the dangers of the Committee, at which stage proxies go for nothing. It is quite certain that the opposition will be very numerous, very flerce, and very reckless—and will enjoy, in Lord Stanley, the leadership of a chieftain pre-eminently qualified for heading a mad party in a mad policy. It is also certain, that a meeting of the protectionist peers has just been held, the temper of which would appear to have been very much the same with that of the men who "thank God" for their own obstinacy, and hold themsolves "justified in resorting to any Parliamentary form to get rid of the measure.' On the whole, we advise the people to make sure of nothing-to believe nothing till they see it-and prepare themselves meanwhile to act on the instant. as occasion may require it.

To the landlords likewise we would offer a word in season. It may not be, indeed, a very hopeful task, advising Messieurs the protectionists to be rational. Yet there are degrees and individual diversities in all collective psychological phenomena; and it is just possible that the good seed of cautionary suggestion may fall, here and there, on good ground. Possibly it may not be altogether a waste of time to attempt interpreting, for the bene fit of protectionist honourable gentlemen and noble lords, the real significance of those indications of public opinion and temper which they are so dangerously bent on reading the wrong way. We warn them not to mistake the import of the present lull: -there are in it, and beneath it, all the elements of a storm browing-of such a storm as the oldest man among them has never been out in yet. That the country takes the present delay so quietly, is because the country has not the particle of a doubt but it will all come right by and by. We are not particular for a week or two, more or less, because we look on the eventful result as a fixed thing. It never occurs to us to doubt that what Sir Robert Peel, and Lord John Russell, and every man with a statesman's name and fame among the adherents of either of these party chiefs, are unanimously agreed on, is certain of coming to pass: -and if it were not, we have, behind and underneath our faith in Pool and Russell, an absurd, self-relying faith in our own strength and the inevitable course of events. Now, this is a decidedly dangerous temper of mind to take liberties with. When, for weeks and months together, the total repeal of the Corn Law has stood foremost among the certainties of the people's political creed; when popular expectation has become familiar with the total repeal of the Corn Law as with a thing that is as good as done; when the very certainty and nearness of repeal have already begun to suspend or relax exertions that seem to be no longer in requisition :then, we say, let all lords and men take care how they thwart so ripe a national purpose, so strong and self-collected a national will.

If their lordships of the Upper House have it in contemplation to throw out this bill—or to "amend" it, which would come to exactly the same thing—they will do well to prepare themselves for very disagreeable consequences. In the event of the Peel measure not becoming law, there will be such a revulsion of public feeling as England has not seen yet—not even in those Reform Bill days which a few of their lordships may happen to retain in fresh remembrance. The people had never felt so sure of the Reform Bill as they feel now of the Free Trade Bill. The people had never felt the Reform Bill to be already as good as passed, as they have now, for upwards of two mouths, felt the Free Trade Bill to be as good as passed. There never was such

a union of parties in favour of the Reform Bill, as there is now in favour of a Free Trade policy, that arrays on one and the same side all the first-class statesmen of the country, and the entire commercial and industrious public, without a shadow of distinction between Whig and Tory; or between capitalist and operative. There never was such unanimity for the Reform Bill, as that expressed and represented by the deputations from Lancashire that have visited London within the past two days. And there never was the same physical and social necessity for the Reform Bill which there is for abolishing a prohibitory food tax in the face of famine We tell the protectionists—as they were told not long since by Mr. Cobden-that there is opinion enough on this question to change the constitution of the country. Let them look to it, that this stupendous, but as yet quiescent, mass of moral force be not stimulated into active and antagonistic self-assertion.

Assuming that if it visibly came to be a question between protection and the "order," our protectionist peers would mostly be for letting protection go, and standing by their order, we beg to give them early notice that this is the question. The rejection of the Government measure by the House of Lords would bring us at once to the broad practical issue, -which is the stronger, the House of Lords, or the ompire minus the House of Lords? There would be nothing to break or divide the force of that reactionary movement which would instantly set in against aristocracy as a political power. It would be, the Lords against the country, and the country against the Lords. The case would be terribly distinet and simple, The Lords would stand ALONE. The sympathies of no one class or party in the country would be with them. They are, essentially, a class by themselves. No other class is mixed up with them. Lords are only lords. They have no merchants, no manufacturers, no middle class mon among thom. They are all landowners, and only landowners. If rumour be correct in stating that "the duke" has, in a quiet way, pressed on their lordships attention the dire possibility of a NEW REFORM BILL as the penalty of obstinacy, rumour has certainly done great honour to the duke's sagacity. No institution, or constitution, on the face of the earth could stand the stress of such a struggle as would commence in this country, from the hour in which the House of Lords should declare itself Non-content with the Bill for giving hunger and industry their own.

THE LANDLORDS CHIEF DIFFICULTY.

The progress of the great Parliamentary talkingmatch against time does not present any noticeable points. Since the house disposed of the political philosophy of those distinguished statesmen who rest England's "maritime supremacy" on bad ships and little trade, things have gone on rather heavily. A tedious succession of nobodies have duly mouthed, with dismal uniformity, their several and respective nothings; and we may fairly hold ourselves exonerated from the worse than Egyptian toil of endeavouring to make something out of nothing. Even the Free Trade speeches, excellent as they were in themselves, of Mr. Fox Maule and Mr. Hawes, can scarcely be regarded as having materially helped forward the business of the house and the country. In the present state of the question, "constitutional silence" seems, on the whole, the best contribution that our best friends can make to the public cause.

One speech of the week deserves, however, to be named, as standing out in relief from the general blank and negation of practical interest. Mr. Francis Baring, on Tuesday night, offered a really useful and timely sid to the progress of business.

Mr. Baring asked the protectionists a question which, it is evident, has stock by them over since, and which they will probably continue to ponder over, not altogether without benefit to themselves and the public in general. He " begged to ask them what THEY proposed to do with regard to this Corn Law?" Let us have your plan, gentlemen protectionists. You will not have Peel's Bill-you will not have the League's Bill-what will you have? Suppose you were in office to-morrow, what would you come down to Parliament to propose the day after to morrow? By your own admission-an admission which you have only begun retracting since its inconvenient consequences have suggested them selves - you must do something. By your own admission, the sliding scale of 1842 will not exactly do now. You have confessed, that with famine in Ireland, Sir Robert Peel would have been justified in suspending- or was, rather, bound to suspend-the sliding scale that won't slide. You would have indemnified him if he had suspended it. You have condemned him because he has not suspended it. You are ready to help bitm in suspending it nownt least, the other day you said you were. Well, then, if you come in, the sliding scale of 1842 goes out, for a while; and what do you mean to put in its place? You can never restore it - for its suspension would be its condemnation. Suspend the aliding scale, and you deny its self-acting powerthe only merit which it was ever pretended that it possessed. Suspend the sliding scale, and you must give as a new Corn Law of some sort or other;now do tell us, of what sort. "Condescend to be intelligible."

If the faction were bonest and in carnest, this would be decisive. It is plain that if Mr. Miles or Lord George were Prime Minister to/morrow with a working majority of Tyrrells and Finches, ho would by and bye begin to do exactly what his predecessor had done. The moment responsibility ceally pressed, he would show himself a perfect Peel for 13 rfldy. Tyrrell would turn traitor, and Finch himself would flinel. No help for it. The Peel premises, which are FACTS, would necessitate the Peel conclusion. The moment they began breathing official atmosphere, they would inhalo the ^o Free Trade influenza." It is only a question who shall do it, and when it shall be done; -- done it must and will be. The difference is only a little sooner, or a little later this year or next year -the spring or the autumn-by this Parliament and Cabinet, or by another in a time of comparative national quiet, or amid the crash of confusion of a political hurricane. , The protectionist Premier's three months' experience—one only wishes he could have it free of cost to the empire -would come to exactly the same thing as Sir Robert Peel's three years' experience: protection would go all the same-only some other thing squite as valuable would go with it.

TRELAND AND THE CORN LAWS.

It was with mingled feelings of regret and surprise that we felt ourselves compelled to animadvert last week on the advocacy of the Corn Laws by Mr. W. Smith O'Brien. Another Irish member has adopted the same course since our last publication, whose exhibition gives us no pain, as the very best of causes would have been dishonoured by his advocacy—and no surprise, for his career has been marked by the most perfect consistency. The right honourable Frederick Slaw, representative of the Dublin University, has been the unvarying supporter of Corn Laws and coercion bills-of protection and proscription-of prizes to landlords, and penalties to tenants-of ascendancy for one class and degradation for another-of the despetism of the few and the oppression of the many; so that it needed not the notorious disregard, of his arrogant pretensions by the Premier to explain his opposition to any and every measure designed for the general benefit of the Irish people.

So jumbled in his cranium meet The subjects, he must often doubt Whether, this year, twas bouled wheat Or bouled papists they let out.

There were, however, a candour about the Shaw

system of policy, a simplicity in his theory of economic science, and a truthfulness in his exposition of his system of Government, which morit attention, if not approbation. Irish destitution is, in his view, a matter of periodical recurrence; and, therefore, be declares that relief must be unnecessary. Like the cels in the fable, the Irish are as used to be starved alive, as the fish were to be skinned alive; and, therefore, the application of a remedy is superfluous. In his opinion there has been a prescriptive right established for famine, and a vested interest created for fever; and if the two pestilences have been this year a little more destructive than usual, he deems that their excesses deserve no more reprobation from Englishmen than wholesale ejectments have received from Lord Brougham. It is only a question of the lives of a few thousand peasants, more or less; a matter far too trivial to interfere with the weightier matters that press upon the mind of a Dublin Recorder, or an English ex-Chancellor.

The representative of a University is generally taken as a type of the intellectual standard of the place of learning that has made him its choice. The Lord help Trinity College if its member be ever taken as a measure of its capacity! He says that fever in Ireland is to be attributed to want of employment, and not to want of food! There is not a child in an English Sunday School who could not tell him that employment is only valuable as a means of purchasing food; and that want of employment and want of food are perfectly identical. It would be time to despair utterly of Ireland if Mr. Frederick Shaw were taken to represent its intelligence, and Mr. Smith O'Brien its patriotism.

But Mr. Shaw supports his views by a reference to authorities; he quotes Mr. Justice Torrens, who declared at Omagh that " he had not been greatly struck by any appearance of starvation or misery." Rolling in a comfortable carriage over the excellent roads of the county Tyrone, and escorted by policemen, javelin-men, and the retainers of a high-sherill, it is not at all probable that such an amount of misery would be brought within the sphere of observation as would greatly strike the mind of Mr. Justice Torrons; and if, according to the theory of Descartes, magnitude of external object requires equal magnitude of mind to afford due susceptibility, we should not be at all suprised to learn that the effect of the striking on the mind of Mr. Justice Torrens was in something like an inverse ratio to the misery which he witnessed.

The next witness is Mr. Lefroy, the member for Longford; but he gives adverse evidence, for he allows the admission to coze out that "precautions are necessary,"—not such precautions as those with which the name of Lefroy is apt to be associated, against too great comfort in farmers, or too great respectability in tenants,—but precautions against actual famine, and the perilous counsels of starvation.

The letters of the unnamed clorgymon road by the learned Recorder must be taken, like all and nymous statements, as destitute of any weight from external evidence. Let us then glance at their in ternal value. A elergyman of the established church (we should be glad to know his name), residing near Formoy, declares, " My own potatoes are very good; and several persons whom I saw opening pits, told mo that theirs were very good, also." The excellent man!-quite content with hearsay for the supply of his poor neighbours, but resolved to have ocular domonstration for his own store! Now, in this very town of Fermoy, several meetings have been held, at one of which at least Lord Mountcashel (no great friend to Free Trade), was present, and took an active part in the proceedings, when resolutions proclaiming a terrific state of destitution in the town and neighbourhood, and a still more terrific prospect for the coming. summer, were unanimously adopted. Where, then, was this pious clergyman, whose own potatoes were very good! Why was not his voice raised to give hope in the midst of despair? How beautiful upon Kilworth mountains would have been the feet of the bearer of such glad tidings! The vale of the

Blackwater would have rejoiced, and the dell of the Funcheon would have reflected its gladness! But this anonymous elergyman appears to be one of those who proclaim evil with the sound of a trumpet, and love to whisper announcements of good into such sympathetic ears as those of Mr. Frederick Shaw. There are so few Presbyterian elergymen in the south of Ireland, that the correspondent of Mr. Shaw, under this title, is sure to be identified, and to furnish a thome for laughter unextinguishable as that of Homer's gods. We say for laughter, because the ludicrous and the melancholy have a strange propinquity in their sympathetic associations. Democritus and Heraclitus have their representatives in every human bosom.

Si credas utrique Res sunt humano flebile ludibrium.

"The mournful laughing-stock" of the poet would be as perfectly exemplified in the presbyter's letter, if we could be quite sure that the extracts were not garbled; but on this point we have a doubt, and we give the unfortunate man the benefit of the doubt.

Mr. Shaw informed his hearers, or rather his readors (for we cannot believe that the speech before us was really spoken in a legislative assembly, and are disposed to believe that reporters have formed a conspiracy against recorders), that he was no political economist-a fact which it needed no ghost to tell us,-but he added that he was a man of common sense, and forthwith set himself to refute the assertion most satisfactorily. He compared the keeping of Irish corn at home for the support of the people to the case of a butcher keeping his meat to feed his family; and the mischievous reporters assert, that amid the collective wisdom of the British nation were to be found such arrant blockheads as those who could cheer the comparison. knows, that for every joint of meat the butcher exports from his shop, he imports other articles of consumption or the means of purchasing them; while for the quarters of corn exported from Ireland, the producing peasantry literally import nothing So far as Ireland is concorned, the whole question turns on the interest of the producers,-a very different interest from that of landlords, as the demand for a coercion bill proves, unfortunately. too well,-and we need go no farther than Mr. Shaw himself, to prove the consequences of the Corn Laws on the condition of Irish producers, when he tells us that they are subject to periodical visitations of scarcity, of which the present famine is but a slight aggravation.

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While we write, the copy of a petition for the continuance of the Corn Laws, from certain grand jurors of the county of Tipperary, has been placed in our hands. Now it is a singular but not inexplicable coincidence, that the petitions in favour of the Corn Laws from the South of Ireland have emanated from the landlords in the disturbed districts, while not one has come from a locality in which peace and order have been maintained without interruption. Of the three names that appear in the Parliamentary return, two, we believe, represent properties in other counties. We should like to know how these names happen to be influential for protection in Tipperary, and of no avail in Cork and Waterford? It is significant to find that Com Laws are most supported where coercion bills are most carnostly sought; and we leave our readers to ponder on the fact that those who are the most opposed to exchange of produce are also most averse to exchange of thought; and that the supporters of restriction on trade are also the clamourers for restriction on every principle that deserves to be considered a constituent of freedom.

THE AMERICAN FROM TRADE ENABRE.—We have the pleasure to announce the receipt by the League of a graillying present from America. Henry Gourdin, Esq. of Charleston, South Carolina, has presented to the Council the busts of the Hon. J. C. Calhoun and the Hon. George Macduffle, the Villiers and Cobden of America. These busts of the distinguished leaders of the Free Fresh and in America, and the advicates of peace, have been please in the Council, Rosen, augmented by the various partrills of their cotemporary laborators in the same good state in the

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE PREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE BESSION OF 1846.

Tenth Week, ending Saturday, March 28.

The new farce of Protectionist factique, the title of which 18 Never say Die, continues to be played nightly in the House of Commons with a most unsuccessful yet most persovering run. Sometimes the benches are crowded; more frequently they are empty, unless when a vote is required, and then a powerful majority musters, to give to the house and the country an emphatic declaration of opinion. But the minority receive each successive defeat in the same sense that the actor who was playing Richard the Third on a barn door, Bosworth Field, received an encore—he got up after he was killed, to gratify his audience by being killed over again. The whole thing would be very funny if it were as harmless as Richard's duplicate death. But when the bankers, the merchants, the manufacturers, the traders, of London, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, and all our other great towns, are pouring into the House of Commons petitions complaining of the mischief which the unnecessary delay is causing, it is searcely possible to keep temper at witnessing the desperate conduct of a desporate faction. Had Mr. Villiers and his supporters pursued a similar line of conduct on any occasion during the last seven years, the section "under the gaugway" would have uttered frantic outeries, and branded their conduct with all the terms of a copious vocabulary. Even on occasions when the certainly modest request was preferred, of prolonging an Anti-Corn-Law debate for a day longer, in order to allow members who had not yet spoken an opportunity of expressing their opinions, there used to be vociferous shouts for a division; and the "gangway section," in particular, poured out such epithets as "factious," "indecent," "vulgar," and so forth. Now, they have had Two CLEAR MONTHS, and yet show no disposition to submit to the constitutional will of a majority. Let them beware of setting the precedent of a REVOLUTIONARY practice, the imitation of which, at some future period, may show how possible it is to "better the instruction" given by the protectionist faction.

Compare the conduct of the Anti-Corn-Law League, as (whibited by its supporters in the House of Commons, with that of the Miles and Bentinck clique on the present occasion. The Anti Corn-Law League invariably submitted to the expressed will of a majority. In so doing they acted most constitutionally, and proved how truly conservative are those reformers who rely on the force of argument and the power of truth. Their renewed discussions were certainly most distasteful to those who are now the "gangway" revolutionists. But though they persevered in bringing them on, they also allowed them to go off. The debates ran their constitutional course. They were commenced, and they were finished. Motions were made; speeches were delivered; a division was called for; and Mr. Villiers and his friends were defeated. Then, "strong in faith," and "hoping against hope," they submitted to legislative will, and turned to the country. With perfect and hamble reverence be it said, there is, though of course in a far inferior degree, an analogy between the course of the Anti Corn-Law League, and that of the first propagators of Christianity. The leading language of both was "submit to those who are in authority," even though they brand your doctrines as absurd, and your conduct as wicked. But contime your peaceful exertions until the moral atmosphere is charged with your doctrines. If Casar repulses you, retire respectfully from his presence; and continue your argument with the subjects of Cosar. Then, when you have triumphed in the country, return once more to the palace. Appeal again anto Casar. It may be that his heart will be opened; and that fact, experience, and truth, may lead him to kick his idol into the fire, and become a leader in your ranks.

What is the course of the section " under the gangway ?" Literally that of mero desporadoes. It would be absurdnay, a little too much of the ludicrous—to compare Lor George Bentinck to Milton's "Satan"; for it is not recorded in "Paradiso Lost" that he wore white kid gloves, a little soiled, though we have not the least doubt that he has often won bets at Epsom and Newmarket. Yet, on Friday night week, in his speech on the timber duties, Lord George uttered, in lisping accouts, a furious speech, the burden of which was, "Botter to reign in hell than serve in heaven!" for the sake of protection he would have war with France, war with the United States, war for Oregon, war for anything, war with everybody. He scarcely disguised his object by adopting the correct phrases about "thundering broadsides," "language not to be understood," (a blunder which caused a great laugh, and which he corrected by say. ing "not to be misunderstood") and other warlike epithele. The undeniable construction of the speech of Lord George Bentinck, on Friday night week, was aleasly this; Let us got this country into a desperate struggle with other nations, and then we will have a chance of at once thinning our surplus population, and of maintaining high rents for a long

The whole conduct of the protectionists is worthy of such a leader. They have no other idea thin that of cobursion charges, observer. Their spending they believe, will find their way, like so many, hopping toods, to the House of the Bys, Lord Stanley, and possible was the can of these partials Bys, Lord Stanley, and possible himse pinet the fraist with say being the can of the partials.

to his own pendance and his pride. So he is waiting in seratorial dignity for the expected opportunity of finding out a new way of paying old debts. He may be stimulated to try if he can upset the present political stage-coach, in order once more, to run his own "Derby Dilly" in its stead Never mind sommerce. Never mind trade. Never mind manufactures. Give us a row—the vernacular meaning of appealing to the constituencies. Let not our readers suppose this to be too strong. The madness of faction is much stronger. It touches, as the protectionists think, the interest of their breeches pockets; and so, with hord John Manners, they sing—

"Let trade and commerce, laws and learning, die, But give us still our corn nobility."

We are sorry that truth compels us to say that the lunguage and conduct of the Whig party gives some encourages ment to the protectionists. For, though they are heartily supporting the ministerial measures, their whole tone and temper, their language and their acts, amount to this :- Let us get the Corn Bill passed, and then an early occasion will arise, for a motion which will upset the Government of Sir Robert Peel. The protectionists take advantage of this, and they hope that by protracting the debate, the occasion will arise before the Corn Bill has passed. Meantime, Sir Robert Peel, conscious that by his inconsistency he line sayed the aristocracy from rain, and the country from the dangers, of an ultimate revolution, patiently, devotedly, detorminedly, perseveres, as if he had made up his mind that the present ministerial schemes were the fulfilment of his present mission, and that he will dignifiedly retire when what he himself has termed his "great undertaking," has been accomplished.

Of the debate, on Friday night week, on the timber duties (which terminated the initiatory discussions on the tariff) we are not disposed to take any notice. The leading point was the violent and inflammatory speech of Lord George Bentinck. Its characteristics were the practical speech from Mr. Warburton, and the sensible one from Mr. Charles Buller. If nonsense could ever comprehend sense, these two speeches might have been conclusive. But a division was necessary. For the Government measure there voted 232; against it 109, giving a majority of 123. Then permission was given to introduce the bill or bills embodying the tariff.

On Monday, Earl Grey, in the House of Lords, raised an important debate on the state of Ireland. The attendance of peers was numerous; and Earl Grey, who, as Lord Howick; in the House of Commons, used to support the motions of Mr. Villiers and Mr. Cobden with great power, clearness, and force of argument, did not lower his reputation on the present occasion. His speech contained many boldly uttered truths, which the House of Lords is not in the habit of hearing. But after a lengthened debate, the noble lord's motion was rejected by 61 to 17.

In the House of Commons, the second reading of the Corn Bill came on, when, as had been announced, an amendment was proposed, on which it was understood there was to be a week's discussion. On this occasion there was a slight change of performers. The amendment, that the Bill be read "that day six months," was proposed by

Mr. Ellot Yorke, the brother of the Earl of Hardwicke, and one of the representatives for Cambridgeshire. It will be recollected that the Earl of Hardwicke held a situation in the royal household, which he resigned when Sir Robert Peel announced his measures. Now, so long as the Earl retained an official position, his brother, the county member, defended the Government, and got himself into much trouble with his constituency; and to do some of the farmers and landlords of the Cambridgeshire fens justice, they are about as troublesome a set of protectionists as may be found. The reason is at hand. They believe that if protection be withdrawn, the sea will not merely break down their dykes, but flood their low levels, sowing " wild oats" over their property. The Earl of Hardwicke having gone into opposition, his brother goes also, and makes up for his former advocacy of Sir Robert Peel by the bitterness of his present attack on him. "The right hon, baronet," said Mr. Eliot You fluent, flippant, schoolboyish speech, looked to posterity for his indemnity, and there was no doubt but that the future historian would give him his due. He would be represented as a man who had been trusted on account of his professions by a great party of his countrymen, but whom that party had been obliged to abundon on account of his subsequent withdrawal from every one of these professions. It would be said of him-

"He stood alone, a renegade Against the party he betrayed; I ke stood alone amidst his band, Without a trusted heart or hand,"

This sort of vituperation from the small fry of the protectionists must often remind Sir Robert Peci of the Fool in King Lear:—

"Lear.—O me, my heart, my rising heart!—but down!
"Look.—Gry to it, Nuncle, as the cockney did to the cels,
when she put them i' the paste alive; she repped 'em o' the
encombs with a stick, shd dried, 'down, wantons, down.'
"I'was her brother that in pure kindness to his horse buttered his hay."

Omitting all mention of the small arguments of the small seep who spoke on Monday night, we may mention that hir he Georgia, the Conservative member for Honiton, made a sensible speech in support of the Government. But the following descrives particular permeal. Mr. Fox Manie, shiest for M. For Manie, shiest for the Conservation is held to a vest agricultural property for the way of the same would allow him to introduce a see observations upon this question. He did so

from feeling, it was right that those who were connected solely with the lauded property of the country, and who had nothing clse to look to, ought to state the grounds upon which they supported the proposition of her Majesty's Go-vernment. He could not say of that proposition that it had his outro and cordial approval, because it did not go to the extent he wished it to proceed. It fell short of that which he considered requisite to remedy the difficulties it was proposed to meet; but nevertheless, such as it was, he for one accepted it with gratitude, and he should endeavour to give it his most cordial support (hear, hear). He had listened to the honourable gontleman who proposed the amendment, and he confessed he felt some difficulty in accounting for the statement he had made with reference to the feelings this measure had created, not only in the breasts of land lords, but in the breasts of farmers and agricultural labourers on this side of the Tweed. It had been his duty, over since the measure had been proposed, to investigate the feelings which existed towards it in that country, and among that class to which he more immediately belonged; and he had no hesitation in publicly declaring that the result of that investigation had been this -- not only was there no panio among the landlerds, or among the farmers, but in spite of all that had been said, agricultural arrangements were proceeding with an incremed activity from day to day. He would state to the house, in reference to the observations which had fallen from the other side, a practical example of that which he had mentioned. When this proposition wes first made, a document was laid before a public meeting channeling from one to whom, however he might have sometimes differed upon the means he took to advocate this question, he had no hesitation in saying the country was under a very deep debt of gratitude for his exertions. He meant the honomable member for Stockport (bear, hear). The letter which that hon, gentleman addressed to the farmers of the kingdom, shortly after this measure was proposed, had been widely ennyassed in his (Mr. F. Manle's) county, at many of the largest markets there; and within ten days after the right honomable gentleman at the head of the Government had developed his measures, the furnicis, who he would not say were in the first instance anxious for it, but after having seen and heard the arguments in their support in that letter, they came to the conclusion, that instead of their being put off for three years, their interests would have been best consulted had the abolition of the Corn Laws taken place at once (hear, hear, hear). Such was his own conclusion, and he must say that he looked with regret upon the proposed measure of the Gevernment, because it contained provisions for maintaining the present Corn Laws for a further period of three years, and he also looked with regret upon the time which had al ready intervened since the right honourable gentleman had proposed this measure, and which he leared must yet intervene before even the measure of the right honourable gentleman could be carried into effect (hear, hear). - He could not but remember that on the 1st of November last the right honourable gentleman had proposed, on account of the appro-bended scarcity, both in Treland and in this country, to open the ports for the free admission of foreign grain. We had now arrived at nearly the end of March, and still there was no decided prospect of even the partial remedy of her Majes-ty's Government being carried through that house of Parlia-ment. He had certainly anticipated, and had hoped, before that house should separate for the Easter recess, that the measure would at any rate have passed that tribunal; but he regretted to think that, during the next week, they were to have mixed with that debate another subject of the deepest importance to a neighbouring country; and the experience which he had had of Trish debates forbade him to hope that the present measure would be read a third time in that house before the Easter recess (hear, hear, and a laugh) Under all the circumstances, he could not anticipate that before the end of May, at least, any advantage could be ex pected to accrue from it. He could not find fault with the length of time which the discussion of that subject had already occupied, for every one had a right fully to speak on so important a subject, particularly if he felt that his interests were affected. The landlords had stated that it was a question in which they were deeply concorned. He (Mr. P. Maule) must say he believed that in his county the interests of the landlords would be as safe after this measure should become law as they were at present; and he not only believed that the alarm which they expressed now was groundless, but he was surprised at the conduct of many of those who had (if he might use the expression) the very groundlessness of it under their own immediate eyes. He knew one noble lord who had withdrawn his proxy from the Government, and had given it to the noble duke who led the protectionist party in another place, and yet he know at the same time that ten days after the right honourable baronet had made his proposal known to the country the noble lord had let two farms upon his own pro-porty at an increased rental (hear, hear, hear). He stated the fact, because one fact was worth a bushel of arguments (hear, hear). One farm was renewed for a period of nineteen years. Previously the rent was 480% a year. Ton days after the right honourable baronet's proposal was made known, a rent was offered for the country nincteen years of 570l. per annum, being an increase of 90l. a year (hear, hear). Hitherto the rent had been puld half in grain and half in money; the whole increase of rent was conditioned to be paid exclusively in money (cheers). The other farm was let within a few days afterwards. He was not acquainted with the procise details, but he was within the mark when he stated that it had been let at an increased rent of 20 per cent. He had consulted nearly the whole of the land agents in the large county of Portly and they could not inform him of one single instance within their knowledge where the lease of a farm having expired the offers on it had not risen, and the increased offers had not been accepted by the landlords (hear, hear). He observed that a few days ugo a petition had been presented in another place from the county of Haddington against the proposed measures of the Government, and yet he knew that so far from having been depressed in value, a farm in that county had not many days sgo, been let upon a now lease at the enormous price of five guineas an acre. These facts concurred to make him think that if the whole agricultural interest of Scotland were fairly to consider the proposed measures, the result would be that they would look forward to the lease of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing of the releasing the releasin the issue of the principles of Free Trade as to one which would enable them to stand the much improved condition would enable them to stand in a much improved condition with reference to the other classes of the community (hear, hear). He looked upon those measures of her Majesty's Government as calculated to spoth and calm the feelings of britation which might exist in our own community; hit he looked also into the course of commercial research as calculated to teach to a like greater extent, and to require

peace between nations and throughout the world (bear, hear). Let them look to America, and he would ask to what did they attribute the changed tone of America? He attributed it, first, to the calm and dignified manner in which all parties in this country had treated the subject in dispute; but he equally ascribed it to those measures of freedom of trade and commercial liberty which had emanated from her Majesty's Government, and which he was sure would be found by all parties, whother extended to America or to any other country on the face of the globe, to be their best security for peace, whilst they would eventually secure to this country an abundant supply of all articles which entered into the food, and conduced to the comfort of the people (hear, hear).

The adjourned debate on Tuesday was marked by two or three good speeches. Mr. Hawes, member for Lambeth, gave an able and elaborate review of the whole influence and effects of Corn Laws and a protective system, demonstrating by figures and facts their inutility as well as mischief. Sir John Hanmer, also, descendant of a celebrated Speaker of the House of Commons—

("Illustrious age! how bright thy glories shone

When Hanner filled the chair, and Anne the throne") speaking as a landed proprietor, condemned the Corn Laws. Mr. Francis Baring, too, (he was Chanceller of the Exchequer in the Whig administration) warned the protectionists against the folly and madness of endeavouring to force on a dissolution of Parliament on such a question as this. But only conceive Mr. Shaw, the Recorder of Dublin, after denying that there was any famine in Ireland, from a failure of the potato crop, talking in this strain:—But the right honbaronet at the head of her Majesty's Government had changed his opinions, and in the words of the poet:

"Ban', ban'--Ca--Callban,

Has a new master-Get a new man."

(Renewed cheering and laughter from the protectionists.) No wonder they cheered and laughted. Mr. Shaw is a judge; and if he goes on in this style, he might possibly emulate that celebrated judicial wag, Lord Norbury, who could make a poor fellow burst out laughing, on whom he was passing sentence of death.

But there is one speech which was delivered on Tuesday night deserving preservation. Mr. Rashleigh, head of the ancient Cornwall house of Rashleigh, spoke in the following enlightened way:

Mr. RASHLEIGH should like to ask the First Minister of the Crown if he was prepared to agree to all the unconstitu-tional demands made on him by the Anti Corn-Law League on the apposite benches. There may be other anti-law lenguers, as well as Auti Corn-Law lenguers, and if this measure of the Government passed, it could be looked upon as nothing but a bonus to other agitators. The right hon. baronet below him (Sir J. Graham) smiled at that; but the Secretary for the Home Department had no right to smile (langhter) at the great question before them (ironical cheers and laughter from the Opposition benches). Honourable members opposite might smile, but they would not put him down by that course, nor would the important interest which he advocated be put down by the honourable member for Stockport, and the crew behind him (laughter, and ironical cheers from the Free Trade members). He held in his hand a speech of the right honourable baronet at the had of the Government, made in June, 1814, not twenty: one months ago, a portion of which he should read to the house, in order to show what a change had taken place in the opinions of the right honourable baronet within the short space of time which had clapsed since that speech was made. Here the honourable member read an extract from a speech delivered by Sir Robert Peel in 1844, in which the right honourable baronet miged, in very strong terms, the expediency of not applying the rigid rules of political econony, in all cases, to a state of society such as that which exists in this country. He (Mr. Rashleigh) declared it to be his opinion that it was the duty of the house and the country to call whon the right hon, baronet and ask him the reason for his tergiversation (hear, hear, from Colonel Sibthorp). He recollected the time when the motions of the hon, member for Stockport were treated with silent contempt in that house, and defeated by large divisions. That was the constitutional way of dealing with unconstitutional propositions (fronical cheers and laughter). It was some consolation, however, for him to think that the present measure would be treated in the other house in a manner very different from that in which it had been received here. He called upon the right reverend prelates to defend the altar tlaughter from the Opposition). Aye, the altar, the throne, and the cottage trendwed laughter from the same quarter) He did not know why honourable members opposite should laugh. He lived at some distance from their smoky regions; but their long chimneys were high in the horizon of his me-mory (ironical cheers). The right hon, baronet, the First Minister, in introducing the present measure to Parliament, had stated that the Cornish miners were now so well off, that they were able to invest a portion of their earnings in fea-thers, and actually enjoyed the luxury of a feather-bed. Even admitting this to be the case, it was no argument in favour of the right hon, barenet's measure, as it was much better to let well alone, than to run the risk of losing what we had by grasping after more. He should like the hon. member for Stockport to come down into the county of Cornwall. He would not poison or hang the honourable member, and he would be proud to show him the state of the peasantry in that country. He should not be able, perhaps, to place the honourable member in a feather-bed, because a feather bed was not exactly what the peasantry would pre-pare for him. He could tell the right hon, baronet, that if he determined to carry the reductions on copper ore into effect, he would soon min the classes whom he said now laid out their surplus carnings in feathers. He had a letter from a gentleman who had been in the habit of employing from 2000 to 3000 persons daily, and who expressed his entire disapprobation of the Government measure. He would not further occupy the time of the house. He might have used some hard language, owing to his want of experience in addressing the house: but he could excure honourable memhers that he was not ashaned of what he had said. It was painful to him to oppose the right hon, barquet; but be could not coment to be dragged through the muck and mire of expediency to support his new langled notions.

But for a few characteristic incidents, the continued debate on Thursday night would have been the duliest and drearlest in the interminable list of duli and dreary nights, First, there was shallow Mr. Bankes-a veritable "Justice Shallow"-testifying his deep sense of constitutional responsibility by inventing new pratuxts to delay the progress of the Corn Bill. He moved that a Select Committee be appointed, to which should be referred the consideration of the entire Law of Settlement. To this, Sir James Oraham and Bir Robert Peel replied, that there was already a bill in the House, the second reading of which would afford an occasion for discussing the entire question. This appeared so reasonable, that Mr. Colquinoun and Sir R. H. Inglis begged Mr. Bankes to withdraw his motion. The "Justice Shallow" of Dorsetshire consented, not, however, without betraying the spirit in which he has brought it forward. He would avail himself, he threatened, of every available opportunity of raising a discussion on the Law of Settlement, before the Corn Law Bill passed that House. The meaning of this is, that he will take every opportunity to delay the measure. This is the spirit of those who arrogate to them. selves all the loyalty, all the constitutionality, all the respect. ability, and all the responsibility, of the empire.

The resumed debate was taken up by Mr. Finch; and to those who have never heard Mr. Fluch, our description of him may appear coloured. Yet it is not so. The look of the man is quite enough. There is a pert conceit playing about his lips; and the atmosphere around his face is charged with a most prodigious amount of self-esteem. But he is excessively voluble; and he mistakes this for talent. His words roll out of his mouth, like potatoes pursuing one another out of a sack that a man is emptying; they run, here and there and everywhere, swift as the "arrowy Rhone," but not like it, to termination. He talked, and talked, and talked, and talked, until the Opposition benches became deserted, with the exception of Mr. Hume. But even Mr. Hume could not stand the chilling blasts of empty benches, though the fiery torrent of Finch was struggling with the frozen regions. He crossed over to the ministerial benches, in order to feel the comfort of having a shadow. Then on the Opposition benches there remained nothing but a HAT. The owner of the hat, Mr. Hawes, was ensconced behind the chair of the SPEAKER, enjoying a snug tete-a-tete. But the hat tried to supply the absence of its master. It stood on its crown, on the front opposition bench; and, like the kettle, in Mr. Dickens's tale of the "Cricket on the Hearth," leaned forward, so as to catch with open mouth the great points of the Finch Speech. Yet the hat was not like the kettle, for it showed symptoms of intelligence: now and then you might almost imagine that it raised itself up, as if muttering of Finch, as Pope did of Henley:

"How fluid nonsense trickles from his tongue."
But the hat was at last released from its sufferings. Its
owner approached the empty benches, and put it on his head.
There seemed a strong feeling of satisfaction in the hat as
it felt itself over a head with brains. It needed all the comfort; for just before it was released, Mr. Finch had threatened that if ever the hat appeared there again, all alone by
itself, he would punish it by a four hours' speech!

The rest of the night was worse than a halli scherif. Small men spoke; and they spoke small. There was one exception. Mr. Charles Buller rose; and he put some intelligence into the matter. But his speech was drowned by Lord George Bentinck, who reproduced his figures and "calculations." He did more. He compared ministers to pirates who had scuttled and ran ashore the good ship Protection, but he and his gallant crew will fetch her off the lecshore, and tow her into port. Marvellous impudence, did we not know that a training on Newmarket, and at Tattersall's, is the very best school for unblushing impudence. But something more transpired in the course of the night. Lord George has been trying to strike a bargain with ministers, that if they will postpone the Corn Law Bill till after Easter, the protectionists will support the Coercion Bill-if not, they will oppose it! This is the political morality of the uggles to live at the expense of the public. and has for a leader a qui tam hero.

The debate, it is understood, is to terminate on Friday (last) night.

THE PRESS AND FREE TRADE.—A meeting of peers, very numerously attended, took place yesterday (Wednesday), at the Clarendon Hotel, at which it was unanimously resolved to oppose, by every constitutional means, the progress of the Government Free Trade measures in the House of Lords.—Post.

Special Exomptions in Favour of Land.—Besides all the great exemptions from taxation with which agriculture is favoured, and which are well known, there are many lesser ones seldom if ever noticed. For instance, in this town (Preston) grain has been permitted to stand in the market free from time immemorial; and when the Corn Exchange was erected in 1824, at an expense of 12,000t., the whole of the pavement area was reserved for corn without any charge, and has been so occupied ever since. For several days in the week, our large central market place is filled with carts, laden with hay and straw: but these all stand and sell, without a farthing of charge. Where can such indulgence and favours be found in favour of any of our manufactures? The rate for the improvement of our borough is usually divided into two, the "paving rate" and the "lighting rate." All the land included in Preston is contiguous to the town, yet it is free from the lighting rate, which is 6d, in the pound, the other being only 4d, though buildings pay for both in similations where the one gats as little benefit of the paving as the other may seem to do of lighting. These little matters show the spirit of former times, and how ladd the special favours.

IMPORTANT DEPUTATION TO SIR

(From the Morning Chronicle.)

It has seldom fallen to the lot of an English Muister to receive a deputation, so important, in whatever light it may be viewed as that which yesterday waited upon Sir Roben Peel from Manchester. This deputation, which was accompanied by Mr. Gibson and Mr. Brotherton, consisted of Mr. Thos. Bazley, the president of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. J. A. Turner, president of the Commercial Association: Mr. Edwd. Tootal, and Mr. Wm. Stewart, three of whom alone are the employers of no fewer than ten thousand work. people, and to whom, therefore, at the lowest estimate, thirty thousand human beings look for their weekly substatence This deputation waited upon Sir Robert Peel, on the part of all the bankers, of fifty five members of the town council and of more than a thousand of the most influential manu. facturers and merchants of Manchester and its immediate vicinity, whose aggregate capital employed in the trate of the country exceeds thirty millions sterling, who are directly the employers of one hundred and twenty thousand persons, and on whom nearly four hundred thousand of the surrounding population rely for their daily food—to request the Minister to present their petition to the House of Commons, praying for an immediate passing of the measures now pending before Parliament. This petition originated and was completed within twenty-four hours, having received the signatures of eleven hundred and twenty two of such men as we have described, and of all shades of political opinion. High Conservative, moderate Whig, and ultra-Radical were unanimous upon this occasion. The ruinous disasten which appear to impend over them and the surrounding population, by the protraction of those debates in Parliament have sunk all other considerations. The pertinacity of a reckless minority, which impedes, by every vexatious contrivance, the progress of those great commercial questions, has levelled every distinction of political party in those great districts of trade, where merchants and manufacturers are threatened with the most serious embarrassment, and their numerous dependents with starvation.

It is two months to day since the great commercial reforms introduced by Sir Robert Peel were received by the nation with universal acclamation. Since then the news of their introduction has traversed the Atlantic, has carried ". message of peace" and future hope to the interior of the American Continent; and we have received back in this country assurances of friendship and mutual good offices. Yet it was only last night that the bill for the first of those measures reached the second reading in the House of Commons. Three weeks were occupied with a single debate; and several weeks more have been wasted under the pretence of protecting and defending the interests of silk manufarturers, timber merchants, and other traders, all of which are suffering the most severe losses by the delay, and whose on desire is for the speedy adoption of the ministerial proposals. Lord Worcester, Lord George Bentinck, Mr. D'Iaraeli, and Mr. Borthwick are the obstructives, who set up their authority as the guardian of commerce, in spite of the remonstrances of Manchester, Liverpool, and London. Majorities of ninety-seven, one hundred and two, and one hundred and thirty-three, against all their amendments in Parliament, and general consternation at their proceedings on the part of the country, appear to weigh but little with them. Their sport, for such it is evidently to them, they appear determined to have at whatever cost to the country.

The embarrassment which has been caused by the sus pension of all commercial transactions for so long a period, has been and is felt severely in all branches of business, and in all the large trading towns in the kingdom. In London and Liverpool it would be difficult to calculate the losses which have arisen from the monetary derangement consequent upon the interruption to the usual transactions of trade and exchange of commodities. But when we go to the manufacturing districts, difficulties and consequences of a much more serious character present themselves. There it is not alone the balance sheet of the merchant at the end of the year that is affected by the interruption to business; it is not there a mere question of profit or loss to the wealthy trader; there the stagnation of trade and the cessation of demand involve the very existence of millions of our tolling people, and ultimately the peace of society and the security of property. It is difficult for those at a distance to realise to themselves the extent of individual suffering and public danger which attend any material cessation of the usual demand for labour in those districts. The ministers who had the responsibility of the public peace in 1812, have not readily forgotten the alarm which existed in that year. The merchants and manufacturers who lived in the midst of that distress, are above all things solicitous to avoid its recurrence. For two months past they have been struggling against accumulating stocks, in the daily hope of confidence being restored to trails but he first form. sures. But week after week has only brought its disappointment, until at length a material contraction of production has been a matter of necessity which can no longer be post-

The deputation which waited upon Sir Robert Peel resterday furnished the Minister with facts, carefully collected from the official accounts of the town of Manchester at the condition of its population in 1841, the last period of a general stagnation of business, which afford atrong evidence of the sufferings then endured, and which must again be experienced in an aggravated form, if from a continued suspension of confidence no relief is afforded to trade. In that year, in Manchester and its immediate suburbs, there were bler untenanted buildings, usually containing about 27,000 per soms; there were 681 empty shops and offices; and 116 soms; there were 681 empty shops and offices; and 116 mills, engineers, and other works closed up, representing property, in the whole, which stood assessed in the town property, in the whole, which stood assessed in the town of Manchester was less than usually coded 100,0001. During that period the weekly consumption of coal in the town of Manchester was less than usually 1020 tons, of which 620 tons are calculated to have been used less in business, and 2000 tons less for priests domestic used less in business, and 2000 tons less for priests domestic faint idea can be formed of the sufferings of a population amongst whom such a change had occurred. Bei help amongst whom such a change had occurred. Bei help to the part of the sufferings of a population of the sufferings of a population amongst whom such a change had occurred.

Manchester was at that time, the condition of Bookpan, ton, and other surrounding towns, we inspitely wree it is scarcely necessary forms to dwall open the portaines of confidence for the success of distance show how insposed by the laythet that the transfer show how insposed by the laythet that the transfer should exist as long at those vital and the product of the laythet that the transfer should exist as long at those vital and the laythet laythet the laythet lay

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ure Life tables :

sels.

27, 23,199

29 23,45:

Years.

#4 ----

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1840

Years

1832

1810

1820 25,374 2,648,593 21 25,636 2,550,203 22 24,642 2,510,044

23| 24,54: | 2,506,760 24| 24,776| 2,559,587

1830: 23,721 2,531,810 31 24,242 2,581,961

Year, from 1820 to 1845.

Tonnage.

2,553,682 2,635,614

2,460,500 2,518,191 2,517,000

32 24,435 2,618,068 | 161,634

British.

Tons.

.036.816

2.108.492 2,203,026 2,250,173

2,340,300 2,464,020

2,756,53; 2,807,367

2,900,749 2,680,838 2,019,528 3,087,437 3,669,853

1,637,000

1,643,894 1,640,274 1,744,094 1,828,501

1,861,121

2, 58,240 2,197,014 2,498,792 3,624,680

Vessels.

10,762

10,989 11,678

11,740

11,644

12,890 14,348

14.119

13,964

15,984

9,544

9,7:34 10,1**5**8

10,216 10,614

12.9:14

British.

Vessels. Tons.

Custom House, London, 6 March, 1846.

incur any of the odium attached to them, by interposing any business whatever which can delay the final settlement of these questions, or fail to use every means in their power to bring them to a close. They have a powerful majority in Parliament—they have already exhibited forbearance enough

to a mere obstructive minority—to whom further conces-

sions will only be made at a severe sacrifice to the whole

We trust, therefore, they will use every means

community. We trust, therefore, they will use every means which their influence and their majority place within their reach, to meet the prayer of the pelitions from Manchester

and other parts of the kingdom, and thus avert that wide-spread distress, the approach of which is creating so much

FREE TRADE VINDICATED BY FACTS.

(From the Economist.)

In our last number we referred to a remarkable array of

facts, produced in an official return to Parliament moved for

by Sir Robert Peol, showing the operation of some of the

chief Free Trade measures which have been adopted during

the last twenty years. The first accounts relate to the ship-ping and navigation of the British empire. The following

ANACOUNT of the Number of VESSELS, with the Amount of their Tonnage, and the Number of Men and Boys usually employed in navigating the same, that belonged to several

174,514 1833 24,385 169,179 34 25,056 166,333 35 25,511 165,474 36 25,829

RETURN of the NUMBER and TONNAGE of VESSELS, distinguishing British from Foreign, employed in the Foreign and Colonial Trade, which entered Inwards and cleared Outwards from Ports of the United Kingdom, in each year from 1832 to 1815, exclusive of Vessels in Ballast.

4,490

4,701

6,749 8,766 8,355

7,439 5,851

5,600

7,247

7,895

Vessele.

3,447 3,035

4,438 4,912 5,733

6,472

Cloared Outwards.

Foreign.

6,772 S3,738, 6,618 918,776 6,205 956,591 6,774 1,026,063 7,200 1,075,823 9,286 1,361,040

Tons.

523,903

543,825

625,930

667,016

716,807 858,002 898,738

En'orod Inwards.

Foreign.

Tons.

618,911

732,896 740,828

882,101 869,519 1,037,234 1,200,935

1,297,840 1,997,840 1,041,380 21,858 974,392 10,674 1,005,894 1,143,897 1,353,795 20,859

37 26 037

38 26,009 38 27,745

1840 28,002 41 50,052

42 30,815 43 30,983

44 31,320 | 3,637,231

45 not yet completed

Men.

165,474 168,637

166,183 107,636 151,415

1/54,808

164,812 134,422

Ports of the British Empire, on the 31st December in each

Tonnage.

2,634,577 2,716,100

2,791,018 2,890,601

3,068,433 3,311,538

3 512 480

3,619,50 3,588,387

JOHN COVEY, Registrar.

Tatal.

Tons.

2,407,803 2,048,811 2,841,378

.1:32.367

3,215,519 3,501,254

,957,465

,105,207

,982,129 ,635,230

1,025,422 1,231,334

5.023,588

2,103,426

2.184.00m

2,405,517 2,578,018 2,016,302

302,020 3,543,456 3,691,574

,370,033

Total.

Vessels. Tons.

20,801 | 5,945,450 21,402 | 3,691,574 21,080 | 3,753,360 21,042 | 3,080,066 2),771 | 4,309,107

12,642

12,081 13,181

15,526

18,424

20,861

Vоявоїн.

14,627

15,479 10,438

16,531 17,603

18,113 19,639

23.114

Mon.

108,001

170,037

178,583

191,283 201,340

210,198 214,009

213,077

210,350

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whom work. thirty sterice part of oune], manu. rediate ade of

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15,197 2,731,08: 15,203 2,727,306 13,842 2,604,243 14,515 2,047,257

Statistical Department, Board of Trade, 9 March, 1846. G. R. PORTER; There is no class which has more pertinaciously clung to the principles of protection and restriction than the shipowners of this country, from the period when the cerebrated Navigation Act was finally passed by the 12th of Charles II.

That law exacted that no produce should be imported from the competition of foreign shipping, it appears that while the competition of foreign shipping, it appears that while the whole tonnage of that class has increased by 1,088,205 tons, and estaowners of this country, from the period when the celebrated Asia, Africa, or America, except in British ships, and established higher rates of duties on all goods imported in foreignships from other parts of Europe, than if imported in British ships. This law was retained without change until 1815, when the condition of our relations with the United States rendered it imposssible to maintain it against that country. The large trade which existed between this country. country. The large trade which existed between this country and the United States, while the latter were colonies of the British amples continued to impress after the independent the British empire, continued to increase after the independence of that country was established; but in regard to their shipping they lost the privileges which they possessed as colonies, and were placed on the same footing as foreign countries. countries. The consequence was, that American ships coming to England were obliged to sail in ballast, to return with a cargo, while English ships carried cargoes both ways. To obvicte the disadvantage to which American ships were thus account in the cargot to the accountries were thus account in the cargot to the cargot t were thus exposed in the competition with British, the Amerioan Government passed a law placing British ships under the same disabilities in entering American ports that American ships under tican ships were exposed to in entering British ports. The consequence of these mutual restrictions was, that all American produce was brought to this country in British ships, while all Emplish and American in American while all English goods were carried to America in American ships; the vessels of the respective countries passing one way in ballast, and thus exactly double the number of ships were required for the trade between the two countries; on in other words the product of seek country became. ships were required for the trade between the two countries; on in other words, the produce of each country became chargeable with double the expense for freight to the consumers in each respectively. This reciprocal folly lasted until 1810, when it was terminated by a treaty, by which such country coded to the other all, the privileges envised by its own ships.

No further allienties was made in the Navigation Act till self-our ships similar covalines with the privileges envision in that year (Presinct self-our lates) and parties to the country of the privileges of the country of the privileges of the country of the privileges of the

their ships on entering our ports, which caused a great clamour amongst our shipowners. Mr Huskisson then saw that it was in vain to attempt to maintain our Navigation that it was in vain to attempt to maintain our Navigation Act any longer. ... To have negotiated with Pruesia alone, as we had already done with the United States, only left the same to be done with every other country, sconer or later, whose shipping was injured by our laws. Mr. Huskisson, therefore, in the same year, proposed the Reciprocity Acts of 4th-and oth George IV., authorising his Majesty, by order in council, to repeal all discriminating duties on the ships of those countries which should enter into treaty with us to admit our ships on similar conditions. Since that period we have concluded treaties of reciprocal navigation with we have concluded treaties of reciprocal navigation with-

Pruouia Denmark Hanover Oldenburg Mecklenburg Greece Bremen Hamburg

Imbook States of La Plata Columbia Holland Awoden & Norway Moxico

Brazil Russia Portugal, and prior to that time with the United States

From the time the Reciprocity Act of 1823 passed, to the present day, the shipowners have never ceased to assert that that act had brought ruin upon the trade. The "Cornkill Committee" have published their annual reports, ever complaining of the ruinous consequences of foreign competition, and at their instance numerous Parliamentary investigations have been made into their alleged distress. The object of the tables given above is to show how much truth there has been in these assertions, and to exhibit the real consequences of the measures of 1823.

The first table shows the quantity of shipping possessed at the end of each year from 1820 to 1844. In 1823 the whole registered tomage amounted to 2,506,780 toms. From that time to 1814, independent of replacing all the ships which were during that period lost at sea, we find the registered shipping amounted to 3,637,231 tons, showing an increase of no less than 4,130,471 tons, or rather more than 45 percent during the period. This fact is calculated to con-45 per cent. during the period. This fact is calculated to contradict the assertion which has constantly been made as to the ruinous diminution of the shipping trade. But the best test of the two principles-that of restriction or Free Trade -will be to compare the progress of British shipping for the last twenty years prior to the change of the law with the twenty years immediately succeeding it. In 1804 the registered tonnage amounted to 2,208,570 tons; in 1823, it had increased to 2,506,760 tons, or by 238,100 tons, being rather more than 10 per cent. The comparison may be thus stated:

Period from 1804 to 1823, under the Navigation Act and restriction policy.

Tons of Shipping.

804 . Tonnage.. 2,268,570
823 . . . 2,508,700

Increase of tons . . 238,100 or 10 per cent.

Period from 1821 to 1844, un der the Reciprocity Act and Free Trade policy. Tons of Shipping. 1823 .. Tonnago .. 2,506,760 1844 .. - .. 3,637,231

Increase of tons.. 1,130,471 or 45 per cent.

We have thus the astounding fact before us, that while British shipping of this country, under the protective policy, from 1804 to 1823, increased only by 238,190 tons, or 10 per cont; in a similar period, from 1823 to 1811, under a Free Trade policy, it increased by 1,130,471 tons, or 45 per cent; and yet the latter is the system which the practical men of the times have vehemently denounced as the rain of the shipping interest!!!

The next tables above show the number and tonnage of shipping entered inwards and outwards, distinguishing the proportion of British and foreign in each year since 1832. In this return there is an important misprint in the Parliamentary document, which represents this account to be "inclusive," in place of "exclusive," of ships in ballast, which we have corrected. A reference to the annual tables presented to Parliament will show that this is a mere error. We wish this account had extended back to 1823, when the law was altered, as the results would have appeared even more s riking than they are. As it is, we find the comparison be-

racen the two be	priods to Hav	e neen vate	llows:	
Entéred inwards Entered outwards	18: British Shipping, Tons, 1,936,836 1,637,083	Foreign Shipping, Tons, 561,047	184 British Shipping, Tons, 3,669,853 2,947,257	Foreign
Total tonnage	3,673,939 Cove	1,027,380 ARISON.	0,617,110	2,716,075
1432 1845	Britt Shipp Tou 9,573,9 6,017,1	ก) ing. ห. 30	Foreign Shipping, Tons, 1,027,380 2,715,075	
Incres	180 3.043.1	 71	1 600 008	

So that, after all we have heard of the prejudicial effects of 3,013,171. It has been attempted to account for this contradiction of the usual assertions with respect to the decay of the shipping interest, by saying, that the great increase of British shipping is caused by the repeated voyages of Con-tinental passenger boats, especially of those in the Channel. This, however, cannot be the case, because those vessels clear in ballast, and do not carry cargoes, and consequently are not included in those accounts. Who, then, has benefited most by the Reciprocity Act of 1823—the British shipowner or the foreign shipowners? If the law had remained seit was English ships must have been said from controlled from controlled from controlled. as it was, English ships must have been excluded from carrying goods to the United States, to Prussia, and, sooner or later, to all countries whose ships were excluded. It is, therefore, an easy calculation to determine which party has benefited most by the change which took place in 1823. Since 1832 only, foreign shipping with this country has inoreased by 1,688,296 tons; but our own shipping with foreign countries has increased by no less than 3,043,171 tons. Which party, then, has been most benefited by those treaties which rovided for both parties open ports in each other's country? provided for both parties open ports in each other's country? While this extraordinary increase has been going on, what has been the language of the abipowner? In 1894 their reports say—"The long-continued and still existing depression of the shipping interest—the partial productions and great aggravation of distress caused by continual changes in our national distress caused by continual changes in vigation system—the utter impossibility of the successful maintenance of an unrestricted competition with foreign navigation—the gross injustice of the imposition of possilar and exclusive burdens on maritime commerce, for purposes purely national, while exposed to that competition—the dealining quality and estimation of British tonings—the embarrace mone, decay, and ruin of the British shipowner-may now be viewed as incontrovertible positions." Such that been the

language of this class, while they have been doubling their language of this class, while they have been doubling their property and their trade in shipping; and whenever a minister has proposed to respind the burdens of which they have complained, by reducing the duties on timber and provisions, he has met with no more inveterate opponent than the shipowner. The shipowners have generally pretended to a claim for protection, on the plea of supporting the colonial interests; but in their report issued in 1844, so forgetful were they of that interest, that they proposed to charge a duty on the registration of colonial built ships as a protection to them solves.

The next table in these returns is-

STATEMENT of the Brat or Diglared Value of British and IRIAH PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES Exported from the United Kingdom to different Foreign Countries and Colonial Possessions, in each Year, from 1827 to 1841:

	1	
) 3	Total	SAME SAME SAME SAME SAME SAME SAME SAME
	Ceutral and South America, including Brazil	4.04.019 5.10.020 5.1
	Foreign West Indies.	200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200
	British North American Colonies and British West Indies.	4.00 (19) (19) (19) (19) (19) (19) (19) (19)
	United States.	4.000.00 4.000.
	. A Sig.	4 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19
	Africa.	######################################
	South- ern Europe.	5.05.73 5.05.73 5.05.75 7.05 7.0
	نه ي	発見させらなるないでありまるいため 。
	М.н. em Eur	2012-1-20
	Year	<u> </u>

Statistical Department, Board of Trade, 9th Match, 1816. G. R. PORTI R.

This table exhibits the gratifying fact that not with standing all the difficulties with which this country has had to contend, from bad laws at home, and hostile tariffs abroad, we have nevertheless been able to increase the amount of our exports, in actual value, from 30,860,376l in 1827, to 58,581,292l, in 1841; which has been accomplished entirely by the unprecedented progress which, during that period, we have made by the improvement of machinery, the application of ketence, and other means, all combining to a greater reconomy of production. The extent to which this has taken place will be best seen by comparing the official value, which being taken at the same fixed rates, represents the comparative quantity at any period, and the real or actual value, which has relation to the price at the time. In 1627 and 1843 the comparison of these two values was thus;

A Official Value. Real Value. /1827 Exports . 62,050,008 were of . 36,800,376 1843 . 131,833,391 were of . 52,720,709

While therefore the quantity of goods experted is considerably more than doubled in the period, yet so great has been the reduction of prices that the aggregate real value has increased little more than forty per cent.

The divisions of our exports to various countries, exhibited in this table, furnishes extremely valuable illustrations of some of the great arguments at present contended for in commercial legislation, and cannot fail to correct some of the most prevalent and popular errors. The increase to the various markets is thus shown:

de la company de			
Exports to	11027		1811
Northern Europe	8,533,963	٠.	11,326,292
Bouthern Europe	5,915,201	·.	11/294/39-9
Total to Europe	14,178,961		25,671,100
Airea	671,188		1.615 0
ABIR	4,700,452		11,273,74
British North American Colo-	7,018,272	••	7,034,079
nies and British West Indies	4,080,572		5,522,238
Foreign West Indies	107, 100	••	1,173,031
including Brazila	4,001,310		5,430,508
Total	30,400,376		68,581,292

It will be observed that the largest actual increase has taken place to the Continent of Europe, being 11,142,2211, out of the whole increase of 21,723,9167. This fact shows how little inituance the hostile tarilly of the various Continental countries have had in restraining our exports, when met by relaxations of those restrictions which affected our imports. And this is even more remarkable if we examine the particular countries to which the greatest increase has taken place. The countries which have pursued the most taken place. The countries which have pursued the most stringent protective principles, and created the most hostile tariff against us during that period, have been France, Russia, Prussia, and Germany (the Zollvoroin), and Belgium. But these are also the countries in respect to the produce of which both the systematic reductions of our duties, and the accidental operation of our Corn Laws, have induced the greatest demand for this country. With respect to France, the admission of their silk manufactures and gloves, at the commencement of the period under review, and the subsequent reduction of the duties on their wines to the rates chargeable on those of Spain and Portugal, have led to a greatly increased importation from that country, which has been attended with a corresponding increase country, which ports. Their with regard to Bussia, Prussia, Cornany, and

Beigium, first the great relaction, and finally the entire removal of the duty on wood, flax, and hemp, the reduction of the duty on timber, and the operation of the Com Law, which had to a large importation of grain for accornic consecutive years, have all tended materially to finerense the amount of our exports, in raturn for our increasing imports. The following table shows the progress of our exports to those countries during the period in question:

	1447,	1M J.
Exports to	£	£
Frame	440,952	2/1/10.20
Resemble	1 MPI 970	2.124 (929
Proposia	174,894	1416, 2114
Chermany	4./51.//18	6.151.524
Bolgium, included with Hol-	,, -,, -, ,,	
Inn4, but to 1573	750,050	1,471,251
·	7.434.937	12,919,018

Here, then, we have an increase of exports amounting to nearly five millions and a half, merely as the result of relaxations in our own tariff, and in spite of the numerous hostile laws which these countries have enacted against bur commerce. We have in this fact the best answer to that class of politicians who have feith only in diplomacy and reciprocal treaties, and who deny that we can "light hostile turiffs by free imports." This school of politicians tell us that our trade with France can only be increased by negotiation and treaty. The facts before us form the best reply to their theory, and the whole proves incontrovertibly the truth of that rule, which directs a government to take care of its imports, with a feeling of full security that its exports will care for themselves.

The greatest relative increase in apparent in our exports to Asia. This is made up almost entirely between the trade to our own East India pessessions and to China, which are both very striking examples of the benefits of free and unrestricted commerce. Our exports to India remained almost stationary for many years prior to the entire opening of that trade to private enterprise, at the last renewal of the East India Company's charter, the effects of which may be dated from 1834. The progress of the trade to these two markets has been thus:

	J#27.	17:55.]×[1,
Exports.	E	ť	£
Linut Isrila and Gaylon	n'mayntr	2,574,500	7, HUG, HUS
China	610,637	812,852	2,300,617

The great reductions of duties on our goods into China is another strikin \(\epsi\) illustration of how far a country can "light hostile tariffs by free imports." The Chinese are making the experiment, and it is quite obvious that this free admission of British manufactures will compet us to reduce the exorbitant duties on their teas. Meantime they even succeed, to a great extent, in increasing their exports. Our imports from China have rapidly increased during the last three years, as a, mere necessity arising from our exports. Of tea our import has increased since 1842 more than 10,000,000 of lbs., and of silk the increase has been greater. It has been as follows:

			bales.	1				bales.
1413			1.951	. [1444			3,782
1813	••	• •	2,651	1	1815	• •	••	11,358

And in the present year it will be about 18,000 bales.

But while these tables speak so strongly in favour of Free Trade, they furnish evidence as strong against a reliance on the protection system. There is no branch of our trade for which sheld domestic sacrifices have been made as for that with our North American and West India colonics. For their encouragement this country has submitted to the greatest sacrifices. Canadian timber and West India sugar have been the greatest drains that the productive industry of this country has had to contend against. For the encouragement of these interests sacrifices amounting to many pullions a year have been almost cheerfully submitted to, under the impression that they formed the foundation and guarantee for our chief export trade. These returns show that during the whole of the period under review, our exports to these colonies have been stationary; the average of the the three first years being 5,051,709L, and of the last three years 5,026,980l; and it is for this trade that this country has been called upon to sacrifice a sum annually, which, prior to the reductions of duties in the last two years, was variously estimated at from 5,000,000L to 7,000,000L, in the direct price paid for sugar and timber, and independent of the indirect loss sustained by interfering with other great markets.

REVENUE.

The next table in these returns is a

SETTEMENT of the NET REVENUE of CURTOMS in each Year, from 1800 to 1800; the Amount of Duty received on Coun, and the REVENUE exclusive of the Duty on Coun; showing also the principal Duties of Customs repealed and reduced in each Year.

Years.	Revenue.	Duties re- received on Corn.	Revenue ex clusive of Corn.
1	r		£.
1800	21.581.007	1,000,838	20,135,139
1840	W1,784,409	1,150,000	20,027,803
1811	21 HUH MILL	588,340	21,330,504
1812	21 025 145	1,361,960	19 061,170
1813	21,033,717	758,290	20,275,424
1811	124, 147, 22	1 (1)14 143	21,100,439
1815	20,100,856	367,003	10,430,444

Note. Estimated Loss of Revenue by reductions, &c., in the

fariff:	
1811. Hee in the lusk, oil from the kingdom of the	£ 21,170
1812 Coffee, hides, indigo, olls, sords, timber, liquo- rice, mahogany, turpentine, and export duties	
1813. Cork, wood, timber, and other articles	171,521
1841. Comes, surrants, wool, and other articles	161,089
1815 811717	,

1845. Sugar
Cotton wool
Coal, export duty
Alinov articles

2.21,300,000
080,000
118,000
320,000
2.418,000

reprints of the country, it has been found necessary to expect the empurity of from corn under the operation of the country, it has been found necessary to expect the empurity from corn under the operation of the country of the discrete from corn duties hitherto have avowedly the property of the property of the country
£4,930,944

798,0151. While the public have benefited by the reduction of the prices of commodities to an amount represented by import duties equal to 4,235,2441, the consumption of these and other commodities has so much increased as to leave a deficit of only 798,0151, to be supplied in other ways on account of these reductions. Besides this direct advantage, arising from the relaxations of duties, the country has had all the benefit of the increased amount of trads to which an extended consumption, import, and consequent export of our goods have led. The great evil of indirect taxes is, that they limit and interfere with the industry of the country, and the greation of the means for paying them. There is no indirect tax that does not in one way or other take much more from the packets of the people than it places in the Exchequer; and it is on this account that reductions of duties always yield so much more advantage to the public than they impose lows upon the state. The tables before us show that if we are directly taxed to the extent of 70%,0151, to make up a deficit in the revenue, the nation has a fund of at least 4,235,2441, arising from the reduction of duties, from which that direct tax can be paid.

The next table in the return is-

SILK. RAW, WASTE, and THROWN SILK, Entered for home consumption in the United Kingdom. Waste, Waste, Wante.

Years.			Raw.	and	Thrown.	All sorts
				Husks.		
			The.	lhe.	175×.	184.
- INL1			1,501,235	20,234	5NO,505	2,119,974
1815		• •	1.000,500	27,071	377.H22	1,475,389
			- 11773;1 14	4.162	210,758	1,089,334
JH17	• •	• •	1,343,051	49,955	204,553	1,686,669
INIM	• •	• •	1,111,841	80,940	391,108	1,022,087
1410			1,146,007	71.331	331 125	1,449,553
1H20			1,622,700	04,483	300,053	2,027,836
1821	• • •		1,864,513	105,047	360,218	2,320,808
1822	• •		1,993,761	61,021	342,478	2,111,500
1823	• • •		2,051,895	52362	303,801	2,408,121
1824	•	•	3,414,520	133,257		4,011,018
1825	••		2.848.5/8	195,910	559,642	3 001 058
1820	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		1,001,169	(included)	249,345	2,253,513
1827	• • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	3,759,138	with raw	451.015	4,213,153
1828	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		4,102,550	in these	386,203	4,547,818
1829		::	2,710,962	(yeary.)	172,239	2,802,201
1830			8,771,000	485,013	110,338	2 WH XY5
1831	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•	3,035,832	702,258	511.210	4.312,330
IH32	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• ::	3,401,445	660 666	329,932	4,302,073
1835	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• •	3 F: \$4,705	654.381	204,307	4.701.043
IN 11	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• •	3,346,750	1,009,932	165,009	4.522,361
1835		::	4,131,008	1.352.872	251,578	5,788,458
1436	••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	4,372,501	1,508,721	294,938	6,200,160
1837	• •		3,730,427	875,781	213 368	4,819,576
	• •	• •	3,683,739	960,117	243,570	
\$44/444	• •	••	3,483,363	1,012,655	229,910	4,897,45
14144	• •	• •	3,860,080	745,243		4,755,058
1	• •	• •			288,981	4,895,204
11111	••	• •	3,200,885	1,370,314 1,434,003	267,333	4,456,532
3 -1 413	• •	• •			353 977	5,735,384
1	• •	••	3,619,717	1,495,457	334,635	5.150,030
	• •	• •	ा,तश्चा,स्याद	1,775,835	410,358	6,203,021

1812		3,936,714	1,434,003	3153 1177	5,735,384
1843		3,619,717	1,495,457	334,835	5.480.030
		न्,तद्रा स्वाद	1,775,835	410,358	6,203,021
Aggregate quar	atities	Abr	stract in Do	connial pe	eriods.
entered for	con-			· · · · · · · · - · - · - · - · -	
Rumption. 1	la the				
10 years 1811-18	23	15,214,215	585,966	3,608,872	19,409,023
Do. 1821-18	13:3	32,916,905	2,801,515		39,681,248
Do. 1834-18	43	37,425,114	11,024,815		50,007,118
Average annua	l con-	, ,			,
sumption. I	n the		•		
10 years 1814 18	23	1.521.421	58,501	300,897	1,940,902
Do. 1821 18	1.1	3,291,690	289,151	387,283	3,968,121
Do. 1834-18	43	3,742 511	1.192,481	205,719	5,200,711
Coasumption of	of the		,•	.,	.,,,
single year 18		4,021,808	1,775,855	410,358	0,208,021
		-, ,	-,	,	.,,

The alterations in the rates of duty during the period have been as follows:--

Thrown,__

					· W	ast	c,			not		T	ro	m,
		Kı	۱W.	K	m	υч,	80	,	(lye	t		dye	
		pe	r]]	١.	. 19	er J	b,		pe	r Ib	•	1)	er l	lb,
To July 5, 1819.			. તે,		А.	- d			8.	d.		£	8.	d.
Bengal		4	3)		2	111	١.						8. 5	
Other East India		63	3 }	. • •	:;	112	١,		14	7.		2	5	61
Italian, &c.		5	6)	• •	J	4	,			•				•
From July 5, 1819.			•											
British Enst India		-1	01						• •				_	_
Other parts		5	υÌ	• •	4	U		٠.	I F	н	• •	2	5	σ
From Mar. 25, 1821.	• • •	•	,								•			
All sorts		O	3		O	3			7	ß		2	5	ß
From July 5, 1825.		٠	•	••				• •	•	٠,	••	*	•	
All sorts		Λ	3		n	4			7	a		0	7	Λ
From Nov. 15, 1825.	• •	٠,	.,	• •	"	"	•	٠.	•	v	••	v	•	v
All sorts		Λ	a		Λ	•				Λ		4	-	α
From July 5, 1826.	• •	U	.,	••	v	0		٠,	••	v	• •	U	7	O
					^	,		,	• ^	0-	٠.			
All corts	• •	"	*	• •	U		. '	• •	- 29	,:JB,	∙)A,	11 11	,6s	ĸų.
From July 5, 1829.						ewt				_				
All sorts	• •	O	1	• •	ı	U	I,	tici	l, 2°	1, 34	Ge	I, 3:	1)!	32(l
From May 15, 1840.			δp	or	cer	ıt. r	ule	lit	ton	al.				
From July 9, 1842.														
All sorta	• •	1	1-2	ωl	Co	1. 6	3.	10	d (13.1	Oil	18	0.3	-54
		٠.	1	or.	. le	103	1.51	1	ไย	03	.5	24	11	-5d
													o a	
From March 19, 1845.											_			-

* Singles and train, organzine and crape.

* Singles and train, organzine and crape.

Great pains have been used to produce an impression that the whole increase of the consumption of silk has been of "waste, knubs, and husks." No doubt there has been an enormous trade created by the free introduction of these inferior parts of silk of which the country was entirely deprived under the high prohibitory duties which formerly existed, In the ten years prior to 1823, we consumed only 58,591 lbs. per annum of this raw material, at a duty of about 4s, per lb. In the single year of 1844, at a nominal duty, our consumption was no less than 1,775,8551bs. Taking even this small item of the silk question, it would not be easy to find a stronger example of the benefits derived from the free introduction of raw materials. When it is considered how much employment has been derived from the free introduction of even this refuse, and the valuable branch of trade which has been created from it, we can form some idea of how much even the revenue is indirectly benefited by the additional consumption of other articles which is promoted by relaxiby such duties.

But independent of this new branch of trade, we find that the consumption of thrown and raw allk has been considerably more than doubled during the period in question. Thus:

Average annual co. 1814 to 1820.	naumption.	Consumption
1814 to 1823, lbs. Rawellk 1,521,494 Thrown ailk 900,887		1844. 15 6. 4,081,506 410,358
otal raw and thrown 1,882,311	4	4,439,188

The next table in the return is-

An Account of the Drelard Value of British Silk Good 6 Experted from the United Kingdom, in each Year from 18, 5 to 1946, both inclusive.

-	Bett	K Blik O	oods exp	orted fro	m the Un	ited Kin	Mild's
Years	France	Other conn- tries in	United States	Mexic s. Ame- rics, and foreign	British Posses- sions in America and the West Indies.	Africa,	
1820	£ 1,498	£ 49,477	£ 27,205	£ 60,518	£ 10,523	£ 14,490	IMAN
¥7	4,001	61,825	67,111 46,587	61,057 PO ,346	25,352 21,036	18,75% 31,138	216 111
20 1830	34,808	96,196	58,083 135,057	50,743 60,015	36,000 100,342	20,321 25,692	207,010 521,010
31 32 33		105,113	237,085 02,235 251,278	67,916 97,591 100,450	190,591 113,561 120,516	33,738 46,034 54,627	57×3014 520,691
34 35	00,346	113,804	200,300 537,040	106,191	102,487 116,421	53,974 48,980	737,401 037,198 973,786
36 37	48,100 43,144	82,460 81,097	524,301 109,629	75,026 73,325	122,000 113,514	61,495 70,963	0173622
34 30	44,628	66,463	318,500 410,003	00,075 96,041	111,100 175,217	114,178 75,030	777,2M) NDH,119
1810 41 42	117,350	72,314	274,150 306,757 81,243	140,074 107,001 9 0 ,08	102,110	04,122	7:12,114H 7HH,H:H
43		103,876	164,233 189,698	120,020	98,305 62,500 109,101	53,852 66,080 1,855	590,165 667,954 734,152
45		Particule	rspot ye	t ascertat	ned; —		761,123
- VIIII	5 m mte	Timbeck		Ar viiil	A COLUMNIA	GXPOFIA,	

Custom House, London, 7 March, 1846. W. IRVINE.

Trades that exist only by the aid of protection cannot command a foreign market; for if their cost of production be so high that they cannot withstand foreign competition at home, when their rivals must incur the expense of transport to meet them, it is quite clear that they will be less able to do so in the neutral markets of the world when each party incurs the same charges. If, on the other hand, a producer can successfully compete in neutral markets, it must be clear that protection in the home market is a mere form and dead letter. All branches of industry, therefore, which subsist only by the aid of protection are exposed to much more serious reverses than those which are in such a natural state that they freely compete with other countries. When the silk trade of this country was dependent only on the monopoly it possessed, the slightest derangement of the home market, by a change of fashion or otherwise, at once deprived it of its whole reliance, and involved all connected with it, both masters and operatives, in the most severe distress; while other trades under similar circumstances could fall back upon their extensive foreign markets, and by a comparatively slight reduc tion of prices induce so much greater a demand there is materially to mitigate the temporary depression of the home market.

As soon as the silk trade was exposed to competition we find an export demand coming into existence. In 1826, when foreign silks were first admitted, the whole of our exports amounted only to 188,801%, in ten years they reached \$17,822%, and in 1845 they amounted to 764,424%. It has, moreover, been a matter of notorious fact, that no cases of distress have existed in Spitalfields since 1826 in any way to be compared with the periods of suffering and depression which existed prior to that time. It is not the least encouraging evidence of the advancing state of this branch of industry, that our largest market for exports is the United States, where the French, German, and Swiss manufactures come in direct and equal competition with us. And it is still more gratifying that the next largest market we possess is in France itself, the country of our greatest rivals, which takes more of our silk manufactures than all our colonial possessions together.

Connected with our exports to France, the next table in these returns brings to light an interesting principle in commerce. The table is:

An Account of the Quantities of Forgies Silk Manufactures retained for Home Consumption in the United Kingdom stuce the removal of the Prohibition (5th July, 1826). Silk Manufactures of Europe entered by Weight.

~	Quan	tities retained		Qua	ntitles retained
	for he	ome consump-	1	for l	iome consump-
		tion in the	1		tion in the
		ted Kingdom.	İ	Uı	lited Kingdom.
Years.		lbs	Yours.	٠	lhn.
1820		48,301	1836		190,078
1827		115,278	1837	• •	172,400
1828		169,489	1838		217,047
1820	-::	121,585	1839		250,851
1830	••	120,314			5 13 746
1831	••	148,470	1841		248,902
1832		144,956	1849		237,160
	••		1843	• •	207,673
1833	••	142,267		••	205,125
1894	••	166,261	1844	••	310,153
1835	• •	160,840	1845	• •	01111100

Since the removal of the prohibition on French siks, the quantity imported has stendily increased each year; while our exports to France have also stendily, but more rapidly in crossed, showing that, under a perfectly natural and Free Trade, different countries would import from each other different descriptions of the same kind of goods, for which each hind the greatest advantage in the production. While France sends silk goods to England which are preferred on account of their better designs of colours, England sends to France other descriptions of silk goods, which have either cheapness or durability to recommend them. It is not too much to say, that the import of silk goods of one kind from France, actually promotes the export of British silks of other kinds to France.

TIMBER.

The next table in these returns relates to the operation of

clp

the limber duties from 1840 to 1846.

An Account showing the Quantities of Sawn and Hewn Tin next, the Produce of the British Colouies and of Porting Countries respectively, antered for Home Consumption in the United Kingdom, in each Year from 1840 to 1846 inclusive.

	Donis, ann	Bairing Colo Bairons, &c., or split.	MIAL:			
Years.	By tale. Gt. hunds.	By measure- ment Loads	Masta by tale. Number.	Dy most. Loads. 641,613		
1840 . 41 . 49 .	59,830 50,804 18,134	170,780		110.57		
44 45 1840	10.670	408.801 FORMION.		12/18		
	57 176 27 079 	4	processing the			

0.0

iolaj,

7,910 1,010 4,674 9,691 7,198 9,746 7,422 3,673 7,240 8,111

Dinot

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N ACCOUNT of the AMOUNT of DUTT received in the United Kingdom on TIMBER (except Staves), in each Year from 1840 to 1845 inclusive.

10 111) suci	uarvo.	BRIT			
Zuera.	•	Foreign. E		Colonial.	1 /	Total.
1840		1,222,688		453,805	• •	1.070.403
41		1,012,285		452,509		1,404,704
48		A00,056		122,705		10H, 10R
43		070, 7 35		66,760		644,498
41		R90,493		71,000	• • •	MD1,408
ÄÄ		047,848		94,862		THUILDE
Office	of the	Inapoctor G	eneral	of Importa	and E	sports,
, C		n House, Lon	auon, t	vin March		
		1			ATTTI	M Invino.

The change in the mode of measuring timber introduced when the duties were altered in 1842, renders it difficult to institute any accurate comparison between the years immeinstitute any accurate comparison between the years immediately before and succeeding, as to quantity. However, since the reduced duties came into full operation, the import and consumption of timber have rapidly increased, and the revenue is quickly recovering its former amount. The comparison of the consumption and the revenue of 1814 and 1815, the only two years in which the new duties have been fully in operation, is as follows:

Colonial '	Timber.	l'orei	gn.	
Desis, &c.	Hewn.	Denis, &c.	Hown.	Total duty
1 acts.	loads,	loads.	loads.	£
398,194	551,094	321,430	202,209	801,492
498,891	797,490	342,905	282,028	1,042,103

WOOL. The next table in these returns is a

Region of the Rates of Dutt chargeable on Forzion and Colonial Work, the Quantities thereof Imported; the Prices of Routhbown and Kerlino Wom, and the Declared Value of Russian Woollan Mastracrons Exported in each Year, from 1818 to 1845.

				000	88	Declare	d Value o Exports.	f British
- to 1	oreign Wood iported	Colonial Wool Imported		Price of Southdown	Price of Kent Long.	Woollen and Worsted Yarn.	Manu	Total.
[830 - 9, 21 10, 22 18, 24 18, 24 18, 24 18, 24 18, 24 18, 25 11, 26 11, 27 28, 29 199, 31 20, 32 31, 32 32, 33 31, 34 12, 38 32, 36 11, 38 36 12,	[794,7986] 651,366] 651,366] 662,265] 662,266] 655,286] 655,286] 655,286] 655,286] 656,286] 661,298]	122.239 205,761; 188,815 502,850; 416,945 351,884 1.242,000 1.607,938; 1.607,938; 1.607,938; 1.607,938; 1.707,030; 2.661,191; 3.611,986; 3.770,300; 6,932,986; 9,431,133; 12,161,233; 14,161,233; 14,1	16,722,567 19,356,726 19,366,726 19,366,726 22,061,485 16,980,112 20,110,511 30,230,059 21,510,640 21,510,640 31,032,029 28,142,480 34,076,413 46,405,232 44,379,023 24,174,552 44,379,023 24,174,552 44,379,023 48,379,023 49,432,294 40,432,294 40,170,074 40,432,294 40,170,074 40,432,294 40,170,074 40,432,294 40,170,074 40,432,294	1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	138,111 138,111 138,111 138,130 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001 131,001	8,143,327 6,980,022 6,590,138 6,662,946 6,483,01 6,683,946 6,183,683 4,966,879 5,213,610 3,009,741 4,967,743 4,724,603 6,214,471 6,214,471 7,583,587 7,734,671 7,583,587 6,744,671 7,583,587 7,734,671 6,744,673 6,744,674 6,744,6	5,479,746 6,540,726 5,975,415 7,119,692 7,998,018 1,980,073 8,179,001 8,891,965 5,780,814 5,892,350
41 42,4	173,224 ical De	23,604,296	76,828,152 1 Board of T	1 2 1	0 11 1 2 1 3 .1	742,468 958,217	6,790,232 8, 204 ,836 7,674,072	7,553,121 9,163,680

9 March, 1846, . R. Ponten. above the value of Is. below the value of Is.

from June 6.

We have so often remarked upon the interesting and imortant facts contained in this table, and which must be so familiar to our readers, that we do not think it necessary to do much more now than furnish the return itself. It may be well, however, to draw attention to the remarkable decline in our export of woollens in 1819 on the imposition of the high duty. The trade of 1818, the last year of the low duty, has never entirely been recovered in amount till 1844; this is a striking example of the danger of interfering with any branch of industry. It is also very remarkable that with the imposition of the high duty of 1819, although the import fell off immediately by more than thirty per cent, yet the price of Fnglish wool fell from 2s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per lb.; and throughout the whole period it will be observed that the highest price for English wool has been co-existent with the largest imports, while the smallest imports have co-existed with the lowest prices for home-grown wool. The importa-tion of wool last year exceeded that of 1842 by nearly thirty millions of pounds; but in 1842 home-grown wool was worth only 112d, per 1b., which in 1845 was worth Is. 4d.

1811 froo

The next table shows the

NET PRODUCE paid into the Exchequer, of the REVENUE of Curtums (exclusive of the Corn Duties) and of the REVENUE of Excise, in the Years 1842, 1843, 1844, and 1846, with the Amount of duties remitted in those years respectively.

Not produce and	1842,	1843.	1844.	THAR
Net produce of the Customs, exclu- sive of Corn Du-		£	£	£
Net produce of the	19,601,108	20,275,424	21,400,138	10,829,848
Excise	12,517,610	12,877,528	10,008,050	13,585,583
Duties remitted	32,178,814	33,152,952	34,714,488	33,415,431
Contoms		171,521	296,481 70,000	9,418,000 913,000
the state of the s				

While taxes to the amount of 5,197,0741 have been remitted, the actual receipts of the Exchequer have been reduced only

This interesting and highly instructive document conclude by a statement of the reductions effected in the expenses of the excise department, since the repeal, in 184b, of the duties of the excise department, since the repeal, in 184b, and the duties of the duties on suctions and glass, and with some correspondence from glass manufacturers relating to the improved condition of that trade, and the great increase in the demand consequent upon the repeal of the duty. The saving by reductions in the establishment amounts to no less than 52,536, in reference to which it is stated that most of the transions in the establishment amounts to no less than 52,536, in reference to which it is stated that most of the effects discontinued in consequence of these reductions have been provided for, and the manifestar, it is expected, will all which occur.

THE COMMERCE OF ROME.

(From a Correspondent of the Daily News.) ROME, MARCH 12.—That "amusing print" the Diario of Roma, which, as you know, is merely a recital of church coromonies, chronicled with chamberlain precision and Chineso solompity, published, last week, in a fit of generosity, hese sciencity, pursued, must week, in a nt or generosity, the balance sheet of the Savings Bank for February. The laity were thus informed that during the past month a sum of 30,403 dollars had been lodged by them, while only 10,332 had been withdrawn; a palpable that to be jeyful at such evidence of their prosperous condition under the ecclesiastical system of rule; as if they did not know this exceptional surplus to be a simple derivative from the disburse. monts of foreign opulence during carnival, and a casual result of the circulating medium being freely lavished among tradesfolk by these northern revellers, for from being an index to the sustained healthy condition of remunerative industry. This topic I have touched on before, and may resume with effect. The middle classes, the proletaires, and operatives having been utterly overlooked in the dominions of the church (with thereunto, the ignoble countyance of the aristocracy); uniformly snubbed and ornshed since the days of Rienzi.

The declamations of Young Italy may or may not be all froth; but Arabic figures cannot be dealt with in the fushion of rhotorical flourishes; the whole question may resolve it self into a simple study of the balance sheet of Roman trade. Let your readers (matter of fact people) pause at each separate figure, and then sum up their impressions from the general coup-d'ail of the following cartoon, which has not been painted in the Vatican.

1. Colton tissues .- The population pays for every yard in use, hard cash to the looms of England, Switzerland, and Mulhausen. Two millions of dollars (exclusive of smuggling) are ascertained to be lost on this item. The only attempt to manufacture a coarse description of cotton stuffs was made in the workhouse at Dioclesian baths, and in the arsenal of galley slaves at Civita Vecchin. The purpers preferred begging, and the only "cotton lords" left are the latter

gentry
2. In Woollens, things are not quite so bad, though the staple is miserably eared for. Alarmed some years ago at the enormous outgoings of money to purchase foreign broad cloth, the present Pope's advisors suggested the exploded system of bounties, a certain sum was ordered to be paid to the manufacturers according to quality as well as quantity. The result was, that the trade appeared to revive.

1836 there were in operation 28 manufactories producing 31.538 ... 46 41 ' • • • • 49,49<u>9</u> 63,165 1830

But the force of bounties could no farther go. The thing had been worked up-hill to the utmost of its enpacity; smuggling increased and the bounties were jobbed; last year Peel's policy of reducing the turiff was adopted; and at the fair of Sinigaglia, the quantity of foreign cloth admitted at reduced rates doubled in amount, and kept up the produce to the papal treasury; but several factories have since been discontinued, and much misery has ensued. It must be added that the intelligent manufacturers blame Government for not giving them such powers as are supplied in France by the system of livrets, a matter not understood in England, but absolutely necessary here whenever workmen are congregated in bodies. Meantime, the Roman States export raw wool to the amount of 260,000 dollars, and import the same spun or woven to the amount of 490,000 dollars.

3. In Silken tissues these states could supply all Europe with common painstaking. The whole campagna might be planted with mulberries, if the landowners had the alightest wish to improve their enormous tracts. women spin enough to save a portion of the loss, which is thus:-

4. In Flax and Homp the balance of trade is actually in favour of Rome, and that to an unexpected extent, so us to cover the whole loss of the cetton imports. The spinning and weaving of lizen is attended to, not in manufactories, but in the homesteads of the cottagers, and without any encouragement or interference of Government. The women here again redeem the laziness and incapacity of the men. For, particularly on the other side of the Apennines, the old habits of the peasantry have survived, and though no longer is part of Macaulay's description true-

"When the oldest cask is opened, And the largest lamp is lit; And the chesnuts glow in the embors, And the kid turns on the spit.

If no longer-

"The good man mends his armour, And thims his helmet plume;"

Still-s shutile merrii

Gues flashing thro' the loom. 5. In wax and honey the imports surpass the exports by

140,000 dollars. This is absolutely sliameful, and shows how little the fourth book of the Georgies, or the good old man of Æbalia's example has done for the degenerate agricultural

6. The fisheries are in as miserable a state of neglect as in Ireland. St. Peter appears to have only bequeathed his ring (annulum piscatoris) to the Pomiss. 400,000 dollars are paid in hard each to us English, for fishing the cod banks of Newfoundland, to enable the Romans to keep Lent,

which they do very badly.

7. In the matter of oil only think of a country where the olive has but to be planted to spread its silver leaves in the sun and give abundant returns, actually importing foreign-oil from the other Italian states, particularly its neighbour Tuscany, to the amount of \$20,000 dollars. Most of the land thus mismanaged is in the claws of the church. To be badly off for soap is a still more blameable condition, arguing arrant laziness: this article is imported to the extent of 100,000 dollars.

8. Corn shall form a chapter to itself in a future commu-

8. Corn shall form a chapter to used in a nature communication. This is the monster grievance, and ought not to be dealt with perfunctorily.

9. For Gums, Resins, Fruit, Wines, the absolute loss on the halame of import and export is 180,000 dollars.

10. Colonial produce—tea, coffee, sugar—are of course on the wrong side of the ledger; but not an attempt has been deserted for imitate the Breach and Garman hest-root for or dreamt of to imitate the Prench and German beet-root fac ories, though this vegetable, planted lately in the fat ground near Ariola, produced roots varying in weights from ten to thirty pounds! It might as well rot on Lethe's wharf as out the banks of the Tiber, for all the Government cares.

11. In the matter of Clicese and Butter, fancy an agricus tural country importing these two articles from its neighbours to the amount of 68,101 dollars, and at the same time exporting come and exen to the extent of Bill the pipelings.

12. Iron, bruss, tin, lead, and zinc, are all imports; yet are there abundant chalybeate indications and olden mines of iron at Viterbo, at Tolfa, at Montelcone, and coal beds unworked. The Government prefer bringing this all important article from Elba of the Florentines. Some praise is due to Gregory for the iron works established at the falls of Tiveli and Terni, but the rale subsists more glavingly because of the exception.

13. In Straw Bonnets the industry of the women again exhibits a slight compensation in an export of 120,000

14. I have not been able to get at the returns of the delf and crockery trade, but a large balance is here against Rome ; though one of its small dependencies, Payenza, had formerly the glory of giving its name to this most profitable branch of industry.

15. In the article of Belli Arti the export is of course on the side of Rome, but to amount for less than would Ic suppowed—a mere trifle over 100,000 dollars. These be a few data on which to found an opinion as to the value of church government and the exclusion of laymen from the management of temporal affairs; and further, while such an aggregate of poverty is necessarily accumulated in the Roman States, with what face can the ecclesiastical rulers of the banighted land refuse the offer of capital for the construction of the railroads? Let Europe judge.

ECONOMICAL BLUNDERS.

(From the Nonconformist.) The difference in a fortress between the day before surrender and the day after, is not more marked than the fallen estate of the protectionists in Parliament Blusts of the oratorical trumpet that would once have called out the over whelming array of banded monopolies, now are quashed harmless under majorities of seven to three. The wonder does not seem so much that this should exist as that it should not have been before. What is it has happened, that makes folly now of what was state-manship and wisdom a few short months ago?

The last fight has been on the timber duties; a rich subject, and which has been treated accordingly. But why was not the whole craft and mystery as well understood twelve months ago? A hand of mercantile gentlemen stand forward and say, " Emable us to get 5t, 10s, a load for timber instead of 41., and you shall see how curiously we will get you timber for the dearer price. We will not put sixpence into our pockets except in the way of trade. Our rate of profits on the capital employed shall not be greater than that of any body else; only we will go the long voyage instead of the short, and bring you the bad timber instead of the good. And the reason why you must do all this for us is, because we are Englishmen, and make the timber in a place we call a colony; and if you were to get the other timber instead, you must get it of Prussians or Norwegians."

Upon which, is it not clear, now that the nine days of political blind-puppyhood are over, that if the other course were taken, the consequence would be, that instead of 51, 10s. being given to the dealer in bad timber, Johson, the 5% would be given to some British manufacturer or dealer, Johnson, to create the goods which would be given for timber of the same intrinsic goodness to the Prussians or Norwegians, and that the 10s, would be given to some other British manufac turer or dealer, Jackson, for something over and shove, to the use and enjoyment of the original owner of the 47.10s, ? If there is any doubt whether Jobson gets it instead, propose to destroy some existing trade by a new duty, and see whether the Johnsons will not ery out. If there be any doubt of the existence of the Jacksons, ask the consumer to point out the dealers from whom he stops the los., if it is to be given to Johson, and see if they do not join the Johnsons' cry. So that Johnson and Jackson are to lose to a pennyworth the custom which Johann is to gain; and the consumer, Bull, who pays for all, is the same thing; he is to give him 10s. for nothing, instead of getting what Jackson used to give him. The world has been a long time in fluding this out.

The fraud, therefore, when stripped to the skin, amounts to this: " Give us for an article more than you could get it for elsewhere; and there shall be an exact balance, -not the fraction of a gain or loss to industry in the aggregate; suving always this one triviality, that you the payer of the excessive price shall get nothing for the excess. Pay us more than you ought, and we will promise you that neither you nor anybody else shall get anything for it in return. It shall be clean lost and thrown into the fire. And for all this we will make a hubl ub in Parliament, and call on heaven and earth

to witness our solemn warnings and our deep despuir."

It might be supposed the force of folly could no further go; but there is a lower depth. In rear of these statesmen, there is a reserve of philanthropists, sorrowing over the sadestate of "British Industry," if there is to be no more taking from it at one end and giving at the other, with a loss to the industrious classes in their character of consumers besides. For if the industrious classes are not the greatest consumers of foreign produce, they are some consumers, and would be more if they might. So that the plan amounts to taking water in a bucket from one end of a pond to put in at the other, and spilling balf by the way. Johnon's workmen are to cry out for taking the work from Johnson's men' and Jackson's, and so on to the greatest extent found possible; and the result is to be called protection to British Industry. The working classes by this time understand this as well as anybody, or a large expenditure of the parts of speech has been made for nothing.

It is pleasing to see a man like bord Ashley escaping timely from such a perplexity. It was Mr. D'Israeli, was it not, who was has reported as saying something about "economical blunders?"

noniteal blunders?

TRADE OF LEICESTER.—The delay with respect to the ministerial measures has produced a most injurious effect here. Many wool-combers and others are out of employment, and many hands who are not so have limited work. Not only are manufacturors affected, but the general trade of the town is suffering, and much indignation is fall at the needless hindrances to which the measures of government are subjected.

The Queen has presented a pair of milk, white Cachmore goats, part of a flock sent to her Majorty, by the Shah of Persia, to the 23d Welch Fusileers, to replace the venerable Cambrian goat which accompanied that gallant regiment, and which lately died at Barbadoes.

Action of the control

	THE ERAGUE.	[March) 2
Just Published, MR. COBDEN'S SPEECH in the House of Commons on Friday, Pebruary 27th, 1846.—Rayled. Frice One Penny, 16	Oreat Yer- (*Pinh, John, Theatre Road (*Bailey, Joseph King-street (*Jackson, James, Sorth Quay (*Douglas, James, Theatre Plain	O O Huxley Thomas 15 Whitechand road
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Moore, Mr	Biddall, Samuol and William 0 0 0 e. Richard, 6. Oxford-terrace bli, Mesara. Townsond & Co., St. Etienne, France 10 0 0 f. E. W., 41. Bedford-row 10 0 0 Heisahe, and Co., America-square, Minories 0 6 0 H., Uxbridge	Street, London. London. W. A. Wilkinson, Camberwell, do
Smith, Wm,	Heisehe, and Co., America square, Minorics	John Ashton Yases, 33, Beranston square, V. O. Fresbott, ds. Threadnesdle-street, ds. A. and C. S. and H. Crowley, Alton, near

The state of the s

	TO COMPANY OF THE PROPERTY OF	
H. Crowley, Croydon, noar do, 100 (H. Crowley, do., do., 100 (do., 100 (d	O Republican and France do. 10 0	o indispensable to prevent the further
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Daniel Cooper 3, Copthali Chambers, Fenchurch-st. do. 50	0 James Bell, Beverington-st., South Shiolds 10 0	forthcoming number of the Eclectic R with more details taken from French so
Copf. J. B. Cogan, Upper Mail, Hammersmith do	6 Robert Pitt, Newark Foundry, Bath 10 0 C W. J. Parkor, 76, Evro-street, Sheffield 10 0 C	thus: "The French merchant service is
Was district, Cheapside, London William Flanders, 2, Upper Woburn Place, Tavistock London 50 0	F. and W. Webster, Arbroath 7 10 C	plorable condition in itself, and as con glish and American mercantilo navies, i
William Hickson and Sons, 20, West Smithfield, do 50 0 T. Holg on, Lambeth-street, Goodman's Fields, do 50 0 Looph Limey, 26, Chancery Inno 60 0	0	extremest auxiety in France among the the community. "The test of figures selected to estable
H. M. Jones, Fishmongers Hall Whart do 50 0 William Lowers, 5, Park-street, Islington do 50 0		18 the amount of the merchant tennage tries in 1830 and in 1848 t and the con
Jahn Morley, jun., do. do. do.	0 Wm. Weldon, High-street 20 0 0	templatation of the Prince do Joinville.
Prevail, Townshend, and Co., 80, Watling-st., do 50 0 Thoras Prout, Eart 1991, Wandsworth do 50 0 Wm. Digby Seymouv, 32, Fenchurch-st. do 50 0	Wm. Bennington, do	light the decline of French shipping, at that English and American shipping ha
Wm. Swainson, 72, Wood-street do 50 0 Wm. Thomas and Brothers, 123, Cheapside do 50 0 Thos. Tooke, jun., Jermyn-st., St. James's do 50 0	John Mulchinson, High-street	In 1830, the Fernal
Western Wood, 25, Mark-lane do. , 50 0 W.H. Ashurst, Cheapside, do. , 30 0 F. Hanson and Co., Bow Church-yard do. , 30 0	John Landler, Patent Ropery J. B. Clephan, Silver-street Um, Clephan, Onconstruct 5 0 0	But in 1830, the was 2,531,810; and
)): ney Bickers, 8, Paradise-row, Chelson, do., 25 0 D. Braggiott, 2, Lombard street do., 25 0 G. Chesseman, Rye Lodge, Pockham Ryo, do., 25 0	7 John Wales, High street 5 0 0 George Rand, James street 5 0 0 Samuel Braithwaite, Silver street	American do. was 1,191,776; and (Document laid by the French minister
William Dartum, 17, Aldermanbury, do 25 0 Gendes Darwin, Bromley, Kent, near do 25 0	O C. Martin, Smithfield 50 0 0 H. Thorpe, Messrs, Harrison & Crossfield Licenses	sembled in December, 1845. p. 20.)
John Prost and Co., Wond-street, Cheapside, do	O Henry Bolckow 5 0 0 John Mainwaring 5 0 0	"Another comparison is also disadva- under the very peculiar circumstance of the foreign shipping which it establishes
Hoyle and Hunson, 88, Wood-street do. 25 0 Christopher Lund, 51, Newgate-street, do. 25 0 Edward Miller, 34, Tower-street, Tower-bill, do. 25 0	Wm. Bleigh 5 0 0 Joshua Branklingham, farmer 5 0 0	In 1830, the arrivals and Y
H. & H. Marriett, 6, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside, do 25 0 Joseph Proctor, Cheapside, do 25 0	Jonu Palmer Wm. Smith.jun. Joseph A. Sanders, High street	departmes of French ship- plng in French ports In 1830, the arrivals and
E. and W. Pontifix and Co., Shoo-lane, do 25 0 T. Rhos desse Sons, Vine-atreet, America sq. do 25 0	Jonathan J. Sanders, do 2 10 0 Henry Fawens 2 0 0 Anti-Monomely 2 0 0	departures of Foreign wore 1,029,801;
U-hn Wood, 17, Cumming-street, Pentonville, do	Robert Rogers Rev. J. C. Meek 1 5 0 Thomas Butchingan 1 0 0	"The document distributed among the Council states the arguments on both sin Amongst other things, the motive of
Rebert Porcett, Ordnauce Office, Tower do. 25 0 8. B. Venning, 12. Pancrus-lane do. 25 0	Z. Rev. J. McDowell 10 0 0 James Readman, High-street 10 0 0 Rev. Wm. Long. John street 10 0	teanded of late years in the South Sens, versions of the consequences, is asserted to have been the
George Wansey, 3, Moorgate street, do 25 0 Web and Margetton, 131, Chempside, do 25 0	C. H. Robiason	the French government to mise the Navy from its admitted and alarming infer The reasons assigned for the admission
H. W. Sgwood, 42, Chesterset, Regent's-park, do	Thomas Close, North terrace	sup building into France, are, that iron perior to timber built. They are light
Control brings, 5, 800 London-street. do 25 0 Henry Hell, Cybridge, near do 25 0 C.M. Kampion, 9,Queenstplace,Southwark-bridge, do. 25 0		better way, are more lasting, and requested consequently, they are much more economis casier, because of the divisions in the
Couland & Gilbert George Yord Roy land do 20 0	A MILLION FUND AT HASTINGS. John H. Maw, Mayor, West Hill House	draught of water, the iron ships carry fro per cent. more cargo. They are less exposed to fire, and all accidents. The
W. Comming and Co., 98, Hatton-garden, do. 20 0 Thes. F. Gioson, Spittal square, do. 20 0 (Urofessor Graham, 9, Torrington-square do. 20 0 (Geogramin Hawes, sen., Brunswick-square, do. 20 0 (Chas. F. Hardman, Castle Down David Tree, York-buildings F. N. Balmain, 38. Wellington square	the crew, and safer for the goods. These settled the question among the English.
H.W., do 20 0 (James Emsry, Albion Hotel	iron ships as fast as possible. Especial ships, of great bulk, built more and more may, by following this example, recover
dobn S. Landells, Honey lane Market, Cheapside, do. 10 10 (Win. Wallace, Long Fields John Howell, White Rock place Thomas Board Matter and Control of the	"It is denied on the other hand, that
define Pierre, D. Fore street City do. 10 0 (france Pole, 9), High street, Borough, do. 10 0 (Dr. P.e Smith, Horvette, College		made up in England to adopt iron gon ships. Besides, its positive advantages, can be said to be yet ascertained by a sho
Dr. Pre Smith, Hola erton College, do. 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE LEAGUE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND AT BURNLEY. Roberts and Walton	than formerly. Even if the advantages of
Rolt, J. Bash, 6, Breeknock Cottages, do, 10 0 0	Spencer and Moore	France will not wisely in securing the sup own forges; and a sacrifice of about 400, sort of premium in their favour will enabl
Richard Reauchamp, Hereford at., May Pair, do 10 0 homp Berry, Tyndal place, Islington, do 10 0 0	John and George Holgate 100 0 0 Wm. Hopwood 100 0 0	to produce all that is wanted for this purporience of many years has proved, that the
J. Barrauchs, 18, Addiostreet, Wood-street, do 10 0 0 Tunoby Bevington, 67, King William-street, do 10 0 0 Mr. B.	Henry Tunstell, Marsden, near 50 0 0 0 Win. Eckroyd, Loineshaye, near 40 0 0	for general purposes has succeeded. "In support of the argument in favour onopoly, the gradual reduction of the pri-
George Cundell, 17, Finsbury-square, do. 10 0 0 J. D. Cumming, 16, Park terrace, Brixton, do. 10 0 0 Theo. H. Hall, 12 Finsbury-square, do. 10 0 0 Samuel Band and the control of the cont	Henry Knowles and Son 25 0 0 James Sutcliffo 25 0 0	forgen, from about fourteen shillings, in 183 shillings and sixpence the hundred bound
At late of Hursey, Bow Church Yard, do. 10 0 0 deland H. Loui, St. Maryle Strend, do. 10 0 0		urged that the quantity wanted for the souly to one tenth of the whole present processouragement there will be no difficulty
Some under 62, each, 10 0 0	COMMENCE.	supply. "The point which seems to have determent, is the urgent need of relief to the i
The following have also forwarded their names through the London Office.	OFFICIAL PROPOSALS IN TRANSPORTER	which can be afforded by obtaining from of quality from England, at mices varying fro
doseph Acton, Wigon	FOREIGN TRON FOR SHIP BUILDING; AND FOR STEEL.	per cent, chenper than the fron of France in "The councils, after stating the case language, resolved, with a large majority,"
Acthur Morse, Swaffham	Sin, In my letter which you published the week before	ought to be admitted into France, free of d merchant ships.
Berny, Sons, and Co., Arbroath (1884) s and Sons, Lindley, near Huddersfield (2010) the Hutchtonian Co., Arbroath (2011) the Hutchtonian Co., A		Pending these - Meial Inquirles, the cri- begun to excite the liveliest interest in that peech on the 12th of January last, in the cha
Ch Pat's hard Son Alloa 30 0 0 1 Friend to the Agricultural Labourer, Sunderland 25 0 0	desirable that our own great measure should be completed	Due d Harcourt, an old advocate of Free Trac ions respecting its beneficial influence, wh
Themrs Bell, Don Alkali Works, South Shields 25 0 0	It is not, however, true that such comminder ions form	vritten in letters of gold in every chamber o lanada to Canton. This speech has been rej eparate publications ; and it has been copi
to orgo Cambing, Arbrenth, near Huddersfield 25 0 0	country. The laws of trade are really international laws;	lewspapers of France, "After showing that the present French.
A.J. Moore, Bridge-street, Sunderland 20 0 0	tion and protection of articles of trade. Expecting prohibi-	ree Trude principles readily enough befout that they coolly laid that baggage aside value public councils, the Duc d'Harcourt productions au la councils.
Robert Villers street, do 20 0 0	do in medding with their neighbours laws of trade. Seeing, however, the cargeness with which the United In	"How can the nation confide in men who to namer? What the people really want is, a Mi
Henry Wilson, Frederick-wireet, do. 20 0 0	struggle, it will be prudent for the present to wait the result	eclaring boldly his resolution to aim at the pu his would rouse the enthusiasm of the people uffering in the land. The combinations of the
James Walter, Luton	general discussion. In the meantime, permit me to offer you some change of	or dreadful excess of toil exacted by parents bildren sent by them to the factories, settle ti ktreme want. And for this integry there is
Alexander Mann and Son, do	admission of foreign iron into that country, duty from for	ominand—a remody that will give the peop leaper clothing, and cheaper comforts, in spli lity. If a minister should address the nation is navigle soon find friendly cohoos in all quarts
Charles Ambreon Arbroath 10 0 0	On the latter bend, the Minister of Commerce declared to the Coneral Councils of Agriculture, Trade, and Manuface	s would soon that friendly echoos in all querie ould bless his mino. I mean Free Trade with of could the Government but summon spirit ocoss is certain.
Andrew Lawson do. 10 0 0	sufficiently abundant, or cheap enough to supply the steel	It is the first niticle in a book mulitaked
William Nicholas Whitehaving 10 0 0	1840; but not in time to be the basis of a new law in the Thesession of that year, as was wished.	ynt Exchango, entitled 'Liberte du Commerce de Duc d'Harcourt is a rich landed propriétar. de, in 1845, he said that he was 'en course r'
46,, 16 6 6	In comparing the progress of England with that of Franco he	nots; and not at all disposed to ruln himse diment. At least he was disinterested, when lif to be changed. (10th June, 1844.)
The state of the s		

lowering of the duty is r inferiority of French

by the Connells."
I ruised on the same obweek; and you will may
from an ariele in the
Review on the subject
sources, unacceptable;
its, this question stands

undoubtedly in a de-ompared with the En-, its decline excites the a reflecting portion of

blish this capital point ge of the three counomparison deserves to daily and hourly con-

exhibit in a striking at the very same time has made a great ad-

Tons. in 1810; 590,707 id in 1840; 3,588,387 nd in 1843; **2,158,60**3

ter of Trade, bofore the Stares, and of trade, as-

rantageous to France, of the superiority of as over that of France,

Tons. ; in 1843, 1,204,919

; in 1613, 2,011,714

the members of the sides of this subject, of the establishment with such disastrous the wish long felt by French Mercantile

feriority. on of foreign fron for n built ships are suiter, stronger, make quire fewer repairs, omical. The stowage to hold. With equal roon twenty to thirty s ensity annk; less ey are healthier for ese advantages have h, who are adopting cially are the India ore of iron. France or her place among

at men's minds are onerally in building jort experience, the less crooked timber of iron be admitted, upply of it from hor 10,000l, a year as a able the iron masters nose ;—as the expeprotection of iron

of the French moprice of iron at the 231, to about twelve nds English,—it is shipping amounts roduce, so that with ity in securing the

ermined the govern-merchant service, of at least an equal rom fifty to seventy

e is now sold at, so in far stronger y, that foreign fron f duty, for building

risis among us had at country; and in a humber of pters, the ade, expressed opidichdeserve to be of commerce from eprinted twice, in poled into half the

h ministers taught fore taking office, o when called into rocceds thus t

turn about in this Minister capuble of public good alone, le. There is deep the workings, and uts from the little of the point of their is a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in a tendent of their in the a tendent of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their in the control of their interest of the control of their interest of the control of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of their interest of the control of their interest of t a the point of their is a remody at our oppo cheaper food, upto of every diffinition in the theme; yet it all the world; it to proclaim it,

"It is the first niticle in a book published at Mr. Wilson's, Royal Exchange, entitled 'Liberté du Commerce,' Price is. 6d. The Due d'Harcourt is a rich landed proprièter. Upon a similar logic, in 1845, he said that he was 'sn owner of iron forges and forgets; and not at all disposed to ruin himself by way of experiment. At least he was disinteresté, when he wished the tariff to be changed. (10th June, 1845.)

Private interests have hitherto pravailed against Pros Trade; but the nation is ready to adopt it. It is the grand question of modern times. The ancients were our superiors in letters, and the time arts. But a privileged few only shared that superiority, whilst the millions were ignorant slaves. Ciristianity has researed them from their degradation; and it remains for us to carry out the doctrines of Christianity, by making our laws conform to them. These doctrines are as yet to be better than mass theories with se. Religious fiberty, civil liberty, commertial liberty, are all refused with dislain by the monopolisers of a rory degree. They know well that the best means of getting the most money out of the nation is to set class against class. They do not know that the true germ of civilisation, perhaps the only universal one, is Pres Trade. There is no mistake in the sysuments establishing the triumph of Free Trade. They are these: first, mutual wears must lead to communication between harmand man; and, secondly, without mutual wants, the earth would become a silent solitade. The more wants men have, the prender must be their intercourse, and the steadlor their propose. Providence, in its wonderful; but, has infinitely varied the productions of different countries, in order to compel their inhabitants to accelerable countries, in order to compel their inhabitants to accelerable chier out. To put obstactes in the way of that intercourse, is to oppose the course of Providence. Havazee are sevages only because they live upart from us, and have no worts. Free Trade, then, is civilisation; and probibil Rayages are sevance only because they live apart from us, and lidy no wents. Froe Trade, then, is civilisation; and probibly the same real barbarism. Archimedes said, that with a federum his world move the earth. I venture to assert, that with Free Trade at my command, I could defy religious animosities, war, famine, noverty—to a often the said lot of man. famine, poverty—to; often the sad lot of man.
(Nor will Free Trade only make fred and elabling the chapper

Not will from I rate outs make food and clothing the cheaper; it will improve man's in only, and increase their intelligence, because it will give them time for the one, and incline them to the other. It is in vain to open schools if the scholars are signified, But feel them well, and they will rapidly acquire all the knowledge von can offer them.

The industry of man is in an energal formant. Its last we

The injustry of man is in an eternal ferment. Its last result is, over abundant production. Consamption has its natural limit; production has no bounds. England and Belgium and France have all reached the last point of consumption in several series s. One two neighbours admit this fact; and half France due: the same thing when year after year complaining bitterly of the tariff, which cuts them off from the proper remedys accessed freign markets. The whole civilized world, with its mutural, instinctive view of the truth, perceive this to be the exec; and, therefore, it is now engerly seeking an outlet in all quarters for its overflowing abundance. Unhappity the Government of France, well as it knows all this, is bound hand and foot by our proposalists.

by our monopolists.
There is, however, one example near us, which we ought to There is, however, one example near m, which we ought to follow. What is passing in England surpasses in grandeur all that is recorded in history—the straggle of the League to emancipate industry. The British Free Trade League is making produced withder. And y here we reflect upon the obstacles in its way supon the private interests opposed to it, and upon the passer is a succernished. And other handless in the continuous discount of such an effort. Mr. Colider deserves to be a notion as able of such an effort. Mr. Colider deserves to be a notion as a ble of such an effort, and of this share in this productors seems. On our parts, instead of fortering a to the profigencess. On our parts, instead of fostering a blind, unprofitable late towards our neighbours, let us imitate their g cat deeds let us become free, like them above all, let u checome Free Traders. All the rest will follow."

This is a faithful translation of a small part of the speech of a French duke, on the 12th of January last.

A RESIDENT IN FRANCE.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

" Blessed is he that considereth the poor." Permit me once more to state, through the medium of your "great fact" paper, that another of the real friends of the peasantry has sent me a sovereign for the poor of our province. Many thanks to E. S. W. 1 am right glad, that while many Free Traders have sent me various sums of money for the peasantry, so few have requested me to give thom money. Food, clothing, firing, beds, and bedding, are at all times a great blessing to the degraded and famishing some and daughters of toil; but they are so ignorant, and too many of them ere so inferior in moral and montal elevation to others of the same class in the manufacturing distriets, that they do not know how to use money when they have it. They are in very deed a degraded and rained class of men, women, and children. They have too long been left to the tender mercy of those who maintain that the best way to keep the poor in order and obedience, is to pay them low wages, and to keep them ignorant. I hope the important information in relation to the condition of our peasan try, and the low wages paid them, which I have forwarded a his own request to Edward Onlson, E.q., Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, will be published. I have now the high honour of being publicly abused by a protectionist farmer in the county of Bucks. Yes, the worthy gentleman has said in public company that I ought to be burnt for the part which have taken in the cause of suffering humanity and justice I hope the valiant yeoman will not entangle blimself in his I am, Sir, yours respectfully. W. FERGUSON,

King's End, Bicester, March 25,

Mr. Gordon, of Naish House, East Somersetshire, has addressed to the Editor of a London paper the following letter, which, with something of an Irish blunder, is headed "The Prightened Farmers";

Onish, East Somerset, March 13, 1816. " Sir, - You inserted, a few days since, a circular forwarded on the 4th Feb., to above to take their farms, at Lady day, off their hands, if they fell alarme I at the repeal of the Corn Laws, and would give

notice before the 24th February. A "I spologise to you for not having informed you of the result, namely, that although at Mr. W. Miles's threshold, and most of us his supportors, not one accepted.

" If paule ever really did exist, it is fast dying away among

" Plat it is also among the landlords, may be gathered from the fact of persons applying to myself for land, who had to leave their holding under the members for last Somerset and Bristol, as they stated, from their being desirous to form n themselves. I am about to follow their good example on

hand that 'ought, but won't goout of cultivation.' Courage, Protectionists! Does not this speak more volumes than Hausaul himself?
"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

" J. A. Gordon'

THE TRUE WEALTH OF ENGLAND, The great internal resources of this country depend on its minerals; a bag of coals would not be so comfortable a thing for the Lord Chancellor to sit upon as the woolsack, but much more omblomatical of the wealth of England. It is the coal, and not the wool, that has made England what it is, and our mineral resources both in coal and from are yet in their inflancy. We thave just touched on the fringe of our mineral woulds, something like the cultivation of New South Wales as compared with what it may be. The great increase of railway communication will tend to develope those resources beyond all conception; but any want of uniformity in the guage will tend to diminish that development,—Cupt. Law's Evidence upon the Gauge Commission.

ANOTHER GLANCE AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BY RECEEN.

YOUNG MEMBERS-THE MARQUIS OF WORCESTER. Of the youthful members of the House of Commons, whom we see sitting as representatives of farm-yards, or rising to address the house as the instructors of commercial men on commercial policy; or stretched on the benches of the gallery asleep, as if worn, while yet in the bud, with legislative toil; or skipping arm-in-arm through the lobbies as bosom friends, happy upon the threshold of a pleasant time of life; or standing at the bar in clusters, caring little more for the calls of "order at the bar," from the Speaker, than they cared a year or two ago at college for the calls of the proctors to prayers; listening, it may be, to what the railway king, who stands in the midst, tells them of the chances of scrip being hatched into golden dividends by the committees which sit on scrip as hens sit on eggs-the king, proud to have young lords to listen, and the young lords pleased to have an adviser so respectable in adventure and success as the king of railways; or listening, it may be, to equally confidential and acceptable advice from Lord George, king of jockies, who hints to them how to hedge, and having hedged, how to lay against their own favourites, and win enough to live like lords; -of all the youthful members whom we see sprinkled among the old ones, making an old House of Commons look like a young one, the most noticeable are the sons of the dukes recently withdrawn from school, and brought to London to adorn the drawing-rooms, and legislate for their fathers' corn fields, game preserves, dog-kennels, grease and lard, kitchen-stuff, and all the other elements of ducal grandeur-Temple Grenville, Churchill, Lennox, Bentinck, and Somerset.

Of these the last, who is the heir of the Duke of Beaufortthe handsome, reputedly intelligent, and youthful Marquis of Worcester, deserves special notice. He, was sent in the room of the Hon. Francis Charteris to represent protection to the cheese, grass, tenants-at-will, and foul cultivation of Gloucestershire. Mr. Charteris is the grandson of the Earl of Wemyss, a Scotch nobleman, owning a good estate in the well-known agricultural ounty of East Lothian; and having, as near neighbours, and, I believe, tenants, Mr. Hope of Fenton Barns, and his son, the author of the prize essays, which pleaded so well for Free Trade, for the sake of the farmers. Lord Wemyss has also landed property in Gloucestershire, which, together with his Tory connection, obtained for his grandson a seat in Parliament in 1841 for one of the divisions of that county. And there can be little doubt that the superior cultivation of their Lothian estates by tenants paying rents according to the prices of grain, and not a fixed sum of money, holding on lease, making the land a profitable investment for capital, without reference to the Corn Law, most of them repudiating protection as being not only worthless, but a positive evil,-there can be no doubt that with such an estate so cultivated in Scotland, with another estate badly cultivated, and low rents badly paid, though the soil is naturally good, in Gloucestershire, where the tenantry have been almost unanimous, and those of them who have been the worst farmers have been the loudest, in calling for protection ;-there can be little doubt that these circumstances had a strong tendency to make the Charteris family Corn Law repealers, even before Sir Robert Peel declared a change in his opinions.

But Mr. Charteris had also learned that in Gloucestershire a practical agriculturist, who repudiates protection, who has striven against it, and torn the delusion to shreds and exposed it to the world, both by his pen upon paper and by his plough in the land, by his intellect as a theorist, and by his capital as a practical farmer-I mean Mr. Morton, of Whitefield farm; Mr. Charteris knew that Mr. Morton was producing the best of crops easily where the worst had grown with difficulty under the Gloucestershire system; that his landlord, Earl Ducie, had laid out 7000l. on the permanent improvement of that farm for which Mr. Morton paid five per cent of augmented rent; and that he, the tenant was working the farm with a capital of 4000l.; while under the old system, which gave but a bare living to the farmer and no profit, the working capital was barely 700%; that where a man, a boy, and two women were employed, and paid the meagre wages of a county overrun with pauperism, twelve men and a proportionate number of women and boys are employed now, and are paid wages according to the worth of their work, and not according to how little they could live on without falling on the poor rates. Mr. Charteris had learned these facts; also that while Whitefield farm employed in proportion to its acres two and a half times more labourers than England could give to agriculture, its rateable value for poor's rates had been tripled. Knowing these things, and others equally valuable, which we need not stop to particularise now, Mr. Charteris

changed his opinion on the question of protection to agriculture; and having, like many older and more experienced men, given a pledge in 1841 to preserve the Corn Law, he resigned his sent rather than vote for it again, and the Marquis of Worcester is sent up in his place to vote for protection.

The marquis has already voted several times, and has spoken once. High expectations were formed, and by some are still hold, of his speaking qualities. Seldon has the House of Commons bent down its head and listened, and been more complimentary to a young mar. quis than to him; but soldom has a young marquis made so poor a beginning.

But his ability to speak is not the question with us, it is his ability to protect the farmers. And protect them from what? Let us see.

Besides the fifteen or twenty miles of green fields foul ditches, scrubby hedgerows, excellent land, in a state of deplorable mismanagement, with a pauper population on it in Gloucestershire—a district not surpassed in all England for its fox-hunting—the Duke of Beaufort, who is its owner and fox-hunter, possesses a large estate in the neighbouring shire of Monmouth, This Monmouth estate is large enough to give him the power of returning his brother as a county member, and to bring him in upwards of 50,000l. a-year of rent, although it is very defectively cultivated.

This is the ancient family estate of Ragland; and Ragland Castle is famous, not alone in the history of the Duke of Beaufort's ancestors, but in the history of England. No circumstance connected with Ragland Castle, however, in history, equals in interest the tradition that it was here that the discovery of the power of steam was first made. The discoverer and first experimenter was a Marquis of Worcester, ancestor of the Somersets of the present day. But this is digressive; to the subject now before us.

The most striking characteristics of the Rughand estate at the present time, are the necessity for drainage, the facilities for drainage, and the utter absence of drainage; the consequent feebleness of grain crops on strong loamy soils; the coarseness of meadow pastures; the insufficiency of winter feeding for live stock; the poor and profitless condition of the live stock; and the similitude of the farmers, and the farm-labourers, to the poor live stock. I may add, as another characteristic, the ditches with their weedy wastes varying from three to ten yards wide, which occupy more land as absolute waste than would pay all the local taxes.

Now it so happened, a few years ago, that one of the tenants more adventurous than the rest drained some of has fields, imperfectly it is true, yet so beneficially as to add greatly to the fertility of his farm. He is now able to grow excellent Baga turnips (Swedes) and feed winter stock. He produces manure therefrom, and has a large increase of all kinds of crops in return; not extraordinary crops compared with what are taken from similar soils elsewhere; indifferent, compared with Mr. Morton's produce on Whitfield farm, in Gloucestershire; yet great, compared with anything produced in Monmouthshire, under the common agriculture of Monmouth-the system, or rather the systemless waste, of Ragland.

The tenant now under notice also dressed up his hedges, scoured out his ditches, levelled down the banks, made compost of the earth he found there, and, in a word, improved the farm by venturing to obey some of the axioms and/recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Society.

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What followed? the agent of the duke demanded an advance of rent-the tenant holding, as all the others do, at will. This demand led to a disagreement-to the threat of being served with a notice to quit, and ultimately to the appointment of a land valuer to value the farm, who set the fair rental at fifteen shillings per sere more than was previously paid, which augmentation of fifteen shillings per acre is now paid - a warning to all other farmers not to drain their land, not to grow winter food for stock, not to produce manure to fertilise their fields, not to attempt to save the manure now ranning to waste, bot to clear out the foul ditches, not to level down cumbrous banks and make compost, not to attempt to follow any of the instructions of the agricultural sociotics—an unmistakeable warning to avoid joining in the progress of the age-an injunction not to tack, contend with, and overcome the obstinacy of the uncultivated earth, but to preserve its stubborn strength, to be in everlasting battle with it, and to ramain contest, to be always getting the worst of the battle.

Speaking of the Duke of Beaufort merely as a man I do not think he is blameable for unfair treatment of the tenant. He is soldom in Monmonthshire, are when with the hounds or with his agonts when hounds or agents, or both, fill his ear to the archive of any farmer's voice. But as a landlord he is blassed Ho doe as a landlord, from mere no freeze of the to be done, what he would not do as a way.

Nor does it fullow that the agents are intentionally enjust and hard bargaining man. They are expected to pay in a certain amount of money into the duke's account at the bank. On the vast estates, in the absence of everything like systematic management, repairs to farm buildings are only done in a patchwork style, all are needing to be renewed, and most are getting some patches put on. Where least money is received, most is often taken to do those imperfect repairs. Thus money must come from some other part of the estate; and the agents are driven to the necessity of getting the most money out of those who can pay best.

It is a miscrable kind of management, and makes the duke and his agents sink in the esteem of those with whom they should stand well. It makes the duke, who is reputed to be a generous man, seem to be a hard man. It makes the agents do what, if kept to their natural inclinations, they would scorn to do; and it need not be surprising if a long practice of this kind at last leads some of them to be insensible to wrong.

The Marquis of Worcester, and his father, who sent him to Parliament to uphold what they call protection, are thoroughly wrong as to what is protection, and fatally wrong for the sake of their own property, in allowing their tenantry to suffer for the want of real protection—for the want of secure tenures. But this is the time, and we are now in the midst of the events, when and through which it is proper to turn their attention to what protection is, and what it is not.

For this purpose have these remarks been written, and given for the public perusal.

MR. RASHLEIGH.

This gentleman is one of the members for Cornwall. He was one of four or five who jumped to their feet simultaneously to address the house on Tuesday night about 9 o'clock. That is the time of the evening when there is most competition for the "Speaker's eye;" in other words, when there is most desire to speak. In the early part of that evening, after Lord Pollington, who resumed the debate, sat down, nobody rose for some minutes, so sure was every one of having an empty house to speak to, if speaking between 6 and 8 o'clock. And the members did thin away to fewer than 40 before 7 o'clock. But no one had an interest in moving that the house be counted; so it was not counted out; and Mr. Plumptre, an elderly man, of spare figure, who was the first to rise after Lord Pollington, made a long empty-helly speech to an empty house. The man, the speech, the purpose of the speech, the place, the time -all were suggestive of famine.

Towards nine, when the house began to fill, the desire to speak increased. Sitting where I was, the faces of all who sprung upon their feet were not visible, and if they had been visible, I am not sufficiently acquainted with them to know their names. All I could see and understand was, that one of the bodies which had sprung up, remained up, that the others sat down, and that this one threw itself round about in a violent twirl, with its face to where its back was at first, and then righted itself, as if it had been a cable in a stormy sea; that the same instant it threw out its arms and dived forward, and bent itself down, and screamed at the highest pitch of its voice something about feather-beds. Then it stretched itself up, and shook its head, and clenched its teeth, and spoke while its teeth were elenched; then it threw its arms forward, somewhat in the manner of a windmill which has almost stopped, but which bounds on afresh with a new gust of wind, and pointing to somebody opposite it, said, "No; I live among the green fields, not among your smoky chimneys." It then twisted round, and spoke with its face where its back had been, and wheeled round again, and continued so to do, until its voice sunk from exhaustion, and it spoke teebly and low, and told of the time when it would have willingly lost one of its limbs for Sir Robert Peel, but that it would not do so now; and so it sat down. Next morning I found by the newspapers that this curious exhibition had been made by the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this paragraph.

SIR JOHN TROLLOPE.

Provious to the wild man of Cornwall's exhibition, and during the time when the house might have been said to be at low water—the tide being run out, and the shallows left bare on the protection benches, a dignified personage, with a sonorous and finely modulated voice, rose from the front seat, and spoke in favour of protection—proof that whatever appearances may have been, the tide, which awhile before swept the members from the house, had not left shallows, and shallows only on the protection seats. He was the most finelit speaker, and delivered the arguments for protection in the best-arranged style which it has been my fortule to hear. I did not know unfil past morning the tide speaker was, as no one near the small tall higher than the first manne.

John is one of the members for Lincolnshire, and is, I hear, reported to be a man of talent. He may be so, and be greatly in error on the subject of the Corn Law. He evidently clings to it from other causes than a belief in its indispensableness. Towards the conclusion of his speech he said that rather than suffer the taunts applied to the landowners by opponents of the Corn Law, he, for one, would give it up; if its existence depended on his will, it should at once cease to exist. There is no shame conveyed in a taunt to a sensible man if the taunt is not deserved. Such a man as Sir John Trollope must feel the sting all the more that he knows the monopolists, who rob the working bees of their honey, lay themselves open to the sting, and should be stung, and will be stung.

THE EARL OF MARCH, LORD GEORGE, AND THE "LITTLE PATRIOTIC BAND,"

Neither so sensitive, nor sensible, is the heir of the house of Lennox. Whatever merits he may have, he has not the merit of Sir John Trollope, of being ashamed of a bad cause. Extravagant self-esteem is the leading characteristic of his duent parent, and a goodly share of it is his. Allied with Lord George Bontinek in horseracing, betting, and "hedging," the Lennoxes, like his lordship, are "up to a dodge or two," and are not particular as to what people will think of them. Laws which have been made to suppress gambling, some of them wilfully break; and having broken them, they "protect" themselves by their legislative influence in getting an act passed (the qui tam actions act) to save themselves from the consequences. In the annals of barefacedness there is no parallel to that act. For lawbroakers to associate in Parliamentary strength, and pass an act of indemnity for themselves, may be quite in accordance with the spirit of what they call " protection;" but if the phrase "unconstitutional" means anything, it means that the legislature is not to be perverted to save delinquents from the consequences of delinquency. The Duke of Richmond was the mover of the qui tam actions bill in the Lords, and it was supported in the Commons, and earried through, chiefly by that "little patriotic band," as Lord George Bentinck calls himself and co-obstructors of the Government sitting below the gangway. There is a delinquent to be hanged on Monday morning, at the Old Bailey; and he, doubtless believing that a man may be put to better uses than that of hanging, would be very glad if he could get into Parliament, and have friends enough there to hasten a bill through both houses before Monday morning, to save him from Jack Ketch. It was alleged in favour of the qui tam actions bill, that the persons who were proceeding against the honourable and noble delinquents who sought the "protection" of their fellow legislators, were persons of indifferent reputation; but Jack is not remarkable for his high reputation; and in that respect the man now in Newgate would go to Parliament for "protection" on equal terms with those who have gone before. Not that it is insinuated for a moment that gamblers, "bonnets," "legs," "hedgers," &c., &c., &c., are to be compared in guilt with an assassin-far from it. The cases are only mentioned together to enable us to say, that tall law-breakers would pass acts of indemnity to "protect' themselves from the consequences of breaking the law if they could; and that it is, therefore, the interest and the duty of the moral and the well-disposed of mankind to prevent them, when, by some mischance, such happen to have the Parliamentary power. There are some mon-let us hope many-to whom shame would be a sufficient preventative, even if they were inclined to proeet themselves by legislative influence from the consequences of breaking the law. But with that "little patriotic band," of which Lord George is the centre, below the gangway, and to which he now stands godfather, shame, or even a moderate amount of modesty, is not an attribute.

Of course, in this remark, men of respectable moral character—such as Sir Robert Inglis, and Sir John Trollope—are not included, though they are below the gangway, and sit upon the skirts of the "little patriotic band."

LORD EDRINGTON.

This young nobleman spoke in favour of Free Trade on the same evening that the members, whom I have mentioned; spoke on the other side. His lordship is not an effective speaker. His matter reads well, but he is so unready as to be at times painful to listen to. He deprecated the three years of a sliding scale which is proposed by the Government, and pointed out some burdens—real burdens on land, which neither the Government nor the monopolists have taken into consideration—the legal expenses on the transfer of property. The harrier which such expenses have raised against the admittion of small fresholds has been, and is, detrimental in delitional progress in a high degree—so far as national progress depends on an extension of the finn-

chise in the counties to the men of intelligence, industry, and small means, who have hitherto been shut out from it, but who, instructed by the League, are now associating to obtain the franchise by obtaining small properties. Altogether Lord Ebrington's speech contained valuable suggestions. But it is nothing new in this paper to show that the heaviest burdens on agriculture are the lawyers and agents, who being paid servants of the landlords, ride on the backs of the farmers like so many old men of the sea, and will not be shaken off.

MEMORIAL TO BIR R. PEEL.

GLOUCKSTER, MAR. 21.—Moved by Mr. Councillor Kimberley, and seconded by Mr. Alderman Taylor, that an address be transmitted to Sir R. Peel through the Town-clerk, and that the city scal be attached thereto:

"To the Ruht Hon. Sir R. Pebl., Bart., First Lord

of the Theasury.

"The Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgosses of the City of Gloucester, in council assembled.

"We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the City of Gloucester, in council assembled, impressed with a deep sense of the importance of the Government measures, now before Parliament, for relaxing the duties on corn and provisions, with a view to their eventual abolition, as well involving a general reduction in our commercial tariff, avail ourselves of these means respectfully to tender you, as their responsible projector, our cordial and entire approbation of the principle on which there measures are founded.

"Comprising, as this corporation does, individuals of va-

"Comprising, as this corporation does, individuals of various shades of political opinion, we are nevertheless unnumous in our admiration of the boldness, justice, and equity of the proposed changes, and of their complete adaptation to the spirit of the age, and to the ends thereby proposed—namely, the increased happiness, and comfort of all classes of her Majesty's subjects.

"It is not the practice of this corporation, as a body, to identify itself with general political quastions, but there are occasions which seem to justify a departure from the usual course; and we deem the present an opportunity which our strong sense of the immense importance of the tovernment proposals will scarcely allow us to forego, of testifying our high approval of them, and of cheering on the first Minister of the Crown in his glorious yet difficult career of carrying them foregoed to a meeting of the corporation.

them forward to a successful issue.

"We are fully sensible of the many painful struggles which must have preceded the proposal of measures involved. ing principles in direct opposition to the views of a large in fluential section of the Government supporters; but we offer our respectful homige to the moral contrage pendence which could disregard that support, and appeal to the higher tribunal of public opinion, dispassionately expressed through its representatives in Parliament. It is our anxious hope that these measures may speedily become the law of the land. We believe their tendency to be, to secure at home social and political contentment, active employment, health and wealth; abroad, to annihilate prejudice, to increase goodwill towards this country, to remove the barriers to a free exchange of labour and natural products; and thus, by promoting a universal treaty of amity and commerce, to secure that which must almost inevitably flow from it-the blessings of universal peace.

THE PROTECTION CHIEFS. - Among the many delusions of the present day, there is no one, unfortunately, more/prevalent than that the protectionist party in Parliament, however compact in itself, is without leaders. We believe we are in a position to say that this supposition is atterly devoid of foundation. In the House of Commons the question is already settled. Lord George Bentinck has shown the truth of what we have often urged, that circumstances produce men. Those who have only served in the political ranks are called into command by some sudden emergency, and contrary, perhaps, to their own previous belief, are found capable of leading, and of doing so in a manner that throws into the shade the former conventional leaders of party. The speech of Lord George Bentinek—the first in which he took a prominent place in debate—on the 27th of last month; the numerous occasions on which he has since spoken; his patience in wading through the most uninteresting of all reading, Parliamentary blue-hooks; his skill in extracting from these volumes of mere words, for the most part, all that they contain of facts; his arrangement and combination of the truths to be found in them; his skill in bringing such truths to bear on the subject under consideration; and the thoroughly English spirit with which he declares that "he is not ashamed to hoist the colours of protection;" all concur in establishing Lord George's claim, or rather that of his friends on his behalf, to the position of leader of the British party in the Commons. But this point is tacitly admitted, even by men opposed to the protectionists. It is in the House of Lords that we are hourly taunted with baying no leader. Even the most virulent of the Whig journals allow that we have a party-a strong and resolute party-in that House; but they lose no opportunity of throwing it in our teeth, that there is no noble lord, of talent and energy, saited to the crisis, to give direction to the power that we possess. We feel authorised in declaring that this insimuation is perfectly groundless. Lord Stanley is able and willing to lead on his possess the relative that the Reitle Industry will on his noble phalanx to the victory that British industry will yet achieve in the House of Peers. The few words that his lordship delivered on Friday night are conclusive evidence of what he bel'eves may be done; and we think we know enough of what other noble lords feel on the subject to say, without fear of contradiction, that they are content to leave the mode in which it shall be done to the zeal and ability of Lord Stanley .- Morning Post.

REPRESENTATION OF SOUTH LANGASHIRE.—We think it right to state, for the information of our readers, that there is considerable probability of an early election for the southern division of this county. Within the last few days, ramours which had previously been in circulation of an intention on the part of Government to create several additional peers, have acquired greater probability and consistency. It is now pretty generally believed, that after the bill for altering the Corn Law has passed the Flouse of Commons, several individuals, now or recently in that house, including Lord Francis Egerton, Lord Lipcoln, and Lord Ashley, will be called to the upper Louse, in order to assist in carrying the great measure through that assembly. We give the statement as it reaches us; not vonching fer its trait, but, at the shifted time, with a strong impression that there is at least some foundation for it.—Monchaster Guardian.

AGRICULTURE.

THE "PROTECTED" LABOURERS.

With effrontery surpassing that of the reguish horsedealer, who pointed out the lame leg of a horse for sale as one of the animal's best points, the monopolists have lately pretended that "protection"-that is, dear grain and short crops—was essential to the welfare of the agricultural labourers. Nothing is further from the truth, but it serves to divert attention from the real objects and effects of the Corn Laws; and therefore monopolist after monopolist reiterates the oftexposed falsehood.

Perhaps there is no county in England where the farmers have so entirely relied upon the Corn Laws as in Wiltshire. A large portion of the county consists of light but fortile land, held generally in large farms, the occupiers of which, though often men of considerable capital, almost without exception hold too much land for the capital they employ; their profit, therefore, according to the actual system, is derived from a moderate acreable produce on a large breadth of land. They thus produce grain at considerable cost, and require high prices to "remunerate" them. They have a large surface of land to plough, to manure, and to sow. They pay rent-and Wiltshire rents are high-tithes, rates, and taxes, for many acres. Their outgoings, calculated at per acre, are as great as if, with one exception, the highest and most elaborate system of culture prevailed. Indeed, more so, for more seed is required to be sown on the Wiltshire system than would be necessary if the land was more highly cultivated. If the Wiltshire farmer with the same capital had less land, the only additional outlay per acre he would make would be in extra labour. He must raise better turnip and green crops; he would feed some bullocks, or mileh cows, or breed neat stock; and he would fatten off-some of his wether

Root-hocing, manure drawing, cattle serving, and so forth, which such a change implies, would undoubtedly require the employment of more manual labour than the Wiltshire farmer now deems necessary, but that would be a most profitable outlay, for the increased produce per acre would much exceed the increased cost.

Now, when "protection" shall be finally abolished, the Wiltshire farmers must, and will, rely less upon the price, and more upon the quantity of their crops, and they will-necessarily adopt a higher system of farming.

Both landlords and tenants will probably be less auxious for large occupations. To put the difference in a tangible form, let us contrast the high and the low farming. The Wiltshire farmer has a capital of say 4000L, and he takes a farm of 800 nerds, thus employing 5l. per acre. Throughout the county, for one farmer who has more capital than 5/, per acre, there are five who have less. But take 5/. per acre as representing the average of Wiltshire farming, and it will be obvious that by means of that capital -- in the case we put-the rent, tithes, rates, and taxes of 800 acros must be paid, that quantity of land must be ploughed, manured, sown, and harvested; and we know that, practically, the only means by which it can be manured at all by means of a capital of 4000l, is with a flock of shoop kept on "the downs" in the day, and folded at night on the arable land. No beasts will be fed or bred, no sheep fattened, the turnips will not exceed 4 or 5 tons to the acre, and the number of labourers employed will be comparatively small The acreable produce of grain will be small, very small, compared with what the land under a different style of farming is capable of producing. The witnesses examined before the various agricultural committees have never set the Wiltshire produce of wheat at more, upon an average, than about 22 bushols per acre, and other grain in proportion. Had the farmer with a capital of 40007, taken four instead of eight hundred acres of the same kind of land, he would have saved half his outgoings for rent, tithes, rates, taxes, seed, and ploughing; and let him employ the same number of men upon his smaller farm, and homey not only in many instances grow nearly or quite double his present produce per acre, but he may grow grain more frequently on

far as the farmer we controll he will carry on his business with much greater success as soon as the necessity of growing large produce shall have taught him not to take too much land.

But if such a change of system as Free Trade will inevitably introduce is best for the farmer, how is it for the labourer? Why, with provisions at lower prices, there will be a greater demand for his labour, and, as a necessary consequence, his wages will rise. The Wiltshire labourers seem to be aware of this. Nothing has been more remarkable, during the progress of the Free Trade agitation, than the meetings of Wiltshire labourers to petition Parliament, or memorialize the Queen, for a Free Trade in corn. The peaceable, rational, earnest demeanour of these humble men, gathered together by the hill side, or under the broad oak, in the moonlight of a winter's night, to raise their voices for untrammelled industry, is a spectacle of no ordinary import. When the truths of economical science are thus practically enforced, daze the Government disregard the signs of the times, in blind obedience to the selfish suggestions of an ignorant landocracy? To that question Sir Robert Peel has given the statesman's only answer-No; emphatically, No.

The following paragraph records a meeting of labourers which took place a week or two ago, in Wiltshire:

"MEETING OF LABOURERS ON LOCKERIDGE DEANE .-On Tuesday evening a meeting of 'protected' Wiltshire labourers took place on Lockeridge Deane, near Mariborough. Many of the cottagers in the neighbourhood of Kennet, Lockeridge, and Overton, having lately received printed papers issued by the Protection Society, setting forth the evils of Free Trade, and having been told by the farmers that protection was for their benefit, and therefore ought to be continued, decided on holding a meeting to discuss the subject, and requested Mr. Edwards, of Marlborough, and Mr. Westell, schoolmaster, of the same place, to attend and explain to them the true bearings of the question. Accordingly, on Tuesday evening, at one o'clock, the Denne, which ingly, on Tuesday evening, at one o clock, the Deane, which is a hollow, spotted over with those singular stones, which, at a distance, from their resemblance to sheep, are called grey wethers, was througed with hundreds of men, whose white smockfrocks literally glittered in the bright moonlight, and made an impressive picture among the old grey stones—memorials of bye gone days. The addresses of Messrs. Edwards and Westell were listened to with intense interest, the labourers every now and then breaking on the solemn stillness of the night, which was otherwise only interrupted by a single human voice, with loud shouts of approval, which were caught up by echo on the other side and sent back again, reverberating over the Deane. The strongest feeling in favour of Free Trade was manifested, and it is not too much to say that, in this neighbourhood, the 'Glory of Protection has departed,' never more to return."—Wiltshire

If the reader knows the district, he will understand the picturesque effect of such a meeting. If not, let him imagine a hollow between the Chalk hills, filled with masses of grey "Sarsen" stone, protruding through the short natural turf, surrounded by wide tracts of "downs," used only as sheep walks, though capable of being highly and profitably cultivated, and by open arable fields which every labourer in the dis trict knows to be only half cultivated. Let him recollect that 7s. and 8s. a week form the ordinary wages of an adult labourer; that there is little employment for women and children, and that this state of things arises from a low, an unnaturally low system of cultivation, occasioned by a law passed by a legislature of dominant landowners, to increase their own rents by enhancing the price of the labourer's food, and diminishing the demand for his labour. Will he wonder at shouts of approval which greeted the Free Trade speakers? May the echoes reach the ear, and act upon the minds of those of the English Oligarchy, who still struggle to maintain their artifloial scarcity! On these very spots, according to local tradition, the aborigines of this Island were accustomed to assemble under the guidance of the Druids for worship, and to concort resistance to the Roman invaders; and from that hour to this, hundreds on hundreds of acres of land have been un. touched and unimproved by the hand of man. Now the peasants assemble there to demand the removal of those laws which restrict the freedom of Britishindustry, and retain the soil in a state of nature.

We understand that the Wiltshire labourers are about to celebrate at Avebury, where their first meeting occured, the partial triumph of sound principles which Sir Robert Poel's measure affords. We shall look with great interest for the proceedings of that meeting, for it is plain the Wiltshire lathe same land than he can with the larger farm their, depression, are about to take the lead in the mation of their depression, of their class.

ADUKE ON POTATOES.

It has pleased the landed aristocracy to take our potato grounds under their especial protection, and to examine, with all the acumen of hereditary wisdom, the symptoms of the potato disease-its causes and its remedies. The why and the wherefore of such condescending beneficence it boots not now to tell. Perhaps the failure of potatoes, upon which so many of our agricultural labourers live, has somewhat unmasked the position of those "who withhold corn from the people," who passlaws to create an artificial scarcity of grain to keep up renu But let that pass. Dukes and lords do care for our potatoes; and perhaps we, the commonalty of England ought not to inquire too minutely into the source of such "a crowning mercy."

It seems that the monopolist Duke of Portland has been experimenting on potatoes; and, as the result of his investigations, promulgated to the world "that quicklime is a protection against the consequences of the disease;" and of course such an authority could not be gain. sayed. Quicklime preserves potatoes: it is so, there can be no question, for the Duke of Portland has said so. It matters not that scientific men, or practical men, quicklimed their potatoes without staying the disease; their experiments go for nothing. What can such things weigh against the authority of a duke? But then another duke, the Duke of Rutland, has also failed to protect potatoes by the use of quickline. Now the Duke of Rutland should know something about potatoes, for he declared publicly, at an agricultural meeting, that he "highly relished" the humble esculent. The question therefore assumed a serious aspect. So long as there was a duke on the one side, and only all the trading potato growers and men of science on the other, the truth could not be in doubt; it must be with the duke But when the popular experience became fortified by that of another duke, who could decide the question? This state of things was awful to contemplate. The potatofed community was about to be split into two factions; the pelting of decayed potatoes might have been fearful; when, lo ! "Scott Portland" relieves the public, startled by this collision of authorities, with the following truly ducal explanation:

"As I know that my authority has been extensively circulated in favour of quicklime as a protection against the consequences of the disease which has prevailed in the potato crop, and I heard yesterday from the Duke of Rulland that his experiments have not been equally successful, I feel it a duty to society to prevent persons from being misled by the general terms in which I have circulated the result of the experiments conducted here."

Mark, reader, the peculiar conditions under which quicklime will stay the progress of the potato discase. The magnate of Wellbeck says:

" It is quite true that the lime used here has been inveriably successful, but it is the MAGNESIAN LIME which abounds in this neighbourhood. In its caustic state it is fatal to vegetation. Barren spots are to be seen in the places on the forest, where lime heaps were placed more than thirty years ago. It is therefore easy to account for the effect of this lime in stopping the propagation of the

And of vegetation together, his grace might have said. His grace then proceeds:

" The lime used by the Duke of Rutland I understand to have been the Crich lime, which is very pure lime, and has no such destructive qualities. It is, therefore, only necessary to state the distinction to account for the difference. Charcoal is quite as effectual as the magnesian lime."

The explanation as regards lime is quite satisfactory, for it shows that both dukes are right. Of course it was impossible that a duke could be wrong when all was known, but we fear his grace of Portland had forgotten ins logic—if he ever condescended to learn logic having discovered that some quicklime "stops the propagation of the potato disease" by destroying vegetative power, he promulgated, in "general terms," that "quicklime is a protection against the disease."

If the faith of the British commonalty in dukes had been less stedfast than it is, this might have shaken our national belief that dukes are infallible. The fault, however, is that of the "rascal commons," who ought to have known intuitively what the ducal oracle meant. And it is with a view to prevent future misconstructions of the "authority" of the lord of Wellbeck that we venture to ask, with all humility, whether, when the Dake of Portland says, "charcoal is quite as effectual as the magnesian lime," he means ignited charcoal? for, should charcoal fail, and no duke discover the failure, the po tato-growing community may be again apparently at issue with a duke.

THE GAME LAW

The important events which his to the sail of have to some extent diverted our attention pressure of the game laws and MOTO PERSONALISTRALIST AND

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nulsance; but topon the whole we apprehend the evil to be on the increase.

A few are throwing the hares and rabbits overboard. in the hope of lemoning the public demand for the repeal of the game laws; as, for instance:

"The youthful Earl of Stamford and Warrington has, much to his credit, given the tenantry on his extensive estates permission to destroy the hares and rabbits."—Provincial Paper.

But, independently of the indirect and social evils produced by the existence of a system of game laws, the actual destruction caused by phensants is very great, as witness the following:

"A brace of pheasants were lately killed in the parish of Bradwell, near Coggeshall, Essex, the crop of one of which contained 756 grains of wheat and barley, the other 928 grains, besides other small seeds."—Essex raper.

On many farms the pheasants which are daily fed at the tenants' cost, must be counted by hundreds; let a simple multiplication sum be worked on these dates, and let the public note the result. Farmers know it, and writhe under the infliction. The following extract, from the Mark Lane Express, shows the opinions of farmers on the subject:

"DANAGES CAUSED BY HARES AND RABBITS .- The farmers of the Isle of Wight are quite in ecstacies at the Duke of Richmond and Lord Ashburton having declared that hares were vermin, and alike injurious to the crops of the tenant and the trees of the landord. It is calculated that a farm of 500 acres keeps at least 1000 hares, which will cat as much as 200 sheep, at 17s. 6d. each, or one sheep to five hares, at 3s. 6d. £175 0 0 Waste caused by hares in feeding equal to one

quarter

£218 15 0 Every hare on a farm eats and wastes the value of 4s. 6d. at least, and every rabbit costs the farmer at least 2s. per annum.

THE ELECTRICAL MINISTER.

A great sensation has lately been produced at Paris by the wonderful feats of a young lady, a Mademoiselle Angelique Couin, who appears to be a sort of torpedo in petticoats. Chairs and tables fly across the room on a touch from her pron, when she is charged with the fluid, and she can be attracted or repulsed at will by the magnet.

is, perhaps, not generally known that we possess a similar but much more wonderful phenomenon amongst us. What is Mademoiselle Cottin's performance in this way to Sir Robert Peel's?

The following detail of experiments proves his infinitely

greater powers of attraction and repulsion:

EXPERIMENT 1. The Premier, after being very beavily charged indeed during the late debate, being placed on the Conservative benches by a single speech, succeeded in violently throwing from him one-half of the Conservative members, quite to the opposite side of the house. Notwithstanding the tremendous efforts made by Sir Sidney Herbert and Sir James Graham to hold these gentlemen in their places, the shock was so great that they were almost knocked over themselves by the violence with which the protectionists flew across. Mr. Ferrand was flung with a tremendous shock against a knot of Free Traders, and talked so very widely that it was feared he had sustained a concussion of the brain. lle is not yet quite recovered.

EXPERIMENT II. \ Sir Robert, being again charged the night after, was found to possess the power of attracting the League members, in the same proportion as he repelled the gentlemen of the Central Agricultural Society in Bond-street. Mr. Cobden was drawn right across the house, apparently

without the least power of resistance.

EXPERIMENT III. Sir Robert, being again charged, was put en rapport with Lord George Bentinok and Mr. D'Israell by means of silk (generally a non-conductor). Notwithstanding he drew the honourable members into a slough of absurdity, and fixed them so tight in a dilemma, that they were quite unable to get out of it—until Sir Robert left the honourable to get out of it—until Sir Robert left

EXPERIMENT IV. Sir Robert being again charged, and a nantity of arguments presented to him by the member for Northamptonshire, these, though considered particularly strong by those who selected them, were at once broken to pieces, one after another, by a single sentence of Sir Robert's. A gentleman of great scientific acquirements, who has watched these experiments, assures us that Sir Robert is quite as

powerful as the electric cel, and if possible, more alippary.

Encouraged by the success of the Premier, Mr. D Israeli has announced his possession of similar powers. He attempted, when fully charged with sarcasm, and facts from MCulioch's Commercial Dictionary, to electrify the House. The attempt was a total failure, and Mr. D'Israeli is accordingly pronounced to be an impostor.—Punch.

Representation of Bridden.—A petition, duly recognizanced, was presented on Monday night in the House of Commons against the return of Mr. Cochrane for the borough of Briddent. The petitioners allege gross bridery, and pray a scrutiny. It appears the majority of one will little-available beautiful the months of some to light. The most faced corruption of votes have come to light. The most corruption of votes have come to figur. The most confident expectation prevails in Bridport that Mr. John Romilly will be, within a month; what he ought to have been originally, the "sitting member." The sats of heibery, are reported to compromise seriously some of the chief partisans of Mr. Cochrane.—Morning Chronicle.

THE BRASON —While the Emerican maners are filled with

THE BEASON. While the European papers are filled with THE BRASON.—While the European papers are filled with paragraphs containing evidences of the extraordinary prescrity of the section, there are letters from North America which axhibit a singular contrast with the former statements. It estates of the Union, we are informed, and principally in North-Carolina, Muscachasetts, and Kennacky, the weather, has been more severe, than any experienced at the contrast of the Carolina and the contrast of the Carolina and the contrast of

REVIEW.

Contartiti Fleming, and Alreyon Bomaness by B. D'Israeli Esq., M.P. Loudon; Colburn.

The republication of those admirable works, in which genius sooms to revel in its own exuberance, and the creative power of a poetle mind to have called worlds of thought into existence with greater facility than the slaves of the lamp raised their gorgeous palaces, has led us to contemplate the political position of the author, and to contrast the high principles developed in Coningsby and Sybil with the very inferior practice of the member for Shrowsbury. Like his own Alroy, Mr. D'Israeli has proved false to the star of his own destiny; having appealed to the best feelings of the country, and proclaimed that the sublime of morality ought to be the essence of sound policy—having shown that the system of protection was a device of the tricksters that endeavoured to pass themselves for states. men—having pointed to the vacillations in Lord Bolingbroke's career which deprived of all influence the greatest amount of talent that had ever centred in the person of an English politician, he has declared himself an infidel in his own mission by becoming a partisan of the system he condemned, and an expounder of the principles which he denounced.

There is no greater mistake than that which is made a prominent rule of action in Vivian Grey, one of the author's earliest and most successful works, that tact and cleverness in forming a party are essential to success in political life. True genius is independent of party; Grattan paid Lord Chatham the highest compliment that a statesman could receive when he declared that "he stood alone." Moral power in his case was quite independent of numerical strength; he commanded majorities, for there was a sovere dignity in his independence, a wizard power in his strength of will, which for a time gave to his behests the resistless force of Fate. He too fell beneath the trammels of party. The Lilliputians chained down Gulliver; Chatham's second administration was the sad exhibition of the convulsive throes of a giant, cribbed, cabined, and confined, by the most ordinary of mortals; he was a Sampson making sport for the Philistines.

The greatest of philosophic poots, and the most dramatic of satirical writers, could conceive no punishment more severe for the tyrants of his day than that they should have a full conception of the moral excellence which they had abandoned for ever. Persius rising to a height of ethical dignity unmatched in the whole range of classical literature. pronounces as his anathema on the Neros, the Domitians and the Caligulas:

> Virtutem videant, intabescantque relictà. " May they see Virtue and pine for her deserted."

But the inconsistency between sublime procept and erratic practice, has consequences that extend beyond the individual. It is an unjust, and a dangerous trifling with the moral elements of public opinion. Eternal truths are proclaimed with all the dignity belonging to conscious power; delinquencies of past and existing statesmen are exposed with a fearless severity which implies the assertion of innate superiority. The voice of the prophet stirs all the sympathetic emotions by which intellectual sublimity and moral excellence are appreciated; we look for the voice of the prophet, and we hear the conventional tones of the advocate. We expect some etornal maxim, and we receive a fugitive epigram; we seek the teaching of the philosopher, but we find only the patent fallacies of the sophist. "O Lucifer, son of the morning, how art thou fallen!"

Long and fondly as we have admired the Tale of Alroy, the greatest impersonation of the theocratic principle developed in a human personage which the history of fletion can display, we rise from our last perusal of its pages with a conviction that it is one of those conceptions predestined to immortality. David Alroy, the prince of the captivity, becomes lord of Asia by appreciating and holding fast to the eternity of principle with which his destiny is involved; but he barters principle for a low, mean, and miserable existence—his star culminates in the horizon, and he sinks into the despised captive of a dungeon. But this is a moral as well as a historical truth. There is an iron which enters into the soul, more torturing than the chains which manacle the body; there are fetters for the mind, more galling and more degrading than those which the jailer rivets on the hands and wrists; they are linked indissolubly to the inner man, when integrity parts from genius, and consigns the high trust to the hazards of a temporary and paltry expediency-

And the clankless chains have bound thee, And the silent spells surround thee; And the curse hath gone together O'er thy heart and brain—now, wither.

It is painful to see the author of Alroy lending himself to the advocacy of monopoly; and to say the truth, there is a little of the judicrous in the in-congruity between his builty and powers and that strange "development of intelligence" builted "in the agricultural mind." We want to be him in the

midst of the protectionists without, thinking of Nobuchadnezzal grazing among the fixen. When he is cheared by his anomalous supportors, we expect him overy moment to turn round and onquire, "What meanoth this bloating of sheep, and this lowing of oxen in mino cars?" and in spite of all that has happened, we look back to his perpetrating some such severance of the unnatural connection in the course of the session.

Free Trade and Artistic Design, from the Art-Union, for April 1846. (Unpublished).

We have been permitted to use this article, from which we shall make a few extracts, which require neither introduction nor comment. The following is a good description of the protection system:

"The object of protection is to provent competition, and the consequent diminution of profits. We do not say the diminution of prices, because high prices are very far from being identified with high profits; before price can be a measure of profit we must know the cost of production, for profit is obviously the difference between the cost of production and the price obtained for any given article. Cheapness of production is, therefore, an important element in the estimate of profits, and, therefore, in the estimate of wages. For it is quite clear that wages must be paid out of profits, since they could not possibly be paid out of losses. Now, let us for the sake of argument grant that a system of protection can be so stringently maintained as to prevent all foreign competition, and that the operations of the smugglers can be effectually prevented by a revenue police, we say that there are two evils necessarily resulting—the loss of markets abroad, and the raising up of formidable competition at home. Protection is a virtual abandonment of the foreign market, for how can we most those on neutral ground with whom we declare ourselves unable to compete in our own markets? We can export no articles except those which we produce cheaper than foreigners, unless we choose to buy and sell, and live by the loss: a process which is recommended in schools of sentimental economy, but which political economy discards as preposterous. If, on the other hand, we can so diminish the cost of production as to compete with foreigners in neutral markets, we must be far more than a match for them at home, and protection is utterly uscless,—it becomes a mere idle mockery.

"Take it, then, either way, so far as export trade is con

cerned, if protection enhances the cost of production it is mischievous by excluding us from foreign markets; and if it does not enhance the cost of production it is utterly and wholly unavailing.

We are pleased with the following remarks on the subject of wages:

"Whatever raises the cost of production cultances the price of an article, and whatever raises price must of necessity diminish the consumption, and, consequently, the demand. Now, as goods are produced only to be sold, it is evident that a combination to raise wages in any branch of labour is a combination to limit the demand for labour in that branch of industry; and, therefore, the unionists must go a step farther. and limit the supply of labour. Now, they have done so in several instances, but they have never succeeded, and they never can succeed. If they fix such a tariff of wages as to leave little or no margin of profits for the manufacturers, no capitalists will emburk in their business, so far as the power of the unionists extends. But Great Britain is not a single town, and no trades' union can exercise the sway of imperial legislation; the capitalists provented from embarking in trade on the banks of the Thames may seek the banks of the Irwell, the Derwent, and the Mersey. In point of fact the competition from which the weavers of Spitalfields now suffer most is not that of Paris or of Lyons, but the competition of Manchester and of Macclesseld.

We have now shown that the effect of protection is to destroy the foreign market and to provoke a most injurious competition in the home market; but this is not all: in the insensate struggle to maintain the rate of wages by artificial means, the natural means—that is, the artistic improvement of the manufactured article—is entirely neglected. The natural constituents of a rate of wages are skill, time, and toil, and of these skill must always bear the highest price. The unfortunate condition of the frame knitters and the handloom weavers is chiefly owing to the fact that the invatory of their art can be learned with great case, and that the employment is of such a nature as to be possible to the young, the infirm, the sick, and the untrained. It is not long since some scores of Irish labourers, coming over to reap the harvest and failing to obtain employment, at once became hand-loom weavers, and thus largely added to the numbers and the misery of that unfortunate class. When, therefore, we urge the importance of raising the artistic standard of instruction for the operative classes, we are also contending for their obtaining higher wages and more permanent re muneration."

We shall conclude by extracting a portion of the remarks on the silk trade:

"It is but justice to say that the immense majority of the manufacturing classes have shown at this crisis that con-fidence and self-reliance which we have endeavoured to recommend. There is probably no class of operatives to which the withdrawal of protection might have been expected to appear more formidable than the watchmakers of Clerkenwell, and yet they all joined in a polition for Free Trade. There has indeed, been one exception to this rule; petitions for protection being continued have been presented from a minority of the persons engaged in the silk trade, and yet there is no trade in England that has suffered so severely from prohibition and protection.

"The allk trade lies suffered from two shools of sentimental soonomy: the Spitalfields school, and the Macclesfield achool. When the facilities of weaving by the application of mawhen the Rollings of warning by the application of intro-obinery, as in the judquard loom, were so increased that the time and toil required for producing any definite length were reduced to one-third, the economists of Spitalfields believed it possible to maintain the price of production in spite of the immense change in the cost-of-production. But two could produce, and the result of the attempt was to drive a large produce, and the result of the attempt was to drive a large proportion of the silk manufacture into the north of England. The Macalesfield comomists took a still more absurd dogma for their guidance; they held that it was the duty of Covernment to provide them a market, irrespective of the value or the meets of their goods; Mr. Brookleburst, who is the leading professor of that species of commissioning, who is the leading professor of that species of commissioning of Macolestical,

can confirm our assertion, that whorever this aboriginal school bad influence, actistic design was not merely unknown, but was deliberately rejected. Had not Mr. Brocklehust taken the unfortunate step of opposition to Sir Robert Peel's teriff, on the ground of the incapacity of Englishmen to compete with Frenchmen, we should never have dreamed of making any direct reference to him or to bis establishment. But he has challenged an inquiry which he must meet. We ask, then, what artists has he simployed? What reward has he paid? What original taste has he developed? What design has his large establishment developed? The fact is that on original design several large establishments which we could mention do not together expend one half of the sum which is paid to arises by some of the smaller manufacturers of Paris, Lyons, and St. Etlenne. They ask to be protected in a systematic disconragement of British progress in the art of design, and they have the leasthead to design that they they have the hardihood to declare that they speak in behalf of British industry. We tell them, what indeed they know full well, that skill is a greater element than toil in the profits of British industry, and that those who discourage the development of skill are the very worst enemies of the opera-

"We can relate an illustrative ancodote, and appeal to the Macclesfield economist for the truth of the facts, which came within his own knowledge. A certain West end house, ob tained a design from Paris, and sent it to be realised at a large English establishment; the design was one which required very little skill to adupt it to the jacquard, but it was done so clumsly and so badly that the result was perfectly detestable. Complaints were made, and the answer was, 'You can get no better article without smuggling. Now, the answer was simply a downright fulschood: in the establishment of the late Mr. Schwabe, at Manchester, we have seen patterns five times more complex placed on the jacquard without difficulty. There may be some undiscoverable advantages in a system of protection, but assuredly it is no alvantage to maintain noodles as heads of houses, and botches

as operatives.

The plain fact in the silk trade is, that we do not fail so much in backwardness in design as in the realizing of design: the existence of protection was a constant incentive to avoid preliminary expense, and to slur over difficulties. The quantity of the work turned off, not its quality, determined the character of the workman. The operative was protected, not from the competition of low wages, but of high wages; in the comony of Spitalfields and Macclesfield it was a crime to be too industrious too skilled and too intelligent. erime to be too industrious, too skilful, and too intelligent. We have long felt weary of such mischievens nonsense, and we are glad that it has come to an end. We have been paying a premium on the import of foreign designs, and establishing a prohibition on the production of native designers. We have been sacrificing the real interest of British Art to the protonded interest of British Industry. Art now takes its fair stand in a free market. We say to the British manufacturers,-You can only meet foreign designs by English designs, you must cease to be imitators, you must begin to be originators; -you have felt the snuggler to be more than your match while you depended on France for patterns, but a more complete competition will drive you from the field, unless you develope the resources which are notoriously at

"It is neither our duty nor our object to vindiente the policy of Sir Robert Peel -political considerations come not within our peculiar sphere. But we have long felt that the restrictions on the importation of artistic excellence from abroad fornished at least a pretext for discouraging artistic ambition ut home, and that the opening of our ports to foreign rivalry must force the encouragement of domestic powers to meet the contest. Few years, probably very few months, will chapse when the excellence of the British school of design will not be far behind the excellence of the British schools of engraving, of painting, of modelling, and of sculpture.

"If fashionable consumers in lengland have evinced an unpatriotic preference for ornamental articles of foreign manufacture, they can plead in excuse that our prohibitory and protective laws proclaimed the inferiority of our own productions. Our legislation fostered a desire for foreign silks and foreign paper hangings, not merely by creating the perverse longing which all feel for what is forbidden, but by tacitly admitting that the exclusion was a proof of superior excellence. English Art was thus doubly discouraged; relying on protection, the producer refused to stimulate design; deceived by exclusion, the consumer regarded the inferiority of English patterns as an article of national faith incorporated in acts of Parliament. It would lead us too fur away from our immediate subject to show the connexion between the system of excise and the system of protection, but what we have chewhere said on the glass trade will sufficiently prove that the injuries, which being subjected to the excise brings on any branch of manufacturing ladustry, cannot be compensated by any amount of protection, however excessive. We have been legislating against art, enterprise, and invention, and it is assuredly high time that we should seek to advance on some road less dangerous.

In consequence of the press of matter, we are compelled to defer our notice of the Compound Atlas until next week.

INDIAN CORN BREAD. - Bread baked from Indian corn (maize) is coming rapidly into vogue in our city (Glasgow), and several bakers are driving a brisk business in it already. At the meeting of the Philosophical Society, on Wednesday hight, Dr. R. D. Thomson road an able paper on the nutri ingui, or, it is, thousan role an able paper on the nairi tive qualities of ludian corn, which he ranked very high; and at the same time exhibited various kinds of bread and bisenit which had been baked from it by Mr. Wilson, Gordon street. Some of the specimens were mixtures of maize and wheat, and maize and rice, in which state the logvos can be better fermented than when the maize is used alone. The bread and biscuits were very palatable and pleasant. Various uses to which Indian corn flour may be applied in domestic cookery were described, and some of them illustrated, on the occasion. In any form it is incomparable spaces matricinal than patatage, and may with the smallest amount of trouble and expense be made an agreeable dish.— Scottish Guardian.

A paragraph has appeared in one of the Newcastle papers, stating that William Brown, Kag., of Liverpool, had pursiance the catalic of Ford Castle, Northumberland, from the Marquis of Waterford, for the sum of 300,000. We have the last authority for anying that Mr. Brown, of Liverpool, has made no such purchase, though it is quite possible that the estate may have been sold to a gentleman of the same pame.—Liverpool Zince.

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION .-

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Frospectuses may be obtained, grafis, on application at the Society's.

Offices, East Temple Chambers, Whitefright street, Fleet street. The Rules
(6d. each are now conity, and may be had as above.

Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application.

The Society's Offices will be open for receiving subscriptions and the
general transaction of business, every Enesday and Friday evasings, from

510 90 clock.

THE TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION. As the scenad subscription is about to be called for, parties Intending to avail themselves of the bonefits of the Association are requested to is colled in shares an is obtained on the same terms as those which have been stready taken up. Attendance at the Offices, East Temple Chambers, flow to Kine o'Clock

ECOLLECTIONS OF A TOUR: A SUMMER RAMBLE IN BELGIUM, GERMANY, and SWITZERLAND. By J. W. Masir, D.D., M.R.I.A. (of Manchester), author of "Continental India," "The Irish Church and Irreland," &c. &c.

London: J. Show.

Exercise of Carrieral Notices.

The Speciator (London), Murch 14, 1816.

Dr. Massie is a Noncon familia innister: this health having failed in the discharge of histalties, change of scene was prescribed by his medical attendard. This prescription jumps of with the wishes of the patient; but the "reamgistateoni "offered an obstacle, till removed by the affectionate solicitude of a generous and kind flock. Dr. Massie therefore started on his trip; made the usual tour through Belgium; visited the Spas adjacent to the Rhine; and proclared as far as Geneva, by way of Switzerland. His return was through Germany to the Elize and Hamburg, but he ne companies the remore no further than Leipsie, from back of space; the portion being briefly dismissed, except as regards reminiscences of Luther. On weturning to his dock at Lower Broughton, Dr. Massie gave them an account of his tour, in a veries of evening lectures or discourses—nucl. It will distribute the seminant of Ar. Alackingham's solvers. There existed Richton: allowed were published in some journals; and, finally, four, which forms the portly volume before us. In a preface the author starts that there is little either of the substance or the details of his legiture of the substance or the details of his legitures that there is little either of the substance or the details of his legiture and prevalls over the written character throughout. Considered merely in the analyse, these things are well enough done; for they are done in good faith, with some knowledge, and with what is called power. Dr. Massie is not a mere book maker, coverity spinning reminiscences out of the nearest receptacle—which generally is the guide-book; but a person who thinks his flock wants this instruction, and thorefore gives it them undisquisedly, owning when he takes it from common well: he condenses his facts with skill, and presents then with eleverness, or something more than eleverness. Will, this iscomplination, not observation; and it needlessly social the book for the general reader—t

tion; and it not flessly socils the book for the general reader-though it was not, perhaps, attended for readers in general, but for a particular in the more proper topics of the tourist—incident, description, and remark—Dr. Massie is able to give some variety to an exhausted field, by his particular object, which was to "indicate how linese (foreign) scenes and associations strike a Christian." His comments on the facts he observed partials somewhat of the lecture; but his character and position naturally introduced him to a class with whom the ordinary run of tourists have nothing in common; and he exhibits agood deal of information respecting the condition of the Protestant congregations in Helgium, Gormany, and Geneva (which stronghold of Chivin is now a pure Unitarian establishman slong the Rhine. His opinions of Cutholicism and Latheranism are with other observers, that Rationalism is extensively prevalent in Germany, and it at among Roman Cauthon; though in the main he agrees with other observers, that Rationalism is extensively prevalent in German, and it at among Roman Catholics beire is confined to females and all above them. It seems in Roman Catholic countries, however, to be found and combination he encountered at Cologne, and of the position of dying visitors to the German Spas.—Dr Massie is an advocate for liftee trade. Like Laing and How itt, he does not seem to have been struck) at least, favourably, with the German character.

The Thirds (Ajaghelester, January 10, 1846.

The Author salys Unit, from the first, he meant to indicate how the scenes and associations strike a Christian, and with this intention he has produced a book which cannot fall to interest a Christian. We get little information from him as to cookery, or the mysteries of garning, or of plays or operas, or of accommodation at hotels, although he has an eye to the he catholic Clergy; through the Patherland of the Romanical and the picturesque, be it in the country or antique town. But he passes through Vitrode, and we have an in

interesting occument of the decadendary results of sinte establishments for the promation, conveyed in a pleasing manner, and the relice one of the author formation, conveyed in a pleasing manner, and the relice one of the author are always given and true, and generally appropriate and inapply introduced.

The Metropalian Magazinan, Pebruary.

Many publications have recently issued from the press which once read in y be initiaside. The volume before us will be one of permanent interest, as it is one of valuable information and pleasing instruction. It is one of valuable information and pleasing instructions in the price of the control reader it will be information and pleasing instructions. The control reader is an work, a part from all adventitions, possessing great instruction of the produce it is an work, a part from all adventitions, possessing great instructions pleasing the produce it is an work to whole the following the first of the

do wings of a philisophic poind, impued with a deep and wide spread with volume. His descriptions are always held she pointed, and, sometime, glowing and graphic. Of the truth of this the following extent that almost at random, will be a sufficient proof, and we have chose it has preference to many others equally or more attractive, because of the icrest which the present precedings in the Cantol of Youder of the work in the superior of the exciting — Another very interesting feature in the wark is, the rape appropriate historical lors which is beautifully word into the work is, the rape nervalive, giving it a failness and variety at once pleasing and instructive our sulfur, too, has drequently brought begraphical as of many tenture, the subject of his interestive, standing out as so many her ich, and thus avoiding anything like a wearisome monotory efficient of syless man, the control close our remarks without recerding our unqualited proper of the scholar and the unfortered will alike be benefited and gratified by portual. We cordially wish it a large circulation: we are sure if the serves it.

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 28, 1846.

From all quarters of the country we receive complaints of the depressed condition of trade and com merce, and of the diminution of employment in almost every branch of British industry. The gloom over all the markets continues to increase, and the chief cause of the depression is the uncertainty produced by the delays which have been interposed by the passing of the ministerial measure. Every one is weary of an interminable debate dragging is slow length slong without pliniting a single ner lacies. Voltaire is said to have lent the same of a work to a Prepal nobleman additional and the same of a work to a Prepal nobleman additional

been all the time studying a continuous series. declared that he had found it very amusing; but added il me semble, qu'il se repete quelquefois. The protoctionists se repetent with a vengoance! Even though like Finch, they have to address empty benches, or like the maguanimous Borthwick, they have to encounter significant hints of impatience, they still continue to pour forth the same "weak, washy, overlasting flood," until the diluted stuff has quite sickened our stomachs. Now this may be sport to them, but is death to us. The business of the nation ought not to be suspended that lordlings should indulge in small talk, or agricultural orators prove that they differ from their sheep and oxen in possessing the faculty of speech, though in few other particulars. The leading morehants of Liverpool and Manchester have applied to the Premier to put an end to a dull farco, which renders the British legislature the mockery of Europe, and exposes the British empire to the perils of a commercial crisis.

It is true that the debate has rendered the old fallacies of monopoly uttorly odious and contemptible. Even the monopolist press has ceased to bound on the aspirants to oratorical fame, after the lamentable exhibitions which have taken place. But when it is manifest that we are merely witnessing a "talking against time," and that no other object is sought than factious delay, we must protest in the name of common sense, and common decency, against such a scandalous waste of public time, and such egregious trifling with public patienco.

We have had the "mad Parliament," the "pensioned Parliament," and the "puzzled Parliament," recorded in our annals, but the "prating Parliament," is worse than any of the three, and deserves to be indicted as a common nuisanco.

THE NEAPOLITAN TARIFF. (From the Manchester Guardian.)

We announced on Wednesday last, on the authority of a letter from Naples, the speedy issue of a new tariff, by which the duties on English manufacture would be considerably reduced, and the commercial intercourse between the two countries greatly extended. We have now the satisfaction of stating, that this first step by any foreign power, in imitation of the course pursued by the British Government, in the amelioration of fiscal and commercial legislation, has now been made. The royal decree announcing the new lariff was made public on the 11th inst.; and it establishes, as we expected, very considerable reductions in the duties on the leading articles of import from this country into the kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

The following particulars are derived from a letter received

by a house in this town, dated Naples, March 12:
"The question of the tariff is at last decided; and yesterday the royal decree was made public."

The following are the reductions in the tariff on textile manufactures, as deduced from the amount of duty, as stated in Italian money:

The duty on cotton yarns is reduced one third.

On cotton cloths, grey and white shirtings, &c., the duty is reduced about one-half. On printed cottons, the reduction of duty will amount, to

about fis. per piece, or one-half the existing duty.
On mixed cotton and worsted goods, and on worsteds, the

reduction will amount to about 58. per piece.

On silk goods, and goods mixed with silk, the duty will be reduced one third.

We are indebted to another letter for the following particulars of the new duties on a few of the most important articles of export from this country. As the duties were stated

only in Neapolitan monsures and money, which are rather difficult to reduce to Luglish denominations, we may have made some errors, and therefore give them both ways: Prints (including handkorchiofs),

a per square yard.

Ileached cottons, 45 grant per canna =24d. per square yard.

Ileached cottons, 45 grant per canna =54d. per square yard.

Figured linens, 110 grant per canna =54d. per square yard.

Figured linens, 110 grant per canna =54d. per square yard.

Justians, velvetoens, &c., plain or striped, 170 grant per canna

July per square yard.

Cotton twist, 17 ducats per cantar =34d. per lb.

It was stated in the letter from which we derived our information last week, that the proposed reductions would prove a serious blow to the Noapolitan manufactures. As unight be supposed that these manufactures, for the benefit of which the Neapolitan government and people have sacrificed so much were of great importance we can the following Seed so much, were of great importance, we copy the fol-lowing notice of them from M'GREGOR'S Commercial Sta-

"We sorreely know of any country where the manufactures of warm specia, usions it be silks, and has adapted either to the senius of the people, or to local electronsectures. The kings and governments of the kingdom, alligred by specious statements said, not by Nospolitans, buy it finglish, French, and German electronsectures, have, however, sphoroed a system of commercial session, and other manufactures, for which the whole country has said dearly, and by which the contrababilits, foreigners as well as Nespolitans, have gained enormous and regular profits."

A more enumeration of factories on paper will appear im-locate to those who do not comprehend the comparative value of such couplishments, and of the objective success under which n Lancachire, Yorkshire, Statordehire, and Lancachire Constitution of the Say, Include State Lancachire and Lan

lines, and hardware manufactures respectively, of the kingdom of the Two Sicilies. We exclude from this cutimate the ordinary coarse cloths made by the peasants for themselves, and the ordinary works of blacksmiths and other tradesmen."

All the preceding duties are subject to a discount of ten

THE PORTUGUESE TABLET.-We learn, by letters recoully received in this town, that a commission is sliting in Portugal, for the purpose of revising the commercial tariff of that kingdom. In what spirit, or with what particular views, this revision has been commonced, we have no means of judging. It can scarcely be intended to make more stringent that tariff which is rapidly ruining the wine growers of the Donro; and yet the present statesmen of Portugal are so far personally interested in manufactures, that we feel no confidence in their intentions to promote a more liberal commercial policy. Probably the lapse of a short time will develope their intentions.—Manchester Guardian.

A GAME LAW HEBO .- At the Leicestershire Assizes, ou Monday, two men named Rolleston and Ilales, were charged with being on land in the parish of Evington, during the night, armed, for the purpose of destroying game; and as the evidence was distinct, they were sentenced to twelve months, hard labour each. Fouldes, game-keeper to G.A.L. Kock, Esq., of Houghton, during his cross-examination, was asked by Mr. Kenneth Macaulcy, who defended the prisoners, how many offenders against the Game Laws he had taken? He does not appear to be more than 40 years old, if so much, buthis reply was, "Two hundred and twenty." This Mr. Keck is a stanneh monopolist, and rigid game preserver. He seldom resides at his seat here; and neither farmers nor labourers speak well of him, but the Petty Sessions are continually being occupied with his game cases, and the county is put to immense expense in their punishment of the of-

THE FUNDS.

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MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

Monday, March 23,-Of Wheat, Barley, and English Oats, the arrivals during the past week have been only moderate, nor are they much increased this morning. The choicest samples are they much increased this morning. The choicest samples of English Wheat fetch is, more money, but inferior samples are dull of sale and no dearer. The quantity of Foreign Wheat continues to increase; 26,782 qrs. have come to hand in the week: there is no alteration to notice in the value of it, but the trule is dull. Barley barely supports last week's prices, but quotations remain the same. About 17,400 qrs. of Irish Oats appear in the return, and in addition there are two or three vessels fresh in the return, and in addition there are two or three vessels fresh in today. Alterather the show of samples is large, but the ste up to-day. Altogether the show of samples is large, but the at-tendance of buyers is pretty good, and stocks being low in the hands of consumers and dealers, holders ask more money than last Monday, and the sales are at full prices; a very considerable business might be transacted at the rates of this day week, Boans and Peas are in short supply, and fully as dear

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Flour, 4009 enoke; 4387 barrols. PRIDAY, MARCH 27.-There has been again a short app-Friday, March 27.—There has been again a short supply of every kind of Grain since Monday: notwithstanding this, the trade generally has been for from brisk. The demand for English Wheat is fully equal to the supply; and the statement made by the Duke of Wellington in the house last night, that the Corn Bill will not come before the Lords before the coul of April, makes holders of fine dry Wheat firm at rather over Monday's prices. In Bouded Wheat there was more passing on Wednesday than for some time before: but to-day the demand is not quite so brisk. There is no alteration to notice in the Barley trade. A shilling more money than on Monday is asked for Oats, and in some instances is obtained: but for the most part an advance of more than 6d, cannot be made. Hellers at smaller improvement have done a very fair business. Beans and Pens the same as on Monday. A corpo of Indian Corn has been sold to day at 22s., for shipment to Ireland. There was no alteration in the duties yesterlay.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of Landen for

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 21rd of March to the 22th of March Lord Inch.

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| LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending March 24, 1846, | Qrs. | Price. | Qrs. | Price. | Qrs. | Price. | Qrs. | Price. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Qrs. | Q Wheat ... 4381 58s, 5d, 8ye ... Burley ... 1351 25s, 8d, Peus ...

IMPERIAL AVERAGES, Weeks ending Whout, Barley, Outs, Ryo, Beaus, Pease s. d. s

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks, Wheat, 54s. 9d.; Barley, 29s. 9d.; Oats, 21s. 9d.; Ryo, 33s. 4d.; Boans, 34s. 8d.;

Pour, 513, 501.

Duty. Whoat, 18s. 0d.; Bariov, 9s. 001.; 9s. 6d.; Boans, 8s. 6d.; Pous, 8s. 0d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Mar. 5, 1846.
Whoat. Barley. Oats. Ryo: Boans. Pous.

Cwts. In London, 442560 17200 61192 Unit, King, 1138050 82010 96983 MRAT MARKET

Trade upon the whole dull, although prices were maintained,

Prime Beef. 48 6d to 38 4d | Veal, from . 58 0d to 18 3d | Plain, or inferior Beef. 38 2d to 28 10d | Large, or inferior Beef. . . 38 2d to 28 4d | rior Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | rior Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | rior Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | rior Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | rior Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | rior Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | rior Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Mutton 48 6d to 48 4d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | Prime Pork . . 38 8d to 38 0d | P

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20.

James Kirkup, Rotherhithe, coal merchant. [Mr. Hodgson,

Brond street buildings.
William Collins, Hugsby, Warwick, Juilor. [Mr. Burbidge, Hutton garden.

Hatton garden.
James Bryant, Mayfield, Sussex, draper. [Mesera, Seles and
Turner, Aldermanbury.
James Harris, Croydon, Surrey, clothier. [Mr. Jacobs, Winchester-buildings, Great Winchester street.
Henry Ward, Wilford mill, Gloucestershire, paper manufacturne. J Mr. Rand Lamis.

turer. [Mr. Bond, Leeds. William Stone, Wood street, he man. [Mr. Lloyd, Milk street,

Cheapside.
Richard Ellison and John Goodworth, Barnsley, Yorkshire,
Me Rond, Leeds.

Richard Ellison and John Gomworth, Barnagey, Forksmire, linen manufacturers. [Mr. Bond, Leeds.] Joseph Whalley and Charlos Whalley, Liverpool, reed men. [Mr. Neal, Liverpool.] Richard Barnes, Preston Leigh, Gloucestershire, coal dealer.

Richard Barnes, Freston Lergis, Croacted Street, Messex, Newman and Co., Cheltenham.
Cornelius Brady, Ashton, Birmingham, commission agent.
[Mr. Harding, Birmingham.
Richard Edwards, Huddersfield, woollen draper. [Mr. Bond,

SGOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS,
Thomas Fairbairn, Edinburgh, banker.
William Davison, Glasgow, smith.
Jamos Sharp and John Thompson, Moadowside, Lana kehire,
alica winters.

calico printers.

John Cromie, Glasgow, baker.

BANKRUPTH,

J. Olro, Moorgate-street, City, morehant. [Mr. Peile, Great Winchester-street. C. H. Waters, Queen's row, Pimilico, dealer in pictures. [Mr. Buckleten Hanton Control

C. H. Waters, Queen's row, Finnico, dealer in pictory, 1990.
Burbidge, Hatton Garden.
J. Thompson, Norwich, groner. [Mr. Storcy, Gray's lime-place.
W. Morphew, Sevenouks, Kont, druper. [Messis. Re'ed and Langford, Priday street, Cheapside.
J. Perkins, North-placo, Gray's finn lane, jeweller. [Mr. Clark, Finsbury-place.
Thomps Polyson. Warwick-court, Holborn, money-scrivener.

Finshiry-place.
Thomas Pelmon, Warwick-court, Holborn, money-scrivenor.
[Mossrs. Bell and. Co., Bow Churchyard, Choapside.
J. Brett, Luton, Bedfordshire, sheep salesman. [Mr. Wilkinson, Nicholas-lank, Lombard-street.
R. Ellis, Richmond-street, Soho, carpenter. [Mossrs. Carlon and Haynes, Palace-chambers, St. James's street.
A. B. Innell and A. Cookes, Little Queen street, Holborn, varmish, manufactures. [Mr. Stuart New inn. Strand.

and Haynes, Palace-chambers, St. James's street.

A. B. Innell and A. Cookes, Little Queen street, Holborn, varnish manufacturers. [Mr. Stimrt. New inn. Birand.

M. Cublit, High Holborn, bullder. [Messes. Smith, Houthampton-buildings, Chancery-lane.

G. Prince, Romey, Hampshire, wine-merchent. [Messes. Swith watson and Co., Falcon-square.

W. Bull, Addle-street, City, cloth morehant. [Messes. Sudlow and Co., Chancery-lane.

J. Riding and J. Fielding, Layland, Lancashire, cotton manufacturers. [Messes. Milho and Co., Temple.

J. Rishton, Hoddlesden, Lancashire, cotton-spinner. [Mr. Fox, Kinsbury-circus.

J. Gibson, Manchester, vaterinary aurgaon. [Messes. Williamson and Hill, Vernlam-buildings, Orays Inn.

J. Riddall Wood. Manchester, varnish malfox, Manchester, [Messes. Milno and Co., Temple.

J. Taylor, Herstori, grover. [Mr. Grestwood, Birmingham. M. Smith. Birmingham, iron-founder. [Mosses. Smith and Co., Balloyd-row, Philable, draper. [Misses. Smith and Co., Balloyd-row, Philable, draper. [Misses. Smith and Co., Balloyd-row, Philable, draper. [Misses. Smith and Go., Balloyd-row, Philable, draper. [Misses. Misses. n the flat instant will be published on the distinct will be published on the distinct of the flat of Pontanian.

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Moved by Mr. Alexander, acconded by Mr. Thomas—That this moeting eossiders the conduct of the Directors, in waiving their right to receive or chim any advance from the Company during thefire 12 months, as highly honoricable, and described and improved the plan on which Building Societies to be a decided improvement."—Weekly Dispatch

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LUXURY IN SHAVING JOHN GOSNELL and CO.'S AMBROSIAL SHAVING OHN GOSNELL and CO.'S AMBROSIAL SHAVING CREAM (Patronised by Prince Albert). This inestinable Cream possesses all the good qualities of the Finest Naples Boap, without the disagreeable smell inerparable from that article in a genuine state. It is of a white early silvery appearance, produces a creamy lather, which will not dry on the face, and emits in use the delightful flavour of the almond.

In Pots, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., &c.

Perfumérs to her Majesty, 12. Three King-court, Lombard-street, London. Manufacturers of Combs and Brushes of the best quality, and on the most approved principles.

1) ICHLY CUT GLASS CHANDELIERS in great variety of Elegant and Original Dosigns, from £10 upwards; a very choice stock of richly cut glass single-light lustres, from 17a per pair upwards; double-light girandoles, from £5 per pair, upwards; planpforte and table lights; originaved and clegantly-cut decenters, wine glasses, tumblers, goblets, and every description of Table Glass of the newest and richost patterns, at equally reasonable prices. Also, a very extensive and superior stock of flohenian, French, and Venetian Glass, just imported. At F. and C. OSLER'S London Warehouse, 44, Oxford-street, near Berners-street. Manufactory, Broad-street, Birmingham. Brublished, 1807. Whole-sale and export orders executed on the lowest terms

TENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.—The largest assortment of Stoves and Fenders, as well as General Iron-mongery, in the world, is now on Sale at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (later RIPPON and BURTON'S (later RIPPON and BURTON'S (later) and Brought of Stoves and Fenders, as well as General Iron-mongery, in the world, is now on Sale at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (later RIPPON and BURTON'S (later RIPPON and BURTON'S (later) and the second of the second

The hair is becoming thin and falling off, the only effectual remedy, besides shaving the head, is the use of the two above named articles, applied alternately—the botanic waier to deemee the roots from sour, and as a stimulant, and the bear's greate of the two above named articles, applied alternately—the botanic waier to deemee the roots from sour, and as a stimulant, and the bear's greate for responsing and preserving the hair, Mr. Callin's account of the quantity used, and the length of hair obtained by append of the North American Indians, would be a sufficient answer.—ROSS and SONS, 112 and 180, bishopsgate-street, who first introduced the use of bear's greate in this country, and who fat and all the animals, redemined the public to purchase none other best with the animals, redemined the public to purchase none other best with the application and address printed on the pot, or the chances are they are excitating a spirious article. All vegetable oils applied to the hair are write that wellows.

MUMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYADD As real sances not helped by saise, nor injured by the fine LACK TAX, at 4s. d. por is, sold by DARIN and COMPANIES popularity saidly to be intrinsic examines.

Orders from the country for guarded Carriage Pres.

BELLING OFF CARPETS.

UUK, KENT, and CUMMING, bog to interest to the position of the position

OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the COLO-NIES. Parties leaving England will find it to their savages a purchase their Outlits at E. J. MONNERY and CO. B. 103. Pendaure of City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Blosiery, Gange Under Shirts, &c., adapted for onch particular colony, as well as for its age, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far more reasonable for usually sharged for the same articles. Blodding, Military Accountements, Cabin and Camp Puraliture effersy description. Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION of the CHEST are entirely prevented, and gently and effects of removed in Youth and Ladles and Gentlemen, by the occasional may of improved Risatic Chest Expander, which is light, simple cash empty outwardly or invisibly, without any uncomfortable rearming, or important to exercise. Sout per post, by Mr. A. Birnon, Bole Manufacture of Proprietor, 40, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, or full parties are on receiving a postage stamp.

DEDUCTION OF DITTY ON FIRENCH BRANDY.

L.—COGNAC BRANDY, like the wine from which it is obtained, acquires age for its perfection; when old, it is the best and mast wholese he of spirits, but, when new, it is deficient in its good and medicinal supporties; while, if adulterated with British Brandy, these valuable properlies are lost, and, from a generous and invigorating cordial, it is changed his a coarse and inflammatory spirit.

The great difficulty of procuring good genuine old Cognac Brandy, and the high duty charged upon it, have hitherto prevented many perms from using it; but now that a good and genuine articlo may be classed and at a nuch more moderate rate, it is natural to expect as great larged in the consumption.

To meet this demand Mr. L. B. Shioner has determined to avail kinself of his long and intimate acquaintance with the Brandy Trade as as importer. He holds the inspect stock of Cognac Brandy, pale and seven, in this country, and, in accordance with the wishes and recommendation of his numerous friends, he has taken out a Wholmany Inches Perfect Licanea, which anables him to dispose of it. In quantifies of symmetry and a produce a limported of the numerous friends, he has taken out a Wholmany Inches Perfect and anables him to dispose of it. In quantifies of symmetry and Brandy, genuine as imported and carefully selected.

To those who know him, he feels assured that this pledge will be attended by the continuation of the superior quality of his Brandy. To strangers, who can discriminate the soft and faggent areas of pure and matured Cognac from the counter, and frequently satisficance upon their judgment in favour of the superior quality of his Brandy.

Mr. Seignette begs also to offer to the Public the best Hollands Cenera

Brandy.
Mr. Acignette begs also to offer to the Public the best Hollands Ocasus that can be imported.
Prices for Cash on Delivery, in quantities not less than two gallons, are—
21s per gallon for best Brown Cogane Brandy.
20s best Pule ditto.
20s "best Ocusea (Hollands).
A liberal Allowance to the Teade, to whom Mr. Seignette takes the sportunity of offering his Brandies and Geneva in bond at current market prices.

Agents wanted for Town and Country: persons of respectability may apply, per letter only, at the Office,

20 & 14, Mincing Lano, City.

TIEAL and SON'S LIST of BEDDING, containing a full description of weights, sizes, and prices, by which purchasers are enabled to judge the articles that are best suited to make a good set at ledding. Sent free, by post, on application to their establishment.—Healths, Fenther Dressers and Medding Manufacturers, 106, Tottopham-court-roat,

DALDNESS.—The reproductive powers of ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL are constantly and surprisingly shows is easily indices of the Head from whatsoever cause acising (proved by auserost testimonials open for inspection at the Proprietors), in chelling, marringly, from the latent stem the active progression of vitality, so had a numerous instances where other specifics have been tried in vals. Obstanting in full plenitude of beauty the permanent graces and utilities of nature.

wrapper of each genuice bottle.

Sold by them at 20, Hatton Garden, London, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

.. All others are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!

IM OPEN

'M O P F. N! I 'M O P R N

A SONG OF TRIUMPH

FROM THE NEW RESTABLESHMENT.

I'm open! I'm open! in all my display!

The glory of trade, and the pride of my day!

I'm open in vastness and splendour; and none
Can equal the warehouse of MOBBS and SON.

Ray, ve who have seen me triumphantly rise,
If I moved not your hearts with a thrill of surprise;
Ray, say what you thought when in wonder you cast
Your eyes on my building—so costly—so vast!
And say what you felt when you heard the glad shout
In honour of MOBBS—within and without!

Proclaim my vast triumphe wherever you go.
That others may see, and that others may know.

I'm open! I'm open! but not to delude
With empty attraction and vain magnitude!

I'm open to publish what wonders are done
Hy my dauntiese projectors. B. MOSRS and RON.

My vastness of building is nought but a proof
Of vast speculations beneath my wide roof.
The extent of my houses proclaims, you must know,
Extensive advantage to high and to low.

Extensive advantage to high and to low.

Extensive advantage to high and to low.

Extensive advantage to high that a proof
On the glittering globes of each bright chandelle.

On the glittering globes of each bright chandelle.

On the glittering globes of each bright chandelle.

On the glittering globes of each bright chandelle.

The glasses, which double all objects reflected,
Ryry room which the monarch-like warehouse dis
Ryry room which the monarch-like warehouse dis
Ryry room which the monarch-like warehouse dis
Whose styles and materials all will admire.

I'm open i'm open i well stord with stiffe
Whose styles and materials all will admire.

I'm open with actiers whose slegant tasts

Has nothing defective, and nothing muslaced.

I'm open to do more than over I've done—

I'm open to do more than over I've done—

I'm open to do more than over I've done—

I'm open to do more than over I've done—

I'm open to do more than over I've done—

I'm open to do more than over I've done—

I'm open to do more than over I've done—

I'm open to do none than ove

And while such is the cash I shall level by and And while such is the cash I shall level by an IMPORTANT ANNOUNCHMENT.

A new work, suitled "Habiliment Hall," with self-measurement, may be had on application, or far wheel Mourning to any amount can be had at five minutes' moter, ing prices:

Men's finite, dress coat, rest, and trousers

Ditto, lacket, vast, and trousers

Turourant. Any article parchased or ordered, is a financed, or the money returned.

Osentes. B. MOSER and Son, Tallets, wholeses are appreciately opposite the Graytes.

Ocurron. E. Mose and Son and So 1 1

THE LEAGUE.

No. 132.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1846.

[3d.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

All Subscribers of L1 and upwards to the LERSOUN FUND will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

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

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

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

> By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE NEW PROGRAMME OF ENGLISH STATESMANSHIP.

"My object has been to mitigate monopoly-to increase he demand for industry—to remove restrictions upon conmerce—to equalise the burdens of taxation—to ameliorate the condition of those who labour."—Sir Robert Peel's Speech of March 27, 1840.

In another part of our paper we give the admirably carnest and powerful speeches with which, on the night of yesterday week, Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham terminated the otherwise weary and unprofitable debate on the second reading of the Corn Bill. When we say, that we have rarely felt equal gratification in placing upon record any spoken words of public men, we are confident that we only express the sentiments with which those speeches have already been read by many thousands of our countrymen, and will be read again and again by all who are capable of appreciating clearness of thought, generosity of feeling, and manly force of uttorance, and who know the immense value of official advocacy in giving diffusion and permanence to sound principles. The importance of those two speeches cannot possibly/ be over-rated. The doctrines expounded by the Ministerial champions of industrial freedom may be already sufficiently familiar to a large portion of the public-but they are comparatively new to a vast number of persons in the ruling and influential classes of English society, to whose minds economical truth has only begun to find access since it has borne the stamp of official authority. It is most cheering to contemplate the wide and rapid diffusion ensured to sound principles of social and political science, when thus enunciated from a quarter where words are "great facts"-where the thought of the individual has power to shape itself into national enactment, and exerts a sensible sway over the opinions and the destinies of the mass of mankind.

The characteristic feature of the two ministerial speeches of last week is the sympathy they evince with the wants and interests of the industrious classes, and the broad, hearty recognition of worklog men's rights, as constituting a governing elethat in the deliberations of the legislator, and the falloy of the statesman. The Premier and the Home Secretary show that they understand and stheir true position as champions, in this grand mal controversy, of the rights of the many That the saltah and incolent aggressions of the liberaries that a kaifinter and provide wanto the coledar grace of

spirit worthy of men who are fighting the battle of over-taxed and "poculiarly-burdened" labour, against titled, priviloged, and usurping idleness, they holdly identify thomselves with the policy that would lighten the poor man's toils, untax his hunger, multiply his resources, and widen his command over the means of comfort, enjoyment, and improvement. This is their Cabinet question-"TO MITIGATE MONOPOLY, TO INCREASE THE DE-MAXD' FOR INDUSTRY, TO REMOVE RESTRICTIONS UPON COMMERCE, TO EQUALISE THE BURDENS OF TAXATION, TO AMPLIORATE THE CONDITION OF THOSE WHO LABOUR." This is the test to which they submit existing institutions and enactments-their operation on the every-day interests and enjoyments of the many. "Why," asks the Home Secretary, on behalf of his clients, the working and oating millions of the British people, "should the consumer and the receiver of wages be required to pay for their daily broad a larger price than, if the trade were free, they would have to pay? And he reiterates, with the increased emphasis arising from strengthened conviction, his assertion of that foundation-truth in social economics which was already so much indebted to his able and enlightened advocacy—the beneficial operation of cheap broad on the wages, the health, and the morality of the working classes:

"The manufacturing population of this country are quite right in believing that high prices produce low wages, and artificially enhance the cost of provisions. I could produce abundant evidence to show that the opinion is no longer confined to the manufacturing classes alone. The agricul tural labouring population begin to be of the very same opinion. I could produce, were it not that I fear to trespass too far upon your attention, the clearest evidence to show the diminution of crime as prices fall, and its rapid increase as they rise; and, what is of the greatest importance of all, I could show you that MORTALITY increases in the same pro portion as the price of bread, while, vice versa, when provisions are cheap, mortality declines."

In the same generous and statesmanlike tone Sir Robert Peel dwells on the social and moral aspects of commercial reforms that tend to the cheapening of the poor man's food. His landlord and aristrocratic auditors "may laugh at it if they please," but he is in carnest; official experience has taught him certain great, all-pervading truths, to which he must enforce the homage that they have already exacted from himself:

"I know I am appealing, and I appeal with confidence, to your generosity; do you not admit with me, that the social condition of those millions, whether manufacturing or agricultural labourers, who carn their subsistence by the sweat of their brow, is, in the present condition of this country, of the very first importance—that it is an object of the legislation of the latter of moment? Have you read the report of the health of towns commission? Are you not deeply convinced that some effort must ere long be made to improve the social condition of that great mass of the population who earn their bread by labour in the manufacturing districts? Believe with me, that the first foundation of social improvement is abundance of food. Believe with me, that make what efforts you will to inlant liabits of cleanliness, to improve the dwellings of the poor-believe with me that the first step towards permanent social amelioration is abundance of provisions. Wherever there is suffering from scarcity, or the apprehension of scarcity, either the suffering or the apprehension so depresses the splits of those who have to earn their bread, that it is in vain to inculcate cleanliness or to improve habitations, without doing what we can to ento improve habitations, without doing that we can to ensure abundance of food. I say this, you may laugh at if you please, but the experience of the last three years, and the experience of the three preceding years, read a lesson to us which we ought never to forget, as to the effect produced on the social condition, the habits of life, and the happiness of the working classes, comparing the years of abundance with those of scavoity." with those of scarcity?

And these are not mere sounding generalities, of the sort that run so glibly off the tongues of the dilettante philanthropist. The Premier gives, not eloquence and sentiment only, but thought to the rights and interests of those whose cause he so impressively pleads before the tribunal of legislation and opinion. He has taken pains to realise to his own mind-and he would have the legislature realise to its mind—the actual details of those hard conditions which pervade and environ the labouring which the House of Commons, by majorities which man's life. He goes into the statistics of the no possible or conceivable casualty our record peasant's case; opens the budget of tolling ordered for execution, is not conceivable.

struggling, and enduring poverty; gives us, from "the actual return of the consumption of a labourer having a wife and one child, and receiving ten shillings a week in the summer, and nine shillings in the winter," the facts and figures of that painful cottage economy which has to work the problem of making out life on these scant resources. So much for ront --- so much for candles and soap--- so much for broad, bucon, salt beef, butter, and choese-so much for tea and sugar-leaving so much for "shoes and necessaries of that kind, which must have been difficult enough to obtain." And then, after onumorating the heavy deductions to which a well-nigh omnipresent taxation subjects this meagre revenue and parsimonious expenditure, the soap is taxed, the butter is taxed, the tea is taxed, and the sugar is taxed." Our poor man's financier dwells with kindhearted satisfaction on those alleviations of the burdon which his own policy has effected, and appeals to the human sympathics of his auditors, to include further among the exemptions, the chief article of all:

"We have now removed the duty on the bacon and the salt beef; we have diminished the duty on butter, and we have diminished the duty on choose; -can you repent having done this?"

" You will find, where wheat does enter into the subsistonce of the people, that by far the greatest portion of the weekly income is expended in the purchase of wheat and tobacco perhaps, but more than half the carnings is consumed by wheat. If ell, supposing the effect of your measures is to cause some reduction in the price of wheat, Juny ask YOURSELVES THE QUESTION-ARE YOU NOT MOST MATE. RIALLY ADDING TO THE COMFORTS AND ENJOYMENT OF MILLIONS? Let me assure you this is by far the most important part of the question.

There is no withstanding this. A policy which thus boldly and broadly bases itself on the first elements of social and political justice, and appeals direct to the common human sense of right, is irresistible. No mere majority of an oligarchical landowning legislature—though it happens, by the way, this time, that the majorities are thus far all on the right side-can make head against the statesman who, in the sight and hearing of an intelligent and instructed people, puts the rights of industry and hunger in the foreground of his political philosophy. We feel deeply grateful to Sir R. Peel for this speech. It is a speech in the highest degree honourable, both to himself individually, and to that spirit of the age of which, in reference to some of the most vital questions of our domestic policy, the Promier may be regarded as the exponent. After all, England does successfully assert her old prerogative of "teaching nations how to live." These lessons of the English Premier will go far and last longlonger, in their silent, world-wide operations, than the fame even of the Indian victories. They are lessons for the world, and the world will hear them. There is no measuring that vast futurity of good which lies enwrapped in the simple, but great and quickoning truths of economical science, which the voice of the Prime Minister of Ureat Britain has now stamped with a title to universal empire over the mind of nations and the policy of Cabinets.

A SPORTING STATESMAN.

"The hour finds, or makes, the man," say certain philosophisers on history; and whonever there is work to be done, somebody always turns up to do it. The aphorism is, it must be universally feit, strikingly illustrated in the present condition of the protectionist cause. The task of spinning out, by interminable factious delays, the last expiring moj ments of a vicious monopoly, which the united statesmanship of the empire has condemned, and

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English gentleman would undertake. The Mileses orld Bankozes, the O'Briens and D'Israclis - the men who have social, political, or intellectual reputations to take care ofnaturally enough decline the mean and miserable office of obstructing, for mere obstruction's sake, a measure whose fate, so far as one House of Parliament is concerned, has been already superabundantly decided. They have fought their very best for the principle of protection—the day has gone against them-and they have the grace and sense, the respect for public opinion, and the s. If respect, to abstain from a frivolous and vexatious squabbling about details. Accordingly, the Mileses and Bankeses, the O'Briens and D'Israelis have no alternative but to submit to be superseded, and resign the vacant leadership of the "country party"-with what mingled emotions of shame, indignation, and contempt, we have not data for exactly analysing -into the hands of Lord Geonog BENTINCK.

"Who is Lord George Bentinck?" all the world have latterly been asking—as this man's audacious and mischievous extravagancies have fastened public attention on a name strange to such newspaper readers as do not happen to be in the habit of consulting the column of "Sporting Intelligence." The most convenient and comprehensive answer, perhaps, that one could make to this now highly interesting query is, -inquire at Tattersall's, inquire at Newmarket, inquire at Epsom and Doneaster; ask the jockeys, ask the trainers, ask the stewards of races and derks of race-courses. Only, as it is, in all probability, a thing quite out of the way of some up out of every 100 of our readers to follow up this line of investigation for themselves, we must beglittle more explicit. Lord G. Bentinek, then, be it known to all whom it may concern—that is, to the whole commercial, manufacturing farming, shopkeeping, and artisan public of the United Kingdomis the recognised head of what is dimly known to, or imagined by, industrious and sober-minded people, as the "sporting world," His racing stud, we have always understood, is considered by competent persons to be about the finest in Great Britain. A more perfect judge of horse-flesh is probably not to be found within the four corners of the empire. His betting book is universally reputed to reflect the atmost credit on its noble author's skill and science in that department/of literature. As an employer, and remunerator of native jockey industry, his name stands proudly pre-eminent above all his contemporaries. To which may be added, that are an umpire in all difficult cases of sporting honour and conscience, he bears, we believe, the very highest character for judicjal intelligence and impartiality. Take him all in all, we may say that Lord George Bentinek is to the British turf what Mr. Hudson is to railways.

To affairs of State, this eminent and accomplished sporting character has, until quite recently, been a stranger,-us is, indeed, sufficiently evident to any one capable of the mental and moral exertion of critically studying those remarkably silly, and blundering, and consely vituperative harangues which have signalised his lordship's entrance in public life, in this nineteenth year of his Parliamentary existence. For eighteen years and more, that the new protectionist chief has had a seat in the House of Commons, his name has never been before the public in any political capacity. Catholic emancipation, negro chancipation, Parliamentary reform, church reform, education, Poor Laws, Irish questions, foreign questions, colonial questions—all have failed to present themselves to his lordship's mind in a sufficiently interesting shape to furnish a counterpoise to the attraction of more congenial occupations. At length, the needful stimulus is applied in the form of a Ministerial scheme for giving industry its own; and the king of the race-course and the jockey club finds scope NEW poxoroise for his higher powers in the last terral delication of a condemned and falling mo-

man of him. All at once, the affairs

Newmarket and Episom are forsaken for St. Stephen's-the betting book gives place to the blue book—the interest of the turk yields to that of the tariff-and an ambition which had, for half a life time, contented itself with the honour and glory of running the best horses in England, aspires to the nobler task of keeping the trade and industry of the country for a few weeks more in a syncope of uncertainty and unsettlement.

Pleasant, this, to the people of England—the sober, industrious, regular, frugal, and moral, middle and working classes, who make and keep England to be obstructed and harassed in their honest callings, for weeks and months together, because a sporting lord takes it into his head to play at politics, instead of attending to his proper line of business! Seriously, we do not wonder that the older and more respectable protection is tlenders seem ashamed of their self-elected "guide, philosopher, and friend." They must heartily wish the business over, and be anxious to have done for ever with the disagreeable necessity which compels their temporary endurance of political chieftainship that is enough to ruin any cause, and to bring irreparable disrepute on any party.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE skssion of 1846.

Eleventh Week, ending Saturday, April 4.

This has been literally a lost week, so far as Free Trade and the commercial measures of the Government are concerned. The Corn Bill having passed its second reading, might have gone through committee this week, and been read a third time before Easter, for the protectionists have begun to exhibit some symptoms of a consciousness that the public-even the agricultural public-are getting impatient for a determination one way or the other. But with an obstinacy worthy of something better, Sir R. Peel has chosen to force on the first reading of the Irish Coercion Bill. Monday was passed in its discussion. On Tuesday, "no house." On Wednesday there was another debate on Ireland, on a pet scheme of Mr. Poulett Scrope, who, in a humane spirit, wished to read a second time and carry a bill for the relief of the indigent poor in Ireland; but which he withdrew, finding the general feeling to be against him. Thursday was occupied by votes of thanks, in both houses, for the great victories on the banks of the Sutlej, by which the Sikh power has been broken up, and the Punjaub placed within our control; and after that was disposed of, there was a mass of miscellaneous matters. And Friday is fixed for the Irish Coercion Bill, with little prospect of a termination of the debate.

The second reading of the Corn Bill was carried, as our readers are aware, on Friday night week, or rather on Saturday morning, by a majority of 88, in a smaller house than that by which the Government measures were originally affirmed. The diminution of the majority arose simply from the fact of there being fewer members present, the ratio of proportion being maintained. In the February division, the numbers were 337 to 240, majority 97; in the division of last week the numbers were 302 to 214, majority 88.

There were three good speeches delivered on Friday night, the orators being Sir James Graham, Sir R. Peel, and Lord Palmerston. Sir James Graham very skilfully directed attention to the fact of the increasing number of applications daily made to the Commons' Inclosure Commission for liberty to bring under cultivation large tracts of waste land -a practical conclusion against the allegation that the repeal of the Corn Law will throw any portion of the soil out of cultivation. And he had a happy hit at Lord George Bentinck. A bill has been introduced into the House of Commons to empower a company to reclaim from the sea a large portion of the estuary of the Wash; and on the back of the bill, which provides for the application of half a million of money, is to be found the name of Lord George Bontinck! It is really amazing how men can have the presumption to come forward and babble night after night, and week after week, on ruin to the landed interest, at the very moment that they are interested in speculations, on which they fearlessly propose to expend large sums of money, in order to rescue land from the sea, and add it to that already under cultivation. Lord George Bentinck smiled, like one trying to wriggle impudently out of a "fix," as Sir James Graham turned to him, and asked him what was his estimate of the future probable price of wheat, when, in the face of a repeal of the Corn Law, he was concerned in an adventure like

Sir Robert Peel made another of his able and elaborate speeches, from which it may be gathered that he is determined to carry his measure, if possible, and that he looks forward to its being the last act of his present official carser. "Sir," said he, addressing the SPEAKER, and alluding to the probability of his removal from office, "When I do fall, I shal have the satisfaction of reflecting that I shall not have fullen because I have shown subscrytency to any partys. I aball not full because I have preferred the interests of party to the general interests of the community. I shall carry with me the entistaction of reflecting that during the countered as

official career, my object has been to mitigate monopoly, of Increase the demand for industry, to remove the restrictions upon commerce, to equalise the burden of taxation, and to amelforate the condition of those who toil."

Lord Palmerston closed the debate in an able, skilled and effective speech, in which he strikingly indicated the influence which persoverance and success in the which of the repeal of the Corn Laws has had on the more liberal of the Whig party. The leaders of the Ministerial or the Opposition divisions of the House of Commons are usually in the habit of referring to their supporters as friends-"my honourable friend," the member for So and so. A ladicrous instance of this habit was given by Mr. Bather, when he first went into opposition this session. He was always accustomed to term Sir Robert Peel "my right losnourable friend, the First Lord of the Treasury." But on the proposition of the Government measure for the ultimate repeal of the Corn Law, Sir Robert Peel was no longer the nolitical friend of Mr. Bankes. Yet so strong was the effect of habit, that Mr. Bankes, in his first speech, kept wontnually saying " my right konourable fr-r-oh-" the right honourable gentleman at the head of her Majestra Government!" The house smiled, Sir Robert Peel smiled, and at last Mr. Bankes was obliged to laugh him. self. Lord Palmerston gave another illustration, not Indicrous, but significant. Formerly Mr. Cobden or Mr. Bright were referred to as "the honourable member for Stockport," or "the honourable member for Durham." On Friday night week, Lord Palmerston said that the change of opinion and policy on the subject of the Corn Law, which the Government have so practically exhibited, was to be traced, not so much to the experience of the last three years as to the effect of the debates of the last four sessions; and -turning round to Mr. Cobden, who sat behind him,-to the exertions of "my honourable friend, the member for Stockport."

Mr. Stuart, the Queen's Counsel, whom it has pleased the Duke of Newcastle to return for Newark in the room of the Secretary for the Colonies, Mr. Gladstone, made his first le. gislative appearance on Friday night, and spoke a speech which fully justified the ducal discretion. Mr. Smat is a Scotch member of the bar, retaining a strongly maked Scotch accent, though he has been long in this country and is advanced in years; and has succeeded so well in his profession as to be very well off. He certainly will not wrenthe a laurel for himself by his efforts in the House of Commons. You can perceive that he is a kindly sort of man, fluent, dexterous in ranking mere legal points, but without the smallest capacity for generalisation. He made a long speech, of which it may be said, truly and positively, that the gist was this :- Mr. Cobden once called the landed aristocracy "buobies." repeal the Corn Laws will be to overthrow the preponderance of the landed interest, and therefore will effect the object of of Mr. Cohden, which is to "terminate the empire of the boobies" (Mr. Stuart's own words, which convulsed the house with laughter). But to "terminate the empire of the boobies" is Jack Cade legislation. The House of Commons should never listen to a mob. It should be calm, dignified. and impartial, &c. &c. &c. &c.!

The second reading of the Corn Bill being carried, the next stage is that of committee. This should have come on in regular course on Monday night; but, unfortunately, the Irish Coercion Bill, which has come down from the House of Lords, stood in the way. The Government were deter mined to press the first reading, and the Iri-h Liberal members were as determined to resist it. It was ugged on Ministers that the Corn Bill was of far more importance. The greater portion of Monday night was spent in discussing whether or no the Corn Bill or the Coercion Bill should be taken first. Sir Robert Peel seemed uneasy and folgetty, as if he had placed himself in a fulse position by the obstinacy of adhering to the determination of bringing on the Coercion Bill. Lord Worsley, the son of the Earl of Yarbo rough, and a staunch supporter of the agricultural interest, stated that the delay of the Corn Bill was injurious even to the farmers-"it was the duty of the house," he said. "towards the agriculturists, in particular, and also towards the trading interest, that there should be no further delay in the settlement of the long agituted question of the Cpril Laws." Mr. Cobden also deplored the determination of the Government as a calamity both to England and Ireland, He gave Sir Robert Peel full credit for sincerity in his desire to convey his measures; but his present resolve held out little hope of seeing the Corn Bill pass through the house before Easter. All this must have had some effect; at all events, the debate on the Irish Cocroion Bill was adjourned, and on Tuesday there was "no house!"

In consequence of the peculiar interest and importance at tached to Friday night's discussion, we subjoin at full length the speeches of the Home Secretary and the First Lord of the Treasury, with a summary of the others.

DEBATE OF FRIDAY, the 27th ult-SPERCHES of SIR J. GRAHAM and SIR R. PEBL.

SIR J. GRAHAM, and SIR R. PRBL.

In the House of Commons, the adjourned debate on the second reading of the Corn Importation Act was reasoned.

Sir J. GRAHAM said: I am very unwilling to precede the construction of the corn importation and medically a debate, which has been thus protected as which, I believe, the public at large are most desirable to which, I believe, the public at large are most desirable to constitute of the construction of

tice the petition which has just been presented by the honmember for Stockport. I can assure the house that I was not cognisant either of that petition or of the petition presented by the noble lord the member for Lynn, before they were presented, having emanated from a portion of my tenantry taking different views of this question. I may be permitted to assure the house, that neither directly nor indirectly have I, myself, or by my agents, interfered in the slightest or in the remotest degree with the free expression of opinion among my tenantry (cheers); and that I have never attempted to fetter the exercise of their own independent judgment-feeling, as I do, that they as tenants, have as deep an interest in this matter as have the landlords; that they equally with myself, are entitled to the freest expression of their honest opinions (cheers). I will now, with the permission of the house, at once proceed to advert to the speech which closed the debate of last night-I mean that of the noble lord the member for Lynn (Lord C. Bentinck). I will dispose of the percration of that speech with but one romark, it appeared to me, when stripped of the metaphor which accompanied it, to consist almost entirely of that personal and violent invective which, I regret to say, marked the greater portion of the speeches delivered on this side of the house against the measures of her Majesty's Government ("hear, hear," from the Opposition benches). Now, having plainly avowed a great change in my own opinion on this subject, should not be guilty of the presumption,—I will not say, I might eny, of the importinence,—of commenting, with anything like irony, on the maintenance, on the part of hon. gentlemen sitting on this side of the house, of the opinions which at one time I sincerely, in common with thom, entertained, and which, up to a late period, I advocated. Neither will I say, for I could not say with truth, that I am not deeply grieved by the expression of the loss of esteem on the part of hon, members with whom I have acted for so many years, and in whose support and friendship, under trying circumstances, I have often rejoiced (cheers). When I made up my mind, from a deep sense of public duty, to act in concert with my right hon, friend at the head of the Government, and upon consideration of a pressing public necessity, as it appeared to me, to present these measures to Parliament as a servant of the Crown, I did anticipate, I foresaw with pain, all and everything that has taken place on this occasion with reference to the conduct of my hon, friends on this side of the house. But the necessity demanded the sacrifice, and I made it (cheers). I was prepared, I am prepared, on public grounds, regardless of all the taunts, regardless of all the obluquy which might be attempted to be heaped upon me, to meet the present emergency by my co-operation in the maintenance of the measures which are under disoussion, and which, in my conscience, I believe are indispensable to the public good (cheers); and although it would be affectation and useless to deny that I am and have been moved by many of the observations made by gentlemen and noblemen whose former friendship I have valued, yet, steadily, firmly, and fearlessly, I hope to be enabled to discharge that public duty which I have undertaken (cheers). I shall undinchingly persevere in that course, consoled for present mortification by this single reflection,—that the time, as I believe, is not fur distant when the country gentlemen of England will be satisfied, and will acknowledge that her Majesty's Government has not betrayed their interests (cheers); and that those interests will hereafter be reconciled, in fact and in opinion, with the interests of the great body of the community, whose peace, whose welfare, whose prosperity, whose more easy means of subsistence, it is the object of this bill to promote—an object which, as I con-Parliament, will not fail to accomplish (cheers). I will now advert to some of the arguments of the noble lord, and I may be wrong, but certainly it does occur to me, that the arguments which he adduced in opposition to this measure are precisely the arguments, the most cogent, the most stringent and unanswerable, which the opponents of the sliding scale have, from time to time, urged against that system (hear). I will begin with the position first taken up by the noble lord; he is very anxious to gain some opinion from the Treasury bench, and failing in that, he stipulates, linself, as to what will be the prices of wheat with a Free Trale in corn. With a view of forming an estimate, he went through this extraordinary process; he takes certain seasons when the prices of wheat were, in England, remark ably low, being, I think, in 1836, somewhere about 45s., and in 1835, 30s, a-quarter; and then in these circumstances he takes the prices of wheat on the Continent at the same moment, and from this estimates at what wheat could have been imported into this country with a profit. Now, the great argument against our restricted Corn Law was, that whilst there was an unsteadiness in its operation in varying times and varying seasons, the demand was most unequal and uncertain, and it is quite clear that the price of wheat on the Continent of Europe mainly depends on the demand in the British market. The price in 1830 and 1830 being unusually low in England, the effect on the Continent was this - a glut was produced in the foreign markets, from which our supplies were usually drawn, and the price there also was consequently low; and the noble lord under these circumstances when the price then have comstances draws the inference that wheat might then have been imported at a price of something like 30s, a quarter. I have it to the house to say whether it is a safe inference that, in communities annis, such would be the case. A great Funment in favour of a steady annual demand on the Condhent of Europe, our supply being deficient, is this—that while, in this country, from our increasing population, there is an increasing difficulty in finding an adequate home supply, the demand from abroad is annually increasing, and flicement. result will be not so much to lower in this country as to miso the prices on the Continent, thereby equalising the prices here and abroad, fand effecting this great object,—securing the people of England in years of definiency against a sudden and extravagant rise in price (bear, bear). Their commercial rivals will, at the same time, not only have an extended trade with England, by means of an exchange of extended trade with Eugland, by means of an exchange of commodities, but steady prices and a guarantee against any minous fluctuation. What had been the fact in the years less and 1830 was therefore no groundwork for estimating the prices then as the uniform prices at which wheat could be imported into this country. It is only a demonstration of the nucertainty of the demand here and the effect of their universality abroad. The noble lord then proceeded to arrow which I think remarkably this country is another that the whole I think remarkably this country is a notification of the state of the st

to proportion to the proximity to England, and the uncertain demand in England for wheat, has been the fluctuation in foreign corn. The table of fluctuations in the markets of Antwerp, Amsterdam, Danislo, Hamburgh, and Odossa, which are the ports from which we draw the required supplies almost wholly, prove the case; and to complete the demonstration, the noble lord dwell upon the fact that in Bordeaux the fluctuation was least. Now, it is notorious that we have no trade whatever in corn with France. Is not the inference to be deduced from this as I have stated (hoar, hear)? And what is the consequence of this? We convert our natural, our best customers, not only into com-mercial rivals, but into enemics. When they have abundance their markets are glutted, and they find ruinously low prices and under other circumstances the uncertainties of the corn trade are such that they come to the conclusion that they can place no reliance on it. They then form hostile tariffed they impose high duties on our manufactures, and they re linquish our corn trade in despair, as not only not producing to them good, but as inconsistent with their national safety I say again that our Corn Law legislation has solely tended to create these fluctuations in the foreign markets, and that has always appeared to me the strongest reason why the sys tem should be altered (cheers.) The noble lord then proceeds to comment on what he terms the evenuess of prices in England since the passing of the law in 1812. I have already stated to the house that that very evenness of prices in the present year appears to me delusive. It is well known that in no one year, in the memory of the oldest farmer, was there such inequality with respect to the quantity of corn as in the present year (cheers.) I do not exaggerate when I say that the price of wheat of last year varies from 18s. to 72s., and, knowing that this variation in our markets was on account of the slow and imperfect operation of the sliding scale in a great national emergency, I for one was distinctly persuaded that an alteration in the system was called for (cheers). The noble lord has said he was sorry to observe that the importation of foreign corn which has taken place was generally in foreign ships. Why, that is one of the leading objections on the other side. There is no disputing that British ships are not to be had; as the noble lord re marked, the freight of British ships for the conveyance of corn is higher than of foreign ships; and the corn trade being uncertain and irregular, the inevitable consequence is that the importation of corn is more usually in foreign than in British ships. This very circumstance, therefore—this encouragement of foreign shipping at the expense of British shipping-is, among other reasons, why the existing Corn Laws have been condemned (hear, bear). The noble lord then goes on to state that the farmers throughout Great Britain look with dread and consternation upon this measure (cheers from the protectionist benches). The petition which has this evening been presented by the honourable gentleman, the honourable member for Stockport, clearly shows that the statement of the noble lord is incorrect, inasmuch as it demonstrates that all the farmers do not so regard it (cheers from the Opposition). Many hon, members with equal confidence, have declared that the result of the adoption of the bill must be to throw immense tracts of land out of cultivation, and the hon, gentleman who moved the amendment (Mr. Yorke) has asserted that another effect of the passing of the measure will be that drainage will be suspended, and that agricultural improvement will be brought to an end. Now, I must beg leave to observe, that to the best of my knowledge the panie to which the hon, member for Cambridgeshire has adverted is much more confined to within these walls than hon, gentlemen are ready to admit (hear). I do not believe that either landlords or farmers, if they be not exposed to the dangerous atmosphere of this house, at all partake of this punic (hear, hear). An hom-gentleman opposite referred recently to the case of a gentleman in Somersetshire, who had, in consequence of the announcement made by Government, offered to all his tenants to release them from their engagements; and the 60 tenants to whom that offer was made, with one exception, at once rejected it. This criterion, by which to judge of public opinion is a very satisfactory one; and when men, having large capital involved in the cultivation of land refused the offer which would enable them to withdraw that capital, they gave very conclusive evidence of their setisfaction with the change which late events had compired to make in their prospects (hear, hear). I must contend, on the other hand, that when, at the present moment, farmers enter into new contracts, upon no reduced terms, they evince that they have no alarm whatever as to the probable effect of the Corn Law now under consideration (hear, hear). And as it is a mutter of very great importance that the statements of the existence of upprehensions should be refuted, and that no such impression as that spoken of should continue on the public mind, the house will, perhaps, permit me to lay before it some facts which have come within the range of my own observation. If I were to mention any of the furmers of Great Britain as ospecially distinguished for sagacity, and skill, and intelligence, I would assuredly name, without he-sitation, the farmers of the East Lothian of Scotland (hear). w I have the permission of Lord Belhaven to read to the house a letter, dated February 25th, containing information from the Earl of Wemyss. Lord Belhaven writes thus:

"I have been on a visit to Lord Wennyss for some days, and have had an opportunity of learning the opinions of the East Lothian and Berwickshire farmers to a considerable extent. Lord Wennyss's property in this county is, with one exception, the largest in it; and his factor, a claver sensible man, tells me that there is not a farm in this county or Berwickshire new to let that there are not more offers, and higher offers too, than he ever saw made for it, and by mon of skill and capital. I asked how he accounted for this? His answer was, the corn question is now considered as settled, and the prospect held out of getting the land drained by the landlords instead of having to lay out the money themselves as formerly, has created a general feeling of confidence among all intelligent farmers. One gentleman of this county stated, that on a property in Barwickshire, or which he was trustee, he had five offers from men of known character as first-rate farmers, the amount of which was 10t, per cent, above the present ront. (This is since the introduction of this bill by my right honourable friend.) These are facts which are worth all the arguments one hears, coming, as they do, from the greatest corn-growing district in Scotland."

Now I heard somebody behind me allude to East Gloucestershire. East Gloucestershire, it is said, has unequivocally declared itself. But I understand that my right hon, friend, Bir George Warrender, had intended to bring forward the protection question in East Lothian; but he wrote a letter stilling the protection candidate, and thus East Lothian had declared itself against the Corn Laws there can be no doubt (help, hear). Now, with regard to the lake of Ely. I have heard that this is a proposition for throwing land carrow only allows. The rion, member for Phintington that the carrow of the land of the late of the land of t

the panic which the measure has created will be, that improved cultivation must be suspended. Now, Dr. Ken (as we understood) has likewise given me permission to read the following latter:

"I received a letter from the Duke of Bedford, a day or two ago, with the following postscript: "I received a letter this morning from my Cembridgeshire steward, to inform me that he had just let two farms for me, to very intelligent men, futher and son, with simple capital, at an increase of 12th n year on their present rent. The agreement has been made sunde Peed's measure was introduced." Such facts as these seem to me to be worth more than he ats of figures and columns of statistics."

Now we have been hitherto looking only at the tenants and occupiers of land; but what will be its effect upon the fee simple of the land if the measure should pass? I know that land surveyors have mentioned extravagant offers to me, and have avowed opinions that have astonished me with regard to the effect which would be produced upon the value of land. I am told by a noble lord that there is a farm within 30 miles of his property, without a residence, and not in very good condition, the rental being 650%, and under the circumstances of its position and its proximity to a reflected. it was supposed there would be an increase in its value, and he had been advised to ask 32 years' purchase for the farm. For five years he never got any one to make any offer to purchase; but within the last three weeks an offer had been made for the purchase, coming up to the full demand; and it is expected that the bargain will be struck. Then will any land be thrown out of cultivation? It is very difficult to ascertain this point; but there is a fact which goes beyond all speculation. If it is probable that land will be thrown out of cultivation, no man out of Bedlam would go and purchase land. Is the house aware of the working of the Euclosure Commission? Last year, in the early part of it, there were few applications for enclosures, and to a small extent. Now I will read to the house what have I cen the applications to the Euclosme Commissioners for the last six months; and I repeat that no men in his senses could make an application to enclose land, if and was expected to be thrown out of cultivation. Now, in September lest, the applications were for 2200 acres, and in October the number of neres was 1588. That was under protection, and at that time there was no idea of any alteration in the Corn Laws, But, in November, there was proguant evidence in many quarters that a proposition would be made to Parliment for a material alteration in those laws. Did that circumstance check applications to the Commissioners of Enclosure? have staid that the number of applications, in October, were for 1588 acres; in November, they were 7447; in December, 7205; in January, 5600; in February, 3595 ("hear, bear, from the protectionists). In March, down to the 7th of the month, there has been one application for 15 0 acres, and within the last fortnight there has been an application from the county of York to enclose Bowes Moor, a common of inferior land, very inferior land, to the extent of 11,000 Dean, Somer et, to enclose 2500 acres; that is, within the last fortnight, applications have been made to enclose no less than 16,500 acres (hear, hear). So much for land being thrown out of cultivation. Now, I beg the attention of the house to a bill now in progress and before Parliament; it is entitled, "A bill for enclosing and reclaiming from the sea certain tracks of land, forming part of the great estuary called the Wash" (laughter, and cries of "herr, hear"). This is not a question of throwing land out of cultivation, or of enclosing waste or common hand, but it is a question of getting property out of the sea; and, by industry and the application of capital, bringing hand into cultivation out of the sen itself. Whose names are at the back of this bill? Why, I find the first name is that of Lord George Bentinek (a laugh); the second that of Viscount Joselyn; and the third that of Mr. Bagge, one of the members for the county of Norfolk. This bill was brought in in the present year when the plan of the Government was known, by the not lo. lord himself. The capital sought to be invested in this nudertaking is 500,000%, the power being taken of borrowing 200,000%; and amongst the subscribers, the first name I find is that of "William George Frederick Cavendish Bentinck, and of the commonly called Lord George Bentinck; and of the Directors of the Company, the first is William George Frederick Cavendish Bentinek, commonly called Lord George Bentinek; the others are Sir William John Henry Browne Folker, the mayor of Lynn, and others. Now, on another occasion the rights of the Crown interposed an obstacle, and there was a negotiation between the parties on this point; but the issue did not lead to a satisfactory conclusion; but here, in this bill, there is an admission of the rights of the Crown, and there is a clause charging the property of the company with the payment of I per cent, to the Crown upon all outlays and expenses, which is expressly stated to be intended as compensation for 30,000 or 40,000 acres. Now the noble lord will permit mo to put a question to him, which he has often put to my right hon, friend. What is his estimate of the price of wheat under the new measure? (hear, hear). I have no doubt that he must have made a most perfect estimate of the price of wheat; and he will, therefore, allow me to ask him what is his estimate of the future price of wheat which has induced him to embark in this enterprise? It is now, Sir, my painful duty to turn to a more serious part of the great question; the house will anticipate that I allude to the state of Ircland. I heard with great pain, and with surprise, the statement of the noble lord (Lord G. Bentinck), that, in his opinion, in which every day's experience confirmed him, the potato famino in Ireland was a gross delusion; he said, I think, that a more gross delusion had never been palmed upon the country by any Government (hear); and the noble lord proceeded to argue, that because the average price of potatoes throughout Ireland was only id. a stone, there could not be any famine in that country, Now I must bave fulled in my endeavour to show the house what is the real state of Ireland, if it can believe that the average price of potatoes is any criterion of the state of destitution in that country. I may observe, in passing, that 4d. a stone in Ireland is nearly double the price of potatoes at an ordinary period; and that when you take the difference between 2d a stone for potatoos, it is an increase in the price of an article of food of 100 per cent., a difference between plenty and want, I night almost say, between life and death. Now the noble lord also commented upon the fact of some small imports from Ireland. What is the inference from that? Imports from Iroland. What is the inference from that P Ito seems to draw the inference that there is no destitution in Iroland. But it is a consequence of the bigh price of potatoes in England and Wales, where the fallers of the potato crop is almost as great as in Iroland itself. High price will attract the supplies to the richer from the poors, applies and it is quite sufficient to account for those through the cases to gain something from the small research will be in the foots.

lord may have been taken under an imperfect acquaintance with the condition of the country. He is, however, supported by the high anthority of an Irish member, the member for the University of Dublin, and the recorder of Dublin, recently returned from Ireland, and who has told the house that

the accounts of the scarcity are the grossest exaggerations.

Mr. SIIAW: No. I said, "Great exaggerations."

Sir J. ORATIAM: Well, great exaggerations. I hope the Biome will bear with me if I detain it by reading some extracts upon this point, which assume an aspect of pecutiar importance, for I must confess it was reading these details in October which convinced me then, as I am convinced now, that a discussion of the Corn Laws in the present session of Parliament was inevitable (hear). The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Shaw) referred to the statements made by Mr. Lindley and Dr. Playfair, in November, consisting, in

his opinion, of gross exaggerations.

Mr. HHAW: Great exaggeration.

Hir J. GRAHAM: Great exaggeration, I beg pardon of the right hon. gentleman; that report was made to the Government in November. That report, however, was not the circumatance which first alarmed me. I happened, in October, to be residing in Cumberland, and I received a letter from the secretary of the Agricultural Society in Ireland, which includes a great number of the nobility and gentry of the country. Now that letter which I received from the secretary of this society, was dated October 23d, and the house will see how far Dr. Playfair's report (which the right hon. contleman accuses of great exaggeration) corresponds with this letter:

"Sir.-I beg leave to send you an extract from a Dublin sacring paper, which will give you a correct account of the measures which the council of this society have adopted, remeasures which the council of this society have adopted, respecting the provailing disease in the potato crop. I beg leave also to state that when I issued a circular, about a month since, to the accretations of 120 local societies in connection with the central one, I got several answers from persons stating that the disease was not then apparent in their immediate neighbourhood, but I have since received letters from most of them, stating, that upon digging the crops, they found the disease in almost every quarter, and I may safely say at present that there is not a county in Ireland that is not more or less affected by it. Give my return from the cattle-show at Ballimsdoe, my office has been filled with specimens of the diseased potatoes from all quarters, which prove not only the similarity of the disease, but the items which prove not only the similarity of the disease, but the items and uniform estant-of-it. The council of this society-have directed their ideours to two objects. First, to obtain the latest and most accurate information respecting the actual mature and extent of the disease, in the different localities, through the machinery at our command, and to transmit the estime from time to time to the Irish Government at the castle; secondly, to institute the series of experiments within described, and other the direction of Professor Kaye for the automated desame from time to time to the Irish Government at the castle; accountly, to institute the series of experiments within described, under the direction of Professor Kane, for the purpose of deciding upon saving the remnant of the crop, which now undoubtedly appears to be in the greatest jeopardy. The result of these experiments shall be carefully matured and communicated. I shall barely add, Sir, that the greatest panic appears to exist in all parts of the community, and those who know the country best are most puzzled how to act. One thing, however, I think is cortain, that amounts has already transpired to justify the most prompt and energetic measures on the part of the public and the Government."

(Hear, hear.) Now this gentleman cays he was very much alarmed; and I ask the house, was it not the duty of the Government to take measures for regulating the supply of corn to the United Kingdom? But this was not all; there came, cuclosed in the letter from the secretary, another from the colleague of the right hon, gentleman (Mr. Hamilton). That letter, which is addressed to the secretary to the Agricultural Society, is dated the 18th October, and was forwarded to me, if I mistake not, in the letters from the secrotury:

"My dear Sir,—I am sorry it will not be in my power to attend the special meeting of the council this day. If, as I apprehend, the accounts from the different parts of freland concur in representing the failure in the potate crop as at all general, I think it would be advisable that the council should take means for bringing the subject before the Lord-Lieutenant, in the hope for bringing the subject before the Lord-Lieutenant, in the hope that Government might take some steps to make provision against the immleent famine. I am aware that some time since inquiries were made through the constabulary by Government, but the character of the disease is so peculiar, and the mode of its operation so mexpected, that the apparent state of the crop of pointoes a fortnight ago affords very incorrect information as to its real state at the present moment. Probably the council could not do better than to instruct you to prepare a digest of the information which may have come in from the local societies, such as could be presented to Government; and if they were to meet again next wock, say on Thursday next, they might then enter into communication with the Government on the subject. I name Thursday, for I think during the next few days when the people are beginning to dig their crops, much accurate information will reach you; and it is next desirable. accurate information will reach you; and it is most desirable that when we communicate with Government the fullest and most accurate information should be afforded to them."

This representation was made in the month of October last by the secretary of the society, and such was the urgency of the cases that that gentleman thought it necessary to address himself personally to me on the subject in the letter which I have just read. Having gone through all that I think it necessary to bring under the notice of the house in the way of information received during the autumn, I propose which has recently reached our hands. The noble lord the momber for Lincolnshire (North, as we understood) has told the house that there could not be a grosser fabrication than that which represented the danger of society as immediate and pressing. In my opinion, one of the bost answers which can be offered to that broad and sweeping assertion is to read a statement which is dated the 10th of March, and was addressed by the Commissary at Waterford to the Commissary in Chief at Dublin. It is in these words:

"The price of potatoes is so high, and they are of so had a quality, that they are no longer used in the poorhouse here, head being substituted. Nearly all the potatoes on the quay come in coasting vessels from the county of Wexford, where it appears the soil is sandy, and where the mayor informs me the disease has done very little injury; but the price is 6d, per stone of 141bs., which is quite beyond the reach of the poor. I can bear witness to the fact, that in the immediate vicinity of this place a proportion of one third to one-half—and in some cases, the whole—has been found totally injured, factid, and fit only for the dunghill.

This, I am sure, the house will agree with me in thinking forms a most important part of the documents which I have to lay before them; and I have now to call attention to that which discloses the most formidable portion of the whole evil-namely, the probability that not only the produce of the past year has failed, but the seed deposited in the ground already shows evidence of being tainted.

* "Some of the crops of potatoes planted in January have been examined, and the seed has been found to have generally rotted. The ground will most probably be turned up in April, and sown with data or barley."

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information derived from that place is founded upon the statements made by one of the coast guard, resident upon the island; his communication is dated the 1st of March, and these are the terms in which he writes:

"I regret to have to report to you a further unfavourable account of the potatoes in this district, in the southern part of which, I may say, they are/literally speaking, totally gone, the peasantry having now discovered, on opening their pits, the true state of them. I witnessed on Friday last that in many, instead of picking them by hand, they satually shovelled them out. On my return from Keele youterday evening I found a great number of persons (from 100 to 600) waiting to complain to me of their misfortunes, which I assure you are great indeed; one person, with a family of six children, stated his prop to be now reduced to about six creeks (8 cwt.)"

Now, there we have a document which to my mind speaks volumes. But this is not all; we have reports from 2000 electoral districts belonging to unions, and these being made up to the 15th of February, state that there is every prospect that the whole of the forthcoming crop will be seen to be in a state of decomposition. The house will now, I trust, permit me to read this statement, which is very brief, but, in my opinion, extremely important:

lumber of Electoral Divisions in which the annexed Propor

Proportion of the Potato Crop Lost. tions of the Potato Crop were returned lost, condensed from Constabulary Reports of Jan. 15, 1846. Pob. 15, 1846. Between 8-10ths and 9-10ths 7-10ths and 8-10ths 5.10ths and 6-10ths 11 14 4-10ths and 5-10ths . 613 3-10ths and 4-10ths 657 ,, 2-10ths and 3-10ths . ,, 1-10th and 2-10ths . Not exceeding 1-10th . . . 280 156 113 252 137 103 Not returned 3 Total number of Electoral 2052 2052

In the whole, then, of those electoral divisions, more than half of the entire crop has been absolutely destroyed. am aware how often it is said that there has been no in crease of this taint amongst the potatoes, and therefore I should wish, if the house will allow me, to advert to some fresh evidence of the fact from another part of Ireland. find in a letter from Sligo, addressed by Col. M'Arthur to the commander in-chief of the forces in Ireland, which bears date the 1 (th of March, that the scarcity in that neighbourhood is of the most alarming character. From the statements of Col. M'Arthur it appears that the supply of food for the people in the neighbourhood of Sligo is at the present time one-third less than it was at the corresponding period of last year, and that the prices of potatoes in the towns between Sligo and Dublin had risen 25 to 50 per cent., clearly establishing the fact of a defleiency. Accounts from Carrick-on Suir, dated the 1st of March, give the same melancholy picture of the existing state of things, and prove, beyond a doubt, that the progress of the rot is in every point of view most alarming. In one case there were 1500 barrels of potatoes in pits, and with the exception of two barrels they were all putrid. I now propose to read an extract or two from the report of a meeting which took place in the county of Cork, when Lord Mountenshel presided. At that meeting the following resolution was adopted:

" Resolved, that the local committee he requested to use their utmost diligence in ascertaining the funds necessary to support the people in their respective districts until the 10th-day of August next, and that the landlords be called upon to meet the exi-gencies of the case, by subscribing a rational proportion, according to the value of their respective estates, based on the Poor

The following letter, addressed to Lord Mountcashel, was

The following letter, addressed to Lord Mountcashel, was also read at the same meeting:

"My Lord,—I have examined the potatoes in the pits, and find them getting worse every day since the beginning of the month; I may say, nearly one-third gone. On examining those in the lofts, I find them worse than those in the pits—rearly one half gone. I am sorry to say, on examining four different kinds planted on the 13th of February and following days, they are getting into a state of decay faster than the above—even those shooting out are puny and stunted. If all now growing come to maturity, they will not be above one-third of a crop.

"March 16, 1846.

"D. M. Kissick."

At this meeting the following observations were made:

"This was very serious indeed, and brought them to the consideration of the future. What was to become of them next year? It would appear that the potatoes were gone. If they planted rotten potatoes, they would not grow, and the consequence would be the total fallure next year of what the Irish neonly depended on for food." people depended on for food."

I do not wish to prolong the present discussion by referring to any more documents; but I have before me one statement from Mountmellick, which I cannot refrain from reading to the house. It consists of resolutions agreed to at a meeting of the Board of Guardians, held on Friday, March

20th:

"That at the meeting of the board this day a number of decent poor married woman made application for relief; their families amounted to the number of 80 human beings, without food or sufficient employment; those poor people have houses or cabins, and, if their whole families were to accept of temporary relief in the workhouse, their residences and furniture would be lost to them. Feeling the pressure of want and destitution now so general in this populous town and neighbourhood, we feel it our bounden duty to bring this matter under the consideration of the Executive Government and the Poor Law Commissioners, in order that some mode may be devised or pointed out, whereby relief may be given by a supply of cheap food, either gratuitously or at a cheap rate, to meet the present exigency. The poor parsans who applied to the heard this day form but a very small portion of those who we know are now in great distress, and actually subsisting on food made from the wesh of a starchyard, only suited for, and considered indifferent, food for pigs."

Mr. SHAW observed, that this proved nothing with re-

spect to polatoes.
Sir J. GRAHAM resumed: Does it not show the utmost degree of want? Try it by any other test you please, but, do what we may with the statement, we can arrive at no other conclusion than this, that it proves an extreme condition of human suffering; an amount of suffering not limited to any one district in Ireland, but spread over the whole of the country. So recently as last Monday a deputation from Limenick walted upon the Lord-Lieutenant. That deputation conslated of the Mayor of Limerick, of Mr. Rodie, Mr. Monson, with data or barloy.

I will now, with the permission of the house, direct attention to the condition of the people in the island of Achill. The

Limerick, but in Clare, and though, contrary to all principle, they solicited aid at the hands of the Government, they sale so upon this simple ground, that the people were study starving, and that if relief were not immediately given to most failal results must ensue. This, be it remembered, is in the month of March ;-already the city of Limerick is at ing for money out of the public purse, and at a momential this the Recorder of Dublin tells us that the distress is held so great as we imagined. But then the learned herorier makes a fearful admission. He tells you that things are not much worse than they usually are at this time of the ter, that is, that dysentery, fever, and famine are in all year prevalent at this season. Well, then, this is so true that it. valent at this season. Well, then, this is so true that the right hon, and learned Recorder, acting upon a deep comtion of that which he thought would be the heat for be countrymen, takes credit to himself for supporting a memory couldrymen, takes break to minister to supporting a mesure calculated to afford temporary relief by a grant out of the British Treasury, while he informs you in the same breath that the evil is of a uniform and permanent character—that, is fact, it returns year by year. He tells you that he cannot comprehend the connection between the Irish case and the proposition of the Government, although year by year the condition of the people in Ireland reaches a fearful point of fever, dysentery, and death. Notwithstanding all this, the Recorder of Dublin would say that no extraordinary case has been made out on behalf of the people of Ireland, and that the whole difficulty might be met by a grant out of the public purse. Now, I confess that I am, for one, not prepare to recommend that the people of England shall be callupon to bear the whole expense of this calamity. The people of England suffer already from the rot in the potato, though that root does not constitute their sole food thear, hear, This is a subject regarding which we talk much of authorities, Now, I am sure I need not cite instances to show that incass. of great pressure the practice of the executive Government in this country has been to relax the laws which regulate the importation of food; and, though I am not prepared to mote the exact words of Adam Smith, yet we all know that his opinion is in favour of a perfectly Free Trade in corn then, hear). Then there is also the authority of Burke, than whole no one is more entitled to the respect of those who desire to legislate upon sound and comprehensive principles. The passage which I should wish to quote is contained in Ma. Burke's Dissertation on Searcity, and though an hon mem ber in the course of this debate favoured the house with several extracts from that work, yet he avoided that to which I should like to call attention. He quoted round and round it; but he did not give us the passage itself. I shall menly attempt to quote from memory, for I have not fursished meself with the exact words of the author. The following is the passage to which the right hon, baronet referred:—"So that, in my opinion, there is no way of preventing this coll, which goes to the destruction of all our agriculture, and of that part of our internal commerce which touches our agriculture the most nearly, as well as the safety and way ng of Government, but manfully to resist the iden, speculative or practical that it is within the compotence of Government, taken as a Government, or even of the rich, as rich, to supply to the poor those necessaries which it has pleased the Divine Providence for a while to withhold from them. We, the people, ought to be made sensible that it is not in breaking the laws of commerce, which are the laws of nature, and consequently the laws of God, that we are to place our hope of softening the divine displeasure to remove any calamity under which we suffer, or which hangs over us." Those are noble principles, and these Those are noble principles, and those principles amongst other grounds lead me to defend the principle of the bill. But the learned Recorder of Dublia says, that we have betrayed our party, and that we are inexcusable for that. I do not blame from gentlemen for adhering to opinious which we have given up; but the learned Recorder, in consequence of our having given up those opinions, thinks himself entitled to cast our horoscope. He tells the world that we are a falling Government, and, sitting behind us, by acts upon a conviction that we are falling, and therefore be kicks us. If a protection Government be hereafter formed then I hope that the right hon, and learned gentleman will obtain for himself a more satisfactory settlement of the Recordership (cries of "Oh, oh!" and "Hear, hear, hear"); and a retiring allowance, such as it would not be in my power to support (Oh, oh). The learned Recorder of Dublin often said that he never looked for Parliamentary place or patronage; but yet, if a protection Government were formed, the vision of the Irish Secretaryship might again flit across his fancy; and, should be obtain that office, I hope that under the benign influence of his administration the people of he land may enjoy all the advantages of which their condition is susceptible. At all events, whether now, or at whatever time the learned Recorder may give utterance to any reproaches of us, I cannot fail to know the feelings which as tuate him (hear, hear); and, know the feelings when a tuate him (hear, hear); and, knowing those feelings, his consure sits light upon me. I infinitely prefer his opon, hostility to his smouldering resonment (hear, hear). Then, Sir, the hon, gentleman the member for the University of Oxford, stated his opinion that this measure. thing could be more accurate than the statement which the hon, member made, that under the Commutation Apt, that tithe is an invariable quantity, though the price if variable. In my opinion, the very accuracy of the statement disposes of the question so far as the tithe-owners are concerned. Under the Tithe Commutation Act an invariable quantity is secured; whatever may be the change of cultivation, the only variation is in the price. Now, observe: before the Title Commutation Act, the title-owner was not only exposed to serve the control of the title owner was not only exposed to serve the control of the title owner was not only exposed to serve the control of the title of the title owner was not only exposed to serve the control of the title owner was not only exposed to serve the control of the title owner was not only exposed to serve the control of the title owner was not only exposed to serve the control of variation of price—because, if he took his tithe it kind, he was liable to the variation of price—but also to a great variation in currently variation of price—but also to a great variation in currently variation of price—but also to a great variation and the variation of price—but also to a great variation of price—but also to ation in quantity: whilst under the Tithe Commutation Act, he is free from that variation in quantity to which he was before exposed, and he is liable only to that variation of pict from which he was a result. from which he was not before exempt (hear, hear). That if my answer to the objection of the hon. gentleman the men my answer to the objection of the hon, gentleman the new-ber for the University of Oxford. But let us consider the case of the tithe payers, and if there he may hardship in the case, the tithe payers are more affected than the the owner. Unlike the tithe receivers, the tithe payers have pay a fixed quantity, and even if the land be thrown out of cultivation, the quantity they have to pay will not be affected though the variation in price will be provided for in a mesthough the variation in price will be provided for in a meathough the variation in price will be provided for in a measure, since there is every year an adjustment of price, been on the averages of the last seven years. I am free to confess, Bir, that my answer to the ittherways is not a confess, Bir, that my answer to the ittherways is not a confess, Bir, that my answer to the ittherways is not the plete as my answer to the ittherways is not there is no the plete as my answer to the ittherways in the order to the ittherways is not the plete they will both find that they have been accommon to the proprietors. This is not the proprietors. This is not the proprietors.

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ofit; the tithe owner was in fact copartner with the owner of the soil, and partook of the increased produce without sharing in the outlay necessary to make that increase. Prospectively under the Tithe Commutation Act that copartnery is dissolved, and the landowners now enjoy exclusively the permanent advantages arising from the outlay of capital. On the whole, then, I think that the arrangement may be regarded as equitable to all parties, and I do not see why the inhe-owners should offer any obstacles to the progress of this measure. But the hon, member for Oxford put the case If the prices should not fall, he asked, what as adilemma. is the object of this bill? and if the price falls, where is the equity of this measure? Now the Corn Laws are always open to another dilemma :- the present Corn Laws either affect the price of one of the first articles of necessity, or they do not so affect it. If they do not affect prices, I wish to know why is there all this resistance to any change? It cannot be denied that they turn our foreign customers into tivals-that they cramp our foreign trado-that they disorganise the home market—that they cause internal commotion-that they set class against class-that they cause heartburnings amongst a large portion of the community; and that they produce, I may almost say, an endless inter-ruption of domestic peace. If they do not affect prices, wherein consists the injury done to the landowners (hear, But if they do cause a permanent enhancement of price, then arise the Interests of the consumers and of the rerecivers of wages; and they may say, "Why do you make us pay a larger price than we ought, and than we should otherwise pay for our daily bread, whilst at the same time you diminish gar means of purchasing I will now refer to the damage likely to anse to agriculture, and I must here say that the prosperity of the home trade has been almost invariably concurrent with the improvement of the land, with the prosperity of agriculture, and, speaking generally, with the reduced price of food; and upon this point I cannot resist quoting to the house a short passage from a work on this subject, in which the writer states the argument upon this point so tersely and so ably, that I cannot hope to present it in so effective and so clear a manner. In the neighbourhood of the manufacturing towns the importation from distant places has reculved a great and a progressive increase. Manchester and Liverpool now draw their supplies of agricultural produce from Ireland, from Scotland, and from the northern counties of England; and simultaneously with that increased importation of produce from a distance, there is an increased pace in the neighbourhood of the towns; and so far from its being a consequence that the value of land in the neigh bourhood of the towns should full, the very reverse is the fact. The case, however, is so ably put in the work of Mr. Wilson (hear, hear) on the influence of the Corn Laws that, with the permission of the house, I will read what

i. producers the facilities of steam-navigation have enabled ii. producers in Ireland, Cumberland, and elsewhere, to send the fruits of their industry at cheaper and easier rates to Liver-per Manchester, Sc.; but, while we find that, in the former place, these facilities have tended to improve the value of projects, and the general condition of the producer, yet they have in lower tended to reduce the value of property or the constituence. Without these additional supplies, the consuming that of the large towns would have been abridged to a smaller quantity of food; but, with such additional supplies of such arbits as can be best brought from a distance at a cheaper rate, a larger ability to consume other articles, which are not so easily ten ported, is obtained by the community, in the production of which the immediate producers find an occupation as profit-side as before, and thus the whole community of producers and transmers is equally benefited."

And here be gives an application, to which I would call the associal attention of hon; members:

There is no more reason why the consumer in Great Britain should not be benefited by the producer of the Continent withsoutingmy to our own property, than that the consumers in Lagragood and Manchester should be benefited by the producers in Lagrand and Camberland, as has been shown, without lowering the value of land in the immediate neighbouthood."

This argument, I confess, appears to me to be conclusive ad unanswerable (hear, hear). Now, Sir, there is only one other point to which I am anxious, with the permission of the house, to direct the special attention of hon, members it is the important question of the bearing of the price of com on the rate of wages. I have stated on former occasions to this house my deep and firm conviction with regard to the manufacturing population, and there has been strong evidence to confirm my views,—that so far from high prices producing high wages, the very converse was true, and that low prices produce high wages, and high prices produce low wages. I allude to the evidence given before the Hand-loom cannissioners, and I can refer to evidence given in Scotland in the West Riding of Yorkshire, by the hand-loom weavers in the county of Warwick, and last of all by the wik weavers. The first evidence to which I refer is that of a Scorch witness, taken by Mr. Symonds, the assistantcommissioner, in the south of Scotland, for inquiring into the condition of the hand-loom weaver; and on the result of that evidence Mr. Symonds reports, that the only measure desired by the weavers, and thought desirable by the manu-betures, was the repeal of the Chri Laws. They consibeturers, was the repeal of the Chru Laws. They considered the continuance of that tax, by increasing the price of food, and diminishing the amount of employment, as the amount of employment, as the track of the control of the there of two hand-loom weavers themselves, given to Mr. charles Fletcher was asked, "Have you considered the causes of your distress?" and his reply was, he had, and that he attributed the decline, in a considerable degree, to the operation of the Corn Laws. He was then asked, "In what was did you count to that contribute 2" and his reply was, that operation of the Corn Laws. He was then asked, "In what way did you come to that opinion?" and his reply was, that they prevented the exchange of our commodities with other committee, and that their repeal would open the woollen trade to the whole Countient. He was further asked, "Is there any other way in which the weavers are affected?" and he replied, he thought the weavers were peculiarly affected, for the less income they had, the less they could sprud on bread. Wheat was then 8a. 4d. a stone. A man aprud on brend. Wheat was then 8s. 4d. a stone. A man with a family required two stone or two stone and a-half. Now, he had known it decasionally as low as 2s. a sous; and it ought not to be so high. James Cormack delated that there was more than one cause; but the chief he should be so high. chief he should any was the Gorn Laws, for the duty on faring grain saides to coramp commerce; and it also caused than its and the should be and the said to an and the said to an another said to a dem to cat bread dearer than they ought to do and than the people of other countries do, and cobliged them to can more of their amalicarrings in buying bread, so as a leave little for the purphase of anything clear. And other will be leave the for the purphase of anything clear. And other will be demanded to many manufactured exclusions.

This has been followed by the mills working short time, by the suspension of labour, and by universal distress throughout the manufacturing districts. The hon premier for Rudandshire last evening felt the force of this so cogently that he proposed, as an act of justice to the working classes, that there should be, and he declared there ought to be, a slidingscale of wages as a relief from the sliding-scale in the Corn Laws (hear); and not only that there should be fixed a minimum rate of wages, but that the rate should be adapted to the high price of corn; such was the proposition gravely made by the hon, member for Rutlandshire, who thought it unjust to onhance the price of corn without establishing a scale of wages. I am ashamed to trouble the house any longer, otherwise I could cite much more evidence from the report of the hand-loom weavers' commission of workmen in various trades, whose ovidence is given in their own words; but I am certain that I do not misrepresent the character of that evidence when I say that the manufacturing population generally look upon the Corn Laws as enhancing the price of food, and at the same time diminishing the rate of wages. And now, Sir, I come to the consideration which I own ope rates most powerfully on my judgment. I cannot overlook the fact, that the Government of this country, is, in practice, vested mainly in the landowners, ("hear," and Oh"). The other house of Parliament is composed almost exclusively of landowners; and there is in this house a great preponderance of the landed interest, (hear, hear). A Government so based and so conducted cannot long maintain any influence in opposition to the great body of public opinion; such a Government to be safe, must make it evident to all that its-rule lias been impartial legislation (hear, hear); and now, when we consider the concentration, the union, the intelligence, the growing numbers, and the increasing pro portion of the manufacturing population, who have, if not a universal, a very general opinion deeply scated in their mind, that the Corn Laws do enhance the price of bread, and do at the same time lower wages-that they make the manufacturing workmen pay more and receive less. If you persist in maintaining such laws, you may depend upon it that the population will not place confidence in the impartiality of your legislation. The people, upon this point of their daily food, will not at all times listen to reason; they cannot be enjoied by fullacies (cheers, and counter-cheers from the agricultural members); and I am satisfied in my own judgment, that they are not wrong in their opinion. They are right in their opinion, that with the manufacturing population of this country high prices are concurrent with low wages, and they are placed in a most unfair position when the price of bread is artificially enhanced, and at the same time the means of obtaining it are decreased (cheers), If, Sir, time would permit, I could give you conclusive evi dence, which I have before me, that this opinion is no longer confined to the manufacturing population. I could show that the agricultural population are beginning to be of the same opinion (hear, hear). I could produce evidence to show that there is a diminution of crime when prices full, and that there is an increase of crime when prices rise. can show that distemper and mortality also increase in proportion to the rise in the price of food, and that they decrease as the price of food diminishes. It has been already proved that though the wages in agricultural districts do to a certain extent rise with the price of corn, they never rise in the same proportion as the price of food (hear, hear). 1 have shown, then, the unanswerable opinion of the manufacturing population. I have said that the same opinions prevail in many districts among the agricultural and rural population. I am bound to say that I cannot declare the conclusions drawn by the manufacturing population to be unsound and untrue (hear, hear, hear); and believing them to be sound and true, and that it would be danger ous to the permanent domestic peace of the country, and that it would not be safe to resist all consideration for this opinion, I shall give my hearty and my unhesitating support to the bill now before the house (loud cheers). But I think it necessary, perhaps, that I should say, with reference to our domestic peace, there is no time to be lost (hear, hear), and that with reference to our foreign relations the measure and the time are decidedly politic. Nations trading with each other are bound over in heavy responsibilities to keep the peace. Governments may be prone to war, but if commerce be free, and if there be extended ramifications promoting the social enjoyment of each, they will consider their common good; and whatever may be the disposition of Governments to war, a people whose daily comforts are ministered to by other nations will be the friends of peace; and thus the peace of the world will be best preserved, when commerce shall extend her benefits to the great body of the people (hear, hear). The hon, gentleman who moved the present amendment made a quotation from a modern poet, and then sat down. I will, following his example, of ending with a quotation, and though mine will not be exactly from a modern poet, still it will meet the tone and the spirit in which this measure is proposed (hear, hear). In Pope's Windsor Forest there are some lines so beautiful and so appropriate to the subject of this freedom of trade, and so real a description of the measure we propose, that I may be excused for quoting them. Looking forward as he then did to the happy days when London should be a free port, be apostrophises that noble river, the Thames, which is the channel to bring to this metropolis the commerce of the world, in these words:

"The time shall come when, free assens or wind, Unbounded Thames shall flow for all mankind; Whole astions enter with each swelling tide, And seus but join the regions they divide; Earth's distant ends our glory shall behold, And the new world launch forth to meet the old."

(Loud cheers). That is a real description of the measure which we are now discussing; and I say again, let that vision-be-realised, as I am convinced it will be, by giving a second reading to this bill (lond cheers).

second reading to this bill (lond cheers).

Mr. STUART had heard with the deepest regret the attack which Sir James Graham had so unfairly made upon the Recorder of Dubin, for he attributed the basest motives to that right hon, gentleman. He was not surprised at hearing Mr. Cobden express his opinion that the Government of this country was so overridden and oppressed by the landed interest, that it was unable to bring forward measures which were deemed expedient and wise; but he did not expect to hear the same doctrine avowed by a Secretary of Bister and that too for the purpose of coercing the opinion of the House of Commons. He then proceeded to argue that there was no necessity for passing this bill, but a strong measure for throwing it out. Hitherto, the whole course of our legislation had been devised for the projection of agricultures. Which was a decided for the patiention of agricultures. Which was a decided for the patient of the bill with a landed into test in the light of this subject, because

public opinion was against them. He denied the fact. The re peated iteration of the fullacies and false hands of the Anti-Corp. Law League ought not to be mintaken in that house for the opinion of the monufacturing districts; and he complained that Government had given its sanction to so mischlevous a mistako (hoar). Mr, Cobden had succeeded in his mission of terrifying the Government; and the proof of it was visible in the introduction of this bill to out down the influence of the landed interest, Mr. Cobden had declared his intention of putting down the empire of boobyism. What did that mean? What clse than that the house should be did that mean? subservient in its legislation to the clamours, but not to the sober judgment of the manufacturing population-the very advice which Sir J. Graham had inculoated that night with so much warmth and eloquence. He called upon the house to resist this Jack Cule system of legislation, and not to take their laws from the mouths of mobs in fustion jackets.

Mr. BOUVERIE was opposed to the existing Corn Laws, because they were unjust in themselves, and produced scareity, pauperism, and crime, and should gladly support the present charge in them, which was required by every consideration of wise folicy and sound benevolence. A due regard to their own interests, as well as to the peace and harmony of society, ought to induce the laudlords of England to accede to this measure; for the agricultural labourers, on whose well-being their own well-being mainly depended, were much worse off now than they were before these Corn Laws were enacted. He proved this by quoting Arthur Young's description of the condition of the peasantry of Wiltshire in his day, and by comparing it with their condition at present.

The Marquis of WORCESTER and Mr. D. GARDNER expressed their intention of voting against the Ministerial measure, on account of its injurious effects on British agri-

culture.

Mr. MILDMAY urged, that this bill was not necessary, and, if necessary, was not safe. As a merchant, well acquainted with the shipping interest, and the condition of trade in foreign ports, he could not express the assonishment which he felt at the extraordinary proposition of Sir R. Peel, for the annihilation of all duties on the importation of foreign corn. He must oppose it because it was not accompanied, to use the words of her Majesty's speech, "by such preductions as would prevent loss to the revenue, or injurious results

to any of the great interests of the country."

Sir R. PEEτ: Sir, I think the hon, gentleman who spoke last (Mr. Mildmay) appears to have repented of the neutrality which he observed on a former occasion, and resolved to make up for that neutrality by the slaupness of his present attack. In the course of this evering I was told by a young member, the representative for Newark, that so far as this deltate has been concerned, I have been treated with particular for bearance (a laugh). Well, then, I think I might have expected that, at any rate, I should have excaped attack for the simple action of presenting a petition to the house. I did, it is true, present two petitions-one from Manchesteranother from Liverpool; and the hon-gentleman is so captious, that he finds occasion from their presentation to make an attack on me (hear, hear). All I did was to state the prayer of those petitions, and who the parties were from whom they proceeded. Those parties are connected with the manufacturing and mercantile interest, and I think the hon, gentleman, on the ground of community of occupation, might have allowed them quietly to speak for themselves (hear, hear). The petition from Manchester was signed by the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Manches. ter, a body entertaining very strong political opinions (hear, hear), and many of the members of which have been connected with that agitation which has been proceeding on the subject of the Corn Laws; but in order to show the unity of opinion upon this subject, whatever the difference of political opinion, that petition was also signed by the President of the Commercial Association, a body entertaining political opinions of an opposite tendency (cheers). They also came to the same conclusion as did all the bankers of Manchester, I think, without exception (cheers), and as did the vast majority of the manufacturers of that town connected with great manufacturing establishments (cheers). They con-curred in petitioning this house, not attributing the stagmation in trude, which the hon, gentleman says exists, to the delay which has taken phee in this house in passing there measures evelusively, but stating that stagnation and embarrassment in trade do exist and will continuo until the decision of this house shall be finally pronounced, and praying, therefore, that this house, at as early a period as may be consistent with mature deliberation, will propounce its final indement on this measure (cheers). Sir, the hon, gentleman is a proof of how exceedingly difficult it would be to devise any measure connected with the Corn Laws which shall please all parties (bear, hear). But I think the hon, gentleman stands almost along in this house upon this question. The hon, gentleman who so violently attacks the measures of the Government says, if we had proposed a cautious measure of this nature,—that the scale of duties which I propose to exist for three years should be carried into execu tion, and at the end of that period there should be a fixed duty,—he would have been inclined to vote for such a pro-posal. He has not quite made up his mind whether he would vote for it or not, but still be is so favourably disposed to-wards it that he thinks he should have been inclined to adopt it. Well, I think he is the only man in the house who would have supported that proposition. Then the hon. gentleman made another charge against me which I am sur-prised at—he says, that every Irish member ought to be indiguant with me on account of the delay that has been interposed in affording relief to the Irish people. Indignant with me, indeed (lond cheers)! Sir, I am not conscious of having omitted any opportunity of providing that relief which I thought the natural and efficacious relief (loud cheers). Circumstances may have opposed obstacles in the way of the fulfilment of my own desire; but that the hon-gentleman can have any right to rouse the indignation of Irish members against me, individually, for interposing de-Irish members against me, individually, for interposing delay, is what I could hardly have expected to hear from any member in this house (cheers). Sir, I am exceedingly unwilling, in the present stage of this protracted debate, to trouble the house with any matters partaking at all of a personal nature. If I were a private individual, I would pass by all the accusations that have been preferred against me. I am so consolous of having noted throughout from pure and honourable—motives—(loud absers—from the Opposition—benches)—I am so supported by the conviction that I have abandoned no duty and betrayed no trust—(continued cheers from the same quarter, followed by ironical shouts from the protection benches). Well, if it is your impression that I have (unraing to the protegitonists), at least, after the seguinations that have been preferred; you will conceds to me the privilege of defence, and listen with patience to the answer

I have to reake to them (loud sheers). Observe, throughout there debates I have not quarrelled with any one for offering his decided opposition to the opinious I now profess. I have respected in others the maintenance of their former opinions. I knew not by whom the measures I proposed wanld be supported on this side of the house. I can say, with truth, I tried to influence no one. I have listened to the attacks made on me with sorrow, but not with anger. think it natural that hon, gentlemen should retain their former opinions; if they do not respect in me that privilege which I concede to them, at any rate, I entreat them, from a sense of justice, to hear with patience my defence against the attories which have been made against me (loud cheers). At I said before, if I were a more private individual, strong in the conviction that I have acted from nothing but a sense of duty, and from pure and honourable motives. I would have let those accusations pass by; but I am not in the situation of a private individual, and it is right that, as a Willister of the crown, I should vindicate the course taken, us a minister, from the charges which from time to time Lave been brought against it. Sir, I know it is not regular to refer to former delintes, and I will not make express re ference to them; but I am sure the house will permit me to refer in general to questions that have been put to me, and charges that have long mode, since I had the opportunity of had addressing them on this question. It was said in the course of the best deleate that I had expressed an opinion that the charge of this measure for the edjustment of the Corn Law would have been committed with much greater populety to other bands that to mine, and yet it was observed that I had proposed to the cabinet to undertake the conduct of this accessive, and thet if the entiret had been ununinous the residuct of it would have been committed to my hand - that Here was an apparent inconsistency between the opinion that it would have been better to commit it to other hands and my undertaking, had the Cabinet concurred with me, to make the permanent adjustment of this question a conse quence of the suspension of the law. Sir, the facts are correctly stated. I did give an opinion that it would have been suffnitely better, under all ordinary circumstances, that others more entitled to the credit of the success of this measure should have lead the conduct of it; and yet it is perfectly true, that in the Cabject I did propose, if the Cabinet had con-carred with me, to undertake the proposition of this measure to Parliament. I did so under these circumstance:—On the let of November, in concurrence with my right hon, friends the Secretary of State for the Home Department and the Secretary at War, I proposed, on account of the reports from treland, to take the premution against impending danger which I thought was the natural precaution, namely, the suspension, either by order in Council or by Act of Parlia ane'nt, of those laws which prohibited the import of foreign grain. I renewed that proposition towards the close of the same month. I believe if the measure proposed to the Cabinet had been simply a suspension of the law, with a guarantee that the existing scale of duties should revive, I do not be here that there would have been any serious difference of opinion in the Cabinet—at least I am not certain there would. I think there might have been a difference of opinion as to the extent of the danger in Ireland: but I think it possible that if the measure proposed lead been merely suspension with a guarantee on my part that I would at the termination of the suspension propose the continuance of the existing law, I am not sure there would have been any difference of opinion. But I did distinctly refuse, and I admit it here, I did distinctly refuse to undertake to guarantee the revival of the existing law at the termination of the suspension, and I Gid it on grounds which I will now state. As I said before, I thought suspension was a becoming and necessary measure. The right hom gentleman the member for the University of Dublin says we were deluded by accounts from Ireland, and yet be admits that he himself was alarmed by the accounts In October, and the prevailing feeling in Ireland was that of ularm, representations having been made by bodies connected with the agricultural interests of that country cetting forth the danger. It is very easy for individuals to neglect those reports; but what is a Government to do that is responsible for the well-being of the country—deeply responsible, if famine and diseases bould come and no pracautions taken what is a Government to do receiving such reports from all quarters, from the highest authorities, from private individuals, from parties the most disinterested? The alarm may be unfounded precautions may be superfluous; but do you think that when there is good ground for expecting general and wide spread famine, Government ought to neglect to take pre-autions under such a state of affairs? I, for one would not undertake the responsibility of Government if I thought I was compelled to neglect the precautions which such a state of things required. The right hon, gentleman says we were deluded. I deny the fact altogether. I have the firmest conviction now that the impressions under which I acted in November will all be realised; but suppose we are deceived, -why, are we to sit calculating in Cabinet how much of dimelian, and dysentery, and bloody flux, a whole people can bear without making (loud cheers)? The precaution may be superfluous; but what is the danger, should the precaution be required (bear, hear)? Is it not better to err on the side of precaution (hear, hear)than on the side of the neglect of it? I say now, that with the reports that were received by the Government, we should not, in my opinion, have been justified in neglecting that precaution, and therefore I advised it (hear, hear, hear). Of course, the question arose, what will you do when the period of suspension shall have terminated? And it was a most important question; it was, will you, on that termination, undertake to guarantee the revival of the old law? I said at once I could not, and for many reasons. In the first place, in the last session of Parliament, I expressed a decided opinion that you could not long continue to apply different principles with respect to protection to agriculture from those you had applied to other interests. I am told that I surprised every one with the present measures (hear, hear). I say that in the last session of Parliament, I spoke in the debate on the resolutions of the hon, member for Wolverhampton (Mr. Villiers). I opposed those resolutions, but I stated that I could not defend the existing law upon many of those grounds on which it had been defended; I could not say that I thought the rate of wages had varied with the price of corn; I thought the rate of wages had varied with the price of corn; I could not defend the existing law on the ground that we ought to be independent of foreign supply. I stated expressly then, that in my opinion the same principles which governed your ordinary commercial policy must be applied at no remote period to agriculture. I was followed by the noble loud then the member for Sunderland, the present Farl Groy, and he stated consists that I had made use elitection to the and he stated expressly that I had made no objection to the first two resolutions; but I will quote his own words. The noble lord said,—"There was not a word in the speech of the right hon baronet contrary to the two first resolutions,

and had the last resolution been worded to the effect that it was expedient all restrictions on the importation of corn should be gradually sholished, the right hon, baronst's speech would have been an unanswerable one in support of the motion." That was the statement of Lord Howick; but what was the resolution of the Protection Society in the month of December last? Was the declaration of opinion on my part so sudden and unexpected? I find the Protection Society in December last coming to this resolution, which was embodied, I think, in a polition:—"That in comsquence of the declarations made by several of the leading members of her Majesty's Government in the last session of Parliament, indicating that further reductions will be made at no distant period in the already groutly diminished amount of protection to agriculture, and in consequence of the interpretation put upon those declarations, an impression has been created, whether well or ill founded, enculated to destroy all confidence in the stability or existence of the present Corn Law, and to arrest the progress now making in the permanent improvement of the inferior soils of the That was the resolution of the Protection Society before they were aware of the measures of her Majesty's Government. (Mr. Hudson here was heard to make some observation, which was followed by loud cries of "Order.") The hon, measher for Sunderland will have an opportunity of speaking during the debate, and I hope he will abstain from interrupting me (loud cheers). I repeat therefore that when the question was put, whether I would undertake to guarantee the revival of the existing law on the termination of the temporary suspension, I distinctly said I could give no such guarantee. The revival of the existing law on the termination of the suspension must have implied the permanent continuation of that law; it must have aroused every energy in defence of it. Lords, Commons, and consti-tuencies must have united for the permanent continuance of the existing law. It was impossible that I could have been a party to any such attempt (loud cheers). Another ground on which I declined to guarantee the revival of the existing law was this: I thought the very fact of the suspension of the existing law would make it almost impossible to induce Parliament to consent to the revival of it. The law had worked tolerably well during the three preceding years, but in the first period of pressure it is suspended; on the proposal being made to revive it, the suspension would operate as an impeachment of the adequacy of the law itself on similar emergencies (hear, hear). It has been justly said, that when the noble lord (Lord John Russell), seeing the difficulty there might be in maintaining a fixed duty in the event of scarcity, proposed to lower it, or to give the Crown the power of suspending it by an Order in Council, I made a decided objection to concur in such a vote; I said it would be futile, because the Crown having once exercised the power of sus-pending the fixed duty on the importation of food, I felt assured in the present state of public opinion on the subject of the Corn Laws, it would be most difficult under any cir constances again to impose that duty (hear, hear). In this case the difficulty would have been exactly the same, or only with this difference—that the fixed duty being much lower, the impeachment of that duty would not have been so great (hear, hear). In this case the proposal would have been, the sliding scale having failed on its first exposure to a severe trial, after its suspension, to have re-enacted the principle in all its details. I do not believe that this proposion could have been maintained (hear, hear). And at what period was this revival of the existing law to have taken place? The duty might have been suspended till September next; in the month of July, a month before Parliament separates, what would have been the state of the house when t' e question would have been asked, whether the suspension should continue, or the old law be revived? Suppose there should be apprehensions which I have entertained, and do still cutertain, that this potato disease is not a mere temporary calamity; suppose we have good, if not certain grounds, suppose we have probable grounds for believing that the potato crop of next year will be affected; supposing there was, as there will be, disease in Ireland in July next in consequence of this disease, could the proposal under such cir-cumstances be made in July next that the old law should be revived (hear, hear)? And suppose you have such a July next year as you had last; suppose you have continued rains, a cold unfavourable season, such a July as you had last year, one that made "the boldest hold his breath for a time" (hear, hear), could you, under such circumstances, guarantee the revival of the old hav (hear, hear)? Sir, I am not insensible to the progress of public opinion (loud cheers). I do not say you ought to yield to that public opinion if it is against your own convictions; but I say that that man is utterly unworthy of holding office who would disregard the progress of public opinion, in considering the question whether or not the existing duties should be continued after such a suspension of them, or who, upon such a question as the Corn Laws, thinks that the state of public opinion can be utterly disregarded (bear). It has been stated that the Corn Laws were suspended in 1765, and again in 1793, and rere afterwards re enacted, and that the precedents are all in favour of their re-enaction. But can any man be so blind to the progress of public opinion on the subject of the Corn Laws since 1765 as to suppose that we can exactly apply that precedent, as to suppose that because the Legislature could re-onact the Corn Laws after a suspension in 1765, therefore we can do so now (cheers)? If you were to set upon that principle, if you were to rigidly apply such Parliamentary precedents without reference to the state of public opinion, you would involve this country in the course of a month in inextricable confusion (hear, hear). I am unwilling to make any statement new; but as I foresaw, when this proposition was made, it would break up the Government, and as I have the permission of her Majesty to give any explanation with respect to the causes which led to that dissolution of the Government, I will, rather than enter into any statement, read to the house the declaration I made of the ground on which I acted, and which, as I foresaw it would be of great importance, I made at the time in writing; that statement of my opinions I will now read. This was on the 28th of November, after the Government had instituted an inquiry into the apprehended scaroity, and taken precautions against the spread of fever that might be the consequence of that scarolly; in the instructions then issued, my right hop. friends cordially concurred. But I forceaw that the issue of those instructions would compel a suspension of the law restricting the importation of food. This is the very point: did I undertake after that suspension to propose to Parliament the adjustment of the Corn I did. and under these circumstances: I could not propose the revival of the existing law, and I thought some alight alteration, some now sliding scale with amalimodiffications of the old one, would be utterly unavailing. I helioyo that the adjustment of the Corn Laws was the legiti-

mate consequence of the suspension of it, and I did undertake to do that which, under ordinary circumstance, it thought might be better done by others; I did undertake to meet the axiating amergency, and to become responsible to the consequences of the suspension; and I read that the consequences of the suspension; and I read that the dissolution of the dissolution of the continet:

"I cannot consent to the issue of these instructions, and undertake at the same time to maintain the existing Confuence of these instructions, or immediately following than, would in my opinion answer no good end. The proposal of the would add to the difficulty of defauding that portion of the Confuence of these instructions, or immediately following than you have ought to expend the operation of the existing law for a limited period. The is conflicting evidence as to the degree of pressure from the searcity of food, but there is that probability of severe pressure a few months hence that would in my opinion panyly justify the precautionary measure of unrestricted import. Whave written authority which would justify it; written authority which, should the anticipations of those from whom we receive a prove correct, would impose on us a heavy responsibility for law which, should the anticipations of those from whom we receive a precaution which has been taken in former privates of searcity in this country, and by some countries in Europe within the last few wooks. But, independently of these considerations, the issue of these instructions fully justifies, if it does he require, the temporary removal of impediments to the free in port of corn. They contain a proof not only that the crisis, great—not only that there is the probability of severe submy from the scarcity of food, but the proof that we are unrelessed on the scarcity of food, but the proof that we are unrelessed on the scarcity of food, but the proof that we are unrelessed on the scarcity of food, but the proof that we are unrelessed on the scarcity of food, but the proof that we are unrelessed on the scarcity of food, but the proof that we are unrelessed on the scarcity of these instructions placing on reconstructions. I will not refer to the preceding discussions in the Cabinet, but the issue of these instructions placing on reconstructions of the law by an Order in Council, or of calling the law by an Order in Council, or of calling the accounted for

(Cheers). I therefore thought that the adjustment of the Corn Laws was the natural consequence of the suspension; I felt that it would be inconsistent with my duty to the law and then run away, leaving others to deal with the consequences of that step (cheers); and I was prepared, seeing the natural and legitimate consequence, notwish standing my declaration that under ordinary circumstances it would have been better for others to have undertaken it to undertake the responsibility of that adjournment myself. If there be any inconsistency, therefore, in the declaration of opinion as to the course which I should have thought it best to pursue under ordinary circumstances, and the comwhich I was ready to pursue in order to meet the great and pressing difficulty, I forbear from saying more on that inconsistency, but I confess I think the course I took was the natural and fitting course for a Minister to take (cheers) Well, I was in a minority in the Cabinet; I despaired of success; and therefore the Cabinet was dissolved thears. My honourable friend the member for Dorset blamed to very much for addressing a letter to her Majesty, after resigning, stating the course I intended to pursue on the sp pointment of another Government. He says that was a most unconstitutional and a most unusual act. Unusual I admit it to be, but the circumstances were altogether unusual (hear, hear). Unconstitutional I cannot admit it to That a Privy Councillor should state to he Sovereign what course under very peculiar circumstances le was prepared to pursue I cannot admit to be unconstitutional A peer has a right to seek an audience of her Majesty, and tender his advice; a Privy Councillor has a right to do also. True, my official relation to her Mujesty had terminated; I was no longer a Minister; but being a Privy Councillor I conceive I had a perfect right to intimate to her Majesty—I did it with a view of preventing embaratement—having advised certain measures, having been popared to propose them as a Minister, I had a right to state what those measures were, and that, as a private member of Parliament, I would give to them a cordial support (hes hear). And what were the of commstances under which that assurance was conveyed? My hon, friend says that I provented the formation of a Conservative Government—of a protection Government, I mean. I did no such thing the G. Bankes.—"What I said was, that you prevented a discontion of Parliament." The circumstances under which wrote that letter, which my hon. friend complains of some unconstitutional, were these—(Mr. G. Bankes.—"I let parlon. I did not gay unconstitutional.") (the then the hear," and a laugh). An hon, member, I think, told the house that he did not say "gross exaggeration," but "great exaggeration" (laughter), and now my hon, friend tells us, that he did not say "unconstitutional," but "unprecedented and dangerous." Unprecedented! and were not the circum stances nuprecedented (hear hear). stances unprecedented (hear, hear)? I felt it my dutymy right hon friends around me took the same view, and felt it their duty—to quit her Majesty's service; it was difficulty intimated to me that those of my colleagues who differed from me were not fered from me were not prepared to form a Government them selves, nor yet to advise the formation of a Government open the principle of protection; the noble lord (Lord J. Rasett) and Lord Lansdowns declined to undertake the Government. the principle of protection; the hole to the said Lord Lansdowne declined to undertake the Government until they had an assurance that others, who must be prounted to have a majority, were not ready to undertake the sumed to have a majority, were not ready to undertake the forest the noble lord was in a minority of 10, and it was proposed the noble lord was in a minority of 10, and it was proposed to not a Government;—the circumstances were unusualtion of a Government;—the circumstances were unusualtion of a Government;—the circumstances were unusualtion of a Government;—the circumstances were unusualtion of a Government;—the circumstances were unusualtion of a Government;—the circumstances were unusualtied to the surface of surance to her Majosty that the measures on the subject of surance to her Majosty that the measures on the subject of the Gorn Law which I was willing to propose as a limited of the circumstance of the surface of the surface of the circumstance of the surface of the surface of the circumstance of the surface of the surface of the circumstance of the surface of the surface of the circumstance of the surface o until they had an assurance that others, who must be pr

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any such question, by enabling her Majesty to inform the noble lord of the course I had myself taken; and as others were not prepared to form a Government, I felt it my duty to intimate to her Majosty that I would cordially support the measures I had advised in office. If it is unprecedented, it is because the circumstances are unprecedented; but I see nothing in it either blameable or dangerous in the slightest degree as an example (hear, hear). But my hon friend asys, he did not object to it as impeding the formation of a protection Government, but as preventing a dissolution; and my bon, friend, and others have blamed me for not advising a dissolution of Parliament. In my opinion it would have been utterly inconsistent with the duty of a Minister to advise a dissolution of Parliament under the particular circomstances in which this question of the Corn Law was placed. Why should it be so utterly impossible for this Par liament to deal with the present proposition? After its elec-tion in 1841, this Parliament passed the existing Corn Law, which diminished protection; this Parliament passed the tailf, destroying altogether the system of prohibition with respect to food; this Parliament passed the Canada Corn Bill; why should it exceed the functions of this Parliament to entertain the present proposition (cheers)? But, upon much higher ground, I would not consent to a dissolution. That indeed, I think, would have been "a dangerous precedeut" (hear, hear, hear), for a Minister to admit that the existing legislature was incompetent to the entertainment of any question, that is a precedent which I would not establish (load cries of "hear, hear"). Whatever may have been the circumstances that may have taken place at an election, I never would sanction the view that any House of Commons is incompetent to entertain a measure which is necessary for the well-being of the community (hear, hear). If (on were to admit that doctrine you would shake the foundations on which many of the best laws are placed (hear, hear). Why, that doctrino was propounded at the time of the union between England and Ireland, as it had previously been at the time of the union between England and Scotland; it was maintained in Ireland very vehemently, but it was not maintained in this country by Mr. It was slightly adverted to by Mr. Sheridan at the time when the message with regard to the union was dellvered. Parliament had been elected without the slightest remon to believe it would resolve that its functions were to he fused and mixed with those of another legislature, namely, the Irish Parliament; and Mr. Shoridan slightly hinted it as an objection to the competency of Parliament. Mr. Pitt net that objection, at the outset, in the following manner.

"The first objection is, what I heard alluded to by the hon, gentleman opposite to me, when his Majesty's message was brought down; namely, that the Parliament of Ireland is incompetent to entertain and discuss the quostion, or rather, to act upon the measure proposed without having previously obtained the consent of the people of Ireland, their constituents. This point, Sir, is of so much importance that I think I ought not suffer the opportunity to pass without illustrating more fully what I mean. If this principle of the incompetency of Parliament to the decision of the measure be admitted, or if it becontended that Parliament has no legitimate authority to discuss and decide upon it, you will be driven to the necessity of recognising a principle the most dangerous that ever was adopted in any civilised state—I mean the principle that Parliament cannot adopt any measure new in its nature, and of great importance, without appoaling to the constituent and delegating authority for directions. If that doctrine be true, look to what an extent it will earry you. If such an argument could be set up and maintained, you acted without any legitimate authority when you created the representation of the Principality of Wales, or of either of the counties palatine of England. Every law that Parliament ever made, without that appeal, either as to its own frame and constitution, as to the qualification of the elected as to the great and fundamental point of the succession to the crown, was a breach of treaty and an act of treaty and an act of turn parties.

Then, Mr. Pitt asked, if they turned to Ireland herself, what would they say to the Protestant Parliament that destroyed the exclusive Protestant franchise, and admitted the Roman Catholies to vote, without any fresh appeal? He went on:

"What must be said by those who have at any time been friends to any plan of Parliamentary reform, and particularly such as have been most recently brought forward, either in Great Britain or Ireland? Whatever may have been thought of the propriety of the measure, I never heard any doubt of the temperature of Parliament to consider and discuss it. Yet I defy any man to maintain the principle of those plans, without contending that, as a member of Parliament, he possesses a right to concur in disfranchising those who sent him to Parliament, and to select others, by whom he was not elected, in their stead. I am sure that no sufficient distinction, in point of principle, can be successfully maintained for a single moment; nor should I deem it necessary to dwell on this point in the manner trat I do were I not convinced that it is connected in part with all those false and dangerous notions on the subject of government which have lately become too prevalent in the world."

Mr. Pitt contended, therefore, that Parliament had a right to after the succession to the throne, to incorporate with itself another Legislature, to disfranchise its constituents, or associate others with them. Why, is it possible for a Minister now to advise the Crown to dissolve Parliament, on the ground that it is incompetent to entertain the question, what this country shall do with the Corn Law (hear, hear)? There could not be a more dangerous example, a more purely democratical precedent, if I may so say, than that this Parhament should be dissolved on the ground of its incom-Purey to decide upon any question of this nature. I am open to the charge, therefore, if it be one, that I did advise her Majesty to permit this measure to be brought forward in the present Parliament (hear). Now I am not aware of any other matter of more personal character brought forward against me, there is no one part of my personal conduct, of which I am not ready to give a full explanation (cheers); if I have omitted any, it has been unintentionally, and if any honourable member has any question to put to me, I will answer it (renewed cheers). Then I come to the question itself—Is it for the public interest—is it advisable, that, under the present der the present circumstances of this country, in the present Hale of public opinion, we should now either refuse to modify the law, in order to meet the case of Irish distress, or that, having modified it, we should have a new Corn Law, or that having modified it, we should have a new Corn Law, or that we should try to adjust permanently this question? The hon, gentleman who spoke last says, "You might have dealt with maize and nothing else; maize is the food the Irish people require, and with maize and nothing else?" ple require, and why not admit maize and nothing else?"
Why, if you want to undermine this Corn Law effectually, it will be done by taking such a course as that by holding ou It will be done by taking such a course as that—by nothing out to a people suffering under severe privation that maize is food food enough for them, and that the law us to maize shall be altered; but that as to wheat, barley, and oats, you will not perpit a letter of the law to be touched (hear, hear). If you were to vanish to make with an experiment upon Pablic opinion, you would troube a storm of indignation against the law you attended to main the sould are would

make it impossible to maintain it (cheers). And what is it you would do with respect to maize? There is a duty of 8s. on it now. Our doctrine is, that the Government cannot support the people of Iroland; that we can do nothing with out earnost local exertions; we all say that those local exertions ought to be made, that the duties of charity are imperative though they cannot be fegally enforced, that it is the duty of the landlords of Ireland, and of all classes possessing property, to co-operate with us in mitigating the evils of this great calamity. It is all very well for us to pay the duty upon maize or outs, paying with one hand and taking with the other, as we distribute it to the people; but what are we to say to those whom we are incling to acts of charity? Are we to say to them, that potatoes are failing, and other food must be supplied, but that they shall pay an 8s. duty upon maize, and an 18s. upon wheat, and there shall be no relaxation of that law? Say what you will about this Irish distress, mitigate it as much as you please-do you think it would be possible (even with the extent to which you cannot deny that it exists), to vote half a million of money from the English treasury for the support of the Irish people, and to incite Irish proprietors to acts of charity, and to the purchase of food for the support of the famishing people, and yet, in the face of every country in Europe that is at this moment threatened with scarcity, Holland and Belgium, the Russian provinces, and within these four or five days the whole kingdom of Bavaria and after they have adopted that which the heart of every man tells him is the natural precaution to take, namely, the removal of impediments to the free import of food; yet you say that you will make no relaxation whatever in the existing Corn Laws (cheers)? I believe that would be hardly The right hon, gentleman, the member for the University of Public (Mr. Shaw), says be cannot deny that there does exist a great scarcity in Ireland. I took down his words. What said he? He said, "I cannot deny that there is a great scarcity, and also that there is great danger of disease; but these are common things in Ireland, -this is the normal state of Ireland" (hear, hear). " A large por tion of the Irish people," said he, "are always living on the verge of destitution. There has been no year in my recollection when the same statement as to disease might not be made" (hear, hear). Well, be it so; that, you will say, goes some way to millify the argument in favour of the present proposition. But, in the face of that declaration, will you tell me that this is a labourer's question? Will you say that the maintenance of protection is for the benefit of the Irish agricultural labourer, if protection has brought him to this hear, hear)? In that part of the United Kingdom which is almost exclusively agricultural, which may be said to depend on agriculture, has protection brought you to thisthat, speaking of the agricultural labourers, a large portion of the Irish people are "always living on the verge of destitution?" Is it true, "that there has been no year within your recollection when the same statement might not have been made?" Well, he it as you say. Admit that this is the permanent, the usual state of Ireland,—does that afford any strong argument for the maintenance of the existing Corn Laws (cheers)? But you will answer, if that has been the permanent state of Ireland, why did not you intro duce this measure before (hear)? Surely, however, that is no reason against our doing it now (cheers). You are so pressed by the force of the argument, that the only answer you can make is, "Why did you not do it before?" no doubt we might have done it before. Perhaps we have neglected at former periods our duty; but is that any reason why weshould neglect it at present? If you have a potato-fed people, and consequently many millions depending on the supply of an article of food like the potato, subject to such diminution of quantity and deterioration of quality as we have been visited with in this year, -if that be the permanent state of Ireland, does it not afford a paramount reason for attempting to effect some permanent change, and not merely supplying a temporary remedy (cheers and cries of "hear")? I think to do nothing would be impossible (hear, hear). To modify the existing law—to propose as a permanent system such a change in the law as that proposed by the honourable member for Southampton a sliding scale for three years and then a fixed duty-such a change as that would only encourage agitation on the one hand, while by the agricultural body it would be rejected with scorn-laughed at-scouted. Such an arrangement would effect no good, produce no benefit. Then what is Is there any alternative but trying to lay the foundation for an ultimate adjustment by repealing those laws (hear, hear)? My firm conviction is, that it is for the interest of all, of the agricultural interest in particular, that this in the present state of affairs is the safest course thear, hear). The hon, member for Newark asked me repeatedly whether I meant to ruin the agricultural interest? attach the utmost importance to the prosperity of the agri-cultural interest (a general cry of "oh!" and ironical cheers from the protection benches). Why, I don't know for what from the protection benches). Why, I don't know for what reason I have not as much right to feel an interest in the prosperity of agriculture as any of those who received that sentiment with scorn (hear, hear). Why, what possible interest can I have to injure that interest (loud cheers)? I attach the utmost importance to it. I think, for great political reasons, it is of the atmost importance that the agricultural interest should have great weight and authority in the government of this country. I think, with Burke, that land is the safest basis of political power in this country. He says, "All the writers," and he quotes Aristotle as speaking of the Grecian States, and Cicero as speaking of Rome, "all the writers on politics have attached the winest importance. the writers on politics have attached the utmost importance to land, and have declared that it is the safest basis of a sound and permanent Government." I concur in that opinion, and deeply should I deplore the day when the landed interest of this country would be excluded from its full share in the councils and the legislation of this country. But Burke adds, with equal truth, that fortunately for this country, land has directed its councils, the rouson being that the landed aristocracy and landed proprietors have never been as a class dissociated from the general interest, but subas a class dissociated from the general interest, but subjecting themselves to the influence and the progress of public opinion, and proving their unity of interest with all (loud cheering). Why, that is just the question. By what means shall we secure the continuance in their just in fluence of the landed interest in this country? Is it by fluence of the landed interest in this country? Is it by maintaining your privileges on the ground of the exclusion of food (a cry of "Oh!" from the protection benches, answered by cheers from the Opposition)? Well, then, on the ground of taxation on the importation of foreign corn? (hear hear). I will call it by which name you wish; it is not, certainly, the "exclusion" of food (hear, hear). But the question is, will it more conduce to the permanent, just, and legitimate influence of the land in this country that these Corn Lays should at length be repeated, or that they should

be continued in all their integrity (hear, bear)? Now, my firm conviction - accuse me of treachery if you please that you will fortify and maintain the influonce of the land by this arrangement, rather than, in the present state of publie feeling, by instating on maintaining the present have (cheers). Look, by way of instance at the tax on butter. That, at any rate, is not a tax of 400 or 500 years' standing The taxes on butter and choese were introduced within the last 20 or 30 years. Why should the removal of those taxes be construed into any assault on the privileges of the fanded interest (hear, hear). Let us consider the bearing of this question of the Corn Laws on the great interest of this country, upon the land and the landed aristocracy, the legitimate influence of which I hope to see maintained for ever. have to deal with a population which by the last census, that of 1811, consisted of about 19,000,000 of people. I am excluding Ireland, though, if I took in the population of treland, it would greatly fortify the argument. Our population, now increased to more than 20,000,000, was in 1811 19,000,000 Now, how is that population divided? You have of the agricultural interest about 1,500,000 persons, not including women and children. You have of handed propertors, of farmers and occupiers, and male and female labourers above and under 20 employed in agriculture, about 1,500,000. You have of labourers employed in other occupations 7d1,000 including all those classes of labourers, the rainers and quarriers, and so on, Then you have of persons engaged in concuerce, trade, and manufactures, 3,110,000; 200,000 belonging to professions, or educated persons following miscellaneous pursuits; 511,000 returned as independent persons, living on their own property; and 209,000 paupers, function, and so on. now, what a large proportion of that great mass of population. of 19,000,000 consists of persons who earn their subsiste**nce** by the land. Of those, what an enormous proportion there must be of persons whose families subsist on weges below 30s, a-week! Now, just consider how taxation, apart from food, bears on that class of the people (hear, hear). You raise about 32,000,000% by the Customs and Excise. Let us take the articles which enter into the consamption of a family living on less than 30% a week. I have returns here of the articles in weekly use by families of that class. What They are, butter, cheese, a little meat, bacon. lard, candles, soup, and a little tobacco. Now, it cannot be denied that there is scarcely one of these articles that is not faxed. It is, in my opinion, inevitable that you should raise a great portion of your taxes by indirect taxation, and whilst you do that the burden must be unequal (bear, hear). It is my belief that you have established a great claim upon the conflicence and the gratitude of this country by the course you took some time since as respects the public burdens. You did take on yourselves the annual contribution of 5,000,000% by means of the income tax, that you might relieve the labouring classes (hear, hear). Now, in order that I may be perfectly accurate, I have here an account of the consumption of a labourer receiving 10s, a week in the sum mer and 9s, a week in the winter. It is an actual return of the consumption of this man and his family he had a wife and one child. It appears that he bought four gallons of bread, a pound and a laif of cheese, some bacon, some salt beef, some butter, some tea, some sugar, some, candles, some samp. Now, with the exception of candles, the duty on which we removed recently, every one of those articles is subject to taxation (hear, hear). By the present fariff we have removed the duty on bacon and on salt beef, and we have diminished the duties on butter and cheese. I ask you, can you repent of having made these alteration (cheers)? The man of whom I am speaking died; he left a widow, and the child survived. The widow carned 4s, 6d, a week, and the guardians allowed 1s. 6d. a-week for the child. Now, this was her weekly expenditure: -Sho paid for rent 1s. 6d. a week; candles and sonp. 14d.; butter, 24d.; ten, 14d.; sugar, 2d.; leaving Is. 8d. for firing, shoes, &c., which it will be admitted it must be very difficult to buy out of such a sum, Even here we see the pressure of bixation on this woman. Some is taxed, butter is taxed, ten is taxed, sugar is taxed (hear, hear). Now, I will also take the weekly expenditure of a person spending more wages, -of a Yorkshireman,-living more comfortably, and spending more money. These from which I am quoting are bona fide instances of expenditure. This man carned Lis. or 10s, a week, of which he spent 11s., and it was thus applied: - Meat, 2s.; sugar, 7d.; yeast, 3d.; candles, 33d.; butter, 8d.; sonp, 3d.; tea and coffee 1s. 6d.; oatmenl, 74d. These items of expenditure amount together to 6s. ld. per week. And in wheat the weekly expenditure was 8s. out of the 1 ts. Every week be has to buy 3 stone of flour, which would cost of late years 2s. 8d. per stone, making the weekly expenditure in flour 8s. The remainder, therefore, is 6s., for we find that, in the class of which I speak, where wheat is the chief food, by far the greater portion of the weekly expenditure is in the purchase of There will be something in tea, somewheat alone. thing in outment, something in tobacco; but always more than one-half is in flour. Well, then, supposing the effect of this law is to cause some reduction in the price of wheat, pray let us ask ourselves this question: supposing that such is the effect, are you not thus adding to the comforts and to the enjoyments of millions of your fellow-subjects (cheers)? Let me assure you that this is by far the most important part of the question (cheers). It is impossible to deny—you know that I gave you credit for it—the real sympathy which you have for the interest and the condition of the working classes of this country. Yes, I don't agree at all with those who make imputations against you—against your humanity; and I do believe, that among the gentlemen of England there is sincere sympathy with the suffering of the poor, and much of an innest desire to make better the condition of the working classes. Is would almost say that there is more than among any other class (cheers). And I do ask you to follow me in this calculation, and to consider this question in the light in which I have put it. You cannot increase direct taxation with any very great effect. I believe you would if you could (hear, hear). You raise 7,000,0001, on stamps, 5,000,0001, on the property tax ; you raise 4,000,000% from the assessed taxes, and there are limits to raising more. If you add to the Income-tax, you are not benefiting the poor (bear, hear). You may easily increase the taxation on capital, but in thus burdening the riob, may you not be injuring the poor more than by indirect taxation (hear, hear). Adam Smith says, "The first maxim with respect to taxation is, that every man contributes to the taxation of the state in proportion to the revanue which he adjoys under the projection of the state." Can we now say that we are able to act on that principle? I doubt that whather, in that case, taxation as we have does not fall heavier on the poor than it does upon as—the richer men (hear, hear); and it is because they have not the same means of evolving it they cause they have not the same means of avoiding it; they cannot

leave the country, as we can. They cannot resort to a country where the rate of taxation is less. They are fixed to the soil, to the labour from which they can alone derive substatence; and therefore, I say the burden of such a taxa-tion does fall more heavily upon the u than upon us (hear). If you increase your assessed taxes, or your stamp duties, or your income tax, it by no means follows that you are thereby doing a benefit to the poor; and, therefore, indirect taxation, in reference to these circumstances is more advan tageous than direct taxation. But, then, look how many of the articles which enter into weekly subsistence are already highly taxed. And then comes the question of rent. It consists of more than one fourth of the whole; and, certainly, when you say that there will be a reduction in rents and the danger is, there will be also some reduction in the prices of whent—you do not express a very extended sympathy with those with whom corn is an article of such primary importance. The noble lord the member for Lynn (Lord George Bentinck) would have me may what was my calculation with respect to the future price of corn; I had repeatedly declined (hear, hear). I know not how it is possible for any human being to make a calculation of the probable price of corn hereafter (hear, hear). But the noble lord said, as you would not answer that question, there is another which you shall answer; and he said that in the year 1835 the price of wheat on the average for the year vas 30s. a-quarter. I may have made a mistake in mention ing the year, but, of course, I meant the year in which the average was 30s.; that was in 1855. And the noble lord says that he insists on telling me what would have been the price at which corn could have been imported, supposing that there had been no duty, in the year 1835. I then said to the noble lord that I am not prepared to admit that in that case there would have been a reduction in the price of corn; I am not prepared to admit, as a necessary consequence, if there had been established for some time previously a Free Trade in corn, that there necessarily would have been in the year 1835 a lower price than 39s. That was my state-ment; and does the noble lord think it a monstrous one, because he has got a list of some quarters of corn which have been brought into this country at 30s. (hear, hear)

Lord G. BENTINCK: They were returns which I read. Sir R. PEEL: I do not doubt the accuracy of them; but it is completely beside the question (bear, hear). It is no sort of proof whatever, because in the year 1835 you bought at Dantzic certain quarters of corn at this price, that, therefore, had Free Trade existed, it could have been imported at less than 35s. (hear, hear). I will give the noble lord my reasons for maintaining my proposition, in opposition to his. I say there is no arguing, on this point, from the prices of corn upon the Continent in any given year when the markets of this country have not been freely opened (hear, hear). The noble lord relies on Parliamentary returns; I also rely on Parliamentary returns. You say that Mr. Jacobs, a man of great knowledge and of great experience with regard to the Corn Laws, was sent, in the year 1827, to the Continent to report upon the state of the foreign markets. You will find in Mr. Incob's report this principle laid down. He says, that in consequence of your excluding foreign corn by your high duties there was an accumulation in many ports (hear). He then goes on to say, "It is this accumulation, not the supply which would regularly reach us, were no prohibition in existence, that depresses the agricultural interests by the exaggerated representations of its amount when we have abundant harvests, and by the too rapid influx whenever the barvests here are deficient. I cannot think that in the year 1822 and 1823 wheat would have sunk so low as 38s, per quarter, if the ports had been opened to foreign grain, and the surplus of Continental Europe had been sent to this country each year as it arose. The penning up of wheat in countries of small extent soon creates a glut in such countries, although the quantity really accumulated there may be very minute, and such as if distributed here would produce no sensible decline in price. A few thousand quarters of wheat, for instance, in Holstein, Mccklenburgh, or Denmark, for which there was no foreign market, would reduce the price even below half the cost. Needy sellers must take what is officied, and reluctant buyers will offer a very low A small sale fixes a price in such cases." the British consuls were required, in 1841, to state what quantity of grain of each kind could be experted to England from the countries in which they respectively resided, if the trade in corn were made constantly free at a moderate duty. What were the answers upon those returns? The general average was 10s. 6d. free on board; the general average of freight was 4s. 11 l. At these four ports the average price, free on board, and the average freight per quarter, were as follows:

		Average price free on board, ' (Freight pe quarter.			
			A ,	d.	1	P.	d.	Ħ.
Peteraburgh			30	.1		4	o to	Δ
Dantzie	• •		40	Ü.		3	-	
Blettin			40	0		4	O to	
Hamburgh		35 to	16	á		,	11 14	

Relying, then, on the opinion of Mr. Jacob, and on these returns, I again repeat I am not prepared to admit that with Froe Trade in corn the price of wheat would be reduced be-low that of 30a, which was the price in 1835. In the year 1822, of which Mr. Jacob speaks, and in the year 1835, what were the facts? You had no foreign imports whatever thenr, hear). You completely excluded foreign corn. It was not foreign competition that depressed your prices; but, with full protection, you had in 1822 prices at 38s., and in 1835 at 39s. In 1822 you moved for a committee on agricultural distress. You stated that the agricultural interest was suffering so severely that it was necessary to inquire what remedies could be applied; and therefore observe the complete exclusion of foreign corn does not insure you either from depressions of prices, or from agricultural distress requiring Parliamentary inquiry. In 1835, also, there was no foreign competition; but the depression of price to 30s. was caused entirely by the abundance of your own harvest. In 1830, as in 1822, it being impossible in either case to allege that the competition of foreign corn had either produced depression or caused distress, a Parliamentary committee was appointed to consider what remedies could be devised. Looking at the population, looking at the taxes imposed on articles of daily consumption, considering what immense masses of people are dependent for the subsistence of their families on earnings amounting to less than 30s. a week, how great a part of their exponditure was on bread, and of what great importance the price of wheat was as regards their domestic economy, could you do anything more to benefit their social condition than to give them the assurance that they shall have provisions at a moderate mice? There might be no great depression of price; but if Free Trade in corn give you a guarantee against such variations in price, that guarantee would be an inestimable advantage. Supposing

the price of corn not depressed below 50s. or 54s., yet if you take a guarantee by extending the means of supply that the price will not rise above 70s. or 80s., you will confer an inestimable advantage upon the working classes (loud cheers) The honourable gentleman cannot surely share in the alarm which has been expressed on this point, because he has himself proved that a more extended supply of cotton and indigo tends to steadiness of price. Supposing, it is said, our supply of wheat should fail, and other countries should combine to refuse to supply us with food, what should we have to rely on? But other interests will arise, and if the new tariff and the new Corn Law should pass the legislature, I think it is impossible to apprehend that there would be a combina-tion of foreign powers. I doubt the fact. Taking the whole of the measures together, I do not apprehend the existence of a scarcity from a combination of foreign nations. It is said that I have in view the interest of the manufacturing classes. I think you cannot deny that those who are connected with our commerce and manufactures, and who carn their subsistance by their daily labour, have a direct and immediate interest in a moderate price of corn. But the fair claim of the agricultural labourer I also admit. I say the farmers and agricultural labourers have an equal interest in this question with those engaged in commerce, and with the other classes of the community, and if we continued under a system of protection, could we expect a prosperous and contented class of agricultural labourers in this country? Can we say that throughout the country the condition of our agricultural labourers is such? ("Yes," from Colonel, Sibthorp). I say "No." But it is said that the wages of the agricultural labourer vary with the price of food-in the same way as those of the manufacturing labourer I deny it altogether (hear, hear). In the case of the manufacturing labourer his wages are more likely to vary inversely with the price of food; and as to the agricultural labourer there is no direct connection between his wages and the price of wheat. If it is not so, account for this:-If the wages of the agricultural labourer vary in a direct ratio with the price of wheat, why should wages be 13s. 10d. in Kent, and 13s. in Lincolnshire? In the purely agricultural district of Wilts wages are about 13s., I think; in Kent, the wages of the agricultural labourer are high-not less than 13s. Now come to districts purely agricultural, and the most removed from the influence of manufactures; take the counties of Somerset, of Wiltshire, of Cornwell; I say as you advance from these purely agricultural districts towards the manufacturing districts, you will find the price of agricul-tural labour increase (henr, hear). You will say that there is a sympathy between the agricultural and the manufacturing interests (hear, hear). In the south-west of England, which is purely agricultural, the wages of labour are extremely low; as you advance towards the midland counties, ---in Nottinghamshire, for example, the wages are 14s. In Warwickshire, Staffordshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, you will find they vary. What stronger proof can you have, that the prosperity of our manufactures not only create a demand for agricultural products, but seem to affect the wages of the agricultural labourer? But take the agricultural districts of Norfolk and Suffolk, and the south-west of England, and tell me whether there is any direct ratio between the price of wheat and wages. [An hon, member said "Lincolnshire"] There great skill is required; it is not naturally fertile, but brought into fertility by mere skill and capital, and skill and capital have had there the same effect as in the manufacturing districts; they have raised the price of agricultural labour. That is what I want to show. Two circumstances affect the wages of the agricultural labourer, skill and capital, as applied in Lincolnshire, and as they are applied in the manufacturing districts. [Colonel Sibthorp made some remark.] In Wilts, Devon, and Dorset, with a protection of 18s. a quarter, corn does not vary, and yet the ratio of wages varies; and I think the gallant member, without much exertion of his logical faculties (a laugh), must see that there are other causes for the increase of the wages of labourers. But can you say that, in the purely agricultural districts, the condition of the labourer is as we would wish it to be? appeal to you, and I feel confident that you will answer the appeal,-do you not admit that the social condition of millions, agricultural or manufacturing, is one of paramount consideration in the present state of the country (hear)? Have you read the sanitory reports? Are you not convinced that some efforts should be made to improve the social condition of the great mass of the population? Our first object should be their social improvement, and whatever efforts you may make by promoting increased cleanliness, by education, by providing comfortable cottages, the first attempt at social improvement should be by providing abundance of food (hear, hear). If there be either the suffering or the apprehension of scarcity, you cannot expect that people who have to bear that trial will come to be educated, or will improve their dwellings. The first decision you must come to is to increase the supply of food. The experience of the last three years and of the three preceding years do read a lesson to us, which we ought never to forget, as to the effects which are produced upon the social condition and the moral habits of the working classes, comparing years of abundance with years of scarcity. Now, in the purely agricultural districts, is it possible to say that the rate of wages hears any direct ratio to the price of wheat ("It does," from Col. Sibtherp)? I will demonstrate that it does not. I do not mean to say that there is not some variation; that where wheat is high, there is not an occasional increase of wages; but I will demonstrate to you that the rate of wages does not vary in any proportion to the variation in the price of food. Take all the counties. I will quote no figures which I shall not be ready to communicate to any gentleman connected with the county referred to. Now let us take the seven years from the year 1837 to the present time. I requested to have an account, drawn up from actual payments for particular farms, of the wages actually paid to agricultural labdurers from 1837 to 1844 inclusive. I will begin with the prices of agricultural labour from 1837 to 1×14 inclusive, at Sodbury Union in Gloucestershire. The lubourers there received during that time money and also beer. Here I have the account of their weges for a summer week and a winter week during each of those years. Now, since 1837, the price of corn has varied very much. Even in the present year the price of wheat has varied from 45s. 1d. to 58s. 3d., and the variation in the prices since the year 1837 has been very considerable. The price of wheat in 1837 was 55s. 10d. a quarter; in 1838, it was 6ts. 7d.; in 1830, 70s. 8d.; in 1840, 60s. dd.; in 1841, 68s. dd.; in 1842, 57s. 3d.; in 1843, 50s. Id.; in 1814, 51s. 3d.; in 1815, 55s. 10d. (hear, hear). Therefore the price of wheat varied in this period from a minimum of otte. Id. to a measurum of 70s. 8d. Now I know that writers on political economy have said that the ultimate tendency of wages is to accommodate themselves to the price of food, but

I do not believe it (hear, hear). At any rate they only my the ultimate tendency, but I should like to know what con solation that is for a man who is passing 10 years of his his without any variation of his wages for the batter, in propos tion to the rise of the price of food, that the ultimate ten dency of the two things is to approximate (hear, hear). What consolation is it to find the price of corn 70s. 8d. in 1830, and 50s. 1d. in 1848, but that he must not despair; and that his wages will approximate in time to the price he pay for his food? What is the use of such a tendency to him! But I do not believe in the tendency even (hear, hear). think the tendency is rather a tendency to substitute pois toes for wheat as the food of the working man (hear, hear I am not trying to answer acrimony for acrimony, but to be before you what I believe to be the real state of things in this country. In this view, what is the allotment system which we adopt, and many of us put in practice so belete. lently? Taking individual cases it is, no doubt, productive of great advantage to the labourer. I believe every car of us is trying to introduce it so far as he has the means and undoubtedly the system is a great comfort to the labourer—a comfort to him independently of other con siderations, such as that it attuches him to the soil, it makes him a landed proprietor, it awakers him to the value of peace and social order. But what is it as a system? Is in ffect to raise the price of wages? Is it not rather to sal stitute an Irish peasantry for the English labourer? To substitute potatocs as his food instead of wheaten bread You will find it will be so—that potatoes are substituted for wheaten bread as that system increases, and that yet will have here that great calamity which you have no Ireland, though in an ameliorated shape. I should think it a great calemity that potatoes should be substituted for wheat as the food of the labourers in this commitand I believe that to imbue the labouring population with a taste for better food would be to confer on then a much greater advantage (bear). I therefore think that the allotment system may be productive of evil effects if a increases too much. But, mark this, just in proportion tolk depressed condition of the labourer is the sum he has to par for wheat. The labourer who has an allotment has, as we know, so much the more to help out his wages with, and to pay for his wheat with. Allotments, therefore, have a todency to benefit the labourer. I have only been speaking a to what is the ultimate effect that the system may have in substitute potatoes for wheat, as the food of the labouing classes. I have taken the variations in the price of wheel I will now take the variations in the rate of labour for the same period as before, the last ten years, but I must mask that the tables I am about to cite do not show the whole amount of wages carned, for in harvest time some additions are usually made by the labourer to his carnings. These, however, are made every year, and therefore may be sturout of the table for the purpose of considering the variations in the rate. From the same union of Sodbury, in Glonetershire, I have an account of the prices for winter and suc mer averages. In 1837 the average payment was !s. pa money and 1s. in beer per-week. The total average of weekly wages for winter and summer, in 1837, was 10s. (a) 1838, 11s.; 1830, 11s.; 1840, 11s.; 1841, 11s; 1842, bs: 1843, 10s.; 1844, 10s. Therefore, while the price of wheat varied from 78s, to 51s, a quarter, the rate of wages vanid only from 10s. to 11s. in this union. From Blanfood in Dorsetshire, we had this reply:—"The statement on the other side was given me by four different yeomen. It is only the first-rate labourer that gets 9s. in these puts unless at piece work or extra times; and then if the exact hours were reckoned up which the men work at piece week. I do not think it would average more than 88, to 98, with the best men." Now, at that place the average wages were in 1837, 78.; 1838, 88.; 1839, 88.; 1810, 88.; 1844, 8.; 1842, 88.; 1848, 8. Therefore, whilst the place of corn had varied from 70s. 8d. to 3/1s. 1d., it was 48s. 6d. in 1836; wages have only varied from 7s. to is a week (hear, hear). There were extra earnings, such is piecework, harvesting, &c., as I am aware; but those, for the reason I have given, I do not reckon; they might probably amount to Is, more each week. That is the statement of one of these yeomen near Blandford. Another farmer states that wages in 1837 were 7s.; in 1838, 7s.; in 1833, 8s.; [840] 8s.; 1841, 8s.; 1842, 8s.; 1843, 8s.; 1844, 8s.—a variation of only is, in the rate of wages, notwithstanding the guel variation in the price of wheat during the same period. will take the rate of wages again. In Cornwall, in the union of Bodmin, a person writes, "In reply to your letter of the 8th inst., I beg to state that the rate of wages in this union has not varied from 1837 to 1844. Labourers have been used. the habit of receiving 8s. or 9s. per week during the while of this period. Those who have had 9s. per week, have be a supplied with wheat by their employers at 8s. per imperial bushel, and barley at is.; whilst those who have received 5, por week have had to pay 6s. 8d. for wheat, and is, til. for lat ley, whatever may have been the price of grain" (hear) Then from Burnstople there is this communication: " have inquired of several farmers) esiding in various parts of this union the amount of agricultural wages during the years from 1837 to 1844 inclusive, and have ascertained that in general, the sum paid was 8s. per week; some few farmers gave 08.; but a much greater number only 78. No rise of fall appears to have taken place during the eight year in question, except that in very dear seasons some employers supplied their labourers with corn at a reduced price; but I am inclined to think that they were not very numerous. will now take East and West Suffolk; and first, East Suffolk "The variation of wages in this neighbourhood has been from 8s. to 10s. a week from 1835 up to the present time; and within that period the price of flour has varied from 1s. 3d. to 2s. 10d. the stone of 14lbs." That is to set, the wages from the control of the latest of the lates the wages increased one fifth, while the price of flour had more than doubled. The communication proceeded, "The supply of labour is greater than the demand in this neighbourhood; and the price of labour is, in fact, what ise farmer chooses to give; but he invariably raises his wages and lowers them with the price of corn (cries of their), and lowers them with the price of corn (cries of their), but he invariably raises his wages and lowers them with the price of corn (cries of their), and lowers the with the price of corn (cries of their), and lowers the with the price of their had not once see that 8s. n-week with flour at 1s. 3d. is better at once see that 8s. n-week with flour at 1s. 3d, is better than 10s, a week with flour at 2s. 10d., supposing the master family to receive from the second formula to receive from the second family to require from two to three stone of flour weeking. Now that is the state of things in Fast Suffolk. Next will give weeking the state of things in Fast Suffolk. Now that is the state of things in Fast Suffolk. Next will give you West Suffolk. The writer says, "The general wages paid by the formers of this parish have sustant from 9s, to 10s. her week, but the men employed at work, such as threshing, &c., have entired from 1s. is swork, such as threshing, &c., have entired from 1s. is swork, such as threshing, &c., have entired from 1s. is swork, such as threshing, &c., have entired from 1s. is swork, such as threshing, &c., have entired from 1s. is swork, such as threshing, &c., have entired from 1s. is swork, such as the swork in addition. This variation in the rate of the corn, but when which was selling the swork in addition when the swork is a swork in a swork

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that wages were below 0s. per week, and when the farmers that wages need so per coomb, 10s, per week was generally the amount of wages given. The result of my experience is, therefore, to show that although wages fluctuate in a trifling degree, with the price of corn, yet they do not rise or fall in proportion to such price, and therefore, that the lahourers are best off when the prices are lowest" (hear). There are occasionally extraordinary additions made to the theorer's carnings, and in harvest time his carnings are always increased; but these additions apply to all years alike, and therefore I have not reckoned them. Have I not then proved that it is impossible to gainsay that the present generation-the existing tace of labourers -- cannot be benefited in any way by a direct ratio between the price of food and the rate of wages. Again, I say, I doubt the position that ultimately even there is any tendency between the two to approximate. But if I have shown that in these eight vens -a great period in a labouring man's life (hear) -no ise at all in wages has taken place proportionate to the rise in the price of corn, I think I have shown so far that the rate of wages has no such connection with the prices of foed as to rise with them, but rather directly the reverse (hear). I think I have succeeded in demonstrating that the low pice of wheat operates almost immediately in favour of the and sircenty. Do you think that you can maintain this system of protection much longer? and shove all things are you not assured that we cannot maintain the existing law upon the ground of its being advantageous to agriculture; Alam Smith, whose name has been too often mentioned in the course of these discussions, tells his renders, and proves to the satisfaction of every impartial and intelligent man. that the rate of weges depends upon the country being in a prosperous condition. When there is abundance of capital, large profits, an active and healthy condition of agriculture. manufactures, and commerce, then will the rate of wages be high, and when the opposite state of things happens to prewill then will the rate of wages be in a depressed state, and the working classes reduced to comparative poverty. General posterity and not legal enactments produce a practical effect apon the rates of wages. It is by removing restrictions on manufactures and commerce that you creak a demand for labour, and not by raising the prices of food. Make the sustenaure of mankind difficult of attainment, and you take a guarantee against the rise of wages. But remove restrictions upon agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, and then you save yourselves from the necessity of constant interference for the purpose of regulating the supply of food. I do not overlook how, in some quarters, it has been alleged that there exists a panic about taking land. It has been shown that in England no such panic exists. In many parts of Scotland it has also been shown that nothing of the sort prevails. Even very recently as many as eleven fams in Rexburghsbire were let at an increase of rent. In those parts of the country, where agriculture is most pursued, there does the least alarm prevail. farming this protection ought to be per-Lor bad mment; but where skilful farming exists nothing of the of is accessary. Of course, in some parts of the country there must be suffering, and in certain places there will be tenants without sufficient capital; but compare the advotage of protecting so very small a minority with the reneal happines; and presperity of the nation, compare it the with the comfort to your own minds which must arise from the consciousness of your not being responsible in times of distress for the food of the people. Adopt a course of maestrictive legislation, and then you need not fear that the operations of nature will be imputed to any other than their true origin. Leave trade free and you will not be held responsible for untoward events over which we have not and of necessity cannot exercise any control. lanking, then, at the compensation which this measure funishes-1 do not mean compensation in the way of small equivalents, but on the contrary, I refer to the security and the permanency of the law-looking to the advantages which the change now proposed must confer upon the labourer; looking to the benefits it will confer bjon yourselves; I mean not merely the more obvious alvanages likely to arise to your estates, but the less evident the stin the improvement of your position -- seeing that you will be elevated by making this concession-1 think I no not acting as the enemy of that interest, with which has own is so intimately connected when I recommend this bill to the acceptance of the house (hear, hear). I repeat that that which I advise is for the true interests of I ask you, do you feel scenre; and if You foresee that the present system cannot long be basintained, why will you not take advantage of a favourable titae for effecting a change that very soon must come? You say that the present time is one of prosperity. Is not that a best powerful reason for making this concession? At the Present moment you are free agents. An hon, member ud, that there was nothing to apprehend this year, her anything next year. Then you will not go the length of ning that you me safe for more than two years. Can there lea better proof that the present is tended to accomplish? Again 1 ask you how long do you think you can maintain the system of protection? and we all know, that it cannot be made permanent conistently with that degree of good-will and harmony without with he mation carnot be happy and prosperous. No doubt the financhiate cause of this measure is the sad calamity which has befullen breland. It has forced upon you the consideration of the corn question. But suppose that you sustanded the corn question. Is used the Corn Laws, what could you have done when the line of suspension was at an end (hear, hear). I have not periooked the circumstance that respecting this Bill it has been said to be a good political managuire on my part. The letter of the noble lord the member for London has been dese ibed as a good political maneuvre on his part. Now I ask what possible advantage can a bill like this confer upon the as an individual. I know that I have been taunted, and have more than 10 and hate more than once been told, that my days as a minister are numbered. But I have introduced this measure, not for the purpose of prolonging my ministerial existence, but for the purpose of averting a great national culamity, and for the purpose of averting a great national culamity, and for the purpose of sustaining a great mational character. I am quite aware of the fact that more than once I have been saked how love I can problem the author of those sked how long I can reckon upon the support of those honograble gentlemen opposite, without whose votes I could not hope to carry this bill through the lauport with laught fact, I can recken upon onjoying their support with respect to other subjects (loud cheers). I know, as well at those who takes me that I have not any clott to the supas those who tarint me, that I have not any right to the sup-best or confidence of those mon members. I asknowledge and admit that my prospects of accomplishing this measure are owing to their support. If it be passed it will be by

them. But then they give it their support on public grounds, and I feel and acknowledge my public obligations to them as a public man. I admit this, and I have studiously avoided admitting anything beyond this. I am aware of the differences subsisting between those honourable gentlemen and myself. I have no right to claim my protection or support at their hands, and I have never sought to obtain that support by any departure, in the slightest degree, from the principles I have always professed. I know that 112 members constitute the full number of those who, thinking with me on subjects of general policy, support me on the present occasion; these 112, not being above one-eixth part of the House of Commons. I am therefore not surprised that you consider my tenure f power to be doubtful. But let us puss this measure, and while it is in progress let me request of you to suspend your indignation. This measure being once passed, you on this side and on that side of the house may adopt whatever measures you think proper for the purpose of terminating my political existence. I assure you I shall deplore the loss of your confidence much more than I shall deplore the loss of political power. The accusations which you prefer against me are on this account harmless, because I feel that they are unjust (loud cheers). Every man has within his own bosom and conscience the reales which determine the real weight of reproach, and if I had acted from any corrupt or unworthy motives, one-tenth part of the accusations you have levelled against me would have been fatal to my existence as a public man (hear, hear, hear). You may think that we took too great precautions against Irish famine in the month of November. You are mistaken. Events will prove that those precautions were not super-fluous; but even if they had been, as our motive was to rescue a whole people from the calamity of possible famine, and consequent disease I should be easy under the accusa tion (hear, hear). I do not say whether this measure will do so or not. I speak only of the motive (cheers). What weight would your accusation have even if the precautions be superfluous? I am saying, with the information we had, and the prospects which were before us, repeat the accusa tion that we took superfluous precautions, and I say, as Mr Burke said when Inbouring under similar obloquy, and in circumstances not dissimilar, "In every accillent in Infe, is pain, in sickness, in depression, in distress, I called to mind that accusation; and was comforted" (cheers). No, never no reproach will attach to me even if we should have proo that the precautions will be superfluous. Before the month of July (" May" from the Opposition), it will be established to the conviction of every pain, that the precautions we took were not superfluous, and that our motives were not impure I am not speaking of a temporary measure; I am speaking of a permanent measure. When I do fall I shall have the satisfaction of reflecting that I do not fall because I have shown subservience to a party (lond cheers). I shall no fall because I have preferred the interests of party to the general interests of the community (cheers); and I shall carry with me the satisfaction of reflection, that during the course of my official career, my object has been to mitigate monopoly (cheers), to mercuse the demand for industry, to remove restrictions upon commerce (cheers), to equalise the burden of taxation, to ameliorate the condition of those wh labour (great cheering).
Mr. STAFFORD O'BRIEN contended that Sir Rober

Peel had not made a candid declaration of the causes of his future fall from power; for it was attributable to far other causes than his desire to mitigate monopoly, and to equalise taxation. He complained that Sir Robert Peel laid no stated his case-fairly, because he had not stated it fully. He also, protested against the unfairness of the Minister's coming down to the house and quoting a vast variety of statistical documents relative to highers/fure, which nobody could answer off-band, and which, if/of any value at all, longhitto Trave been placed before the house at the com-mencement of these discussions. The protection party had acted with the greatest sincerity during these debutes. They had mooted the question of protection, or of no protection and if they should be defeated upon it, nobody could accuse them of baying resorted to unworthy artifice. He expressed his determination to resist this bill to the utmost.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that there had been two questions involved in this debute—one whether the Corn Laws should be repealed, and the other, whether Sir R. Peel and his colleagues were justified in departing from certain engagements which they had contracted with the Conservative party. He took the last question first, and declared that, however important political connection might be to the working of the British Constitution, he held that, if public duty pointed one way and party considerations auother, an honest man was bound to stand by his country. Reverting, however, to the first question, he expressed his opinion that Government had placed the defence of their new commercial policy on too murrow grounds. They attributed their change of opinion to the experience of the last three years; he thought that they ought rather to have attributed it to the debates of the last four sessions, and especially to the able and chaquent speeches of his nisters had not changed their opinions now, but that they had not changed them sooner. He then proceeded to remind the house that years ago he had expressed a wish that the word "protection" was crased from our statute book, and his reason was, that protection meant injury to the many for the benefit of the few, with this addition, that the injury was real, but the benefit was illusory. He stated at great length the reasons which induced him to support this bill, and concluded by declaring that our example in establishing practical Free Trade in this country would be more beneficial in obtaining it throughout the world than all our past negotiations.

The house then divided, when there appeared-For the second reading ... Against it

••• Majority .. The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

THERE IS ORBAT VIRTUE IN AN "IP."-The Liverpool Courant informs its readers that the Duke of Portland has offered to head a subscription list with 25,000/. "11 an active plan can be devised to thwert the unconstitutional proceedings of the League" In other worls, his Orace has wegered 25,0001. to nothing, that the League is irresistible.-Notts Review.

According to a return from the Mint, the amount of the gold coince in 1840 was 10,020/.; the silver, 017,008/.; and the copper, 0044/.

*. * Soveral members of the Council of the League are desirons of making complete their sets of the Anti-Corne-Law Circular, which was printed in Manchester, prior to the commencement of the LEAGUE paper. They are deficient of the following number: 03.

Any reasonable sum will be paid for the numbers, or any of them.

They may be addressed to the care of Mr. Gadaby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, and should be accompanied by a letter from the senders, which shall be promptly replied to, with payment.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

Subscriptions received during the wook ending Wednesday, Apřil I, 1846.

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

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, subscribers are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for GEORGE WILSON, Lengue Offices, Manchester, or Annapam Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.

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Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

*Andrews, David R., Porthand street ... 1 '0 0 *Mack, Thomas, Titclifield street ... 1 '0 0

ERRATA.

In Leader, No. 131, for Thomas Hestit, Dean-street, Newcastle on Tyne, 17., read 36.; for A. Anderson, Scarborough, 525., read A. Anderson, Norwood, Surrwy; and in Stockton-on-Teen list of subscriptions, for Henry Sharp read Henry Thorpe, In list of promised subscriptions, for Geo. Gibson and Co., 1006., read 1276.

The New Serdino Scale—Its Effect on Adricultural.—What the agricultural interest (meaning thereby the real cultivators of the soil) have really most to fear, is a delay in the final settlement of this question. There will be no readjustment of rents and leases while the change is in process. All the disadvantages of a sudden repeal are thus meaned to the farmer, without any of its corresponding advantages to bimself or the community. The evil may not be felt during 1816, because searcity throughout Europe, preventing under any circumstances extensive importation, may provent its operation. But during 1847-8, stocks of foreign corn, prevented by the sliding scale from gradual importation, will in all probability accumulate in foreign ports, and, on the sudden full of duty in 1819, be poured on the market, unmaturally lowering the price, to the great injury of the English producer.—Report of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association, 1845.

A THIRD GLANCE AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. By Reuden.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM AND MR. SHAW.

When one stands upon a bridge which spans a ravine, in some woodland solitude, looking over the side of the bridge upon the leafy tops of trees, which rise up like platforms for the sunshine to light upon, as it peeps below to see what the water is doing, which is heard, but not seen; and when we look down upon the jackdaws which hover upon the tree-tops, clusters of them sitting on branches sedately, while a single one balances itself upon a twig, extending first one wing and then the other to preserve its balance, calling, "cacaw, cacaw," or "jackdaw, jackdaw;" then durting off in an instant with a dozen followers to join in a thicket of flapping wings and "ca-cawing" voices, from amongst which some birds disappear into holes in the side walls and re-appear again, and call "caenw, jackdaw," and take their seats on leafy twigs, and there continue the cry, or listen to others uttering it; looking down upon this fraternity of jackdaws, the human spectator on the bridge, who is a kind of "stranger in the gallery," cannot for the life of him-tell what all the flutter and noise is about, though he is a believer in the natural truth that all creatures by their motion or their sound express some sensation or meaning, no matter whether they be jackdaws on trees or gentlemen in Parliament.

Thus it was with me, one evening this week, at that time of the evening when there is too little daylight left to see the members of Parliament distinctly, and the bude lights are not yet turned on in full strength. Knowing nothing of what had been done, or what was doing, what had been said, or what was saying, I reached an elevated position, and looked down upon the House of Commons, and saw it more than usually full of members, and the members all in commotion. Rows of them were sitting aloft in the side galleries, looking over the front, moving their heads excitedly, and uttering sounds like "cacaw, cacaw," or "jackdaw, jackdaw;" while below, the same sounds were uttered from all sides and all seats, while some members darted up and darted down again, while others were vehemently wagging their heads and vociferating "cacaw," or "jackdaw," or some sound which my unparliamentary ears believed to be those. A few members sat gravely still, and seemed to say nothing; but only a few. Some emerged hastily from doorways, and listening, or seeming to listen, for a moment, joined in the cries. I had just caught a glimpse of a tall dark figure—a gentleman in black, whose bald head, with the black edging of hair combed up to hide a little of the baldness, as remnants of a good reputation are sometimes brought up to cover spots -where--character -is-bare,—I--had- just-caught-a glimpse of this tall figure as it sat down, and knew it was that of Sir James Graham. This down-sitting of the Home Minister was the signal of commotion; something he had said about somebody was the cause of it.

At last the tunult of sounds ceased; the members sat still; and another member of high stature, not far from the place of the first one, who had been standing for some minutes, but whom I had not seen in the dim light, began, with a strong voice, to speak. I was soon informed that this was Mr. Shaw, representative in Parliament of the Dublin University. I also discovered now that I had made a mistake in supposing that in the tunult of the house the members had been calling "caenw," or "jackdaw," they had been calling "Shaw Shaw," "Mr. Shaw, Mr. Shaw!"

This Mr. Shaw, it sooms, has declared himself bitterly against the Government, but particularly against Sir James Graham. According to what has transpired, he, at the end of 1834, when Sir Robert Peel returned from Italy and took a short hold of office, was offered a place of some kind. He declined to take any judicial place that would exclude him from the House of Commons. His ambition to be a great statesman has never been concealed; and he might have been a respectable second-seat man, at least, had he not been a bigot, and the worst of bigots, an Irish political bigot—and had he evinced some regard for other persons than himself. He is a ready speaker, with a good voice.

Nor could he, he says, take any political office which would deprive him of his Recordership of Dublin; he could not afford to lose its income. But it seems he planned a scheme by which he might get its income—and something more—and be relieved from its duties, free, able, and willing to take political office. The Whigs, however, were in power; the Tory tenure of place having been very short in 1834 and beginning of 1835. It was not until 1842, shortly after the return of the Tories to power, that he brought his scheme before them. He gave an account of it the other night, and from the way in which he gave it shape and colour he was loudly cheered, for he made its history tell against Sir James Graham. He called it an arrangement of the office of

the Dublin recordership, and several other small judicial appointments in that city, "whereby a saving of between 3,000% and 4,000% a year" was to be made to the public. But Sir James Graham, on rising a second time, gave the affair another shape and colour. Shaw's scheme was to get an increased allowance fixed for the recordership of 3,000%, with a retiring pension equal to the present income, the salary for the office being now about 2,000%, that he should, therefore, cease to receive the 2,000% a year, for doing the work, and get the retiring salary of 2,000% without the work to do, but to be at liberty to remain in Parliament and take any political office which Sir Robert Peel, or political fate, or even Sir James Graham might put in his way.

The job was too bad for Sir James, and he wrote to Mr. Shaw and told him so; and on Monday night told him he was at full liberty to read that letter to the house. But neither the Home Minister, nor the Recorder of Dublin, in their disputes, have said a word about the Dublin jury lists. There were people in the Home of Commons on Monday night who almost expected to hear the "cat let out" about the jury lists in the O'c onnell trials.

Be that as it may, Sir James Graham during lan session had called Mr. Shaw his right honourable "friend." Whereupon the latter retorted angrily that he had never been his friend; that more than political and parliamentary acquaintance he knew nothing of him. And when the present session of Parliament came, and the Free Trade scheme was divalged, Slaw ranged himself with the protectionists, denied the the Irish potato disease, and accused the Ministry. Sir James Graham hinted that he was bitter on the question of the Corn Laws, because disappointment in me direction excited his hopes in another. This led Shaw to give a history of his hopes and disappointments, and make strong asseverations to the house that there was not one word of truth as to his having been disappointed in not being made secretary for Ireland. Sir James explained, however, that he had only spoken of a "prospective" secretaryship; one which he may safely count upon as his own, should the protectionists form a new Government.

When an hour and a half, or thereabout, had been consumed in such personal bickerings, the question before the house proceeded. That question was corn or coercion. After much debate, a division took place, and coercion carried the day; while corn was for a time set aside.

Had a division taken place an hour or two some than it did, the majority, it is thought, would have been for proceeding with corn; and it is believed that Sr R. Peel would, if thus strengthened by a vote of the house, have been quite willing to shelve the Coercion Bill for a few weeks. But so many members spoke, and some of them so long, that a considerable number left the house, and chiefly from the side where corn strength against coercion strength was ranged. Ultimately, the coercion debate was adjourned to Tuesday.

No House-the battles in India.

But, though Tuesday was appointed for the resumption of the debate on coercion, to the exclusion of the question of corn, the debate was not resumed. There did not assemble members enough to form a house; one circumstance tending to which might be the promise of the Irish liberal members to occupy the house for at least three nights, with the defence of Ireland, even if no other members should speak, and the aversion which a large body of the English aristocracy and squirearchy have to listen to the tale of Irish wrongs, or have anything to do with Ireland, save to receive rents or tithes from it, or hold commissions or commands in its arms of occupation; or vote coercion for it to compel it to pay its rents and tithes quietly, or with only as much grumbling as shall be in a whisper; to compel it to sell its last bushel of corn, last pig, and all but its last potato, to go without a shirt, without a coat, with a straw wisp in its hat, and with barely half a pair of breeches to its limbs, that it may pay rents and tithes, the one to a landlord who pockets the money, buttons his pocket, and walks away, and says, "If the Irish gramble, pull down their houses, eject them from my estate, and hang them if they refuse to submit;" the other to a parson who also pockets the money, does not button his pockets, perhaps, but says, " I will spend it only with good Protestants -I will spend none of it upon those idolatrous Papists who pay it to mo, unless it be for Protestant sheriff's officers to distrain on them ; Protestant constabelary to protect the sheriff's officers; Protestant soldiery to back the constabulary; Protestant witnesses to swear against the idolatrous Catholics who do not submit quiotly : Protestant juries to convict them ; Protestant hangmen to hang them; Protestant curates to and me in heaping curses on them when they are hanged all that Iroland may be Protestantised in the great process of paying tithes to a price bood IP does not believe the

save to vote for coercion to Ireland, to obtain from Ireland submission to such aggressions as those, the English owners of Irish land and their political friends in Parliament have little juclination to sit on either side of the house to listen to the wrongs inflicted by them and their agents in Ireland. And this may have been one reason why the attendance was so thin on Tuesday, at four o'clock, as to muster only 31 members, 40 members being requisite to form a house.

But this was not the chief reason. The telegraphic despatches, published early in the day in second editions of the London morning papers, prepared London to expeet before many hours details of one of the most ter-Vible seems of carnage known in the history of India. In a few hours the first of the details from India arrived, and every man, and woman, and, I may add, child, who had a friend or brother there, were eagerly running to the offices of the newspapers and to the newsmen to learn some particulars, however scanty, or, if possible the names of those who had fallen in the carnage.

From the fact becoming known that the Morning Heraid had been the first to publish the details at much length in a third edition, and that the Standard would repeat their publication in the evening, the rush of people of all degrees to the offices of those papers was most intensely exciting. At one period towards five o'clock, it being rumoured that the Standard was to give the names of the officers killed and wounded, though every newsman and newsman's boy in the metropolis was commissioned to get papers with all speed for the clubs and reading rooms and reading people, there were in Bridge-street alone as many members of Parliament in carriages, on horsehack, or on foot, competing to get papers, as would have made up the number deficient at the House of Commons for a house. Many more must have been at their clubs anxiously waiting for the papers, or running, riding, driving over the town to tell persons interested in India, or in the fate of the armies of India, what was not yet generally

The scene in Bridge-street, Blackfriars, was suggesve of reflections of deep import : not alone that some of the earriages which drew up there contained what were evidently-the-whole, or nearly-the-whole, of a fitmily, none of whom had patience to stay at home after the first rumour while one came out to get tidings of father or brother, but who came all off in painful anxiety to ascertain if the names of the slain had yet arrived; not alone that beating hearts, which had no carriages to carry them in search of the news of battle and the names of friends supposed to have been in the battle, were as anxiously contending for the printed sheets; not alone that the friends of the lives and happiness of all mankind were eager to learn how many and whom of mankind had been destroyed, even though they had individually no relatives in the war; not alone that the greatest part of all who assembled at the Standard office, or any other office, to learn the news did so because they were pleased, and gloried in the rumours of the slaughter because of its very magnitude; not alone for any of these reasons, nor for all united, nor for the additional and more satisfactory one, that this action had terminated the war, was it that reflections of deep import were suggested, though all or any of those considerations were suggestive of grave reflections.

Meditative thought turned almost involuntarily from the certainty that war had been upon the Sutlej in India, to the possibility of its being upon the St. Lawrence in America; and that with an army, not composed of the half-barbarians of the Punjaub, but with brothers of Saxon blood, Saxon courage, perseverance, and endurance. And what so intimately allied to such reflections as the great question of commercial freedom, of national brotherhood, for which we are struggling? What is there of equal value in that question to the certainty that it is the forerunner of universal peace? the only sure preventative of war? Let us commit some of those thoughts to paper.

THE WAR OF NEIGHBOURS—WHAT WOULD IT BE LIKE?

Standing in Bridge-street, Blackfriars, looking upon the crowd who press to get the names of the killed and wounded in India, from a newspaper supposed to be about to publish the names, it will be deemed very absurd to look along Blackfriars-bridge and imagine the London side and the Southwark side at war ; the bridge the central point of the battle, the one army driving the other across the bridge, and over the bridge, into the Thames; the artillery of the strongest scattering grape and canister shot among the flying crowds of the weakest; the lancors with lances, the swordsmen with swords-riding upon the disordered rear, howing down those that have not yet fallen, trampling to death those that are already down, rushing across to Blackfriurs street to set it on fire, bringing up heavy cannon to batter down buildings that

will not burn; retreating to their own side (supposing the citizens to have been the most powerful, and to have chastised the Southwarkians for an invasion) and breaking down or blowing up the bridge in their retrent to prevent the Southwarkians from coming over again; proceeding upon the river to scuttle, sink, or burn, or fotch away by force of arms, and call them their own, every barge, wherry, boat, or raft of timber upon which the Southwarkians could venture upon the water again, either for war or peaceful business. It would be absurd to stand in Bridge-street and suppose all this; but why? Simply because such occurrences are impossible. And why are such occurrences impossible? Because the people on the one side and on the other are one people. The traffic of the one is the traffic of the other; the bridge of the one is the bridge of the other; the barges, wherries, bonts, and rafts of wood of the one, are the barges, wherries, boats, and rafts of wood of the other; the preservation of the property of the one side is equally important to the other side. It is so impossible that the two sides of the Thames could go to war and destroy each other's shops and houses, butcher each other's bodier, lay each other's streets in ashes, and make a population of widows and oxplans and wounded men, to inhabit the streets of ashes and desolation, so utterly impossible is it for such a thing to happen, that it may appear supremely ridiculous to put the case even hypothetically.

Yet there was once war, even between the two sides of the Thames. The river was a division of kingdoms at a time when there was a belief not yet so dead in the English mind as it should be, that war is a glorious thing, and is only dishonourable when not successful. That was at a time when there was no oneness of interest between the dwellers on the left bank and on the right. It was at a time when the ruling principle of such commerce as was known was piracy. But even now, in the age called civilised--between nations who are the pioneers of civilisation, England, America, France, all three, or any two of them, it is quite possible for war to arise.

It is not possible that the ships of the Messrs, Baring trading to America, could be attacked, boarded, plundered, burned, or sunk in the London docks by an armament from Rotherhithe; but it is possible that they may be attacked, boarded, plundered, burned, and sunk on the shore of America when trading there; and if so, the loss would be as great to their owners, or their insurers in London, as if they had been destroyed upon the Thames.

Then, if, in retaliation, the ships of war of England should go out, and lay themselves alongside of Boston, and throw rockets into it, and shells to blow it up, and set it on fire, and to tear the limbs from the bodies of the inhabitants, all of whom, it might be, were in favour of peace; some of whom, it might be, were the sellers or the buyers and consumers of the goods which the Barings had before carried there; some of whom might be the owners of ships lying in the ports of England, or at that moment going to the bottom of the sea, sunk by the cannon-balls of England; -- if Boston should be bombarded and laid in ashes, its inhabitants left houseless, or thousands of them lifeless, the ships burned, and the docks filled only with wreck, what redress would that be to England? The English merchants would not be paid for the ships and cargoes lost. On the contrary the Americans would be still less able to pay them, even if the war was ended:

But the trade between Liverpool and America, if suspended by war, would be an act of national suicide by both countries, far exceeding in disaster anything here hinted at in regard to the port of London, or anything known in the history of warfare. To depict its consequences would be an unwelcome task; and for the present, in this paper, an impossible one.

Let it suffice to say that the inhabitants of America. who are in the closest commercial intercourse with England, and the inhabitants of England who are holding intercourse with them, are jointly as averse to war as are the inhabitants on the Southwark side and the city side of the Thames to a war between Middlesex and Surrey.

Those in America, who would not so immediately feel the consequences of war in their worst form, are the people of the Western States, who have little commercial intercourse with England, but with whom we are seeking to establish it, by getting food from them in return for our clothing and furniture, of which they are in need.

Repeal the Corn Law at once, and the Western States of America are converted into peacemakers. Defer the repeal, and let the excitement on the Oregon question proceed, and the time for joint occupation cease, and warmay become unavoidable. And, if it does begin, all the battles on the Sutlei are as holiday powder fired away, compared with the results of a war with America.

Not that it is denied that the Indian battles are

great ones; they are greater, probably, than any pitched land battles that would be fought in America. A warbetween England and America, would be one coaseless mival battle; the separate engagements being nothing more than a small part of the whole. It would be fought along a coast of six thousand miles, and upon an ocean field extending from the English Channel to the shores of China.

America might disable England, and England might disable America. What would be the gain to either? Let two neighbours who have lived in peace - the blacksmith and the miller -full out and fight, and try to stab each other, and cut each other's hands off, and burn each other's houses; the miller who used to get the blacksmith's skill and iron and tools to mend his mill, trying to cut the sinews of the blacksmith's arm, so that he shall not be able to wield his lammer again, and trying to sink his hammers and his iron in the millpond; the blacksmith battering the head of the miller with his hammer, breaking the mill, throwing the flour into the mill-pond." What would be the gain to either if completely victorious over the other? If equally matched, would they not fight until they each cried "enough," and begin their respective business again in the mill and the smithy much poorer men, more helpless men, less useful men, less amiable men than they were before they fell out, and quarrelled, and fought, and battered each others heads?

That miller and that blacksmith are not fictitious. They may fall out. They are not now such friendly neighbours as they might be. The smith has refused to take the flour; the miller refuses to take the smith's ironwork. They dispute about a small piece of common land, of little benefit to either; and it is possible they may go to blows about it. But they would not fight could not; their domestic households would not permit them, if the smith dealt with the miller, and the miller

Nothing prevents that dealing but our Corn Law. Off with it at once.

THE NORTH LANCASHING PROTECTIONISTS AND THEIR PETITION ON THE CORN LAWS. A paragraph, under this field, appeared in the Guardian of Wednesday last, stating, in substance, that a few weeks ago R.W. France, Esq., of Raweliffe Hall, had declined to sign the North Lancashire petition in favour of protection, when requested to do so by R. Fownley Parker, Esq., along with a few other protectionist Incolorings. In reference to this paragraph, we have received the following polite epistle from Mr. Parker, which we presume be intended for publication:

"Cuerden Hall, 22d March, 1846. "Sir, .. The inclosed paragraph has been sent to me, and, I am informed, appeared in the Preston Guardian." If it be correctly copied from your paper, I have to inform you that the statement you have made is false.— I am, sir, yours, &c.

"R. TOWNLEY, PARKER.

^eTo the Editor of the *Manchester Guardian*! The particular expressions of this letter are quite beneath our notice; and we shall therefore content ourselves with a word or two in reference to the facts to which it relates. What it is in the paragraph that is " false," Mr. Parker does not explain, and we cannot supply the omission. Whether the call was made upon Mr. France a few days instead of a few weeks ago, -whether Mr. Parker called upon him alone, and not along with a few other protectionist buildowners,-or whether Mr. France conveyed his refusal to sign in a different form of words from that detailed in the pavagraph,-or upon what other incidental point the loose general depial turns,---we are left to conjecture as best we may. At all events, we may safely presume, that if Mr. Parker had not called upon Mr. France for the purpose stated, -- or if, when so called upon, Mr. France had consented to sign the petition, - Mr. Parker would have had discernment enough to see, that the real fact should be distinctly stated in his letter. - Manchester

BRISK TRADE, PROVISIONS LOW, A.D. 1765. Mr. Wm Smellie, F.R.S. and A.S., late printer in Edinburgh, Secretary and Superintendant of Natural History to the Society of Scottish Antiquavies, &c., &c., intimate with Arineipal Ro-bertson, David Hume, Dr. Blair, Dr. Adam Smith, Read Kames, Lord Hailes, Lord Elibank, Robert Burns, poet Remodeller and compositor of Dr. Buchan's Domestic Medicine, Translator of Buffon, &c., &c., &c., in a letter to Dr. Buchan, author of Domestic Medicine, dated Shellield, 1765, writes thus :- " Extremerdeadness of trade, and consequent want of money, at present in these parts; high paice of provisions of all sorts—these two latter are reasons of much provisions of all sorts—these two latter are reasons of much greater weight than you are aware of, and greatly influence the sale of anything here (Sheffleld). You must know, when trade is brisk, and provisions law, we are all brisk as lords in this trading country; but when 'the contrary happens, we are poor as rats or beggars."—Memoirs of the Life, Writings and Correspondence of Mr. Wm. Smellie, by Robert Kerr, F. R.S. Ed. Edin. 1811, in 2 vols. Mr. Kerr elsawhere observes of 1r. Adam Smith, the immortal author of the Wealth of Nacions—"A book greatly more celebrated and admired than understood; and the principles which it inculcates and establishes, though almost univerwhich it inculcates and establishes, though almost universally acknowledged to be just and irrefragable, are still successfully opposed by the narrow mercantile system of monopoly, and the bigotted terror which actuates many respectable characters against every appearance of innova-tion and reform." Mark, this was pouned in 1811.

South LANCASHIER.-The requisition to Messes. Villiers and Brown is progressing towards completion; already upwards of 7(00 of the electors have appended their signatures, and this is exclusive of those received in townships which have not yet sont in their returns. It will be recollected that at the last contested election Mr. Brown only

There were no potatoes in the Limerick market on Friday.—Limerick Examiner.

AGRICULTURE.

REAL AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION.

A MODEL LEASE.

That the real friends to agriculture are to be found amongst the Free Traders is now scarcely denied by any but the politico monopolist landlords. "All, except those who regard their estates as sources of political influence rather than of revenue, are following the natural direction of agricultural improvement, and seeking, with more or less of effect, to amend the tenures of their tenants. Amongst the landowners who deserve honourable mention for their sound and practical views of the requirements of agriculture, Mr. Holland, of Dumbleton, a Free Trader and a Leaguer, stands high; for to that gentleman and his cyadjutors of the Vale of Everham Association, the farming interest is indebted for the simple and equitable model lease which we now present to our readers.

It appears that about a year ago, a resolution was passed at a meeting of this Society, "that security of tenure is essential for the prosperity of the furner, and will tend to the welfare of all other classes;" and a committee of landlords and tenants was appointed to draw up a form of lease, under which a tenant might hold his farm with the greatest advantage to himself, and with due justice to his landlord. The committee so appointed issued and extensively circulated a series of inquiries addressed to agriculturists in all parts of England; and after a due consideration of the answers obtained, the following form of lease has been submitted to the members of the association and the agriculturists at large, as one framed with due regard to the interests of both tenant and landlord. It is suggested that the lease may be altered to suit local or personal circumstances; and the committee believe " that the form will be found capable of adoption upon any land, and in any part of England.

This Indenture made the - day of - one thousoud eight hundred and forty in pursuance of an Act to facilitate the granting of certain Leases, between A. B. of of the one part, and C. D. of

of the oth r pert,

Witnesseth that the said A. B. doth demise and let the farm unto the said C. D., his heirs, executors and administrators, all the dwelling house, buildings, and several closes of land mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed, and containing by a lineasarement A. B. P. or thereabouts, to hold from the day of for the term of twenty years theree ensuing; yielding therefore during the said term the rents hereinofter mentioned. Except and always reserved out of this demise all coals, mines, minerals, quarries of stone and heds of gravel, timber, and trees likely to become timber, with full liberty for the said V. B. his agent or others by him authorised, with or without horses, carts or other carriages, to enter upon the said premises or any part thereof, for the purpose of working any of the said mines or quarries, or of felling or taking away the timber, or planting other trees, or for any purpose whatsoever; making reasonable satisfaction to the said C. D for any r jury or damage which the said A. B. may carse in so doing.

1. And the said C. D. doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors and administrators and every of them, covenant, promise and agree to and with the said A. B. his heirs and assigns, in member following: that he said C. D will pay to the said A. B. by two equal half yearly payments in every year, the first being gaide on the 25th day of Mauch and the other on the 25th day of September in each year the following rents, that is to say, in the first year the sum of C — which sam constitutes the value of — bushels of wheat, according to the average price of whoat for the seven years ending on the 1st of January next preceding the date of this denise, made up and published as required by law for the purposes of the Tithe Commutation Act; and in every other year during the continuance of this denise the value of a like number of bushels of wheat according to the average price, in like manner made up and published for the seven years next preceding; the rent for each year varying with the average price of wheat during the preceding seven years.

2. And the said C. D. covenants with the said A. B. to pay all taxes chargeable upon the said premises during the

said term, laudioid's taxes excepted.

3. And that the said C. D. will at his own proper cost and charge repair all the house and buildings hereby demised, and also will keep in good repair all the gates, rai's, pales stiles, hedges, ditches, fences, banks, bridges, mounds and drains on the said lands, the said A. B. his heirs and assigns furnishing on the said premises or within miles thereof all rough timber, brick, lime, tiles and all other

materials whatsoever for making such repairs.

1. And that the said dwelling house and other buildings linving been valued by persons of skill at the entry on the said premises by the said C. D. at the sum of £ which valuations are included in the schedule hereunto annexed, the said C. D. shall and will at the expiration of the said term or at the time of his leaving the said premises, whether it he before or after the end of the said term, deliver up to the said A. B. all the buildings so valued in good repair, and shall and will pay to the said A. B. the whole sum by which the said buildings shall have become lessened in value by reason of his neglect to repair the same; and in case any dispute shall arise with respect to the decreased value of the same, such dispute shall not be referred to the decision of two schitzstons or their unspire, chosen as hereinafter provided; but/the said C. D. shall not in any case be liable for any damage caused by tempest, and a reasonable deduction shall be made for the natural decay and wear and tear of the pro-

mises while occupied by him.

5. And that the said C. D. shall not sell or assign over this

lease nor underlet the lands hereby demised or any part thereof unless with the written consent of the said A. B. and shall use his best endeavours to protect from injury by cattle or otherwise all trees or quickset hedges growing upon the said lands, and shall not lop or cut any of the trees so growing, pollard trees excepted.

growing, pollard trace excepted.

6. And it is hereby agreed that at any time in the sixteenth year of this demise, or in any subsequent year, the said A. B may require the said C. D. to grow such crops on every portion of the said lands as shall be prescribed by the said A. B, be the said A. B., delivering in writing to the said C. D. the course of cropping prescribed by him; and in case the said C. D. shall object to crop the land as proposed by the said A. B. the point in dispute shall be referred to the decision of arbitrators or their umpire, chosen as is hereinafter provided.

7. And that the said A. B. shall, at all times, have power

for himself, or his agent, to go upon any part of the said demised lands for the purpose of inspecting the state of repair of any part thereof, and of ascertaining the state of the management and cultivation thereof; and in case the annual renting value of the said demised lands shall have suffered decrease by reason of the said C. D.'s failing to repair or to cultivate the said lands according to the rules of wood husbandry, the said A. B. may give notice to quit to the said C. D. at any time before the 25th day of March in any year, and the said C. D. shall quit and deliver up possession of the said lands on the 29th day of September next ensuing after such notice has been received by him; and in that case arbitrators, or their umpire, appointed as here-inafter mentioned, shall assess the damages to the land and buildings caused by such breach of covenant, which sum so assessed the said C. D. shall pay to the said A. D. And in case the said C. D. object to quit after receiving such notice, he may require that the dispute shall be referred to arbitrators or their umpire, chosen as hereinafter provided; and if they shall decide that the said lands have not been materially deteriorated by the management of the said C. D., such notice shall be void; and if they shall decide otherwise the said C. D. shall quit, and shall pay to the said A. B. whatever um the said arbitrators, or their umpire, shall judge to be a reasonable compensation for the injury done to the said

8. And that in the event of the said C. D. becoming a bankrupt or insolvent, or of his making any bill of sale or assignment of his estate or effects, or refusing to pay in full the rents herein reserved within one month after the same shall have been lawfully demanded, the said A. B. shall have power immediately to re-enter and repossess the lands herein demised, paying to the said C. D. reasonable compensation for such improvements effected by the said C. D. as have increased the annual renting value of the said lands, the amount thereof being adjudged by arbitrators or their umpire, chosen as hereinafter provided.

9. And the said A. B. covenants with the said C. D. for quiet enjoyment of the herein demised lands; and that the said A. B. shall insure all the buildings upon the said premises, provided always that in case such insurance shall be rendered void by the said C. D. having on the premisengeods of a hazardous nature, or by other circumstances caused by the negligence of the said C.D., he, the said C.D., shall pay to the said A. B. the whole amount withheld by the insurance office.

10. And that the said A. B. will effectually drain at his own cost and charge every part of the said lands which require drainage, and that the said C. D. covenants to pay an additional rent after the rate of 5l. for every 100l. expended by the said A. B. from the time of the completion of the whole or any part of the drainage and during the continuance of this demise.

11. And that the said C. D. shall and will, during the time he holds the said lands under this demise, farm them in a good and husbandlike manner, and 'shall not break up or convert to tillage any of the land marked in the schedule annexed as pasture or meadow land without the written permission of the said A. B. or of his agent lawfully authorised.

12. And the said A. B. and C. D. mutually covenant and agree that any dispute arising in settling their respective chims in respect to any matter contained in this demise, as well as the several matters herein declared to be referable to the decision of arbitrators, shall be settled and decided by persons of skill, appointed in the following manner:—that is to say, the said A. B. shall choose one such person, and the said C. D. shall choose another to be arbitrators, who shall upon being appointed forthwith choose an umpire, whose decision, in case the said arbitrators disagree, shall be final; and should either the said A. B. or the said C. D. refuse or neglect to choose his arbitrator within a month after being required to do so by the other, then either the said A. B., or the said C. D., shall have power to choose and appoint two arbitrators, who shall decide by themselves, or their umpire; and such decision shall be equally binding on both parties, as if each had appointed one arbitrator.

In witness whereof, these presents written on this and the preceding pages are subscribed by the said parties at in the county of and in the presence of

This is indeed a great step towards "agricultural protection." It is one of the most simple and evenhanded leases which has come under our observation, and deserves to be adopted as the groundwork of that reformation in the frame of leases, which is now indispensable. The forms of leases now commonly in use are practically adapted only to the state of husbandry fifty years ago. From the year 1792 till 1814, the value of land was constantly rising, and the competition for its occupation increased year by year-consequently, the object of furmers was to got farms, and the frame and technicalities of the leases entered but little into their consideration. Hence, during the period of high prices, little substantial alteration or amendment in the common forms of leases was made. In 1815, the blight of the Corn Law fell upon British husbandry; and from that time leases have almost fullen into disuse in Eugland. Tonant and landlord have been alike afraid to bind themselves by permanent contracts under the fluctuations and uncertainties of "protection."

From this cause first commenced the yearly-tenant system, which has of late become one of grievous oppression and loss to the tenant farmers of England. Under this system, however, in the exceptional cases where leases have been granted, the old forms have been adhered to; tenants, if determined to improve their land, being too glad to excape from the perilous condition of yearly tenants to scan very closely the terms of the lease by which they obtained protection against the caprices of landlordism.

The time, however, is now come when a new system must be adopted. Farming, it is admitted, can only be conducted with success by a due application of skill and capital; and skill and capital will only be applied where the tenant is seenred in the full possession of the fruits of his own enterprise and industry. Leases, therefore, must become the rule instead of the exception, and the settlement of the preliminary question of what is a fair and practical lease has thus become a necessity. The form promulgated by the Valo of Evesham Association goes far towards the settlement of that question, for it contains provisions which will amply secure the landlord against the deterioration of his property, unless through his own negligence; but we think that somewhat less of restriction on the tenant is required for the full developement of the capacity of our soil for increased production.

We have numbered the provisions of this form for the purpose of ready reference, and for the sake of brevity. First, although the reservation of existing timber is not perhaps to be avoided in the actual state of farms, the power to enter to plant other trees is decidedly and seriously objectionable. The object of modern management of land should be to remove all hedgerow timber with as little delay as is consistent with securing to the owner the fair value of his trees. But all new plantings should be made upon portions of the land especially agreed upon and defined for that purpose, and which would naturally be arranged so as to afford shelter and protection to the farm, instead of, as now, obstruction to light, air, and mitriment. This is a most important point in all enclosed and timbered districts.

The next point of objection occurs in provision No. 5, by which the tenant is restricted from assigning or underletting the farm.

This opens a wide question, upon which some of our best managers of land have doubts. But a little consideration will show that the restriction is an injury, not an advantage, to the landlord; whilst it greatly lessens the value of the tenants' interest in the farm. That the tenant or his assigns should be restricted from subdividing the farm is most reasonable and proper, but where the landlord is protected against the deterioration of his property (as we shall show presently he may effectually be, by a slight addition to the form before us), into whose hands seever it may come, the restriction on assigning the farm can only tend to prevent the application of capital to the land.

Let us suppose a farm taken in moderate or or dinary condition; and the tonant to have expended in bringing it at once into a state of high cultivation so much of his capital that he is cramped and pinched for want of floating, ready money capital. He is a man of substance, for he has investedsunk, if you please—a large sum of money in his farm, in such acts of husbandry that, unless prevented from following out his plans of culture, he is certain to got back his money with a fair profit during the currency of his lease; but his substance is unavailable as the means of credit. His optlay has much increased "the annual renting value" of his farm, but he can't avail himself of that value to obtain a needful supply of ready money, for he can't pledge his lease. His substance cannot be made a security to his friend or his banker. An additional ten, fifteen, or twenty per cent. on his previous outlay might give a most profitable rounn upon his total expenditure; but he has no security to give for such addition. Like Tantalus, he starres in the midst of plenty; the profit, which is almost his, oludes his grasp, because his interest in the fam cannot be assigned.

Or, take another case, the farmer has sufficient captal for the usual routine of his business, but he has no emplus; if an opportunity of making an all the geous purchase of extra stock, of a cheap quantity.

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cattle provender, of straw, or of manure should offer, there can be no doubt of the advantages direct or indirect both the farmer and the farm would derive from the transaction; and, had he the power of assigning his lease, he might, in depositing it with his banker. give security of ten or twenty times the value of the accommodation he receives. Again, the farmer or his family desire to sell the leasehold interest in the farm; and the same offered in the market, unfettered by previous negotiation with the landlord for his acceptance of the new tonant, will attract the attention of farming capitalists. In short, leasehold interests in land must become marketable, in the same way that leasehold interests in house property are now marketable, before capital will be applied to agriculture to the extent that would be most profitable to the farmer and landowner, and advantageous to the community. The provision No. 7, seems to be effectual to guard the landlord against waste, into whose hands soever the land might come; and therefore the provision, No. 8, which is in fact a simple robbery of the creditors of an-insolvent tenant, should, upon the principle that the leasehold interest ought to be marketable, be dispensed with.

The provision for arbitration, contained in No. 12, requires the addition, "that the submission or agreement to refer the matters aforesaid to arbitration, may be made a rule of the Court of Queen's Bench, or other Court of Record, upon the application of either of the parties to this demise." If this provision be omitted, and one party should refuse to refer, the other has no means of enforcing the award, except by a suit in Chancery. The provision we have added gives a summary power to enforce it, under the statute 9 & 10 Wm. III., ch. 15. This should never be omitted.

MONOPOLIST PROPHECIES.

We have again and again had occasion to remark upon the utter hollowness of the monopolist landowners. They are not faithful to their own political creed. They have not, in most instances, the excuse of mere ignorance for the foolishnesses they have palmed upon their tenants upon the subject of Free Trade. Now, there is no one who has given vent to more direful predictions as to the ruin Free Trade would bring upon agriculture, and the danger of driving land out of cultivation, though the free importation of foreign grain, than that genuine monopolist, the Marquis of Salishury.

This marquis, although not amongst the least ignorant of his not very enlightened class, has a keen and, in a narrow point of view, an accurate regard to his own interest—that is, he knows how to turn a penny under a system of moderate farming, though he has no conception of the real enpacity of land for production, and he is too hard and feudal as a landlord to give an enterprising tenant that full possession of his farm and security of tenure, which are essential to profitable farming.

However, the Marquis of Salisbury is a living instance that Mr. Colden, usually so accurate, erred, when he said that the monopolist landocrats, by whom the industry of the nation has hitherto been trammelled, have not sense enough to enable them successfully to manage a chandler's shop; because the marquis is just fitted for that department. Had fortune and descent not made him a landed magnate, he would, unquestionably, have been eminent in the huckstering and chandlery line, for he has a quick perception of the prospect of an immediate return for a given outlay. Now, we find in the following paragraph from the Herts Mercury the most complete demonstration of the Marquisof Salisbury's own want of faith in his own monopoint prophecies. Let farmers remember, that the Marquis has been one who professed the most extreme apprehension, that with a Free Trade in corn, poor land must goout of cultivation, and moreover that the land referred to in the subjoined paragraph, which, now Free Trade is inevitable, he is bringing into cultivation, is not merely poor, but cold and stubborn land, difficult to cultivate, and they will hereafter know what faith to put in the pretended alarm of these protectionist landocrats:

"CLEARING OF LAND FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.—On Wodnesday last, Mr. Kimpton superintended an extensive sale of timber, at Hoddesdon, comprising 2,647 oak timber trees, and 6,667 oak saplings. The timber and saplings were standing in the following woods:—Minims Great Wood, near South Minms, Middlesex; Cloth Hall Wood and Springs, near Baldock; Lady Grove and Wood Hall Wood, near Hatfield; Box Wood, Wormley Wood, Cow Heath and Darmondsay, Westfield Grove and Spring, near Hoddesdon. We understand that the object of the noble owner, the Marquis of Saliabury, in disposing of this large quantity of timber, is to slaar the land, for agricultural purposes. We have heard that seven farms are to be created out of the land which will be thus cleared. This startedly

necessary to inquire whether the noble Marquess can be of opinion that Free Trade will depreciate the value of arable land, when he adopts these measures on the very eve of the downfull of 'Protection.'"—Horts Mercury.

In the same district, other landlords are clearing woodlands for the purpose of cultivation. This is a wise proceeding, and it strongly shows that they have no real apprehension from Free Trade.

INDIAN CORN BREAD.

We confess we have always regarded Indian corn as food for stock rather than for man, and we have therefore hailed its free introduction as the means of indirectly increasing the people's food. This it will do in an eminent degree; for it is said we shall ultimately get it at a very cheap rate, and the cheaper the more stock can we keep on our land, and thus reduce the price of wheat by the increased fertility of our own fields. But we learn that maize, or Indian corn meal, makes excellent bread, and that it is coming into extensive use as an article of human food. We are glad of it; and this we say as occupiers of land, especially if not exclusively adapted for the growth of wheat.

We believe no one worthy of the name of "a farmer" has any-fear of that competition which excites the sham horror of Mr. Miles and his scarcity-loving band in the House of Commons. We have been led to these remarks by a little tract we have received on the advantages of Indian corn as a cheap and nutritions article of food, by Dr. Bartlett, the Editor of the New York Albion, which gives ample directions for using maize in the various modes common in the United States; and we propose on a future occasion to give some extracts from it.

STATE OF TRADE AT LIVERPOOL.-The only point in connection with the corn trade of this port indicative of the opinion of dealers respecting Sir Robert Peel's measure is the growing indisposition to purchase cargoes of bonded wheat on speculation. This would seem to evince a fear for the ultimate fate of the bill now under discussion in the House of Commons, though, in the present state of the money market, it is rather difficult to judge accurately of the motives of those whose enterprises, in more healthy times, give so much animation and impetus to business. The prevailing malady no doubt depresses the energies of men in all departments of trade, and merely speculative designs are entertained with caution, or held in abeyance till affairs assume a more settled aspect. There has, throughout the past week, been an increased demand for foreign wheat for present uso, and buyers from the country have continued to make large purchases at this port for transmission to their respective districts. The purchases of Irish wheat have been so considerable as to cause an advance of price to the extent of threepence to fourpence per bushel. This strengthens the helief lately entertained, to which we alluded last week and the week before, of the low state of the stocks in the principal corn growing districts of the country. alluded last week to the increased demand for Indian corn, consequent on the Government order for the release of that article at the low duty pro _ Government_order posed under the new tariff. The orders for that description of grain last week were very extensive; floating or forthcoming cargoes being in great request, principally for Ire-land. The reputation of Indian corn is, in fact, rapidly increasing, and there is every prospect of this and many other descriptions of nutritious and wholesome food, bitherto almost unknown in this country, coming largely into consumption. Our American brethren, who are considerately anxious to relieve our wants, and at the same time roup legitimate advantage from our necessities, have recently sent over a cargo of red kidney beans, of which not only they, but, we believe, the French and Dutch, are in the habit of cooking substantial and highly nutritions messes. These beans are, when properly prepared, exceedingly palatable, and they can now be obtained at a very low price in many of the shops of this town. Our transatlantic friends must have conceived that we were really on the verge of funine, for some smart denizen of the States has transmitted to us a cargo of lupins-a bitter, unpalatable sort of pulse, of which we do not pretend to know the use or properties, and we believe the consignes of this novel adventure is equally unenlightened. We have not yet had any arrivals of buckwheat, though we know that orders have been transmitted to Hamburgh for a quantity to be sent over to this country forth-

with by steamer.—Liverpool Albion.

BIX BUSHELS OF SPEKCHES.—It appears that our member, Lord George Bentinck, during the 20 years he has occupied asseatin Parliament, for this borough, has been hiding his talents under a bushel. We had no idea his abilities extended beyond the necessary sharpness for making up a book for Newmarket. The Free Trade measures of Sir Robert Peel, however, appears uddenly to have developed them in an extraordinary degree, and his lordship may now be considered the leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons. That his constituents may be perfectly aware of his attainments, and the place they will in future occupy in the estimation of the country, as the returners to Parliament of so great a statesman, his lordship has furnished a corrected copy of his speech of like 27th of February to the Morning Post, which was published in that paper of the 23d instant, and to the dismay of the letter carriers of Lynn, no less than six bushels arrived by Tuesday morning's mail, directed, we presume by his lordship's orders, to the voters of the bo-

rough.—Correspondent of the Cambridge Independent.
PROSPECTS FROM THE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.—On Tuesday, the grass parks attached to the mansion-house of Barr, the seat of Colonel M'Dowall, Lookwinnool, were let by public roup, and the yearly rent obtained for the same amounted to no less than 1251, above the sum for which the same ground was let last year. Similar advances have taken place in various parts of the country.—Edinburgh Witness.

Place in various parts of the country.—Edinburgh Witness.

A Mr. Smith demanded compensation from the Cork and
Bandon Railway Company, for the injury which would be
done to the milk of his cous by reason of the noise, steam,
and smoke of the locomolives in their (rans).

THE DEBATE OF FRIDAY.
(From the Times.)

Friday night went far to redeem the intelerable dulners of the week's debate. The distinguished speakers set to work like men on their subjects, and laid for the pending measure a broad foundation of reason and facts which a House of Lords will find it easier to neglect than overthrow. Novelty, of course, there could be none. What more could be said? What new thing that would not be untrue, what true thing unless it no longer was new? There is, of course, but too much truth in the successme with which the late Foreign Secretary took care to spice his adhesion to the ministerial measure. All has been said times and times before. The League has said it all; Peel Limself has said it. "I think," said his lordship;

said it. "I think," said his lordship;
"That the Government have placed upon somewhat too may grounds the justification they have advanced for the change that has taken place in their conduct. They have useribed that change to their experience during the last three years. I think they would have as justly explained the cause if they had imputed it to the debates of the last four sessions. I think it is not merely their experience of their own tariff which has altered their opinions, but that the change may be attributed to the speeches of my hom, friend the member for Stockport, and other hon, gentlemen who have advocated, session after session, with an eloquence unanswerable, and with arguments which could not be disputed, there principles of freedom of commerce upon which the measures of Government are founded."

After a preparation which has really been years in progress, and which the crisis, if crisis it be, has only brought to a head, all that remains is the summing up of the argu-It must be rather tedious, after the splendid harangues of the counsel, the dexterous examination and cross-examination of witnesses, the elaborate arguments, the sudden surprises, the diverting episodes of a long and important trial, to listen to the very same things, collected, stuffed, and dried by the judge. Wonderful as his memory and skill may be, nothing but a caput mortuum of harren recapitulations can now be extracted from the cause. The harvest has been seemed by the League, the gleaning is all that is left for her Majesty's ministers, or, indeed, for the *tatesmen of either party. Such is the rightful meed of original spirit and genius; and such, on the other hand, the penalty of those who are slow to learn, and still slower to act on their growing convictions. They may at last master the whole argument, and, what is more, they may triumph over the hostility and suspicion that inevitably dog the path of the convert. They may seem not only to speak the truth, but also to believe it; yet all has been said before. The freshness of the thing is gone. The more the speaker proves his new system, the more he condemns his own long resistance. Others have discovered the new world, and deservedly given it their name. Peel and Graham are only the settlers who securely cross the well explored ocean, and com fortably squat on the now familiar shore.

One topic there was, however, which assumed a new and peculiar interest in Sir Robert Peel's hands, chiefly on account of the practical comments with which it is in his power to illustrate it. Sir R. Peel can not only enunciate principles of taxation, he has the power of following them up, and therefore every word he drops on that subject, whatever its

truth, cannot fail to be important.

The Premier's first feeling on the subject is to relieve the classes whose incomes are, as he expresses it, under 9s., 12s., 15s., or 50s. a week. He points out that the expenditure of these classes is almost entirely on articles which are heavily taxed. In the lowest rank of this census, the larger pert, a half, or two thirds of the pittance goes for bread. So large a place does the staff of life occupy in the labourer's budger, that if its price rises but a little, it swallows the whole of his earning. Sir Robert Peel, without committing himself to the opinion that the repeal of the Corn Laws will really be duce the price of bread, asks for the labourer and operative the chance of this result. What if bread should fall, he says, why should we he situte to give so great a boon to the poor man, at so small a cost, if any, to the rich?

"Well, then, supposing the effect of thickey is to cause come reduction in the price of wheat, purvict are ask ourselves this question; supposing that ruch is the celect, are you not thus materially adding to the comforts and to the enjoyments of millions of your fellow subjects? Let me assure you that this is by for the most important part of the que tion. It is impossible to dary sour know that I give you credit for it the read sympathy which you have for the interest and the condition of the working classes in this country. Yes, I don't agree at all with those who make imputations against your against your humanity; and I do believe that among the gentlemen of England there is sincere sympathy with the suffering of the poor, and much of an hop sit desire to make better the condition of the working classes. I would almost say that there is more than among any other class."

Nothing can be more honourable, or, we will add, more safe, than such a wish as a ruling motive of policy. A mere anxiety, however, to lighten the expenses and hardships of the poor may be misdirected, as Sir R. Peel himself takes care to intimate in this passage. As a statemann he is bound to give us a principle as well as a sentiment; and the principle which he does give, and adduces in behalf of his present measure, is quoted from Adam Smith, who says, a The first maxim with respect to taxation is, that every man contribute to the taxation of the State in proportion to the revenue which he enjoys under the protection of the State." Bir Robort then proceeds to express his opinion that we have been violating this maxim by pressing with under sevenue.

The principle, however, is one so impossible of express application that we very much question whether it is worth anything except as an occasional cheek. There are times when it becomes very manifest that taxation does directly or indirectly press upon the poor, if not by adding to their expenses, yet by curtailing their means. Such is undoubtedly tho case now. As the taxation of the country now stands, the poor are the sufferens. Causa latet, vis est notissima. A burden, a fotter, a blight, is on the condition of the poor. Adam Smith's maxim, therefore, becomes a startling truth—a bencon, a rule, which, intricate and impossible as its rigorous application may be, now at all events, testifies against the actual system of the day. The poor are the least protected, and their difficulties the greatest. Taxed or not taxed, they are by position the least able to better thomselves.

Nothing, however, can be more hazardous than to rest an argument on a principle of such difficult application. It will of course be said, and primaries with much plausibility, that the surest way of taxing all paries according to their revenue is to tax the articles of the most universal consumption. It will be argued that the most practical plau is to levy a tax on broad, and if it should happen that any payticular class will gain by the impost, we can equalise matters, and do in fact equalise matters, by charging them with some

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special burthens. It may also be said, with still greater plansibility, thet a tax on food must reach all classes with oportionate force, because the expenditure of the wealthy is, in fact, only an aggregation of less expenditures, the employer being the great paymenter of the employed.

Space will not permit us now to repeat the arguments by which this alleged system of fiscal equival not has often been confuted. We only wish to deprecate any attempt to apply this maxim as a ground either for direct or for universal taxation. Hir Robert Peel himself has saved us the necessity for saying anything as to its direct application. The Income-tax, which, as far as it goes, aims at carrying out the principle, he admits to be a severe tax on the classes expressly exempted from its direct force. As for universal taxation, what which aims to reach all classes with a sort of arithmetical fairness,—we believe that to be equally certain to disappoint itself. Ecce signum. The most univerand tax, that on bread, cannot be maintained, for it is found to press with double force on the labouring classes. It both directly increases their costs, and indirectly exhausts their means. A tax on food is a tax on labour, and therefore on production. It strikes at the very root of prosperity. Tax unproductive expenditure; tax luxurics, as far as they are Inxuries, within certain reasonable limits; but spare the very sinews and strength of the country. Do not tax industry itself.

"PROTECTION" PETITIONS.

(From the Carlisle Journal.)

We have this week the opportunity of presenting to our remiers a very "remarkable" petitjon.

In the House of Commons last week, a petition for "Protection to British Industry" was presented by Lord George Bentinck, purporting to be from 6 2000 persons engaged in the cultivation of land in the eastern division of Cumberland; and amongst those who had signed it Lord George asserted that," (with the exception of those engaged on one form, Cubby Hill?" it had received the signatures of "every one of the tenants of his right hon, friend, the Laird of Netherby Hall (Sir James Graham), praying the House to reject the measures of the Coverament." The accounts add that "the presentation of the petition created a conniderable sensation."

Well, when we consider that the eastern division of Cumberland contains apwards of 5000 electors—that the petition had been hawked from farm-stead to farm-stead to catch the important signature of each stable-boy-that every village school had contributed its quota of names - the wonder is, not that there were 3000, but that there were not 10,000 signatures. The result which the fact furnishes-supposing the 2000 were bond fide signatures-is, that not onetenth of the electors had signed the petition. But, when we show, as we shall do presently, that in innumerable instances the signatures were not band fide-that they were either forgeries, downright frauds upon the legislature, or had no existence at all-the after worthlessness of the petition as a representation of public opinion or public feeling must be manifest. Of course, Lord George Bentinck merely followed his bricf-stating only what he had been told by those who instructed him; but his instructor must have known the falsehood he was trying to play off upon the house and the country; and if Lord George be an honest man, he will denounce his betrayer to the world. Some time previous to the protection petition being sent off, we heard of the fraudulent way in which signatures had been attached to it; but we could not believe that any one who had the least value for his character, as a man of honesty and truth, would venture to instruct a Member of the House of Commons to proclaim a falsehood; and we therefore declined noticing what we had heard until the proofwas undoubted. That proof we have now before us, in the form of a petition to Parliament, signed by 114 of Sir James Graham's tenants, praying for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and denouncing the statement of Lord George Bentinck as an untruth!

The tenantry on the Netherby estate is probably one of the most intelligent bodies of agriculturists in the kingdom. and the indignation with which they read Lord George Bentinck's misrepresentation of their feelings and opinions may easily be conceived. To be held up to the world as selfish monopolists, caring only for their own interests, and as so ignorant as not to know that in freedom of trade is their only true protection, must have been galling beyond mea sure. A meeting was immediately held amongst a few of the most influential of them, and a petition drawn up which received the signatures of not less than 114 of the tenants in less than two days. There was not time to see the furmers in what are called the "out manors" of Sir James Graham's estate, or the number would have been swelled considerably. A few of the parties who have signed have attached to their names the amounts which they pay in rent. These amounts will speak for themselves as to the interest which the petitioners possess in the land, and show how little intelligent men fear competition with foreigners. The total amount of rental paid by the petitioners is, we believe, somewhere about 15,000%, per amoun-nearly three fourths of the whole rental of Sir James's estate.

. Here, then, is ample proof of the grossness of the frauds practised upon the house by what are called "protection" petitions; and we shall be much surprised if this exposure of the utter worthlessness of the East Cumberland petition in favour of "protection to native industry" do not create a "gensation" much more "considerable" than that created by Lord George Bentinck's most untruthful statement.

We subjoin a copy of this remarkable petition, with a few of the names attached to it; and it is proper we should add that neither Sir James Graham nor his steward had the slightest knowledge that such a petition was in agitation. The first intimation Sir James will have of its existence will

be its presentation to the house by Mr. Cobden, who was selected for this honour, not less as a compliment to him for his great services to the country as a real " farmer's friend," than to show that it was by no influence or dictation of their landfold that the farmers on "the Laird of Netherby Hall's" estate have thus come forward to vindicate their claim to be considered men of common sense and intel-

The petition was sent to Mr. Cobden on Thursday, and would probably be presented to the house last night. The following is a copy :-

"To the Honourable the Commons in Parliament

*The petition of the undersigned the tenants of the Right Honourable Sied, R. G. Graham, Baronet, M.P., on the estate of Netherby, in the County of Cumberland, "Sheweth... That your petitioners are a class of men not ac-

"Sheweth. That your petitioners are a class of men not accustomed to dabble in politics, but at the same time in this most important crisis cannot refrain from expressing their undivided opinion on the great measure now before your Honourable House: that they view the measure of the Government with the greatest satisfaction, but cannot refrain from saying that total and immediate repeal would still more heartly have met their approbation.

"We bey also to state to your Western and the control of

met their approbation.

"We beg also to state to your Honourable Honse, that the assertion made by Lord George Bentinek on the presentation of a petition from East Cumberland in favour of protection to agriculture, that the whole of the farmers on the Netherby estate, with one exception, had signed that petition, is erroneous and unfounded in fact.

"That some few of such farmers did sign the petition is true; but they now next having down and and their their their test."

"That some few of such farmers did sign the petition is true; but they now regret having done so, and admit that they were induced to sign it in an unguarded moment; whilst the names of others were attached to it without their knowledge or consent.

"That your petitioners look upon the great measure proposed by Government as wise, generous, and healing; and therefore pray your Honourable House to pass it into a law as speedily as consider.

possible,
"And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will aver may

and your perturbers span in a	ary nound, will	ever pray.
" William Reed, Moat Farm	,	Rent.
William Charles Coll 1 2 11 c		£600
William Graham, Cubbyhill, -fa		
John Corrie, Fauld Mill		145
Irvine Reny, Bri co-full	• • • •	240
Frances Stockbridge, Bush-on I	yne	350
John Wilkin, Randalinton		330
Archibald Thomson, Parcels-tos	VII	440
- Richard Carruthers, Hornick hij	1	350
Joseph Johnston, Stone House		200
Mary Buxter, Fauld		507
Jane Little, Grands' Mill		280
John Birrell, G. lerde' Farm	••••	****
John Fawkes, Snothas town		
Robert Gibbons, Messband	••••	
Herbert Wilkin, Bach Farm	• • • •	325
William Armstrong, Batinbush		730
	• • • •	202 1
John Fermison, Glinger Mill	• • • •	75
dolar Joneton, Milbert Brachend		160
Robt. Ferguson, Glinger Bank	John Blaylock	, Becksid o
J. Plenderleath, Rea Clough	Robert Wilson	, Beckside
W. Johnston, Shadwell Crook	John Benttie, 1	Croft
Ann Ridley, Sleidwell Crook	John Farish, I	Becklees
W. Graham, Crox s-yeat	Thos. Graham	. Beck Commo
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Win. Nichol, Dadliotownrigg Burbara Little, Gllnger Burn John Atkin, Beck Geo, Johnston, Bogburn Thos. Graham, Franks town Win. Beattie, Bogburn Churles Graham, Bogburn Win. MeVitie, Bogburn John Beattie, Beatt e's town George Graham, Hills town John Beattie, West side.

Lucy Wilson, Loaning Frances Graham, Brachead John Livingstone, Brachead Richard Byers, Brachead George Graham, Pattenstown John Robson, Pattenstown George Graham, Hills town
John Beattie, Mosa side
George Bell, Calwellpath
Simon Johnston, Nether Beck

Andrew Wurd, Longtown
Fractics Lumb, Longtown
Wm. Graham, Longtown
Wm. Hayton, Plump."

REVIEW.

The Quarterly Review, No. 154, Postscript. Londen: Murray.

We thought that we had done with Righy-"Time was when the brains were out, the man would die"-but that time is not the present, for this veteran defender of abuses has again put forward his exploded fallacies, and has once more expounded the policy of preferring the exigencies of party to the interests of a people. The purpose of the article is to urge the protectionists to keep something -to grasp the rags when the robe is torn from them-to retain even the diminished sliding scale of Peel's measure rather than allow total Free Trade. He does not any longer require that no alteration should be permitted. The visions of county meetings and agricultural petitions have fided from his view. Evon in his opinion, the doom of the existing Corn Laws is scaled; but he thinks that delay might afford opportunity for capitulation. He cannot bear to surrender at discretion, seeing that discretion, either moral or political, has never been the attribute either of himself or his party.

One of Righy's recommendations has been adopted. Delay is granted. Sir Robert Peel has interposed the Irish Coercion Bill between the stages of the Corn Bill; and the result must be a long and floreo sories of debates, with fresh incentives to violence, and fresh facts to be disputed brought over by every mail. We are not about to discuss the Irish Bill; the extermination of tenants and the assassination of landlords are subjects far too painful for us to quit our prescribed course to examine! but we must say that, whether viewed as a part of political expediency or national policy, the appearance of the Coercion Bill in the House of Commons at this crisis is a calamity deeply to be lamented.

recess Ministry. The country has survived greater calamitics, for the principles of the Ministerial measure would survive the Ministry. There are two great elements of hope presented to the Conservatives—the probability of war, and the formation of a Cabinet by Lord Stanley. There is about as much chance of the one as the other. No same man but as allording model and the formation of the man and the formation of the regarded as man matter of the first of the formation of the chance of the one as the other. No same man but as allording model and the first of Righy's text is the speedy dissolution of Sir R.

receives the possibility of either contingency. The plain truth is, that at home and abroad Free Trade is received as un fait accompli. The question ; fairly placed in issue between a protectionist party and a commercial nation—between the preserva-The tactics of the protectionists have tended to bring the question to this simple is the They demand a dissolution at a moment when all the monetary arrangements of the country would be thrown into perilous confusion by the suspension of the progress of the railway bills new before Parliament. They interpose delay, and new thing but delay, when all the great interests of the country demand an immediate settlement of a quetion in which not only their prosperity but their very existence is involved. Does Righy suppose that this unparalleled exhibition of utter reckless ness and undisguised selfishness is unnoticed and unknown? He has been too much accustomed to measure the moral tone of the country from the exhibitions of such patrons as a luxurious marque surrounded by French mistresses. We tell him that neither Hertford morals nor Castlerengh principles of policy are applicable to existing circumstances; and that he but lures to their doom those whom he invites to follow him in either the one or the other He seems to the existing public like a creature of the court of Nero, attempting to regulate the Government of Titus.

It is, however, gratifying to find that he is humiliated. The insane miser in the old picture is represented as satisfied with hoarding farthings, when his gold was consigned to the care of his legal guerdians. Rigby declares that he will be content with the beggarly scraps of protection which Peel baflung almost contemptuously from the agricultural budget to gratify a greedy and a yelping pack. "Keep up, at least, a show of Corn Laws," he say: " for if that question is settled, you know not what may be hidden behind it." Now, we very much question the policy or the prudence of hinting that there are profitable abuses and Inerative corruptions veiled by the Corn Laws. To a corrupt party that may be a valid reason for retaining them; but, to an uncorrupt people, it is a further incentive to remove them as soon as possible. Taking Rigi favourite and characteristic ground of palmy and selfish expediency, we are convinced that his recommendations would be far more ruinous to his party than injurious to the nation. He believes that "a vigorous demonstration of opinion in the Lords" would render the passage of the bill in the Commons "problematical." Perhaps so; but might there not be "a vigorous demonstration of opinion," outside the precincts of the palace of Westminster which would solve the problem very decisively?

Compound, Atlas of the Ancient, Middle, and Modern Ages. London: Hall and Gower.

Although this truly national work has not yet been issued to the public, sufficient progress has been made in its proparation to enable us to form some estimate of its importance, both historically and commorcially. We could wish that a less dubious name than the "Compound Atlas" had be a given to the work; it should have been called the Historical and Comparative Atlas, for its distinctive merit is to set before the student at one view the ancient, the medieval, and the modern names of countries and places. It has the further merit of setting forth more clearly than is usual in ordinary maps the natural features and geographical characteristics of the countries delineated,-particularly the course of mountain ranges, the fluvial system as determined by declivities, and the arrangement of islands on the coast.

Students of history have long felt the want of such a work. The changes of name frequently compel them to consult several Atlases in succession before they can identify the localities to which they desire to refer; and there must, consequently, lie a great saving of time when they are enabled to effect this identification at a single glance. But there is a still more important advantage anising from a comparative Atlas: the changes of name are very often our best, and not unfrequently, our only clue, in tracing the migrations and the conquests of races, which have left few written memorials of their vicissitudes. In the Coltic, the Tentonic, and the Selavonic history, philology applied to names must over be a most important element in determining the course of their migrations, and the extent of their conquests. Thus the first England was in the the peninsula of Jutland, and the first France in the circle of Saxony.

We may also notice the importance of such all Atlas in tracing the progress of maritime and inland discovery. There are many interesting and perploxing problems connected with chims to priority

lication J. Gag

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We al bisho their Censi doub moli landmarks by which we are to estimate the general progress of humanity and of human knowledge.

It is only within the last few years that the importance of medieval history has been appreciated. In the last century, the middle ages were regarded as a long period of intellectual degradation, during which the course of civilisation was retrograde, and the triumph of barbarism all but complete. We have learned a better lesson: we have discovered that the civilisation of the old world had become effete, and that it sunk into decay from sheer decrepitude, but that there was growing by the side of this expiring system new and vigorous elements of civilisation, which, like the infant Hercules, won signal triumphs while yet in the cradle; and heralded the glorious maturity, of which we have not yet seen the full and complete development. By smoothing the path for the students of this important epoch in the annals of our race, the proprietors of the Comparative Atlas will have opened to historical students, " Fresh fields and pastures new,"

where they may meet incalculable sources of amusoment and instruction.

To a commercial nation, such an Atlas is of inestimable importance. . It is a fact that has attracted too little notice, that hardly any of the caravan routes of antiquity has ever been wholly abandoned, and that the overland commerce of Central Asia traverses the same tracks that were used in the days of the Phomicians and Babylonians. No one can read the twenty-seventh chapter of Ezekiel without being surprised to find in how many instances the merchants of Tyre bartered in the very marts which are now opened to the enter-prize of the merchants of London. Steam has brought us back to the Red Sea, and rolled back the revolutions effected by the discoveries of Pasco di Gama. Suez has recovered the importance which it possessed as Arsinoe; and it is not unlikely that the ancient glories of Ezion Geber and Berenice may be revived at Akaba and Cosseir.

So far as we have been able to examine these maps, we must pronounce them most creditable specimens of the engraver's skill. The pains taken to secure cleanness and accuracy in the mechanical execution deserve not less commendation than the labour and research which has been bestowed on the identification of ancient names with modern We need not add a word more; such a work must command success, so long as commerce is valued and history appreciated.

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, April 4, 1846.

The calculations of the probable result of a division on the ministerial measures in the Mouse of Lords are, as yet, very vague, in consequence of the great number of waverers, who have not yet declared to which side they will give their adhesion. Among those who "halt between two opinious," we are informed that a considerable number of the bishops may be ranked; and we are further told that their hesitation has exposed them to considerable censure. We do not join those who attribute the doubts of the right reverend prelates to unworthy molives. It is true, that in the last century, when the Duke of Newstatie had the management of

Little Control

ministerial patromage, it used to be said of a doubting ecclesiastic-

Botween his two masters, what course can be trace, On one side his God—on the other his Grace."

But it must be confessed that those in whose hands episcopal appointments have been vested during the last 30 years, have been guided in their choice more by considerations of public benefit than of party exigency, and that there was never a period in our history when the right roverend bench could exhibit such a strength of moral character, talent, and learning, as it displays at the present moment. We know not the causes of the doubts that are said to haunt the minds of many prelates, but we do know that the precepts and example of their Blessed Master inculcate the feeding of the hungry as the first of Christian practical duties, and that the most severe denunciations in the inspired volume are pronounced against those who create artificial famine to gratify their own rapa-

The established church is based on law; but law derives its validity from public opinion. Tho alliance of the clerical body in France with an oppressive aristocracy precipitated the French Revolution, and produced that hostility to Christianity, the effects of which have not disappeared from the minds of the present generation. The real strength of a hierarchy is in the hearts and affections of the people. A church is not a fortress, to be covered by bayenets and protected by artillery. It must appeal to the feelings, not to the fears of the nation; and any clerical member of the establishment who gives support to the Corn Laws, is an enemy to religion and a traitor to his order.

We cannot believe that any such will be found on the episcopal bench. We cannot be persuaded that any of our venerable prelates will be callous to the precepts of sacred, and the warnings of profane history. They have not one duty as barons, and another as bishops. Their secular rank is subordinate to their spiritual functions, and they should therefore, in such a case as is now offered to their consideration, decide as pastors, and not as

Medieval history relates many anecdotes of bishops who preferred their polities to their pastoral care. One of them, who headed an army in an unjust attack upon his neighbours, declared he made war as a prince, not as a bishop; upon which it was shrewdly asked, "when Satan claims the prince, what will become of the bishop?" We live in different times; the continuance of the church must mainly depend on the conduct of its ministers; the establishment must rest upon its character; and if those by whom it is directed mistake its purpose and pervert its object, they incur for the institution to which they belong the penalty denounced against the school of talse prophets, and bright exceptions will not atone for general delinquency, "Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should save but their own souls by their righteousness."

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Mar.23	Mon. Mar.30	Tuns. Mar.31	Wko. April 1	Tuon, April 2	Far. April 3
Bank Stook 3 per Ct. Red. Ann. 3 per Ct. Con. Aun. 5 per Ct. Ited. Ann. Long. An. Ex. 1860 Cons. for Acet Exc. Bills, pnn. Ind. Bds, un. 1000/. Venezucia 2 per Ct. Do. deferred Bolgian 44 per Ct. Bruzilian 5 per Ct.	2101 Shat. 961 Shut. 101 964 27-50	shut. 961 shut. 961 30 27 28 pm. 131 983	яћиі. 964 ≋hut. 107-16 96∓ 27-10 22	slint. 001 9b at. 107 968 30-28 30-28	#hut. 901 #hut. 961 25.20 30 431 13	яћит. 967 яћит.
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MARKETS.

OORN MARKET.

Monday, March 30.—Up to Saturday night the arrivals of every kind of grain into this port were very moderate. Utile morning a good show of Wheat samples, both by land-carriage

and constants, is made on the Posex, Kent, and Suffolk stands; and constants, is made on the Essex, Kent, and Suffolk stands; and fair quantities of Barby and Onts have also come to hand since staturday. In the morning, last Monday's prices were asked for English Wheat, but millers hid very cantionsly, and the market closed is to se, cheaper than this day week. Bonded Wheat remains the same as last week, without much inquiry. Burley is a heavy sale, and last Monday's rates are with difficulty obtained; the heaviest descriptions of Chevalier meet a readier sale. The chief part of the show jet Oats consists of English samples, which continue to come, as they have done all this season, very light; is, more is asked than on Monday hast, and dd: is obtained, but the advance checks business, and the trade is flat. Heans are in fair supply, and fine qualities rather dearer. No alteration in Peas. 8. II, Lucas.

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Galway					21
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Pons, White					
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Dantzig					
Australian, por sack of 280	tba				
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Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Mar. 23 to Mar. 23, 1816, both days inclusive. Wheat. | Burley. | Onto. | Bouns. | Peas

1590 27: 1 209 / 653 Scotch 6595 Foreign..... Flour, 1919 sacks; 1300 barrels.

Flour, 1919 sacks; 1900 barrels.

Furray, Apart. 3. Only a moderate quantity of Wheat, Barley, and Oats has come to band since Monday; most of the Essex Wheat was sold on that day; but there are still some samples exhibited on the Kentish stands, which factors find it difficult to sell, though offered on Monday's terms. There is so little business passing in Barley, Beans, and Peas, that no alteration in any of them can be noticed. The cupply of Oats consists chiefly of English; the market is decidedly more heavy have been exceedingly cautions; the prices of Oats have an dergone no alteration this work. The inquiry noticed on Monday for Indian Corn does not continue with much briskniess, The duties remain the same as last week.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 30th of March to the 3rd of April, both inclusive

English . 6970 6510 Irish. Barley 75(4) Oats Flour, 5000 anoka.

123 39a, 6d,

Apprepate Average of the Six Weeks. Whoat, 54s. 10d.; Barley29s. 8d.; Oats, 21s. 9d.; Rye, 33s. 7d.; Bouns, 34s. 9d.;
Poss, 34s. 1d.

Pons, 519, 1d.

Duty. Wheat, 18s. 0d.; Barley, 0s. 0d.; Oats, 0s. 0d.; Ryo
9s. 6d.; Boans, 8s. 0d.; Pons, 8s. 0d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Mar. 5, 1816.

Wheat. Barley. Oats. Ryo. Boans. Pons. Gwis. CWIR. 114076 In London, 442560 17200 61102 ... 6111 8462 Unit. King, 1138050 82010 96983 ... 13413 8127 8:17:155

MEAT MARKET. Trade upon the whole rather declining, except for a chosen lamb or calf.

THE LORDS' COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL BURDENS .- WO hear that the committee on special burdens have alighted on curious information; and some of those who at last consented to the inquiry, which they had so long and so astutely resisted, begin to repent of their rashness. Perhaps the disclosures may have the effect of justifying some more con-

versions to the new pollay.—Speciator.

If fresh brewer's grains be put down in handfuls here and there about the borders on mild nights these heave will be govered with slugs, which can be readily destroyed by a dusting of powder, quick lime, or salt.

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DEANE'S TWO HOLE BLACK PENS were among DEANE'S TWO HOLE BLACK PENS were among the first brought out, and have maintained their procuninence ever since. Besides being used by the Merchauts and Bankers of London, together with the gentlement of the Stock Extension, those Pous are also patronized by Her Majesty's Judices, and by a large number of the Clergy. Denne's Two hole Black Pens are especially adapted for continuous writing, their clasticity affording an agreeable case, and their identify the same character of writing for a long period together. Steel Pen and Cutlery Department of Denne's Watchouse, Show Rooms, and Manufactories, opening to the Monument, 46, King William Street, London Bridge.

JUNUITY IN SHAVING.

JOHN GOSNELL, and CO.'S AMBROSIAL SHAVING
CREAM Patronised by Prince Albert. This inestimable Gream possesses all the good qualities of the Firest Naples Soap, without Caedisagrees all the good qualities of the Firest Naples Soap, without Caedisagrees able smell inseparable from that article in a genuine state. It is of a white pearly silvery appearance, produces a creamy lather, which will not dry on the face, and emits in use the He latiful flavour or the almond.

In Pots, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., &c
Perfumers to her Majesty, 12, Three King court, Lombard street, London Manufacturers of Combs and Brushes of the best quality, and on the most approved principles.

LYENDERS, STOVES and EUDING.

Approved principles.

PENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS, — The largest assortment of Stovet and Fenders, as well as General Ironmongery, in the world, is now on sale at WILLIAM 8. BURTON'S that RIPPON and BURTON'S extensive warehouses. Bright steel fenders, to 4 feet, from 30s each, ditto, ditto, with orngin ornaments, from 60s, rich bronzed seroll do, with steel bar, 10s, 6d.; fron fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; 4 feet, 6s; ditto bronzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, 9s; deet, 14s, wrought from kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d; 4 feet, 6s; bright rigister stoves, with bronzed ornaments, and two sets of bars, from 2s; ditto, ditto, with ornolu cramments, from 2; black finding room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s, 3 feet, 2s, bed room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s, 3 feet, 2s, bed room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s, 3 feet, 5s, bed room register stoves, 2 feet, 16s, 3 feet, 5s, bed room register stoves, 1 feet, 6s, 4 feet, 6s, a feet feet, 3 feet, 16s, 3 feet, 2s. The new economical thermio stove, with fender and radiating hearth-plate, from 48s; fire froms for chambers to 9d per set, bandsome do, with cut heads, 6s 6d; newest puttern, with cleant bronzed heads, 11s, A variety of the foors, with oenolu and richly cut heads, at propertionate prices. Any article in the furnishing frommongery, 30 per cens under any other house. The money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed entalogues, with engravings, sent (per past free.

WILLIAM 8, BURTON'S (atte RUPON and BURTON'S stock of greent furnishing frommongery is Bierally the largest in the world, and as no language can be employed to give a correct blea of its variety and extent, purchasers are invited to rall and inspect it.—35, Oxford-street (corner of Newman street). Exhablished in Wells-street, 1820.

general durnishing frommongery is florally the largest in the world, and as no language can be employed to give a correct blea of its variety and extent, purchasers are invited to gall and inspect it.—32, Oxford-street (corner of Newman street) Exhabilated in Wells-street, 1820.

EVERY MAN HIS OWN LANDLORD

SECOND BRITISH BUILDING AND INVEST.

MENT COMPANY. Enrolled.

Established on Macarthur's simplified and improved Plan.

Monthly Subscription, 182 per Share.

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Offloe, 3, 1vy Jame, 8t. Paul's, London.

Hours, 19 till 1.

Commenced in March, 1846.

TRUTTE.

William Farmer, 2b, Charlotte-terrace, Barnsbury-road, Islington.

James Staley, Tibberton square, Stington.

Thomas Shoppard, 3, Gainsford place, Burnsbury-road.

All, letters should be directed to The Steeond British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the three prepared and avanced about \$10,000 its Shareholders, issued 280 Shares, and advanced about \$10,000 its Shareholders, issued 280 Shares, and advanced about \$10,000 its Shareholders, issued 280 Shares, and advanced about \$10,000 its Shareholders, issued 280 Shares, and advanced about \$10,000 its Shareholders for the purchase of property. Such success is unprecedented in the names of Building Societies.

At a Public Secting, at which upwards of 100 persons were prejent, seld at the London Mechanics Institution, on Tressley, 17th Feb., 18th, Mr. W. Parmer, in the chair, the Stlowing Resolutions were carried unanimously; Moved by Mr. Brai, seconded by Mr. Resolutions are control unanimously; Moved by Mr. Brai, seconded by Mr. Rosaley, 17th Feb., 18th, Mr. W. Parmer, in the chair, the Stlowing Resolutions were carried unanimously; Moved by Mr. Brai, seconded by Mr. Atomics and institution, on Tressley, 17th Feb., 18th, Mr. W. Parmer, in the chair, the Stlowing Resolutions were carried unanimously; Moved by Mr. Brai, seconded by Mr. Atomics and the succession with security to line whole body of members.

Moved by Mr. Blace and the su

Obeliak;
Iburth Priday, at the Temperance Hall, Henry-street, Portland Town;
From 7 to 8 in the extening.
All Latters should be directed to the Second British Building and Investment Company, 8, 17y-lane, 8t. Paul's, London, propaid, and if an answer is required, a stamp for the reply must be enclosed.

UMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD
As real goodiness is not inciped by praise, nor injured by rea
the BLACK TRA, at 4a, 4d, per ib, sold by DAKIN and COAPAN,
its popularity selely to its intrinsic excellence.
Orders from the country for warded Carriage Frea.

M FRCANTILE LIFE.—It has been remarked by intending the design of the ligent foreigners that cases of Buldness greatly provall in this case, and as a case, that the unwearded application to more antic parallel to this result. Be this as it may, nowhere is a project and restorative preparation more needed, and probably there is a second pean people to whom artificial applicances have been so an instant pean people to whom artificial applicances have been so an instant appearance in the numerous cases of recovery of the late after having failer of a partial buldness, are truly astendishing. The testinonials of the effect of partial buldness, are truly astendishing. The testinonials of the effect of DIDICIONE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA of the effect of the power and struct beyond all doubt or early; as ed. a. and in per bottle. No other prices are genuine.—Oldridge's listin, I, Wellington street, the second house from the Strand.

BELLING OFF CARPETS.

JUCK, KENT, and CUMMING, beg to inform the Nobility and Gentry, as well as their friends and the public that the have removed their Business from Carpenter's Hall, London Wall, to the long ostablished Warehouse, 4, REGENT-STREET, WATERLIO PLANS opposite Howell and James's, and to 59, HATTON GARDEN, HOLDOR, where they trust that Patronage will be continued which they have they trust that Patronage will be continued which they have of BRUSSELS, RIDDERMINSTER, and other Carpeting, to be said at Great Reduction. In addition to Carpeting, they have at their West has Establishment, a large Stock of Chintzes, Damaska, Taboureta, ac. 22, wall worthy of attention. A splendid Carpet, of British manufacture, 30-1by 18, with a centre and border, at less than cost price.

OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the COLO. NIDA. Parties leaving England will find it to their advanage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.N. 165. Penchurch-sirred, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hoslery, Gauze-Mariso Under Shirts, AC., adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the vorage, is a cpt ready for immediate use, and at prices for more reasonable that usually charged for the same articles.

Heddling, Military Accountements, Cabin and Camp Pumiture of every description. Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

TENDERS AND FURNISHING IRONMONGERY.

—RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK, 334, Struad, opposite Sources, House, have just added to their hitherto immense stock of Fenders may quite new designs of most elaborate finish, surpassing in elegance of struay before offered. Bronzed serval and atcel har fenders from 182, jornamental from ditto from 18. 6d. Also the best selected stock of formising from monecy in London, at prices 30 per cent, under other house. The money peturned for any article not approved of. Their book of prices, containing upwards of 20 jongravings, gratis, or post free. Established 1811.

THE POCKET APERITIVE VASE releases persons from the odious and injurious practice of swallowing purgatives, by enabling them at any time to produce an execution of the lowes, by means simply of a little water. This very agreeable substitute for physic, having been constructed by Dr. Scott for the conventonce of hardles is noticed, is certain of being commodicing to every find claim, and cannot be not strongly recommended to families in general, especially to those who are subject to costiveness, bile. Ac. To be produced of Mr. Llewellyn, surgeon, 3-9, Strand, the third house from Exeter Hull, where may also be obtained the SONHERS for deafness, by which any effect may be produced so as to ensure a complete restoration of hearing. Description sent free on receipt of two post stamps

F. I) F E A T II E R S.—

Mixed, per lb. - 1s. 0d. | Best Foreign Grey Goose, 1s. 4d. | Best Irish White Goos, 2s. 4d. |

Poreign ditto - 1s. 4d. | Best Irish White Goos, 2s. 4d. |

Foreign ditto - 1s. 4d. | Best Irish White Goos, 2s. 4d. |

HEAL and 80N, 196 (opposite the Chapel), Tottenhom Court Road.

CTTOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION 1 OOPTAGE of the SHOULTHEAS RIGUON MACTION

1. of the CHEST are entirely prevented, and gothly and effectually romoved in Youth and Lodles and Gouthenen, by the occasional use of the Improved Elastic Chest Expander, which is light, simple easily employed, ourwardly or invisibly, without any uncomfortable restraint, or impediages to exercise. Seat per post, by Mr. A. Bisyon, Role Manufacturer and Proprietor, 49, Tavistock street, Covent Garden, London, or full particular on receiving a postage stamp.

DICHLY CUT GLASS CHANDELIERS in great to variety of Elevant and Original Designs, from £10 upwards; a very choice stock of richly cut glass single-light lustres, from 17s, per pair opwards; double-light girandoles, from £0 per pair, upwards pinnoforie and table lights; engraved and elegantly-cut decauters, wine glasses, tumbers, goblets, and every description of Table Glass of the newest and relagingteness, at equally reasonable prices. Also, a very extensive and superforstock of Bohemian, French, and Venetian Glass, just imported. At £334 C. OSLER'S London Watchouse, 44, Oxford-street, near Berners-street Manufactory, Broad-street, Birmingham. Established, 1807. Wholesale and export orders executed on the lowest terms

OWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE.

A White Powder for the Teeth,
compounded of the Choicest and most Recherche Ingredients of the
Omental Herbal; the leading regulsites of elequitoes and officery being
present in the highest possible degree. It bestows on the teeth a peal like
whiteness and frees them from Lartar; imparts to the guman healthy faraness, and to the breath a grateful sweetness and perfunc. Price 2: 84.

per hov.
CAUTION.—To protect the public from Fraud, the Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have directed the Proprietor's Name and Address to beengaved on the Government Stamp thres—
"A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, Hatten Garden,"
Which is affixed on each box.
Sold by them and hydrhemists and Perfumers.
All other Odontos are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!

TAKE NOTICE.—The Establishment of E. MOSES and SONS will not be opened for business on Saturday Brealing, April 11, 1016.

THE CITY.

THE STIR IN THE CI

A DIALOGUE.

Two gentlemen met in the City, they say,
And stood and convers'd in the following way:—

Mr. A.

How d'ye do, Mr. B.? how d'ye do? how d'ye do?
And how's your good lady, and little ones too?
And now that we've met, can you state, my dear sir,
Why the City appears in such bustle and stir?

All the world scena abrund, by the crowds that we view,
And I cannot imagine the reason—can you?

Mr. B.

Imagine the reason! Decleddy so?
The cause is B. MOSES and RON—don't you know?
These tailors, and hatters, and goodness knows what,

The cutties is it MASSES and goodness knows what. These tailors, and hutters, and goodness knows what. Have open'd their spacious new house—have they not? I ve seen this new Mart; and, fudeed, Mr. A., I never beheld such a spicually display. When I think of the building's magnificent rango. I cannot but term it "the second Exchange."

"Tis this that is filling the City with people—You see how they're flocking near Aldgale Church steeple.

Mr. A.
Good day, Mr. B., you're excited me so,
That I'll go there myself to belied this depot
And when I have noticed what thus has been done,
Ill order a suit of E. MONES and SON.
For I've tried many fullors, and none can I find
So much to my profit—so much to my mind.

A new work. entitled "Habilment Hall," with an direction of forwarded pest the self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded pest the Mourning to any amount can be had at five minutes notice, at the typ prices:

Mon's Suits, dross coat, yest, and trousers

Mon's Suits, dress coat, Yest, and trousers

Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers

Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers

Informatic. Any article purchased or ordered, if not approved the provided of the money returned.

OBERVE R. MOSES and SON, Tallors, Wholessle and Response Outfitters, and Gonerni Warshousemen, 184, Mineries, and the Church.

Cavrier. B. Moses and box are obliged to grant imposition, having learned that the entire and the connected with them, or it's the same observations many instances, and for only long area of the connected with them, or it's the same observations with any other establishment in or out of London; on with any other establishment in or out of London; one continue Cheng Clothing should (to prove the continue of

Printed at the Whitestian Printing Control of Whitestian, in the Control of Whitestian, in the Control of Whitestian, in the Control of Whitestian of Whites



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

All Subscribers of Al and upwards to the LEAGUE FUND will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

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

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

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

> By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

WHY COMPROMISE IS IMPOSSIBLE.

This week exactly completes the seventh year of that portion of our movement which has been conducted by the agency of the periodical press. On the 16th of April, 1839, appeared the first number of the Anti-Corn-Law Circular—subsequently enlarged into the Anti-Bread-Tax Circular, and since continued in this journal.

The present is scarcely the fittest season for taking a leisurely and comprehensive retrospect of the labours, sacrifices, and successes, that have crowded this eventful period. With our great work still unfinished—still exposed to delay, obstruction, and (as regards immediate results) to the risks of political accident—we cannot afford to take our eyes off the present, and that just of the future which lies nearest to us. In alluding, on the suggestion of this interesting anniversary, to the past history of our question, our purpose is simply to enforce a lesson of present and practical application, the need of which is, we fear, even yet not altogether

Throughout the entire term of the existence and operations of the Anti-Corn-Law League, we have steadily and undeviatingly pursued one, and only one object—the TOTAL abolition of that monopoly, our antagonism to which is indicated in the style and title of our organisation. For this have we, the Free Traders of the United Kingdom, banded ourselves with a compact unanimity, and laboured with a continuity of exertion, and a zeal and pro digality of sacrifice, unexampled in the history of popular movements. To this we are irrevocably committed. With nothing short of this can we for an instant, be satisfied. Anything and everything short of this is, to us, as nothing. Until this be realised, in an Act of Parliament, we are as we ere with our work all to do.

This totality of our demand is no mere piece of domatism or self-willedness on the part of those the country recognises as the leaders of the There is nothing arbitrary or wilful in it. thoults from the very nature of the intellectual nd moral elements that constitute the League's n of those diverse, yet harmonious, principles in; which have combined in this movement the amount of the intelligence and moral feeland one common cause. This will immewe after the discriminate the

ference to the ruling impulses by which they are severally actuated. These are mainly two. There are the Free Traders who regard the question from what may be called the commercial and politifosconomical point of view-and there are Tree Traders to whom it is chiefly interesting as a moral and religious question. There are those who seek the total abolition of the Corn Law, as logically implying and practically necessitating the extinction of the whole of the protective and restrictive system—and there are those with whom it is an affair of conscience and religion to protest against a tax on food, as intrinsically oppressive and iniquitous. There are those who intelligently deprecate, as fraught with national loss and injury, every violation of the common-senso rule of commercial interchange, "Buy in the cheapest market, and sell in the dearest"-and there are those whose moral and religious sense is outraged by the impiety of wilfully intercepting heaven's answer to man's prayer for daily bread. Neither of these two points of view, we need sorreely suy, excludes the other. Our best Free Traders take both -with an habitual preference, however, of that which most accords with the profession, the circumstances, the range of experience and observation, the cast of mind of the individual. The two classes we have indicated run very much into one another. The commercial statesman, whose thoughts dwell mostly on the impolicy of fettering trade, is likewise indignant at the cruel injustice of taxing the poor man's ways and means of life; and the religious philanthropist, whose conscience is revolted by the injustice, is likewise cognisant of the impolicy. On the whole, however, the distinction is sufficiently exact. One or the other of these two principles of thought and action—the commercial and economical, or the moral and religious—is the main actuating impulse of every individual member of our great Free Trade confederacy.

Now, each of these two elements of our movement implies the totality of Corn Law repeal. The smallest remnant of the landlord monopoly violates the sound commercial principle of free exchanges, and affords a plea for a thousand other and minor violations of that principle;—a particle of unrepealed bread-tax offends the moral instinct which domands the unrestricted flow of heaven's bounties to man. Let the Corn Law be but partially repealed; let any sort of compromise be huddled up between truth and falsehood, right and wrong; and the claims of principle remain unsatisfied—the force of a movement that represents and embodics a principle remains unabated. If the Longue's work is not to be done now, the League goes on, with unspent powers, until it is done. And this, not because Mr. Cobden, or Mr. Bright, or the League Council, says that so it shall be. So it MUST be, in the nature of things. There is no help for it. It lies not in the power of man to deal with the force of opinion and conscience that the Leagne embodies on any other than its own terms.

We commend all this to the especial consideration of those extremely imprudent persons, who, if one may credit the rumours floating about in the atmosphere of the clubs and the lebbies—are still amusing themselves with the fancy that it is not absolutely impossible to "adjust," as they call it, the question now before the country, on the basis of a "fixed duty." Even could one conceive of the possibility of a fixed duty on corn getting temporary possession of the statute book, it would merely leave matters as they stand. Nothing would be "adjusted," excopt the terms and objects of a new agitation as vigorous, as determined, and as certainly successful, as that which has already beaten down two sliding and win defeat and extinction of the power that

thus linked itself with a fixed absurdity and a fixed iniquity. The commercial and economical intelligence of the country, and the moral and religious sentiment of the country-those two irresistible forces of which the League and its agitation are the expression, would still remain in unabated antagonism to landlordism and landlord law.

Whoover they may be who think of trying this monstrous experiment on the public patience, and on the power of landlordism and aristogracy to crush the spirit of the people, we are sure, at all events, they will find neither support nor sympathy at the hands of the farmers. The farmers want, above all things and before all things, a settlement; and there is not a farmer in Great Britain, whother of protectionist or of Free Trade principles, who will over dream of this being a settlement. Tho cheat will be too transparent. The farmers have had more than a "three years' experience" of the value of landlord promises of "settlement;" and they are also experimentally acquainted with the value of League promises. They know who they are that have always deceived them in the matter of Parliamentary prices and artificial Corn Laws; and they know who they are that have never con ceived them. From the hour that protection taken any other shape than that of the "permanent sliding scale of 1812," and the "fifty-six shillings," from that hour will the farmers of Great Britain have but one wish and prayer—the total and inpacdiate abolition of the last remnant of a system which to them has been systematic delusion, betrayal, and disaster.

Nor will the Government have anything to say to such an attempt at fulsifying the great principles. with which they have so manfully identified themselves. On this point we are quite easy. We do not feel it necessary to recur to those specific objections which the leading members of the present Cabinet—Sir Robert Peel especially — have so strongly and steadily urged, in past years, against that particular form of food tax, known as "fixed duty." We are contented to rest on their carnest adoption, and vigorous and enlightened inculcation of sound and just principles that include the condemnation of every form of a food tax. Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham perfectly understand the principle of our movement, and are thoroughly and heartily at one with it. Their "object" is, "to remove restrictions upon commerce "-and they will not fetter commerce with a new restriction; " to equalise the burdens of taxation"-and they will not charge the poor man with a new burden that has all the cruel oppressiveness of a poll tax; "to amoliorate the condition of those who labour" and they will not deteriorate the condition of those who labour, by laying an impost on food, which, to the whole extent of its operation in raising prices, operates likewise to the lewering of wages, and the increase of mortality and crime. " Why," asked the Home Secretary, the very last time the Corn Law was debated, " should the con sumer and the receiver of wayes be requested to pay for their daily bread A LARGER PRICE THAN, IF THE TRADE WERE FREE, THEY WOULD HAVE TO PAY?"and he will not stultify himself by consenting that the consumer and the receiver of wages shall pay this surplusage of price. "Believe with me," says the Premier. "THE FIRST FOUNDATION OF SOCIAL IM-PROVEMENT IS ABUNDANCE OF FOOD;" and he will not consent to narrow, loosen, and weaken that first foundation of social improvement, by artificially restricting the range from which the national supplies of food are drawn. He will not add another peculiar burden" to those already weighling to heavily on the poor ten shillings a week labourer, whose physical and economical condition he liss taken so much pains to master, and with whose

rights and interests he has shown so warm-hearted and generous a sympathy. Bir Robert Poel will not legislate, even on the small scale of a "low fixed duty," for the scarcity and dearth of the poor man's food, now that he is fresh from "the experience of the last three years and the three preceding years," and from that lesson "which we ought never to forget, as to the effect produced on the social conduction, the habits of LIFE, AND THE HAPPINESS OF THE WORKING CLARKER, comparing the years of abundance with those of scarcity." Nor will be be willing to deprive himself of any portion of the satisfaction he so proudly and hopefully anticipates from "most ma-TERIALLY ADDING TO THE COMPORTS AND ENJOY-MENT OF MILLIONS-of "those millions, whether manufacturing or agricultural labourers, who carn their subsistence by the sweat of their brow." On this head we have not the shadow of a misgiving.

If there really are men mad enough to take the field, in the name of a fixed bread tax, against Ministers who have thus identified themselves and their policy with the rights and interests of millions, we have only to say, the strait-waistcoat is ready. Nover was fever of the brain assuaged by prompter and more efficacious remedies than those which the country will apply to the hallucinations of the fixed-duty protectionists.

THE RAGGED REGIMENT.

If the elements of time were not, just now, of vital and essential moment to all the great national interests awaiting the settlement of the Free Trade question; if months, weeks, days even, of uncertainty and unsettlement had not an appreciable influence on the employment, the wages, and the daily comforts of tens and hundreds of thousands of the people; if this commercial and industrial country could afford to have the business of production and exchange kept at a stand-still, to gratify the selfish vanity or wrath of "the wretched remnant of an expiring faction," we should take it easily, and should have nothing but congratulations to offer to our readers at this holiday season. We should be contented to look at the men who now lead the protectionist party, and read, in their very names, the pleasantest auguries of the certain and the near doom of the protectionist cause. A mere glaped at the fallen fortunes of the faction which rejoices in the chieftainship of a Bentinck and a Borthwick, were enough to reassure the con-Aldence which, in some of the more eager of us, may have been damped by a vexing and unexpreted delay, and to satisfy the country that all is and will be well.

A come-down indeed! From the "good old English gentleman," whose substantial individual worth, and long-ostablished political influence, gave a sort of respectability to an exploded principle and a vanquished party-to the sporting lord, and the unplaced political adventurer. From Mr. MILES, and Mr. BANKES-to Lord George, and Peter ! We do not hold up our hands in amazement, and ask, Who could have thought it? It is the most natural thing in the world. It was to be expected that men like those who have herotofore fought the battle of protection-men with political character and influence to lose-men who had really believed the protectionist principle to be sound in point of policy, and tenable in point of fact-should, on the contest of principle being deelded against them, honourably refuse participating in a system of obstruction for more obstruction's sake, which, on any principle, must be wrong. It is impossible to deny that the present cast of parts in the political drama has a sort of moral fitness. The business and the agents are well matched. Men who never, in all their lives—so far, at least as the public are informed—put their hands to a piece of useful work, are appropriate instruments for obstructing the industry, and fining down the earnings, of the classes that live by labour, and longthening out the present dreary sonson of commercial stagnation and embarrassment. Those much-respected politicians, but for whom the Corn Bill would have passed its third reading before the unhappy question of Irish

coercion arose, are indisputably fit and proper persons to preside over the desperate fortunes of a disgraced party, a condemned principle, and a vicious cause.

Of course, they will gain nothing by it—except that momentary gratification of spite, or pique, which is probably all they expect to gain. It only makes sure doubly sure. A cause that has visibly fallen so low can never, in the judgment even of the craziest enthusiast, make head again. The country loses much by the present delay-but landlordism loses more. The commercial and industrious classes can have no forgiveness for a faction that thus mischievously and insolently trifles, for the mere love of mischief, with the most urgent and pressing national interests. The "British farmer," in particular, may be trusted to keep it in mind. Farmers will long cherish the recollection of those "friends" who have impudently used their name to prolong and aggravate that which farmers most abhor-suspense and uncertainty; and for whose over-intimate and obtrusive friendship they will have been muleted, during certain weeks or months of this spring, of 1846, of many shillings on every quarter of corn that it has been their misfortune to sell under a fictitious and got-up agricultural panic. Friendship of this singularly costly quality is sure to be long remembered, and duly appreciated, with precisely the kind and degree of gratitude that it merits.

THE WIGAN ELECTION CASE.

Soon after the election of the Hon, Capt. Lindsay, son of Lord Balcarras, for the borough of Wigan, a potition was presented against his return, founded on a notorious system of treating and presumptive bribery practised during the contest. That petition has been heard before a committee of the House of Commons, which has declared Captain Lindsay duly elected. We do not mean to impugn the integrity or the propriety of the decision; but if it be conformable to law, we assert that Lord John Russell's Act against treating is nothing better than waste-paper. It was established in evidence that Captain Lindsay's central committee ordered drink to be supplied at public houses in the various wards to those electors who were in his favour; that he was in the habit of attending this committee, and that he canvassed the publicans at whose houses drink was ordered in company with its members. That at one of those houses large quantities of brandy and water were supplied to electors in the presence of Captain Lindsay; that the bill for the liquor consumed at one public house (the Eagle and Child) was paid by Mr. Glover, the steward of Lord Balcarras (father of the candidate) who is not an elector of Wigan; that the treating in nine public-houses, the owners of which were examined, amounted to 269l., and these were but a few out of the number known to be kept open during the election. Finally, Captain Lindsay declined to defend his soat, and, by a printed circular, disclaimed those by whom it was defended. The committee, however, has decided that he was duly elected, no act of treating having been traced to him, or an authorised agent!!! Need we add a word of comment?

A Conn I.Aw Aneodore.—Near the village of Shafton lived Sir Thomas Hanner, editor of Shakspere, and Speaker of the House of Commons during the reign of Queen Anne. A curious anecdote of this celebrated character is traditionary here:—The Ministry of that day ontertained an idea of laying a tax upon wheat; to this measure Sir Thomas was decidedly hostile; and being admitted to an audience, the Queen inquired, with no small degree of solicitude, why he determined to go into the country so early. "That I may prepare my lands, and please your Majesty, for the cultivation of hemp." "With hemp, Sir Thomas! and why with hemp?" "Because, and please your Majesty, I am told your Royal Majesty's Ministers are about to tax your people the very bread they eat. A man can die but once; and please your Majesty, I think we had far better being than starve them." "I think so too," replied her Majesty; "and I will consult with my ministers, and see that my people shall not be starved. I thank thes, Sir Thomas." The measure was, in consequence, immediately dropped, and never afterwards resumed.

WHERT IN EAST LOTHIAN.—Winter These and please the wards.

restuned.

Without is East Lordian. Winter sheat cantilines to look well, though the keen frosts have prevented shything like growth either on it or young gross; the latter, where at all stocked, has gone destictly back. However, this check to vegetation may be considered rather in frozen of the when than otherwise, provided there is full growing weather after than otherwise, provided there is full growing weather after than otherwise, provided there is full growing weather after than otherwise.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE BREE THADE MORROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE.

Twelfth Week, ending Saturday, April 11.

Three months have clapsed since Parliament was assenbled. It was called together earlier this year than usual and Easter, this year, is later than usual. Yet to Easter we have arrived, without a particle of public business being transacted. Three or four temporary bills have been passed. in order to provide for the destitution in Ireland; and one or two formal votes of supply have been passed, in order to see the public service from embarrassment. But all other public business is at an absolute stand still. The Government are partly to blame. They have, without any apparent object, interposed their Irish Coercion Bill between the stages of the regular progress of the Corn Bill. No doubt Sir Robert Peel imagined that he could induce the Inch Repeal members to waive their opposition to the first reading of the Coercion Bill; and he as doubtlessly supposed that by paying some deference to the Coercion Bill in the Com mons, he may conciliate some portion of the landlord feel ing in the House of Lords towards his Corn Bill. In one respect he has been mistaken; he may be deceived, or rather undeceived, in the other also. As it is, everything is at a stand-still; and there is nothing hazardous in the prolition that we are rapidly approaching a period of severe Indee TRIAL PRESSURE, unless the causes which are producing a are removed.

The House of Lords adjourned on Tuesday, the House of Commons on Wednesday, for the Easter recess from Wednesday Sir Robert Peel made a speech, which exhibited a consciousness on his part of the false position in which has placed the Corn Bill and the Tariff. It deserves to be recorded.

Sir James Graham had adverted to the state of discress in Ireland, and laid on the table of the house the returns made to Government by the Scarcity Commissioners, the members of which are Sir R. Brown (the Commissary General), Sir Robert (Professor) Kane, Mr. Twisleton, Colonel Jones, Sir J. Dombrane, and Mr. Mackenzie. These returns exhibited unequivocally the daily increasing progress of the distress. After some conversation, shared in by several Irish members,

Sir ROBERT PEEL wished to call the attention of honour

able members to this, as a subject of vast importance. He hoped that no honourable member would make any imagdiate answer to what he was about to say, and to the appeal he was about to make; and that neither the, one nor the other would lead to any discussion. He did hope that he nourable members would give him credit for being influ enced solely by his strong impression as to the state of the country at this present moment (hear, hear, hear). It was his belief that a great revolution was beginning to take place in Ireland by the introduction of meal the produce of Indian corn (hear, hear). His belief was that they were giving to the Irish people a new taste for a better and more generous description of food than that hitherto principally consumed (hear, hear). It was found—he would entreat them to remark—that on railways, those who were substituting for the first time, an article of foreign produce, to which they had not been accustomed, for the diet they were hitherto used to—it was found that they would work longer and better than those living on that water food-potatoes (hear, hear, hear). There had been prejudices to encounter, but these were disappearing; there had been an immense demand for the publications containing directions as to the manner of preparing this new article of subsistence, and he was happy to state that the people had found it, when properly dressed, extremely palatable (hear, hear). At present, however, Indian come was only admitted into Ireland, upon a sort of sufferance, and only admitted into Ireland, upon a sort of sufferance, and under the authority of an order issued by the Treasury. The measure which would fully legalize its importation was still waiting for the decision of Parliament, and he was confident that there would be increased confidence shown in the import of the article were the law satisfactorily settled, and were the raisers of the corn in the United States to find that they had the guarantee of an Act of Parliament, instead of the authority of a mere Treasury warrant (hear, hear). Lat it not be forgotten, too, that we wanted foreign wheat to mix with our own (hear), at a cheaper rate than the duty of 10s., which at present prevailed, and that if we could get only healest prevailed, and that if we could get oats and barley meal at a duty of 1s., instead of 5s. of 6s., we should have a great and desirable addition to our supply (hear, hear). He believed that there would be an immediate import of oats from foreign parts, were it settled that oathed would be allowed to be brought in at a duty of is. (hear, hear). At present there was no Treasury order except in favour of Indian corn and buck wheat. Uncertainty, then, would stuck to all controlled to all contro attach to all operations in other grains until such time as the house should have arrived at some decision upon the point. Under these circumstances he did hope that Irish members would read the returns about to be had before the house with the greatest care. He was sure that the honemembers for Clare and Timadal was they reserved accounts members for Clare and Limerlok must have received accounts members for Clare and Limerick must have received accounts of the distress which prevailed in those localities (best, hear). He believed that if the decision of the house were known with respect to the Corn Bill, it would greatly increase the available means of supply (hear, hear). All he could say with that if honourable members connected with Iraland sould reconcile it to their sense of public daty, usder any protest, and mean the understanding of any opposi-Ireland could reconcile it to their sense of public day, as der any project, and upon the understanding of any opposition to be offered to the hill for the prescription of life in Ireland, at any of im future stages—If those hor, sendement could allow the decision of the largestance to be taken to the first reading of the measure, with a view to the Corn Billies then immediately proceeded with, that in that send they would be conferring a great advantage on many distinction of their own country. He did not wish to provide disamption their own country. He did not wish to provide the measure of the provide the pr from the street of power states the state of the control of the co

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trade, and consequent want of employment in many of the manufacturing districts. As to the Coeroion Bill, he boped that Irish members would consider how far they could shorten the discussion upon its provisions. For himself, he opposed the bill, and would continue to oppose it by all fair and proper means; but he did hope that I rish members would have a little regard to the commercial interests of England, and endeavour to conduct the discussion on the Coercion Act so as to allow the consideration of the Corn Bill to be resumed on the very earliest day possible ("heur, hear," from Bir Robert Pecl).

A discussion arose, shared in by Mr. Smith O'Brien, Mr. Calch Powell, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Poulett Scrope, and during which Mr. Thomas Duncombo severely censured the Government for their pertinacity in forcing on the Coercion Bill, thus placing a stumbling-block in the way of the Corn Bill. Their conduct had raised doubts in the minds of the public as to the sincerity of Ministers in their commercial measures. The subject ultimately dropped, and the house adjourned for the Easter recess.

THE REVENUE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR AND QUARTER ENDED 5TH APRIL, 1846. (From the Times.)

In estimating the finances of the empire at this moment, when the customary termination of the financial year has arrived, the inevitable stagnation of trade, consequent upon the suspended condition of the Corn Laws, and of the many articles included in the tariff, was of course to be borne in mind. This paralysing ingredient has entered into the material of commerce for more than three months, and we had to expect, therefore, as we auticipated on Saturday, a deficiency in those items which, in the quarter's revenue, represent generally the prosperity of the country. The tustoms accordingly show a decrease in the quarter of near half a million; and in the whole year, of near two millions and a half. The Excise shows a similar deficiency of about 800,000%, on the year, and about 340,000%, on the quarter Against this may be set an increase of near 400,000%, in the Stamps, and about 90,000l. in the Post-office, both which items may be placed to the account of the fallway mania. On the total ordinary revenue there is a decrease for the quarter of a million. for the year of two millions and a half on the total income, 1,100,000% for the quarter, and 2,327,000% for the year. Of the last-mentioned sum about 300,000% is merely incidental, which, being deducted, leaves an actual decrease of a little more than two millions.

These figures, however, exhibit merely the positive amount of receipts in the quarter and year ending the 5th of April, 1845, as compared with the like period in 1846. The former year was one of unexampled prosperity, great com-mercial activity, and unprecedented speculation. The pre-sent year, although it shows less of these signs of advancement, is nevertheless remarkable for that which is, after all, the true index of national prosperity—an excess of income over expenditure. This excess for the present year is about two millions and a-half.

It would be superfluous to particularise the many im-pertant reductions that were made in the Customs' duties in the years 1814 and 1845. Those of 1844 were but imperfeetly developed in 1845, and both have produced more or less effect upon the results of 1846. The bold experiment of Sir Robert Peel line hardly yet received a proper trial. tireat changes, of course, require a lengthened period to develope themselves, and it cannot be defiled that the lapsed interval has been both naturally and politically unfavourable to financial prosperity.

it would be equally superfluous to mention in detail the petitions lately presented to the House of Commons from the great commercial cities of England and Scotland for a proof of the injurious effect which the uncertain state of the Unions' department has exercised upon the relations of trade during the last few months. These, which are by far the most active months of the year in all departments of commerce, have been rendered flat and dull by the protracted decision of the House of Commons on the great question which now agitates the empire. There is ample evidence in the shape of trading circulars and petitions and Pullamentary papers, that the greatest injury has been inflicted upon the ordinary transactions of commerce by the studium immane loquendi that has seized upon the chartered legislators of the lower house. These gentlemen may congratulate themselves upon having put a drag upon the sheels of trade, and stayed the progress of the state machine. If they can find any satisfaction in this reflection, no one, we think, will be found to interfere with their perfeat enjoyment of it. But, with a view to check their pride, we must remind them that their power is limited to a temporary check. The progress of improvement will go on in spite of them, and the next quarter will probably evince, by a sudden reaction, that the protectionist vis inerties is but a momentary gravitation, ar the onward impulse of national prosperity is happily far superior to their powers of obstruction.

THE CORN BILL AND THE COERCION BILL.

(From the Times.) We cannot but view with dissatisfaction the state of public husiness in the House of Commons. Two more sittings, and Parliament adjourns for the Easter recess. An idle intotal of ten days follows, during which the vanquished loss of biles and Bentinek may collect their scattered wespons, and prepare their strength for another and less inglerious field. At the same time the eager patrices of Ireland review their yet unbroken ranks, brighten the unstained smour, and dive smour, and give a keeper sharpness to the weapons of at-tack. Both then, together, though not united, sdvance to meet their common foe, inspired with a common hatred, a common jesiousy, a common spirit of revenge—with every feeling but a common cause. Side by side they fight the deady battle against the Government of the comity; and wen though curtain in the very moment of the final issue to even though cortain in the very moment of the final issue to Systemater as far as pole from pole, and range themselves as of fore in open hostility, the combined attack may be followed by an unexpected victory.

This apple of discord is the Irish Coernion: Bills Gir Raiser's motley hand is the Gorn Law majority, which, if highly generaled, might are this have been from pured, with viscolous wreaths." It is money manived in a class many handly again be combined in value of the law law handly again be combined in value and delinated as week it stook as a handle with the law and the law has been as a second to the law has

under the standard of Free Trade. What is it now? A scattered remnant of an army, dispersed without a blow, sufforing the shame of a defeat without the consolution of a wellcontested field. And all this is the doing of their own gonerel. This is the end of high aspirations and bold imaginings. How different from that other consummation so devouty to be wished i

See what is the position at this moment of the Corn Law measure. It passed the second reading now some ten days back, and then waited only to be committed. And so it might and would have been immediately, but that just at this critical juncture ill-luck sent forth the Irish bill from the House of Lords to trouble the unanimity of the friends of corn. In accordance with Parliamentary etiquette, and on the authority of precedent, Sir Robert Peel resolved that the Coercion Bill should be read forthwith in the House of Commons. We know not whether he imagined this procooding would pass sub silentio, as a matter of course. If he did, we are sure he ought to have known his opponents better. The Irish "patriots" are not the men to hold their tongues when there is a question concerning Ireland. However this may be, Sir Robert so determined, and having once said it should be so, why, of course, it must be so, and there an end. The corn was shelved-haid up in bond, and the Irish debato began. Sir James Graham made a long speech. and opened his case, not by any means so strong an one, by the way, as the Earl of St. Germans opened to the House of Lords. When Sir James had finished, the evening was somewhat advanced, and for Mr. O'Connell's convenience the debate was adjourned. The case then hung fire for three days, and on the fourth Mr. O'Connell made a long speech, followed by several gentlemen on either side, when there was a very respectable discussion. Hereupon followed two dies non, and again a third debate on Monday night. Last night there was no house, to-morrow will be a halfholyday, occupied probably, as usual, with a thousand subjects. Thursday is not a trovernment regard, not the its being the last before Easter. Friday commences the its being the last before April, recess; and thus we shall have arrived at the 10th of April, nearly three months from the beginning of the session, without even a proximate termination to the debate on either

What is it that has thus shelved the great measure demanded by the country?, What is it that has made Sir Robert Peel play has and loose with his own great scheme, and dodge Corn Bill and Coercion Bill backward and forward, like the balls in a juggler's hand? Nothing but a sentiment of courtesy to wards the Upper House, and a love of aucient precedent as established in the lower? Now, courtesy is, doubtless, a very amiable virtue, and cannot be too much cultivated by the gay and idle. A respect for precedent, also, is a prudent quality, and useful beyond all measure to the dull and ignorant. But both are sometimes troublesome things, and highly inconvenient in the serious affairs of life. The one is apt to fritter away the energy of action, and the other not seldom clogs the wings of genius. The Premier of England we should have pronounced the most unlikely man in the kingdom to pay homage or tribute to either, to fetter himself by inconvenient forms, or to square his actions by the standard of an idle etiquette. In other days it was certainly not so. This is the first time we hear of courteous Sir Ro-

bert or old-fashioned Sir Robert Peel.

It is not, however, too late for him to retrace his steps and disentangle himself from the net of his own weaving. The thing of course cannot be done before Easter, but it may after. Next Monday week let the Government set to work in good carnest, determined to pass the Corn Bill in spite of everything, and to the exclusion of everything. Do not fear the cry of 'Ireland in danger." There is no justice in it, for the repeal of the Corn Laws is an Irish measure as well as an English one. You are not disregarding the true in terests of Ireland when you offer the boon of cheaper food and unshackled commerce. If the great measure were other than it is,-if it were less humane, less comprehensive, less universal, and, therefore, less Irish,-it might be another matter. But we know that it is all these, and the best proof that it is so is the conduct of the Irish members themselves. Have they not all declared to a man that they will asvist the Ministry to pass the Corn Bill, and have they not done so until this one discordant element was introduced amongst them? Indeed, it needs no argument to prove that the repeal of the Corn Laws is of far greater importance to Ireland, in every point of view, than a Coercion Bill, however ostensibly necessary. We, therefore, conjure Sir Robert Peel to abandon, with all speed, an unwise determination. He must see that it is unwise. He has thrust aside the Corn Bill to make way for the Coercion Bill, and now he finds that the latter cannot make way for itself. The Irish debate, he may be sure, will be interminable; Irish debates There is no security for us that, if these are to have precedence, the Corn Bill will be read a third time before this day three months. How ridiculous, then, would be the Premier's position at the end of the session! A broken party, loss of power, loss of influence, loss of character,and all for nothing

THE BROCKLEHURST FALLACIES.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)
Protectionist fallacies are so soon to become historical that we feel it a duty to embalm, for the benefit of postcrity, the most perfect specimens of the class that fall in our way. The time will come when strong contemporary evidence will be requisite to prove that some of our most familiar argumentative absurdities did really find men to give them a grave utterance in the Parliament of 1816. During the recent debates we notice for preservation some of these illustrations of our representativides. But there were of these illustrations of our senatorial wisdom, but there was one which, though especially worthy of attention, was not at the time set as fully in the light as it deserved. We take the first opportunity left us by the pressure of other topics of supplying the deficiency. The argument to which we refer came from Mr. Brookishurst, and it lies at the bottom of the question now before the sountry. The fact was, and Mr. Brookishurst, whilst we experted 20,000/. worth of silk goods to France, we imported 100,000/. worth from the same country. So much for the bonated reciprosity!" This statement, made, it is presumed, on the suffering of Custom-house returns, was put forth not so much for its own sake, as for the inference to which Mr. Brookishurst pointed, viz.; that a country which, gives 160,000/. to got head 20,000/. if a heavy loss it the rampacition.

The amendment of these flavore, followed by the exclamation. To much for the lowest reciprosity, was calculated to make at impression on the projectionist mind; and of these illustrations of our senatorial wisdom, but there was

significant designation of the said

are 20,000% worth of goods experted, and 150,000% worth imported; the large sum of 150,000% spent by England in paying French workmen, and incremeling French capital, whilst 20,0001, only comes back to England to supply the defloiency. The difference is a gift to France—a dead loss to England of 130,000l. in the one article of silk; and the official returns of the Custom-house attest the fact. It may be very well," the protectionists go on to say, "for political be very well," the protectionists go on to may, concentrate that exports are equal to imports—this accommists to assert that exports are equal to imports—this content is not so in practice." " But may be true in theory, but if is not so in practice." "But pray are merchants' books good in practice?" Our friend Bustiat, to whom we have refurred before, and who cannot be too often quoted, asks the same question on a similar occasion; and he answers it, or rather would answer it if he had Mr. Brooklohurst to deal with, in some such way as the

"If there is one thing in the world which is entitled to practical authority, it is the entries of profit and loss in the ledgers of a counting house. Dopend upon it no mistake is made there; that which a merchant calls profit is profit, and

What he calls loss is loss."

Now it so happened that a morehant of Liverpool freighted a vessel to the United States with Manchester goods of the value of 10,000/. Such was the declared value, and such the sum entered at the Custom-house. The carge on arriving at New Orleans had incurred charges to the amount of 10 per cent., and paid duty to that of 30, making the total amount 14,000%. It was sold at a profit of 20 per cent, that is 2000%, and produced altogether 16,000%, which the consignee disposed of in buying cotton. This cotton, too, had to bear charges of 10 per cent. for freight, insurance, commission, &c., so that on reaching Liverpool, on its remen, the new eargo amounted to 17,000%, and this too, was the sum entered in the ledgers of the Custom-house; and to conclude, Mr. T. again realised on this return cargo 20 per cent. profit; i. c. 3,520/.—in other words, the cotton sold for 21,1207.

On Mr. T's books may still be seen figuring to the credit of the account of profit and loss, in other words under the hoad of profits, two entries, the one of 2,000, and the other of 3,520/; and Mr. T. is thoroughly convinced, and in likely to remain so, that he has made no mistake, and that his arithmetic is correct.

But what does the Custom house ledger my to this transaction? It tells us that England has experted goods to the value of 10,000%, and imported goods to the value of 17,600%; that this country has paid to the United States 17,60%, and received back only 10,000%. The conclusions which Mr. Brocklehurst would draw from these figures is, that England has lost 7,600% worth of capital, which she has given to the United States.

Some time after, Mr. T. sent off another vessel, which was also laden with 10,000%, worth of nutive produce. But the unlucky ship, after leaving the port, struck against a rock, and went to the bottom, cargo and all, and Mr. T. had nothing for it but to make on his books the two following little entries: - "Sundries. Dr. to X. 10,000/., for the purchase of various articles sent out in the ship N. and loss—Dr. to sundries, to,000%, final and total loss of the whole cargo.

In the meanwhile, the Custom-house officers had not been idle. They had been recording 10,000% under the head of exports; and as they will never have to make a corresponding entry under the head of imports, it follows, according to this doctrine of Mr. Brocklehurst, that this shipwreek is a clear

profit to England of 10,000%.

There is another consequence to draw from this -- namely, that, according to this doctrine, a country has a very simple way of doubling its capital at any moment. To do so, it is quite sufficient that, after such capital has passed the Custom house, it should be tossed into the sea. By such means the exports of the country will be equal to its amount, of capital, the imports will be reduced to nothing, and be, in fact, impossible, and we shall gain all that the sea has awal-

Besides, observe how directly the shipwreeks would tend to protect British industry. Not only the vessels which carry out English goods would never bring back foreign ones, but as the demand for English goods in the United States will be just as great after us it was before these successive losses, new capitalists would be brought into the field, new mills set to work, new artizans find employment to supply those wants which will never be satisfied. A sunken rock, a sand bank, and a raging sea, may be turned to account, and become a much botter and cheaper protection to British industry than high duties and Custom house officers. At all events, those who are for the latter, to be consistent, should be for the

We would seriously recommend to Mr. Brocklehurst, Mr. Rashleigh, et ld genus omno, to go through a course of Bastiat. It would open their minds, and alley their feverish fears; and a little plain and pointed sense in the morning would be an agreeoble and useful relaxation after the lively revels of the night.

DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

(From a Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle.)

In very many places potatoes have already reached a price far above the means of that class of whom they are ordinarily the sole subsistence. If at any period of the year the amount exceeds three penace per stone, while wages are but eightpened a day, it is generally allowed to be verging upon a famine price; but in Galway, Clare, and Limerick, the price new values from disconnected expensive.

price; but in Galway, Clare, and Limerick, the price now varies from flyopenes to seven pence.

This is no implous fabrication, no profine device of the Free Traders. Buch are the current prices of this week, while yet the planting of the ensuing year's crop is scarcely begun. When that operation once becomes general, there will be an increased demand, which will ruise the prices considerably; and as soon as it is completed, a great proportion—fully one-half. I should say—of what now remains of wholesome provisions will have disappeared altogether, leaving as seanty remnant of unsound and decaying food to be contended for by the numerous competitors by whom the markets are already orowded with unusual frequency.

kets are already crowded with unusual frequency.

It has been stated that in Clare the poor people having exhausted all the rest of their stock, are now consuming what they had reserved for seed. To this fact I can bear testimony from personal observation, having within a few days visited a populous district in that county, where the inhabitants have been driven to that desperate resource. How they are to provide for the supply of the next year they no more known than by what make the evils of the now imminist calability are to be selfened and made supplied. They so that consider the contemplate. They are to contemplate. They are to contemplate. They beginned and made supplied them made frightful to contemplate. kets are already crowded with unusual frequency.

sands to the seaports and other places of embarkation, to escape from misery, the very existence of which is denied by men who should be the foremost to proclaim it, and arouse the sympathy of the public and the legislature in their be-half.

In the whole of the district to which I refer, divided into small farms of eight or ten acres, and extending over several miles of country, there were not ten corn-stacks to be seen. The oats had been all threshed out, and sold long ago to I do not wish to imitate the Times commissioner, by naming the provident landlords, who have thus taken time by the forelook. Exposure would not mend them, and it is not wanted to prove a practice which is too notorious to call for particular censure on any individual. But let it be remembered that it is for the benefit, and in compliance with the dictates of persons who do such things, that the existence of distress amongst the Irish peasantry is now so audaciously and perseveringly denied.

TREE TRADE ABROAD.

(From the Daily News.)

The Free Trade League is extending its fame in foreign lands, where it meets kindred spirits long imbued with the same principles, and carnestly engaged in applying them at home. It has its allies in France, Germany, and Italy, and though last not least important, in Spain also. The political degradation of that unhappy country has not yet affected

There are several patriotic societies established throughout Spain for the encouragement of industry and agriculture, and the dissemination of sound economical doctrines. The Booledad Economica Matritense deservedly stands at the head of these. The society publishes a monthly periodical entitled El Amigo del Pais, devoted to an account of its sessions, and to the discussion of scientific and economical questions, with practical dissertations and suggestions on the means by which the agricultural and industrial resources of the gountry may best be developed. It is to be lamented that this otherwise excellent and learned publication should be so extremely deficient in that statistical information, without which the truth of principles cannot practically be tested and brought to bear upon the common sense of peoples and

governments. Beveral copies of this periodical having been forwarded to the head quarters of the Longue at Manchester, the secretary, on behalf of the Council, addressed to Senor Dov Juan A. Became, its principal editor, and President of the Section of Commerce in the society, a letter of acknowledgment of the compliment in February last. The March number of the Amigo del Pais, just received, contains a copy of this letter, with the eloquent reply of Sevor Second. We collect from this ready that collect from this reply that, far from being behind the age in the appreciation of enlightened economical truths, Spain has been with the foremost in their discovery and propagation "When," says Senor Secure, "Smith was addressing these counsels (his 'Wealth of Nations') to the disdain of the aristocracy of England, Jovellanos and Campomanes were repenting them in our country to a clergy, a nobility, and officials, who received them with applause indeed, because they dreamt not of the possible triumph of these theories. Senor Secane might have added, that these illustrious men did more still. As stawsmen and ministers they practically applied them so far as possible in their day. Strange it is, but true, that, since that passing period of a briefly illu majorated despotism. Spain has lived on for half a century of retrograde existence, political, financial, and industrial; alshough, during one half the time at least, despotism has been displaced by the Cortes, by ascendant liberalism, and by assentiations of all stades, to be reckoned only, like those of France, by the score. With the exceptions of Mendizabal when in office, and of Mon, the Inte finance minister, there

is no evidence of a single effort being made by any of the so called liberal and patriot statesmen of Spain, who have figured since 1808, to re-awaken the vitality of those principles which shed lustre on the absolute monarchy of Carlos the summer when there of the knowledge and connects of Carlos III., and to the extent of their application diffused prosperity through his dominions. Those principles have slumbered in the tomb with Jovellanos and Campomanes, who had evoked them after a cantury of oblivion. For liberty of commerce was a fundamental law of Arragon, of Bispay, and others of the follows being the follows. and others of the federal kingdoms or provinces of Spain; and it may be shown on other occasions how it was coutended for in remonstrances against the prohibition of fo-

(From the Economist)

reign textile fabries so long ago as 1620.

THE FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

The causes which have combined for so long a period to maintain the foreign exchanges at rates so favourable to this country, are well deserving the attention both of the more and and the politician, at this particular time. The invostigation of this subject cannot fail to expose the groundless nature of the blarms of some of the opponents of Free Trade, who appear to associate a deraugament of the currency with every considerable importation of grain, without any dissimination of the ofreumstances under which it takes place. It may also be of the highest utility in enabling the merchant to form a correct estimate of the effects which present and coming events are likely to exercise over this important demonst in all monetarial calculations.

It may, perhaps, he passasary, in order to render our fur-aber remarks more intelligible, that we should refer to the general principles which regulate the exchanges, and to advanced in civilisation, assumes soms commodity as a standard of value, in which the prices of all other commodities are expressed. The commodity excumed as such standard of value in this country is gold, an ounce of which represents £3 10s. 10dd. of our money in account. Every sum therefore expressed in sterling money represents as many ounces of standard gold as the sum itself bears a promany ounces of standard gold as the sum itself bears a proportion to £3 10s. 104d.—a pound sterling being in fact a convertible term for 5 dwts. Si grs. of gold. In France, and in most other countries, the commodity assumed as the standard of value is aliver, of which 3 dwts. 5i grs. represent a franc, the French money in account. The par of excepts therefore between France and England must be doctomized by the relative value of silver and gold, and the proportion which 8 dwts. 5i grs. of the former metal, or a france, being to 5 dwts. 3i grs. of gold, or the pound sterling. Computed at our mint price, this quantity of gold representing a pound is aqual to (within an insignificant fraction) twenty-five times the quantity of silver representing a france; so that the par of exchange between France and England is twenty-five france to the pound sterling.

There are two ways in which this relation of the franc to the pound may be changed, or, in other words, in which the rate of exchange may be altered: first, a permanent change in the relative value of the two metals, either by being produced or by being consumed for other purposes, in different proportions than formerly, will permanently alter the par of exchange. For example, if an unusual production of silver were to take place, and the supply to be materially increased, while that of gold remained stati nary, the intrinsic value of silver, in relation to gold as well as other commodities, would fall, and the quantity of silver represented in twenty-five france would no longer be equivalent to the quantity of gold represented by one pound sterling. ()r if, on the other hand, the consumption of gold for jewellery, plate, or even for coin, were to increase in a greater proportion than the supply, and also in a greater proportion than silver, the intrinsic value would rise, and the quantity represented in a pound sterling would be more valuable than the quantity of silver represented by twentyfive francs. In either of these cases the par of exchange upon France would rise, and the pound sterling would represent as much more French money in account, as the altered relative value of odwts. 3 grs. of gold bore to 3dwis. 54grs. of silver. The second and more usual way in which the rates of exchange fluctuate, is by the changes which take place in the balance of payments between the two countries. The par of exchange is fixed by the value of the respective metals in London and Paris; and as long as the exports and imports of the two countries, and claims arising from other sources exactly balance each other, the exchange will remain at par. The amount of bills drawn by one country will exactly balance the amount drawn by the other. But if, from any circumstance, the payments due to England by France become larger than those due to France by England, bills upon England rise to a premium, and the pound sterling then represents more than twenty-five francs. It must, however, be plain that no greater permanent change would take place from this cause than the cost of transmitting the metals themselves from the spot where the debt is due to that where it is payable. And thus it is, when the balance becomes sufficiently large to raise the premium upon bills so much above par that the transmission of bullion would be more profitable, that either merchants remlt gold instead of bills, or, which is more usual, bankers and dealers in bills of exchange transmit bullion, and draw bills against it, which are supplied to the merchant. The transmission of bullion is, therefore, seldom for the immediate purpose of making purchases, but for the ultimate balancing of merchants' and bankers' accounts after purchases have been made.

The high rate of exchange which has been maintained so long between this country and the Continent of Europe has naturally induced us to inquire if that effect has been produced in any degree by a permanent change in the relative value of the metals. So far, however, we have not been able to discover any evidence that such has been the case. The supply of silver has not been more than usually large; and though the consumption of gold for jewellery and plate has been much on the increase of late years, yet the additional supply, including the new source in Siberia, has probably been quite as great. Mr. M Culloch, in the new edition of the "Commercial Dictionary," states the produce of the gold washings in Siberia, which, in 1830, amounted only to five poods, to have been, in 1843, no less than 1342 poods, being equivalent, after adding one fifth as the quantity which it is calculated is not brought to the public account, to £3,298,962. So great an increase of the supply of gold, considered alone, would have led us to expect a diminished value of this metal and the supplementary of the metal and the supplementary of the supplement tal, and, consequently, a lower permanent rate of exchange; and, perhaps, no fact could speak more strongly to the great increase of consumption of this metal generally, than that

such an effect has not been produced.
We are, however, satisfied that there have been sufficient causes of a mercantile nature in operation during the last few years, satisfactorily to account for the state of the exchanges; and it is these we now propose shortly to in-

vestigate.

For some years prior to 1839 the trade between this country and the Continent of Europe, showed a steady but slow increase. After the American crisis of 1836-37, which materially depressed the foreign exchanges, and caused a severe drain of bullion, a sudden reaction took place, the exchanges were corrected by the great reduction of our imports in 1837, and the bullion in the Bank rapidly increased from £4,048,000 in March 1837 to £10,126,000 in April 1838. During the whole of 1838 the exchanges remained steady, and there was every appearance of the trade between this country and the Continent of Europe being nearly balanced. For several years, however, prior to the close of 1838, the import of grain from the Continent had formed a most insignificant item in that trade; our entire consumption of foreign wheat having been-

| qrs. | | 1832 | 325,435 | | 1833 | 82,346 | | 1834 | 64,653 | | 1835 | 28,483 | 1836 ... 30,554 first quarter of 1838 35,207

The whole foreign wheat taken for consumption in those six years and nine months having only been 821,297 quarters. During this period, it is then evident that the trade hetween this country and the Continent of Europe must have been gliusted and balanced, without reference to any important shipments of grain. The wool, tallow, flax, being, silk, and other produce usually imported by us, were paid for to a certain extent. paid for to a certain extent, by our own manufactures, and the remainder by foreign and colonial produce, such as indigo, coffee, and sugar, imported by us in exchange for our manufactures exported to other parts of the globe. In the autumn of 1838, a sudden import of wheat commenced, and continued upon a large scale until the end of 1842. The quantity of foreign wheat imported from that period till the end of 1845 was as follows:

months of 1,633,678 1,639 ... 1,633,678 1839 ... 2,634,667 1,999,510 1841 ... 9,400,754 last 3 months of 1849 ... 2,732,305 1843 ... 940,190 1544 ... 1,100,505 1845 ... 871,443

The imports of wheat which began in the autumn of 1888 The imports of wheat which began in the autumn of 1838 amounted to 4,168,485 are., in fifteen months, representing a sum of not less than £12,000,000, which sum was thus added to the value of our imports without any squivalent being experied, and the balance of account was thus suddenly turned against us. The payments due by England to the Continent were larger than those due by the Continent to England; drafts on the Configent rose to a premium, and at length it became necessary to transmit builton to believe accounts, and to sorrest the explanges. On the the cof January, 1839, the amount of builton in the Bank was £9,886,000; and on the 6th of December, notwithstanding

the loan from the Bank of France, it was reduced to \$2,887,000. In 1840, the importation of wheat stiff real tinued upon a large scale; but notwithstanding there we an evident tendency for the exchange to turn in favor of England, by means of the increased exports of manufactures, for which a greater demand was soon experienced partly in consequence of the reduced prices of our goods and portly from the additional demand created on the Continent by our imports of wheat: and considerable progress would have been made in 1840 towards restoring our bullion, but for a new cause of disturbance which operated by some time in preventing it. The general fear which existed in Europe, in the autumn of 1810, of a ruj tire between France and England, induced the Continental bankers generally to dispose of securities in the London market in order to increase their reserves of money. Yet, hotalit. standing this circumstance, and a continued large in. port of wheat, and the partial repayment of the loan from the Bank of France, the bullion in the Bank of Englandhal increased in December, 1840, to £3,511,000. In 1841, the import of wheat was still larger than in 1840, the whole of the Bank of France was repaid, but yet such was the tendency of our exports to rise up to the amount of our imports, that in December, 1811, the bullion amounted to £4,480,000. In 1842 the largest import of wheat on mend took place; but notwithstanding this, our exports had in-creased so largely, in consequence of low prices at home, and from having created new customers abroad, that at the end of the year the bullion in the Bank had increased to no less than £10,380,000. We had thus become able to add to our usual imports from the Continent a large quantity of whent, without causing any disturbance in the exchanges We will shortly examine how this was accomplished, by comparing the amount of our exports to those countries in 1837, the last year prior to the commencement of three transactions, with the same in 1842, when they had con-tinued for three years. The following is a comparison of the exports of British manufactures to the chief Continental

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	1837.	١	1842.
	£		£
Russia	2,040,592		1,885,053
Sweden	101,121		199,313
Norway	72,413		134,704
Denmark	103,448	• • • •	194,304
Prussia	131,536		376,651
Germany	4,898,016		6,202,700
Holland	3,040,029		3,573,362
Belgium	804,917		1.009,190
France	1,643.204		3,193,939
Total	12.841,276		16,860,416

We thus arrive at the striking fact, that while our entire exports were undergoing a considerable diminution, as they did from 1838 to 1842, our exports to those countries from which we imported grain, increased more than £4,0,000m. The exchanges were, in short, corrected by our rising to an equivalent to our increased imports.

With the commencement of 1843 we come to the causes which, for the last three years, have operated so strongly in maintaining high exchanges and a large stock of bullion. Independent of the large imports of grain from the Continent, our export trade, especially of cotton manufactures, was materially aided by the rajid improvement of machinery and consequent economy of production, and the low prices of the raw material, which, for the last three years, have created a consumption of those goods without any precedent in extent. In 1813 the import of wheat fell to about one-third of the quantity im ported in 1842; an extended market having been made for our manufactures was not suddenly lost, and thus the reverse of the operations which took place in 1839 created a large balance in our favour to be remitted from the Continent, the exchanges became very high in our favour, and at the end of the year the bullion in the Bank was nearly 14,000,000l. During the last two years (1811 and 1915) the import of wheat has continued small, compared with the years from 1838 to 1842, while the extreme low prices of our manufactures have enabled us still to sustain an export of those goods, little diminished, to the corn-growing countries, and greatly to increase them to the other markets of

the world. We therefore come to the conclusion that the high rates of exchange which have been maintained for the last three years, have been caused, first, by the sudden reduction of our imports of wheat in 1843 to about 900,000 quarters, after our trade had adapted itself to an annual import considerably exceeding 2,000,000 quarters in each of the four preceding years; secondly, to the great economy chained in our process of manufactures by improvements during the last six years; and, thirdly, by the extreme low prices of cot ton wool, especially during the last two years, the products of which constitute nearly one-half of our whole exports; and lastly, to the general prosperity of our customers on the Continent, who have been onabled to consume our manufactures to so large an extent. In 1837 the exports of cother was the continent of the exports of cother continents of the exports of cother continents. ton goods amounted to £20,098,000, and in 1414, notwithstanding the great reduction of price, they amounted to £25,805,848. In 1837 our exports of all kinds to the Continent of Europe amounted to £10,401,320, and in 1811 to £25,805,1401

The important inquiry in which all are now most deeply £40,621,185. interested is, how far the same causes are likely to continue As far as we can judge from present appearances, we do not think it probable that any such important increase will take place in our imports of grain as will of itself be calculated materially to affect the exchanges. The supply of coton continues very large, and the prices fully as low as on any former occasion. Our manufactures are conducted upon a scale of conference. scale of perfection and economy never before equalled. So far, then, as these elements of the question are concerned, there would appear at this time little to be apprehended to lead to any particular than the state of the property of the state lead to any reduction in the exchanges. There have, bos-ever, been some other symptoms visible of late, which would have the symptoms of the great symptoms of the great symptoms. ever, been some other symptoms visible of late, which would ever, been some other symptoms visible of late, which would lead us to fear that some reaction in the course of the present year must be expected. During the last ix months are imports of all leading articles have been, and continue to be, imports of all leading articles have been, and continue to be very considerable; while at beet, our exports up to December the transfer of all leading articles of matter than the present of matter than the present of matter than the present worsel in ufacture, and more particularly for cotton and more particularly for cotton and worsel with what it was a year a continues to be very limited, compared with what it was a year a continue to be very limited, compared with what it was a year a continue to be very limited, compared the with what it was a year a continue to be very limited, compared to be partily in connections of the season of the seaso season ; ratively duce, at tation w allude t tributio stringer

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arason; while the large proportion of our labour employed in the construction of railways, will maintain wages companatively high, promote a large consumption of foreign produce, and in the course of time lead to an extent of importation which our exports will not be adequate to meet. There is no immediate danger of such a disturbance as we now allude to; but the whole tendency of our trade, and the dis-tribution of our capital and labour at this time, points to such a result, sooner or late, as highly probable, unless sningent means are used to prevent it.

CORN BILL DEBATES-1815-1846. (From the Manchester Examiner.)

Up to the session of 1845, nothing was so distinsteful to the country gentlemen as a discussion on the Corn Law. It was made a subject of repeated complaint that Mr. Villiers would not let the question rest, however great a majority had defeated the proposition be submitted to the house. During the period of severe distress, from 1838 to 1842, the sufferings of the people were often the subject of debate, and the landlords in Parliament protested against the introduction of the question of corn as one which the legislature had finally culed, and which ought not, therefore, to be re-opened. In the present session we find a complete change who, some time ago, were content with the decision of a Parliamentary majority, are now resolved on a pertinacious and irritating opposition to a measure which has received the deliberate sanction of a majority of 97 votes. So long s majorities were in favour of a policy by which the nation was pillaged, and the fruits of its industry misappropriated. their decision was to be held sacred; but now, when the pre ponderance of votes is on the side of justice, every means of annovance is practised which obstinacy and selfishness can devise. It has been a frequent charge against the opponents of the Corn Law, both in and out of Parliament, that they have imputed unworthy and base motives to the supporters of monopoly; and the class of persons whose charity is niggardly enough when speaking of the poor, but over flows when the rich are to be judged, have denied that the buildwares have been actuated by other than patriotic, though possibly mistaken, motives in the policy they have pursued. The journals of the Houses of Parliament shall decide the question,—we ask no other evidence than is to be found in the records of the proceedings of the Lords and Commons, in the debates in the year 1815, when the Corn I aw was enacted, and in the year 1846, when it will be finally repealed. No one denied that the projected Corn Law of 1815 was a most important measure; its friends raid it would save the country; its opponents said that it would injure trade, and produce misery and ruin to multi-It was a measure demanding the most mature and unbiassed deliberation, affecting as it did the food and the histor of a whole nation. And how did the Lords and

Commons, owners of the soil, treat it? By reference to the journals of the House of Commons, we find the following narrative of the rate of travelling at which legislation, for high prices of corn and high rents, procreded. On the 17th of February, 1815, the House of Commons resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, to consider the laws which regulated the importation of corn, and on the same day, certain resolutions were reported. This report was further considered in committee on the 22d, 23d, and 24th of February, and on the 27th nine resolutions were reported to the house. The debate was adjourned to the following day, the 28th, when all the resolutions were agreed to, and a bill was ordered. On the 1st of March, the bill was brought in and read a first time. On the 3d it was read a second time and committed. It was considered in committee on the 6th, and further considered on the 8th, on which day it was reported, and ordered to be engrossed; and on the 10th of March it was read a third time and passed. Thus from the introduction of the resolutions on the 17th of February, to the passing of the bill on the 10th of March, just 21 days clapsed. We now turn to the journals of the House of Lords, and track the progress of this iniquitous measure. It was sent up to the Lords on the 13th of March, and was read a first time the same day On the 15th, it was read a second time. On the 17th, a motion was made to hear the Corporation of London on their petition against the bill, praying for further inquiry. The Lords ordered the petition to "lie on the table," saying they had information though, and were prepared to legislate, and on the same day the bill went through committee, and was reported. On the 30th of March, the bill was read a third time and passed. On the 23d of March it received the royal assent, and be came the law of the land and of the landowners. Thus, from the introduction of the bill into the House of Lords, on the 13th of March, to the 20th of the same month, whon it was dyliberation, on one of the most important measures which five passed that branch of the legislature. The royal action was discounted to the legislature of millions was acted to the legislature of millions was acted to the legislature. needs was kiven on the 23 used scarce and dear, by the enactment of an interested and privileged class. It will be seen from this, that just thirty-our days intervened from the first introduction of the resolution. bitions in the House of Commons, on the 17th of February. to the affixing of the royal signature to the Corn Bill, on the of March. It must be borne in mind, that during this definition of the hostility of the people to the odious measure, were made in every possible form. On the 6th of March, the linnes of Parliament were surrounded by police and mili tary to guard the members on their way to the scene of their everlasting disgrace. The lobbies and galleries of the lione of Commons were cleared of strangers, with a view to conceal from public view the mode in which the laudowners

conducted their operations against the public weal.

The proceedings we have just narrated were connected with the passing of the Corn Bill of 1816. Let us contrast them with the doings of the monopolists in the session of 1846.

On the 26th of Jennery last, Sir Robert Peel made a ful statement of the intentions of the Gabinet with respect to the Corn Y. the Corn Law. At the pressing request of the monopolists, he sllowed a fortnight for consideration of the measure, before moving the other of moving the House into Committee. On the 9th of Pebruary he moved for the Committee, and the monopolists continued the debate during three weeks, engaging the time of the House of Commons for no heavy than twelve nights. of the House of Octomonas for no share than twelve nights. At least two nights were spent on the report of the resolutions. The second reading was postponed to the 98 d of March, and the debate on the second reading, which community on Monday last, has now leasted four nights, and the debate on the second reading, which community of the second reading will probably between the post of the second reading will probably between the post of the second reading who was any national facility who was the second reading the secon

tion to past discussion, a further debate in the Committee on the Bill, and a great content on the third reading; and there is no chance of the Bill leaving the House of Commons till just before the Easter recess. What the Lords will do with it is yet uncertain; but of one thing we may feel quite sure—they will not pass it in one week from its reception by them, as they passed the Bill of 1815.

In 1815 the people demanded delay and inquiry: they wo e refused both, and indecent haste marked the conduct of both houses. In 1846 the people demand that their industry shall be liberated, and starving multitudes in Ireland ask for bread; they are met by delay, by an opposition of the most factious character, and by the contemptuous denunciations of the men who for thirty years have been trampling on their most sacred rights. In 1815 thirty four days were enough for discussion, and for enacting the Corn Law; in 1846 sixty days are spent before the Corn Law Repeal Bill can proceed to its second reading in one house of the legislature; and it is probable that six weeks more, at least, will have passed before it is read a third time in the House of Lords!

The monopolists in one house are led on by Lord George Bentinck-a member of a family which came over with William the Third, and whose greatest deeds are recorded in the annals of the turf. In the House of Lords they are to act under the orders of Lord Stanley-a man whose incapacity for business, and whose impetuosity of temper, have rendered it impossible for him to work in any administration. We leave it to any right-minded man to determine whether the interests of a great empire are to be thus obstructed by a party who can boast of no services rendered to the nation, but whose career has been chiefly remarkable for the shame less audacity with which they have persisted in pillaging the national industry, and by an unvarying disregard of every duty their position as citizens, or as members of the legisla ture, has imposed upon them. It may be desirable to have a privileged aristocracy, but if national well being, and the national liberties, are worth preserving, it is high time the insolence of power manifested by the privileged classes were brought under some efficient control. It will be small compensation for the ruin of a great nation, that the territorial aristocracy should be involved in its downfall.

THE AGRICULTURISTS AND FREE TRADE .- At a meeting of the Newcastle-on-Tyne corporation, on Wednesday last, Mr. Sinton, the keeper and manager of the extensive and increasingly important cattle market at that town, pre sented his annual report to the town council, which showed that, during the past year, the quantity of stock sold at the market considerably exceeded that sold in the previous year; and that the demand for all kinds is now so brisk that, to use his own words, "prices have risen almost to an extreme," beasts selling at 7s. 6d, per stone, and sheep at 8d, per lb. The report concluded with this emphatic statement: "I may also take the liberty of stating, that a great difference of opinion exists in the agricultural districts with reference to the Free Trade measures now proposed, compared with what provailed when the Premier introduced his measures in 1842. At that time the graziers became alarmed, and brought their stock to market before it was ready; consequeally prices were then verylow, and all kinds of stock were a drug in the market. But the Free Trade measures now proposed have not affected the prices of stock in the least. On the contrary, since they came under discussion, prices have had rather an upward tendency. Holders are firm, and no apprehension exists as to any reduction in prices." The author of this statement is in constant communication with all the large stock farmers in this neighbourhood, as well as with dealers from adjoining counties. Sir John Fife remarked that Sir R. Peel could not have a better reply than it afforded to his monopolist opponents.—Daily News.

THE PROTECTIONIST PREAS .- We are informed, on authority which cannot be doubted, that "the die is cust." The monopolist peers have had their meetings, one after another, and the issue is, that the march of Free Trade is to be resisted to the attermost. Lord Stanley, never deficient in animal courage, and always forward when mischief is to be done, has undertaken so to mutilate and mangle the ministerial measure in committee that it will be quite impossible for the Free Trade party in the House of Commons to accept it when it is returned to them. Our regret, we confess, is greater than our surprise at this information. Their lordships have always been tardy learners in the school of wisdom, and therefore we may not wonder at their preserving this characteristic of their order in the present instance, And what are they to gain by playing this dangerous game with an irritated and angry people? Or rather, what muy they not lose by their appalling folly? But, while such is the present intention of the lords, Sir R. Peel, we are as sured, is resolute and determined on the subject. He has made up his mind that he will take no measure but his own. It is aut Cosar aut nihil with him. He will have all or The monopolists must be prepared to form an administration or face a dissolution of Parliament in the very hour when they give a mortal stab to his proposition. So stands the case at present. We speak on the authority of one engaged in playing the game himself .- Liverpool Al.

FREE-TRADE TESTIMONIAL.—We are pleased to find that the subscriptions to the testimonial to Mr. Symons, the honorary Secretary of the Plymouth Free Trade Association are progressing in a very satisfactory manner. The members and friends of this popular movement appear to think themselves under weighty obligations to Mr. Symons for the spirited, zealous, and unceasing energy which he has siways thrown into the cause, and which has kept this Association constantly before the public eye as one of the greater provincial bodies which have been instrumental in furthering the onuse of Free Trade. They will therefore, we are assured come down handsomely on the occasion, and show that they duly appreciate the exertions of their active officer. They now begin to feel, probably, under the slow movement of the Commons, and the threatened opposition to their hopes in the Lords, that they will require his services still further; certainly there is reason to four that some active demonstration may yet be required to convince our hereditary wisdom that the people of this country will not allow themselves to be triffed with in the full attainment of their just hopes, and that nothing short of unrestricted commercial freedom will that polying short of unrestricted commercial freedom will satisfy the nation. In obtaining this severy one must see the advantages of an organized League, and we hope that this testimental will be in some measure a handsome recognition of the steady services of the Secretary of our Free Trade Association.—Plymouth Journal.

Whe Stanford Infraregy states that, so exceedingly source is copper money in Itingolu, some of the fredericen have been scinally compelled to give change in postage stamps.

BIRMINGHAM FREE TRADE ASSOCIA-TION.

LEAGUE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND. (From the Birmingham Journal.)

On the evening of Tuesday, the 31st ult., a general meeting of the Free Trade Association was held at the Public Office, to receive a report from the committee regarding the League Quarter of a Million Fund, and to adopt atten measures relative thereto as might be deemed necessary. There was a protty numerous attendance.

About seven o'clock, Mr. Alderman Geach was called to the chair, who, in stating the object of the meeting, said that although Birmingham did not occupy so favourable a position with regard to wealth as Manchester or Liverpool, yet he hoped the town would not be dishonoured by the amount of subscriptions it would send to the fund. Taking into account its offcumstances, and considering the differ ence in its capital from those towns he had mentioned, he had little doubt but the liberality of the friends of the cause would be such as to do Birmingham all honour. The report of the committee would now be read, and the minutes of a former meeting relative to the subject, which would; ut them in possession of the proceedings of the assectation in

The secretary, Mr. Cliprond, then read the minutes and the report, which will be found in our advertising columns. After reading the report, Mr. Clifford said he might, perhaps, be excused making a few observations. He had heard it generally asked, and by parties, too, from whom they might not have expected it—"Why, what are we to sal-scribe for? The work is done; Sir Robert Peel has done it for you; and if you will but allow him time, will com-Now in answer to that, they had but to point to the opposition Bir Robert's measures bud met with; the battling he had to do to carry them, in order to show that he required, not only support in the House of Commons, but backing up out of doors. Not only so, but when they saw fallacies, which had been exposed and put to flight over and over again, repeated with all the pertinacity of new matter. and heard the leading men of the protectionists say that the period of three years, which had been fixed upon as the time the Corn Laws should be wholly repealed, was adopted but to allow them any chance the chapter of accidents might turn up, in order to nullify that decision-when they saw all this, did it become them to slacken in their exertions? Would it be proper for them to cease their work while the matter remained in doubt? On the contrary, their best efforts were yet required in the cause : they were not asked for without reason; and they had a guarantee that these exertions would not be called for, or continued a moment longer than was necessary, in the fact that Messes. Cobden and Bright, who had given their talents, their money, time, and even health to the cause, and who now considered a renewal of their exertions expedient, would not have done so, unless they felt convinced of its propriety. Then, again, they had the same statements and fallacies to contend against at that moment as they had at the very first. And one, which appeared very material, and frightened many, was the assertion that other nations would not follow the example of England in abolishing restrictions; but already, even in the present most imperfect state of our commercial policy, they saw that assertion refuted by the utmost gratification that had been felt in other countries at the mere announcement of a Free Trade by England; and already, to a certain extent, had France, America, Naples, and Germany, given assent to the principle of that measure. Why, if they did so now, while the plan was in its infancy, he did not think, when in all its details it was perfect, and the abolition of restriction complete, they need fear that other nations would not consult their interests by following the culightened and honest policy of England (applause). They had heard a great deal also about competition; the fears of it had been great throughout the country, and considerable in Birmingham; but since the enunciation of Sir Robert Peel's policy it had been very much on the decrease. Take, for instance, German goods—more particularly the article of In one case he was acquainted with a manufacturer, who informed him that he had been afraid of competition; but he saw some of the articles, took them to bits, examined them, and found that they were constructed on a principle at once chenper and as good as those made in England. What was the result? Why, he altered his mode of manufacture, and can now turn out an article cheaper and better than could be imported, and is regardless of competition from any quarter. In his words, "they had much to learn, but nothing to fear, from competition" (applause). With the tulent, the skill, and the capital of England—with the many resources the country possessed within itself—it would be indeed surprising if they should feel afraid of rivalry from any quarter; on the contrary, it would have the effect of stimulating renowed exertion of opening up new fields for British skill, capital, and enterprise, and would be followed by advantages lasting and important (renewed applause). There was only one other point to which he would allude. Birmingham was late in the field in bestirring itself in aid of the cause (hear, hear). True, other towns were exerting themselves before Sir R. Peel brought his measures. into Parliament; but although these measures were carried, their obligations to assist in the work were by no means cancelled. It was never too late to do well; and he trusted that Birmingham would stand as well amongst the list of subscribers to the fund as they wished it, and would occupy such a position as would do it honour.

Mr. George Smith then moved the following reso-

"That the report of the committee be received and adopted "That the report of the committee be received and acopted, and that the committee be requested to take the earliest opportunity of completing a subscription list in aid of the Quarter of a Million Fund, and thus teally the warm interest taken by the inhabitants of this borough and its neighbourhood in the success of the measures brought forward by her Majesty's Ministers in Parliament for the repeal of the Corn and Provision Laws, and in support of the principles of Free Trade."

Mr. THOMAS CAMMON seconded the motions: The Chairman, after explaining the conditions of a cube scription as detailed in the report, read a list of subscriptions amounting to upwards of £2,000. The reading of the list was received with loud obsers.

was received with loud oheers.

The Chairman, in continuation, said that many other persons had expressed their intention to subscribe, but had not determined how much they would give. They had oare tainly done well; but a great deal more remained at 40 and to accomplish it every man should act as if culidepended on his individual exertions. In fact it was only had his that any great work was done. If this had not been the came the public mind would never have been enlightened, nor the antiquated hillspice of many years awept away; and if that not been this, chusation had never dawned upon the country, information as to all the great questions that incountry, information as to all the great questions that incountry.

terestits well being had never been given, nor would that liberal and comprehensive scheme of commercial policy of Bir Robert Peel been proposed (applause). He would not join in a detraction of the Premier, because he had shown a degree of moral courage in bringing forward this measure that commanded admiration. He had come formeasure that commanded admiration. He had come forward and acknowledged his errors; he had boldly separated from the factions of his party, he had placed in jeopardy even his political power; and had indeed temporarily lost it—all to carry out that measure, for the consummation of which they all heartly longed. He had done all this, and surely he deserved their praise and their thanks (hear, and applause). Mr. Clifford had partly anticipated him in what he intended to say; but he would counsel them to be ware of fancying that the work had been accomplished. But even supposing that it find, would it be right, he would ask, would it be fair or honest, to allow the men of Liverpool, and Manchester, and Leeds, to bear the burden—the time. and Manchester, and Leeds, to bear the burden-the time, the trouble, and the expense-and then sit down and say, why, what more is there to do-the work is done ? (No, no) He knew Birmingham better than to suppose they would. The had met with one singular exception, however; Le had met with one man who held that it was fair to take advantage of the exertions of their neighbours, and to refuse to assist. He was glad there was only one in this mind —he wished there had been none (applause). As had been observed by Mr. Clifford, they had a great guarantee that their exertions were necessary; but there was also the expectation that this money would not be required. Of this let them rest assured, that unless a necessity existed the League would not survive a single hour. In his opinion, however, that time had not come : circumstances had placed them in a position where energetic exertion was made more imperative than ever, in order to maintain that recognition of free Trule principles which Sir Robert Peel's scheme so liberally manifested. It would be impolitic, in the highest visgree impolitic, to allow the advantage they had gained to he lost by supineness; and that advantage could only be considered seems after the general election, which could not be far distant. It was not by any means improbable that the Lords, in their wisdom, might throw out the measure, rendering an appeal to the country necessary; but supposing that it was carried, every possible effort would be made by the protectionists to obtain a majority at a general election; and if in this they did succeed, it would not be autonishing if they attempted to cancel the measure of Sir Robert Peel, and again adopt protection. It was at the coming election that the grand struggle would take place: it was there that the Free Traders would meet fallacy and misstatement by honesty and truth—and there it was that the contest must be decided which should show the protectionists the hopelessness of their opposition (cheers). It was an eternal disgrace to Birmingham to be represented, or rather misrepresented, as it now wer ("hear," and renewed applause). It was dishonourable to them to have one member speaking ngainst the measure and then voting for it, and the other both speaking and voting against it -to have one member continually against them, and the other very little, if any better (loud cheers). One of these hon, gentlemen had been very eloquent on the question of bronze, and all the bronze men of Birmingham were, according to his account, to be runned together. Now what, he would ask, was the great interest which was to be affected by the change? Was it large in numbers? But, even although it were, was it to be supposed that they were to be beaten out of the market by a reduction of five per cent., when, while the duty was almost nominal, it real sed to the revenue in one year 781,—the very handsome sum of 78l. per annum (cheers and laughter)!
He could not say whether the hon, member alluded to bronze or buttons first (laughter, and "Bronze first"). Well, he thought the reply of the Premier might have proved a settler to Mr. Spooner; but no; the hon, gentleman was up again, and at him with but ons (cheers and laughter). Why the button makers were to be ruined too. Now nothing could be more unfounded. There was a large button manufacthree sitting on his right hand (Mr. George Smith). He was not afraid of competition, nor of ruin—he had not had his orders cancelled, his workmen discharged; nor had he shut up his manufactory. He knew he had nothing to fear, and courted competition (applause). But the honourable member projected instances of German buttons, and told the house, "Here are buttons from Germany, which will put the Birmingham makers out of the market." Now every one knew that the price of buttons was simply a question of fashion; that when first brought out they fotched a high price, and that their market value varied with the feshion, price, and that their market value varied with the ipshion, although intrinsically it remained always the same—so that the German buttons might be as good as those of Birmingham, and they might also be cheaper, merely because they were not fashionable. As for the Birmingham, manufacturers being beater out of the market, the statement was absurd, and the honourable member ought to have known so when he made it (applause). Were they content to allow much a state of menters to man? Were they content to allow such a state of matters to go on? Were they by petty differences among themselves to continue to be misrepresented (No, and applause)? The electors were disgusted, and he did not wonder at it, for when a Birmingham man mixed with the Free Traders of other towns, he felt very much inwith the Free Traders of other towns, he felt very much in-clined to hide his head, when he heard the invariable excla-mation, "Why, what a pretty pair of members Birmingham has got" (laughter and cheers)! In the prospect of another election, let them not be unprepared—let them ascertain the men who had the greatest amount of electoral support—and let these men be elected. Let them sink the more patry distinctions of party and party feeling; and let overything be subservious to this; and then, after they had attained their bulservient to this; and then, after they had attained their object, they might again revort to Whig and Tory, or to anything also they might please. It was these petty feelings that at the last election placed them in the position they now occupied; it was these feelings that gave the protectionists a chance, which otherwise they might never have been to They flattered Mr. Sturge—(laughter)—that he he had no the people, and the result was the present did forces that he had been to be the head of the people, and the result was the present would be greatest to have the greatest auffrages, he would be glad to support to have, however, that this Mr. Sturge did not postate the first secure the return of Free Trade representations of the times, and the condition of the country of the figure of the times, and the condition of the country of the Rev. Guenou Dawson said he would only sak one into a chance, which otherwise they might never have

The Ray, Out one Dawson said he would only sak one question—whether, even admitting that the interests of buttons and brouze were affected, this at all affected the principle of Free Trade? It was impossible that any great measure amosting the whole commercial policy of the country

could be carried without injuring the interests of some classes; but where the great end was to confer general benefit, this must be borne. He perfectly agreed with all that had been said regarding the members for Birmingham—more especially with what had been said of one of them. It was really pitiable to see that honourable gentleman get up, on any question, to advocate obstruction, and repeat in eilly, childish, and factious talk, his bigoted opinions and antiquated fallsoies, recommendatory of hindrance to overy great question of advancement-(cheers)-hindrance not only to a supply of food, but obstruction to religiou—as he manifested on the late proposition of relief to the Roman Catholics of Ireland (loud cheers). He hoped they would hear no more from the honourable member about bronze or buttons; his statements were ridiculous, and known to be so by every manufacturer in Birmingham. He would thank the scoretary to put down his name for £5 (cheers).

Mr. CLIFFORD said it might, perhaps, be as well to mention the mode they intended to pursue in collecting the subscriptions. Now since they had got it started, they intended to send a circular to all the parties in the town and neighbourhood whom they thought likely/to subscribe, enclosing a form to be filled up with the sum subscribed; and to save all trouble, this form would be ready directed to the treasurer, so that they had nothing to do but put it in the post-office. This mode they considered preferable to a personal canvass, as it would enable them to reach every one, and to know exactly when the subscription was complete.

Mr. EDWARD COWPER said, perhaps he might be allowed to state what had taken place in Mesers. Fox, Henderson, and Co.'s works, at Smethwick; and it was cheering, because the movement among the men had been quite spontaneous. About a week or two ago, one of the working foremen inti-mated his intention of subscribing to the fund, and put down his more for several pounds; his example was followed by the other workmen; and in three days they had collected the handsome sum of £22 (loud cheers).

The Rev. R. MELSON remarked that he had seen in the papers a proposition to request Sir Robert Peel to stand for Birmingham. They might ask Sir Robert; he (Mr. M.) felt certain he would be well supported.

The CHAIRMAN said he was afraid Sir Robert would not come amongst them.

Mr. THOMAS MACKAY said it would certainly be a pity if Birmingham required to go a begging for men to represent it—good and honest men, too. He might mention that on a recent occasion he went to Mr. Spooner in London, regarding the Friendly Societies Benefit Bill, which was at present pending in the House of Commons. "Well," said Mr. Spooner, "what do you think of matters now?—that measure of Sir Robert's will be the ruin of you all. Not only will it be the destruction of the button and bronze manufacs, but it will rain the boot and shoemakers as wel (Mr. Mackay) told him we were of a different opinion; that I was acquainted with several manufacturers who had now more orders than ever, and feared no competition. "Ah, it will ruin—it will destroy you," said Mr. Spooner. "At all will ruin—it will destroy you, said Air. Spooler. At all events, Sir Robert has lost my confidence (great laughter). I can never trust him more" (renewed laughter). After a few general remarks, Mr. Mackay continued: But I almost omitted to tell you one little incident. My frieud, Mr. Sansum, who was along with me, addressing Mr. Spooner, said: "I am a very plain and blunt man, and you'll excuse me speaking my mind. Well, Mr. Spooner, to tell you the truth, I neither like your acting, nor Mr Muntz's speaking—there's confidence to be placed in neither" (great laughter

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was afterwards given to Mr. Alderman

Grach for his conduct in the chair; which having been suitably acknowledged, the meeting broke up. In the course of the evening several gentlemen contributed

liberally to the fund, and at the close the amount of subscriptions was announced to be £2000.

The following is a list of the subscribers' names, and the

sums announced.					
	£	8.		£	8.
Henry Smith	200	0	John Webster	25	0
Thomas Phillips	100	0		25	. 0
Lash, Scholofield & So	na250	0	Samuel Messonger	25	0
Joseph Gillott John Wright Timothy Smith & Son	250			25	0
John Wright	125	0		25	0
Timothy Smith & Son	5 200	0	Robert Fletcher	25	0
John Betts Charles Clifford	3~100	0	Joseph Collins William Hayward	2.5	0
Charles Clifford	100	0	William Hayward	25	
Charles Geach	100	0	John Blakeway	25	C
Harrold and Sous	100	U		20	
Harrold and Sons Samuel Beale Thomas Whitfield	100	0	i E. W. Fr▼	, 20	
Thomas Whitfield	100	O		. 10	0
William Nuttor	50	0	Thomas Wright	, 10	
F. and C. Osler	გე	0		- 10	
John Lord and Co.	50			. 10	
Blyth and Graham	100	0 /		. 10	
Neustadt and Barnett		O	Rov. R. Melson	. 10	(
Thomas Eyro Lee		ο	Thomas Walker	. 10	10
William Wills		0	F. & W. Southall (Don.)	. 5	(
W. J. Benlo	50				
B. A. Goddard	60	0	A Friend, per J. Haywar	d 5	(
l Smith and Kemp	50	Ŭ	A Friend, per J. Haywar George Dawson, M.A. Edward Cowper	, 5	(
Goorge Smith	50	Ü	Edward Cowper	. 10	(
T. H. Ryland	30	Ü	Loach and Clark .	, 15	• (
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ANTICIPATING FREE TRADE.—On Saturday, the 20th ult., a fine 6(x) ton iron ship was launched from the building yard of Messrs. James Hodgson and Co., Liverpool. She is the first of a line of eight, to ply betwixt Liverpool and Rio de Janeiro, touching at Pernambuco and Bihao, South America. She will be fitted with the screw propeller, and a pair of 50 horse power engines as auxiliary steam power. She will be heavily rigged as a ship; her length on the load water line is 170 feet, 20 feet beam, and 17 feet deep. The christening was performed by Mr. Samuel Johnson, of Pernambuco, who gave her the name of "Antelope," as she glided into her native element, amid the assembled multitude. A splendid entertainment was provided after lunch, at the expense of the owners, and about 375 sat down to dinner, prepared by Mr. Lynn, of the Waterloo Hotel. The vessel is consigned to the able management of Mosers. Me Tiar and Hudfield, the well-known Rio merchants. Her owners are Hudfield, the well-known Rio marchants. Her owners are entirely Free Traders, including some of the standbest, vis. Messrs. Crook, Finch, and Jevans. Mossrs. Hodgson and Oo, have also on hand one 1800 ton steam-vessel, iron, to trade betwixt Liverpool and New York, which will be ready for launching in about eight weeks, and it is expected that this vessel will be called the "Free Trader," although she was to be named the Eagle. They have also just completed an iron steamer, for the River Plate, and have the stocks for others for different destinations.

REGISTRATION APPEALS.

BURRALL v. LUCKETT.

Mr. Wellaby for the Appellant; Mr. Grove for the Respondenti

made on the 28th of September, the purposes to which the rate was to be applied being referable to the thirteen weeks preceding the 18th day of December, 18th; therefore, the up. ject of the provision was to provide for the exigencies of the parish for the interval from the 10th of September to the parish for the interval from the 10th of September to the 16th of December. Now the question is, whether it was the rate of the parish for the time being? It appears to me to satisfy all the terms of the Act. The rate, independent of the new rate, was a rate still existing for the same purpose. No doubt if the arrears were due upon it, the parish officers might distrain and justify under the rate, if they justified at all, in the interval when the new rate was made; and, therefore, unless there is a justification under this rate, it would fall or upless there is a justification under this rate, it would fallen the existing rate at the time. I conceive it never was intended in a case of this sort, where the words are general in the beginning of the clause, "every parish in which there shall be a rate for the relief of the poor," that it should be said because the term for which it was intended to provide the relief of the poor," has expired, that therefore the rate has expired. I think the words of the act are satisfied.

Mr. JUSTICE MAULE.—I am of the same opinion. To construe the rate for the time being to exclude the rate in question, I think would be inconsistent with the plain spirit of the 30th section of the Reform Act; and would be inco-sistent with the directions of that section, and what is to be understood by the words there used. That section en-bles a party to be put upon "the rate list for the time being;" and therefore it assumes that there always is a rate for the time being in every parish; and probably at the time of passing the Reform Act, there was no parish in England in which no rate had ever been made. In fact there aways is a rate in every parish; a rate is made, and until another rate exists it is liable to be enforced at the end of its enseence, or at any time. Then, as the section of the act speaks of "the rate for the time being," it excludes the idea of these being two rates at one time as much as it excludes the idea of there being no rate at any time. It is, I think, very also that a very rate of the results of the res plain that a person under this section has always a right to plain that a person under this section has always a right to be put upon some rate, and that rate is the rate last made. It is said here he ought to have demanded to be put, but on the rate made in September, but the last effectually made and published. It is not said he has not a right to call the overseers to put him on the last made rate, but insument as it was another rate, it did not become operative or capable of being enforced till after the demand made. I think such a rate as that is not a rate for the time being and in the second a rate as that is not a rate for the time being, and in the serof the Act of Parliament—consequently the demand was properly made, and the appellant was entitled to succeed.

The rest of the court concurred.

Decision reversed

LUCKETT v. KNOWLES Mr. Grove for the Appellant; Mr. Wellsby for the ke-

spondent. CHIEF-JUSTICE TINDAL .- It appears to me this was a case properly for the amendment of the revising barrisher, and comes within the 40th section; and I conceive he is right in the amendment he has made on the present accasion. That section, so far as the place of abode of the chamants concerned, provides for two cases; first, where there is a total omission of the place of abode; and the second, where it is insufficiently described for the purpose of being complete. In both these cases the barrister is to expunse the name; but if, whilst the revision goes on, evidence is brought to his satisfaction of the proper description of the place of abode, then he is to insert it in the list. In the argument it is admitted that there is the total absence of any place of abode; and it is said the second predicament, namely, the insufficiency of the description for the purpose of being identified, must be limited and confined to a description that affords sufficient particularity; but it will not apply and compared a continuous state. apply and comprehend a case where this description is actuapply and comprehend a case where this description is actually wrong. It seems to me, looking to the object and intention of this power of amendment, the thing may be very safely included within the power given where the place of abode of a party is not sufficiently described for the purpose of being identified. None can say in this particular case, when you find the word Queen in the register, and the purpose place of abode is Queen extract. Recombury, that proper place of abode is Queen-street, B comsbury, that there is a sufficient description on the register for the purpose of identifying the party of the party o pose of identifying the party. I do not see what there is to restrain and narrow the terms of the clause intended to be literal. It seems to me that if the statute intended to compreliend every case of total omission, and every other case in which the description inserted is one by which we could not find the party, this falls within the latter, and therefor I think the decision must be affirmed.

think the decision must be affirmed.
Mr. JUSTICE MAULE.—I think this name was pro retained in the list. The barrister was bound to retain the unless he had some duty to perform under the power given him to expunge the name. Now, the only object of the name being retained was, that the place of abode should not be called the contraction. There be called Queen when, in fact, it was Queen square. There is a list of voters, in which the voter in question appears quite regularly upon the face of it. The barrister is sake to expunge the name, unless there is some reason given for we expunge the name, unless there is some reason given for interest so doing, or some authority given him by the Act. The voter having been objected to; and notice of objection being given, it was necessary for him to prove his qualification. He did so entirely to the satisfaction of the revising larriater. It has been said that the place of abode is a part of the qualification. I do not agree to that. It means the the qualification. I do not agree to that. It means he place of abode at the time he is put upon the list. There is provise that he shall not be not upon the list. place of abode at the time he is put upon the list. There is a proviso that he shall not be registered, unless resistant within a certain distance from the borough for a certain time. It is by no means required to be put down in the Art of Parliament; so that there is no objection at all to the qualification of the voter here, and it does not fall within the histories of section 40; that requires the barrister to expect the name of any person, if the barrister finds he qualifies it is insufficient in law to entitle him to vote the property of the law to be appunded on that proged in no kind of objection to the qualification here; the is. not to be expunsed on that proper is no qualification. It is not because life, qualities in a qualification. It is not because life, qualities in law as stated on the list, because is included. The only power given to xiste index also subsequent part of the which imposes the direction of the list, because it is which imposes the direction of the list, because it is a which imposes the direction of the list, because it is a which imposes the direction of the list. the eith

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insufficiently described for the purpose of identification, then the power of expunging does not arise, and he is " on the register," because he is rightly on the register. Those two powers have already been dealt with, and the third power is the only one in question. The objector, in order to bring the voter within that power, must say the place of abode is either wholly omitted, or insufficiently described, for the purpose of identification. If he says it is not an error in fact, he has no power to expunge; if he says it is so, then he "shall expunge it," wherever it exists, tinder the authority given by the powers of the act: that is to say, the power to expunge unless the matter so omitted, or insufficiently described, be supplied to the satisfaction of the revision of the list. Here, undoubtedly, it was so supplied. It seems perfectly clear the revising barrister before he shall have completed the revision of the list. Here, undoubtedly, it was so supplied. It seems perfectly clear the revising barrister had no power to expunge. If then he is to have a conditional power of performing that which was performed, here then power becomes void, and no longer exists. I think it is clearly within that part of the section. It is unnecessary to discuss the question, whether, in the event of the name not being supplied to his satisfaction, he had any other power heyond that which is stated: it is clear there is no power given him to expunge, unless it be qualified by supplying that which was supplied on this occasion.

The rest of the court concurred.

Decision affirmed.

1MPORTANT DEMONSTRATION AGAINST FREE TRADE.

In the Parliamentary proceedings of Friday last we find

the following most important announcement:

"Mr. Grogan presented a petition from the chimney sweepers of Dublin against Free Trade."

Undoubtedly the League has got its death blow now, and the new allies whom the Richmonds and Buckinghams have enlisted in their cause will prove as effective in putting the anti-monopolists to the rout as that gallant Irishman, Sir H. Gongh, was in his late triumphant victory over the Sikhs.

—Kilkenny Journal.

THE PROTECTIONISTS .- The Augsburgh Gazette just received says :- " In consequence of the auxiety of the publie for news from the East Indies, the Or gon question is in the meantime almost forgotten. At all events, no one takes it ill of the Ministry except the protectionist organs; for making no answer to the swaggering of the Americans, and continuing to offer its hand for an equitable adjustment. Lord George Bentinck, who is all of a sudden, as if by a magic stroke, transformed into a great statesman, and delivers his judgment, in a single speech, on all points of internal and external policy, upon trade, finance, and national education, spoke very freely last week, in the Bramarbas style, of the destruction of all the American scaports. I assure, you, however, that John Bull infinitely profors buying from his brother Jonathan cotton, corn, salt meat, and cheese to destroying his towns with cannon balls, and if Jonathan has not entirely lost his senses, he will not thwart old Bull in his peaceable humour. The opposition (behind the Treasury benches) contest Peel's plan step by step; and seem to derive fresh courage from Lord Stanley's declaration that he hopes the House of Peers will throw it out; and yet the result of all their divisions on each individual point of the tariff which they thought proper to oppose ought to have rendered them more discreet; for they were not only beaten every time, but on every division the Ministerial majority was larger, and in the sequel the House of Commons adopted the tout ensemble of the tariff without the slightest At this moment all the articles therein included are already either entirely free of duty or admitted at the newly-reduced rates. What, however, they should take still more to heart is the almost total silence of the manufacturers and artisans affected by the alteration; even those orators who at first cried out so loudly had partly withdrawn their complaints against the intended alteration in the timber duties (since adopted), and partly ceased to complain at all. Yes, the prevailing silence of the farmers, and even of the landed proprietors, should serve them as a warning that, as these have attained conviction, it would be better to bring the af fair to a termination at once, than any longer to depend upon an apparent, but, on account of its uncertainty, a useless protection. All this, however, does not restrain the landlords from continuing to struggle. On the 23d ult. Peel proposed the second reading of the Corn Bill, and a long debate susued. The result is known. Unfortunately, the Government finds itself compelled to press forward the new Irish Corn Bill and on this assection to the Corn. Corrion Bill, and on this account the business of the Corn Bill and the tariff must be postponed. There is, moreover, no hope entertained, in spite of all the prayers and complaints of the commercial world, that this affair will be entirely brought to a close before the end of May. What is intended my it is difficult to ascertain, as even amongst the Opposition ranks it appears to be deemed a matter of certainty that a majority is gained in the House of Peers. It suits their purpose, however, to impute to Peel every possible act of treachery in the world; and thus their organs declare, with all the appearance of conviction, that he has already con-certed with the Whigs, Radicals, and Repealers the sacrifice of the church in Ireland and the granting of repeal to O'Connell, as soon as the Corn Law battle has been won; and that consequently every bishop who may vote for the re-leal of the Corn Laws will really vote for the downfall of the church. I fear, however, that this mingling of corn and church will not much avail either the corn producing aristocracy or the aristocratical church established by law. From the very circumstance that the League is constantly accused that its intention is directed beyond corn and simed at the church, the latter might easily be enabled to direct its power against an institution the clergy of which are on all occasions pressed upon it as advorsaries."

DEATH OF CHARLES SQUAREY, Esq., OF SALISDURY.—
We deeply regret to have to announce the death of Charles
Squarey, Esq., of Salisbury, who died on Sunday last, in the
36th year of his age. In him the League has lost an enersete and uncompromising advocate of its principles, and socisty a man whose telents and exertions have ever been used

gric and uncompromising advocate of its principles, and socistys man whose talents and exertions have ever been used to advance the intelligence and welfare of his fellow men. Scancity in Issuary.—The price of potatoes in Dülling has now deen to but a stone for good one pand dail for very indifferent ones. This is an advance of as least a hundred per cent, on the prices of last year, and yet the protectionist, per cent, on the prices of last year, and yet the protectionist, when is Dublin have the Benguer and ones, to make this least is no established the benguer of calls highly ward have is no established the button at the prices of the THE CHELTENHAM ANTI-CORN LAW PETITION.

Mr. Barkeley's committee to enquire into the charges of forgery and personation in the signatures to this potition, have brought in a report as under. The facts proved are exactly as we stated them at the time, and the Committee are obliged to own as much in their report. But as there happened to be a majority of Anti-Frod Trade members on the committee, the last sentence was very kindly added as a rider, as a delicate method of letting down easy to the hon, member, who has made himself so conspicuous on the occasion. Here is the report:

That it is the opinion of this comulities that an irregularity in regard to the potition from Cheltenham, as transmitted thence to Manchester, was of a nature which rendered it not capable of being presented to the House of Commons, according to the known forms of the house, that it was altered by agents of the Anti-Corn-Law League at Manchester, who were cognisant of the rules of the house; and in adapting this petition to those rules they acted irregularly, though with no fraudulent intention. It appears to your committee that the first five signstures appended to the petition sheet, as presented to the house, are not in the hand-writing of the persons there named, but are transcribed from genuine signatures which were on another sheet; that this act of transcription, though irregular, is not fraudulent. It further appears that 24 names, purporting to be the signatures of other subscribers to the petition, were written by one and the same person (an elector of Cheltenlam), with the sanction, as he states, of the persons named. In closing their report, your committee think this a fit occasion for expressing their regret that methods of promoting and pre-paring petitions should prevail, which have a tondency to bring into discredit that mode of giving expression to the sentiments of the subjects of the realm."—Cheltenham

CORN FOR EUROPE. -- Several shipments of Indian corn having been made from this country for various ports in Ireland, the impression prevails that on corn the duty has been or will be taken off. The shipments as already stated, are by order of the British Government, for the aid of the poor Irish who are suffering from the injury of the potato crop. Indian corn, however, will be included in the tariffs of the bread stuffs, if it shall be ascertained [that Sir Robert Peel is strong enough in both houses of Parliament to reform the 'orn Laws according to the principle he has laid down, but it is certain that recent experience having shown the utility and economy of our Indian corn, and as it cannot be produced by the corn growing countries of Europe, our west will have the benefit of an extensive sale of this valuable product as every kind of experiment will be made in England to improve the manner of baking it. In other bread stuffs it is possible that grain from the Baltic could be sold as <u>But if we look at the importe</u> tions of our bread stuffs into England during the months of December and January, say in the port of Liverpool alone, we are doing a heavy business even with the Corn Law in force. Of flour there was entered in those months 133,883 bls., 129,052 bushels of wheat, 188,012 bushels of corn, besides barley, peas, beans, &c. It is a doubtful policy for us to tie ourselves up by a commercial arrangement of reciprocal duties in relation to the tariff. We reduce our tariff as a national policy, and England reduces her duties on the Corn Law in conformity with the wishes of the people. The clunge is mutually beneficial, and operating silently to the benefit of both. There is no necessity for treaty stipulations. Independent of the double crop of corn produced in the prairies of the west, we can grow to the north several milions of bushels more than we did in 1845; and we learn that our farmers at the present season are preparing to plant

many additional acres of Indian corn.—New York Sun.

The Borough of Wigan.—The following circular from Mr. James Lindsay, dated London, March 24, was delivered to the electors of Wigan on Friday lost:—"Having seen in the Parliamentary proceedings that a petition from two of the electors of Wigan had been presented, on the 17th instant, praying to defend my return, I think it is due to myself and respectful to you to inform you that this course has been taken without my knowledge, and I deeply regret it. Having endeavoured to obtain what information I could, it would appear that it has been prepared by persons wholly unconnected with the town of Wigan: I accordingly sent for the agent employed by the party to defend my seat, and informed him, in the presence of witnesses, that this petition had been prepared, and he had been employed, without any sanction from me, and that noither I nor any one connected with me would be responsible in any way whatever on account of their proceedings; for, having declined to defend my return, I conceived I could not with honour encourage others to defend it for me." It is said that Mr. Ghulstone has signified his readiness to become a candidate, if unop-

posed.—Liverpool Albion.

The Tariff.—The New Boon to all Nations.—A Dutch paper makes the following statement with respect to the new Peel tariff:—"Groningen, March lithi.—We understand that it is in contemplation to establish a direct communication between this city and London. When the great measure of Sir Robert Peel, the reform of the English tariff, has passed, as in all probability it will, the Upper House, it will have a favourable effect on the price of our productions, and in their exportation, so that a direct communication with England will be of great importance to our provinces. What an influence the general reform of the English tariff will have, it already seen by the Somblergine increase in the price of cattle, in consequence of the reduction of the duties on importation, and the prospect of their ontire abolition in the sequel. When the greater part of our productions find easy admittance into England we shall never have to fear a want of exportation, since all our articles, if the projected reform of the tariff take place, will find a ready market in England; and even many things, which hitherto could not be thought of, may become articles of exportation, when a regular communication by steamboats between this city and London is established."

THE EMPEROR OF CHIMA A FREE TRADER.—A very salutary and effective measure has just been adopted, which promises well for the increase of commerce, and to be otherwise beneficial to the Gapital. Through want of rain, the grain boats from the provinces have been delayed, and the dily as well at the environs have the season been apposed to make suffering. The Emperor has been prevailed upon hanceforth to allow the tribute rise of some provinces to be imported by season to the state in the large of the sardy inland bases. He has also abolished the Corn Laws at Ohilds, and parallely vessely from Rockin and other frowinces to import rice to any amount need of duty.—Pokin Gazelle,

THE COLONIES ARE COMING!

(From the Nonconformist.)
The course of right, like that of the love does not appear to be "running smooth." The protectionists, in one way, or other, have secured delay; the object of which, is to have the polonies into their line of battle.

time to bring up the colonies into their line of battle.

It is therefore time to begin to look after colonies. It has a colony! The colonial question is going to be ineculated upon the corn. The League, for the putting down of Corn Law robbery, is going to be transformed into League for the putting down of colonial robbery, by the act of the enemy.

A colony is a portion of the inhabitants of a country, sent

A colony is a portion of the initialitation of a country, sent but of it to live and labour somewhere else. If Robinson Crusoe had sent his man Friday to grow yams at some distant point, or some island in sight, if such there were, Friday would have been a colony. And the rule for determining whether this colony was worth having, would have been simply whether Friday in his transportation made more and better yams than he would have done by staying at home if on keeping Friday at home and employing him there, more and better yams could be gotten for instance by exchange with the inhabitants of the main land opposite, supposing peace to have been established;—then Friday would be a knave and Robinson a fool, if he carried his point of going forth a colonising. And doubly both, if Friday could be conceived to be of such consummate impudence, as to propose a self-denying ordinance in the shape of a tax on Continental yams, by way of enabling him to keep up the price of his.

If Friday requested to direct attention to the great and important trade which would be carried on with him in his losing colony,—the canoe loads, for instance, of enriously tunned goats' hides, and implements framed with the histo of such tools as his master alone possessed, which might be dropped down to him under charge of a shipwrecked Spannard, for a return eargo of his yams,—his master would tell him he was an ass if he expected this to be done, when yams as good could be got by a less expenditure on the Continentals who were in the market. But civilized men are not asses, when they think they can cheat their follows by an Act of Parliament; because the practicability of the thing is every day demonstrated, and not only that, but the difficulty of hindering it. In legislation,—such are the consequences of the way in which the community at large have hold of the short end of the lever—the nature of things is to do wrong, and to do right or to get it is the difficult exception.

The colonies, then, are on their way. Their trumpeters will be here by the next steamboats, to assure you,—one, that it will engage to find you with dear corn, if you will only pay for it,—and another, that you shall never be without dear sugar, unless by your own fault and obstinacy. The secret in all this to be kept, and which heaven and earth will be moved to hary under a load of words and bluster, being that all and everything in the way of encouragement given to trade and industry by the foolish process, would be given to them somewhere class by the wise one; with the advantage to the consumers, who are everybody, of having something for the difference of price instead of nothing. The history of Jobson and Johnson and Jackson, in the article headed "Feenomical Blunders!" in last week's Noncomformist, is applicable throughout.

This one principle runs through everything. It runs through corn; it runs through colonies; it runs through the apprehended injuries to the working classes from the employment of machinery. In fact, it is the eye-opening principle; and if we can get our eyes open, we shall put down all that can be brought against us.

THE TRIUMPHS OF DAVID HUME, AN A POLITICAL ECONOMIST: - "In no long time, a hundred yours will have clapsed from the day when Hime told the world, what the legislature of this country is now declaring, that national exclusiveness in trade was as foolish as it was wicked; that no nation could profit by stopping the natural flow of commerce between itself and the rest of the world; that commercial restrictions deprive the nations of the earth of ' that free communication and exchange, which the author of the world has intended by giving them soils, climates, and geniuses, so different from each other;' and that, like the healthy circulation of the blood in living bodies, Free Trade is the vital principle by which the nations of the earth are to become united in one harmonious whole. Those who, with a reverential eye, have marked the wonders of the animal structure, and discovered beauty, utility, and harmonious purpose, where presumptuous ignorance has found uselessness or deformity; or have seen the lower animals, each working in its own blind ignorance, gregariously constructing a fabric more perfect, on philosophic principles, than human science can create, have thence drawn vivid pictures of the wisdom and goodness with which the would is ordered. May we not extend this harmony to the social economy of the globe, and say, that the spirit of activity and enterprise, harmonising with the dispersal of the different bounties of Providence in the distant regions of the globe are part of the same harmonious system; the merce and the desire of aggrandisement, which in the eye of a narrow philosophy assume the air of selfish and repulsive passions, represent themselves, when they are left to their legiti-mate course, as motives implanted in us for the great purposes of securing mutual dependence and kind offices, and their fruits, peace, and good-will, throughout the great family of mankind. To be the first to teach that the earth is not doomed to the eternal curse of rivalry and strife, and to open up so wide a prospect of bencheence, may be an atonement for many errors, and in the eye of good taste may justify the brief assumption of completions superiority, in which the subject of this memoir indulged, when he desired that the investigation on his memoir indulged, contain only that the inscription on his monument should contain only his name, with the year of his birth and of his death, leaving it to posterity to add the rest."—J. II. Burton's Life and Correspondence of Hume.

A correspondent, whose case, we fear, is not singular, A correspondent, whose case, we fear, is not singular, says.—"In the process of sowing a field of five acres, I found eight nests of young rabbits, five in each, about eight inches below the surface." This is "stocking" a poor man's possession with a witness. It is equal to 320 animals on 40 acres.—Montrose Review.

acres.—Montrose Review.

If we are to have I'ree Trade, let it be free and unconditional. Open the ports, by all means; but open them to everything. Let the quays be as free for fradic as the Queen's highway; let us grow what we like, consume what we please, and tax us in one round summanishing to each man's means and substance; and then, at all events; these can be no clashing of interests. This is the true principle of Free Trade, carried to its utmost extent; and we recommend it now to the serious consideration of Ministers.—

Blackwood's Magazine,

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The Werkpeople of Messi Sons, Hartford Iron Work	Pollitt, Joseph 1 0 0 Pollitt, Joseph 1 0 0	Fans I ==	TING IN SCOTLAND.—Two or the
F&	Whitiam, Timothy 1 0 0	the vicinity of	Edinburgh have lately been let, or a for them, as would lead to the con
1.00	*Wardrop, Robert, do 1 0 0	farmers consi	der the protection of the Corn Lav
Belth, Ayr-	"Crawford, Hugh, thread manufacturer 1 0 0 Clark, Archibald, drangr	this city to th	ug horse. A small farm within the south, has been let at 04.12s. 6
ahiro.	Meikle, Rov. James 0 10 0 Meikle, Rov. James 0 5 0 Giffen, Adam depar	offered Scot	
	Rishmond, George, glaster 0 5 0.	per cent, on t	en recently let at an advance of fro
	Danlop, John, baker 0 8 0 Various small sums 0 6 6	nontientiens of	s, versus Rents.—Notwithstanding I the protectionists, that the propose
Garlieston.	(Merchall, Wm.	of the Covern	ment would immediately tend to a

such money nviction that ws no better two miles of 6d. per acre have been several large rom 10 to 80

ng the proga vast reduction in the rest of land, there was a farm, within a few miles of Hawick, let last weak at an advance of 25 per cent, The former rent was 41000.—Border Watch.

A HISTORY FOR HOLIDAY CHILDREN OF ALL GROWTHS.

BY REUBEN.

The robber G— L—,.

How he got up when Buonaparte fell;
How, with the great lords, he in London did dwell;
How he lies now in a murderer's cell.
Let us all read the life of the robber C— L—,

Which is an authentic history of a great murderer and robby one C. L., sentenced to death by order of her Sovereign Najesty the Queen. Written for the Newgate Calendar, and printed by permission here.

IN TWO PARTS .- PART THE FIRST. CHAPTER I .- Of the place of his birth; of his parents of his education; of his teachers; of his cutchim; of the consolution of its precepts in the condemnel cell.

L- was born in the ancient city of West. minster, in the county of Middlesex, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen. His parents were travelling tinkers, remaining-neither long in London nor long in the country, but shifting from one to the other, as they felt a desire to do tinkering work in town or a desire to travel out of town.

At the time of C- L-'s birth, they occupied an old house in a low part of Westminster, close to the river side and near the foot of Westminster-bridge. which has since been burned down. They are now living in a temporary place of shelter, and have been so housed, when they are not travelling in the country, for the last ten or eleven years. Whether this is he. cause nobody will give them a house, their characters being damaged by their loose habits of life, or whether it be that they are looked upon as chargeable with the crimes of their children, or that they, used to a migratory life, as all tinkers are, care not for a settled habitation, we cannot say. All we know is, that since their old house was burned down, eleven and a half years ago, they have not been otherwise sheltered than in a temporary shed or outhouse. And in this metropolis, there is always a strong disposition to question the respectability and honesty of people who lodge themselves in sheds or outhouses, or under waggons in the streets, or on door steps, or in the dry arches of the bridges, or among the baskets of Covent Garden market, or under the scaffoldings of new buildings, or in the churchyards among the tombstones, or in St. James's Park under the trees, or who walk the streets without rest, complaining to all who will listen, that they once had a house of their own, but have none now.

Both the statute law and common law of the country pronounces such unhappy people to be vagrants; or, as they are sometimes called, rogues and vagabonds.

Such have been, and, as we are informed, such are, the unhappy parents of the notorious malefactor C-L--, now under sentence of death in her Majesty's gaol of Newgate; some of the events of whose lifethe extraordinary trial of whom at the Old Bailey-the unparalleled efforts of whose relations and associates, in attempting to secure his escape, we are now about to

Of the education of C---, save the training of him in practices of dishonesty, we know little. It is said he received some early lessons from one Robinson -Mr. Prosperity Robinson, we think, is the name the neighbours gave this teacher when we made our inquiries-and he was also at the school of one Castlereagh, an Irishman, living in Westminster; of this, we have not ascertained many particulars It is certain, however, that one Perronet Thompson, seeing the evil courses of the boy when in his very childhood, endeavoured to reclaim him by teaching him the catechism: but the parents, who did not desire to see the child bred up honestly, thwarted this good work, and no result was effected; at least, not then. But it is so far satisfactory to know, that since the criminal has been condemned and left to the solitude of his cell and his own conscience, and after all the petitions to save him from axecution have been answered by the Right Honoarable Sir James Graham, Secretary of State for the Home Department, that a reprieve cannot be granted—that he must expiate his crimes upon the scaffold; it is, we say, satisfactory to know that in the gloom of the condemned cell, in the hours of his repentance, he confesses to having retained in his memory, throughout his career of crime, some of the early impressions made on him by the excellent teacher of the catechism; and though in the seeming prosperity of his guilty course, those impressions lived within him as thorns that could not be plucked out, he feels them now in the pained conscience as balm upon his wounds.

It is said that some of his more hardened associates in vice, who have been working to effect his see pa those who attempted his rescue when before the inegrthose who attempted his rescue when here got applied het trates, and again at his trial, who have got applied her tions in his favour, and who is is supposed will see a desperate effort, though it must be mis vallet to the satisfaction the mailting to the satisfaction of the satisfact

these persons more than the rumours that he has repented—that he will not, as Lord G. B., one of his old companions, calls it, "die game"—and that in his hours of sorrow and repentance he confesses never to have entirely forgot his catechism, and that he draws consolation from its precepts now, when passing through the valley of the shadow of death. They say if he would put a bold face on it, and keep up his heart, and make no confessions to the governor of the gaol and the chaplain, as it is rumoured he has done, nor read the catechism or any of the books given him, to help his repentance and to case his mind, but be ready to jump from the scaffold into their arms when he is brought out for execution—as he was expected to leap out of the dock at the Old Bailey when they gave the signal-they would still save him. But they think if he has really made a confession, and has seriously betaken himself to the precepts of the catechism which the gentleman named Thompson taught him in his youth, there will be no hope of his escape from the hands of the executioner. They say that in that case it will be "all up' with him, and perhaps with some of them, for they dread his making a confession, lest in the last dying speech and declaration which will be published, he should peach upon them, and divulge to the world how they have been sharers in his guilt.

We shall now give a few particulars of his career at its different stages.

CHAPTER II.—Of Peter Street, Westminster; of his being called a soldier's bustard; of the boys of that day; of the old man with the breeches pocket; of the shoemaker; of the soldiers; of the cupboards.

One day, when he was still a child, his father and mother were going through Peter-street, Westminster, calling, " Pots and kettles to mend !-old iron or brass to sell !" He was trudging after them, peeping into shop windows, and into houses that had their doors open, and standing behind corners, snatching the bread and butter from the hands of solitary children, when m e boys who knew him called out, "There goes the young thief!" And they kept at him, calling to every me to look and see the thief. Says one noisy boy-his name was Gale Jones-" Who sneaks down the areas?" Cries another, whose name was Wooller, "Who robs the cupboard?" And then a tall farmer's boy, in a smockfrock-for even the country-people knew him by this time; his name was Hunt-he happened to be going along Peter-street at the time, answered, "Why, no one, but that there tinker's brat as robs the henroosts down with we in Hampshire, -that be the thief of the cupboards, that tinker's son." At which a poor man, who kept an apple-stall at the corner of the street-his name was Alexander Baring-said, " I know he is a thief; not that I can say anything about cupboards or henroosts being robbed, but he has been at my breeches pocket, where he saw me put a couple of ha'pence, that I took for a pennorth of apples. I know them tinkers have brought him here to rob my breeches pocket; it is me that he has come to rob; my apple-stall and my breeches-pocket. We must, all of us, help to have him sent out of Westminster. He will not leave a ha'penny in my breeches pocket."

Hearing which noises, the tinker turned round, and asked what the boys and the old man meant by abusing his son. Says a shoemaker, who put his head out of window, one Thomas Williams, "He is your wife's son, old fellow, and you may be stepfather. I dare say you are; but, blow me if I'd call him son, if my wife had been among the soldiers, as yours has been." Whereat the tinker's wife was in a most violent passion. She called the shoemaker many bad names, and denied what he said. But he stuck to it stoutly, that he had seen her in Palace-yard with the soldiers, and carrying on an abhorrent dalliance with them in the very streets, and at the doors of the Houses of Rarliament. And the shoemaker appealed to his neighbours if this was not true; and they said it was true, and that the old tinker was a cuckold, and did not know it. And the tinker was so enraged that they should call him a cuckold, and say that his son, C____ L___, of whom he was fonder than of any other of his children, was begotten of the soldiers, that he threw down the pots and kettles which he had collected to mend, and trampled on them, crushed them, kicked them, tore them in picces, and threw the pieces at the head of the shoemaker, and cut it open, and swore that he would have the life of some one, if they called his darling son, C. L., a thief and a soldier's bastard.

And while he was thus breaking the pots and kettles that he had gathered together to mend, and was fighting with the shounaker and his neighbours, his wife, still danying that she had ever been undily intimate with the soldiers, returned, after a brief absence, with some tall guardeman at her back pandigiving them the word to begin, they began, initial dup the places of broken to begin, they began, initial dup the places of broken to begin, they began, initial dup the places of broken.

mend, and gave those same people a terrible thrashing, wounding and disabling them with pieces of their own pots and kettles. Some of the people called to the tinkers to be off altogether; that they were all dishonest alike, themselves as well as their children; that the calling of pots and kettles to mend was only a pretence to get into people's houses to steal ; that they mended one hole in a kettle and made another that they might have more jobs to do, and more chances of getting into private houses to steal The people bade them to go about their business, and they would mend their own pots and kettles when they needed mending. But the tinkers had the soldiers at their backs; and more soldiers came to help those who came at first, and the upshot of it all was, that some of the people were slain, and some wounded, and some sent to prison. But even this was not all their punishment. While the conflict was going on, and all were out of doors, or looking out of doors, the insidious young thief, C- L-, about whom they had all been quarrelling, was sneaking from house to house, plundering every cupboard that had an catable thing in it; slinking off with loaves of bread; dipping his hands into sugar basons, and cating the sugar; his fingers into pots of butter, and eating the butter; or into basons of lard and dripping, which, if he could not eat, he carried away to those who had trained him to steal-to his dishonest parents, who liked nothing better than a row in the streets, such as this was, covering, as it did, some new attempt of theirs to live at the expense of others. While the people and the soldiers were thus rioting, C- L- and his parents were thus employed. This happened when he was little more than four years of age.

CHAPTER III.—Of his travels in the country; of his parents and the farmers; of the agres with more heads than one; of his protecting the farmers from the agres; of his being suspected; of his acquittal.

Soon after this, the tinkers betook themselves to the country, where, meeting with some of their migratory associates, they held a merry time of it in the woods and green lanes; a merry time, however, at the expense of the farmers.

What with sheepfolds, hen-roosts, potato-fields, rickvards, barns with corn in them, mills with flour in them, stves with hogs in them, and sows with little pigs, hares and rabbits with skins on their backs, the skins being saleable; fields with cows in them, the cows willing to be milked in the dark; dairies with butter and cheese in them, the dairy-maids willing to have their fortunes told ;-what with all those advantages for themselves, besides provender for their asses, on whose backs the pot and kettle implements were carried, and keep and scope for their dogs, they did very little tinkering work in the country. There they were chiefly engaged in fortune-telling among the farmers; and were it not that we have the clearest and most ample evidence of the facts of the delusions practised by the tinker fraternity and their imp of all mischief, C---, we could not believe that the farmers, farmers' sons, farmers' daughters, and farmers' wives of England could have been so credulous and pliant to imposition.

The tinkers would go to a farmhouse, and say, "You know we mended allyour pots, pans, kettles, and everything else of yours that wanted mending last year and this year, and we will do so again, and we never charge anything: we make the farmers, with whom we are always good friends, a present of our tinker work. But we have heard that you have lately had some losses in your flocks, and also in your corn fields; we will, if you choose, by the use of some secrets we possess, discover the thieves for you."

At this the farmer would be overjoyed, and would begin, and at great length relate all his troubles, past and present, and his fears or hopes for the future. Hearing which, the tinkers would take him by the fingers, look at the palm of his hand, bid him put a piece of money in their hands, and they would tell him his fortune, in addition to telling him who had stolen a sheep, or a sack of corn, or anything else he had lost.

And though almost all the farmers were pleased to think they got their tinkering work done for nothing by their good friends the tinkers, and though they would have been very slow to pay money directly and openly for tinkering, they parted with their money freely to have their fortunes told, or to have the mystery of the key and the book performed for the discovery of thieves. It mattered not that the real thieves were never pointed out; they always believed what the tinkers told them.

This is partly to be explained on natural principles. There was a farmer in Hampshire, who, when they offered to tell his fortune, smiled and shook his head, and said he would not like to entrust them with his fortune, not even to tell what it was to be. And on shoother occasion, when they offered to discover, either by the book and key, or by some mystical herts which we will be the containty informed

which), who the thieves were who had been at his corn which stood in sacks in the barn, he spake scornfully, and told them there was no need for him to employ them to tell who robbed his barn,—he knew as well as they did; and they knew well enough to be able to tell without either book or key, or mystic herbs, or any of their incantations. And he went on, and at last called them impostors; and when they became angry at that appellation, he called them worse; he said they were the robbers of his barn themselves, and he could prove it.

At which they sneaked away, threatening him for saying these words, and only looking back to shake their clenched hands at him, and grind their clenched teeth. In six months that farmer was sold up, and turned out of his farm.

There was another in Wiltshire, who expressed his disbelief in their incantations and fortune-telling. When he had done so, he made a boast of it to his neighbours, and said he had served the tinkers right. But all his neighbours were grieved to hear what he had said. They shook their heads, and looked sorrowful, and told him that something evil would most certainly happen to him

And what they said to him was true. In less than a year he had to quit that farm. He was not sold up; he left it with some wealth. But the tinkers, who were always moving from place to place, spread such evil reports of him being a bad farmer, and a bad man, that he could not get another farm anywhere. He and his family were at last beggared, and some of them had to go into the workhouse, whilst he himself became a pauper, breaking stones on the parish roads for parish nay.

And so it was in nearly every case where any farmer doubted the honesty or the efficacy of the incantations of the tinkers. This being seen throughout the country, the people in general, and the farmers in particular, believed that there must be a spirit of prophecy, or a kind of second sight, allied with the trade of mending pots, kettles, and pans, and of dealing in old brass and iron and tin.

Thus they not only submitted to the rules and propositions of the travelling fraternity, but they sought the youthful C--- and his parents, and eagerly crossed their hands with money to set them to befriend them, to make each of their owes have three lambs, their corn have double ears, and their eggs two yolks; or to have it told them again and again that the robbers of their barns were not men, but terrible ogres with two heads, and some with three heads, who lived on human flesh, far away by the hills of Derbyshire; and that they came in all kinds of mysterious shapes, and stole the corn from their barns, and the butter and bacon from the pantries, and the lambs from the sheepfolds, and the eggs from the hen's nests, and the little sucking pigs from their mother sows all to feed little children upon and grown-up people, to make them fat, that they, the ogres with two heads and three heads, dwelling beyond the hills of Derbyshire, might eat them and grow fat themselves.

Now, though the farmers never caught one of those ogres at their barns, they believed they came there; though they had never seen one anywhere, they believed that they existed, for the tinkers told them, and they always believed the tinkers. Accordingly, C--- L--being highly respected for his power of seeing in the dark, and of seeing ogres with two heads and threa heads, when nobody else could see them; and of frightening them away, no mater in what variety of shapes they might come to the farm-yard, he was looked upon as the hope and protection of the farmers; and was admitted into the homes of every one of them, and treated to the best which the farm-houses could afford, and more at times than they could afford. Every morning he came out of the dark places where he spent the night, and told of the things with two heads and three heads which he had seen; and how he had driven them away; and how they would have devoured every living thing on the farm, the farm itself, the farmer also, and his wife and children, and even the farm labourers and their wives and children, and would have picked the flesh from the bones of the very leanest of the labourers, and the very fattest of the farmers without reserve, had not he, C-L-, been present in the dark to protect thom.

Still the losses of the farmers continued, and increased in amount and in frequency of occurrence, until C.—. was not so popular with them as he had been. Accusations against him began to be made, and he was at last taken before the magistrates and examined. This was when he was only in his seventh year, in 1822. But the charges against him were not listened to. The tinkers said, "If accusations are admitted against him, accusations against us will follow; we must speak and act, for our own sake, in his defence." And they did so, and persuaded all the farmers who had been robbed to speak well of him, and to lay the blame of their losses.

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on the ogres with two beads and three heads, who lived far away beyond the hills of Derbyshire. So zenious were the tinkers to get the farmers to speak well of him, and with such high praise, that he was not only acquitted, but his supposed good services sought after more eagerly than ever, while his popularity increased so grently as to gain admittance for him/into the highest society. Even earls, and dukes, and countesses, and duchesses, and the very king himself, sought the friendship of the wonderful boy with the second sight, who could see in the dark, and protect them from the two-headed and three-headed ogres, who came from the north, from the hills and dales over the mountains of Derbyshire.

Charren IV. — Of his friendship with the noble and the rich; of his late evenings; of his early mornings; of the hand-loom weavers, of their children and their wives; of the murders he committed.

The fortunes of C--- L--- were now in the ascendant. From the meanest pilfering he rose to revel in splendid sin in the company of the noblest and richest of the land. He attended young lords to Oxford and Cambridge, not as a fag, nor to be a student himself, but as a companion, without whose society they said they could not exist. He taught them to perform tricks which we might have supposed were below the dignity of young nobles; but so pleased were they with him, that they almost grieved they were not tricksters themselves. It was here he made the acquaintance of some of those who have adhered to him ever since, and have perilled their own existence to save him. They, in turn, introduced him to the doctors and proctors of the universities, and to the dignitaries of the church, who all believed that he must be an excellent fellow when recommended as he was by young nobles.

We have heard of old Squire Elwes, the miser, sitting all the night in the most splendid saloons of the metropolis, supping with the card-playing nobility on the most costly viands, staking thousands of pounds on the chances of the cards, having a new pack at each deal, and tossing the used ones on the floor, until he was up to the knees in eards. Leaving this society, its splendour, and its recklessness, at an early hour in the morning, if it was Smithfield market day, without having gone home to change his dress, he would go out of town a few miles to meet his cattle coming to market that he might help to drive them through the streets, to save a shilling to an assistant drover I and to watch the salesman at the market that nothing less per head might be taken for them than by dint of a sharp bargain he could obtain. But the paradox in the character of this miser was far outdone by the paradox in the character of our

We have all heard of highwaymen who, when the profession of "your money or your life" was in its palmy days, used to rob the rich without mercy, and give alms without stint to the poor. Our highwayman, however, used to rob the poor without mercy, and give the proceeds without stint to the rich.

At the dawn of day, or an hour before day dawned, he would leave the gorgeous saloons of the west end, where he had spent the night with Lord G—B—, Lord W——L—, and other associates of that exalted order, with eards, dice, wine, women, and all the luxurious accessaries of samptuous sin; he would come out upon the streets charged by them to replenish their purses by the ensuing evening for more gambling and more surfeiting. They needed money, they said; money they must have; and he was the only one that could get it. What did they exalt him into their society for, asked they, when he seemed unwilling to work for them, but that he might use his tricks learned in the thaker trade to supply their wants, and be repaid therefor by the honour of having them to call him friend?

And it must be written, and written truly, that he esteemed it no small honour to be so called. Instead of going to bed in winey sleep, he would keep awake, and come out in the early morning, when the first of the industrious rise from their bods and go forth to work, and the last of the idle go to bed to sleep till mid-day; and he would peep round corners, and follow the marketmen and the basket-women of the markets stealthily; and he would put his hand into the buskets on their heads and take something out, and deposit it out of sight, as the clown in the pantomine does, until he could sell it, or otherwise make money of it. He would watch the corpenter going on the early street to his work, with his basket of tools over his shoulder, his saw beneath one arm, and his broad for broakfast and dinner in a napkin under the other. He would watch where this man went to work, would soo him strip off his cost and fold it, and lay his dinner in the fold. When he was plying his tools, C- L- would lift the cost, carry it to the pawabroker, pawn it, put the money he got on it in his own pocket for his sploudid associates, and the carpenter would have to work hard many a day before

he got another coat. He would do the same with the bricklayers, and the labourers of the bricklayers, and the paviours of the streets, and the seavengers, and the milkmen of the early morning; and the same with the women who sit with stalls at the corners of the streets, selling coffee and bread and butter, and water crosses, for early breakfasts.

He would go on the bridges while they were yet unloaded with the din and traffic of the day, and look over upon the barges and wherries and the one or two steamboats which had then for the first time come upon the river, as they lay dosing asleep—the barges loaded as if they would sleep for ever, the steamboats exhauted with their efforts of yesterday - with their puffing and blowing before they got used to their work-and he would see that nothing was astir there save the silent river; and he would go down the stairs to the water's edge, like a spirit that had no sound in it, and would go on board stealthily, and would steal from every one of them, and take what he stole to some receptacle for such things, carrying the money to his masters when he had added it to what he got before, and had put to it what he got after.

When London awoke to business, and the suburbs sent in the bankers and the clerks, the stockbrokers and the merchants, who dwelt there, to the city; when the shops had opened their eyes, and put away their shutters, and looked out for customers; when the Temple, and Lincoln's-inn-fields, and Chancery-lane, and Gray'sinn, and all the places where lawyers creep into when they are sleepy, gave out their lawyers refreshed and wide awake, as holes in an old house give out blackbeetles; when the river turned himself on his bed, and bade the dosing craft bestir itself, and get to work; when the great thoroughfares, which had slept all night with only an occasional sound of wheels upon them, as if they were speaking in their dreams-when they woke, and began to hurl from one to the other the traffic of giants, and shops were filled with customers, and everybody was a human bee, buzzing about and making honey, then C ___ L __ was a wasp buzzing about, too, present everywhere, stealing honey which was not his own, and stinging those who detected him, and essayed to drive him away.

At Mark Lane on Mondays, he was among the corn factors and the farmers, who were not richer of his presence. He would again meet them in the country, and again have his hands crossed with their money to tell them their fortunes, or to discover some thief who had been in their houses or their barns taking money from the secret drawers, or corn from the sacks. Go where he might, no matter whether the farmers were in prosperity or distress, he found them always ready to listen to him, to tell their fortunes and to pay him for so doing.

He would go into the large towns of Lancashire, and to the small towns also; to the towns of every other county, and to the villages and hamlets, and even to the solitary houses, the very poorest of them, and levy contributions. He would creep beneath a weaver's handloom, and when he saw the weaver's toes worn through his old shoes, he would lay hold of the bare toes and pinch them; and he would also make the weaver's limbs ache, and would from beneath the web in the loom pinch the weaver's belly as if a screw were worming its way through him; and while the weaver endured this trouble, but could not tell what was the matter, he would cut away a part of his web, or steal his coat, and sell it, if he had one.

He would go down the narrow streets, where dwelt the weaver population, and go into the poorest of their houses, perhaps because the poorest were defenceless, and would look if he saw children ill of fever, or if they were left alone with nobody to protect them, their mother being out at work to earn money to buy bread for them; he would look into the cupboards and take what bread he found there; and when the children, seeing their bread disappear, screamed, he would lay them down on their meagre bed and pinch them till the flesh came off their bones, and would leave them dead, and would carry away the morest remnants of clothing and furniture to sell it, when they were dead; and would meet the tired mothers at the door, who would try to stop him : but he would lay hold of their skinny arms and twist them. and throw them down, and would take their wages from thon if it was pay day, and would show them their dond children; and when the women grow desperate at the sight of the house stripped bare, and the children duad, and in their desperation tried again to do battle with him, he would throw them on their dead offspring, and would knool on them and crush the life out of their bodies, and commit those most cruel of murders for which he is now condomned and is doomed to suffer.

And when he had left families dead or dying, and had robbed them, and had made money of the deaths and the robberies, he would come into the public streets and put his hands into the baskets of women who were

And when he returned to the society of the tinker and the lords of London with the profits of his spoil, he would tell them how very poor the hand-loom wearen were; that their toes were bare; that they had not a cost to their backs; that their limbs ached; that they had pains in their stomachs, like worms screwing through them; that they lived in narrow streets, in mean house, with fever in them; that the mothers left the children at home, and went to work to get bread for them to eat; that he looked into all the cupboards, and found only a little food in some, and in some none; that where is found any food, he brought part of it away, or if there was very little, he brought it all and turned it into money, and there was the money.

And the lords would almost weep to hear of the misery of the poor weavers, but they would take the money and put it in their pockets, and play with it in the evening, or they would go to horse-races with a, and lay wagers, and lose and win, and return and join their wives and daughters, arrayed in the dresses which part of this money bought for them—the shawls of Cashmere, the satins of Persia, and the orient diamond, glittering like—tike—the tears of weavers' wives.

And in drawing rooms, furnished and adorned with all that is most beautiful and rich found within the compass of the earth's girdle, and shining in brilliancy, as if men had gone beyond the earth for their illumnation, peopled with the loveliest beings of creation, to whose grace and beauty all things minister-the female aristocracy of England, (who, we are compelled to believe could not have known that C- L-, upon whom they smiled so sweetly, and listened to so intently, was the crime-maker we know him to be); but in those drawing rooms, amid those fair forms, fondled and almost caressed to wantonness, C- L- toll the miserable story of the weaver population,-how he had seen ogres with two heads, and those heads living upon their flesh; how he had encountered the ogres and fought with them, and expected some day to be able to kill them. He told this, and the fair beings wept to hear what the ogres had done, and applanded to hear what C ___ intended to do to them.

He would see some wretched needlewoman from whom he had filched before, when she was 18 hours a day at work to complete one of the matchless dresses for which there was no patience to wait, and whom he had reduced from a milliner to a mere shirtmaker, compelling her to make shirts at threehalfpence each, wringing from her the odd halfpenny, turning her out of doors because she could pay no rent. Even this creature of God, broken down in body and soul, he would see sitting in the recesses of the bridge; and he would watch her well, for if she had still one penny left to get bread, he must have a share of that bread or that poony; or if she was, as there was too much reason to fear, at the fatal spot where many earthly miseries have expired, he would watch her, and catch her when wound up to that pitch of endurance where the strings of life must break he would catch her as she was plunging into the river, that he might get a remnant of dead clothes, even from her; and her last ponny if she had one. He would then throw her in, and watch her drowning struggles, to get threepence out of the shilling which the parish pays to those who take dead bodies from the rivof.

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A Gasin Law Hand, At the Literate tesies on Monday, two men, named Rollseion, and Hales, were all with being on land in the parish of Evingon, duries a right trips of the purpose of districting the state of the purpose of districting the state of the purpose of districting the state of the purpose of districting the state of the purpose of the purpo

AGRICULTURE.

LANDLORDISM'S FAIR SIDE.

We have frequently referred to the various ways in which Free Trade in corn will improve the business of farming; and, amongst others, to the improvement of the relation between landlord and tenant, which will be the speedy result of the abolition of the Corn Laws. The letter of a noble landed proprietor to his tenants, which has recently attracted some share of public attention, affords the means of illustrating this point. The Earl of Mount Edgecombe has written and published a kind of paternal lecture to his tenants, singularly suggestive of the actual state and future prospects of the farming business, so far as it depends upon the owners

The purport of his lordship's letter is to show his tenants that the maintenance of "protection" is no longer possible, inasmuch as all public mon, of all parties, who have any pretension to statesmanship, have, with more or less willingness, declared for Free Trade; that resistance and impotent rage on the part of farmers and others is altogether useless, and that nothing remains to be done but to make the best of the matter, to leave off invocations to "protection" and reliance on Acts of Parliament, and, by putting their shoulders to the wheel, show that British farmers, with enterprise and capital, can compete as successfully in the world's market as British manufacturers have done. Now this is very sensible advice, which is creditable to his lordship's judgment, as the manner in which he has conveyed that advice does honour to the kindliness of his feelings towards his tenantry. Nevertheless the letter betrays an absence of knowledge of the real wants of farmers, or an indisposition to meet the necessities of the times. Of course the high protectionists fell foul of his lordship. To see clearly that "protection" was doomed, although personally unconvinced that it is detrimental, and still viewing Free Trade with alarm, was a degree of rationality inconceivable to the "protectionist mind." The Morning Post, launched, on three successive days, three leading articles, intended to be savage, against the Earl's backslidings; in which such "dastardly prudence" as that of Lord Mount Edgecombe, was denounced as destructive of the "influence of his order;" and, it was pathetically urged, that if the example should be generally followed, "the ascendancy of the landed interest in the British empire is at an end;" a catastrophe "we (the Post) shall lament as the forerunner of the degradation of

Now it is this "ascendancy of the landed interest," maintained hitherto by means of the "degradation" of the tenant farmers, which has been so prejudicial to agriculture and so mischievous to the community. Why should the "landed interest" have an "ascendancy?" Why ought the semi-foudal relations, which have hitherto subsisted between landlords and tenants for the sole purpose of maintaining that "ascendancy," to be upheld? Now that the subject is being canvassed by the public, the days of that "ascendancy," like those of "protection"—if, in fact, they are not synonymous terms—are numbered. Let us see how the Earl of Mount Edge-combe, apparently one of the best of his class, is prepared to deal with the NEW ERA.

His lordship, after stating that his health will not permit him to meet his tenants, says he cannot refrain from addressing them by letter "at this moment so interesting to the agricultural interest."

He then adds:

"It is not to hold out any hopes that protection to sgriculture can be longer maintained; it is decided that in a few seam the English furmer will have to compete wills the locald

world.

"Nor can I so antirely get rid of my former opinions as to be able to declare that we have not great ground for alarm.

"Yet when I see, will very few exceptions, every many who can claim any lills to the character of a Maternali, openly commit himself to directly confirm whichens, and consider that on a question of this kind that of any man of eaknowledged talgot, who list haboured to acceptain the facts upon which it is formed is world the opinion of any manufaction of ordinary man, particularly when his sincerity is proved by his interests being depicted by the his sincerity is proved by the interests being depiction of the proved by the interests being depiction by apperions. I as some the soult till the result is chosen by caperions. I as some the soult till the result is chosen by caperions. I as some the soult till the result is though the characteristics. I as some the soult till the result is though the characteristics.

I shall deem to be liberally just. One thing is, however, certain—all agree that to ward off these dangers we must exert ourselves. We are started in a race against all comers, and was beine the hindermost. In such a race the manufacturers have been signally victorious; and it is well for furners to consider by what means they have succeeded."

That his lordship means to be "liberally just' we doubt not, but he must do somewhat more than the things of which he afterwards speaks, if he intends to let his tenants succeed in the "race against all comers." Although we do not know his lordship's estates, we venture to offer him the following advice. Let him discharge his gamekeepers, and give up the game to his tenants. Let him remove all the hedge-row timber with as little delay as possible; let him onlarge all the inclosures which are less than ten acres, by removing some of the fences; and let him offer overy tenant, who has capital, a lease of his farm for 21 years, without any unnecessary restrictive covenants. If these things be done, and fair arrangements made about draining, where draining is necessary, we will assure his lordship that his tenants will cheerfully pay him his present rents, and put in practice the procepts of improvement contained in his letter. Of these the following is a specimen:

"That success (of manufacturers) is attributable to, not only a steady attention to their business, but also to an unceasing activity of mind. Each improvement in their respective trades is no sooner made public, than it is immediately adopted, antiquated methods are put uside, and every new discovery of science and ingenuity without delay or he station put into practice. Those without the activity, the talents, or the capital necessary to affect such changes, become bankrupts, and their places are supplied by others in the enjoyment of those advantages or rather necessaries."

Tonants have been, his lordship says, protected from such penalties by a sort of feudal benevolence on the part of their landlords:

"Against all but tenants has this last penalty been in force, and why has it not been against them?" Because other influences besides the love of money-making have been allowed to operate. The landlord feels that the tenant is bound to his estate, and he to his tenants, by ties of the heart, rarely, if ever, known to the manufacturer, or by those with whom he is connected. Far he it from me to wish those feelings should cease to exist or to exercise their kindly influence; I deem them to be the best source of the peace, and the happiness, and the strength of the community; and when I am told that we are fated to become the shopkeepers of the world, I deplore the change from the belief that with it must come the diminution of such feelings."

Oh, most tender twaddle! But let his lordship feel quite easy about these "ties of the heart," under the new state of things. "Such feelings," we can assure his lordship, have no existence, except in the imagination of his lordship's class. Tenant farmers are not very sentimental beings, especially when the change his lordship deplores will certainly bring with it a considerable increase of farming profits. That will be a sure balm for the wounded "ties of the heart," snapped by the adoption of business-like habits. Take his lordship's own statement of the chief reason why protection was no longer tenable:

"The misfortune that has tended the most to cripple the efforts of your friends (which, like most so called misfortunes, arises from a great fault) is, that the agricultural labourers have not, and do not, enjoy the comforts they in reward for their services are justly entitled to. Our duly as Christians, to society, and to ourselves, calls upon us, each in our station, to remedy to the utmost of our power that disgraceful evil."

And why are the labourers so badly off? Simply because the land is scarcely half cultivated; and that state of half cultivation is a part of the system of paternal foundalism, that tenure of "ties of the heart," over the possible extinction of which the well meaning peer laments.

Lot it not be supposed that we undervalue a good understanding between persons so closely connected as landlord and tonant, and who really can often materially assist each other; but we desire to see that good understanding based upon a manly, rational, and business-like foundation of independence and mutual respect. This can only be under a system of long leases.

After babbling of "healthful sport on the green," and "gambling in dark manufacturing towns," in a fashion purely aristocratic, his loxdship further observes:

orbearves:

"The power to check the ordained course of events, however, possible axists, the agriquiturists are irected as, and now indeed are termed manufacturers of corn, and to exist must however uppeatable, slope to a great degree the ayelem and submit to the same has as their fellow manufacturers and submit to the same has as their fellow manufacturers.

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The orbits of the same has a their fellow manufacturers are their fellow manufacturers. In the same the same their fellow manufacturers are the same the same their fellow manufacturers. The same and the same and the same and the same and the same are same and the same are same and the same are same and the same and the same are same and the same are same and the same are same and the same are same and the same are same and the same are same are same as the same are same are same as the same are same and the same are same are same are same are same as the same are s

provements without delay. To tenants who have succeeded to estates from their ancistors have also frequently descended habits which it is hard to east off. The attempt, however, now MUST DE MADE."

The emphasis on the three last words is his lordship's. And in the next sentence, something in the relation of landlord and tenant less tender than "ties of the heart" peops out. He says:

"Landlords are on their part bound to take every means in their power to make their tenants acquainted with all changes in agriculture, which from time to time experience may have shown to be improvements, and also to give them every assistance in their power by sharing on equitable terms the expense, or by in any other way aiding them to carry them out; but in return, they have a full right to expect the utmost readiness in tenants to take advantage of the assistance and information offered, and to decline a renewal of connection with men who refuse to perform their part in what is no more than their duty at a time of difficulty and dancer to all."

Now, to us, this looks very like saying to tenants, who for thirty years have been told to rely on Acts of Parliament and so forth for profit, "the time is now come when you must stir yourselves like other tradesmen, or you must turn out." And that view is confirmed by the next passage:

"As I said before, in other trades, either the want of sufficient activity or of capital is followed as a matter of course by inevitable rain, and no aid is offered; but a tenant's case as I put it, and as I hope under most landlords it would in fact stand, is far letter; for if he will be but willing and active, consideration and assistance will be shown, to shield him from the disastrous consequences that naturally sow from the want of talent and capital. But I repeat, that when advice and assistance is offered and not readily accepted, the fate common to all must be expected, and cannot in justice by complained of."

From generals his lordship thus hints at particulars.

"I will not lose any time in determining on a system by which information proved to be useful, and the assistance you can fairly expect from me, may be afforded; and in the mean time confidently call your attention to the advantages which are certain to be derived from a great increase of the number of callle fed on your estates, to the better preservation of their manure, and to under draining."

To promote which, the tenant must first be made independent by a long lease.

His lordship next attempts to pacify his tenants with respect to the conduct of their representatives; and then himself indulges in a long string of scesaws, wherein he greatly blames Sir Robert Peel for leading the "gentry and legislators of England' to do that, which his lordship alternatively shows it was impossible for any same legislators to avoid

But his lordship's wisdom is hereditary wisdom, differing possibly from mere vulgar wisdom, and we dare say it is "all right," for at the last he comes to this intelligible and accurate estimate of the protectionist position:

These few lines on politics have I added from the desire to soften any ill feelings that may exist amongst us. It is most desirable that whatever may be the consequences—yield we must, that we should do so with a good grave, that the agricultural body, who still may claim so high a station, should not present the undignified spectacle of struggles now so clearly ineffectual—as to have the appearance of impotent efforts of childish anger—still less of quarrels and eriminations amongst ourselves. Let us rather determine at once to unite all our energies to do our duty to the community and ourselves, by industriously putting into practice those improvements which science and experience have shown will enable us to produce from our land the greatest quantity of food at a fairly remunerating cost."

This is hopeful. When landowners as a body shall act up to the convictions expressed in Lord Mount Edgecombe's letter, they will not find tenant farmers backward. Give them a fair field, and they want no favour.

SIGNS OF LAND GOING OUT OF CUI.

Perhaps the most dishonest pretence urged by the monopolists against the repeal of the Corn Laws was, that land in Great Britain would thereby be driven out of cultivation. Well, Free Trade is inevitable—it is at hand. For all practical business purposes, in dealing with landed property, it must be calculated on as immediate, or almost immediate; and what about land going out of cultivation? See a few of the first cyldences which we select at random a

Neither free corn, nor free chitic, lieve prevented the "grass parks" from fetching a greatly increased ront. Again, in spite of the tariff, stock looks up:

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county, we are not aware of any that have realised higher prices than at Shrawardine Castle Farm, near this town. By request from several gentlemen, we have been furnished by Mr. Tisdale, the auctioneer, with the following statement:—
'Of the cews and calvas, the highest price for a cow and calf was 201. 10s; and the average price of all the cows and calvas are upwards of 261. Waggon horses: One waggon-horse sold for 641, one at 631 two at 601 and one at 671. horse sold for 64L, one at 53L, two at 50', each, one at 47L, three at 441. each, and the average price of the first twelve waggon-horses was 45L 5s.; two waggon-colts sold for 71L. Sheep: The highest price for a pen of five ewes and five lambs was 201.; the average price of the ewes and lambs fetched nearly 31. 10s. per couple. Rams: One two year old ram sold for 131., and one for 10 guineus."—Shrewsbury

Next we have the following letter addressed to ourselves :

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

" Heath, Leighton Buzzard, March 24, 1846. "Bin,-The euclosed is the answer I received in reply to my inquiry respecting three farms, advertised to be let in Hampshire. Such eager competition for farms, at a time when the 'British farmer' is about to be deprived of his protection, shows how much danger there is of land being thrown out of cultivation. As the letter to me is private, I cannot authorise you to publish the name of the writer, but I think the fact too good to be lost.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, "WM. Mounice."

This is the enclosure:

"March 21st, 1846, "SIR,-In reply to your note of the 10th inst., I beg to say, I have now so many applicants for my farms, that at present I scarcely know it they are let or not. I will, however, keep your address, and if I have a vacancy in a few days I will write you again.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
"Mr. Win. Morrice."

"J. F. H."

Now with these and similar passages, which must strike the eye of every reader of newspapers, before him, will the most timid protectionist refuse to be comforted?

PROTECTIONIST OBSTRUCTION.

THE CORN TRADE.

The "farmer's friends" in the House of Commons are making growers, sellers, and buyers of corn, cry out lustily, "save us from our 'friends.'" The following account of the wheat market appears in the Mark Lane Express review of the corn trade:

The uncertainty felt, even up to the present moment, though the matter has been before the house since the commencement of the session, how the affair may ultimately terminate, has had, and still continues to have, a most injurious influence on commercial operations. It is now certain that the third reading of the Corn Importation Bill will not take place till ofter the Easter recess; and in the Lords the question can scarcely be expected to come under considera-tion till the beginning of May; it will therefore probably be June before a definite extlement is arrived at. Meanwhile merchants, millers, and dealers are likely to pursue the some course as that by which they have regulated their operations for months past, viz., avoid buying more than just sufficient to meet their immediate wants; if therefore the supplies from the growers should about keep pace with the consumptive demand, the knowledge that upwards of a million quarters of wheat are ready to be thrown on the markets at any period the proposed alteration in the laws may be sametioned by the upper house, must undoubtedly act as a poworful check to any advance.

And what will the wheat producers say to the following aspect of trade in general?

"CITY NEWS.—In the opinion of the mercantile classes of the city, the 'protectionists' in the House of Commons have taken the best means in their power to retard the passing of the plans of Sir Robert Peel. But scarcely one of our merchants were prepared to see such a falling off in the receipts of the Customs and Exciso as is apparent in the official returns just made public. The diminution in the receipts of the two all-important branches of the revenue is solely and entirely to be attributed to the anxiety of the trading interests, to see the measures of Government passed into law before operations on their part are entered into; till, in fact, they are combled 'to see their way clear,' as the almost every day phrase is, when wholesale and retail dealers throughout the country are solicited for orders. It is therefore held to be of the most pressing importance, that the final decision of the legislature, upon the corn and other measures of the Ministry, should be announced at the earliest possible period. In the event of the Corn Bill being rejected by the House of Lords, and an appeal to the country being made by Sir Robert Peel, the delay that will in-evitably occur must prove as prejudicial to the revenue re-turns in the present as it has been in the last three months." -Mark-Lane Express.

We suspect the state of the revenue has given a quietus to lordly rejection of the bill, whatever may have been previously intended.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

It seems that that aristocratic body, the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, has been moved to consider the best plan for promoting practical discussions on husbandry, at the county meetings of the society. At the council meeting, on Wednesday week, the subject was

council meeting, on Wednesday week, the subject was thus mooted:

"Newcastle Lectures and Discussions.— Mr. Thomson then moved, agreeably with the notice he had given at the previous Council, for the appointment of a committee to make arrangements for lectures and discussions on mittee to make arrangements for lectures and discussions on agricultural subjects at the ensuing meeting at Newcastle. He stated that one of the main reasons that had induced him to make this motion was his conviction that, although the society had been very successful in bringing together. The Gairblus—Much nicety is to be observed in the preparation of the griddle, which, as must be well known; is fast, round, not considered the producing a free interchange of opinion size. It must be made not very hot, because then is

amongst practical men, or anything approaching to adequate discussion on the disputed questions in agriculture—one of the principal arguments used to justify the laying out of so large a sum annually in premiums at the show having been that euch outlay was absolutely necessary to induce practical men to assemble from distant parts of the country, and that when so assembled they would assuredly both impart and receive benefit from intercommunication and discussion with each other.

In the show yard nothing but casual conversations take place, and that chiefly between persons from the same districts:

"Whereas, he conceived the object of the society was to induce persons living at a distance from one another to practise different systems, and to compare their respective opinions, so that those who could satisfactorily show their practice to be the best, might induce others to follow their example, while they, on the other hand, might themselves be led to abandon such parts of their own system as could not rationally be defended against the advocates of other

The plan of lectures hitherto adopted had not elicited conflict of opinion and comparison of facts:

"The method followed by the British Association seemed best adapted to attain the objectin view; and with some mo-diffications, he thought the advantages of lectures might be combined with those resulting from the reading of papers and discussion. He considered that it would be one main point to have the lectures short, and to have it clearly understood that such lectures should be only the opening of the subject and commencement of the business of the meeting.

A committee was appointed, to work out the detail of which Mr. Pusey is chairman. We suspect such restrictions will be placed upon these discussions as will prevent their taking a turn unpalatable to the landocrats, otherwise some useful collision and communication of practical knowledge might arise from this plan.

LOOKING ONE WAY, AND GOING ANOTHER.

A correspondent of the Farmers' Journal, who writes to uphold "protection," makes the following statements, which for that purpose are certainly oddly used. However, that is the writer's business, not ours; for certainly we cannot complain when such arguments as the following are put forward for monopoly

"These are, undoubtedly, very weighty reasons why the working classes of this country should have cheap bread, and prices approximate, as near as possible, to those of the old countries of Europe; the Corn Law of 1842 would, on an average of good seasons, keep our prices at 48s. to 50s. The proposed law, with the 10s. duty, will reduce them to 38s .a reduction of about one fifth in price—and the great question is, how far it will be possible to meet such a reduction of 20 per cent. in the productive cost of corn? I am much inclined to think it can generally be met by farmers of capital and intelligence, without any lessened demand for labour, or throwing out of cultivation any very considerable proportion of arable land; but that it will tend to employ more labour, from the necessary conversion of large tracts of poor grazing land into arable, which land will give a much greater supply of food for the national wants, and an increased de uand for labour. The reduction of 20 per cent. in the prices of agricultural produce will require one-fifth less capital, and lessen the general cost of production one fifth. If the landlord lowers the rent one-fifth, he will gain as much in the lowered price of the main articles of the consumption of his family and establishment; and from the fact that on many farms (where they are partly grazing), full one balf of their whole growth of corn is consumed by the farmers themselves; consequently, such low productcost will be to their advantage as regards such half of their

This is an argument we have constantly used. We hope the clouds which have obscured monopolist brains are being gradually dissipated, and that there will be a residuum of common sense yet.

INDIAN CORN BREAD.

The following extracts from Dr. Bartlett's little book on the use of maize, will teach our readers how the Americans make this grain into divers wholesome and palatable edibles:

"As an article of goneral domestic use it has no equal, "As an article of general domestic use it has no equal, where economy is an object to be kept in view. It is easily converted into puddings, cakes, rolls, and bread; but the cheapest mode o. using it—that is to say, the way in which it will go furthest—is in the form of hasty-pudding or mush; and in this manner, when properly cooked, its advantages as a cheap food are surprising. To establish this fact, I made the following expariment:

the following experiment:
"I carefully weighed out one pound of the meal, and gave it to a person who understood the mode of cooking it. In the course of boiling, it absorbed about five pints of water, which was added at intervals, mull the process was complete. which was added at intervals, until the process was complete. The bulk was again weighed, and gave as a result four pounds and a half. Such are the powers of expansion possessed by this kind of grain. On dividing the mass into portions, it was found to fill four soup-plates of the ordinary size; and, with the addition of a little milk and sugar, gave a plentiful breakfast to four servants and children.

"To Make Grapher Cares. Best way to make these in

burn the cakes; and it must be well cleaned and greated burn the cakes; and it must be well cleaned and greated while warm, that it may be perfectly smooth, so that the cakes may be easily turned, that they may be done brown (not burnt) on both sides: to promote their turning seally is the object of adding the wheaten flour. Be it remembered that the dough, or rather the batter, as above directed, must be well beat up and prepared directly before being cooked, though it might set an hour. This is mentioned to prevent its being supposed that it, like some other break, would bear to be mixed overnight. The cakes are usually poured or until they spread on the griddle to the size o the bottom of until they spread on the griddle to the size o the bottom of a breakfast-plate. You will think this recipe rather prolin. but it is my way in all such cases to be very exact. Better be too particular than to omit any essential item.

"Eag Pone.—Three eggs to a quart of meal; no wheat flour; to be made also with milk—water would make it heavy; a spoonful of butter; all well beat together, and made up of a consistence thicker than the cakes, too thick to pour out, but just thick enough to require to be taken up with a spoon: may be baked like the cakes, immediately with a spoon: may be based in a tin pan, which must be baked in a tin pan, which must be placed in a Dutch oven, not too hot at first, but the fire under it to be increased. The object is to have it begin to under it to be increased. The object is to have it begin to bake at the bottom, when it will rise in the process of baking, become brown on the top, and when put on the table and cut, resemble what we call pound cake. 'Hominy and asheakes' George Washington had cooked for his own eating to the day of his death.

"P.S.—Salt, of course, add as usual, in both cases."

FLAX CULTURE.

We recur again to this subject, because we believe that growing flax will be one of the means farmers may usefully adopt in the improved condition of husbandry, which will commence with Free Trade, to advance the fertility of the soil, to vary the rotations, and to afford winter employment to the women and children of the rural classes. With that view we give the following, wherein Mr. Warnes has put forth the principal points in favour of flax in a few pithy propositions:

"TEN FACTS CONNECTED WITH THE FLAX CROP. "1st. Under the improved system of husbandry, flax is not an exhausting, but a highly restorative crop.

"2nd. If sown primari y for the seed, the value of the crop is equal to the average value of wheat, barley, and oats.
"3rd. Under experienced management in every depart-

ment, the crop is worth more than wheat.

"4th. Flax will grow upon any soils that produce corn, and upon soils where corn will not grow at all.

"5th. It will flourish after any crop, turnips excepted, and

robably carrots, or mangel wurzel. "6th. Flax has been grown upon my farm in the follow-

ing rotations during the past six years:

Clover stubble, flax, wheat, barley.

Wheat, flax, wheat, barley. Wheat, barley, flax.

Potatoes, flax. wheat, turnips, wheat. Wheat, potatoes, flax, barley; the improvement of every field being distinguishable.

7th. This year I have already sown four acres and a half upon clover stubble. One acre upon barley stubble, instead of turnips. Three-quarters of an acre that never produced a crop of any kind, save briars and thorns; and three acres of which the previous crops were flax, wheat, and barley.

"8th. I have now six fields of growing wheat, but the most lyxuriant is that of the flax, and which is also superior

to any in the parish. " 9th. When wheat follows flax, much less seed is re-

10th. One acre sown with flax to every hundred now under tillage, would produce at least 35,000 tons of Linced more than ever was imported of oil-cake in one year, afford employment for double the present redundant population, and then not supply half the home demand for the fibre.

"From observations, and some experience, I am of opinion that clay land, such as is now allowed to lie fallow, would produce alternate crops of wheat, and flax much

larger than any other rotation.

A could adduce many additional facts in refutation of former prejudices against the flax crop, and in favour of its immediate adoption in every agricultural district through out the kingdom; but I trust the above will suffice for the

present.
"Two fundamental principles are involved in this impor-

tant question: "lst. The successful cultivation of the plant depends upon the preservation of the seed, a point hitherto not recognised either by the theory or the practice of past or pre-

sent times.

"2nd. The national introduction of the crop can only be achieved through the exercise of patriotism. On this ground, then, I hold myself in readiness to co-operate with any parties, regardless of every private consideration.

"April 3rd, 1840.

"P.S. Linesed may be sown with advantage throughout the present month, and I have seen good crops from seed sown in May, but the earlier the better."

That farmers are seeking information on the subject, is evident from the frequency of such inquiries as the following, by a correspondent of the Mark Lane Ex-

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE MARK LANE EXPRESS. "SIR,—Last year I grew two scres of flax as an experi-ment; I have now just completed threshing the seed from ment; I have now just completed threshing the seed from the fibre, and am at a loss how to proceed further, as I do not know where to obtain a scutching machine to convert the fibre into flax. If you, or any of your correspondents, can favour me with information, stating the names of manufacturers of machines for the purpose I have named, with the price, you will oblige your obedient servant.

"A Suscensial."

"P.S.—Any additional information regarding the method of manufacturing the fibre into flax will be applied."

FREE IMPORTS

Theifollowing paragraphs though Oaksoo in ports (Oakso farmers and

The Cork Reporter says—Mr. D. Meagher at once had the baskets, which were closely done up in matting, removed to the Chamber and examined; each contained about three hadred-weights, and every potato was wrapped in thin blue handred-weights, and every potato was wrapped in thin blue handred-weights, and every potato was wrapped in thin blue handred weights, and every potato was wrapped in the late paper. They appeared to be of a very choice kind, in excellent sound condition, and putting forth light healthy called the presume they are intended as samples of what imported from Vera Cruz. They will remain at the shoots. We presume they are intended as samples of what may be imported from Vera Cruz. They will remain at the Chamber of Commerce for inspection, and will be distributed for seed in a day or two."

"SEED POTATORS FROM AMERICA.—We observe by the import list that two vessels arrived last week from South America, having on board about 100 barrels of potatoes, which we understand were expressly ordered by the importers for seed. It was from South America the potato was first brought to Europe, and it is reasonable to suppose that seed from the indigenous soil will be highly prized at the present moment. Some years ago a small quantity of potatoes was brought from the same quarter, and used as seed by a farmer in Dumfrieshire. The produce, we are informed, turned out very superior."

POTATORS IN ROSS SHIRE.—We are glad to be able to state that the potato pits lately opened in this county are in good condition, and that there are none diseased. A great quantity has been shipped for the south, and the prices are high, from 12s. to 10s. Small quantities, however, can be got cheaper. We are within the mark, however, when we say that about 4000 bolls have been, or are in the course of being, exported from Ross shire this year, a very unusual circumstance."-Ross shire Advertiser.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Worcester, Massachusetts, Feb. 28, 1840. ELIHU BURRITT TO JOSEPH STURGE.

Honoured and dear Friend,-I thank you with all my heart for your kind letter, and the documents you sent me by life Cambria. O how we felt disposed to shout aloud for joy, at the blessed peace breathing, that steamer brought to our shores—the abolition of the Corn Laws! Who can predict the consequences of that measure of heroic humanity? How many fetters and iron restrictions it will loose from the necks and hands, and hearts of millions! How the Providence of God has co operated with you in effecting this great blessing to the world! The potato—how the base things of this world have been chosen to confound the wise, the honourable, the mighty—to overthrow dynasties! Had it not been for the defection of the potato crop, probably your long-carnest hopes would have been deferred to a distant year. Famine, then, has been a Prime Minister of Provi dence to give cheap and plenteous food to the future generations of your countrymen. The blessings of all the poor and bondmen of the earth will be for ever on the Anti-Corn-Law League for what they have done for man. They have proved that God always co-works with those who work by moral means, and that moral power is an attribute of his Omninotence which men may wield to the pulling down of the strongholds of oppression and wrong. O, you have worked out a problem for the whole world, of increasing importance to the race. You have encouraged all the labourers in the field of humanity to believe in God, and throwaway all other weapons but those of moral power. Slavery, war, want, sin, and misery through the world have thriven with fatal luxuriance under the reign of brute force; but at the spirit of Christ, the spirit of truly philanthropic hearts, they must

Free Trade! it is verily the harbinger of the millenium. How soon it would fuse the nations into one unanimous brotherhood! Oh! it is delightful to contemplate its social and moral influence on our two countries. How soon, with the offluities of consanguinity and common language, will it make us brethren in overy sense of fraternity! Why, as make us brethren in every sense of fraternity! Why, as a transforming effect on our whole western population, in whom the war-spirit is most excitable. They will be brought immediately into the most pacific attitude toward the labouring classes of Great Britain, and they will soon begin to talk more about feeding than "licking the British." How often extremes meet. It is intimated in some of your papers that our western people are all impetuous for war with England; open your ports, and you will find them more impetuous for prace. Give them a chance to open the port-boles of their vast Egyptian grapary upon your ill fed millions, and their martial propensities would be satisfied. And why will you not say to your hungry, hard-labouring people, that our rude warm hearted westerners owe them no grudge, nor wish to do anything more to them than to feed them with cheap bread. Oive them a chance to do this, and they will hang up their bunting rifles, and take to the hos and plough. Nothing could be more happily conceived than your plan of sending to the citizens of our cities addresses from the inhabitants of yours, appealing for peace. This is a beau-tiful social movement, and will be met with enthusiasm in this country. I wish it were possible to send back responses by the Cambria, but the time has been too short to call town mecetings, for the purpose of authorising addresses to our English friends. The nextsteamer, I trust, will carry back to your shores the proof that our countrymen will not be behind Jours in sentiments and expressions of brotherhood. I hope one thing, in connection with this movement, most devoutly: that is, that every town, village, and hamlet in Great Britain, which has a namesake in this country, will send it a friendly address, as your Boston has done to our Boston. There is a something extremely interesting in this; something like a word of maternal affection from a mother to adapther; accounting a material and administrated to air up thing like a word of majornal affection from a mother to a daughter; something so personal—so calculated to eitr up a home feeling. The influence of such an interchange of friendly addresses, would last for the whole generation; and lead to an indinary—a openess of sentiment, and interchange that would strengthen the bonds of our brotherhood, and beget associations of great afficient to the ministers of the good in the same that it is a slip, addressed to the ministers of the good in Great Heriain and the United Bianes, arreading to them to interchange forms friendly communities. Home to show that Obristanity, a.s. much for peace as community and sent them to all the same to an experimental to the control of the same to a show that Obristanity, a.s. much for peace as communities.

REVIEW.

The Honey Stew of the Countess Bertha. A Fairy Tale. Translated from the French by Mrs. Cooke Taylor. London: How.

This little work has many claims upon our atten-

tion. It comes from the pen of the secretary to the ladies' committee of the Covent Gardon Bazaar, and thus revives many pleasing associations con-nected with that Free Trade jubileo. It is one of the most beautiful specimens of ornamental typography which has ever issued from the press, each page being set in a framework of gold, equally novel and chaste. The chromographic illustrations are highly creditable to British art, both in design and execution. The price is moderate, and the tale itself is one of the most delightful works of fancy which we have seen for many years. But a further recommendation, hardly intended by the author, but which probably induced the translator to bring it before the English public, is, that the story may be regarded as a very clever allegorical illustration of the aphorism, that "property has its duties as well as its rights," and that one of the first duties of landlords is to provide for the feeding of the people. Imagination, as well as reason, has been brought to the aid of the great cause of Free Trade and untaxed provisions. The Countess Bertha may be regarded as a personification of those sound principles equally taught by the laws of economic science and the precepts of our holy religion, while the association of beneficent fairies or Kobolds, formed to fulfil her behosts, is a lively representation of the Anti-Corn-Law Longue.

The agreement between the Countess Bertha and the Kobolds was made when her old castle was about to be pulled down and a new one erceted, just as commercial law may be said to have originated in England when the old constitution of the Stuarts was set aside to make room for the Bill of Rights and the Revolution. The proposition of the Kobolds was made in rhyme; and to complete the parallel, it used to be asserted that the Revolution was effected by the ballad of Lillibullero. Here is the interview between the Kobolds to the Countess Bertha and her husband, Count Osmond. The fairy creatures sent a deputation to their bed-reem; and we may remark, that it was under similar circumstances William and Mary received those who invited them to England:

The Ambassador, who was at their head, was richly dressed in the fashion of the times, having on a furred mantle, a vest of velvet, pantaloons to match, and his little shoes extravagandy pointed. By his side was a sword of the finest steel, the handle of which was a single diamond. He held politely in his hand his little hat, ornamented with feathers, and, approaching the bed of the Count and Countess, who looked on with astonishment, he addressed these words

We have heard a report, noble lady and lord, That you wish to erect a new dwelling,
As this castle no longer can shelter afford, When tempests around it are swelling.

We approve the design—for these ivy olad walls, And the weeds that each buttress have studded, Seem no better than spouts for the rain when it falls, So that every apartment is flooded.

Pull the old castle down-let a new one appear-And the Kobolds will grant you protection, If the virtue and truth, which made this one so dear, Shall reign there in equal perfection.

Count Osmond was too much astonished at what happened to reply to these words, etherwise than by a friendly gesture; but the Ambassador seemed quite satisfied with this politoness, and retired, after having ceromoniously saluted the wedded pair."

The Kobolds assisted in building the new castle as the morcantile interests did in urging forward the Revolution; but the former were not approciated by the musons, nor the latter by politicians:

"One day, a mason found, on the scaffolding, a little wheel-barrow/ not as big as his hand, but so beautifully made of the best rose word, bound with silver, that it seemed only fit to be a plaything for a king's son. The mason who had discovered the wheel-barrow showed it to his companious, and in the evening took it home to give to his little boy but the instant that the child was about to take hold of it the wheel-barrow began to roll away of itself, and ran out of doors with such rapidity, that though the poor mason ran after it as fast as his legs could carry him, it disappeared in a second. At the same time he heard several shrill peals of laughter, loud and prolonged, as if the Kobolds were making game of him."

We come now to the promise of the Countess Bertha, on which the story is founded:

"At the end of the third year, when the swallows quitting their nests in our caves, bid also farewell to our climates, and when the other birds, doomed to remain in our cold

and when the other birds, doomed to remain in our cold northern regions, become more sad, and more scarce, the new castle though still far from being completed, began to make something of a figure; Bertha nothing this, as she one day presided over the labours of the workmen, addressed them in these words, with her bland and melodious voice:

"Well, my good masters and labourers, do the works advance as quickly as you can make them? Winter is knocking at the closer, and the Count and I are so badly lodged in our little farm-house, that we are very anxious to leave it, to our interest of the coping sines of the coping sines of the coping sines on the labourers, if you will enable use to anter in a month, bromise you continue to the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the labourer than the coping sines on the copi

dren and grandchildren shall receive the same treat from me, while I live, and afterwards from my children and grand-children.

"The invitation to partake of a honey-stew-trifling as such a matter seems in modern times—was not to be despised in the middle ages; for it was the form used in asking you to a good and plentiful dinner. People said then, come and take your honey-stew with me to-morrow, as they now say, come and take your soup with me to morrow; in both cases, the dinner was tacitly understood, with merely this difference, that the loney-stew was enten at the end of the repast, but soup is eaten at the beginning."

The greedy Dominick, who had come into possession of the castle after a lapse of time, may be considered a representative of Lord North's monopolist administration; he withheld the Honey-stew as Lord North taxed trade. Both suffered soverely for their violation of principle; and Dominick's final punishment is a lively symbol of the loss of the American colonics:

"Dominick resolved to take no farther notice of what had passed, and that day invited all his officers to a more than menalty splendid banquet; indeed, the terror inspired by Dominick was so great, that at the appointed hour, although the orders had only been given in the morning, the table was served with wonderful splendour. The delicious means, and excellent wines from the Rhine, France, and flungary, drew forth repeated exclamations of praise from the guests on the liberality and magnifleonce of their General; who, however, on taking his place turned pale with rage, calling out, with a frightful oath, 'What wrotch has dured to put this ammunition-bread before me?'

"Indeed the bread placed for the General, was the same as that distributed to the common soldiers, and such as Dominick had eaten in his youth.

"Every one looked to his neighbour with astonishment, unable to comprehend how any one could be bold enough to play such a trick on a man known to be so flerce, haughty,

and vindictive as the General.

"Come here fellow, said Dominick to the servant, who was behind a chair, and take away this bread."

"The servant obeyed with all the engerness which four inspired; but vain were all his exertions to remove the loat

" 'My Lord,' said be, after several useless efforts, 'this bread is so glued to the place, that I cannot get it away.' "Then the General, whose strength was acknowledged to be equal to that of four men, took the bread in both hands, and in his turn, endeavoured to lift it; but he raised the table, not the bread, and after a violent exertion of five or six minutes, he fell back in his chair, exhausted with fatigue

and covered with perspiration. " ' A drink! a drink! fellow, and of the best,' said he, in an icritated voice, holding out his glass; but he assured, I shall not fail to find out who has played this singular trick on me, and he shall be rewarded as he deserves.

mon, dine; I drink to your good appetite."
"He raised the glass to his lips, but immediately rejected what he had taken, exclaiming, 'What wretch has given me

this infamous boverage?"
" 'It was I, my lord,' said the trembling servant, still holding the bottle in his hand.

" 'Tokny, my lord.'

" 'Liar!' you have poured me out water.'
" 'It must have changed into water since it came into your glass, my lord, for I have poured out from the same bottle for the two gentlemen sitting next, my lord, and they both declare that it is excellent Tokay."

"The General turned to his two neighbours, who confirmed what the servant had said.

"Then Dominick, frowning, began to comprehend that the jugglery was more terrible than be had at first supposed; for he had imagined it to be a trick played on him by the living, while, according to every probability, it came from

"Wishing, then, to ascertain the truth, he took the bottle from the servant's hand, and poured out a glass of Tokay to each of his neighbours. The wine had its usual colour, and appeared a liquid topuz; then, from the same bottle, he poured some into his own glass; but no sooner did the wine fall there, thun it took the colour, transparency, and tase of

"Dominick smiled bitterly at this double allusion to the lowness of his birth, and not wishing to remain near the black bread, which seemed placed there to humiliate him, he requested his uide de-camp, who was a young nobleman of one of the first families in Gormany, to change places with him. The young man obeyed, and the General went to sit at the other side of the table.

"But he was no better off now than he had been before; whilst under the alde-de-camp's hand the bread detached itself from the table, without difficulty, and became like the other bread; every bit that Dominick took immediately changed into ammunition bread, and the wine, contrary to the miracle

at the marriage of Cana, turned into water. "Dominick, out of all patience, wished to cat something, and drow a large dish of roast larks near to him; but no sooner had his hands touched the dish than the larks took wing, flew away, and fell into the mouths of the peasunts, who, from a distance, were beholding this magnificent ban-

We need not quote many more of the historical parallels which this amusing flotion must suggest to every Free Trader; but there is one passage so vividly picturing in allegory a contest between Cobden, typified as the King of the Kobolds, and a boasting monopolist, represented by the craven knight, Hans, that we must give it insertion. We need only premise that Hans agreed to watch in a chamber said to be haunted by the Kobolds, just as some protectionists promised to encounter Leaguers in a county meeting:

"We may mention, for the honour of Sir Hans, that he that begun to sleep, when he suddenly heard a great noise in the chimney; he immediately threw a faggot upon the fire, which was almost burned down, thinking to meat the limbs of the ghosts it they decided on soming by that way. The fire blaced up anew, and the flames rose to the chimney arealting, and spatishing when studienly Sir Hans say a plank, about a book with laster from the chimnes of which the pushed itself forward, growing larger, and larger, without it

being possible to discover what had set it in motion. The plank then descended slowly in a slanting position towards the ground, and when it rested on the floor, it seemed to form a kind of bridge over the flames. At the same instant a multitude of little Kobolds began to alide down this bridge, like haliday falks down the fall at Greenwich, headed by their king himself, who, armed at all points, like the great knight Hans, seemed to lead them to battle. As fast as they de scended, Hans kept pushing himself back in his arm-chair, so that when the king and his army were ranged in battle before the chimney, Hans had arrived at the other end of the room, travented by the wall from gains for the though there room, prevented by the well from going farther, though there was still a large unoccupied place between him and his unwolcome visitors.

"Then the King of the Kobolds, having conferred in a low voice with his general officers, advanced alone into the

" Hir Hans, said he, in an ironical tone of voice, 'I have heard you more than once boost of your great conrage, and as a true knight cannot lie, I feel convinced that you spoke the truth. In consequence, I have come to offer you single combat; and having heard that you valliantly offered the Baron Willhold to conjure the spirit who haunts this castle, I have obtained from this spirit, who is one of my intimate friends, leave to take his place this night. If you conquer, the spirit, through me, engages to abandon the castle, and never to re-appear in it. If I conquer, you are fankly to acknowledge your defeat, and to give your place to Sir Torald, whom undoubtedly I shall have little trouble in defeating, as I have mover heard him beast of having cut any one in two in a blow. Therefore, as I do not doubt that you will accept my challenge, behold my glove.

At those words, the King of the Kobolds threw his glove

boldly at the feet of the knight.

"Whilst the king spoke in a clear little voice, Hans looked at him attentively, and feeling certain that he was not more than six inches and a half high, felt comforted; for such an adversary did not appear very terrible; be, therefore, took up the glove with confidence, and placed it on the top of his little finger to examine it. It was a little glove, cut out of the skin of a musk rat, upon which little scales of steel had been sewed

"The King of the Kobolds allowed Hans to examine it at his leisure; but after a moment's silence said: Well, Sir Knight, I await your roply. Do you accept or refuse my

"Sir Hans again took a survey of the champion who challenged him to combat, and seeing that he scarcely reached half-way up to his knee, he took courage from the diminutive

" ' And what are we to fight with, my little man?' said the

knight.

"" We will each fight with our own arms--you with your sword, I with my whip.

How! with your whip?

"' Yes, it is my usual weapon; as I am little, I must have something to reach to a distance.' Hans burst on

And you will fight against me with your whip? "' Undoubtedly. Have you not heard mesay it is my usual

"I And you will take no other?"

" You promise?"

" On the faith of a knight and king! " Well then, said Hans, I accept the challenge."

" And he threw, in his turn, his glove et the king's feet. " Lt is well,' said the king, who made a few steps backwards,

Inot to be crushed. Trumpets sound?

"Immediately, a dozen trumpeters, who were mounted on n little footstool, sounded a warlike flourish, whilst an officer brought the king the weapon with which he was to fight. It was a little whip, the handle of which was formed of a single

emerald. To the end of this handle, five chains of silver were fustened, about three feet long, each terminated with a diamond about the size of a pea. Putting the value of the material aside, the king's weapon recembled one of those whips sometimes used for beating clothes and carpets "Bir Hans, full of confidence in hissize and strength, drew

'When you will,' said the king to the knight. " At your orders, sire, said Hans.

"The trumpets immediately sounded even a more warlike air than the first, and the combat began.

But at the first blows he received, the knight perceived

that he had been wrong in despising his adversary's weapon. Although covered with armour, he felt the blows of the whip as if he had been naked, especially where the five diamonds struck; they indented themselves into the icon of his armour as if it had been the softest paste.

"Hans, instead of defending himself, began to cry, and ran

about the room, to get up on the furniture and bed, followed everywhere by the whip of the implacable king, whilst the warlike air which the trumpets had played, accommodating itself to circumstances, had now assumed the character of a one placed it in the fifth act of Gustavus.

"After five minutes of this exercise, Sir Hans fell on his

knees and asked pardon.

"Then the King of the Robolds giving the whip to his equercy, and taking his sceptre, 'Sir Hans,' said he to him, 'you are nothing but an old woman, and it is not a sword and polynard that suits you, but a distaff and spindle.

"At these words, he touched him with his sceptre. Hans

felt as if a great change had taken place in his person. The Kobolds servamed with laughter, and all disappeared as in a visiou.'

We wish it were possible to present our readers with a copy of the clover picture of this engagement; Cobilen in armour is capital, and his two squires will be readily recognised. / Here we must close this little volume, which has afforded us much gratification and some instruction,

Anti-Cons Law Leaour, (La Lique Anglaise. Revue Britannique : Sixième Série, No. 1.) Paris and London: Barthes and Lowell.

We have dulayed our notice of the admirable article on the history, character, and objects of the Anti-Corn-Law League, published in the Revue Britannique, until the Parliamentary recess afforded us authorout space to do justice to its merits. It is from the tible pon of M. Fonteyreau, a young

aconomist, who has already taken his place in the first ranks of economic soience, a place to which he is entitled by the depth of his intelligence, the soundness of his principles, and the accuracy of his observations. We know of no foreignes who has so thoroughly appreciated the truly English character of the great Free Trade movement. He has comprehended not merely its operations, but its internal impulses. He has viewed it not merely in its physical, but in its moral and intellectual influences, and has justly pourtrayed it as the great revolution of a great nation, winning triumphs not for itself, but for universal civilisation; securing benefits not to its own exclusive interests, but to those of general humanity. M. Fonteyreau justly says:

"The League, whilst working for its proper object—the sholition of the Corn Laws-has not neglected the future. Whilst overthrowing the old edifice, it contemplates that which must be raised in its stead, and conceives it in its largest proportions. The men who conduct it embrace in thought the universal relations and interests of the nations of the earth. They require a system; they require a legislation which shall comprehend them all. Conceive a boundless ocean, over which every flag may float, every fleet glide, and every kind of produce be conveyed, conceive Peace spread-ing her wings to afford shelter to the entire world, and you will have figured to yourself the vision which these beneficent men desire to realise. To a thousand voices of rival selfish ness they wish to oppose the single calm and impartial voice of reason; to a thousand interests jarring and clashing in-darkness, they wish to oppose one great and recognized interest, that of the nation. In a word, to the deceptions of the existing fiscal administration, they oppose the majestic simplicity and inexhaustible benefits of Free Trade. If they have directed their principal efforts against the monopoly of the forn Law, it is because that is the bulwark and support of all the rest."

We need not follow this able writer through his very clever history of the Corn Laws, but shall quote his account of some of the lamentable consequences which the artificial scarcity they created produced

"During the years of favourable harvests from 1832 to 1837, the number of emigrants did not exceed 70,000. In 1811, a year of dearness and scarcity, emigration rose to 116,000, and in 1812 to the higher number of 128,000; between 1838 and 1843 not less than half a million of individuals voluntarily abandoned their country. The people of Rome in times of oppression retired to Mount Aventine; Englishmen retire beyond the Ocean, and to the Blue Mountains of America; in both cases I perceive an anathema pronounced against social order. In criminal statistics we find the same gradation. In 1836 the number of committals was 36,000; in 1843 it rose to 51,000. The total number of banksupteies, which was 800 in 1888, amounted to 1500 in 1842, and paralysed every branch of industry. Factories were emptied to crowd work-houses. Poor rates assumed formidable dimensions. In five years they increased 134 per cent. in Manchester, 150 per cent. in Oldham, and 304 per cent. in Bolton. And whilst the country was thus depopulated by emigration, but death and by the principal that the best country was thus depopulated by emigration. by death, and by the prison—that tomb of the living—marriages, which should have filled the void, rapidly decreased; parents died, and were not replaced by children. Let it not be supposed that these disastrous effects were confined to the manufacturing districts, for, as we have already indicated, there is a cohesive principle uniting all the members of the social body. At the moment that the Corn Laws, the vaunted palladium of England, raised prices to the very summit of the sliding scale, a Poor Law Commissioner found agricultural labourers, working at 4d per day, in the midst of the most frightful destitution. Nine hundred and cleven families of labourers showed him the title-doods of their property. They consisted of more than nine thousand duplicates of articles pledged to the pawabroker. Thus protection murdered those whom it professed to shelter; its shade was as fatal as that of the Upas tree.

Take now his survey of the effect of the Corn Laws on foreign commerce:

"In one word, these restrictions raise an insurmountable barrier between countries producing provisions, and the manufacturing districts of England. The earth, the great producing power, or, as we may call it, the manufactory of corn, of wine, of cattle, no longer gave motion and activity to steam engines and spinning jennies; a separation was made between man and nature, between man and his fellows. These are not sentimental imaginations or visionary dreams; they are stern realities and simple traths. In all the propositions for reciprocity treaties of commerce made by England to Russia, Germany, and the United States, hor diplomatists were silenced when the scornful fluger pointed to the Corn Laws as the emblem of prohibition and isolation. They refused her iron, her yarns, her calicoes and her coals, because she refused the corn of Dantzie, of Riga, of Odessa, of Hamburgh, and of New York. Reprisals were every-whore invoked to the everlasting disgrace of the political leaders of Great Britain."

The mission of the League, its orators, its lecturors, and its writers, was to teach the people:

"They teach that men are one great family, invited by Providence to the same great feast of his bounty; that the immense variety of their wants is satisfied by the immense variety of the productions of nature, in the division that is made of all social functions—such a country producing from; unde of all social functions—such a country producing fron, such another, cotton; such another, diamonds; such another, the master pieces of engraving or painting; so that it is necessary to float all these varied forms of wealth on the same level that they may diffine the prospering without Corn Laws, and overflowing with provisions, though its soil slipe from beneath the plough, and oblighting against famine a store of provisions which in the time of Raleigh amounted to 700,000 quarters of corn. They show the granaries of the United States growing under their loads of fool, and wating but the signific pour the rich should ance the land; they curse those laws which as O'Connell said, moisten the wheels of the rich with the tears of the poor, which contains him to insaid vity they vestibule of famine—and to famine, that vestibule of death. They captee all those things; and sooks all the set in contain the

them their own deeds, their devotedness of every day and every hour to the seared onuse of truth, of justice, and of charity,

We shall now turn to his character of Mr. Coldon, which is traced with great force and discriming

"We have placed Mr. Cobden in the lead of the more. ment ;-in truth the leadership belongs to him in right of his devotedness, of his talent, and of his courage. It was by no sudden effort that this supremacy of moral force was catablished. The League had long been growing in obscurity; and it was while maturing its growth, and viviving its agita-tion, that Cobden gradually revealed himself as the here of its struggles. The caution necessary to be exercised in the selection of means for conducting an infant agitation, the contact with sulightened minds, the information obtained during his searching enquiries into the misery of the country, prepared him to come efficiently before the public; and when, by a kind of tacit consent, the League conferred on him the leadership, he found himself fully equal to the difficult mission. The scientific ardour of Mr. Cobden then took a new course, and was transformed into an indefatigable attivity for commercial freedom. There has been no great evolution of the party which has not been maturely considered by him and his faithful companions, Messis, Wilson and Bright. There is not a victory which has not been won at the cost of a thousand efforts; there is not a struggle in which he has not shown himself ready to s terifice his health, his interests, and even his self-love; for it will be hereafter not the least of his glories, to have set in motion so many men, and to have influenced so many mind, without exciting the jealousy, or wounding the pile of those by whom he is surrounded. In this we must see a proof of great moral superiority united to great integrity. This superiority is specially remarkable in Cobdens marvellens aptitude in using all the varied forms of action. Should a new system of tactics seem necessary, but finds unexpected resources in the dalm segacity of his intelligence; if the country is to be addressed through the pass, he has at its disposal a practised peu; if Parliament is to be persuaded, his address exhibits the calm reasoning and sente exposure of sophistry, which is sure to win votes; if it be required to force conviction, he finds in his own breast the noblest sentiments of humanity, and adorns them with lively sallies of eloquence and wit. Doubtless there are orators more rich in imagery, more philosophic, more atdent, more poetic—but there is no one who better elucidates fact, and enters deeper into his subject. The traces be leaves in the mind are, perhaps, less brilliant than those left by Fox, or Bright, but they are more profound. His legapenetrates like some finely tempered weapon; it tems po muscle, inflicts no pain, but almost imperceptibly it reaches the heart and compels it to surrouder. That which especially characterises the eloquence of Mr. Cobden, is ite entire absence of digression; his speech is as true to the point as the needle to the pole, and never deviates for an instant. A great orator, he is above all, the orator of the League; a sound statesman, he is especially the repre sentitive of the League in Parliament; in a word, he appears to me its very personification—the actual incarnation of its Cobden's whole life has been one of labour and meditation.

Beginning with humble means, he has realised a fortune, emerging from obscurity, he has won a reputation; respected and feared by the aristocracy, he has undertaken to guide an entire nation to the promised land of Free Trade. He is in the strength and prime of his age, if strength can be applied to one of those delicate organisations which is consumed by the fever of thought. His calm and meditative physiognomy, furrowed over by the deep lines of meditation and reflection, bears witness to his efforts and his struggles. He might be mistaken for a hermit, if the ardour that sparkles in his eyes did not mark him as the leader of a party. It is from the mildness of his manners and his sine plicity, worthy of Franklin, that Cobden has obtained the sympathics by which he is surrounded; as it is in the car nestness of his temperament and his exhaustless energies, that the source of his influence over the masses may be found. At a distance he is admired, in intimacy he is be-This is not usually the effect of great talents; they usually charm you at a distance, but crush you when you come near. I may add that this admiration and sympathy of the Loague for its chief is often manifested in a most striking manner; ships and streets have been colled after his name, and corporations have been anxious to earel him amongst their citizens."

We shall now turn to the portrait of Mr. Bright: "In the charming openness of his countenance, Mr. Bright exhibits the characteristic signs which reveal government. The inseparable companion of Mr. Coblent he has been distributed by the fatigues. shared with him the applauses of the nation and the fatigues of the strife;—both acting in conjunction without either being eclipsed; the one giving to the question clear and definite outline, the other affording to the picture depth and relief. Ask not Mr. Bright to convince statisticians and algebrates on to wine actions and algebrates. algebraists, or to win over a company of nervous lailes and perfumed dandies; he respects the figures of arithmetic, but he rarely uses them; and with respect to the nervous ladies, ne rarely uses them; and with respect to the nervous lains, there is a manly firmness in his tones which would scar them out of their lives. No: what the young quaker want is a mass of human beings to stimulate, an onemy to crush by sarcasm, a plea of charity to be poured in words of fire into feeling hearts. To day he will harl thunderbolts against the iniquities of aristocratic tyranny; to morrow, his voice, faltering with amotion, will melt an audience into tears, into feeling hearts. To day he will hurl thunderbolts against the iniquities of aristocratio tyranny; to morrow, his voice, faltering with emotion, will melt an audience into tear, whilst he describes the misery of the working classes. Behind the orator you always soo the Christian, as behind the League you can discover the democrat, the aposte of international fraternity and the gonuine rights of man. Thus this double source of ideas gives extraordinary amplitude to his language. In his speeches you find, side by elde with philosophical inspirations, the views of an economist, the philosophical inspirations, the views of an economist, the philosophical inspirations, the views of an economist, the popular sentiments and irony of a Partiamentary dehical inspiration of acutephase and frankness, sulfactor of invative, as when he dissected the similar of the Standard. Mr. Bright takes pleasing in branch and of the Standard. Mr. Bright takes pleasing in branch and interruptions of the protectionism that he likes as the and interruptions of the protectionism that he likes as the how to misely. He loves the tempels, which he know the house of the Addition's area.

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everything he takes the sympathetic side; and if distinctions should be drawn between the three principal craters of the League, I would say that Cobden appeals most to the intelligence, Fox to the imagination, and Bright to the heart. The cloquence of the leader is the most condise and contests that of Fox the most dazzling he its hellioner, and riseing, that of Fox the most dazzling by its brilliancy, and that of Bright the most touching. It has been said that tile democratic ardour of Bright has cometimes compromised the success of the cause; I would reply that causes must often be compromised in order to win; for it is at such a crisis that the distinction between the coward and the brave is revealed. Admirals ere now have been forced to burn their ships in order to ensure the victory. But I may add, that the reception which was given in the House of Com-mons to Mr. Bright's late speech on the Game Laws, proves that he unites Parliamentary tast to the vehemence of the

We shall return to this interesting article, and at the same time endeavour to bring our readers acquainted with further specimens of the growing Free Trade literature of France.

The Tiny Library. A Weekly Journal for Children. Wood and Co., London.

This is a cheap and instructive Penny Magazine, chiefly designed for the young, but not destitute of entertainment for persons of mature years. The selection of articles evinces good taste, and they have all a high moral aim and purpose. The book is well printed, and the illustrations are generally very effective. We can safely commend it to our young friends as a miscellany which will add much to their pleasure, and not a little to their profit.

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, April 11, 1846.

In another part of our paper will be found a report of the Birmingham Free Trade meeting to raise subscriptions in aid of the Quarter of a Million Fund. The demonstration was well-timed and well placed. When one member for that important town spoke against Free Trade, though he voted for it, and the other both spoke and voted against it, the constituency was bound, for the sake of the catablished character of Birmingham, to pronounce its opinion on the great question at issue, in a manner that could not be mistaken, before the country. The time was well chosen. Nothing can be more perilous to a cause than a general and delusive feeling of false security. The tranquil expectation which is now the prevalent feeling of the country is mistaken by some of the monopolists for apathy; and bence they have been encouraged to interpose obstacles and create delay. We trust that the example of Birmingham will be imitated in other towns, and that each locality will work out its own movement without waiting to be visited by deputations from the League. Let the Free Traders be up and doing, less their quietude should be mistaken to want of ther of confidences of interest in success. W. areaware, indeed, that that present quiesde die anima. from excess of confidence, and that a disappoint ment would be foliated by a convulsive and the convulsive and the ment would be foliated by a convulsive and the con

sistance, and thus provent the evoking of those dangerous passions which disappointment, under present circumstances, would let loose upon the country. It was wise in the Free Traders of Birmingham to come forward at this crisis, and declare that their purpose is unshaken, and their means ready to continuo the conflict, until victory is achieved. Their example should be more powerful than our precept. They have declared that their reliance is still fixed on the people, where it can rest more safely and more securely than on princes, premiers, or parliaments. The other great towns of the empire must pronounce, not to create civil confusion, but to avert its possibility. Even wore there "six Richmonds in the field," they would shrink from the encounter with an entire and a united nation.

It is impossible to conjecture to what despicable arts the protectionists will resort to protract the existence of monopoly as the hour of its doom approaches. They are now coquetting with the Trades' Unions, acting on the principle that "like courts like," for their confederacy is nothing more than a vast trades' union to raise rents by the means of high prices to consumers, just as infatuated combinators endeavour to raise wages by forcing employers to charge high prices to consumers. It is indeed true that the Corn Trades Union protects its unjust usurpations by legal enactments, instead of ruffian violence; but it has not abstained even from the latter, as witness the field of Peterloo. There is, therefore, nothing but what might reasonably be expected in a junction between the protectionist "turn-outs" against Peel, and the destructionist "turn-outs" against other employers. The object of both is the same; to obtain exorbitant remuneration for their land and their labour, from farmers of the soil, or farmers of capital, leaving them to repay themselves as best they may, by charging high prices to consumers.

It is time to put an end to these idle exhibitions of petulant resistance to what every man in his senses, and every woman in her senses, except poor Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Gamp, knows to be inevitable. The attitude of the people of Birmingham cannot be mistaken; there is scope for error in the patience of hope manifested by Free Traders in other quarters. We trust that in the ensuing week we shall have to recount the proceedings of similar meetings in other localities, and that our friends everywhere will exert themselves to make "assurance doubly

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MARKETS.

CORN MARKET. MONDAY, APRIL C.—Ve are moderately supplied with English Wheat this morning; most of the White that has arrived was cleared off ourly at the same prices as last Monday; Ried Wheat is more difficult of disposal, but factors do not give way in prices. The supply of liarley is short; fine Chevaller maintains its value, and sells readily, but other descriptions are duli sale, though they cannot be purchased on better terms. In addition to the Oats noticed in the return, several Irish vessels have come to liand to this morning a parket. The trade is heavy, and in some instances rather lower prices had to be submitted to in order to effect sales; but generally quotations are not altered. Fine Bank fatol full prices, the samples being few; but inferior sorts are the turn lower. No altered to the service are the turn lower. Builts in Reas. C. Eligioga.

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THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, Arati. 3.
BANKRUPTS

J. Haye and H. Ayres, Newgate-street, City, woollen drapers, [Mosses, Everest and Co., Hatfon Garden.
J. Dutt. Upper-street, Islington, builder. [Mr. Wright, Greencharchestreet.]

H. Watkinson, President street East, St. Luke's, carponter. [Mr. King, North buildings, Ensioney Circus.
J. Withers, Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire, cattle dealer. [Mr. Sanger, Essex court, Temple.
W. G. Bradford, Bucklersbury, City, failer. [Mosees, Tathon, and Son, Staples Inn.

W. G. Bradford Bucklersbury, City, tailor. [Mosers, Tathum and Son, Staples Inn.
T. Forshall, Grove House, Kennington, surgeon. [Mr. Bis good, Carey-street, Lincoin's Inn.
W. Pite, Lower Thumes-street, victuallor. [Mr. Dupletx, Lincoin's Inn Fields.
E. S. Dykes, Romford, Essex, basket maker and cooper. [Mossrs. Gadaden and Flower, Furnival's Inn.
J.R. Holmes, Poplar, brewer. [Mr. May, Queen-square.
A. and M. Duffield, Slough, ironmongers. [Mr. Taylor, Moorgate-street.

gate-street. T. G. Bhann, Leeds, woollen cloth morchant. [Mr. Strang-

T. O. Shann, Leeds, woollen cloth merchant. [Mr. Strangways, Barnard's Inn.
H. Marsland, Bossion, Cheshire, silk threwster. [Mr. Coppock, Cleveland-row.
J. Morris, Manchester, auctioneer. [Messes. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row.
J. Williamson, Manchester, brickmaker. [Messes. Gregory and Co., Bedford row.
T. M. Cook, Bath, publican. [Mr. Mansford, Bath.
M. Oliver, Langtown, Camberland, innkeeper. [Messes.
Mounsey and Gray, Bispie's Inn.
T. Henrey, Liverpool, draper. [Mr. Walker, Furnival's Inn.
BCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.
Altken, W. T., Clasgow, sharebroker.

Aitken, W. T., Glusgow, sharebroker, Miller, J., Dundee, coal merchant.

TUESDAY, Apart. 7.
BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
W. E. Burman, High-street, Whitschapel, hat and whoe dealer.
BANKRUPT'S.
R. Gatehouse, R. Darch, and G. Wilkins, Upper Lisson-street,
Umber merchants. [Mr. Lambert, Raymond-buildings.
B. Moir, Wost Cowes, stationer and peweller. [Mr. Woollen,

Bucklersbury.
O. Folthouse, Dorcas-terrace, Fulliam, plumber. [Musses.

Watson and Son, Bouverte street.

R. Arsout, Ringsland road, gracer. [Mesers. Simpson and Cobb, Moorgate-street.

J. Barwies, St. Martin's-lane, watchmaker. [Mr. Luttly, Dyer's Hall, Downste-hill.

B. Robbeck, Bog-row, Cambridge-heath-row, and Ross.place, Mile End, oil and colournan. [Mr. Coron, South Molton-treet.

J. Hare, Newstreet, Dorset square, linendraper. [Mesers, Hardwick and Co., Weaver's Hall, J. Quarton, Stemford bridge, Yorkshire, grocer. [Mr. Wood,

York. W. Tweddle, Liverpool, soap manufacturer. [Mosers. Corn-thwalte and Co., Old Jewry Chambers.
J. S. Gregson, Manchester, grocer. [Messys. Gregory and Co.,

J. Birth North Shields, linen and woollon draper, [Mr. Hart-ler, Southampton street, Illednisbury, [Mr. Moss, Soricant's

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NREE TRADE CLUB, 27, Regent-street, St. James's.

The ANNUAL MEBCING of the MEMBBLE of this CLUB was held on Monday, the thof April, 1846, at the Club House, in Regent

street Major-Ooneral BRIOGS, F.R.S., F.O.S., in the Chair.

A most satisfactory report of the financial and general prospects of the club having been read and sdopted, it was
Resolved—1. That a copy of the report be printed and sent to each

Resolved—1. That a copy of the report be printed and sent to each ment er.

2. That the committee be requested to draw up a circular, to accompany the report, calling on each member to exert himself scalously to obtain members, with a view to give full effect to the important objects contemplated in the establishment of the club.

3. That the following noblemen and gontlemen be elected members of the committee for the succeeding year, namely:

Briggs, Major Gen, F.R.s., F.G.b.

Brigts, John, Eaq. M.P.

Clark, William, Eaq.

Clark, William, Eaq.

Codden, Richard, Kaq., M.P.

Cogan, Captain

Lievy, Edward, Kaq.

Ducle, the Harl

Fixroy, Lord Charles, M.P.

Gibson, Thomas Milner, Eaq., M.P.

Wilkinson, Norman, Eaq.

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Commenced in March, 1846.
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William Anderson, M.R.O.S., 18, Chadwill etreet, Myddleton-square.
William Farmer, 26, Charlotte-terrnoe, Barnsbury-road, Islington.
James Staley, Tibberton-square, Jalington.
Thomas Sheppard, O. Cainsford-place, Barnsbury-road.
All letters should be directed to "The Second British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the All letters should be directed to "The Beround British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the The British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the The British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the The British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the The British Building and Investment and advanced about £10,500 to its Shareholders for the purchase of Property. Such success is unprecedented in the annals of Building Societies.
At a Public Meeting, at which unwards of 1100 persons were present, held at the London Mechanics' Institution, on Tuesday, 17th Feb., 1845. Mr. W. Parmer, in the chair, the fellowing Resolutions were earned unanimously:
Moved by Mr. Beal, seconded by Mr. Lovajoy,—That this meeting highly approves of the plan on which the Second British Huilding and Investment Company is established; and cordally recommended to the public as being based on seatablished; and cordally recommended to the public as being based on seatablished; and cordally recommended to the public as being based on seatablished; and cordally recommended to the public as being considers the conduct of the Directors, in walving their right to receive or claim any advance from the Company during the first in months, as highly honourable, and deerving of the sincers thanks of the meeting considers the conduct of the Directors, in walving their right to receive or claim any advance from the Company during the first in months, as highly honourable, and deerving of the sincers thanks of the meeting considers the conduct of the property of the Building Scole

Pourse priest, at the Company of the

NUMBER ONE, ST. PAUVS OHITROHYVIII

A real pool is the rib, sol of the printing of the politic

MERCANTITE LIFE.—It has been remarked to the street foreigners that case of Baldanes grantly proved in the state and, that has been remarked to the state and that has been remarked to the state and probably the street. Be this as it may, now men people to whom artificial applications have been so emission people to whom artificial applicates have been so emission been people to whom artificial applicates have been so emission able. The numerous cases of recovery of the thir safet having a been contained to the second with the second house from the Strant.

Place its power and virtues beyond all doubt or eavil; so, as, as per bottle. No other prices are genuine.—Oldridge's listin, i, was street, the second house from the Strant.

JONES'S 44. 48. SILVER LEVER WATOHE at the Manufactory, 338, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. They the truth of a mathematical instrument with the elegance of state. On receipt of a Post-office ender for its above the price will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Read Jones's Watch Work, "sent free for a 2d. stamp

DEANE'S TWO-HOLE BLACK PENS WATER the first brought out, and have maintained their pre-eminestince. Besides being used by the Merchania and Bankers of together with the gentlemen of the Stock Exchange, these Pess is a patronized by Her Majesty's Judges and by a large namer of the Clergy. Deane's Two hole likek Peus are especially adapted in tinuous writing, their elasticity affording an agreeable edse, and strength insuring the same character of writing for a long eried in gether. Stocl Pen and Cutlery Department of Deane's Wardshow Rooms, and Manufactories, opening to the Monument, M. William Street, London Bridge.

LUXURY IN BHAVING.

TOHN GOSNELL and CO.'S AMBROSIAL SHAVING
CREAM (Patrofiled by Prince Albert). This inestinable Griss
senses all the good qualities of the Pinest Naples Soap, without Lie lies
able amell inseparable from that article in a genuine state. It is of a
specify silvery appearance, produces a creamy lather, which will not trie
the face, and emits in use the deligitudi risvour of the almond.
In Pots, price 2s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 2s.
Perfamers to her Majesty, 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, InManufacturers of Combe and Bruskes of the best quality, and on the lies
approved principles.

UTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the UOLO-NIER. Parties leaving England will find it to their advantage is purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.'S, 165, Fonchurch after, City, where a large assortment of shirts, Co. adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the rage, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far more reasonable that usually charged for the same articles.

Bedding, Military Accountments, Cabin and Camp Familiars of every description, Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

description, Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

SELLING OFF CARPETS.

SELLING OFF CARPETS.

Lincolnity and Gentry, as well as their friends and the public, that have removed their Rusiness from Carpentor's Hall, London Wall, is they long established Warehouse, 4, REGENT-STREET, WATRILLOO FLAD opposite Howell and Jamos's, and to 98, HATTON GARDEN, 100,5002, where they trust that Patronage will be continued which they lave active of BRUSSELS, KIDDERMINSTER, and other Carpeting, to be sold at a Great Reduction. In addition to Carpeting, they have at their West his Catablishment, a large Stock of Chintises, Damaske, Tabourcus, &c. 28, will worthy of attention. A splendid Carpet, of British manufacture, 39-2 by 18, with a contra and bordor, at less than coet price.

BRUSHEM-NEW INVENTIONS.

THE TRIPLE HAIR BRUSH. One stroke of this is equal to the effect of one penetrating, five small-tooth combs, and e even cut brush; to be had in four sizes, No. 7, 6s. 6d. No. 10, 11s. 6d.

THE DOUBLE ANTI-PRESSURE NAIL BRUSH, which does not divide the quick from the nail, no pressure being required, in thoroughly cleans and polishes the nails in a tenth part of the that other method. Price, in Bone, No. 1, 2s. No. 2, 2s. 6d. No. 3, 2s. 6d. 4, 5s., and of all sizes and prices in Ivory.

4,6s., and of all sizes and prices in Ivory.

THE NEW TOOTH-PICK BRUSH, which entirely enters between the interstices of the closest toeth; marks, fall dise bruskel, Ref., hard. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling, No. 4, soft. The Nervey Brushes, No. 5, hard. No. 6, less hard. No.7, middling, No. 5, soft, 4 feach, or 10s. per dozen in Bone; and 2s. sech, or 21s. per dozen in Properties. Hair warranted never to come out.

THE MEDIUM SHAVING BRUSH, between the usual trade of the strongest Hair end from the Hadger Skin, in a variety of sizes, both in Bose and Ivery. The abeve articles are the Inventions of Ross and Sons, 11s and 11s. Bis hopagate-street, London, and being protected, any one imitating them will be proceeded against

FEAL and SON'S LIST of BEDDING, containing a full description of weights, sizes, and prices, by which purchases are enabled to judge the articles that are tour stitud to make a good at a full ding. Sent free, by post, on application to their catabilishment.—Heal and Feather Dressers and Bedding Manufacturers, 196, Tottenham-court-read.

CREY HAIR.—The nourishing properties of ROWN.

LAND'S MACASSAR OIL are eminently successful is the west,
tion of Grey Heir, and in the restoration to its original colour. It is
only article that really possesses nutritious virtues for proposing a life,
wrient growth of Hair, preventing it from falling off, remaining the continuous for cleansing it of seurif and all impurity.

The Beware of spurious imitations!!!—The genuine article has the
words "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL," on the wrapper.
Price 38. 6d., 7s. Pamily Bottles (equal to 4 small), ice. 6d., and doubt
that size, 21s. per bottle.

Sold by the Propristors, at 20, Hatton Garden, London, and by all the
mists and Perfumers.

TAKE NOTICE.—The Establishment of E. MOSAS and SONS will be closed on Thursday Ryoning at a cycles, and sons will be closed on Thursday Ryoning at a cycles, and open on Saturday Evening at 7 o'clock, when business will be resulted. HEAD

WORD FOR THE A WORD FOR THE
Of all the places in the town
For covering the human "crown,"
The mart of MOSEA you will find
Stands highest in the public mind.
MOSES and 80 in let nought escape,
In point of quality and hispe;
And I you know whit you were at,
You'd fasten there to buy a hat.

A WORD FOR THE BACK
Try MOSEA Coats and Weistcoats, too,
And see how wall they il act by you.

Try MORBH' Coats and Walstcoats, 100,
And see how wall they ill set by you.
In fitting there is not a wrinklo,
Nor will they spoil when rain-drops sprinkle.
In durability and make
The highest value they partase;
And when your largest purchase closes;
And when your largest purchase closes;
A WORD FOR THE LEG.
The large a root; important limb.

The leg's a most important limb,
Which folks should always keep in trim.
MOSES and SO 'may salely beg
The patronage of ev'ry leg,
For not a warehouse, any how, site,
One of the folks in the limbs of t

THE REAL PROPERTY.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNISHMENT.

A new work, entitled Habiliment hall with the self-measurement, may be had on application, and the self-measurement, may be had on application, and the self-measurement and the self-measurement of t

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have towarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 07, Fleet-street, London.

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

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

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By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

WHIG AND TORY BRANCHES OF THE RIGBY FAMILY.

"THE 'QUARTERLY.'—LORD JOHN.—If Lord John Russell's letter had not so rashly, and we now say so unfortunately, pledged himselfand his party to a measure which, even with Sir Robert Peel's support, he found he could not carry—had Lord John stoed on his own original ground, his own early opinions—the opinions, we believe, of Lord Grey, of Lord Melbourne, of Lord Lausdowne, of Lord Brougham—of the necessity of an effective protection (either fixed or sliding) to agriculture, there would have been no reason why there might not have been a cordial union of all classes of protectionists on the only great quantion that now divides the political world; and Lord John Russell might have been at the head of a government strong enough to be independent of Mr. O'Conmell and the League, and to have gathered round it all the friends of the existing institutions and policy of the country. This great position Lord John giddily threw away, and has created difficulties in forming an administration capable of governing the country, of which we humbly confess that we do not see the solution."—Quarterly Review.—(Extracted into Globe.)

We should scarcely have deemed it worth while to make the above piece of mingled drivelling and reguery the text of an article in THE LEAGUE, but that we find it set forth in a prominent place in the columns of a journal which is generally understood to speak the sentiments of a section of politicians of considerable "Liberal" pretensions. If we wrong the Globe and its patrons, in supposing that its quotation of this choice bit of Rigbyism is to be taken as indicating, in a sly way, a disposition to regard favourably the suggestion of a Whig and Tory coalition on the "principle" of plundering the receivers of wages and the eaters of bread, it will give us sincere pleasure to be called upon to retract an error which has, at least, prima facie evidence to excuse it. As the thing stands, however, we fear we can hardly be mistaken in the conjecture, that a number of what are called "influential" and "leading "persons, of "Whig principles," would like dearly, if they could, to close with the monopolists on the Rigby terms, and patch up a bread-taxing alliance of pseudo-Liberals and Tory landlords.

The above extract from the Quarterly Review is, in fact, but a plain avowal of opinions and predilections which, we are well aware, have been long entertained by a class of over-clever, but desperately purblind politicians "about town," whose whole souls are wrapped up in the vulgarest and coarsest interests of party—men who, in the grandest of national struggles for the assertion of a great principle, can see nothing but the chances of finding, a making, political capital to be invested in the hames of certain Pall-mall cliques. These men are dream of asking, whether such or such a line challent well-being—and rarely trouble them—thought well-being—and rarely trouble them—thought in the secondance of their notions with a line with a secondance of their notions with a

to discern and interpret. Their thoughts run mainly on what Rigby calls "combinations" for tripping up the hoels of Parliamentary and official rivals; and the only mode in which they ever recognise the people as an element of their political calculations, is in the periodical invention of a "good cry," to practice upon popular gullibility. As a knave is, after all, "a fool with a circumbendibus," it is not surprising that these gentry are extremely apt to be taken in—are, in truth, about the most gullible of mortals.

The Quarterly Reviewer, well knowing his men, baits his trap to their taste. He tells them, that if Lord John Russell could only have kept himself to himself, in the month of November last, and given the go-by to his own principles and convictions, he might have enjoyed the extraordinary honour and, glory of getting up a new protectionist party, on the basis of a fixed duty. Up to the hour when Lord John Russell did the boldest, honestest, and wisest act of his whole political life, he had good cards in his hands-but he "rashly" and "unfortunately" forgot which were trumps. He had a "great position," quoth the Quarterly—so long as nobody knew whether he had any, and what, clear opinion of his own on the first question of the age, and was unshackled by "pledges" to do the right thing rather than the wrong one; -when he came out with that ever-memorable declaration which made him, in three days' time, the most popular of English statesmon, he "giddily threw away" the said "great position." This is the story that the Tory Rigby has his private reasons for wishing the Whig Rigbys to swallow ;-and they do swallow it -the cunning little Isaacs—every word ;—and they fancy that some of them may be the happy instruments of repairing Lord John Russell's rash, unfortunate, and giddy act, and consummating a mutually useful and convenient alliance between the fagends of a pair of factions.

All a mistake, gentlemen, as the Quarterly perfeetly well knows-as every man knows, who has an honest eye-sight, and a tolerable memory. Lord John Russell's "great position," as a statesman of whom people were not quite sure that he exactly know his own mind, was simply the position of not having a leg to stand upon; and the "cordial union", between "all classes of protectionists" and the advocates of a fixed duty was a flat impossibility. Lord John Russell had certainly given the experiment a very fair trial. In 1841, he tried the temper of "all classes of protectionists," with eight shillings-with what success, vide the Quarterly Review, of that year, and its lucubrations on the "revolutionary Whigs." Last summer, he tried them again with "four, five, or six shillings," qualified with a "perhaps." It was all of no uso, Strike high, or strike low, there was no such thing as pleasing them. The "friends of the existing institutions and policy of the country" had nothing to say to his lordship, or his lordship's fixed duty-not a man of them had a vote either for him or it. The " cordial union " is absolutely farcical. The bait is the veriest delusion that ever was hung out; and none but extremely hungry small fry would ever have had the silliness to bite. Of the morality of the scheme thus shadowed forth by the Quarterly Review, there is no need to speak. What a spectatacle that would have been, over the departed nossibility of which the Rigby imagination so fondly and tearfully lingers! The Liberal leader helping and heading the old enemies of his party, to tax the people's bread! Coalitions, at the best, are suspicious in honest and plain men's eyes but this would have had invany as its very basis and bond

We ought, perhaps, to apologise to Lord John Russell for maing his name even hypothetically, in

connection with a nefarious project which it is utterly inconceivable that he could over have stooped to countonance under any combination of circumstances. But it is well to speak plainly, and to tell the whole Rigby kith and kin, Whig and Tory, that so thoroughly reguish a conspiracy never could have had so much as a momentary success. The League and the people would have trampled down the unholy alliance out of sight, and out of existence, in the very hour of its consummation. Long ere this the irresistible course of events would have palsied with terror the hearts of the men who should have dared to commit themselves to this felonious scheme. Why, cannot the dreamers over a dead, buried, and forgotton fixed duty see, that even if their favourite "adjustment," as the east phrase goes, had happened to be already in actual possession of the statute-book, it never could have kept possession? This year 1846 would have most effectually "adjusted" it. Ilad the Longue itself played traitor, nothing could have saved the eight shillings. Irish famino would, by this time, have taken the question out of the hands of all of us. No Minister-Whig, Tory, or nondescript-would over have dared to ask the English people to pay large sums of money for the purpose of feeding those millions of Irishmen who, between now and next harvost, will have to be fed at the English people's ost while an eight shilling landlords' tax was charged on every quarter of wheat, The public charity and the private tax never could have stood together. The fixed duty must have come offand "once off;" as Sir Robert Poel long ago said, " by whom is it to be laid on again!"

The truth is, as all the world well understandsexcepting only the men who have neither hearts nor heads to know a piece of statesmanship when they see it-Lord John Russell's "rash," "unfortunate," and "giddy" abandonment of the "grout position" which, in the lively Rigby imagination, he held up to the 22d of last November, was the vory wisest thing he ever did, for himself and for his party. The letter to the London electors saved the Whigs from political extinction. Had Sir Robert Peel's determination to abolish the Corn Law been publicly known before his illustrious rival "pronounced" in favour of Free Trade/the whole grace and force of Lord John Russell's adhesion would have been lost. The Whigs would have ceased to be the popular and Liberal party, in any sense of the words that the popular intelleet and sympathies can comprehend. Nothing would have remained to the "Liberal" breadtaxers but a caput mortuum of withered and defunct traditions. Lord J. Russell has shown himself to have far more of length, breadth, and depth of political view than many of those who call themselves his followers. His plain-spoken honesty has proved an immeasurably better policy than any that all the quidnune cunning of Pall-mall could have devised. By his frank, timely, and effective espousal of the principles and objects nearest to the hearts of the English people, he has won for himself a really "great position" in public esteem and honourwhich he will, we are confident, continue to occupy. long after both sliding scale and fixed duty shall have become matter of history.

THE POST TAKING MORAL GROUND. "No case—abuse Plaintiff's attorney."—(From THE ROOME, a Drama in many acts.)

The Post of Thursday morning takes a very short way with the Ministers and their Free Trade-policy. Sir Robert Peel, and Sir Robert Peel's colleagues, and "the crowd by which the present ministerial policy is most vehemently and noisily approved," are rescals—and of course there's no more to be said. The Free Traders, like the little

tailor's sons in the old song, are "all xogues together "-and therefore Free Trade is, most propably, a bad thing. Let a man travel all over England "to recruit his town worn spirits"-and, |go where he will, he will find all the bad people staunch Free Traders, and nearly all the good people protectionists. Wherever ne "falls in with men of gentlemanly manners, whose conversation indicates education and experience," or with " plain, homely men, who possess respect for religion and law," he "will find a large majority of such men, either directly opposed to the ministerial policy, or very much afraid that it is a great error." On the other hand, all the "riffraff" people, who "smoke oigars and drink brandy-and-water"-all the "ruffiane" who wear whiskers and talk slang-all the "seoffers," who " treat all religion as mere superstition "-and all the "loose, disreputable fellows," of "dangerous opinions" and notoriously "profligate morals," are uncompromising Free Traders. On the whole, the general feeling among respectable, moral, and pious people decidedly is, that "there is something BLACK-GUARD in the present policy of the Government"that "there is some GROSS RASCALITY in the business."

Really, this is a wonderfully easy style of political writing, for those persons to whom good taste and a sense of propriety does not render it impossible. It saves a world of trouble. Calling one's political opponents "blackguards" is so much simpler than refuting their arguments. Dubbing the Free Traders "rufflans" and "rascals" is a thing so much sooner done than patching up a decent-looking case for monopoly.

We have no desire to imitate a writer whose passions thus overleap the restraints imposed by the ordinary proprieties of language, and we abstain altogether from those retorts which the well-known tastes, habits, and pursuits of some prominent persons of the monopolist party almost irresistibly suggest. But throwing dirt is not our forts. A writer who can do nothing better with his pen than "blackguard" a party, which has all the first-class statesmen of the country for its chiefs, and the whole mass of the sober, quiet, moral, steadygoing industrious classes, for its rank and file, places himself at once outside the pale of political controversy.

We have thought it worth while to notice this coarse and silly trash, partly as it shows how very hard monopoly must feel itself driven for something to say-but chiefly because of the radically false notion of the duties and responsibilities of statesmen, implied in this and similar assaults on the chiefs of the Free Trade Cabinet. In the modern protectionist philosophy of political morals, men who hold and avow different opinions now from what they held and avowed some years ago, are inso facto convicted of dishonosty - unless they whitewash themselves by refusing to give practical effect to their new opinions as to what national wellbeing demands. Second thoughts are sinful in a etatesman-unless he abstain from acting on them. For a public man to find out that he has been wrong, and to say so, may, perhaps, be venial -though we are not positively sure that this is to be found in the litera scripta of the protectionist code of othics;—but for a public man who finds he has been wrong, to proceed forthwith, and no what his conscience and judgment tell him is right, is " gross rascality"—there is " something blackguard" about it Opennoss to conviction, when embodied in act and fact, is dishonesty; and all who approve of a statesman's learning by experience, and adopting the results of experience into his policy, are "riffraff" and "ruffians."

The aim of all this is perfectly intelligible—but we beg to tell the Post and its patrons that it won't do.

They are quite out in their calculations when they racken on damaging and discrediting Sir Robert Pool and Sir James Graham by this sort of tirade. No doubt there is much in the public lives of these Ministers, as of others of our prominent Parliamentary politicians, which invites moral criticism and reprehension;—but this is a work demanding widely different qualifications from these which ap-

paar to be at the command of our contemporary—not to add, that after all, the characters of individual Ministers are not, at this moment, the question before the country. Public opinion and public tasts will not approve the combination of the airs of a moral censor with the dialect of a fish-woman. The Post may stand assured that the only possible effect of its brainless and unmannerly vituperation is to strengthen and deepen—in the minds of such of the industrious classes as are cognisant of the Post's existence—the sense of the gratitude due to Ministers for the intelligence, carnestness, and vigour of their recent advocacy of the rights of industry.

THE EXPIRING STRUGGLES OF MONOPOLY IN AMERICA.

Monopoly has run its race in America. The monopolists of that country, aided by the English tariff, and by the eloquent declamation of Clay and Webster, succeeded for a time in mystifying and frightening Brother Jonathan into the belief that Free Trade was fraught with dangers. His natural shrewdness, however, has at length led him to discover that it is not his interest to be obliged by law to pay from 20 to 50 percent. more for every thing he needs except food, and at the same time to sell his corn and provisions in the cheapest markets into the bargain. An American correspondent writes us-"The gallant struggles of the League in England have long created great sympathy here, and have given new interest to the exertions of Calhoun and McDuffle in Congress, which there is now every prospect of being crowned with success. The discussions in England have prepared the public mind here to appreciate Mr. Walker's able report, and the Free Trade measures of Sir Robert Peel have given the finishing stroke to monopoly. There is little doubt that Mr. Walker's views will be in part, if not wholly, carried out this session; but if the monopolists in Congress succeed in clipping them now, it will only lead to more extensive reductions in our tariff next session."

 $Mr.\ Walker's admirable report, showing by the most$ incontrovertible facts that the manufacturing monopoly costs America an annual sum equal to double the amount of the revenue of the country, has startled Brother Jonathan as much as the people here were startled by the evidence of Deacon Hume and MacGregor before the Import Duties Committee, to the effect that our corn and provision monopolies were a burthen equal to the whole expenditure of the country, including the interest on the national debt. It needs no seer to foretell that the publication of such facts in free countries like England and America, must soon be followed by the downfall of a system so prejudicial to the national interests of both. The manufacturing monopolists of America, and the corn monopolists of England, are therefore equally alarmed at the propositions of the ministers of both countries, simultaneously to abolish protec-

Boston, in the United States, is the stronghold of the American monopolists; and the Hon. Abbott Lawrence, the largest manufacturer in that country, holds a similar position, as their monopolist champion, with our Duke of Richmond, the champion of the corn monopoly. A pamphlet has been sent to us, containing letters addressed by Mr. Lawrence to the Hon. W. C. Rives, of Virginia, in favour of "protection to native industry," to which S. D. Bradford, Esq., a Free Trader, has had the temerity to roply; and so strong is the monopolist interest in that city, that only one of the newspapers could be prevailed upon to insert Mr. Bradford's letter. Mr. Lawrence's letters are couched in similar language to the monopolists' writings here—bold assertion and rhodomontade—which Mr. Bradford meets with facts and figures very perplexing to con-

"From the intimation given near the close of your first communication (says Mr. Bradford, in his first letter to Mr. Lawrenge). I had made up my mind that your second would be devoted to break down demolish, and overthrow the report of Mr. Walker, secretary of the Treasury; her sould I wonder that you should desire to do sp. This public document had attracted universal stantion, job only in America, but is Financial less than the product of the product of the public document had attracted universal stantion, job only in America, but is Financial less than the olive branch of reace, and mad rendered almost

acceptable to that proud nation the high and lofty pretences of the President's measure. It had been mentioned as a most extraordinary state paper by the governor of Massalm most extraordinary state paper by the governor of Massalm most extraordinary state paper by the governor of Massalm setts in his admind measure. It had charged upon the president injustice and inaquality. It had attempted to show has a enriched the few at the expense of the many; how the high est rates of duty were paid upon the articles consumed prescipally by the poorer classes; how oppressive it was to our commerce and navigating interest; and unjust also toward the agriculturists and planters, in limiting their markets. Mr. Walker had estimated the sum of extra taxation im posed in this manner upon the country for the particular benefit of the manufacturers, as amounting to 54 millions of dollars per annum; being equal to double the amount of the revenue of the whole United States. These are high charges, and ought to be disproved, if they can be. I hope, however, that you will pardon my freedom of speech, and impute it only to my regard for the truth, when I assure you that I have been unable to find in your letter the refutation of any one of the charges above enumerated."

Mr. Lawrence doubtless found it much more difficult to "demolish and overthrow the report of Mr. Walker" than to include in confident assertions, that even if Great Britain abolished her corn and provision laws, exports from America of these articles would not increase—just as our monopolist tell us that if we abolish our Corn Laws, our exports of manufactures will not increase.

Mr. Lawrence was at one time one of the largest importers of foreign manufactures in Boston. He was then a Free Trader, and a leading member of the committee appointed at the colebrated Fauncial Hall meeting, in 1820, "to consider what measures are proper to be pursued in order to avert the calamity which must eventually flow from the passage of the tariff bill, referred to the ensuing session of Congress." He then considered, in the language of the resolutions prepared by this committee, that "the proposed high tariff and the principles on which it is avowedly founded, would have a tendency to dim nish the industry, impede the prosperity, and corrupt the morals of the people." He further considered, in another resolution, "that the obvious cons quence of the adoption of the tariffs would be, that the furmer must give more than he now does for all he buys, and receive less for all he sells." But Mr. Lawrence has since tasted the sweets of monopoly; he has accumulated enormous wealth by the law which obliges his countrymen to pay him a higher price for his manufactures than they could buy them at if the monopoly were abolished; and now he has the effrontery to tell them, in effect, that if the farmer were by the abolition of high bounties on domestic_manufactures to-give less than be now does for all he buys, and receive more for all he sells, the country would be involved in a flood of ruin foarful to contemplate. But Mr. Lawrence shall speak for himself. Referring to Mr. Walker's proposed new tariff, he says:

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"The question then arises, what will be our condition after the proposed plan of low duties goes into operation In 20 days after the bill becomes a law, it will have reached every country in Europe with which we have trade; the manufactories are all set in motion for the supply of the American market; the merchandise is shipped on account of foreigners, in many cases with double invoices, one set for the custom house, and another for the sales, so that, instead of the duty amounting to 20 per cent., it will not probably exceed 15 per cent. This has been the experience of the American importers in New York, who, previous to the passing of the tariff of 1842, had (most of them) abandoned the haringer, not being a like the control of them abandoned the haringer. the business, not being able to compete successfully with fraudulent foreigners. I will not say that all foreigners commit frauds on the revenue,—far from it; but I do say that enormous frauds have been perpetrated by foreigners. on the revenue, under ad raterem duties, and will be againprostrating the business of honest foreign and American importers. In less than twelve months after the new plan shall have been in operation, this whole country will be lite rally surfeited with foreign merchandise (if it he not so, the revenue will fall short of the wants of the Government); we shall then owe a debt abroad of millions of dollars, twhich must be paid in coin. The exchanges go up to a point that makes it profitable to ship specie; money becomes source in the Atlantic cities, yet bills on England and France do not full; the loans made to the south and west are called in; demands for debts due from those sections of country are made; exchange cannot be obtained; produce is purchased and alternative and the north it purchased and shipped; and when it arrives at the north, it will not command the cost in the west; a paralysis will have struck the hardhave struck the business of the country; produce will ro-longer answer to pay debts due at the north, and the next resort is to coin, which is to be collected and sent down the resort is to coin, which is to be collected and sant down the Mississippi, or over the mountains to Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston. Western and southern create are out off, as the people of those sections can no longer promptly meat their engagements. The new states, and he outer circle of the republic, are the weak points; and the first giving way of the banks is heard from those points where there is the least amount of central. We see the storm approaching like a thunder shower in a summer's day; we waster the great marks of trade and the architecture waster than the storm that the section of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in its course; and the banks of the swell everything in the course.

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will take place within the space of eighteen months from the time this experimental bill goes into operation; and not a specie paying bank doing budges, will be found in the United States. Where will be the revenue which was to produce such a mighty sum united by duties? Where is the treasury and the accretary? and the President and his Cabinet? The treasury is empty; the secretary is making his estimates of income for 1849, and preparing to sak Congress for a large batch of treasury notes; or, perhaps, the deficit is so large that a loan may be required."

Such is the catalogue of evils which Mr. Lawrence predicts will befall his country, if he and other manufacturers are deprived of the privilege of plundering it to the tune (according to Mr. Walker's estimate) of fifty-four millions of dollars per annum. But we are much mistaken if Brother Jonathan will be scared from doing himself justice by empty alarms of the consequences, especially when he looks to this side the Atlantic, and finds that every proposed relaxation of our monopoly system from the alteration of our navigation laws to the abolition of the wool-tax last year, has been attended with monopolist prognostications of ruin to the country. And although it is proved beyond controversy that every relaxation of our protective system hithorto adopted has been attended with benefits far exceeding the most sanguine expectations, the monopolist cry of disaster and calamity from any further approximation to Free Trade is as vehemontly repeated as ever. The fearful consequences predicted from the repeal of our Corn Lines and the abolition of all other monopolies are, that we shall lose our colonies; that the land will cease to be cultivated; that wages will fall; that the country will be drained of all its specie, because foreigners will not sell corn, except for gold; that the revenue will fall off, and the interest on the national debt will no longer be paid; that our venerable constitution will be endangered, the church destroyed, and eventually the monarchy overthrown. Free Traders are not frightened; they only laugh at such raw-head-and-bloody-bone attempts to terrify the simple. Their short and simple answer to such monopolist alarmists is, "Keep your hands out of our pockets, and we will take the risk of being ruined by it."

There is no charge the injustice of which the monopolists here complain more than that of selfishness. They protest that they desire to see protection extended to all. Mr. Lawrence is equally

"I have never (says he) advocated a protective tariff for my own or the New England States exclusively, nor have those gentlemen with whom I have been associated in this cause, at any time, entertained a narrow or sectional view of the question. We have bolieved it to be for the interest of the whole country, that its labour should be protected, and so far as I have had to do with the adjustment of those diffcult combinations embraced in a tariff bill, I have endea-voured to take care that the interests of all the states were protected, whether they were large or small. I say now to you, and it should be said in congress, and to the country, that Massachusetts asks no exclusive legislation. If Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio, the three great states, with kentucky, Georgia, Missouri, Alabama, and Louisiana, wish to try an experiment on iron, coal, hemp, cotton bagging, sugar, &c. &c., I am ready as one citizen of Massachusetts to meet it, and await in patient submission the result, which I doubt not will be found, within 18 months, in the realisation of all I have predicted. I say again, I would not, if I could, have a tariff made for Massachusetts alone."

Generous Mr. Lawrence! You kindly offer your aid to such individuals, in other states than your own, as are desirous of plundering the community er the fashion of the cotton and woollen manufacturers, by obtaining for them like monopolies in iron, coal, homp, cotton bagging, sugar &c. Is this what you call protection to ALL? What protection do you propose to give the growers of cotton, tobacco, rice, coru, boof, pork, and timber, the staple articles of your country? You know you can give them no protection. Your own generosity then, after all, is a mere protonce; all you want is protection to a few manufacturers, a mere fraction of of the people. The offer of protection to all is a delusive cheat, and will by and bye be as well understood in America (where the tariff has been already altered thirty times since 1789) as in England.

Our limits will not allow us to give further extracts from the letters of Mr. Lawrence, or those of Mr. Bradford. In fact, they are chiefly interesting to the community to whom they were addressed. There is so much similarity in the style and in the arguments adduced in support of protection, that if the words, corn, butter, beef and Bacon, was substituted

for cottons, woollons, and hardwares, and vice verse, they would suit either side of the Atlantic. Wo have, however, been gratified to see the specious and reckless assertions of the American manufacturing monopolists so ably and satisfactorily mot by the facts and figures put forth by Mr. Bradford, and which cannot fail to impress the minds of dispassionate readers. Whilst Mr. Lawrence was hugging himself with the assurance that his monopoly was secure, because there was no prospect of England repealing her Corn Laws, Mr. Bradford was prodicting that the triumph of the League was at hand. Says ho:

"Free Trade has already obtained the total repeal of the duty on raw cotton. The next steamer may bring us the news of the total repeal of the duty on bread stuffs; and who can doubt that ere long there will be a total repeal of the provision laws?"

By a singular accident, the steamer arrived with Sir R. Peel's speech the very day the letter was published, by which the prediction was fulfilled, to the no small dismay of the monopolists.

We cannot withhold the concluding paragraph of Mr. Bradford's letter, in which all Free Tradors will

"To what you will, you cannot destroy Free Trade, nor retard its progress much longer. Its course is 'upward and onward.' It is being adopted by the nation which General Cass informs us possesses already one seventh of the whole earth, and whose Government rules over one eighth of all the inhabitants of the globe. It has recently overthrown the iniminations of the gione. It has recently overthrown the strongest, and in my opinion the best Ministry, which has existed in England for a long time, because they hesitated to repeal the Corn Laws. It will overthrow the next probably, unless they will agree to remove the restrictions on provisions, and also on tea, coffee, and sugar. It is destined to change the fiscal regulations of the whole world. The opinion is becoming almost universal that when Great Britain shall adopt a scale of duties founded on a true revenue principle, the tariffs of all other nations will soon fall before it. It does not ask whether the industrious but suffering operative dwells in the mountains of Switzerland or upon the stoppes of Russia. Its philanthropy is expansive. It embraces the whole world. It assists the deserving, and relieves the wants of the suffering, wherever they may be found. It is the herald of peace and civilisation. Free Trade may be compared to an Alpine plant. It is highlight. Trade may be compared to an Alpine plant. It is healthy and hardy, and survives the concussions of the severest tempests, for it depends on itself alone for support. Protection is a hot-house plant, always kept alive at a great expense, often sickly, and requiring constant attention. What wise legislator would hesitate to which he should give the preference?"

CANADA.

The following address has been forwarded to us by the Free Trade Association in Canada; and we insort it with much pleasure as manifesting the existence of a movement in that quarter which cannot fuil, if perseveringly pushed forward, to issue in conferring on our colonial brothren the inestimable advantages of unrestricted commerce:

ADDRESS OF THE FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION, TO THE INHABITANTS OF CANADA. FELLOW COUNTRYMEN,

A crisis has arrived in the commercial affairs of this colony which demands the best energies, the devoted attention of all concerned in the welfare of its various rising interests.

That crisis has arisen from the new commercial pelicy of the mother country—a policy which strikes at the root of protection in every shape, exposing at once this colony and the mother country to the severest effects of unrestricted competition. To raise objections to this policy would not only be idle, but inconsistent with the objects of this Asso-

Believing, as we do, that the principle of Free Trade, applied generally to the commerce of a country, is sound, and the wisest, under all circumstances, for a nation to adopt in order to secure the prosperity of all classes; believing also, (since the mother country is depriving us of the favour we have hitherto enjoyed in her markets,) that the prosperity of Canada can only be maintained by its trade heigh repulered free, allowing industry and central to greek out. e, allowin heing rendered free, allowing industry and capital to seek out their natural distribution and employment; but approbensive at the same time that our legislature is not yet prepared to give affect by law to these liberal views, we have deemed it prudent and expedient to form ourselves into an Association for the purpose of collecting in one body all who agree in opinion with us. By this means we shall extend our influence, consolidate our views and interests, attain unity of purpose and action, and thereby place ourselves in a position to secure the assendancy of our principles in the commercial laws of the province.

United on the basis of Free Trade, we shall respectfully but firmly demand, in the first place, the removal of all imparial acts imposing discriminating or regulating duties; in the second place, the repeal of all duties, imperial and local, levied on American wheat, provisions, or corn of any kind whateoever; and leadly, we pledge ourselves to resist by every lawful means. the future enertment of any protective pre-

whatenever; and leasily, we pledge ourselves to resist by every lawful means, the future enactment of any protective, proinbitive, or merely regulating duties—ballsving such to be
detrimental to the general interests of society, and at variance with sound policy.

We further evow that we entertain the opinion that duties
should be levied solely for the purpose of creating revonue
to provide for the necessities of Government, and the extenston of internal improvements; and that, for these objects,
such articles only should be selected for duty as will afford it
without restricting, or fattering the general commerce—the
carrying trade—or the agricultural industry of the country.
Dislaving these to be our guiding principles and opinions, we
now as resetly invitament of all classes throughout the provides,
to compute and compared with us to give them, provided,
to compute and compared with us to give them, provided,
and them through the legislature. We sell upon

our fellow-citizans to enrol their names upon our backs, and

our fellow-entables to enter their names upon our books, and our fellow-entableds at a distance to form branches, in connection with this control Association.

The commerce and industry of this colony, as yet in their infancy, and hitherto nourished under an unsound system of the seal out their sections. protective stimulants, will soon be left to seek out their natural channels; and fortunate will it be for our common welfare, if, by our united efforts, we now succeed in planting the principle of Free Trade in our commercial system. Then,—but not ill then,—may we hope to make the Saint Lawrence the highway for the rich products of the teening west—to develope the vast resources of this rising colony—and to secure for her people the highest possible share of

prosperity and happiness.

We shall now address a few words to the Canadian agriculturist, to satisfy him that he has nothing to fear from Free Trade; but that, on the contrary, he will derive advantage from it in common with every other member of the community. We are aware the opinion prevails that protective duties enhance prices, and we shall consequently take some pains to remove this fallacy.

All writers of eminence on the subject of political economy; all close and carnest observers of the course of trade, agree in opinion that where a country is in the habit of exporting in opinion that where a country is in the habit of exporting any surplus produce, the price in the market she mainly depends on, as her customer, regulates the value of the whole to the producer. Canada is in that position. She has for many years past been an exporter of agricultural produce, partly her own growth, and partly naturalised American; and the course of prices has ever been regulated by the value in the markets to which such surplus was sent. To prove this the markets to which such surplus was sent. To prove this to the satisfaction of all reasonable men, it will only be necessary, we think, to review prices here for the last six years. We adopt this term as most likely to carry conviction to the minds of agriculturists, because it enables us to compare prices during two periods of directly opposite character. During the first period, American wheat was admitted duty free; during the latter it was subject to a duty of 3s. sterling per quarter. Let us now compare the average price of flour in the said years in the Montreal market; taking flour as our criterion, not as being better adapted to our purpose, but because the market prices are better fixed and more readily got at. We shall place these prices in parallel columns, that the principle we are contending for may be obvious at a glance, viz; that, to the Canadian agriculturist, prices are not enhanced by protective daties, but depend on the market to which his median to gentle.

Thus when American Wheat American Wheat subject to was admitted into Canada free, prices were as follows, i. c. the average of the year:

1840 ... 26s 10d
1841 ... 28s 5d
1849 ... 30s 0d a duty of 3s, sterling per quarter; Average prices of the year; 1843 . 25s 7d 1844 . 25s 3d .. ชอด 7d .. ชอด 5d .. \$7s 2d verage of 3 years, 28s od Average of 3 years, 26e

which his preduce is sent:

Who now will contend, with these facts before him, that prices are enhanced by protective duties, or that such duties favour in the slightest degree the prosperity of the Canadian farmer? We call upon him, therefore, to unite with us to rid the country of such fettering duties, which plainly have no effect but that of crippling its industry, and restricting its commerce. Let him also bear in mind, that our plan, if fully carried out, will cheapen every commodity which he requires for his daily uso; for, by removing all discriminating and regulating duties, we shall enable him and every other consumer, to obtain his sugar and his tea, his wearing apparel and his luxuries, wherever he can procure them cheanest.

We now proceed, in the development of our plan, to show the incalculable advantages that will result to Canadian com-merce and the carrying trade, by removing all duties and restrictions from American produce.

First, we shall show the amount of produce collected annually on the shores of our great inland waters, and brought to this city for distribution to the various markets of consumption; next, the vast quantity that passes through the Eric Caual, seeking a market at New York, and other American ports; and lastly, we shall show that it is in the power of Canada to divert a large share of this latter trade through her own waters, if her people and legislature will promptly give effect to the liberal and enlarged policy which it is the object of this Association to advocate and urge:

No. 1,-Table showing the quantity of Produce brought by the St. Lawrence to the City of Montreal in the year 1846.

Pork. Bris.	Boef, Brls,	lard. Kogs.	Flour. Bris.	Wheat. Bush.	Othor Grain, Bush,	Ashes. Вим.	Butter, Koga,
6109	723	461	590,305	450,200	40781	33,000	HIIZ
No. 2	-'I'able	showing the	g the qu Erio Can	mulity of all in the	Produc your 184/	o carried	through

Pork. Brls.	Beef. Brls.	Lard. Lbs.	Flour. Brls.	Whoat, Bush.	Corn. Bugh.	Plax- nood. Libn,	Anlien. Bris.
03046	7690	3084800	2517250	1620033	35803	8:10:10:10	80040

From the foregoing tables, it will be seen that the quantity carried through the latter channel is enormous as compared with the former. It becomes then a question of vital importance, whether a portion of this trade can be attracted through the St. Lawrence. We believe that it can, because the cheapest conveyance to the sea-board and to the manufacturing districts of New England must win the prize; and who will deny that the securing of this prize is not worth

our best and united exertions? The cheapening of the means of transit is the great object to be attained; and our best practical authorities are firmly of opinion that the Saint Lawrence will be made the cheapest route as soon as our chain of inland improvements is est route as soon as our chain of inland improvements is rendered complete. They affirm that the cost of transporting a barrel of flour, from Detroit to Montreal, will not exceed is, 6d, to is. 9d. The difficulty will then be to secure a port of constant access to the sea; and that difficulty will be overcome by the early completion of the projected Portland railway; a road that will place us within a day's journey of that city, the harbour of which may be made the safest and cheapest on the Continent of America. By that route, we shall avoid the occasional dangers and inconveniences of the St. avoid the occonsional dangers and inconveniences of the St.

Lawrence from Montreal outwards, practically secure a longer season for trade in the fall of the year, and safely rockon ou relights to Liverpool as low as those from New York. But what is equally important to the trainfit trade to England, is this: that by rendering our charges cheaper than those through the Eric Canal to Boalon, we shall secure the trainfit trade to that great city, and all other Beatern markets, as well as the supplying of our class, colonies, promopny known as the lower ports. This ploture may appear too

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flattering to those who have not investigated the subject; but flattering to those who have not investigated the sunject; but to such we say, examination will convince them that, with the Saint Lawrence as a highway, and Portland as an outlet to the sea, we shall be enabled successfully to struggle for the mighty trade of the west, and bid defance to competition on the more artificial route of the Eric Canal. But there is no time for slumbering; inactivity at this crisis would be fatel to our hones; even the vary produce of would be fatal to our hopes; even the very produce of Western Canada may be carried, in spite of us, through American channels, unless we immediately carry out the completion of our own.

We may also here remind the Canadian farmer, at whatever place he may be situated, that every saving effected in the means of bringing his produce to market, adds in the same degree to the value of his wheat and every other marketable produce of the soil he cultivates. And here it may not be out of place to add that, repudiating all sectional feelings, we seek no advantage for element to require advantage. ings, we seek no advantage for classes, no peculiar advantage for Montreal over other parts of the province; we advocate, on the contrary, the general interests of producers and consumers—the general welfare of the community,

sumers—the general welfare of the community.

In connection with the foregoing we shall now briefly advert to the Regulation Acts imposed by the mother country, for the purpose of scenring harmony in the working of her commercial policy. These Acts were carried when England's policy was protective, and we had no right or interest to complain of them. Now her policy is founded on the opposite principle, that of Free Trade, and it becomes the duty of this colony to object to their continuance, as incompatible with the welfare and development of her resources and interests. We allude now to the imof her resources and interests. We allude now to the imperial duties on American produce and provisions generally. ngland can have no interest now in maintaining these fetters on our trade, and will doubtless remove them as soon as their objectionable effects are fairly and legitimately brought under her novice,

orought under ner nouse,
The imperial duties upon foreign manufactures are also
objectionable, as being at variance with the imperial maxim
of legislation:—"That it is true policy to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market." They are also at variance with the doctrine laid down by Mr. Goulburn, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the late debates in the House of Commons, "that Canada has no right to complain as long as she is placed on the same footing as the inhabitants of the mother country.

Accepting this doctrine as sound, this Association shall deem it its duty to demand the removal of all Imperial Acts levying discriminating duties on articles of foreign manufacture; thus leaving us free to obtain our supplies wherever

they can be produced cheapest,
We conclude by again appealing to the Canadian public to combine with us to give effect to the principles of Free Trade in our commercial policy—the only policy which can secure prosperity and rapid development to our great resources and the rising interests of all classes of society.

In the name of the Free Trade Association,

JOHN YOUNG, Chairman, Office of the Free Trade Association, Montreal, March, 1816.

FREE TRADE IN FRANCE

The following observations from the Journal des Débats, on the question of Free Trade, are interesting at the present moment, as, from the semi-official character of the Tibbats, it may probably be taken as expressing the opinions of the French Government on the question. The Debats

says:

"The absolute isolation of nations, which is the object of prohibitionists, is a countersense in the present day. Is it peace or war which exists in Europe? Is it peace or war which ought to be encouraged? Is the most evident probability in favour of peace or war. What is a peace in which commerce, destined to bind nations together, is subjected to a thousand obstacles, a thousand delays, a thousand vexademand and ought to demand, they go right against their object in placing at each frontier excessive tariffs, like an unscaleable wall. Foreigner remains synonymous with enemy, increase if the common way will receive the first or if the common way will receive the first or if the common way will receive the first or if the common way will receive the first or if the common way will receive the first or the common way will receive the first or the first or the common way will receive the first of the common way will receive the first of the common way was at its contraction. just as if the cannon was still roaring. If a Free Trade between two nations is publicly qualified as a tribute paid to a foreign power, in place of becoming in the official language what it really is, a profitable arrangement for both parties, what is done but to excite relative to commerce those ideas of hostility and implacable jealousy, of which the political effects are so justly dreaded? It has been declared a thousand times to the friends of prohibition, without their being able to give it an answer—that these absolute pro-leibitions, these exorbitant duties, place everything on a wrong faoting, and in the end injure the very persons they were intended to protect. Let us take, for instance, the fabrication of linen threads and cloths by machinery. Great Britain, in whose manufactories work is done on so immense a scale, had produced a complete revolution in this article, and it was necessary to raise ourselves to a level with her. The principal impediment in this improve-ment consists in the dearness of spinning machines. What, ho sever, is done? At the moment that England permits ho vever, is done? At the moment that England permits the exportation of these machines, hitherto prohibited, in place of opening to them overy entrance free of duty for a period of four or five years, which would infallibly produce the creation of numerous spinning factories, the duty on them, already clevated, has been augmented to an extreme amount. This, forsooth, is called protecting the national labour. It must be stated that this most ill-judged measure is 0 to of those which the orators of the League delight in referring to most frequently, to prove to their auditory to what ino le of those which the orators of the Longue designt in referring to most frequently, to prove to their auditory to what inconsistencies the prohibitive system was sure to lead. Quite lately, even ideas of Free Trade, prescrited with extreme moderation, and with due regard to the projudices of nations, excited a sort of disdain. They were considered mere excited a sort of disdain. Utopian schemes, young men's dreams. Adam Smith was a madman, political economists lightheads; and in order to merit the title of a practical man, the first condition order to merit the title of a practical man, the first condition was to greet Free Trade, even in a mitigated point of view, with a smile. The practical man in commercial matters was he who had no fixed principle; who had matters was he who had no fixed principle; who had matter read nor written anything on the subject, if not to cause a laugh against political economy. What do practical men think of the matter at present? Is Sir R. Pool a practical man? Is the avowal which he has made of his old prohibitive illusions an error, or the act of a great statesman, etrong in his knowledge and his conviction? Is the atriking homoga which he has rendered to the memory of Action Smith the enthusiasm of an unthinking scholar? We know wall that our prohibitive gentlemen will say—Oh! this is another Machiavelian trick of la perfide Albion! England, which produces everything cheaper than other

nations, has nothing to fear from the general reduction of duties; let us not be the dupes of this ruse de guerre. What England, however, produces cheaper than others is not wheat, which is certainly as important a matter as any other; nor glass, paper, silk goods, nor articles of fashion, or bronzes. The act of the English government is a sincere ore, inspired by a profound conviction. This conviction takes its origin in facts, and the result is, that the English Government takes this step the first without demanding a return from any one; it is not a bargain which it makes with other nations, but an example which it gives. It is an act of enlightened policy, a decisive demonstration in favour of the peace of the world, which thus receives a precious pladus. From what passes in England it must come to pledge. From what passes in England it must come to pass that in France, as elsewhere, in consequence of the movement that has declared itself, the old prohibition system will be shaken, and that the duties will be successively modified so as to facilitate Prec Trade. The formidable phrase of a tribute paid to foreign powers will lose its power and prestige. It will be generally understood that commercial transactions profit the two contracting parties, nation and nation as well as individual and individual. Already some governments, shaken by the example of Great Britain, give the signal. Absolute prohibitions will disappear from the code of nations, from ours at least, where they are still so multiplied. It will be admitted that it is good for foreign competition to make itself be felt, in order to stimulate manufacturing improvements. The various great interests of the kingdom are as little tractable in England as with its, and yet we find that they yield to evidence, and accept what is commanded by the general interest. We do not deny that absolute liberty of commerce is, like perpetual peace, a Utopian scheme; but still it is one of those schemes which we ought to endeavour to approach as much as possible, and towards which we ought each day to make a step. The ultra-conduct of the partisans of the prohibitive system has at length produced a reaction which will impel us strongly in the course just alluded to. Such is the state of things, and we consider it fortunate for the country."

PROGRESS OF FREE TRADE ON THE CONTINENT.

(From the Times.)
The principles of Free Trade, so efficiently demonstrated in the measures of Sir Robert Peel, have, we have many reasons for believing, already found an echo on the Continent. The large mass of population embraced in the Zollverein, or German Customs Union, are impatiently awaiting the final accomplishment of those measures, in order that they may demand a corresponding reduction of the import duties which at present press so heavily on many articles of consumption. They will not, after England gives the example, continue to suffer under the penalties of restrictive, or, as they are improperly called, "protecting duties." cloth and the cotton which we can furnish at from 25 to 60 per cent, cheaper than the native manufacturer must ere long find their way into all the German markets. The good of the many cannot be sacrificed to the benefit of the few. And the mistaken policy by which some millions of people are condemned to purchase an inferior article at an exorbitant price will receive, even in its stronghold of the Zollverein, a speedy condemnation.

The King of Prussia has taken the first step in this important affair. He has addressed a note to all the members of the Customs Union, impressing on them the necessity of yielding to the spirit of the age, and of revising the tariff. It is true that the southern states of the Union receive those advances with much coldness, and that the influence of the capitalist manufacturers is for the moment predominant. But those local interests must give way before the principle of Free Trade; and if the Prussian Government follow up this step with sufficient vigour, public opinion will triumph over a partial and selfish opposition. The influence of England is great; her moral power is the wonder of the world; but never have their effects been more sensibly felt than in the rapid adoption of the principles advocated by Sir Robert Pecl, and supported by so great a majority of the House of Commons, throughout an union of states where monopoly and protection apparently were most firmly esta-

THE ROAR OF THE BRITISH LION. (From the Morning Chronicle.)

We thought the protectionists were going to make great play this Easter recess. It was not to be supposed that men of so much practical good sense could be toiling away in the House of the Commons, sweating themselves and boring mankind, without some definite object in view. The chiest of that multipoliums and interminable contour are object of their multitudinous and interminable oratory appeared palpable. Why was the meagre material of one night's debate amplified by repetition and dilution into the talk of twenty nights? Why were old squires condemned to break the silence of years? new county members put up to break the silence of years? new county members put up to boggle the very night they had taken their seats? and unitedged marquesses pushed into premature flights of speech? Why did Lord George speak three mortal hours, and Miles two? Why was the plug taken out from the barrel of Borthwick's swipes for more than an hour a time for three successive evenings? Why was Finch allowed to twitter on for hours? It seemed at the time very clear. All the successive evenings? Why was Finch allowed to twitter on for hours? It seemed at the time very clear. All the world supposed that the protectionists thought they should gain something by keeping the Corn Bill in the Commons till after Easter. We anticipated terrible county meetings during the recess. The protectionist leaders were to go down to the country, and poke up the British lion till he roared. The House of Lords, too, was to be acted on. Apostates were to be shamed, and waverers terrified or encouraged, so that the rejection of the bill was to be rendered a matter of that the rejection of the bill was to be rendered a matter of

certainty.

Well, Easter is come; the holidays are half over, and the country does not move. The British lion sits immovable, either utterly cowed, or utterly indifferent to the cause of national desired in the country does not not be caused in the country does not not be caused in the country does not not be country not because of national desired in the country not because of national desired in the country not because of national desired in the country not because of national desired in the country not because of the country either utterly cowed, or utterly indifferent to the cause of native industry. There has not been a county meeting; no apostate has been ducked, or even had a requisition presented to him. The "country party" have not been paraded in triumph by grateful farmers, or decorated with prowns of grass. At any rate, when our patriots return to carry on the conflict with Peel, and time, and human patience, they will have no fresh materials furnished by public damonstrations: connot with l'eel, and time, and human patience, they will have no fresh materials furnished by public demonstrations; they will be confined to retailing the talk of their tenants, and stating the public opinion of their parishes.

The Post sees the necessities of its party's case, and endeavours to make out a case of public excitement. It has the heading, "Protection to British Industry" stereotyped in the largest characters, and ready to direct attention to

every semblance of meeting in behalf of that sacred can. But nothing worthy of the type can be got to print much neath the heading. On Monday we imagined that seem tion of the country had been got to open its mouth when saw near a page of reporting under this tempting title. But a found that the only real movement in telegraphs saw near a page of reporting under this templing ute. But also I we found that the only real movement in behalf of British industry had been got up by our old biends in Spitalfields weavers. It is a comfortable thing to see the energies of this body unexhausted by the somewhat uses sonable demand made on them by the protectionists. The home in someth constituted almost the entire out-of-door for have in truth constituted almost the entire out of door fare of monopoly since the promulgation of Sir Rober Paris measures. The centre and circumference of national error

ment have been in Bethnal-green.

And undoubtedly the Bethnal-green meeting pressure the features usually observable in modern agriculture. the features usually observation in modern agrance. It had its chairman and its secretary—people to make and second—possibly people to support its resolution and second—possibly people to support its resolution. The secretary had to report the usual incidents of the organised agitation which the weavers have set on fact the funds collected, the means taken for spreading agit. the funds collected, the means taken for spreading agination, the prospects of the cause, the merits of trusty field. Like the Anti-Corn-Law League, the protectionists of Bethnal green are collecting a fund, and inundating the country with tracts. The resemblance to the League is to be constructed and chieses that seen, however, rather in the principles and objects than in the extent of the Bethnal green organisation. The cont. butions to the fund seem to consist of one 5/. note, sent in an anonymous old lady. This donation is stated two three times over; but as far as we can understand the report, the subject matter is one and the same five pound not This five-pound note is to be spent in calightening the country; and the full ghtenment is to be effected by taking and circulating a certain number of copies of Lord George Bentinek's "celebrated speech." On this and the exercises of the Morning Post the hopes of the meeting seemed to

Of all this we highly approve. The circulation of the "celebrated" speech is a very fit object for the expenditure of the old lady's five-pound note. She need be under no alarm as to the result; for unless the printer have put in something more stirring than the speaker ever dresued of, we may feel perfectly confident that no undue excitement will be produced among the readers of the speech. The results, therefore, of the Bethnal-green meeting seem to us to be by no means calculated to produce any material alteration in the state of affairs.

There was, however, another meeting reported by our contemporary, which though of a kind usually classed under the heading of Protection to British Industry, was very properly placed in another part of the paper. We mean the meeting of the Furmers Club at Watford, to which we adverted yester day, and which was undoubtedly anything but calculated to help forward what are called the farmers friends. In the first place, it is quite obvious that the Hertfordshire farmers think the question of the Corn Laws settled. Otherque-tions are beginning already to occupy the first place in the attention, The subject of "tenant rights" was brought for attention, The subject of "tenant rights" was brought pr-ward and discussed. Tenancy-at-will was generally de-nounced as prejudicial to the farmer: the "custom of the was derided as a worthless guarantee for the tenant, and "legislative enactments" were generally insisted upon as the only true security. The discussion closed by the unanimous passing of a resolution, which expresses a pretty definite opinion on the subject matter, and shows that the Hertfordshire farmers are not likely to lose kight of a. It is, "that the 'tenant rights' is well worthy of consideration, as equally calculated to promote the interests of both landlord and tenant, and the advancement of practical agri-

But besides this, there was the speech of Lord Essex, et increased by its being that of a man whose Conservative alarms have led him to quit the Whig politics of his family. and who very recently came forward at a public meeting at

St. Alban's, and declared himself a stout protectionist. This speech was received with patience, if not with satisfaction, by Lord Essex's rustic auditors. It does not seem in the slightest degree to have disturbed the harmony of the meeting, or to have weakened the personal regard felt for his lordship. Mr. Hibbert, the only person that attempted any kind of answer, admitted protection to be a "broken read" and did not a company to the former would be reed;" and did not seem to think that the farmers would be much the worse for the loss of its faucied support. The only point on which he differed from Lord Essex was the conduct of "those by whom that reed had been broken." He is evidently very angry with Sir Robert Peel; and complains of the "rapidity" or what he calls the "ferocity" with which he has pushed on his Free Trade measures. But this speech is a good proof that among men of sense even those who would rather the bill had not been brought in-have little to

say against it, and no hopes of stopping it.

The whole meeting was most significant of the alteration of feeling which has been going on among the agricultural hody since Sir Robert Page introduced his measure. The protracted discussion of the Corn Bill will not have been without some compensating advantages in bringing out this state of feeling; and the conversion of Lord Essex may not be the less useful for baving been made public some weeks before the House of Lords are called upon to vote. Such exhibitions of public feeling we are content to receive as a set off against the meeting in Bethnal-green, the old lady's five-pound note, and the gratuitous circulation of Lord George Beutinek's "celebrated speech."

THE COLONIES AND THE TIMBER DUTIES. (From the Morning Chronide.)

It is now evident that an attempt is being made to organise a strenuous opposition to the reduction of the timber duties.

For this purpose printed circulars, and letters, and copies of correspondence from provincial newspapers are extensively circulated with assiduity. In these papers there is not a fallacy, however ancient or exploded, that is not revived, nor a prejudice that is not appealed to. The colonies are applied for everything which they have been so recently ever and over again proved not to be. Manufacturers in Manchester, Birmingham, Shaffield, and Glasgowanealled upon, at any cost, to save the colonies as their only parameter. at any cost, to save the colonies as their only paragraphs foreign markets. Shipowners are implored to recous hos danger the main branch of the pairying trade of the histogram. don; Artisans and mechanics are jumined that the and extension of the colonial system are the only method and artisans and benerolant, who without an artisans and benerolant, who witness, the summit which, especially at particular political contraction.

timber impe rold, while chester, Bi to be the fa in 1913, the is published amount of o represent a from which banio year oi

So that th ertisans mus for the benef of the most i i lo supoms said they wil romers for ma But If we in markets bave portion as the to be even the the protected of the pr

colonies offer the only safe asylum for our increasing surplus population.

It may be in wain that we prove that not only is our solo-uisl trule comparatively small of itself, but that it does not progress in the same proportion as that to foreign countries. Where we are without the benefit of protection, it may be in vain that we show, from the best authority, that even our shipowners are far more indebted to the foreign than to the colonial trade for the employment of their oraft ;-it may be is vain that we prove that for every mechanic who finds em-ployment in supplying the colonies with the manufactures of this country, at least four earn their bread by working for independent foreign markets;—and it may be of little use that we should produce evidence, which cannot be doubted. that even a majority of the emigrants who have left their native country in search of another home, have found it not in the colonies, but in foreign states. All this, we know, may be useless and in vain, as far as these inveterate monopolists themselves are concerned, whose main object is to secure the continuance of a system of restriction, on which they ignorantly believe their own immediate interests to be dependent. Fortunately, however, there is a large and enlightened public, who are now, above all things, anxious to form a correct opinion on these subjects, based upon unquestionable facts.

As might be expected, the parties who are now taking these active measures to raise in the public mind a projudice against any further reduction of the timber duties, dwell entirely, or mainly, on the importance of the Canada market. We would not, for a moment, wish to depreciate either the importance or the value of our North American colonies. We seek for the real colonists—that is, the people who ac-We seek for the reat colonies, dependent on their own industry every privilege which we seek for ourselves at home. altogether deny our right, or the policy, of taxing them indirectly, by imposing protecting duties upon our manufactures entering their territory for consumption. If they can obtain their clothing or their luxuries cheaper or better from another market, we contend they are entitled to do so. But what say these soi disant friends to the colonies here? The overture they make amounts to a kind of compromise of the real interests of the consumers at home and in the colonies, in order that thus a small class shall be benefited. They virtually propose that the great mass of the community in Canada shall be taxed in the form of dear clothing, and that the large mass of consumers at home shall be taxed in the dear timber and dear food, in order that the comparatively small class engaged in the timber trade from Canada, and in the export trade to Canada, shall advance their own interests. These men, mostly residing at home, who call themselves the colonial interest, have objects and motives as wide apart from the real advantage of the large mass of the people in the colonies, as it is now generally a limited the labouring population at home have in the objects for which landlords have struggled to maintain dear bread on great a distinction cannot be made between individuals interested in colonial monopolies, of whom a large majority have never so much as set foot in any of our colonial ter-niory, and the great mass of the population of the colonics.

As we have said, the main argument on which the de-fenders of the timber monopoly rely is, that at present our chief dependence for the export of our manufactures is on the colonies generally, and on Canada in particular; that "when Canada is lost to England, we shall have to pay for our timber in gold, instead of in manufactures, as at present."
It is needless for us to stop to inquire how gold would be procured for such a purpose, were the emergency to arise; it is needless to dwell upon the obvious fact that if we possess gold, it can only be obtained from other countries in exchange for the articles actually produced by British labour; it will be sufficient that we should now inquire what ground there is for such an allegation. If it appeared that our main exports really found a market in the colonies, and if those foreign countries, whose produce we have either excluded or materially restricted by high duties, took few or none of our goods, it would not be a matter of surprise. But what are the facts? What, upon investigation, do we find to be the truth? Let us take the case of the timber trade by itself, and the trade with those countries from which we import that important article. The countries from which we derive our foreign timber are Germany, Russia, Sweden, and Norway. From these countries in 1844 we imported, of all kinds of timber, 536,737 loads, while from Canada we imported as (536,737 loads, while from Canada we imported as (536) loads; being, both of foreign and colonial timber, the largest quantity which, up to that period, had ever been imported in any single year. For several years the importation and consumption of timber have considerably increased, but more canadially since the reduction of the duties in 1842. but more especially since the reduction of the duties in 1842. According to the theory propounded by the timber monopolists, the public would be led to believe that every load of timber imported from the Continent has been paid for in cold, while Canada mainly sustains the industry of Manchester, Birmingham, and Sheffield. But what do we find to be the feet to be the facts when we turn to the Parliamentary accounts? In 1913, the last year for which such subdivision of the exports is published, it appears that out of 52,270,700L, the entire amount of our exports, the British North American colonies represent a sum of 1,751,211L, or little more than three per cent. of the whole. Turning to those Continental countries from which we import foreign timber, we find that in the same year our exports amounted to each as follows:

	The second second	to out	THE RESTORAGE
Rossia Busslen		• •	£1,895,519
Norway	••	• •	131,302 151,377
Gormany	, including Prus	ala .	6,681,049
	Total	.).	£8,829,240

so that the colonies on which our manufacturers and arisans must chiefly rely for a market for their products, and for the benefit of which we are called upon to maintain one of the most injurious monopolies, took, in 1848, goods to the amount of 1,761,2114, while those countries of which it is taid they will only take "gold" for their timber, were ous marrier manufactures to no less an amount than 8,529,2404. But if we inquire into the progress which these respective markets have made in consuming our manufactures, in proportion as the importation of timber has inoreased; the rach to be aven under by the advocates of deal timber are shown to be aven as to be even more groundless. If we compare our expects to the restricted timber are shown to be even more groundless. If we compare our expects to the restricted timber countries on the Continent in 1885, within a same in 1885, within a same in 1885, within a same in 1885, within a same in 1885, and to the restricted timber of the countries on the Continent in 1885, within a same in 1885, and to the restricted for that herease of trade on which our prowing population have relied for employment. Referring to Parlamentary accombines, we had in 1886 care appoint to the British our water points and the same points of the British out of the same points and the same points and the same points are same and the same points and the same points are same points.

Russia Swaden Norway Germany, including Prussia

Total .. 0,145,816 The two periods will therefore present the following comparison :

Exports to the protected timber colonies
Exports to the restricted foreign £9,099,550 .. 1,751,911 timber countries 0,145,016 .. 8,829,210

We thus arrive at two most important facts in the question. The protected timber colonies new consumer loss timber one fifth of the quantity of British manufactures which find one fifth of the quantity of British manufactures which find The protected timber colonies now consume less than a market in those countries whose better timber it is sought to exclude by high protective duties; and, moreover, while the colonial market has, notwithstanding the protection it has enjoyed, actually fallen off in the last ten years by 341,339%, the Continental timber countries have increased

the consumption of our goods by 2,683,924/!
This is a fair sample of the truth of the assertions made in support of the vicious system contended for by the class of men who are now inundating the country with their " printed papers and circulars," in the vain hope of stemming the course of a wise and just policy, which consults not the private and selfish interests of a class, but which has for its object the true and lasting benefit of the whole community. We shall have abundance of opportunities, as this discussion proceeds, to show that not less groundless and faila-cious are the other arguments upon which these monopolists rely.

THE "LORDS" AGAIN. (From the Universe.)

An impression to some extent prevails that the measure of commercial reform which has been so triumphantly advocated, in the House of Commons will be just as triumph antly thrown out in the House of Peers; that while the people and the representatives of the people acknowledge its commanding character, or bow to its imperious necessity, our hereditary legislators, on whom the spirit of divination descended at their birth, will eject it with little ceremony and

We cannot, however, yield to an opinion so injurious to men whose functions and whose faculties we estimate so highly. We cannot suppose them wanting in all knowledge of the history of the past, or all foresight for the future. We cannot imagine that the only lever which can move them is. that very common, every-day uncanonical quality called sel-fishness. Heaven, in making them the lords of its creation, doubtless intended them to be the representatives of its bone-The prudence that has descended to them from an onnobled ancestry through many generations must still vindicate its prerogative of acting and judging-rightly. Of course they feel the need of the country with considerable With their far spread and far peopled possessions, living amidst the many-coloured miseries of an impoverished tenantry, and the difficulties of araised rental, how can it be otherwise? They will not therefore deprive themselves of the privilege and the pleasure of co-operating in the promotion of a plan, large and liberal, like their own minds, and which is designed to secure to the public that permanent relief which they are professedly so solicitous to confer.

Besides, they must feel that the interest of their order is staked, in some degree, upon their fair and frank dealing, and for that order they have a very religious veneration. Should they fall in this trial of principle, their sin terminates not with themselves—it is imputed to their caste. It extends to their progeny, to the third and fourth generation of lord-lings. They know and they weep over the solemn truth, that a new and mighty power has sprung up in the country, a power whose supremacy needs only be named to be dreaded by peer and by plebeian. The aristocracy of wealth seems likely to outbid, if not outweigh, the aristocracy of rank. Its rise, its progress, its history,—its wide spread ramifications, its tremendous strength, may well alarm the most blinded votary of hoary eld. The monied men of the kingdom—from their immense and ever available resources—have acquired an influence, which in this luries with the control of the -have acquired an influence, which, in this business-like and bad world, the descendants of kings envy. sess the idol before which the pride of station hends, and breathes not. They are the priests of that divinity in whom mortgaged landowners believe and tremble, -while their intimate acquaintance with the realities of this sober lifewith the honesties or the trickeries of trade—has given them all the advantage they can need over those whom inclination or habit has too long and too perilously estranged from the mass of the people. These knights of the long purse have been wise in time. They have thrown themselves into the conflict of commercial freedom; not as borne along by the tide of circumstances; not as compelled by the terrors of a crisis; but actually as leaders and champions,—now, martyrs in this cause,—now, victors in the fight of humanity. They have thus—to use the old expression—covered themselves with a glory which, whether it belongs to them or not, serves their purpose well. Protection and honour are beneath it. While the very necessities of argument place their opponents in a position, as invidious in its distinctions as dangerous in its results: making them, in appearance at least, the enemics of those whom their very privileges bind them to succour: obstructors to human freedom—mopopolists of the people's food. This is a character in which we imagine few would be ambitious to shine. And we hope their lordships will take timely care that none can ascribe to a sordid source either their movements or their motives. They cannot, it is true, be the originators of a scheme which has already found so many advocates, and whose leading principles have so long and so largely impregnated the mind of the country. But why should they not stand forth-if only in solf-defence-as immediate aboilnot stand form—it only in soir-defence—as summediate descri-tionists of a law that has been already doomed? They might thus secure a find of gratitude in the breast of the people, on which without the fear of their bills being dis-bonoured—they might safely draw in the great conflict— which many of them foresee—at least in those vicies studes from which none of them is exempt.

REV. THOS. SPENOER IN AMERICA.

(From the New York Mercury.)

Dim Beowale Ridgers.

The Rev. Mr. Spencer; a clargy man, of the Retablished Churchy in Michigan dell'ered a lecture here some months ago on the Com Laws, and another on temper-

ance. He has laboured arduously in his own country to remove the burdens which are imposed on the people, and has done much to diffuse correct opinions. Ho has written a large number of tracts, which have been widely circulated. Among the rest, is one entitled "The People's Rights, and how to get them." The directions under the last part are of the most loyal and Christian character. They are, "by deserving them;" they must use none but moral means; they must not be ambitious of law-making; they must display a deep sonse of public justice, &c.

The extracts which we print below, stand under the first head, viz. "the people's rights." They are the reasonings of a strong and independent mind, which loves truth better than every thing else, and falters not, though that love carries him to the botton of a well. The thoughts require thinking to understand them, though very clearly expressed. We hope the multitudes who by endowments and combinations and logislative interference seek to do good, will see how their measures tend only to an early decrepitude in our country, and to embarrass the next generation with the great labour of undoing the bad deeds of their fathers. It is an idea worth thinking of, that the world belongs to the living generation, unembarassed, as far as possible, by the actions of the dead.

1. The right to earn a living with the fewest possible impediments. The rights of industry are the most important of all rights, and an honest man will claim no other subsistence than that which he can acquire by his own labour, Cobbett, in his "Advice to Young Men," says - "Start, I beseech, with this conviction firmly fixed in your mind, that being of hale body and sound mind, you have no right to any earthly existence without doing work of some sort or other; unless you have ample fortune whereon to live clear of dobt; and that even then you have no right to breed children, to be kept by others, or to be exposed to the chance of being so kept. To wish to live out the lahour of others is, besides the folly of it, to contemplate a fraud, as the least; and uniter certain circumstances, to meditate opthe least; and under deriain circumstances, to meditate oppression and robbery. Write it on your own heart, that you will depend solely on your own merit and your own exertions." And of himself he says—"A father like ours, it will be readily supposed, did not suffer us to eat the bread of idleness. I do not remember the time when I did not earn my own living." And when he became a Member of Parliament he sacribled all his success in life to his subject to the sacribuled. bed all his success in life to his early habits of industry. Labour and toil are, howover, by no means pleasant to men in general. There are always indolent men amongst the rich who will desire to live on State pensions: and idle men amongst the poor who will try to obtain parish pay; but the Divine command applies to all without exception "Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that them hast to do." Before a man complains, therefore, of the infringements of the rights which society owes to him, let him take care to respect this right which he owes to them, that he will not be burdensome to them, but will support himself and family by his industry. He is an enemy to mankind who would claim for one part of the community a right to sahsist upon the labour or property of another part: this will, in the long run, inevitably impoverish those who are compelled to pay, and degrade those who receive. All experience shows the truth of the assertion made by Lord Brougham in the House of Lords, that "Every permanent fund set apart for the support of the poor, from whomsoever proceeds ing, and by whomsoever administered, must needs multiply the colls it is intended to remedy.

On the other hand, he who labours has a right to demand from society that there shall be the fewest possible impediments in the way of obtaining his own living. There are natural impediments which are unavoidable, and which exorcise a salutary discipline over the human race, calling forth contrivance and forethought, and promoting the vigour of body and mind. The field must be cultivated before the brend can be caten; water must be got out of wells, metals out of mines. Long continued rain perplexes the farmer; the tempest scatters the ships of the merchant; and every man must exercise his faculties to foresee and provide against the calamities that may beful him. But whoever adds to these difficulties adds to the primoval curse; and if he make those difficulties so great as to render it scarcely possible for a man to live by his labour, he takes from that curse the the meroiful promise that was included in it—" In the sweat of thy face thou shalt cat bread," Legislators have over been interfering with the rights of industry. Whatever ties a man to a particular place, or limits the number of men engaged in any trade or employment; whatever confers any monopoly or peculiar privilege on some at the expense of the rest; -- whatever checks invention, meddles with machinery, or dictates the act of wages; -- whatever prevents a man from taking his labour or goods to the best market, or prevents his getting the largest amount of the necessaries of life in return for his labour or goods, from any quarter of the globe;—whatever makes commerce less free than the winds which blow over all lands, or than the ocean which washes every shore, places unnecessary obstacles in the way of getting a living.

TORRINGTON.—CHARITY OF THE LEAGUE.—We are happy to record the munificence of the Anti-Coru-Law League to the agricultural labourers of this place and the neighbouring parishes. On Monday last, Mr. C. Toms, of this town, "the moor man's friend," received a great quantity of beds and bedding from the League, for his disposal to the bodiess of the town and neighbourhood, of which unfor-tunate sufferers there are too many. The beds and bedding are of excellent quality, and such as would be no disgrace in a respectable tradesman's bedroom. Nothing could be more acceptable at a crisis like the present, when the town charities are at stake, and are likely to become a nonentity. Many poor families, who have had only a pallet of straw to sure of resting their bodies on a comfortable bed; and, no sure of resting their bodies on a comfortable bed; and, no doubt, will every night repeat their thanks to the League for the comforts they are put in possession of. This noble present has been obtained from the League for the poor through the agency and companionate inquiries of the poor through who has searched into and represented the Hercard state of the agricultural labourers of the neighbour bod, and to whom there is much preise and ment due. Would'll not be equally possibly on the gentry of the neighbourhood, now to rease a found, and make a similar present to incomino full remain bediess?—Devonshire Chronicle.

THE REVENUE

The usual returns of the revenue for the year and quarter ending the 5th lints, have been laid before the public. The returns for the year existing on the whole; a favourable rocult; but those for the quarter are marked by the results of the stagnation of business that has prevailed during a considerable portion of the last three months, especially in those branches of trade likely to be affected by the proposed blanges in the tariff. The general result may be summed. ul in a statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to some questions put by Colonel Sibthorp, in the House of Commons on Monday evening:

"That last year, when he made known the financial arrangement for the year, he stated that he anticipated a surplus of 60,0001 on the account of the year, exclusive of the sem to be derived from China, and now he found that when he should racks his financial exposition of the actual surplus revenue, he should have to state that instead of 50,000, it amounted to one million and three-quarters, exclusive of the money from China."

Such being the facts, we saw with no little surprise in the Standard of Monday, an article on this subject, containing the most absurd and extravagant misstatements that have over come under our notice, even upon this most fertile source of blundering and misrepresentation. The Standard, ulter giving the figures of the return, says:

ufter giving the figures of the return, says:

"It may be well to compare the results of Sir Robert Peel's Free Trade policy, in a year, mark, said to be of extraordinary prosperity, with the right hon, baronets anticipations as explained by him on the 14th of February, 1845:—'I am now going to address toyaclf to the prospects of the coming year—that year which will terminate on the february, 1845:—'I am now going to address toyaclf to the prospects of the coming year—that year which will terminate on the february, 1845;—'I am now going from the Customs in this year (1845), on the 5th of April, rate at 122,000,0001.

" " We are not inclined to take the estimate of Customs for the coming year at more than 24,000,0001.

" " The Excise we feel ourselves warranted in estimating at 13,000,0001. The stamp duties we propose to take at their present actual produce, 7,100,0001.

On the 5th of April, 1846, therefore, we shall be entitled to make the total revenue, even if the income tax be discontinued, 51,000,0001."

6 1	•			Anticipated.	Realised.
Customa	• •	• •		£22,000,000	17,664,616
Exche		• •		13,500,000	11,880,085
 Prampa				7,100,000	7,090,691
Brampa	minus	meeta	e tuz)	51,100,000	41,395,743"

It would, therefore, appear, from this most sage and veracious chronicler of events, that the revenue from Customs and Excise has this year fallen short of Sir Robert Peel's unticipations by about six millions sterling.

One would have thought that the utter extravagance and absurdity of this result would have opened the eyes of the blindest dunce that ever bewildered his brains with financial statements. Unfortunately, however, the editor of the Standard is not only grossly ignorant on the subject of finance, but grossly dishonest on that as on all other sub-He did not desire to ascertain the truth, or he would very soon have discovered the gross, and, in the conductor of a public newspaper, almost incredible, blunder into which he had fallen.

It is quite true that Sir Robert Peel, on the occasion to which the Standard refers, did estimate the produce of the Customs at 22,000,000l., and the Excise at 13,500,000l., prorided the then existing duties were all maintained; but he proceeded to announce abolitions and reductions of taxes amounting to no less than 3,310,000%, all of which have since been carried into effect; and Sir Robert diminished his an-

ticipations of the probable produce of the revenue by the amount of the taxes which he proposed to repeal.

This, however, constitutes only a portion of the blunder into which the Standard has fallen. Of course, Sir R. Peel, in making his annual financial statements spoke of the Customs and Excise revenues of the United Kingdom, which the Standard has very ingenuously compared with the product of the revenue for Great Britain! Every body who has even the slightest acquaintance with this subject knows that the usual quarterly returns do not include the produce of the revenue of Ireland; and, in the very paper with the article on which we are now commenting, those returns are given under their proper head of "An Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain," &c., &c.; so that the ignorance, or the dishonesty, or the mixture of both, which dictated this most extraordinary mass of blundering misropresentation, is neclectly ineversely. presentation, is perfectly inexcusable.

But, notwithstanding the flagrant nature of the Standard's misstatements,—although all London must have been ringing with laughter on Monday afternoon at the expense of the conductors of that journal,—we find the kindred Morning Herald falling into errors of the same kind yesterday morning. It gives a pretended statement of the produce of the Excise, from the year 1822 to 1846, in which the three last years stand thus

> 14,469,386

On these figures, the Herald makes the following remarks: Now, be it remembered, that in 1845, the Premier reduction "Now, be it remembered, that in 1845, the Premior's reduction of duty lavied upon excisable articles was estimated by himself, and he certainly could have had no object in underrating the amount, at something under a million sterling. Calling this reduction, then, 1,000,0000, we find that since 1844 there has been a decrease in the consumption of those articles which contribute to the comfort of the people of about 2,000,0007.

Where the Herald got the produce of the Excise for the year 1840, we are not informed; but it must have been from somobody who can see some months into futurity. Not laying any claim to the exercise of prophetic powers, we shall not onter upon any controversy on that point. With respect to the comparison of the years 1844 and 1846, however, we have a few words to say. In making this comparison, the *Herald* has fullen into the same blunder as the Standard, namely, that of comparing the produce of the entire revenue of the United Kingdom in the one year with that of Great Britain in the other. But this is not the only error. The Gerald, like the Standard, cannot make the simplest statemont without committing a brace of blunders. The net revenue of Excise, in 1844, was not 14,469,836L, but 13,200 of the net the net revenue, in 1846, was 18,080,080L, anowing an excise of about 280,000L, instead of a decrease

have thought these egregious mistakes of cities, had we not seen the persevering from for the purpose of throwing disjusted in the persevering of the purpose of throwing disjusted in the purpose of the persevering disjusted in the purpose of the persevering disjusted in the purpose of the persevering disjusted in the purpose of throwing disjusted in the purpose of throwing disjusted in the purpose of throwing disjusted in the persevering disjusted

DUNDEE-CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning both Houses of Parliament regarding the necessity of immediately passing the ministerial Pres Trade measures. The meeting was more numerously attended than usual, even though it was a market day; and there were present the most influential manufactures about sent the most influential morchants, manufacturers, shipowners, and flax-spinners in Dundee. Provost Brown,

owners, and flax-spinners in Dundee. Provost Brown, chairman of the Chamber, occupied the chair.

The Chairman said, he expected that before this time they would have been in possession of Free Trade; but here they were met again to complain of delay. Things were in a state of uncertainty, and not altogether to their wishes. It was to be apprehended that the prize within their grasp might for some time longer be withheld. He was not altowather without hone of getting it in a short time, provided gether without hope of getting it in a short time, provided the country did its daty. He believed Sir Robert Peel's intentions were honest, but he was powerfully opposed by the monopolist party; and on that account he required the ar-dent support of the country to enable him to carry his mea-sures. The Dundee Chamber of Commerce had frequently sures. The Dundee Chamber of Commerce had frequently declared itself in favour of Free Trade, and he hoped that they would agree to do everything in their power to carry it

Mr. Edward Baxter regretted the delay which had taken place in passing the Corn and Customs' Bills through the House of Commons, which was operating injuriously to the agricultural and commercial interests. Since these bills had been proposed it appeared that the rents of land on leases in lingland and Scotland had risen very considerably, and the land also had increased in value. This fact showed that these bills would be beneficial to the landed interest; for they tended to stimulate improvements in the cultivation of the soil, to induce competition, and would increase the amount of farming products. It showed also that the interests of the agriculturist and manufacturer were the same, and intimately blended. The delay in the progress of these bills had already had a very injurious effect on commerce. On many articles in the Tariff, as butter, cheese, wool, and timber, the duties were greatly reduced, while on others—as maize, rice, cattle, &c.—the duties were to be entirely removed. No one would venture to import these important articles of commerce, until a greater certainty was obtained as to the final passing of these bills; and trade in them was at a stand. Mr. Baxter said he had received a private letter from London, expressing doubts if these bills would pass the House of Lords, and that a protectionist Government might even be attempted. He thought such would be very short-lived; but there was a great uncertainty as to the future progress of these measures, as indicated by the great difference in the price of free and bonded wheat, amounting to 5s. per quarter on Dantzic, and 6s. per quarter on Rostock. He then adverted to the loss which would fall on the importer of In dian corn, if he were required to pay the present heavy duties which he had given bond to do in case these bills should not become law; and, after stating the pleasant and nutritious qualities of this new article of food, which he had used

in his family, concluded by moving the following resolution: "That it appears, from the accounts received from various parts of the country, and which are confirmed by the experience of the members of this Chamber, that the producted discussions on the Corn and Customs' Bills have produced a stagnation in the commerce of the country, and a suspension of the previous activity in manufactures, which, if it be not arrested, will be attended with the most injurious consequences to all classes of the community.

Mr. T. W. MILNE could not conceive it possible that the Premier's measures should not ultimately become the law of the land. They were founded on the broad principles of justice and equity. In fact, the frade of the country was suffering most severely from the delay which had already taken place. That was one reason why they should urge upon Parliament the necessity of immediately passing those measures in order to prevent the evils which would ensue from delay. He would, therefore, second the resolution. The resolution was put to the meeting, and carried by accla-

Mr. ALEXANDER Low begged to propose the second reso-

lution,—
"That this Chamber, while it expresses entire confidence in the ultinate triumph of the principles of Free Trade, is of opinion, from the present state of the country, that every legitimate means ought to be employed for the purpose of getting the Corn and Customs Bills passed into law with the least possible delay; and, in accordance therewith, resolves that petitions to both Houses of Parliament be prepared; that the merchants of Dundes be recommended to sign them; and that they be forwarded for presentation—the one to the House of Commons, to the Right Honourable Sir R. Peel, and the other to the House of Lords, to the right hon. Lord Kinnaird."

The resolution which they had heard would recommend itself, and therefore it would not be thought necessary that he should say much in its support. The Chamber had often spoken its mind in favour of the principles of Free Trade. He agreed with them in what they had done on that, and nothing had occurred to make him change his opinion. They had witnessed the boneficial effects on the judustry of They had witnessed the beneficial effects on the industry of the country by the partial removal of the restrictions which had been effected by Sir Robert Peel. This was a powerful argument in favour of Free Trade, and clearly showed the difference between truth and error. They should take every step in their power to give effect to principles which would be so beneficial in their results. The repeal of the Corn Laws would improve the condition of millions of their population. He did not think any party opposed to the principles of Free Trade would venture to carry on the Governples of Free Trade would venture to carry on the Government of this country. If they did, the attempt would be a failure. The working classes had already felt, and were again beginning to feel, the effects of the want of Free Trade.

Several branches of business were in a state of stagnation. Provisions were rapidly rising. The price of potatoes was double of what it was last year. There were many reasons double of what it was last year. There were many reasons to induce them to petition Parliament to pass these. Free Trade measures. The population was ingressing rapidly. Without Free Trade it would be impossible to supply the people with the necessaries of life. There was no way of doing that but allowing them to exchange their labour for the bread of other countries. He had full confidence in the ultimate triumph of Free Trade principles. Should the House of Lords be to far left to themselves as to refuse their assent to them, they would find at hover distant day, that they would have to agree to a latter measure than the people were now demanding. Should be British lion be roused, the nobles of the ladd would be the military in would not be directed to a deterior of a confidence in the production when the finding these than and considering the position which the finding these that, and considering the position when the

their power to strengthen the hands of Sir Robert Peel in order to enable him to carry his measures. He would, fore; propose that the Chamber should give their asses to

Mr. Thomas Nersu seconded the resolution proposed by Mr. Low. In doing so he felt confident it was unnecessary to say a word to ensure its unanimous approval. He had so often on former occasions addressed the Chamberon the subject of Free Trade, that he would not take up the val. able time of the meeting on the present occasion by pointing out to them how necessary it yet was to give every sopport in their power to Sir R. Peel for the immediate passing of his Corn and Customs Bill. Other towns were already up and doing; and Dundee should not be belind in so good cause. Instead of attempting, however, to make a speech, he would, with the leave of the chairman, read a letter from London, dated Thursday last (hear, hear), which stated much better how matters stood than anything he could say, and would also show the meeting that, although there migt he a screw loose, it was not the one many of them suspected, The letter stated that there were last week many suspicious as to the sincerity of the Premier with regard to the Con Bill, and all kinds of whispers in circulation. He (tig writer) had endeavoured to ascertain the truth; and although no admirer of Sir Robert Peel, he had every confidence that he would prove determined and upright. The Irish Coercion Bill was an ill timed interruption; but the Duke was to blame; "he had done it all;" and having agreed reluctantly to the Free Trade measures, he was determined to have his own way in this matter, and have another trial of the rule of own way in this matter, and have another trial of the rule of Toryism. It was very generally believed that mischief was brewing in the Upper House; and therefore every town and village in the empire should lose no time in showing even possible demonstration for the purpose of supporting Su Robert Peel and his tariff. In again seconding the motion, he begged to observe that, as it was proposed to forward in petition for the House of Commons to Sir Robert Peel, it had just been suggested to him (Mr. Neish) that it would be better to send it direct to their own member, Mr. Duness. with a request that he would communicate with the Primier on the subject. He thought that it inight be as well to do so; and hoped that Mr. Low would agree to this alte-

ration in the resolution.

Mr. Low had no objections to the alteration proposed by
Mr. Neish. He thought that the petition should be signed by by the members of the Chamber instead of being signed by the chairman only; and that the directors of the Chamber should send along with it, as had been done in Manchesler and Liverpool, a list of the number of persons employed by those who adhibited their names to the petition, to the member whom they should select to present it.

Mr. EDWARD BAXTER agreed to Mr. Low's suggestion, regarding the petition being signed by the members instead of by the chairman. In the House of Lords the petition of any public body or corporation, however numero ential, signed by the president, was regarded as being merely the petition of a single individual.

The CHAIRMAN concurred in all that had been proposed

in the resolutions, and agreed to what had been suggested by Mr. Neish regarding the petition being sent to Mr. Dancan. That gentleman had on all occasions done the town's business most cheerfully, and it would only be complimentary to intrust the petition to him at first, and to furnish him with the information alluded to; and, if he thought it proper, he could communicate with Sir Robert Peel regarding its presentation; and there was no doubt if it was trainmitted to him in the manner suggested, that he and Sir Robert would arrange matters so as to bring it before the house with the best effect.

After some observations from Mr. Johnston, Mr. Neish, and others, it was agreed that the potition should be significant by the members of the Chamber and transmitted to Mr. Duncan, and that that gentleman should be requested to confer with Sir R. Peel as to its presentation.

Mr. NEISH said, there was another matter deeply affecting the interests of the Chamber, which he wished to direct their attention to, although it was not connected with the business on which they had been called. He hoped the Chairman would allow him to notice it. They were awar that Mr. Bell had been summoned out of the premises in which the present Post Office was kept. It had been proposed that the Office should be removed to a small shop in Reform-street having only one front. The present premises in Reform-street having only one front. although by no means equal to what the town was entitled to, or its trade required, had the convenience of two fronts. The premises to which the Post Office was to be removed, might be well enough adapted to a country village, but it was by no means what Dundee, having seventy thousand inhabitants, and the second commercial port in Scotland, required. He therefore thought that the Chamber should memorialise the Government upon the subject, without delay,

and endeavour to get more suitable accommodation.

My. Barroun said that Sir R. Peel would give for any "Subscribe money among yourselves, and you shall have a commodious Post Office."

Mr. NEISH.—Three years ago Sir R. Peel would have mused to give anything like a repeal of the Corn Laws, but look what he is doing now (laughter). But whether secosaful or not, now was the time to try (cheers).

The CHAIRMAN said, he did not think it regular that the Chamber slightly entertoes the discussion of other questions.

Chamber should enter into the discussion of other questions when the meeting had been called for a special purpose; but as the one brought before them was of great importance, he should submit it to the Directors, and call a meeting to consider it the constituents. sider it on an early day next week.

After giving a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his conduct in the chair, the meeting separated.

Districts of THM PROFILE OF INSLAND. Meeting on the subject of relief and amployment continue to the northern and western counties: Some of the grand juries desline to not under the Priblio Works Act of the present session. The Clark grand before to the sot under the Priblic Works Act of the present session. The Cleffe grand duty, con Briday, agreed to a recolution to the effect that it would be inexpedient to take any appearance measures under that Act, as the regular present session are so hear at hand, and as stope have already been taken to provide amplityment arrivally in this district. Be taken to Brien, the lieutenant of the county, declared that moment the people inevitation; particularly in rillegated to a stope has districted harms, districtive provide the provided harms, districtive provided the provided harms, districtive provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided that the provided the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided that the provided the provided the provided that the provided agre

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IRISH DISTRESS.

DUBLIN, APRIL 11.—Such is the extent of misery and suffering already produced by the failure of the potate erop, that the Tory journals here have assend their demela; but not until Conservative landlords, such as Sir Lucius O'Brien, Lieutenant of Clare, have oried shame at the heartleannes and basoness of the conduct pursued by those jourusls indenying the existence of scarcity or high prices, when, as Sir Lucius remarked, at the meeting of the Ennis Poor Law Union, the people are actually starving, and en desvouring to support existence on black and festid potatoes I request attention to the observation of the honourable barouet, who is an excellent resident landford, and totally incapable of sucrificing truth and the safety of the people to It is to be factious objects or personal or selfish interests. feared that there are many Irish landlords not wholly exempt from such an accusation. I have collected the intest accounts from the country, and certainly they present an appalling picture of distress and suffering. A considerable number of the resident gentry are co operating with zeal in the benevolent work of providing against famine and postilence; but there are many others who appear utterly indif-ferent to the calls made upon them at this period of cala

The following details are abridged from the provincial journals received this day :

FAMINE IN BALLYLONGFORD AND THE PARISH GENE-BALLY .- At about nine o'clock on the morning of the 6th instant some hundreds of persons assembled and repaired to the residence of the parish priest, the Rev. D. M. Carthy, from whom they demanded immediate relief, which, they said, could not be postponed many days, or if so, that necessity would oblige them to resort, first to him, by slaughtering his cattle. The reverend gentleman remonstrated with them on the impropriety of their proceedings, but promised to represent their awful situation to the proper authorities. They subsequently paid similar visits to Mr. Stephen C. Sandes, of Carrigafoyle House, and also to Mr. William Hickie, of Kilelton house, J. P., who, I am informed, was not a little annoyed at seeing the " posse comitates" approach, as he immediately commenced a pre-paration for a siege, abiding his well known motto, "No surrender;" but on being informed of their purpose, he pro-mised to come forward as liberally as any other gentleman in the neighbourhood, and to represent their wants to the Government, upon which they returned to their homes peaceably. I have only to add, that if something be not done, in the way of providing employment, and that immediately, for the numerous starving population of this place, Providence alone can tell what consequences will follow,-

Ballylongford Correspondent of the Tralee Chronicle.
BRAY, APRIL 7.—This day, while the board of guardians were sitting at Loughlinstown, county of Dublin, about 40 able-bodied men came together from the town of Bray, and sat down opposite the gate of the poor house. Some of the guardians went to know what they wanted, when they replied they wanted either work or relief. The guardians agreed to admit one or two of them to the board room, when it was explained to them that the guardians could not relieve them out of the house; but were ready to admit such of them as were destitute, and their families likewise. The guardians desired those two men to go to the rest of their party and tell them this, which they did; upon which they all went quietly away. It was stated to them that a meeting would take place in Bray on Thursday next, to apply to Government to relieve the poor of that district.

COUNTY OF CLARE. - FINNIS, APRIL 9 .- Potatoes are now in our market sixpence a stone for the best quality, and, as there are not any offered that are not diseased, we may add to this price an additional penny for waste. Oaten meal is two shillings and threepence a stone—that is, at the rate of eighteen pounds a ton. Very great distress, indeed,

HEADFORD, APRIL 13 -The Galway Mercury of Saturday, says:-In this district, as well as others, the progress of the potato blight is exceedingly rapid, especially within the last few months. At the last market the prices reached from 44d, to 5d, per stone, and this was paid for loads not entirely free from disease. Several families have been, for weeks back, endeavouring to sustain life on had potatoes, and many more, not having even that, are indebted to their neighbours for the means of subsistence.

The Cork Reporter of Saturday, says:—"The relief committee have, we rejoide to say, thrown off the Castle incubas, that weighed like a night-mare on their energies. To day there are six depots selling out Indian meal, which arrived by the Nimrod, on Thursday, at 8d. per 7lbs., 10s. 8d. per cwt., just 2d. per cwt. over the rate the Commissary charged for the six tons he gave the committee, for he fixed the price, not at 9s. 4d. per cwt. (a penny per lb.) as expected, but at 10s, 6d, per cwt. We pray the public to remark that that price, 10s. 8d., will cover, we understand, the cost of the Indian meal, bought this very week in Liverpool, after a considerable rise bad taken place in its price, and after paying the freight and charges of bringing it per steamer, while the Oovernment, for meal ground from corn bought months since at first p there, charge within a mere fraction of that 10s. 8d. Was there ever anything so monstrous? Yes, there is something more monstrous still—they refused to give it to a starving people, even at that exorbitant price. The committee, besides the Indian meal, are retailing whole meal to the people at 14d. nor the which will meat the fours of those who think at 1 d. per lb., which will meet the fears of those who think that the Indian meal alone, however cooked, may not agree with the constitutions of our people. The following letter contains the Government ultimatum in respect to supplying, or rather than the contains th or ruther denying, to the starving poor of our city any por tion of the Indian meal stored by the authorities:

"Sign.—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 5th inst., inquiring, for the information of the 5th inst., in the second to find an order meet are now forming in the country; but it is intended to reserve issues from these depots for the store heavy pressure during the summer months, when farm should be supported, and rolled against the is is expected that is all have ceased, until which time it is expected that had beginned to the stiff of the most of the provision which is now collecting for the same but all parties must co-operate to reserve it for the most trianger of the sum to an basimultaneously applied for the received of the whole opinity. Present to reserve it for the most life, when it can be simultaneously applied for the received of the whole opinity. Present to reserve it for the most life, who is opinity. Present to reserve it for the most life, who is opinity. Present to reserve it for the most life, who is opinity. Present to reserve it for the foot life.

of about 20,000l, a year from his Irish property; and for the last ten years there has not been anything worth naming ment in Ireland."

TUAM.—Our secounts from various parts of the country are most discouraging. In some localities they have not even the seed, and in these districts best off not more than a fortnight's or three weeks' potatoes will remain after the seed. The price of potatoes in Headford market last Tuesday was, for lumpers 44d., and good seed so high as 6d. This part of the country, which usually abounded in plenty of the best description of potatoes, has scarcely sufficient for seed. At Tuam market this day, they are selling at 5d. per stone .- Tuam Herald.

GALWAY.—The relief deputation appointed by the local relief committee waited on the Lord Lieutenant on Thursday, at the Castle, and acquainted his Excellency with the sad condition of the people, and the necessity of providing them immediately with food and employment. His Excellency promised immediate attention to the memorial, and caused all the officials of the Relief Commission, of the Commissariat, and of the Board of Works, to assist the deputation in their object. His Excellency urged the necessity of local subscriptions, and directed the deputation to sign the memorial, to have them responsible for the statements it contained, as it would be made public use of with all despatch. The deputation then waited upon the relief commissioners, and Captain Kennedy having accompanied Mr. Stophens to Sir Randolph Routh, the commissary general, that gentleman promised to give orders for the Rhadamanthus steamer to load with Indian corn in Cork, to be stored in Galway, and that an officer of the commissariat department would be here on Tuesday next. Valuable assistance was rendered by the Very Rev. Dr. Kirwan in the interviews with the officials of the several departments to which the deputation were referred; he also put down his name for 201, as his sub-scription to the Local Relief Fund; the Rev. Mr. Eyre and Francis Comyn, Esq., have promised a subscription of 101. each.—Galway Vindicator.

PLUNDER OF A PROVISION BOAT.—On Wednesday morning, as the smack Maria, the property of Mr. John N. Russell, of this city, was proceeding from Limerick to Clare, laden with flour and Indian meal, she was boarded near Smith's Island, in the Clare river, by about fourteen armed men from a lighter, who ordered the crew (three men and a boy) into the cabin. They held possession of the vessel over six hours, during which time they took away about one hundred sacks of prime flour and twenty of Indian meal, valued at 2501. They then departed, first ordering the crew to remain at anchor at their peril, until they returned for the remainder of the cargo. This order the crew did not obey, but started instantly for Clare, and were pursued by a boot filled with a most officer. boat filled with armed men. Mr. Russell's agent (Mr. Reardon) at once reported the occurrence to the magistrates and police. Warrants are issued, and about 30 sacks of the flour have been recovered. Several boats that were passing at the time of this outrage were ordered to anchor, and had to remain so during the day, with the exception of the Dublin Company's bont, the Royal George, which was allowed to proceed unmolested. Mr. Richard Russell left yesterday morning for Ennis, to aid in recovering the property, and discovering the perpetrators of this audacious outrage. He returned last night, having discovered 51 bags of flour belonging to his father, hid under the ground near

Limerick Examiner of Saturday.

April 14.—Distribus of the Prople—Riots in Clon-MEL-CALLING OUT OF THE MILITARY .- The patient endurance of the Irish peasantry, with famine staring them in the face, whilst abundance of food is experted from every harbour, is, perhaps, unprecedented. I sent you a day or two since an account of an open air meeting of the famishing peasantry at Tory-hill, county of Limerick. They had determined at length to take their own case in hand, in the hope of devising some means of providing labour or food. Yet, when the Catholic priest of the parish, with one or two other inhabitants, known to be well-wishers of the poor unemployed labourers, spoke some words of admonition and hope, the thousands of starving men, women, and children, departed peaceably to their cold and comfortless cabins. Amongst the town population of Cloumel, famous for its numerous and extensive corn mills, there has been less of patient endurance. Accounts of food riots reached town this day, and are thus noticed in the Dublin Evening

"A correspondent in Clonmel, whose letter is dated yesterday "A correspondent in Clonmel, whose letter is dated yesterday afternoon, writes to say that the greatest excitement prevails in that town, owing to an attack made by the peasantry on some carts laden with previsions, and under an essect of military. Two troops of dragoons and a party of artiflery, that arrived from Cahir yesterday morning, were despatched to Marifield Mills and Distillery, upon which an attempt at plunder had been made. Happly no lives have been lost, as the military succeeded in driving back the people without firing on them."

Another letter states that the populace had attacked some flour-mills on the River Suir, adjacent to the town, whence large quantities of flour were about to be expected for the lı market

The other accounts received to-day describe the distress as daily becoming more alarming. Read, for instance, the account given by a Conservative paper, the Clare Journal, of the allocation of the money subscribed by the 60th regiment. Sixty famishing beings are to be provided with employment, and the selection is made with as stringent a regulation as if some rich office or fat benefice were to be conferred by a minister of state. The people known to have one meal per day—one insufficient meal of coarse food in the Ott have are avaluded from the fortunate authors in one meat per day—one insumment meat of coarse food in the 24 hours—are excluded from the fortunate number who are to obtain 1s, per day out of the labour-fund subscribed by the officers and the privates of the 60th regiment. Yet in this very county of Clare the Marquis of Thomond has a vast estate, although nothing stall like the amount of ready money possessed by Mr. and Mrs. Gerrard, of Clibbather. Gibbatown.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE POOR REMEMBERED.

THE POOR REMEMBERED.

To the Editor of THE LEADUR.

Sing—The following excellent letter was addressed to make lew days ago; by a few thought his receiving, and be nevolent persons, in Sheffield, Yorkshire. It speaks for itself, and its contents have already spoken to the poor thinging my limited medium. Have the goodness to insett it in your, great act; paper, and and you will oblige.

Bleese Original Contents to the first full things.

Hall Curr Terrace, Sheffield, April 1, 1846. DEAR Str. - It is with deep regret we see the wretchest condition to which the farm labourers in your district are reduced; but we refolee that they have found such an able

reduced; but we rejoice that they have found shen an able advocate of their cause, and benefactor (so far as you have it in your power) to relieve their distresses yourself.

We, a few friends to suffering humanity, who meet at Mr. Joseph Outram's Black Swan Inc, have subscribed 54, 15s. 6d. towards their relief, and regret the amount is not

Please acknowledge the receipt; and if it is not asking too much of you, be kind enough to give us a statement of a few such cases as you experimentally have found, and the mannor in which you dispose of the trifle sont.
Yours respectfully, in behalf of the Subscribers,

P. S .- We have sent 61. 0s. to Mr. Burrowes, editor of the Independent newspaper of Devizes, for the same purposes.

> To the Editor of THE LEAGUE. " What thou doest, do quickly."

Sin,-Permit me, through the medium of your "great paper, to inform my Free Trade friends that I have just purchased and given away among some of the most needy and deserving of the peasantry of our neighbourhood, about sixty bushels of potato seed. I have not yet fluished this part of my daily work. In a few cases, I have rented a chain of potato land for the use of honest and sober menyes, men who are willing to work; but, as no man will hire them, they have it not in their power to pay for a chain of land. One of these men, John Waldock, of the town and parish of Bicester, in the county of Oxford, has a wife and five children to suport out of nothing. Waldock has been married 13 years, and has had but one whole winter's work during the whole of these years; neither has he had constant employment during the summer part of these years. It is not to the protectionists of our high church county, but to some of the Free Traders of Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffeld Loydon During See Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffeld Loydon During See Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffeld Loydon During See Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffeld Loydon During See Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffeld Loydon During See Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffeld Manchester, Liverpoo field, London, Dudley, &c. &c., that John Waldock and others are so deeply indebted for the heds on which they sleep, for the bread upon which they have lived during (nome of them for wacks, and others for several months) this winter; and also for their potato land, and the seed which they are now planting. Waldock's touching and heartrending case is a fair specimen of others which I could furnish, to demonstrate that the peasantry in districts purely agricultural are whet I have for seven years said and published concerning them, and that is " a ruined wreck."

l assure those friends who have put it into my power to assist those who have been made slaves by protection to an extent to which they have never been before assisted by any man, or by any number of men, in either the county of Oxon or Bucks, that I have done my best to clothe the naked and to feed the hungry. I now begin to feel the effects of walking from village to hamlet day after day, up to the ankles in water and mud, and wet to the skin, to deliver others from the jaws of hunger, and from the graap of the winter's cold blast. There shaken one of the strongest of constitutions to its very centre, and with the exception of my own partner, I have had no one either to encourage or to help me. The general remark made by my casy and old-fashioned neighbours has been - "I wonder who sends Mr. Fargurson money to do all this for the poor people. What business has Fargurson with the state of the people. Why

don't 'em go to be soldiers? There is no work here for 'em.'
The following receipt, which I received the other day for
the money which I paid for Waldock's potato land, will show what kind of education the mochanics of our district have received at the liberal hand of protectionists:

"He have reseve the som of 6 shelens of Mr. Ferkeson for chen of perteter land. "1846 Apriel 0."

There are as many overgrown and stagmant ditches and wild hedges in our neighbourhood as would keep scores of idle hands employed eleaning and dressing them for many months to come. But no; the health, comfort, and honesty of thousands must be jeopardised rather than that the things which are wanting should be set in order.

The most intelligent and extensive farmers with whom

I have conversed in our district are most auxious that Sir Robert Peel's measure should become law without any more delay; and as to the tradespeople, they are out of all patience with the unmeaning rant and absurd cant of protectionist members of Parliament.

Permit me to thank you, sir, for the leading article in the Langue of Saturday, April 11th, 1816. That article should be published in a small tract, and circulated in tens of thou-sands. My own Free Trade creed embraces both of the views to which you have given a real form and living character in that article.

I seek the total abolition of the unrighteous Corn Laws, because I feel the deepest interest in whatever promotes the happiness, comfort, and elevation of main.

I am happy to add, that I am just about to send four abla-bodied single young men into Cheshire, where they are to be employed at good wages as farm servants. Your's respectfully, WILLIAM FERGUSON.

King's End, Bicestor, April 14th, 1840.

PARMERS! KEEP YOUR MANURE DRY .- Suppose that any of the married men in this company was to get hold of his wife's ten-pot, after she had done with it, and was to dry up the leaves carefully, and bring them to her for her ton the next morning, I would just ask you, whether she would be likely to find out the trick or not? I imagine she would not be long in discovering the client; and I might venture to guess he would find out to his cost, that, if that was the way he was to keep her in tea, she would soon find out the way to keep him in hot water. Now, if the wife would feel spindignant at being supplied with tea that had been wet two or three times, how ought the farmer to feel who was supplied with manuro that had been wet two or three hundred simes? It is true the farm cannot fight its own battle so well as the mistress, but there is such a thing as passive resistance; and you may depend on it, that in the barvest, the farmer will be made to feel, that in cheating his land, by giving it manure which has lost all its strength, he has been, in fact, cheating himself, and that this into have a worse result even than cheating his wife.—Mr. Blaker, at the late Markethill Moeting.

Thanks to Father Mathew, there was only one case of drunksnness amongst the Irish population of Manchester brought before the magistrates on the day following the national feast of St. Patrick.

An oplum sale which lately took place is Galerata produced the snormous sum of 800,000%, sterilog.

M. COBDEN'S SUEECH in the House of Commons on Briday, Vebruary 27th, 1816.—Revised, Price One Penny, is M. R. BRIOHT'S SPEECH in the House of Commons and Annual Park, Peb. 17. Price One Penny.

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M. R. OBSON'S SPEECH in the House of Commons of Commons of Commons of Codeby, Newall's buildings, and A. Uld Milgate, Manchespey.

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Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, April 15, 1846.

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

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* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

A HISTORY FOR HOLIDAY CHILDREN OF ALL GROWTHS.

Br REUBEN.

Being an account of the notorious robber, C L, now under sentence of death. Originally written for the Newgate Calendar.

PART THE SECOND.

CHAPTER I.—Of the fortunes of the farmers not being as foretold; of his new instructions by the tinkers; of his journey in Hampshire, when he met Captain Swing, of Swing; of what happened to Hampshire!

Time to write, space to print, patience of readers to read, will not permit us to follow the career of C- Lall its events, incidents, turnings, fallings, risings, devices, and frauds; swindling under the guise of friendship, thieving under cover of secrecy, robbing by the strong arm of might, murdering when victims were too weak and too poor to withstand him. It would take as many volumes of large size, as we have chapters here, to contain the record-ofthose

In the years of his age, 11, 12, and 13, the country people, and the farmers particularly, complained somewhat bitterly to the tinkers that their fortunes had not been truly told; that C- I had deceived them; that in watching over them in the dark to keep away the ogres who had two heads and three heads, and who lived in the north among coal pits, black chimneys, fly wheels, spindles, shuttles, and clanking bammers, things went a missing, although he said he had allowed no ogres to come there to steal. Moreover, he said in 1825, that he had killed half the ogres of England, and so wounded the other half that they could not move from home; that they could not even move one of their wheels, nor spindles, nor shuttles, nor make their chimnoys smoke, nor clauk their hammers, nor go down into the coal pits, nor stir one of their ships out of the docks; he said that all the ships, like all the machinery, belonged not to men, but to ogres with two heads, and three heads, and he had so levelled them with the earth, and the the earth, that they would never get up their heads again, and that the farmers would therefore live in peace and plenty; the ogres would no longer live on human flesh; they would not be able to run after human creatures to catch them, nor could they come again to the furmers barns for corn, on which to feed the human creatures which they catched, to make them fut enough to eat; and he promised to show the farmers some of those dead ogres some day, or their heads—as a rat catcher shows the tails of the rats he kills, to get his payment.

However, he drew his payment first; and soon after, the farmers heard that the ogres were coming alive again, that ships were going out of the docks, engines were moving, wheels revolving, spindles whizzing, shuttles flying, chim-

They agreed that they must set O L to work in another manner, and they must take another method of tel. ing the farmers their fortunes; and they must not tell the me fortunes to the same men; they must promise sometime to all, which probably might be fulfilled. At all evens, the must make a new movement, for the country people were the country people with their property of the country people were the country people with their property. ginning to watch their hen-roosts, pigstyes, barns, stake, corn-ricks, potato-stores, and dwelling-houses, and that it they, the tinkers, did not delude them afresh, they would be themselves outwitted.

So they put C L under a new course of inside tion in the 12th and 18th years of his age (1827-1828); and he went down into the country with some new tricks in the

14th and 15th years of his age.

In the latter of those years (1830) he was travelling in Hampshire one day, and on the road between Whitchurch and Winchester, at a village called Sutton Scotuey, he made and Winchester, at a village called Sutton Scotucy, he made a pause, intending to renew some of his operations them. He had been in the village before, and knew every house in it, and was sure he knew every member of every family. But he now saw a person standing in the midst of a group of idle hungry men—men whom he himself had made idle and hungry. He did not know this person; but their eyes met, and they scanned each other closely—rigidly.

and they seamed each other closely—rigidly.

C— L—— looked upon the stranger's face, until he looked through him. He looked until he saw that the places where eyes should have been had no eyes; that they were the looked that they were the looked that they were the looked through him. only holes with light in them, resembling red tinder burning in the dark. And underneath a black cloak, which covered the stranger, C—— L—— saw has entire body, which was nothing more than a skeleton. The skeleton put its bar. bony fingers forth, as if to shake Cand the latter put forth his hand; but when he touched the skeleton's fingers, he felt that, horrid as they looked, they were not even bare bones,—they were thin matches of dry touchwood, tipped on the ends with sulphur. They

SERLETON: "Those hands are at thy service, and this (taking his head off, and oponing his skull, like a diderbox, and lighting his finger ends thereat), these are a thy service. Thou hast come on a mission of destruction, as thou hast come before; make it short, quick, decisive, and do not let the lingering bodies of hungered life bring forth more monstors of thy engenderment as they have brought forth me. For terrible is life like mine."

-: "Who are you? - and what what is the name ?"

SKELETON: "My name is Swing. I am the embodiment of all the hunger that has been by you created. In me the essences of all the pangs of Sutton Scotney and Barton Stacey are concentrated. I am the representative of bodies worn to leanness, and in me has been deposited the dark secrecies and the smouldering passions that burn and grow in hungry men's brains. Welcome enemy of limin happiness and peace! Foe of life itself, welcome to Sutton Scotney! We need thee to complete the work begun."

C- L-: "What wouldst thou with me? that

wouldst not have me to commit a crime?"

Swing: "Crime! Hast thou not already laid waste the fields, and wring the farmers' heads awry, to look at ill things or at nothing, or at anything, so that they did not look at their own farmyards, to detect you and those who sent you? Hast thou not torn the very last mouthful of bread and bacon from the workers in the fields, giving then, when they dropped from hunger and the toil of labour, a cold potato for their out-field dinner? Hast thou not worn their hands to the bare hone, and their hearts to something lower and harder than a bone, by laying them lower than the beasts which are fed, or the very worms, or snails, or meanest grubs, which can feed themselves? Crime! You ask if I would allure you to commit a crime? You, who have robbed by violence, and murdered when all was yielded to you! You, who have scuttled ships and laid waste the commerce of a pation, will the commerce of a pation, will the commerce of a pation, will the commerce of a pation, will the commerce of a pation. nation until the very grass has been rank on the wharfs and streets, and green weeds have grown in warehouses, only

C- I : "You are an excellent fellow, Swing, but you mistake me. I have not the least objection to your using that tinder-box brain of yours and those touchwood fingers. I can even tell you where to go, and you shall care my gratitude and that of my nearest relatives and best of noble friends. Go to the north, to the country of the ogrea, with two heads and three heads—they are not men; you may roast them alive in blazing cotton, flax, wool, and the oil of their abominable factories, and no respectable person will say it is evil you have done. You may even take the ploughs and harrows of Hampshire with you; pull down the ruins of those ogres' deus-the factory towns-plough over the ground on which they stand, harrow it, and cast all their rubbish of engines, wheels, spindles, shuttles, hammers, forges, and everything of theirs, which you have not in the first instance burned, into the sea, and England will be a great a country as she is now, and as happy; hampshire more happy and better fed.

"But to open that tinder-box head of yours in Hampshir. where my friends, the tinkers, so often resort for a sucking-pig, a goose or two, a few fowls, and for provender to their asses; where I have so often and so successfully come to replenish the banks of the dicing tables of my noble friends and patrons in London, by using a little legerdemain among the farmers, and some boldness and force of arms among such people as those of Sutton Scotney; where also we have fortidd such good fortunes to the farmers, so very often, to get them to comply with our demands, or to get them to that their eyes and comp their mouths, and catch what we would their eyes and open their mouths, and eatch what we would send them; to operate with your touchwood fingers and the der head here, Mr. Swing, would not be to me convenient.
Not that I am tender in the conscience as to the sin of the thing, for I must confess I have often done as bad things myself, though not quite in the same way. What I object to is the inconvenience of setting fire to one's own house, as we may that?

may say."
Swing: "I believe you, Charles, when you say it is not a matter of conscience with you, but convenience, not to light the torch which I offer to put into your hands; but you will be nevertheless the incendiary, and shall be known as such. This day was handless to Steek and Suitos to tunes had not come true as told, he could do no more than he had done.

Upon which the tinkers once more, when they came up to Westmineter to ory in the streets, "Pots and kettles to mend," held counsel together; and they agreed their to owners of the form which they came up to the form the streets, "Pots and kettles to mend," held counsel together; and they agreed their to owners of the form which they pillaged, were becoming too knowing for them, and too much disastisfied. agni farn they what this r mea with most

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the bodies of the working poor, and more stackyards in Barton Biacey than one shall

A contemptuous laugh from C—— L—— interrupted the sentence. He turned away, and proceeded in his usual manner to visit the flour mills, bakers' shops, cottage cupboards, and every place else where he could flich a morsel of food that would help to raise money for his splendid associates and noble patrons in London.

Swing also turned away, his skeleton joints aching, and the concentrated pains of all the hungry stomache of the two rillages, Stacey and Sutton, wringing in his empty framework of bones. Where he went to then was not known.

But that night, at the dead hour of the night, at the side of

a wheat rick upon a farm of 1000 acres or more in Barton Starcy parish, where the farmer paid a high rent to a lordly landowner, kept three hunting horses for his own use, rodo after the hounds often, and looked after his farm seldom in their pockets—on that farm that night, at the dead hour of night, Swing for the first time opened his skeleton head in carnest, and drew forth the burning tinder, put his sulplur ended fingers to it, lighted them to a flame, and put the staine to one wheat-rick, and then to another; and from that farm he ran to another; and again he did the same next night elsewhere; and again and again. Still, day after day, he continued to meet C-

and to implore of him to have mercy on the Hampshire peasantry, not to reduce them to skin and bone, and a potato diet entirely, but to leave them their bread, if not the bacon them, and sometimes threatening them, if they would not listen, but always signing his name "Swing," to have mercy on the working men of Hampshire, and not starve them by means of C——L——'s visits, and the distraction and deception which C———L———introduced among the farmers; but the noble and exalted would not listen. The nor were made more hungry to make the nobles more rich. New fortunes were foretold to the farmer, and they listened not to the cries of the hungry—they were taught to have no dependence on them; but to depend wholly for the safety of their barns and rickyards on C--- L---.
And the barns and rickyards were not safe. In the day

time throngs of men assembled in the roadways to look upon the ashes and the wreck of the preceding night. At night, the invisible Swing made more ashes and more wreck for them to look upon next day. They had often been told by C--L--, and the tinkers his relatives, what a terrible thing it was for the ogres with two and three heads to have wheels, and spindles, and shuttles, moved by steam engines, and how meritorious it was in any human being to speak sgainst, and sometimes to kick against, the machinery of the ogres. So they thought it must be no better for the farmers to have threshing machinery; and in their wrath against the farmers and U-I-, and against machinery, they did not discriminate between the machines of farmyards and the machines of factories. They would have destroved all if they could; they could not, so they destroyed

And the farmers who had been foretold fortunes of peace and plenty by the tinkers, were now mounted on horseback, with swords girded round them, galloping in troops with the swords drawn from the scabbards, cutting and hewing down the mobs of men from whom C--- L-– had stolen the means of subsistence; and these mon with plough-staffs in their hands, and sledge hammers, were breaking the heads of the well fed, and the doors of the affrighted. And columns of infantry, troops of dragoons, companies of artil-lery, with caunon and bullets and gunpowder; and judges with powder in their wigs; and lawyers in long gowns, almost as numerous as the soldiers in scarlet coats; and hangmen with ropes, and nooses to their ropes, went down to Hampshire among the lean labourers who had been robbed of their houses. of their bread by C ___ L ___, and drove them into corners, and caught them in the ropes, and hung them up by the necks until they were dead.

About which time the nobles who danced at Almacks', and dieed at Crockford's, required of Cdied at Crockford's, required of C- L-, when he came up to town with the penu'orths and ha porths of bread, and bits of bacon, and lard, and dripping, which he had stolen for them, that they, the dancers and the dicers, might be supplied with money—the produce of these mean thefts being the perquisites of those mean nobles. About this time they halted in the quadrilles, and lifted their eyes for a moment from the dice tables, and asked what noise and discontinuous transfer or the dice tables. turbance that was down in Hampshire?

CHAPTER II.—Of the years of his 16, 17, 18, 10, and 20, when notway looked to what he was doing; of the year when he was 21, and the constable of Wolverhampton, who took him into custody; of the birth of a young giant in the land of the ogres; of U——L—is new expedition to slay the ogres; of his meeting with the young giant; of the terrible buttle they had.

(This chapter, being very long, and narratory only of recent and well-known facts, must be omitted.)

CHAPTER III.—Of C-- L--'s arraignment before the magistrates by the young giant; of the evidence produced against him; of his committal to Newgate; of his trial and condemnation; of the attempt of the more desperate of his late associates to effect his rescue; of their failure; of the uncertainty of the time of his execution. (This chapter must also be omitted.)

CHAPTER IV.—Of the increasing uncertainty about his fate; of the erection of the gallows; of the morning of the execution; of his old friends, who went to see him knocked off; of what happened.

The uncertainty rose higher, sunk deeper, extended wider every day, and every hour of the day. A few hoped the convict would escape, millions feared he would escape, and part of both laid wagers. As the accomplished layer of wagers on the tart backs his own horse, and would not back a compatitor with his own were he strong in hope that his own would win the race, but bets in favour of others because he havely against his own will win the race, and sometimes he knows his own will not untituded the face and sometimes he knows his own will not untituded the sporting logist and partificially wing so the solid some of the sporting logist and partificially like he would be handed, though they ware nearly desired, that he would be handed, though they ware nearly desired, that he would be hearly, though they ware nearly desired, that he should be hearly, though they ware nearly desired, that he should be hearly, though they ware nearly desired, that he should be hearly, though they ware nearly desired.

could not refrain from the game of chances even on the fate could not refrain from the game of chances even on the fate of a friend. And so accustomed were some of them to "hedge," to be always winners of something, to take in the green ones, and to scoure a large part of a lordly income by "hedging" their bats—that is, laying privately against what they betted publicly, that they could not help "hedging" on the fate of their own friand; though backing him resolutely, they yet knew that the chances were largely and heavily against him; and they, wagering always, wagered now that he would be excented. he would be excouted.

Thus aid the confused uncertainty become more confusive.

The condemnation of C——— fell upon society like a stone plunged into still water; and each of the fresh rumours of his fate was like another stone plunged into the same water at another place, the commetion of each confusing all, and being confused by all.

At last, one evening, at the hour of twilight, men with pickaxes, with one or two spades, a waggon with two score of strong wooden posts, and as many or more strong railings of squared timber, with sharp edges—these sharp edges to be laid in such a way, when fixed on top of the posts, that those who might climb upon them to obtain a prominent seat would have at best a seat so uneasy, that they would not sit on it long. There were also iron rods of great strength, to stay those wooden barriers, by one end being bolted to the posts, and the other end sunk into the street; so that if the crowd was dense, and the temper of it warm, and its motions dangerously unsteady, it might (there being also double lines of policemen within those railings) be prevented from breaking into the open space round the

How the coincidence of legislators choosing to make the laws in the night-time, and the workmen who put up the gallows to hang those who break the laws choosing to do their work also in the night-time,-how this coincidence is to be accounted for, I cannot tell. But, as the clock of St. Sepulchre's struck half-past seven, and the darkness had closed in thickly enough to make the top of St. Sepulchre's steeple just barely visible, at that hour the men with the pickaxes began to loosen the stones in the street where it is wide, and where the wooden pavement does not reach, to put in the posts of the outer barriers; and then they laid the strong rails on the posts with the sharp edges upper-most, to make the seat uneasy for those who attempted to sit thereon.

And little ragged boys from Field-lane and Saffron-hill, and out of Turnagain-lane, and all the regions of Smithfield and the Old Bailey, came round the corners, first peoping slowly, then walking more boldly, to look at the men with the pickaxes and the hammers, and the nails and the iron rods. And those who came last asked those who came first what was going to be done. And when they were told that a man was going to be hanged, they said, "Crikey!—let us get on the front rails to see him." And when they were told it would be ten hours yet before he was brought out man the sastial and that the continue of the gost life. out upon the scaffold, and that the creetion of the scaffold and the "fatal beam" had not yet begun, they said, "What of that; won't it be a lark to sit all night, to be in the front in the morning?

And when midnight came, and the black scaffold was erected, and the beam above the scaffold, and the rope was fixed to the beam, and the moose was made to the rope, and Mr. Jackson had tried how it would run, and found it would run very well, other people came and took their places as near the front as they could get, and the Old Bailey began

Now, if the reader will call to mind what the shape of a fannel is, by which liquids are introduced into a bottle, and imagine what like this funnel may be, if a child gets it to play with and hammers in one side of it at the widest end, and bends the other side out near the widest end; and if the reader will suppose this furnel to be three hundred yards long, instead of five or six inches, he, standing at the mouth of it, will see something like the Old Bailey. And if he will further imagine that, where the furnel's narrow pipe joins the widening part, the gallows has got into it, and is sticking there, and will not let another drop pass into the bottle, or down into Ludgate-street, as the case may be, he will imagine a simile which is real. If, further, he will suppose that the frothy liquid poured into the funnel, which will not let it through, resembles the excited multitude, which is stuck fast and cannot get out, save by running over where more is pouring in; and again, if he will fancy a hand shaking the funnel to make it hold more, and every atom of matter endowed with the power of speech, or so much speech as shall hall its neighbour with an oath, or some known face, seen wedged among shoulders at the opposite side, with "Don't go too near; you'll be there soon enough," pointing to the gallows; or if he will fancy cries of "lies coming; he's coming! hats off! hats off!" when nobody is coming; and fancy what like a street would look if paved with ten thousand human faces all turned up, young and old, male and female; some of the faces red and excited, some pale and fainting, most of them dirty, and all contorted with pain suffered by twenty thousand elbows punched into as many sets of human ribs; and if the reader will imagine farther that the police have made a gangway above the first row of railings, and that among those ragged boys, who sit "below the gangway," and who have sat there all night in hopes of a good place, painful though the sharp edges be upon which they sit, that among them are the Young Englanders from the purileus of Westminster and Pimileo, old companions of C— L—; and among them the somewhat ancient phizzes of Ben of Shrewsbury, and Peter of Evosham, with Lord G. B., Lord W. L., and other notorious swells from the "flash kens" of the West End—all come to see an "old pal knocked off;" if the reader can put all those things before his mind's eye, he may form some idea of what the Old-Bailey was like on that my remarks and the contract of the contract Bailey was like on that memorable morning when the gal-

cell.

Whe subspectional sat up an hour later then usual on the previous evening, writing letters to his nearest relations, which he put into the hands of the turnkey, by whom they were handed to the 'governor. He then went to bid, and also soundly. And having directed the turnkey to call him at all to be research of said himself, and particle if, a plenting orealists of conce. and buttered rolls. The clish-

lain then, in the hearing of the sherifts, caked him once more if he had anything to say before he quitted this life; and he said in an audible voice, which all could hear, "I did it." Upon which the sheriffs said, "Did what?" And he replied, "Took the coffee and bread and butter from them." And the culprit shed a flood of tears, which, when dried, he said had made him happy, and he would now die easy, and would tell all. And he then gave an account of the robberies and appalling murders which he had committed.

His arms were then pinioned, during which operation he only remarked that they need not make the rope so tight; he had no wish to escape. And then he said, in a mournful voice, "I have been brought to this by not minding what my catechism taught me; it was bad companions brought

me to this. Neighbours all, farowell!"

But as he spoke those words, an unusual sound was heard in the passage leading to the cell; feet were trampling and voices speaking. The shoring went out aid came in again, and then they communicated to the convict that he was respited until sometime after Easter. Hearing which he fell backward; and when we left the cell, he was lying on the

The commotion outside, on the news being carried thither of the respite, was indescribable. The young Lassociates of the criminal, were seen throwing their caps in the air; as was also Lord G. B. and the other ragged boys, who sat all the night on the sharp railings below the gangway. The greater part of the multitude, however, gave utterance to their disappointment at not seeing C I. executed and done with. No business, or almost none, was done on that day by those interested in his fate, and very little, it is said,

The holidays being ended, so is this history, and C-L-still lives.

AGRICULTURE.

A PENITENT MONOPOLIST.

It is now little more than two years ago that the monopolist lords and squires, landowners of Hortfordshire, assembled their tenants together at St. Albans, to form a county "protection society."

Nowhere have fletitious statistics, erroneous reason ing, and virulent invective, been more called in aid of the "protectionist cause" than they were at the St. Albans meeting in February, 1844. And amongst the speakers on that occasion there was no one who launched forth more reckless assortions, or coarser abuse than the Earl of Essex. Yet the Earl of Essex has, at length, seen the error of his views, and with courage and manliness has come forward openly to avow the change. This occurred at the Watford Farmers' Club, of which his lordship is president; and his speech is important on two grounds: first, it marks the complete change of opinion going on amongst the aristocratic landlords and the peers; secondly, it proves the prefound degree of ignorance which has hitherto existed amongst the dominant class, in this country, the landowners. The Watford Club met to hear a lecture from Mr. Clutterbuck, on "tenant rights," in which the subject appears to have been treated with much good sense; for the lecturer, after enlarging upon the benefits of improved farming, said that "in every instance where a tenant is prepared with sufficient capital, there is nothing like a good, à long, and a liberal lease."

That is a proposition we have often enforced: and we say again, that all attempts to frame any system of tenunt right, Acithout a lease, is a more make-shift; and, in truth, is little more than adapting what is called "the custom of the country" to modern and improved husbandry. Tonant right alone cannot attract capital to the cultivation of land. It may, to some extent, save yearly tenants from such barefaced pillage as they are new occasionally subjected to, but it never can give independence to the farmer, or certainty to his business; and such seems to be Mr. Clutterbuck's view, for he said, "the difficulty of the question lies in this point only, how existing tenants, who hold from year to year, can receive a guarantee for that outlay of capital, which, at the time of their quitting, may be fairly said to be unexhausted in the land, and which would fairly entitle them to compensation."

And a resolution in favour of the "consideration of tenant right" was unanimously agreed to by the club. The members then dined together, and after dinner the Earl of Essex made his recantation of monopolist errors in a speech, from which we extract the most important passages. His lordship

"At no period of our lives—at no period in the history of our country has it ever been, I think, so absolutely necessary for all who are connected with agriculture to exert themselves to the utmost, not only to advance thomselves in the profession they have chosen, but even to keep their heads above water (hear, hear). That prop on which you have been accustomed to lean for years peet, and which you have been accustomed to question as conductive to your success—that prop, I believe, it door to be removed. That oroken reed—protection, which you have long been ac-

customed to depend upon, is about to be taken from you, and therefore I think you will agree with me that if ever it was essential, it is now more than ever essential that you should exert yourselves."

Doubtless this is sound and sensible; and after the carnest part taken by Lord Bases in teaching the contrary, he deserves some credit for the acknowledgement of the now underlable truism. But before we proceed to the noble president's analysis of the state of the farming mind, we must note the fact that the tenant farmers had pretty nearly arrived at the same wholesome conclusions two years ago, when his lordship and his fellow "protectionists" acted upon their fears, their cradulity, and their want of information, by telling them "that Free Trade in corn would destroy, to a ruinous extent, all capital now vested in agricultural operations, bring desolution and misory on the agricultural labourer, and prove destructive to the landed interest;" for such was Lord Essex's language at St. Albans. His comments upon farmers must therefore be received, subject to the remark that he is a new convert. It is right here to mention, that in thanking Mr. Clutterbuck for his lecture, Lord Essex had said in the morning:

"He was ready and willing to give his word and his bond to remunerate his tenants for all permanent and unexhausted improvements, or to afford any other security to his tenants to induce them to farm in a liberal manner,"

And he referred to the custom of the late Lord Leicester to require his tenants to possess capital to the extent of 10l. per acre. At the dinner, after the passage before quoted, Lord Essex remarked, that in all great measures, however generally bonefield, some persons usually suffer, and added:

"On this occasion there are two classes of farmers who are more liable to be injured than any others. The first class comprehends all those who have hitherto been farming without capital—men who, I should say, and I say it with greater freedom, because I believe there are none here who are in that situation—men who never should have been farmers at all; because it is clear that if there is an occupation in which, owing to the vicissitudes of the seasons, capital is absolutely necessary, it is the occupation of farming. I, therefore, frankly and freely say, that if those who ought not to be farmers, should suffer from this change, however much we may be sorry for the individuals, yet we shall not be surprised (hear, hear). The next class of men is those who, having capital, possess not sufficient confidence in their own energies, or in the productive powers of the soil, to employ that capital to the best advantage."

For the last class, retirement from husbandry would be the best course, but

"There is another class who have capital, and who, I believe, cannot better employ it than by putting it on the land for of this I am convinced, that if you behave liberally and handsomely to the land, she will return a liberal and hand nationally to the man, she was return a moral and mand some interest. Those men who have the courage to ayow and to throw over their ancient prejudices, and who possess minds sufficiently enlightened to induce them to adopt all known improvements—those men, I believe, will live to see the day when those measures will confer the greatest benefit upon themselves and the country, and they will arrive at a pitch of prosperity hitherto unknown. They will find that which they have hitherto been disposed to depend upon is most fallacious; they will find that it robbed them of one half the energy which, as Englishmen of intelligence, they ought to possess; they will find that they have hitherto been ignorant the soil of England is capable of producing; they will find themselves as ignorant in those respects as a man who, baring her supports the soil of England is capable of producing; they will find themselves as ignorant in those respects as a man who, baring her first her support in the source has a man who, having been accustomed to go upon crutches all his life, is of what he could do if the use of his limbs were restored to him (hear); they will find that what is populously called "high farming" is the course which they must in future pursue; that they must not fear liberally to use the great advantages of farming with sheep and artificial manures. which last I look upon as a positive gift of Providence; above all, they will find it necessary to increase their quantity of live stock; they will find it necessary to have such erops of turnips that they may still continue to keep as large an amount of sheep as they now do, and still be able to carry a third, or a fourth, of the crop to the yard to fatten bullocks, and thereby make such an increase in the quantity and quality of the dung as shall report them. Clear, then, and quality of the dung as shall repay them (hear, hear) and quality of the dung as shall repay them (hear, hear). I believe it is more for the advantage of all of us to grow four quarters an acre at forty shillings, than three at fifty shillings. So, with regard to meat; I should wish to see so great a quantity of meat raised in this country that the farmers could afford to sell it at two thirds of the prices it is now fetching. What would be the consequence of that? Why, that those who now cat meat once or twice a week at the utmost, would est it two or three times a week, and thus, as regards the producer, the increased consumption would more than equal the diminution in price."

Now this is just what we have so long been say ing, and for which we have been so roundly abused by his lordship and his fellow monopolists. He then referred to the practice of manufacturers, saying:

"Now, with respect to the manufacturers, I believe that this measure will prove most beneficial to them, and I am firmly convinced, from the sympathy which exists between the manufacturing and the agricultural interest, that whatever is advantageous to, and conduces to the prosperity of the manufacturer, must conduce to the interest of the agricultural. One great cause of the prosperity of the manufacturer was this—notwithstanding he has had taxes of all sorts to contend with, and also a high tax on the raw mate-

rials which he manufactured, he has proved himself superior to all the other manufacturers of the world, and has competed with and beaten all the world; he has employed his capital liberally and skilfully. On all occasions he has adopted the new improvements in mechanics, and invariably profited by the advantages which science, in its various pranches, could confer upon him. And I would venture to hold out the same inducement to you, and say, the judicious and liberal employment of capital will enable you, as it has enabled the manufacturer of this country, to compete—and that successfully—with the wide world."

True, most true, Lord Essex.

We cannot, however, avoid the suspicion that his lordship is a recent convert to "high farming" no less than to Free Trade—that he belongs to that numerous and increasing class of landowners who deem the light of agricultural knowledge to have first broken upon the rural world since the formation of the Royal Agricultural Society-look upon guano as a specific, and imagine modern machinery will do as much for the farmer as it has done for the manufacturer. Now we do not undervalue any of these things, so far as they go; but we should be false to that interest we have at heart—that of the industrious agriculturists, the tenant farmers, and farm labourers-did we not protest against the notion that there is any royal road to husbandry. Success in farming, as a business, must be the result of much steady, cautious, and persevering industry. Neither do we think that tenants whose capital does not come up to the approved standard of 10% per acre ought to be regarded as men who should "never have been farmers at all." A very considerable proportion of the tenantry of England are farming with less than half that portion of capital, and it can never be supposed that they can be suddenly replaced by men of full capital, or that landlords will immediately abandon their prejudices and their systems which repel capital from the cultivation of their estates. But the capital the farmer has may be made available for increased production by adopting longer rotations of crops, keeping a smaller portion of his land in grass, and cultivating that portion more completely than he has hitherto done. By such means he may increase his stockand gradually acquire the means of a higher system of farming. For such a style of farming, a lease is no less indispensable than for one by which the whole farm is at once highly cultivated. In many cases the landlord might take away some of a farmer's land, and thereby increase his profits, though so general is the custom of taking too much, that it would be difficult to make the ordinary farmer accede to that proposition. But to return to Lord Essex's speech. He then thus manfully referred to his former errors:

"Many of you, no doubt, have been surprised, after hearing me address you not long ago at the meeting at St. Alban's on the subject of the Corn Laws—you must have been surprised, I say, to hear me express the sentiments I have just uttered (hear, hear). Gentlemen, I own—and I do so with a feeling somewhat akin to shame—that the sentiments I then expressed were adopted by me at the time when Pro took but little interest in this subject. I found myself cast among those whose lot was fixed to the soil, and whose whole interest and prosperity were dependent on the soil, and at a moment when the subject of the Corn Laws first became most interesting. With that facility which most people are too apt to show in adopting opinions that apparently forces their own interests. I adopted the opinions rently favour their own interests, I adopted the opinions of those among whom I was classed, and I take shame to myself, when I say that I did so without duly inquiring and fairly considering the subject. I continued to maintain those opinions until I saw that the question was coming to a crisis; and then I found, after deep consideration and strict inquiry, that those opinions were erroneous. I saw that the opinions that the crisis would shortly arrive, when, in the House of Lords, I should be called upon to give a vote upon this quostion, and I then felt that my preconceived opinions, however honest they might have been, were not sufficient grounds on which to give a vote on this deeply-important subject. I felt that as a member of the House of Lords, I was bound to reconsider the question—as an honest man to give an unbiassed vote; and therefore to devote the same attention and give the same good consideration to every argument and statement made on one side of the question, as, I am ashamed to say, I had hitherto given only to those on the other. The result was, that I came to the conclusion that the fears which are entertained on this subject will prove erroneous. I have already stated that I believe the new measure will be productive of great good. When I consider the progressive state of the population of this country—a population increasing a thousand souls a day—I cannot believe that the farming of this country, however much it has improved, can possibly keep pace with that increase of the population. When you consider that the fifth want of all people is a sufficiency of food, I think you will allow that the measure is justified by the circumstances of the times; and I would have you take my word for it, that the employ-ment of capital, and the exercise of akill, will not be injurious, but will produce this effect—that both the employed and employer will be ultimately more happy and pros-

To such a frank confession every Free Trader must respond, and as frankly adopt his lordship into the brotherhood of those who seek to untrang mel British, ayo human, industry. There is one point, however, on which we wish Lord Essex had spoken as explicitly—namely, game. Our reader will remember his controversy with Mr. Horneste his tenant, on the subject of game preserving in which the earl having been worsted, turned the tenant out of his farm. We hope that his lordship implied his own abandonment of game preserving when he said he was ready "to afford any other security to his tenants to induce them to farm on a liberal scale." Assuredly the tenant can have no "security" unless he has complete power over the game.

GAME LAW JUSTICE.

WHO SHALL WATCH THE WATCHERS?

We have of late rather abstained from adverting to the Game Law nuisance, because we have reason to believe, from the character of the witnesses examined before the Game Law Committee and their opportunities of knowing the evils of game preserving, that a case so conclusively condemnatory of the Game Laws will be made out as to render their speedy abolition imperative. There is, however, a case reported in the Bury Past of last week, which is so characteristic that it ought not to be withheld.

It appears that Mr. Cooper, of Inglam—who was examined before the Game Law Committee last year—had reason to suspect that he was robbed by his farm servants, in connection with some other person; and, after watching for a long time, he discovered that two of his barnsmen, in concert with a man named Dolman, a gamekeeper of the Rev. Mr. Benyon's, Mr. Cooper's landlord, were the thieves. They were apprehended; and though committed for trial for the felony, Dodman was forthwif 's bailed by the head keeper, under their master's direction, and the man is now again prowling about Mr. Cooper's farm.

The Rev. Mr. Benyon, we understand, is much addicted to the evil habit of game preserving. The following passage, from the evidence given before the magistrate need no comment. It was stated:

"When Mr. Cooper received the information in December, he was likewise told that a cave was actually dug in a plantation near his house, which contained about 30 arrs, and was held so sacred for game that Mr. Cooper was not even allowed to go into it; and if his hens laid eggs there, it was almost a trespass if the boy went in after them; and his house and other dogs, if they ventured in, were trapped. Till he made the discovery about the cave, Mr. Cooper had never once entered the plantation, knowing how sacred it was held; but in December he went in, and there he found the cave, and corn in it; he afterwards went, day after day, to the cave, and found that the corn gradually diminished, then it became replenished; still by no possibility could he find how it was got there."

Mr. Cooper, when examined, stated:

"On the 25th of March, Richard Devereux, my yardman and foreman, by my orders placed himself in a blacksmith's shop which commanded a view of the road between my barn and the plantation, and of a path in the plantation leading in a zigzag direction to a spot where a cave was dug. That cave, I should imagine, is not an old cave—it is dug about 6 feet long, 4½ feet wide, and about 4 feet deep. It is covered with spars across it, and clods and moulds are thrown over it, so that it is nearly level with the earth. It would hold perhaps about 12 or 14 coombs of corn. I went to Bury market last Wednesday week about ten A.M., and from information I received I returned home a little after one. I then changed my dress, and went to my yard-man, who was near the blacksmith's shop. He told me what he had seen, and went with me into the plantation, and we found there two sacks with spruce fir boughs covered over them. One of those sacks is mine, my name being on it; the name on the other is obliterated, but I have no doubt that it is also mine. They were filled with the 'spottings' from the machine when barley is dressed. I should say the two sacks contain at the least two, if not three, bushels of the bushely. I then secreted myself in the plantation by covering myself with the sere boughs and leaves. I remained then till a little after b o'clock, when I saw Dodman come into the plantation and go to the spot where the sacks were concealed by boughs, and look at them, and walk round them. He then walked away. A few minutes before six I heard a gun fired in the plantation, I do not know by whom. The planta-tion contains between 20 and 30 acres. A few minutes afterwards James Petch came into the plantation and went to wards the direction from where the gun was fired. I then could see the legs of two persons underneath the trees I about three quarters of an lour after the firing of the gun. Dodman came up (he had then a cap on, but on his first coming into the plantation he had a hat on) with James Peich from the thicker part of the plantation to the spots where the sacks were concealed. Dodman took one of the sacks on his shoulder, being assisted by Peich to get it up, and James Peich tried to take away the ether. Dodman proceeded into the thick of the plantation in the direction of the cave. Petoli being a small man could not get his sack, which weighed about 13 stone, away, thench he tried to do no. The direction to the cave is away from my harn. I immediately got up and went to Dodman and laid my hands on his sliciniders, saying There can be no mistake about this question now: I lieve been watching you though these months, and now; I lieve been watching you plainly enough in the very sot! coming into the plantation he had a hat on) with James Peich

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least a bushel of barley worth three and sixpence a bushel, and the other parts, consisting of refuse seeds, &c. was worth about a shilling. Dodmen then began to shuse me, and senific with me. I gave a signal, which I had agreed upon became with me. A gave a signal, which I had agreed upon to my/man Devereux, who then came up. When he appeared Dodman said to him, 'Holloa, Devereux, here is some of your old seeds.' Petch had no authority from me to sell seeds, nor has any one else in my employ, from my barn. I consume them myself, boiling them with linseed for the sake of the oil, after the plan recommended by Mr. Warnes. of Norfolk. Last winter I kept a quantity of bullocks on the oil from these seeds mixed with linseed and corn. The seeds were int-hen, and poppy seeds, and seeds of all descriptions. When these seeds have been very dry and very bud I have laid them where they might exhaust themselves by growth, so that they were not carried on the land. I do not allow them to be given away or sold to the keeper for the game, because seeds do not decompose in the bodies of fowls, and when they drop their dung the seeds lie and germinate; my land is too full already of the plants, and I want to prevent the evil being extended further. On the 16th of December, when I first went to the cave, I found in it about 6 counts of colder and ordinary barley (without seeds), of which I took away a sample, now produced. These appeared as if taken from the barn floor when threshing was

Mr. Cooper then identified the sacks as his, and stated that the corn stolen was worth 8s. a sack. And added:

"On one occasion, about a month since, on going to the cave I found an obstruction to my drawing the faggot from the mouth of the cave, and, on stooping down to force the faggot away, I pulled the trigger of a spring gun. The noise and smoke quite unnerved and alarmed me, but I received no shot; I was too frightened to think of looking whether shot had hit any of the trees round about. The gun was a tached to one of the rafters of the cave. Dodman has the care of the plantation, and is keeper. The property belongs to the Rev. E. R. Benyon. My barn door is about 10 yards from the entrance to the plantation.

The following is from the evidence of Deveroux, Mr. Cooper's foreman, who had been set to watch when the discovery was made:

"He was, by his master, stationed as a watch in a black smith's shop, which had a wicker window at the side, from whence he could have a full view of the path from the barn up the plantation. He went into the shop about 10 o'clock in the morning, and at about 11 he saw James Petch go into the little plantation, or neck of the bigger one, in a direction from Mr. Cooper's barn, with a full sack on his back. Witness could not see up to the cave, nor within 40 yards of it. He lost sight of Petch, but in about five minutes he came back again towards the barn without anything on his back. In about another five or ten minutes after that he saw him come again in a direction from the barn with another full sack on his back, and go in the same direction as before. He soon returned without any sack, and went towards the barn, and witness saw nothing further going on. James Petch could not have got the sacks on his shoulders without assistance. In about 20 minutes after witness left the blacksmith's shop, and went into the plantation in the direction he had seen Petch go with the sacks, and he found them under a spruce tree covered up with spruce boughs. They were full of undressed barley. He did not examine sufficiently to see if there were any marks on the sacks. He then left the plantation, and sent off to Bury for his master. He had been in the barn about an hour before he saw James Petch go into the plantation with the sacks. James and Bonjamin Petoli were the two only men at work in the barn. He saw there two heaps, one of spoutings and the other of screenings. One was a small heap—the other a large one. About half an hour after seeing the sacks carried into the plantation he went into the barn, where only the two Petches were. He found the small heap of screenings gone, and the large heap of spoutings much diminished. The Petches were uncle and nephew. In the spoutings there is a portion of good barley, in the screenings very little—the spoutings would be dressed again, but the screenings would not. He should say in the spoutings there would be pretty nearly half of best barley; in a sack of them he was sure there would be a bushel of the best barley. It was considered that spoutings always there would be a bushel of the best barley. It was considered that spoutings always threw off the largest and best barley. Witness by his master's direction was on the look out in the afternoon. About 6 o'clook he heard a go fired in the plantation, and soon after saw James Petch go into it by the same path as before. About half an hour ster Mr. Cooper gave him a call, and he went to him; he found the went to him; he found him with Dodman near, and one of the sacks by his saide. Dodman said to witness.— Devereux, I have got some of your seeds here. He believed this was all that passed then. Dodman said nothing about buying them. On Saturday last witness met Dodman in his walks, and Dodman said. Wall Doubless of late walks, and Dodman said. man said, 'Well, Devereux, we have got into emoke,' or something of that sort. Witness replied, 'I don't know much about how that is.' Dodman said, 'I don't care anything about it, because I had never any thing off the premises expent substance in how that is the plantation and that mises, except what was brought into the plantation, and that I bought (or was allowed); I saw the two sacks lying in the plantation an hoor before ever I touched them; I thought perhaps it might be a trap laid for me, and for that reason I would not meddle with them till the man came. I will defy the men in the yard, or about the premises, ever to say they saw me interfere with anything upon the premises, till the men in this, and they told me they had leave to sell it. He also said he gave sixpense a sack for it, which he was always allowed to give for refuse seeds. Witness did not know of there hadre a case in the plantation till Mr. not know of there being a cave in the plantation till Mr. Copper told him of it. He had never been allowed, nor had

Cohper told him of it. Fie had never been allowed, nor had others, to go into the plantation."

"The magistrate, the Rev. Mr. Bidwell, said it would be his duty to send both of the parties for trial; but he was willing to take ball, the majelves for 50th, and two stretches for 21. each, or one good surely for 50th, that they would appear to answer the charge at the next Quarter Besidons.

"Ayres, the head gaindnesper to Mr. Benyon, the at his master's desire had seen present at the hearing of the case, instantly gave buil for Dodiman, for 50th.

Beveral parties take to the property of the ball for Petalt, but on being stationally by Mr. Bidwall of the said and been convicted by Mr. Cooper for being was a man who had been convicted by Mr. Cooper for being; of course his offer of ball was initiallated. The said of the gamekeeper's benefit. We believe Mr. Crantley Borke-

ley, and other game-preservers of the "punch-in-thehead" school, assert that the gamekeepers and gamewatchers are, at all events, effective protectors of the farmers' property, or so much of it as is not wanted to feed his landlord's game. What will the vermin-protectors say to this case?

MORE MONOPOLIST EVIDENCE FOR FREE TRADE.

It seems that Lord Abingdon, like the Marquis of Salisbury, is practically giving the lie to the loudlymade "protectionist" assertion, that Free Trade will drive poor land out of cultivation. The very reverse is the truth. Here is the practical testimony of a monopolist witness:

"CULTIVATION OF WASTE LANDS .- The Earl of Abingdon has for some time past caused employment to be given to a great number of labourers, under the superintendence of Mr. Druce, an eminent agriculturist, of Ensham, Oxon, in clearing a large tract of land, thickly studded with furze and gorse, at Cumnor, Berks, situate about three miles west of the city of Oxford, known as Cumnor-heath and Cumnorhurst, a noted warren for rabbits, and also a harbour for other game, very much to the destruction of the adjoining crops, and which from time immemorial has been lying-waste. Last year his lordship caused a portion of it to be cleared for agricultural purposes, and the results of the crops then produced were highly satisfactory, so much so, that during the past winter another portion has been cleared and planted, and during the present spring it is expected that the whole of it will be brought into good cultivation. Whatever the Earl of Abingdon's opinions may be respecting the measures of Sir R. Peel, it is scarcely necessary to inquire if he entertains the notion that Free Trade will either depreciate the value of land in this country, or cause it to go out of cultivation altogether; indeed, if we may judge from the great outlay in bringing this large trant of land into cultivation, and also that it is being carried out on the very eve of the downfull of protection, it may be fairly inferred that the contrary is his lordship's opinion. This is the com-mencement of a system which might be most advantageously carried out in the neighbourhood of Oxford, for within a few miles of that city there are upwards of 1000 acres of land which are comparatively of little value, but might easily be made available for agricultural purposes. allude to Port Meadow, the property of the freemen of the city of Oxford and inhabitants of Wolvercot, containing between 500 and 600 acres of as rich and fertile land as any in the county of Oxford—the meadow is fed without stint all the year round (except when under water), and is only serviceable pecuniarily to those parties who can afford to stock it—the poor freemen not having even the privilege of letting their commons.—Times.

EMIGRATION.—For the last fortnight our quays have been daily thronged with the fine and stalwart peasantry of this and the adjoining counties, preparing to emigrate to various parts of the transatlantic world. Perhaps upon no former occasion, even before the hope of railway employment was held out to the people, and when "Government grants" for their relief were never heard of, did the number of emigrants from this quarter exceed the proportion of the present year. Besides the various large and full freighted vessels which have left the quays of Cork direct for America, several ships were despatched to the west of the county, and had no diffculty in obtaining their full complement of pussengers. The Triumph and the Leviathan, two large ships chartered by Mr. Marmion, of Skibbercen, went round to Berchaven a few days ago, and have since left the shores of that bleak district with over 200 passengers. The St. Laurence, the Ponzola, the Albion, the Brothers, and some other vessels, have proceeded or are about to proceed also for Baltimore and Berchaven, localities in which the destitution of the present year has been severely folt. Three hundred persons have been ready for the last fortnight to embark from Dingle, but not being able to get a ship to visit them sufficiently commodious for their accommodation, have been obliged to make the best of their way to Cork. Several vessels now lying at Passage will sail this day, among which are (from Mr. Murray) the Marian, for Quebec, with 250 passengers; the Ocean, for St. John's, with 200 passengers; and the Bacha M'Evers, for St. Andrews, with 150 passengers. sengers. From the same office the Princess, the Albion, the Lord Glenelg, and his Effughan, will start some time in the present month. The Effingham, now lying at Cove, is one of the largest emigration vessels ever from Cork. She registers 1500 tons, and has accommodation for 500 passengers. The Ellen and Margaret, from the office of Mr. O'Neil, Merhand uay, and the Urania for Quebec, will sail this day for St. John's, New Brunswick, with about 240 passengers. The Thomas Hungerford, with 126 passengers, the Wood land Castle, 106 passengers, the Champlain, with 160, and Princess Royal, are also being despatched by the same agent. Many of these vessels are conveying cabin passengers, comfortable farmers, who do not like the prospects of the times at home. A great number of agricultural labourers are among the emigrants from the counties of Limerick and Tipperary. The Adirapdock for New York, the Pallas for St. John's, and the Coxen, sailed since the middle of March, chartered at the office of Mr. M'Auliffe, and containing over 600 phasengers—the vessels yet to be despatched from this office being the Brilliant, Try Again, Obio, Trident, and Liberty, the aggregate freight of which will be over 1900 passengers. the aggregate freight of which will be over 1200 passengers. At a moderate computation about 9000 emigranis have, or within the next month will have left this port for America. It is to be hoped their anticipations will be realised. There can be little fear, however, that their condition sould be worse, or their proposite more disheartsning, than those which the "potato famine" in this country little mended by the promise of Indian corn, had occasioned—Le faim chaise is loup hors dis bois. To starve or emigrate are the only alternatives of the people.—Cork Reporter.

Stars of Tands.—We regret to state that the trade in like district is in a very languid think and that a failure to a large amount had obsorred divide the last faw days, which will very much affect the small manufacturers of Horion, Claylon and that heighbourhood. Work at Mr. Rouse's mill has been farly resumed, in consequence of the Lord Obstantial of inviting abjointed a readily and manufacturers of the Lord Obstantial of inviting abjointed a readily and manufacturers of the Lord Obstantial of inviting abjointed a readily and manufacturers of the Lord Obstantial of inviting abjointed a readily and manufacturers of the Lord Obstantial of inviting abjointed a readily and manufacturers of the Lord Obstantial of the Lord Obstant

THE EARL OF ESSEX AND FREE TRADE

The first annual meeting of the Watford Farmers' Glub was held on Tuesday, the 7th instant, and was very numerously attended by the landlords and tonant-farmers of the district. After the routine business an animated discussion took place relative to tenants' rights, which terminated in the adoption of a resolution to the effect that the tenant farmer is suitified to receive from the landlord, upon quitting a ferm, full com-pensation for any capital expended in improvements. The members of the club direct together in the evening at the Essex Arms, the President of the Society (the Earl of Essex) taking the chair.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts baving been drunk,
The Noble Chairman rose to propose "Success to the
Watford Farmers' Club." After alluding to the practically
useful character of such associations, the noble Lord said, that although hitherto political topics had been excluded, yet he trusted he might be excused if he presumed to offer a few remarks upon a question of great importance to the agricultural community, and which had recently engaged the attention of the Legislature-he need not say that he alluded to the Corn Laws (hear, hear). At no period in our lives (said the noble carl)-indeed, at no period in the history of the country, has it ever been so absolutely necessary for all who are connected with agriculture to exert themselves to the utmost not only to advance themselves in the profession they have chosen, but even to keep their heads above water. prop on which you have hitherto depended-on which you have been accustomed to lean for years, and which you have been accustomed to consider as conducive to your successthat prop, upon which you have so long relied is, I believe, about to be removed. I say that the broken reed, protection, which ireratofore you have depended upon, is about to be taken away from you. The time is coming, gentlemen, when we must assist each other. I think you will all agree with me that if it was ever essential, it is now more than over necessary that you should exert yourselves in order to evade that which you may at present regard as a calamity to the agricultural body. Let us calmly consider what is proposed to be done; and whatever the difficulties may be, let us endeavour to meet them manfully. No doubt, by a great measure of this sort, as by all great measures, however beneficial they may be to the mass of the people at large, some persons must suffer. That is the inevitable consequence of all great changes. On this occasion there are two classes of farmers who are more liable than any others to be injured. The first class comprehends all those who have been farming without capital-men who, I say, and I say it with greater freedom, because I believe there are none here in that situation—men who never should have been farmers at all; because it is clear, that if there is an occupation in which, owing to the vicinstitudes of the seasons, capital is absolutely necessary, it is that of farming. I therefore frankly and freely say, that if those who are farming, as it is called, from hand to mouth—men who ought not to be farmers—if such men should suffer from the change, however much we may be sorry for the in-dividuals, yet we shall not be surprised. The next class likely to be seriously affected is those who, having capital, possess not sufficient confidence in their own energies, or in the productive powers of the soil, to employ that capital to the best advantage. With regard to that class, I say that if, in addition to their unwillingness to employ capital, they should also feel an unwillinguese to throw over their deep-rooted prejudices, and many of those untiquated ideas which still exist in the breasts of many farmers; if they feel themselves unwilling again to go to school, and to benefit by the advantages of science and the experience of others, both of which are now so lavishly offered them; if they are unwilling to enter the race of improvement which is now so general throughout the country; to those men, I must say, as their best friend, that they should leave their profession before they lose the remainder of their fortunes (hear, hear). For if they determine to stand still while others are advancing, they will find that those who are possessed of more energy and enterprise will outrun and cast them down. These are the classes of men who will suffer most from the great changes which are about to take place. There is another class, who have capital, and who, I believe, cannot better employ it than by putting it on the land; for of this I am convinced, that if you behave liberally and handsomely to the land, it will return liberal and handsome interest. Those men who have the courage to avow and throw over their ancient projudices, and who possess minds sufficiently intelligent to induce them to adopt all known improvements, those men, I believe, will live to see the day when these measures from which so much of evil is anticipated by them, will be found to confer the greatest benefit upon themselves, and the country in general; and agriculturists will arrive, I think, at a pitch of prosperity hitherto unknown. They will find that that which they have hitherto been disposed to depend upon as their best protection is most fulfacious in practice; they will find that it robbed them of one-half of the energy, which, as Englishmen intelligence, they ought to possess LIJOY that they have been ignorant of what they themnelven have been capable of doing, and of what the soil of England is capable of producing; they will find themselves as ignorant in these respects as a man who having been accustomed to go upon crutches all his life, is of what he could do were he restored to the use of his limbs. They will find that what is commonly called high farming, is the course which they must in future pursue—that they must not fear liberally to use the great advantages of farming with sheep and artificial manures, which last I look upon as a positive gift of Providence-above all they will find it necessary to increase their quantity of live stock; they will find at necessary to have such crops of turnips that they may still continue to keep as large a stock of slicep as they do now, and still be able to carry a third or a fourth of the crop from the yard to fatten bullocks, and thereby make such an increase in the quantity and quality of the dung as an increase in the quantity and quanty or the dung as shall repay them. A few weeks ago, I saw in the yard of Mr. Reed, a tenant of mine, a number of fine, fresh looking bullooks, all of which had been kept on turnips, and which seemed in good condition, and ready for the butcher, without having cost beyond the value of the turnips upon which sheep had been fed at the same time. I would willingly see the same in the yards not only of my own tenants but of all the farmers of the country 1 and if that were the dase—" a consummation most devoutly to be wished"—we should have consummation most devotily to be wished ——we should have abundance of corn and abundance of ment, the produce of our own soil, brought to market as prices, it is aru, comparatively low with the present prices; but yet, by the abundance of the gridle, remunerative to the producer, and at the same time of the producer, and at the same time of the producer, and at the same time of the representative to the producer, and at the same time of the prices are necessary for our prosperity. I believe that

the prosperity of our interest and that of our fellow country-men depend not on the high prices of articles, but rather on their abundance. I bolieve, for instance, it is more advan-tageous for all of us to grow four quarters an agre at 40s. than three quarters at 50s. So with regard to meat, I should wish to see so great a quantity of mest produced in this country, that the farmers could afford to sell it at two thirds of the price it now fetches. What, I ask, would be the con-sequence of that? Why, that those who now only touch most once or twice in the week at the utmost, would be enabled to cat it three times in the week; and thus as regards the producer, the increased consumption would more than equal the diminution in price (hear, hear). Now, with respent to the manufacturers, I believe that the measures to which I have alluded will prove most beneficial to them, and I am firmly convinced, from the sympathy which exists between the manufacturing and agricultural interests, that whatever is advantageous to the one must be conducive to the welfare of the other. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact, that one great cause of the presperity of the manufac-turers was, that, notwithstanding they have bad taxes of all sorts to contend with, and also a high tax on raw materials which they manufactured, they have proved themselves superior to all the manufacturors of the world. And let us see why so? Why, for this simple reason—the British manufacturer has employed his capital skilfully and liberally; he has, on all occasions, adopted new improvements in me chanics, and invariably profited by the advantages which every fresh discovery in science could confer upon him. I would centure to hold out the same inducements to you as agriculturists, and say that the liberal and judicious employmant of your capital will enable you, as it has enabled the manufacturer to compete, and that successfully, with the whole world. I have urged that which I think necessary to onable you, as farmers, to stand up against the coming changes. I recommend you to employ skill, science, energy, and capital. skill and energy will not cost you anything, you may acquire skill from books, and from the publications of all sorts in which is offered the experience of others; the energy must come from yourselves. But, perhaps, you will say that capital costs something. Granted; most of you who are now present, I have no doubt, attended the meeting before dinner, at which the question of tenants' rights was very properly discussed. I need not repeat what was there said in referonce to the employment of capital in agriculture. Perhaps I may be permitted, however, to observe that, as a landlord, I have long been and am still convinced that the tonant-furmers of this country are entitled to ample remuneration for all the improvements which they may make in their landlord's property (cheers). If they have put manure upon the land, or have improved the buildings, and if they leave their farms before the expiration of the value of those improvements, I, as a landlord, do not hesitate to state that they are fully entitled to be remunerated for the value of their unexhausted improvements; and I say to my tenants now, that when they are willing to make im provements in the buildings, or by increasing the value f the soil, I pledge myself that when they leave any of my farms they shall be amply remunerated for the unexpired value of such improvements as they may have (loud cheers). I am now anxious to say a few words in reference to myself, and to the course which I propose taking at this momentous crisis. Many of you, no doubt, have been surprised, after hearing me address you not very long ago, at the meeting at St. Albans, on the subject of the Corn Laws-you must have been surprised, I say, to hear me express the sentiments I have just uttered (hear, hear). Contlemen, I own, and I do so with a feeling somowhat akin to shame, that the sentiments I then exprossed were adopted by me at the time when Providence first cast me amongst you, and previous to which I took little interest in this subject. I found myself cast amongst those whose lot was fixed to the soil; whose whole interests and property were dependent on the soil; and at a moment when the Corn Laws first became a subject of prominent interest among all those connected with the land. With that facility which most people are too apt to show in adopting opinions that apparently favour their own interests, I fell in with the view of those with whom I was chassed; and I take shame to myself that I did so without duly inquiring into and fairly considering the subject. I continued to maintain those opinions until I saw that the question was coming to a crisis, and then I found, after due reflection and strict inquiry, that those opinions were erroneous. I saw that the time was approaching when, in the House of Lords, I should he called upon to give a vote on the question of the Corn Laws. I then felt that my proconceived opinions, however honest they might have been, were not sufficient grounds to give my vote on this important subject. I felt that, as a member of the House of Lords, I was bound to consider the question as an honost man it was my duty to give an unblassed vote, and therefore to devote the same attention, and give the same good and empful consideration to every argument and statement made on one side of the question, as, I am ashamed to confess, I had heretofore given only to those advanced on the other side. The result was, that I came to the conclusion that the fears which are entertained on this aubject will prove unfounded. I have aleady stated that I believe the new measures will be productive of great general good. I see now that we have been accustomed to regeneral good. I see now that we have been accustomed to regard this question only in a partial light—that we have not hitherto taken that wide and comprehensive view of it which its vast importance demands. When I consider the progressive state of the population of this country—a population independent at the rest of that no day—I cannot believe that increasing at the rate of 1900 per day-1 cannot believe that the farming of this country, however much it has improved --and no one is more willing than I am to bear testimony to the fact that It has improved, and is still rapidly improved. ing still, I say, I cannot think that the farming of this country can possibly keep page with the increase of the population. That is a strong argument in favour of the new measure. When you consider that the first want of all people is a sufficiency of food, I think that you will allow that the law is called for by the circumstances of the times; and I would have you take my word for it, that the employ ment of capital and the exercise of skill will not be injurious but will produce the most boneficial offect. Every class will unite for the general good, old animonities be laid aside, and ultimately both the employer and the employed will become more contented, prosperous, and happy. The noble lord concluded by proposing "Success to the Watford Farmers' Club, which was drunk with the usual honours.

Several other toasts followed, amongst which was "The health-of-the Barl of Bess, Prosident of the Association," and, notwittengding the aurprise excited by the noble lard's thulooked for declaration in favour of Free Trade, the toast was drank with much cordinity, even by some of the more scalous advocates of protection, a compliment gaid, no doubt,

to Lord Essex in his private character as a landlord. Two or three of the subsequent speakers dissented from his lord-slip's view of the question, but the company separated in perfect good humour.

REGISTRATION APPEALS.

Knowles, Appellant, v. BROOKING, Respondent. Judgment.—Chiev-Justice Tiedal.—The question reserved for our determination by the revising barrieter in this case is, whether the notices of objection against the name of a person being retained on the list of voters for the borough which notices were signed by him as objector, with the addition of the true place of abode, but being another and different to the true place of abode, but being another and different to the little of the contract of the little of the littl ent place from that inserted, against his name on the list of votors, are sufficient? The revising barrister held the no-tices to be sufficient; and although the question may be subject to considerable doubt, and one of my learned brothers, for whose judgment I entertain the greatest respect, thinks differently, the opinion I have been compelled to arrive at is, that the revising barrister's decision was right. The forms of the law notices on which the precise question turns are there numbered 10 and 11 in schedule B in the Registration Act, 6 Vie., c. 18; and it is on the construction of those forms that the question must necessarily turn. But it may receive some light from the consideration of the form numbered 4 and 5 in schedule A of the same Act, and also from the form, since repealed, given in schedules H and J in the statute 2 Wm. IV., c. 45. The form in question, numbered 10 and 11 in schedule B, concludes thus: "Signed, A. B., of then there is "place of abode" in parenthesis-" on the list of voters for the parish of and the appellant contends that these outer words operate as a direction given to the objector that he must fill up the "place of abode" by inserting it against his name "on the list of voters." But the respondent, on the other hand, contends that the words meant no more than a simple allegation that the objector's name is on the list of voters, as it was required it should be by section 17 of the statute; for it is to be observed, that the 17th section requires only that the name of the objector shall have been insorted on the list of voters for the borough, and that he shall give the notice of objection to the overseers, according to the form numbered 10 in the schedule B, " or to the like effect; or that he shall also cause to be given or left at the place of abode of the person objected to, as stated in the same list, the notice according to the form numbered" in the same schedule. So that the question substantially turns upon the construction of the form so referred to in the statute. And it appears to me that, looking to the concluding words of those two forms. they could not in any manner qualify the sense of what had preceded, namely, the "place of abode," or in any manner refer to the "place of abode" contained in the list of voters but that the whole sentence is satisfied if the true place of abode of the objector at the time of giving the notice is in-serted in the notice. The words between the parenthesis are only "place of abode," words which, taken absolutely and by themselves, and in their natural sense, would denote the true place of abode of the party objecting, for the words between the parenthesis are not "place of abode on the list of voters," which necessarily require the construction contended for by the appellant; nor are the words as " in the list of voters; which latter form would also necessarily require the same construction. But the words within the parenthesis are simply "place of abode;" and the words that follow contain the distinction that such "place of abode" is not the "place of abode." of abode " to be found "on the list of voters;" and it appears to me to couffrin this construction of the form, as in the 17th section, that gives the form of notice. The notice that is to be given to the parties, is directed to be left at the "place of abode" of the person objected to, as stated "in the list." Whereas the form itself, when referring to the "place of abode" of the objector, says no more than "place of abode;" and us that may be considered as actually inserted in the body of the 17th section, this distinction, with respect to the place of abode of the person objecting and that of the person objected to, still further sauctions the argument as to the interpretation to be put upon it. The former obviously refers to the corresponding notices in schedule A of the same Act, in cases of objections to the names of voters being retained on the register; and we hold this view of the objection is con-firmed. But schedule A, No. 4, which is the form of notice to be given to the overscers, contains two columns; the one to be given to the overscers, contains two columns; the one headed "Christian and surname of the voter objected to, as described in the list of voters;" the second is, "place of abode as described;" but the signature of the objector himself is only required to be "A. B." (place of abode), simply, and nothing more. In that form, the place of abode of the objector must in its natural sense be construed as the "place of abode" in which he then is, and no other; more narricularly when contrasted with the requisition as to the particularly when contrasted with the requisition as to the place of abode of the party objected to, which is required to be "as described on the register." The form that immediately follows, schedulo A, No. 8, leads to the same conclusion. The name and the "place of abode" of the party objected to, are required to be inserted "as described in the objected to, are required to be inserted as all A.B., of ——, list;" the name of the objector to be signed "A.B., of ——, (place of abode) on the register." We may finish the remainder of this form of notice, by number of in which the words are for the first time signed "on the list of voters." In all the preceding forms, both that given to the overseers, No. 4, and also in all the forms of notice given under the statute 2 Wm. IV., ch. 45, the signature is directed to be "A.B., of ___ (place of abode)," and nothing more. By the notice of objection under the statute of William, with those which direct only the form of notice of objection to be given to the overseerin the schedule A, No. 4, we are satisfied by adopting the place of abode of the objector at the time, no more than the old place of abode being required; while in the one of those cases there is certainly nothing in the reason of the thing that would call for the insertion of the very same place of abode of the objector as given in the list in the other remaining forms given by the statute. I cannot any that such an objection is made necessary by the enacting words of the statute in the forms of the schedule. The words "on the list of voters" appear to me no more than a simple allegation of the existence of a no more than a simple allegation of the existence of a fact that has been made essential by the 17th section, namely, that the objector's name is on the "register" for the county, and the "list of voters" for the borough, as the case may be. The fact is one that may be determined by the oversers without reference to the list, or by the harty objected to by inspecting anoth "rogister" or "list" that he has prepared, which they are not to do; and though it is objected that if the new description is given for the first time of the objector's place of abole, it must give rise to difficulty and confusion, it seems a sumicient answer that no real

difficulty can follow, unless there happens to be more than difficulty can follow, unless there happens to be more that one voter on the same register or list having the same Chistian usms and surname; and if there is but one, then it must be that of the objector, and no other; and if there is a proper but one, all the difficulty will be removed if there is a proper description, namely, in the case of the borough franchise. If therefore the identity of the objector must be made out then the mentioning and giving the true place of abode of the objector must afford a better opportunity of inquiry and communication than the adding of the old place of abode, which it must be assumed for some cause or other is incorwhich it must be assumed for some cause or other is incorrest with regard to giving the notice. On the ground, therefore, that the construction above given of the form of notice appears the most natural and correct, and that it is confirmed by the heading of the forms as above adverted to, I have urived at the conclusion that the decision of the revising bar rister is right: It would be futile to enter into an examination of the relative convenience or inconvenience that should arise from this view of the case, because it appears to me that whatever may be the result in that respect, our determination ought to rest on the words of the statute. Mr. JUSTICE COLTMAN. - I concur with the Lord Chief

Justice in the opinion he has expressed on the subject of the

present appeal. I am not able to go so fully into a consideration of the construction contended for, but I am, however, of the opinion held by the Lord Chief Justice, and I think it the most plain and natural meaning, and it is that which ought to be adopted; for it seems to me the word, "place of abode," at the bottom of the form number 10 in the schedule B of the Act of Victoria, c. 18, in their natural sense do mean the true place of abode; and it must be so under stood, unless some words of quelification are added to it. The following words on the list of voters for the parish of "do describe the quality of the objector bimself, but not, as it seems to me, the quality of the place in which he lives. John Brooking, the objector, is truly said to be ou the list of voters for the parish of St. Saviours," and it can not be said with propriety of language, as of "Higherstreet, Dartmouth, on the list of votors for the parish of $S_{\rm L}$ Saviours." If the intention of the Act had been to require him to state, not the true place of abode, but that described in the list, it would have said so in plain terms, and the forms would have been "place of abode as described in the list, or to the like affect." And I have been rather led to the list, or to the like effect." And I have been rather led to this conclusion from the use of the terms "to that effect," in the form of the schedule A, number 4 and 5, the words used in number 4 being place of abode, as described, and the words in number 5 being place of abode, as described in the The reasons for the construction I have put on the forms principally in question have been already stated, and are so distinctly shown by my Lord Chief Justice that I do

not think it necessary to add anything further. Mr. JUSTICH ERLE.—I fully concur in the judgment given by my Lord Chief Justice and by my brother Coltman. It was objected that the notice of objection was void because it did not contain that which is stated on the list of voters to be his place of abode. The question turns upon the proper construction of the words directing the signature in the forms 10 and 11, schedule B, in the 6th of Vic., c. 18, "A. B. (place of abode) on the list of voters for the parish of B." The appellant contends "on the list of voters" is indicative of the place of abode. By the 2d William 4, c. 45, he is required to give the place of abode, signed A. B., place of abode," and those words require the true place of abode. By the 6th of Viewords require the true place of abode. toria, the insertion of the name of the objector in the list of voters is the whole qualification; and the forms 10 and 11 require not only the name, but the addition of " on the list According to the reasonable construction, as it seems to me, of the words used, the two statements denote the same office as the additional words employed, though not really containing a statement as to the qualification. According to the appellant, the words, "on the list of voters," applied to the place of abode, are construed as meaning, "A. B., on the list of voters." To this there were several objections: 1st, the words must be altered before they express this meaning, for they are incapable of such an application; 3d., when so altered, they will contain a material statement when so applied to the name that is material to show the qualification; thirdly, the meaning contended for could not be given to the same words, as the two Acts are in pari materia; and fourthly, if to describe the place of abode was intended, those words would have been used; where they are used in both statements, the notice is referred to the last place of abode. There is no reason to say, on looking at the forms numbers 10 and 11, and what is required to be given in respect of the place of abode, that he is to give any other than his true place of abode. I cannot discover any good effect from requiring "place of abode in the list," instead of the true place of abode. If a communication is contemplated, by giving the true place of abode, where the name occurs only once, the identity is clear without any more being said; if the name occurs twice, the defect is easily remedied. For these reasons I concur in the judgment that

has been given. to attend to-day, but he has given his judgment to Mr. Erle, who will read it for him.

[Mr. Justice Enle then read the judgment of Mr. Jus-

tice Maule, as follows.] This was an appeal from the decision of the revising barrister for the borough of Dartmouth. It was contended that rister for the borough of Dartmouth. It was contended that the notices of objection which had been given to the overseers, and to the persons objected to, were sufficient. These notices concluded with the words "(signed) John Brooking, Higher-street, Dartmouth, on the list of voters for the parish of St. Saviour's." The place of shode of the objector is mentioned on the list of voters referred to, as "Newroad," and not "Higher street;" the fact being that although he had offices in "Newroad," his place of abods was "Higher-street." The notices were objected to, on the ground that they omitted the place of abode as mentioned in the list referred to. The Act 6th Victoria, c. 11, requires, in section 13, the overseers of every parish in the borough to make out the list of persons entitled to vote scoording to the forms numbered 3 and 4 in sabedule B; that the Christian and surname of each person on the list shall be writted to have columns for the Ghristian and surname, at full each, and the place of abode. Section, I gives to any substantial to have been harded in any list of reference to the country and the place of abode. Section, I gives to any in the borough, nower, to object, name that the list of provides that the forms numbered 3 and 11 quality to the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of reference to the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms of the forms numbered 10 and 11 in the list of the forms of the form the notices of objection which had been given to the over-

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The question is, whether this provision as to the notices has been compiled with; in other words, whether a police is deficient which wholly omits all mention of the objection as it appears on the list of voters? For the appellant it was insisted that this asction of the Act required the place of abode of the objector as it appeared on the list of voters to which the notice refers, and that it must appear on the notice; for in cases where there has been a mistake in theflist of voters. or a change of abode since it was made out, it might or might not be necessary to add a mention of "the place of abode" at the date of the objection. For the respondent it was contended, the place of abode required to be mentioned was that at the date of the objection, and that the Act did not require any mention of the place of abode as it appeared on the list of voters. And the question to be decided depends upon the construction of the 17th section of the 6th of Victoria, c. 18, and the notice of abjection therein the 6th of victoria, 6. 16, and the notice of abjection therein prescribed. It may be convenient to consider the general nature and purposes of the Act in which the section in question occurs. The Act 2 Wm. IV., c. 45, "for the better representation of the people of England and Wales," contains, as incidental to the important changes it makes, certain previsions for forming the register of persons entitled to vote for members of Parliament. These provisions having been insufficient, the Act 8th Victoria, c. 18 was passed, of which the principal object was to make a now set of regulations for forming the register of voters. This Act has accordingly made many additions to, and alterations in, the provisions relating to the Registration Act of William, among which are to be noticed, first, the Act of William that gives in section 50 the power of objecting to the names of persons being retained on the list of voters in counties—not only to persons "on the register," but those who had claimed to be inserted "on the list of voters," whether actually inserted or not; while the Act of Victoria, by section 17, contains such a power of objecting to persons whose names are on the register; se-coully, that in the forms given of the list of voters and claimants, and persons objected to in cities and boroughs in the Act of William, no mention of the place of abode is required, except in the cases of freemen, the rights of voting not depending there upon property; whereas, in the case of county voters, the place of abode was to be inserted; so that in the case of borough voters on the register, therefore, many voters under that Act could be described by their Christian and surname only, without any addition of place of abode. This is altered by the Act of Victoria, which requires in all cases, without exception, both in counties and boroughs, the place of abode as well as the name shall appear on the list. The third alteration is the form of notices of objection, which, under the Act of William, did not contain any state ment that the objector was on the register, or was one of the claimants in a county, or was "on the list" of voters in the borough; and did not in any other manner show he was one of the class of persons to whom the right of objecting belonged. The Act of Victoria in all cases, with one exception to be hereafter noticed, requires the objector to de scribe himself as "on the register" or "list of voters; and to refer particularly to the parish "on the regis ter" or "the list." The object of these alterations probably was to identify porsons mentioned in "the list" more completely, so as to enable those whom it concerned to know in an easy and certain manner who the person named was, and to enable the party objected to, on referring to "the list," or portion of the register mentioned, to ascertain whether the objector had shown himself to have a right to object; and in case of its not appearing that he had such a right, to enable him instantly to disregard the objection, which the revising barrister would be bound to treat as not sufficient, and to call upon him to prove his qualification. The alterations are not only more adapted to effect this purpose, but they are Iso in conformity to the law, which in many cases has made it necessary, and which geueral convenience has in almost all cases made it desirable surname, as well as his "place of abode;" and they are in conformity also with the rule which in cases of special authority or results. thority or power to be exercised in writing requires the person assuming to exercise it should be one of those to whom it belongs. The former notice before referred to is an exception to the general rule, and under the Act of Victoria the forms of notices of objection require the objector to describe himself as "on the register," or "list." This confirms the view that the meaning of the form is to enable the party objected to to refer to the "list" or the "register," to escertain whether the objector is to be found upon it. That exception is the form numbered 4 in the schedule of the Act of Victoria which form is not a register to the party objector. of Victoria, which form is not a notice to the party objected to, but to the overseers of the county; and this form concludes with the words "A.B., — (place of abode)," without any statement of the objector being on the register. Now it is to be observed, the overseers have no concern whatever with the question, whether the objector is on the register or not. By the section 8 of the Act of Victoria, they are required to publish a list of persons against whom notices of objection have been given to them; and, by section 34, to bring the original notices before the revising barrister, who, and not the overseers, is to be judge of their authorisms. aufficiency. The overseers have no interest or duty calling upon them to ascertain whether the objector is on the list; and a reference to it would not assist, but might embarrage them, as it might be calling upon them to refer to the list of the whole county. This view is in conformity with section of the Act that requires the clerk of the peace to send to the average of the conformity with section. the overseer a copy only of such part of the register as relates to his parish; thus treating him as a person who could have no concern with the paris of the register relating to other parishes. It was not depled on the part of the repondent that the notices of objection in question ought to contain an assertion of the right to object; but it was to contain an assertion of the right to object; but it was contended that it was sufficiently stated in the words as contained in the words are contained in the words as contained in the words are contained in the words. contended that it was sufficiently stated in the words as contained "in the list of voters for the parish of —;" and that the preceding words "A. B. (place of abode)," were intended to require a statement of the name in addition; the objector is inserted in the list with his name only, and without the addition at the fine of signing the notice. It is material in this part of the discussion to observe that the imaginate object of inquiry is, what is the meaning of a notice filled up according to the form? for it is such a notice, and not the form itself, that is sent to the party objected to. Want of attending to this, has, I think, produced some confusion. The form of notice has the words "place of abode" in taking within a parenthesis; then the words on the list of votice, and this parenthesis is not to be retained in the notice when drawn, but is only meant to show the order pitting it are not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is in the notice. But he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice. But he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice, but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice. But he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice but he offer it is not to be the very service in the notice in the notice is not to be the very service in the notice in the notice is not the name of the name in addition in the name of the name in addition in the name of the name in addition in addition in addition in ad

"of" being not within the parenthesis; so that the notice according to the form, to take an example, would run thus:
—Join Smith, of Broad-street, on the list of voters for the parishof. St. Mary," without any parenthesis. The question is, how a notice in these words should be understood? and it is a mistake to treat it as if the parenthesis was retained. It is to be observed, the right to object given by the Act of Victoria, was not dependent on the right to be put on the list; for a party may have a right to be on the list, but he may for a party may have a right to be on the list, but he may have no right to object. If, in fact, his name is not inserted in the list, he may have no right to be put on; or if on the list, he may yet have a right to object in respect of being, in fact, on the list, the right to object being entirely dependent on some one entry on the list of voters, whether the name and place of abode be correctly stated in such entry or It seems to me where the construction of the form is more in conformity with general rules of law and the intention of the Act of Victoria, which requires the notices to be made out distinctly, that, if all entries on the list is that which is to be relied on as the foundation of the right to obtain ject, thus not morely giving the right of making a general assertion from which it would be inferred, but making it in conformity with the rule that prevails with respect to the objection—the power and authority by correctly stating a particular fact on which the right depends of enabling the voter to ascertain, by a simple inspection of the list referred to, whether the right to object which is relied upon, does really exist. A more minute consideration of the form of notice, drawn according to the Act, confirms this construction of the natural and obvious meaning of the words, "on the list of voters for the parish of St. Mary," following "John Smith, of Broad street, to use the same example; and as the name of "John Smith,' and "Broad-street" are mentioned on the of "John Smith, and " Drond-street were mentioned on the list, the name of the objector is the person whose "name and present place of abode" is "John Smith, of Broadstreet;" but whose "name and place of abode," on the list, may be the same or a different one. It cannot really be denied, in the absence of the parenthesis, the words, "on the parenthesis, the words, "on the parenthesis, the words, "on the parenthesis of 8th Mary" are meant to register of voters for the parish of St. Mary," are meant to operate in like manner over the whole clause, "John Smith, of Broad street," or it operates on no part of it; for it agens difficult to contend that they operate differently on the words, "John Smith," than the intervening words, " of Broad-street," so as to mean that the name of the voter on the list was "John Smith," but not to mean the place of abode at the time was "Broad-street;" and accordingly it was argued for the respondent, that the words, "on the list, &o.," did not import either the name of "John Smith," or the place of abode, "Broad-street," which was mentioned in the list. That is certainly a more reasonable construction than that which treats the words, "on the list, &c.," as operating on the words, "John Smith," and as having no operation on the intervening words, "of Broad-street;" which construction seems to rest on a tacit but erroneous application of the parenthesis which is found in the form, and the words of the actual notice in which it is not found; which notice is to be understood as not merely affirming that the objector is "on the list of voters," but that he has the right to object; and on referring to the particular entry, that is further confirmed by the form requiring the notices to be specified on a particular list in which the objector is to be found. If it were intended as a mere assertion of the right to object, it would be sufficient to state the objector was " on the list of voters for the borough," and, in the corresponding case, of the county, that the objector was "on the register," without sceing to the requirements of the schedule, No. 5, whether it was published. As long as the particular list is referred to, it is needful that the particular entry should also be referred to as being in furtherance of the same object. It was contended for the respondent by the construction contended for by the appellant, the voter who might wish to communicate with the objector must be prevented doing so in the case of an objector whose present place of abode was different from that on the list, as that must be the list referred to whether this difference arises from error or change. It is doubtful whether the Act contemplated any such commination; it does not authorise or require it; it imposes no duty to make, or confers any right on the voter to make such a commination; but it did contemplate such commination, such a case would most probably be very rare, and cases of error or change are a very small portion of the number of cases that can arise; such cases of change as would prevent the objector being reached by a letter directed to him at his place of abode, or the list must be a very small portion of the whole number of cases of error or change; and it may be observed in the case now in judgment, no such inconvenience did occur. The legislature in the more important cases of notices of objection, where, perhaps, it would be more reasonable that the voter would have a right to receive it, have considered that it is sufficient to send the notice to the "place of abode" mentioned in the list; indeed, the whole scope of the Act of Victoria seems to be that, for all purposes connected with the registration, the description on the list, with the name and place of abode, shall be taken to be the true description, and the effect of this provision will unoubtedly be, that every voter who takes an interest in the election, will take care the notices, if directed with the name and place of abode on the list, shall be forwarded to him. But, even supposing it was the object and intent of the Act to enable the party objected to to communicate with the ob jector, a distinct statement of the right of the objector is more important and desirable than the mere mention of the name. Though this purpose be the one which the notice was intended to effect, it may be in cases of error of places of alcode. The notices should actually have the present description of the place of abode, as well as that on the list of votors; but it does not follow it shall suffice if there is a mero mention of the place of abode as mentioned on the list. An argument was drawn from schedule A, No. 5, where in the notice of objection the form was given thus "To Mr. —, of —— (here insert the name and place of abode of the person objected to as described in the list;) and in the case of notice to the tenant of the qualifying property, insert his name and place of abode as described in the list." At the end of the form it is "(signed) A. B. of —— (place of abode) on the register of voters for the parish of ——," in the same words as the form in nuestion only putting if the register "for the list the is "(signed) A. B. of—— (place of abode) on the register of voters for the parish of——," in the same words as the form in question, only putting "the register" for the list of voters." Here it is said the insertion of the words "as described" between the last and the first part of the notice, and the omission of the words: "on the register," in connection with the words "place of abode " within the parsithesis, in the last part, shows the "place of abode in the last part is not to be that on the register; but the insertion or omission of these words may be otherwise accounted for. In the first part, place of abode is mentioned " (place of abode) or the register of voters for the parish of ——," and no such

words as "on the list of voters for the parish of words as "on the list of voters for the parish of ____," which occurred in the last part of the notice; and which, as I have said before, alone refer to the place of abode as that muntioned on the registor. In this last it would be suspensage to put within the parenthesis "as described in the register," because "on the register of voters for the parish of ____," means exactly the same thing. With regard to the comparative convenience in practice of the two forms, there is no doubt that of the appellant is to be preferred; it couchles the narry, objected to before the revising barrister, to ascertain party, objected to before the revising barrister, to ascertain by inspection of the notices and the list, without any extenaive evidence, whother the notice is sufficient, linsmuch as under that construction it would appear the place of abode is the same as that or the register. No question at all, in fact, can be made as to its validity; whereas, if the respondent's construction is to provail, many questions of law will probably arise as to what is a sufficient description in the notice as to "place of abode," whether county, parish, or post town is mentioned; and these will be the more numerous and formidable from the uncertainty of what the object was by the insertion of the present place of abode as required by the Act; as in all cases it must be a matter of evidence—it may be of controversy, before the revising barrister, whether the place of abode be truly stated as it appears or not. It was also suggested that the identification of the voter by his "place of abode," " on the list" was unnecessary, except in the case of two voters of the same name being on the list; but this is answered by referring to the convenience arising from the rule by the insertion of the Christian name, surname, and place of abode. All three may be necessary in some cases, and they are required in all for the sake of uniformity, simplicity, and convenience. I think for these reasons that a due consideration of the principles of law that are applicable to the ease, and the general intent of the Registration Act, and the due meaning of the particular provision that relates to the notices, leads to the conclusion that the appellant's construction is the true one, and it avoids great practical inconvenience that would arise from the adoption of that of the respondent; and, consequently, the decision of the revising barrister ought to be reversed.

REVIEW.

FORMON VIEWS OF FREE TRADE.—Rerue Britannique; La Ligue Anglaise. Second Notice. London and Paris: Barthes and Lowell.

We return to the consideration of this very interesting article, and commence our extracts with a description of the present position of the Longue:

"The League has resolved to accept no compromise, orne forward on the shoulders of the working classes, now definitely rallied to its cause, it will address to Parliament its aternal and immutable demand, the total and immuliate abolition of the Corn Laws.' It knows that the ports, now partially opened under the pressure of necessity, may be closed to morrow, and that thus what may be called sliding ports would be substituted for a sliding scale; it knows that the concessions of Government may indefinitely adjourn salutary reforms, and it will continue to agitate in consequence. With respect to the landlords—those, at least, who have not adhered to the new ministerial combinations, and they are tolerably numerous-they believe that the moment is come to make a desperate resistance; and they appear equally disposed to set themselves in opposition to the league and the demands of the nation. Each, like a new Brutus, is ready to immolate the election even of a son on the altar of the Corn-Laws and of protection.

We cannot allow this bitter allusion to the Duko of Newcastle to pass without a word of comment. His Grace appears to approach that mental condition which Junius Brutus simulated, and should therefore be treated with the respect which Mahommedans accord to persons in his unhappy condition. There are other points in which the historical parallel fulls. Brutus sacrificed his son to public justice; the Duke of Newcastle rejected Lord Lincoln merely to preserve consistency; he only applied to his son what he avowed to his tenantry, the principle of doing what he liked with his own. But we resume the description of the protectionist landlords:

"Their law, which Mr. Bright has ingeniously denominated 'a law for fine weather,' is attempted to be maintained in a season of storm and tempest; but have not they themselves given the signal for reform when, pressed by Mr. Huskisson and the exigencies of an industry fully developed, they consented to a modification of the silk duties and the Naviga ion Act, and more recently to the financial reforms of Sir Robert Peel? They believed that the public clamour would stop short before their traditional influence and feudal dignity; they believed that they could emancipate industry without emancipating agriculture; but the one is a necessary consequence of the other. Having lightened one scale, you must lighten the other to restore the balance. Free industry cannot be maintained without perfect freedom of raw material. Now corn is the most important of raw materials, and therefore ought to be free above all others. This logic is rigorous and as infiexible as Destiny. You have abolished manufacturing tariffs, you must abolish agricultural tariffs. The day that you accepted Huskisson, you evoked Cobden.

"But this blindness of the protectionists is explained by the extent of the reforms which the League brings in its train. We have said that it assails not merely the monopoly of coru, but the whole system of commercial monopoly. Now as all parts of the organisation of a people are connected together, political rejuvenescence will follow from economic rejuvenescence. The aristocracy perceives this consequence with far more terror than sugacity. Formerly, when commerce protested against feudalism, it was appeased by protecting it, and opening to it, often at the expense of national honour, distant markets. But now commerce will have nothing more to say to protections; it deems them pernicious, injurious to the rights and interests of citizens individually, and of the nation collectively."

In conclusion, the author tells his countrymen some powerful truths expressed in very foreible language.

"We wish not now to make any formal plea in favour of

Free Trade, however useful it may be; but in conclusion we must tell the monopolists that they will not always have consumers to plunder and a country to impoverish. They have taken for their device the maxim of Herenschwand, who considered every economist as the enemy of the public welfare; and they are still, so far as progress is concerned, advanced no further than the system of the Venetian Banuto. But in France, as elsewhere, this blockade of merchandise-which is virtually a blockade of genius and art—cannot endure for ever. The law of expansion is a universal law; it cannot yield to the Franch aristocracy of slik, wool, or iron, no more than to the English aristocracy of acres and of sugar-hogsheads. There was a time when the academies would not allow blood to circulate in our veins; Harvey came and the blood circulated. There was a time when ideas were not allowed to circulate freely; the revolution came, and ideas circulated. We are still at a time when the products of nature and of industry are not allowed to circulate freely; it is reserved for the League and its closure. late freely; it is reserved for the League and its glorious chiefs to remove this last interdict, and thus benefit the cause of humanity, of common sense, and of futurity.

There is one error in this very able article which we cannot pass over without notice. The author, like most of his countrymen, imputes to Pitt personally all the follies and all the infamics perpotrated by his colleagues and successors. Sad, indeed, would be the fate of his memory were he to be held responsible for the bigotry of Perceval, the functicism of Sidmouth, the stupidity of Portland. the despetism of Castlereagh, and the intelerance of Eldon. It is as unjust to take the Pitt Club to be an exponent of Pitt's sentiments as to infer the precepts of the gospel from the practice of the inquisition. The selfish system in commerce was abandoned by Pitt in his great treaty with France, as the selfish system in religion, so far as he is personally concerned, was abandoned at the time of the union with Iroland. But Pitt had neither the strength nor the courage which Peel has recently shown; he succumbed to the aristocratic combinations by which he was surrounded. In justice to his memory, let it be remembered that one element of the combination was a monarch never wholly free from mania, and over exhibiting the mingled

cunning and obstinacy of insanity.

The letters and diaries of Lord Malmesbury afford disclosures that should make our fathers tremble with rage and shame in their graves. At the beginning of the present century, England was literally "bribed by paupers, bullied by cowards, and duped by idiots." Pitt was a liberal in politics, in commerce, and in religion; but he believed the possession of power necessary to give effect to his liborality, and the means he employed were fatal to the end he pursued. The ambition of becoming another Pitt has been a dominant passion with our present Premier from infancy. So far as intentions go, he has selected no unworthy model; but he has advantages which his master could not command: he has an intelligent public and a patriotic Sovereign. Pitt had neither one nor the other. If he appealed to the sense of the public, some stupid cry of vulgar prejudice was sure to give the victory to nonsense; if he applied to George III., like his futher, in the carlier part of the same reign, he could not trust to professions or rely on promises. Honce his enroor presents a sad series of miserable shifts and trumpery expedients; hence his policy was disastrous abroad, and injurious at home; hence he was the persecutor of those who held his own opinions, and the oppressor of those whose wrongs he was most anxious to redress. Thiers and his followers depict Pitt us the incarnation of propense wickedness; but he was wicked only because he was work; he deseemded to acts in which inferior men were his mastors, and was always beaten in the game. He was, when untrammelled, the advocate of Reform, Emancipation, and Free Trade; he did not abandon any one of those causes, but he adjourned them to "a more convenient season;" and to him, as to the Roman proconsul, that more convenient season nover camo.

The moral of Pitt's life is, that there can be no toring with principle; no compromise with injustice; no concession to pulpable wrong. We trust his illustrious disciple, who now wields the destinies of this country, will read that moral aright. We trust that he will see that bonds are no substitute for broad, or coercion for corn. He is ambitious of future fame; let him seriously reflect how his model and muster stands in the estimate of the posterity which has arrived to pronounce judgment. The "heaven-born Minister" has now his origin assigned to a very different place; the "pilot that weather'd the storm" is now a blundering lubber that stoored the ship into spots of dangor, from which she was not extricated without sad damage and loss of cargo. A great name can only be maintained by great deeds; and no deed is great which contributes not to the good of humanity, the advancement of civilisation, and the common intorosts of all mankind.

The Library of Foreign Romance. Edited by J. C. James, Esq. London. Bruce and Wyld. It is too late to inquire whether it is or is not desirable that flation should form part of our our real popular literature. The demand for it exists. is spreading and increasing; it is an appetite which grows by what it foods on, and we must therefore

take it for granted that the demand will in this, as in other cases, ensure supply. Mesers. Bruce and Wyld are the largest caterers for this public appotite; they have brought cheapness of production to the lowest possible point, and it is but justice to add that they have combined with it excellence of selection. Among the eighty works published in their cheap Library of Romance, there are not more than two or three on which a question of admissibility could fairly be raised, and even in these cases we doubt whether a judicious jury would pronounce a verdiet of rejection.

The new series is an enterprise of greater mement. Hitherto most of the translations of French romances have been the speculations of unprincipled traffickers in depravity; they have not only selected the most licentious productions, but have deopened the impurity of their objectionable passages in their translations. Paul de Koch and George Sand have been compelled to give their worst works to the English public, while the historical romances of a host of able writers are left untouched and unknown. Now, though it cannot be denied that there is a greater proportion of objectionable matter in French romance than would be tolerated in England, it must also be added that the productions of the best writers of fiction in France are every day becoming more marked by a tone of high and pure morality; and that the licentious authors are in fact but fourth or fifth-rate writers, who substitute coarseness for strength, and indelicacy for wit. It is, therefore, a useful service to bring before the English public those French works of fiction in which moral purity is combined with intellectual power. The readers once supplied with wholesome food cannot long be induced to prey on

Romances illustrative of existing manners are the most popular productions of our day; and it must be confessed that they convey more accurate information and more definite pictures of manners than could be obtained by formal disquisitions and grave dissertation. Miss Bremer's tales afford us clearer views of life in Sweden than could be derived from all the books of travel in that country which have over been published. Soulie's " Mysteries of the Heath" explain the condition of a barbarous race, surrounded by civilisation, more definitely and more forcibly than the report of a Government commission.

The great Duke of Marlborough used to say, that the hest history of England was contained in the historical plays of Shakspere; we too may add that the Waverley Novels have great value as guides and aids to history. Ivanhoe gives a more accurate view of the state of England, under Richard I., than the pages of Hume or Lingard; Old Mortality teaches more of the wars of the Covenanters than the works of any Scottish historian. It is in fletions, illustrative of history, that French literature has become pre-eminently rich in modern times. Dumas, Nodier, and many others, have revived the past with an intensity of vigour and life which give it all the spirit and all the interest of the present. Caroline Pichler, and many others, have pursued the same course in Germany. Even Russia has contributed to this store of historical illustration, and onabled us to comprehend something of the Solavonic and Mongolian revolutions, which have imprinted on the east of Europe a phase of civilisation essentially different from that of the west. We do not regret that there is a Free Trade in these fletions; we wish that the minds of nations should be mutually interpreted to each other. Had we more of national explanations, we should have less of national jealousies and hostilities. It was once an article of popular faith, as Goldsmith tolls us, "to hate the French because they were all slaves, and wore wooden shoes;" it is still too common to view them with dislike, on account of the depravity of what are supposed to be French principles. But depraved principles are as little popular in France as in England. We have judged the French by the worst of their productions, which is just as unfair as if they had estimated English literature by the publications in Holywell-street,

It is our ous that the first origin of this error was simply a blunder of translation. Marmontel, was simply a blunder of translation. Marmontel, to expose the profligacy of his age, published a series of tales illustrative of the licentious manners which prevailed, and called them Contes Moraux. The stupid hack by whom they were "done into English," translated the title into "Moral Tales," and everybody who read lifted his hands in amazoment at such specimens of French morality! Marmoutel thus got credit for the very opposite to his real design; the manners he condemned were supposed to be the morals he inculcated.

The publishers of this Library of Foreign Romance have undertaken an enterprise involving grave responsibilities. The harvest before them is indeed most abundant; but never was there a crop in which targe were more profusely minused with the wheat. The task of selection will require great care, prudence, and caution, in the editor; and will perhaps, demand an conscional exercise of forback approach the public. Cheapness is not

valuable, unless accompanied by goodness; on the contrary, it becomes an aggravation of evil when it side the circulation of that which is vicious and deprayed.

We have only the prospectus of the undertaking before us, and that certainly promises very fatrig but as the performance may be either highly beneficial, or extensively mischievous, we shall warn the progress of the series—ready to applaud if its course shall tend to the diffusion of intelligence and virtue, and equally ready to sound an alarm should there be any symptoms of pandering to impure passions or prurient curiosity.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS .- Helix Summerley's House Treasury .- Tales from the German de. 1000 don: Cundall.

It is gratifying to find a taste for the national literature of the Nursory reviving in England; for legends and traditions form an essential part of the mind of the people, and rising intellect runs a chance of being denationalised when they are banished. Mr. Cundall deserves much credit for having decidedly set his face against those novels of the nursery which have been issued from the Minerva Press with such lavish profusion, and which, however moral in their purpose, were far from being wholesome in their influence. They had one and all a direct tendency to transform boys and girls into premature men and women; while, for their own sakes, as well as for the sake of all connected with them, it is desirable that children should simply be children. It has been sometimes doubted whother works of fancy or imagination should be placed in the hands of the young; but the faculty of imagination has been bestowed by the same Omniscient Being who endowed us with reason. He gave it to be cultivated, not to be neglected or destroyed. It is a grievous error to suppose that works of avowed fiction tend to weaken the love of truth. The entire question depends on the child's being deceived. The poet Cowper justly says:

That even the child who knows no better Than to interpret by the letter The story of a cock and bull, Must have a most uncommon skull.

The novel-like stories intended to supersede our hereditary nursery literature were indeed open to this objection; they had a tendency to deceive, for they professed to be pictures of actual life. Now we hold, that an accurate picture of actual life may be, and often is, more deceptive than an extravagant fiction. Take, for instance, that very able collection of stories, Miss Edgeworth's Parent's Assistant, and it will at once be felt that the story impresses the mind as a portraiture, not merely of actual, but of average life. Pictures of vice and crime, delineated with equal acuteness in detecting motive and graphic power in developing character, give an air of stern reality to each tale. The child's impressions are true. but the child's inferences are false. neither character nor incident in its individuality, but he generalises both; and his theory becomes false, delusive, and perhaps dangerous. Who ever dreamed of such a result following from Fables and Fairy Tales? Cinderella gratifies a child's fancy, but has not the slightest tendency to pervert the reason The pet-lamb of Simple Susan is received as a plain truth, but Jack's bean-stalk never finds a moment's credence.

In reviving the national legends of the English nursery, the publisher was fortunate in obtaining the aid of so competent an editor as Mr. Felix Summerley. He is evidently a gentleman gifted with much fancy, and trained to a pure and cultivated But, what is still more important, he has carefully studied the youthful mind, and made overy one of his tales stimulate the curiosity and spirit of enquiry necessary for that self-education which is in truth the only sure means of acquiring intelligence. If Felix Summerley be a real name, which we have no opportunity of determining, it is a little surprising that his name is not more frequently heard in connection with antiquarian and legendary lore. He has in these little works displayed at once a deep knowledge and a thorough appreciation of the elements which constitute the intellectual life of a nation; and he has thus made his work subservient to the preservation of the genuine English character, by teaching the value of genuine English traditions. The illustrations of these little works belong to a much higher style of art than has hitherto been used in turnile works, and had the wearther merit

used in juvenile works; and had they no other merit than their effect on the artistic training of the eye, they would deserve very high commendation. But they have singular merit at faithful delinations of character and coatume; the plates in the little volume of Robin Hood, for instance, are parfect lessons in historical

sons in history. This is one of the seasons when gift books are usually presented to young talks; and we have the fore desired it a proper simulational attorner which on juvenile literature, separally as the miner than other has a second state.

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of fiction has found favour with the rising race of booksellers, and that we have selected the meritorious publications of Mr. Cundall merely as types of a olass.

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.

muel Harrison, Req., Potter, Egg., Dr. James Carliston, Req., Dr. James Carlisto, John Gadaby, Req., Wilson, Beq., H. Hull, Req., Uxbridge, elford, Heq., Higherd Durnet, Req., Charles Swaisland, Req., Crayford.

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TAPPTANE.
Dr. Thomas Price, 7, Mighbury-terrace, Islington.
George Thompson, 1800, 6. Waterloo place.
Captain Cogah, Upper Mill, Hammersmith.
SAMENDA.
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Josh. Ivimsy, Esq., 28, Chancery-lane.
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Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application immediately.

The Society's Offices will be open for receiving subscriptions and the general transaction of business, every Eucaday and Friday ovenings, from to 9 o'clock.

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION. As the Second Subscription is about to be called for, parties intending to avail themselves or the benefits of the Association are requested to make application for shares immediately. Until the Hecond Subscription is called in, shares can be obtained on the same terms as those which have been already taken up. Attendance at the Offices, lisst Tomple Chambers, Whitefirst-street, Pleet-street, every Tuesday and Friday evenings, from six to Nine o'Clock

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, April 18, 1846.

The Corn Laws continue to aggravate the fearful vils of Ireland to such an extent, that the starving population has had recourse to deeds of violence for the purpose of checking their mischievous and destructive operation. These laws offer a prize on the exportation of corn from a starving country; they give an artificial price in the English markets to pay artificial rents for Irish land; they snatch the food from the perishing, and wrest sustenance from those dying of inanition. And yet such reasoners as the O'Briens, the Shaws, and the Bentincks point to these exports—these evidences of landlord rights enforced, and landlord duties neglected—as proofs of present plenty and future sufficiency. Woll may we exclaim with that exquisite and true poetess, Miss Barrett:

"The rich preach 'rights' and future days, And hear no angel scotling;
The poor die mute—with ardent gaze
On corn-ships in the offing."

In Clonmel and Tipperary, the famishing multitude has arrested the corn on its way to the ships; but landlordism has no bowels of compassion. Armed with the terrors of the law, it protects the export of food with cannon and with bayonets; and it calls for additional powers, under the name of a coercion, that it may be protected in spreading famine and extending fever. Had the ministerial Corn Bill passed into law before the Easter recess irish corn would have been kept at home to feed the Irish people, and the English markets would have been abundantly supplied from other quarters. But, by the exquisitely absurd arrangement which has found favour with the legislature, millions are doomed to starve until the powers of monopolist oratory is exhausted. The speech of a Miles, or a Bentinck, is purchased at the cost of as many lives as the orator utters sentences. We protest in the name of common humanity against such preposterous and cruel trifling at a origin of such great and imminent danger. There are yet three months of accreity to be faced, and every hour of delay aggravates the difficulty of providing against the total desolation of an integral part of the empire. The pressure of distress in Ireland cannot be exaggerated; it already transcends every thing that words can expres, and almost every thing that even the bears and the residence of the residence

tells us, that "Hunger will break through stone walls;" and assuredly the desperation of its excesses will not be restrained by the clauses of an Act of Parliament. You may set death as a penalty before the perpetrators of outrage, but of what avail is the menace when death in a more cruel form, and with greater certainty of operation, urges him on from bohind? The very journals which raised the ery of exaggeration are now raising the note of alarm in louder tones. The repreach they bring against the Government is, that the measures of relief are suspended and delayed. The responsibility for this delay must rest somewhere, and it may be atoned for by a fearful reckening. We therefore carnestly urgo those who value the salvation of the empire, to allow of no further huxtering and truckling with the destructive agencies of monopoly. We have abundant evidence that if agrarianism slays its thousands in Ireland, landlordism is slaying its tons of thousands. There is still time for the righteons justice of England to interpose, and taking its stand between the living and the dead, to cause that the plague should be stayed. Let us have no more dawdling with worthless points of etiquette. A story is told of a Cantab who saw a fellow-student drowning, and regretted that etiquette prevented him from taking the liberty of saving him, as they had never been formally introduced; but nations must not be sacrificed to such miserable punctilios. The cry from Ireland is, "Save, or we perish!" Rescue life first, and then settle the ctiquetto of first readings and second readings, according to the most approved precedent that comes in your way. To the re-assembled Commons of England, and to the anxious people of England, we address the same warning. Delay, in all cases, is dangerous, but at the present crisis it involves the peril of imminent and wide-spread destruction.

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THE FUNDS.

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

CORN MARKET.

Monday, Apair. 18.—With a very moderate show of samples on all the Wheat stands, there has been some difficulty experienced in effecting sales at last Monday's prices; as before, fine samples meet a better demand than other qualities; no change has taken place in the prices obtained this day week. The Foreign Wheat trade is excessively dull. Late rates are barely maintained on Barley, though the arrivals are not by any means large. About 10,000 qrs. of Irish Oats appear in the return; except this the quantity arrived is very trifling. Buyers continue cautious, but the sales made to day have been pretty considerable, and the prices are the turn in favour of the seller. English Oats are very scarce. Beans and Peas are without variation in prices from this day work.

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MEAT MARKET. The small supply tended to keep up the prices, although trade

The small supply tended to keep up the prices, although trade was exceedingly heavy.

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THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, APRIL 10.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

J. Whalley and C. Whalley, nurserymen, Liverpool.

J. Reding and W. N. Judd, printers, Horseshoe-court, Ludding and W. N. Judd, printers, Horseshoe-court, Luding and W. N. Judd, printers, Horseshoe-court, Hor

BANKRUPTS

BANKRUPTS

E. Foley, victualler, Htoko Nowington-graon. [Mossrs. Dimmick and Burbey, Sizo-land.
Robt. Weatherhog and Rich. Weatherhog, farmers, Stone, Kent. [Mossrs. Tripp, Adelaide-place, London-bridge.
H. C. Langley, apothecary, Suffeik-place, Hackney-road. [Mr. Wheatley, Wallbrook.
T. Matthews, draper, Aldgate High-street. [Messrs. Sole and Turner. Aldermanbury.

gato-hill.

T. Matthews, draper, Angute Ingn-street. Largesta. Commit.
Turner, Aldermanbury.
W. Davey, coal merchant, St. Austell, Cornwall. [Mr. Smith.
T. Rickards, watchmaker, Wootton-under-Edge, Oloucoster-shire. [Mossre. Husband and Wyatt, Gray's-inn-square.
J. B. Oram, brower, Birmingham. [Mr. Bartlett, Blr. Smiredham.

M. Hlingworth, W. Smith, and J. Wright, worsted spinners, Bradford, Yorkshiro. [Mr. Wells, Bradford. C. H. Cartwright, grocer, Warrington. [Messrs. Sharp and Co., Bedford-row. 11. Roo, jeweller, Liverpool. (Mesers. Bridger and Blake, London-wall.

J. Knight, morcor, Preston. [Mossrs. Rood and Laugford, Priday stroot.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.
Fleming and Richardson, Glasgow, accountants.
J. M'Master, Ardrossan, Ayrshire, grocor.
J. Macharg, Glasgow, tea merchant.
D. M. Rose, Bariohies, Rosshire, corn merchant.
TUESDAY, APRIL 14.
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C. Colling, Kidlankruptoy, varn makes.

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

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

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE DELAY.

"When the time comes, honourable gentlemen will see whether her Majesty's Government are sincers or not in the course which they have taken. I can tell the honourable member, that there is no proof of sincerity with regard to this Bill which shall not be given in the event of its failure or alternation in its progress through Parliament. But I, for one, will not condescend to answer that accusation. I should have thought that the facts themselves would have been a complete refutation of it, in the mind of any honourable member."—Sir Rosert Peel, March 30.

We entirely believe the Premier. We accept the pledge of unflinching devotedness to the national cause, thus proudly and boldly tendered, and await its fulfilment without the shadow of a doubt or misgiving. Even the vexatious and harassing delay, of little less than a month's duration, which has intervened since these words were spoken in the hearing of England and the world, has in no way impaired the force, or perplexed the import, of those "facts" which, of themselves, are a "complete refutation " of any charge or suspicion of unfaithfulness. Sir Robert Peel is in earnest—if ever man was. It were sheer childishness to doubt the Free Trade Minister's determination to carry through, at whatever cost, a measure with which he has linked his name, fame, and fortunes-whose -principle he so thoroughly understands, so heartily espouses, and so luminously and forcibly expounds -and for which he has freely made some of the largest and most painful sacrifices which conviction and the sense of duty ever exacted of a public man. Sir Robert Peel is in earnest—cannot but be in earnest. He will pass his bill—though he dissolve Parliament for it. He will pass his bill—though he create peers for it. He will pass his bill-and hol any other bill that the faction may dare offer him and the country in its stead. He will pass his bill as it stands-or, it may even yet be, with a "total and immediate" amendment—the only sort of amendment his acceptance of which lies within the compass of possibility. He means the whole of what he says—and will do it. We honour uninitiatingly the Premier's draft on our confidence, and rest, with unqualified assurance of faith, on promise, that "THERE IS NO PROOF OF SINCERITY THE BEGARD TO THIS BILL WHICH SHALL ROT BE THE EVENT OF ITS FAILURE OR ALTERA-MOTER ITS PROGRESS THROUGH PARLIAMENT."

the country believes this, too. And this is y the country endures—with a patience that to the wise be inexplicable—that seemingly intible delay which a strange and unlooked for the circumstances has interposed be victimal and the formal realisation of its.

to all public and private interests, is the present stoppage of the business of legislation, whon we were so near the goal—when majorities, so large and sweeping as to be irreversible by any power of political accident, had, after debates universally felt to be exhaustive of the whole question, affirmed the Bill, both in its principle and its dotails, and nothing remained but to put it through its last formal stage, and send it up to "another place," stamped with the flat of the united statesmanship and matured intelligence of the empire—then to have it thrust aside and hung up, to wait for the completion of a tedious and unprofitable formality with respect to a totally different and unrolated measure! Still, we bear it. We can ill afford to wait, yet we do wait, tranquilly relying both on the perfect integrity of purpose of the Prime Minister, and on our own power to bear him and his Bill victoriously through all obstruc-

Disappointing and vexatious as is the present entanglement of the public business, we are not disposed to speak with anything approaching to bitterness, either of the one or the other of those parties whose conflicting views of public duty have occasioned it. We freely credit both the Government and the Irish members with upright intentions, however widely we may dissent from the propriety and prudence of the course which they have respectively taken, and however deeply we must deplore the result. Of the particular motives that have induced the Premier to consent to postpone the third reading of the Corn Bill to the merely formal first reading of the Coercion Bill, we do not profess to give any precise account. Whether his intention was simply to comply with the requisitions of a customary courtesy towards the other branch of the legislature, or whether he had been led to believe that the progress of his Free Trade measures in the Upper House would be thereby smoothed and facilitated—or by whatever other motive, or combination of motives, he may have been actuated—we cannot undertake to say. We have, in any case, no more doubt that his decision was taken in perfect good faith, than we have that it was adopted on erroneous premises, and has been productive of injurious consequences. It must, in common fairness, be borne in mind, that sustained and systematic opposition to a measure on its first reading, is extremely unusual—that the formality which the Government have insisted on maintaining is one which ordinarily passes as a matter of course—and that for a minister to rescind a decision of this sort, when it has once been announced and acted on, requires an exercise of moral courage of which very few public men are capable. It was a great mistake, certainly—but perhaps not an unnatural one, and, once committed, retreat was dif ficult and embarrassing.

Of the conduct of the Irish members in this un fortunate affair, we must likewise speak with the candour and fairness which they are entitled to expect at our hands. We do not assume any right to condemn them for the course which, in their judgment, the duties they owe to that portion of the United Kingdom which they more immediately represent, have imposed on them. Much as we lament all that has happened, we are not aware of anything in the conduct of the Irish members which implies either the absence, or the weakness, of the highest motives that should govern public men; and it is impossible to dony that their departure from the ordinary practice of the house, in such cases, has, thus far, been incidentally productive of some highly useful results, by fastening public attention, with unwonted fixity and carnestness, on the real nature and causes of the disorganisation of society in their landlord ridden country. We trust, however, that they will not think it no

cossary further to prolong this course of action, without most fully taking into account all the elements of the case, on which they have to deoide. Without pretending to judge for them, we may express our own strong opinion that the practical purpose of their opposition to the first formal stage of the Coeroion Bill, has been already most abundantly answered. They have sufficiently marked their sense of the obnoxious character of this measure, and their determination to use every possible exertion to prevent it from becoming law; and they have brought home to the public mind and heart an amount of knowledge respecting the real condition and wants of Ireland, to which it is scarcely conceivable that any further protraction of this debate should contribute any material addition. We trust that, remembering that the Corn Bill is, at least, as much an Irish as it is an English measure-that, in fact, the necessity to which we owe its introduction now is mainly an Irish necessity—they will be able to reconcile it to their sonse of duty, to oppose no further obstacle to the observance of a customary Parliamentary formality, and to reserve until another occasion an opposition whose possible and incidental advantages bear now so small a proportion to its certain and direct evils.

At the same time that we are solicitous to reassure those of our friends throughout the country, whose confidence may have been shaken by the present disappointing and mortifying obstruction, we must warn all Free Traders to be on the alert, and hold themselves prepared for all contingencies. We have no desire to take an alarmist tone for which, in truth, we perceive no real occasion-but we cannot too carnestly deprecate everything like over-confidence at a crisis so full of all kinds of contingent possibilities. The delay of the past month may, indeed, in some respects, have operated to increase the security of the Free Trade measures in the House of Lords—but there is no saying, and it is at least equally possible that the effect may have been the other way. any case it is well not to be too sure. anything is to be taken for granted, we say, lake the worst for granted, and be ready accordingly. The political atmosphere is, just now, charged full with those rumours which commonly precede a storm. A dissolution of Parliament is talked ofrejection, or "amendment," by the Lords is talked of,-very likely, without a particle of foundation, other than the wishes, or the fears of the talkers-still, there is no knowing. Very likely, all is right - yet it is quite possible that all is wrong. Sir Robert Pool has nover undertaken to answer for his Bill passing the Lords, without a provious "appoal to the people" nor have we. He has answered for nothing but his own unmoved and immoveable fidelity to its great principle; and we can answer for nothing but our own will and power to see that principle fairly onthe statute book, let who will say nay. The people have done it all thus far-and there is no knowing but that the people's minister may find it necessary now, before all is over, to bid them finish their own

GRANDMAMMA'S VIEWS ON THE MANU. FACTURING SYSTEM.

"The paper, after you, Sir, if you please," said a gentleman of our friend Punch's acquaintance, to a neighbour who was enjoying his chop, and seemed to be enjoying his newspaper, in one of the dining rooms of our metropolis. "It is the Morning Herald, Sir," was the response. "Oh, then," rejoined the applicant, "pray do not trouble yourself—I thought it was a newspaper." Forcour joined part, being very much of Punch's friend's opinion

and liking to read only newspapers that are newspapers, it is not often that we dip into that Stygian fluid of nonsense and scurrility which runs-or rather, does not run, but dolefully stagnatesthrough the columns of the Morning Herald. But accident and temptation occasionally overrule the wisest purposes and the most settled habits; and it did so happen, on Wednesday morning last, that the chance sight of a Number of this indescribable print-containing something which presented to the eye the appearance of a leading article, stretched out to the extraordinary length of some two columns and a half-excited a curiosity, which our idleness could not resist, to learn the precise nature of this inordinate impost on the time and patience of elderly and gaitered gentlemen. So we read (if it can be called reading) the article, (if it can be called an article); and as it seems a pity that labours so onerous should be altogether unprofitable, we have thought fit to furnish the public in general with some account of our observations in a rarely-visited and little-explored region.

So far as we can make out what may be called, by courtesy, the "meaning" of a writer whose early grammatical studies were evidently superintended by a preceptor morbidly averse to the infliction of corporeal punishment—and whose logic always gives one the idea of a brain, naturally of the weakest, preternaturally obfuscated by undue indulgence in the coarser descriptions of beverage familiar to the humbler classes of metropolitan topors-the Morning Herald's theory of the present state and prospects of the empire seems to be as follows: The manufacturers of Great Britain are a gang of "desperadoes and profligates," with one "Mirabeau" Peel for their captain, and certain "Cobdens, Ashfords, and Brights" for licutements. -" Ashford" being the Herald's way of spelling the name more usually written "Ashworth." And the said Mirabean Pool and his profligate desperadoes described, for shortness' sake, as a huge collective "mammoth of pampered vanity and cupidity"-have entered into a vast mammoth-like conspiracy for the establishment of a new univer-BAL MONARCHY, the capital of which is to be Manchester. "To accomplish this object," proceeds the dismal monomaniae, "we perceive an array of MIL. LIONS OF COTTON-SPINDLES under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester, and BRIGADED and commanded by Cobden, Bright, Sturge, &c, (that essence of philanthropy) ARRAYED TO MARCH and to accomplish the object—the conquest of the world"-and "TO RENDER EVERY NATION SLAVES to their capital and to their manufacturing profits." However, the brigaded millions of cotton spindles, before finally setting out on their march to conquer the world and render every nation slaves, must make sure that they do not leave behind them the elements of a successful revolt, that would nip their hopes of empire in the bud. Tyranny, like charity, to begin well, must begin at home. The first thing, therefore, the brigaded cottou spindles have to do is " to reduce the whole agricultural population everywhere to the condition of serfs;" for it is a well-known fact that "the Free Trade array" uniformly describe the "unfortunate agriculturists" as "beings as ignorant as their cattle, and consequently fit only to be slaves to the manufacturers." Having subjected the unfortunate agriculturists, and completed and scaled the conquest by the original expedient of actually "devouring the land, or real property of the country " (they have stomachs, these ogres, for anything), the brigaded spindles will be at liberty to proceed on their " crusado against the powers, the intelligence, the Industry, and the capital of more than THUEL HUN-DRED MILLIONS OF CIVILISED MEN, INHABITING DIFFERENT COUNTRIES ON THIS GLOBE," For the plan of the campaign, which we regret that our space does not allow of our giving in detail, the curious reader must consult for himself the "amusing print"—where he will likewise learn what dreadful preparations for the war are daily going on in the very bosom of certain Manchester and Glasgow families. Now we add, that the Heraid's facts are all "learned from good authority."

We are not familiar with the statistics of the sale and circulation of this most extraordinary literary and political phenomenon, and we find the densest ignorance on the subject prevailing in the circle of our more immediate friends. Perhaps, however, we may trust to the kindness and research of some of our readers to supply us with information on one or two points on which our curiosity is somewhat vividly excited. We should greatly like to know whether, and to what extent, Manchester and Glasgow gentlemen are in the habit of patronising this singularly enlightened and polite journal? Also, whether, and to what extent, the managers of public news-rooms in the manufacturing districts consider themselves at liberty to expend the fivepences of their subscribers in disseminating a publication, whose fitness to express and guide local opinion is so happily demonstrated by the intimate local knowledge evinced in the allusion to the great manufacturing house of "Ashford?" other points on which our inquisitiveness has been excited, we ask no questions, for we are sure no answer can be forthcoming. How any editor can pen such incomprehensibly stupid trash, and call it a " leading article"—how any proprietor and capitalist can draw a cheque on his bankers to pay ir such leading article being written—and how any news. man can make a living by selling it when it is written—are questions on which we can only resign ourselves at once to absolute and perpetual nescience.

THE NICE YOUNG MAN.

" Let laws and learning, arts and commerce die, But leave us still our old nobility." Poems by Lord John Manners.

The characteristically pompous and silly stuff which this well-meaning, but singularly weak-headed young nobleman, addressed, the other day, to the members of the "Birmingham Athenic Institute" —an association formed for the purpose of reviving old English sympathies, old English affections, old English sports, and old English everything, under a Greek name and a Latin motto—has, on the whole, received ample justice at the hand of the Examiner; and it would be a work of supererogation to repeat the castigation due to the inanities and impertinences of his lordship's harangue. We cannot, however, forbear a word of comment on one point, not touched by our contemporary—the nice young man's sneer at political economy and economists in particular, and philosophy and philosophers in general. Lord John Manners delivered himself to the congregated Athenics in the following strain:

"Political economy has still many abstract votaries; and it rests mainly with you, and with societies like yours, to show that the sobriety, morals, intelligence, ay, and the industry too of the people, is promoted by a fair mixture of recreative leisure and amusement with their time of toil and labour. * * Well, gentlemen, they may call us what they please—these dry philosophers, these party politicians, we will pursue the even tener of our way—lightening the toil, elevating the tastes, giving vigour and health to the frames of the working youths of Birmingham."

So then, it seems, political economy and dry philosophy frown on "recreative leisure and amusement," and hold in particular aversion whatever tends to "lighten the toil, elevate the tastes, and give vigour and health to the frames" of the working classes; that is to say, the science which expounds the laws of the production and distribution of wealth stands in antagonism to the natural and best uses of wealth-and it is the express purpose of philosophy to aggravate the toil, debase the tastes, and impart debility and disease to the frames of the working classes. Political economy and philosophy abominate the "mous sana in corpore sano," and have a decided grudge against the working Athenie youths of Birmingham who have associated themselves for the realisation of this inestimable blessing. The Athenics may, however, be of good cheer. Lord John Manners is in the field against political economy and philosophy, and will enfranchise the degraded-and-opprossed viotims of these common enemies of mankind with orioket matches and maypoles. David and his sling against Goliah of Gath -Lord John Manners and his bat against philosophy, though the came in the guise of Attention

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self. Lord John Manners and the Athenics will, among them, despite all "obloquy and misrepresentation," redress the evils of "our present arbitrary and artificial state of society "—" disperse the mists of money getting prejudico"—restore "the frankness and freshness of old English character"—and "carry this little island of ours through all straits and dangers," &c. &c.

After all, Lord John Manners is not so silly as he seems. There is a sort of shrewdness about him, which admirably balances and corrects any over-tendency to frankness and freshness, lie is quite right to be against political economy and philosophy, for political economy and philosophy are most decidedly against him. He feels himself in a false position—this sentimental monopolistthis frank and fresh bread taxer-this fine old English supporter of the shabbiest and dirtiest of legislative iniquities. He feels himself in a false position. Speaking to Birmingham men, whose industry he shuts out from its natural and rightful markets-whose wages he fines down, by enhancing the cost of that on which wages are expendedwhose recreative leisure he abridges by arbitrarily increasing the difficulty of supplying these wants which wait on no man's leisure-whose amusements he invades with those chilling and heart-withering anxieties incident to suspended and irregular trade. which eat out the very faculty for being amusedwhose toils be multiplies, prolongs, and aggravates by superadding to the natural and necessary cost of life the artificial cost of landlordism's black-mailwhose tastes he lowers, by curtailing time and opportunity for their culture—and whose healthful vigour he would prematurely waste away, by maintaining a cruel and vicious system which the economists, the philosophers, and the statesmen, have demonstrated to be "THE CAUSE OF FEVER, MORTALITY, AND CRIME, AMONG THE PEO-PLE!"-Lord John Mannors feels himself to be in a false position; -and he makes believe to put himself right, by running out against the science that shows him to be wrong.

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Lord John Manners is a young man-young enough to learn; and, notwithstanding his frivolous and empty sneer at wiser and better men than himself, we are willing to remember that he has given some signs of readiness and ability to learn. May we suggest, that he would do wisely to make at once that final election between right and wrong which, in these times, as he will not be long of finding, no public man can hope to evade. The old English philanthropy that taxes poor men's bread, and the old English frankness and freshness of feeling that plunder poor men's cupboards, are coming very rapidly to be rated exactly for what they are worth. If Lord John Manners means to qualify himself for popularity among Birmingham artisans, he must cease to sneer at truths which even artisan intelligence appreciates, to talk a rhodomontade which artisan common-sense scorns, and to give his vote and interest to a sordid iniquity against which the artisan soul indignantly rovolts. The Athenics themselves will not stand it at the next anniversary. If Lord John Manners cannot put himself through an entirely now course of mental discipline-including liberal and constant doses of "political economy," and "dry philosophy,"-he had better, to save time, trouble, and mortification, go back to the castle and the hounds, and settle down at once into a lord.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY OF MINERAL WEALTH IS THE NORTH OF AYRSHINE.—We understand that Mr. Dixos, of Glasgow, has become lessees of part of an extensive mineral field situated noar Beith. The ore proposed to be wreath is a species of Brown Liesmatite, yielding sometimes as high as 50 per cent. of pure iron; it exists in immense abundance, forming strata of many feet in thiskness, throughout the parishes of Benth, Kilbirnis, and Dalry. In the latter pick, in the farm of Howrat, the property of Gaptain Blar, of in the farm of Howrat, the property of Gaptain Blar, of the light discoverer of the importance of the believe that the first discoverer of the importance of the winding has a strate from files to the internal was John Jack, Esq., manager of the importance of the wealth of this district.—Ay Adv.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE

SESSION OF 1846.

Fourteenth Week, ending Saturday, April 25. For anything which as yet appears to the contrary, the Easter recess might have lasted a fortuight instead of a week. The House of Commons re-assembled last Friday (wook), and at once proceeded to resume the debate on the first reading of the Irish Coercion Bill. Yet, at the present moment, this debate is just as far advanced as it was three weeks ago. The Irish repeal members have taken a loaf out of the book of Lord George Bentinck; and they seem disposed to "better the instruction" which he has given. All legislative function is paralysed; the Government seems helpless; and rumour runs about, muttering ominous threats of an impending dissolution of Parliament.

The appalling condition of Ireland was part of the theme of Friday night week. In answer to an appeal from Mr. Smith O'Brien, in which he adduced evidence that the people were starving, Sir James Graham regretted the inadequacy of the remedies to meet the actual exigency, but reminded the house that the Government could not, and did not, undertake the task of feeding the indigent population of Ire land. All they proposed to do was so to regulate the market price, by permitting freedom of supply, as to enable food to be procured at a moderate price. But the Government did more than this. 'They had provided for the possibility of the landlords of Ireland failing in their duty, and had undertaken that the grants of public money might be exceeded on the responsibility of ministers, in order to meet any possible extension of the calamitous circumstances which afflict Ire. land. He appealed to Irish members to permit the first reading of the Coercion Bill, in order that they might afterwards proceed with the Corn Bill.

Similar sentiments were uttered by Sir Robert Peel. He reminded the house that a short time ago the Government had been accused of exaggeration when they pointed to the probability of a famine in Ireland. If it were possible to alleviate the calamity, no pecuniary consideration should interfere. But let them take care that by interference they might not do more harm than good. It was a hazardous experiment to undertake the feeding of a people; no Goant should interfere with the natural course of supply and demand. Their great object was to enable wheat, oats: Indian meal, and other grain, to be supplied at moderate and natural prices; and for the farther mitigation of the impending calamity, the wealthy classes and not the Government were responsible.

The debate, however, went on, the only exception to a dreary night being an excellent speech from Mr. Ward, who spoke with much spirit, temper, and good sense on the subject of Ireland. He complained of the "disgraceful" state of the House, engaged as it was in the discussion of a great constitutional question. This was an allusion to the attendauce of members during the night, which had been scanty. Were they, he asked, for ever to pursue this miserable and vulgar policy of coercion? They had tried it during successive years, and it had continually failed. The first vote he had ever given in Parliament had been in favour of a coercion bill; but at that time he knew less of Ireland than he did of Mexico, and he reposed confidence in the Ministry which proposed it. Universal testimony showed that the lrish endured unexampled privations-was it marvellous that patience should be occasionally exhausted, or that despair should break out into outrage? He depicted the social condition of the people, quoting Kohl's opinion as to the comparative depth of their degradation and misery, borne with religious cheerfulness and content—and was this the people whom we were called on to coerce, and to shut up every night in their hovels, under extreme pains and penalties. Their business was to grapple, not so much with the criminals as with the causes of crime; the evils of Ireland were social, not political; and the remedy for them, he conlended, was not to be found in such measures as the bill before the house, but in large comprehensive plans for the anclioration of the condition of the country.

The Irish members compelled an adjournment of the debate till Monday. On Monday there was "No house." One member only was required to make up the forty, which enables the Spraken to retain the chair; and Dr. Bowring, who had been detained by a tardy omnibus in his way from the Bank to the House, arrived a minute too late. But the fact of there being "No house" immadiately set people to speculation. It was conjectured that the Cabinet was in a (risis, and consequently that a dissolution was at hand. All this spreads about the ides that Sir Robert Peel feels the difficulty of his position, and is losing that disciplinaries firmwhich used to characterise him. It would be a pity for the country, in its present commercial condition, were the monopolists to decales themselves into the folly of predibite. the the content which they affect to desire. But particle, after all, it may be ultimately better that the content should come, for the rousing of a nation might be the cause of so-cuing a larger amount of ultimate advantage for the scople then the blunderbores dream of.

On Therefore the House of Fords in several plays and the House of Common Co. It is the transity of the House of Common Co. It is the transity of the House of Common Co. It is the transity of the House of Common Co. It is the transity of the House of Common Co. It is the transity of the House of Common Co.

way, intended to make a great impression, spoke to the following effect :

Lord George Bentunck rose to obtain some explanation of a false return leid upon the table respecting the prices of Memel timber. He had moved for this document, applicable to the last six years, in the last week of January or in the first week of February, and the part which appeared to be false was dated 13th February; if was then in the hands of the Board of Trade, although it had not been laid upon the table until the lat April. The object his lordship had in view was to throw light on a pending discussion of the timber duties, and the return showed that the following were the prices of Momel timber. (The noble lord here stated a series of figures which turned out to be, as he said, the cor rect prices, and not those given in the return; he accordingly withdraw them.] The following were the prices of Memel timber, duty paid, as they stood in the return of which he complained:

> 1840 1841 1842

The duty which was stated to have been paid being then 55s. per load. The average of those three years, according to the return upon the table, was 8/. Is. Id. In the year 1812, the right honourable baronet at the head of the Government introduced his changes. He then reduced the duty by 20s., and he took of a further 0s. in 1843. The return went on to give the subsequent as the prices after the reduction of the duty:

from £6 5 0 to £5 10 0 5 10 0 5 10 0 5 17 0

Making an average of 5/. 12s. 6d. The result of the return was to show the house and the country that the consumers had gained by the remission of the 30s. duty, not only the whole amount of that duty, but 19s. 2d. over and above it; in other words, that the consumers had gained 49s. 2d. upon every load of Memel timber. He believed the fact to be that so far from this being true, the roturn, if correctly made out, would have shown that the following were the prices:—In 1810, 5l. 10s.; 1841, 5l. 5s.; 1842, 5l. 5s. Showing an average of 5t 6s. 8d., with a duty of 55s. already paid. During the last three years, when the duty had been reduced to the extent of 30s., the subsequent were the correct prices of Memel timber:—In 1844, 4l. 5s.; 1845, 4l. 5s.; 1846, 4l. 12s. 6d., showing an average of tl. 7s. 6d. Thus the consumer, on an average of three years since the duty had been reduced, as compared with the three years before it was reduced, instead of having gained, as represented in the return, 49s. 2d., being all the reduced duty, and 19s. 2d. beyond it, had really gained only 19s. 2d., while 10s. 10d. were put into the pockets of the foreign growers. Comparing the last year with 1842, before the duty was reduced, there was put into the pockets of the British consumers, not 42s. 6d., as represented by the return, but 12s. 6d., out of the 30s. of reduced, there was not the 30s. of reduced that a first reduced the second s duced duty. Out of the reduced duty of 30s. the foreigner, in 1840, was enjoying benefit to the extent of 17s. 0d., while the British consumer was a gainer to the extent of only 12s. 6d. This seemed to him (Lord G. Bentinck) a most important matter, inasmuch as the house expected to be able to rely upon the truth and honesty of the statistical doesments laid upon the table, as veluable guides to legislation. He had at first contemplated the fitness of calling to the bar the subordinate officer who had made out the return, in order that he might explain how the error, or fraud, which had been imposed upon the house had occurred. It was all very well for honourable gentlemen connected with the commercial interests to slight this subject; but he (Lord George Bentinck) maintained that the misrepresentation was an important one, and it could not be denied that it had passed current with the house and the people. So striking was it, that the learned editors of newspapers had remarked upon it in leading articles, and had drawn an argument from it in favour of the reduction of duty on Baltic timber, He had, therefore, thought it right to call upon Ministers to explain how it came to pass that, after so long a delay as seven weeks, the Board of Trade had at length laid upon the table a false return, which had been most appropriately presented on the 1st of April.

Sir Robert Peel thus disposed of this "mare's nest:"

Sir R. PERL did not think that he should be justified in entering into any argument with the noble lord (cheers), but he would simply state the facts of the case as regarded the error in the return. His attention had not been called to error in the return. His attention had not been called to the subject until he heard from the noble lord yesterday. Although, in one sense, documents of the kind were presented by ministers, yet, if only on account of their number, it was utterly impossible that they should undertake to be responsible for their accuracy (hear, hear). At the same time he willingly admitted the great importance of accuracy, and the parties preparing them, and not preparing them accurately, were in truth answerable. Immediately he understood that an error had been committed, he had directed that if that error were found to exist, a document not liable to the same objection should be made out forthwith and laid before the house. He believed that an accurate return would be laid upon the table to-morrow. He had also made would be laid upon the table to morrow. He had also made a communication to the Board of Customs requiring to be certified in what department the mistake had been committed; to this communication an answer had been received, and the best course would perhaps be to real the letter. It was in the following form, and addressed to one of the secretaries of the Trossfiry:—"April 21, 1846,—Sir— In answer to your requisition, calling upon me to state in what department the error in the return of the values on Memel and Canadian timber cross. I have to regret to state that it was in the landing surveyor's department. The nature of the mistake is, that the prioce were necessarily taken from the Prices Ourrent, which are not official Customs documents, but a mercantile list, in which some of the values cuments, but a mercantile list, in which some of the values quoted include the duties, whilst others do not. The head-ing of the space containing the values, viz. "yalue in hond!" led to the effor. It applied only to the upper half of the columns, not to that part in which these prices were entered, and this distinction was not observed. I have to express my regret at this error, and remain, Sir, your most obsellant servant, M. Surt. B. Cartivall, Esd." He (Sir R. Peel) had only to and the expression of his recret that the error had occurred he had again the income. There to correct imballably, but he must repeat that numbers must be hell repositible for initial as of the king.

pends on their nature whother not the discussions on that night are of general importance.

On Wednesday, during the day's sitting, there was a somewhat ourious discussion, showing how fourful the "country gentlemen" are of anything which may tend to diminish their lufluence, or their control over the county constituen-

Mr. Elphinstone moved the second reading of his County Elections Bill, the object proposed by which was to limit the time of polling in counties to the same period as in boroughs, namely, to one day.

Colonel Thomas Wood met the motion by a direct negative, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. In the course of the somowhat curious discussion which

Lord Worsley, who supported the bill, adduced evidence to show that the bulk of a county constituency actually polled on the first day of an election.

The noble lord read the following statement:

Return of the number of votes recorded at County Elections in 1841, showing that a large proportion of the registered constituencies recorded their votes on the first day:

Rushingham	R	Total Vates ecorded	•	First Day's Poll.	J	eennd Day'n Poll.
Buckinghamshire	٠.,	8579				1641
South Essay Herffordshire	• • •	7/27		ায়াম	٠.	CHAS
South Northamptonshire	٠.,		٠.	7010	٠.	1408
West Yorkshire	• • •	Miss	٠.	4825	• •	HOU
North Northumberland	• • •		٠.	41 (194)	٠.	EMUH
East Curchardand	• • •	Hind	٠.	2703		. 71H
East Cumberland	• • •	6076		6177		599
North Lincolnshire	٠,	13743	٠.	11103		2010
East Sussex		5302	٠.	4200		1012
South Derbyshire	٠.,	11080	٠.	M(1)		2375
South Leicentershire		7		64836		627
East Cornwall	٠.	7456	٠.	mini (4115
East Norfolk		8313	٠,	6863		1450

Lord Worsley also amused the house by assuring it that he was cognisant of the fact that many county electors imagined, and sometimes attempted to act on their misconception, that as the law allowed two days for polling, they could vote on the first day for one candidate, and on the second for his opponent; and that they supposed they were deprived of a legal right when they were prevented.

Mr. Newdegate expressed his apprehensions that if county elections were limited to one day, associations, much as the Anti-Corn-Law League, would take advantage of the facilities which railways now afforded; and, by concentrating bodies of electors at particular stations, pour down upon the polling booths and decide the contest. Mr. Cobden had threatened that within three years he could unseat one bundred county members, unless they changed their principles, and acted against their own convictions and those of the constituencies which they represented.

Mr. Bright remarked that all the arguments against the present Bill resembled in colour and texture the arguments which had been used in support of the old obnoxious system, on which the present practice was admitted to be a great im-

Mr. Beckett Danison knew of many instances in which the result of an election had boon changed by the interval afforded between the first and second day.

Sir James Graham admitted that the change to one day in boroughs, and two days in countles, had been a great improvement on the old system. But elections in boroughs extended only over a radius of seven miles; while in counties there was no specific limitation, and instanced the county of York. He did not think the Bill to be necessary, and therefore opposed it.

After some further debate - during which Mr. Escott affirmed his knowledge of corrupt practices in the night between the two days, and Colonel Sibtherp hoped that the day was distant when money would not freely circulate at elections, and Lord George Bentinck renewed his attack on Mr. Encott, for alloged abandonment of principle—the house went to a division, when the Bill was thrown out by a majority of 55 to 32.

Thursday night was devoted, in both Houses, to the introduction of the Railway Relief Bill, and the discussion of a new sessional order, for the purpose of stopping all Rullway Bills now before Parliament, until it is ascertained that a majority of the shareholders are clearly in favour of proceeding; while to those who wish to withdraw from their schemes the opportunity is given of winding up their concerns. The subject does not precisely come within our range, except to notice that the "gangway section" are anxious to seize every opportunity of attacking the Government. Lord George Bontinok, on hearing the Chancellor of the Exchequer talk about appealing from "Philip drunk" to "Philip sober," got up and accused Sir Robert Peel personally, and the Government generally, as having heat a great share in making the people railway drunk. And then Bon D'Israeli, the "Philosopher of Bhrewebury," should get up to repeat the same thing, and to presch an essay as to the virtues which should be possessed by a "great stetusman," with a "great idea." Dhildeophic Ben imagines, apparently, that unborn statesmen will yet suckle from him the art of Government.

It is really becoming intolerable that a knot of pedants and pupples "under the gangway," should bestride every public question, like the Old Man of the Sea.

Lette in the evening; (the railway debate lasting dill heat eleven o'clock.) Lord Landon brought on a molton relative to the reduction of the disk on The, which was associated by the Moltas. He had been statistical appears, which the laterages, it is how the process of the low t

IMPORTANT FROM BRAZIL.—PETITION TO LORD ABERDEEN. (From the Economist.)

The question of our relations with Brazil becomes more and more complicated. Our readers will remember that, at various periods last year, we called attention to the dangerous position in which property in Brazil belonging to British subjects, dying either there or here, is placed in such an event by the expiry of our treaty. It is now a year ago since a deputation of merchants from Liverpool had an interview with Lord Aberdeen on this alarming state of our Brazilian relations. At that time Lord Aberdeen, fully admitting the importance of the case, assured those merchants that he had every reason to believe that, at that moment, a treaty of amity was on its way home, which would secure a restoration of the rights of British subjects in Brazil.

To this day no more has been heard of the Brazilian treaty; the truth being, that the disappointment felt at our continued refusal to admit their sugars, by the bill of last year, and further the passing of a law towards the close of last session, giving to our Courts of Admiralty jurisdiction over Brazilian subjects, in certain cases, under the treaty of 1826, and which Act was passed in the face of the most explicit opinion expressed by one of the greatest law authorities in Parliament, and we think we may safely say, under a considerable doubt on the part of all, that it was an Act of direct variance with the law of nations,-under these circumstances, the Brazilian Government immediately instructed the commissioners who had been appointed to negotiate the treaty in question, to suspend all further intercourse on the subject with Mr. Hamilton, until these obnoxious and invidious laws were altered.

Meantime a private committee was appointed at Rio de Janeiro, for the purpose of endeavouring, by every means in their power, to prevail on the Government to grant them the same privilegos regarding the property of deceased British merchants as is possessed by the French, under treaty, and which they also possessed until the expiry of the late treaty. After spending months in futile attempts, without obtaining any concession from the Government, and living in the greatest terror of the operation of the law upon their property, this committee have addressed to Lord Aberdeen through Mr. Hamilton, a petition, of which the following is a copy—the original, no doubt, having been received this week at the Foreign Office. The petition itself fully explains the difficulties and dangers under which from four to five millions' worth of British property is at this moment almost in a state of the most imminent danger. And for what? In order to maintain a distinction with respect to the introduction of slave-labour augar, most ineffective for its pretended objects, and which fairly exposes us, in all our efforts on behalf of the slave, to a suspicion of insincerity and hypocrisy, and exhibits us to the whole world in the daily commission of the most glaring and flagrant inconsistencies. This has become a serious subject which it will be impossible for the British Government to stave off much longer. The following is the petition;

May it please your Lordship, The undersigned British subjects resident in Brazil, request The undersigned British subjects resident in Brazil, request permission, in the most respectful manner, to lay before your lordship, her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the very exposed and dangerous position in which all property existing in Brazil belonging to British subjects is placed, by a certain law, entitled, "Decreto, No. 160, de 9 de Maio, de 1842, Dando Regulomiento para a arrecadação dos lens dos definitos e Ausentes, vagos e de evento," being made applicable to them, "as subjects of a nation with which Brazil has no treaty." Your memorialists beg leave to state the difference of the positions of French and British subjects. A British subject is bound to make his will according to the forms of the Brazilian law, and is farther obliged to bequeath such of his property as may be existent in Brazil, wheresever he may reside, in obedience to the tener of the law of coheirship (Ley de Partithas), which to the tener of the law of coheirship (Ley de Partithas), which pives certain relatives of the deceased a legal claim on a certain portion of his property, and forbids its being otherwise bequeathed; but a French subject is at liberty to will his property in accordance with French turn. in accordance with French law

On the death of a British subject in Brazil-or, indeed, any part of the world, who may have left property in Brazil, whether he should have died intestate or otherwise, the local authorities claim (under the law alluded to) an intervention in the administration of it, which would render the settlement of any claim against the estate of the deceased so difficult and vexatious, that the credit of any commercial establishment which might come under its influence would, of a certainty, become seriously injured, if not ruined; but, by perpetual articles (of an expired treaty), French subjects are entirely protected from the interference of the law your memorialists have so much reason to dread and complain of; thus the French subject can offer a protection and security to preparty pleased under his charge pro-

trend and security to property placed under his charge, no longer enjoyed by the subjects of Great Britain in this country. If a French subject die in this country, or any other, the dispositions he may have made relative to property would be carried into execution here, by the sole intervention of the French consul: and should he have died without leaving any will or dispositions, the French consul has then the power of manning curators. Sec. to administer the property so that a naming curators, &c., to administer the property, so that a French mercantile establishment, under either event (that is, whether a partner had died intestate or otherwise), would not be rum or injury, but might continue its transactions without any interruption.

Should a British morehant die in Brazil, whether he left a

without any interruption.

Should a British morchant die in Brazil, whether he left a will or dispositions for the carrying on the catablishment with which he had been connected ornot, the local authorities claim a prejudicial intervention with—and the law insists on the liquidation of—the establishment! and the vexatious proofs required, as well as the tardy attention which would be paid to them, before the most clear commercial claim would be acknowledged, would cause a virtual stoppace of payment, and lead to almost certain ruin; thus involving not only the property of the deceased, but the interests of his partners in Great Britain, and probably of others who might have trusted the establishment with the care of their property in this country.

To be as expressive of their meaning as possible, your memorialists may state to your lordship, that a British subject who might be about to retire from Brazil, under the existence of the law referred to, would leave his property with much greater security in the custody of a French subject than under the care of one of his own countrymen. In the latter case the property would be exposed to a double risk, as either the death of the local authorities, whilst with the French subject, as principal or agent, no interference of the local authorities could coour.

Your lordship's resmorialists have alluded to the case of mercantile establishments, particularly, to show more evidently the risks which those in Great Britain and cleawhere run, who may trust to them as agents, as well as to prove to your lordship how seriously the credit and interest of British commercial establishments connected with the trade to Brazil must be injured by the gircumstances stated.

The British merchant here can be longer over to thiose in

by the of coumstances stated.

The British merchant here can no longer offer to those in Europe or elsewhere the same security against the intervention of the local authorities in local affairs as French subjects can; neither, indeed, can they do so now to the natives. A circumstance, which formerly added much to support British credit in Balli, which presided knowledge of the natives, that although a British guidest should die in this country, no interference by the local allighest should take place with his property, and his debte; would be paid without subjecting the claimants on his costate to loss or litigation. Your memorialists did chieffain

hopes that the security granted to French subjects by perpetual articles of treaty made between France and Brazil, within twelve months previous to the date of the last treaty made between Great Britain and this country, had been secured by the following part of the 5th article in the said British treaty:

"And, generally, it is agreed, that the subjects of the high contracting parties respectively shall enjoy in all the territories of the others, with respect to their persons, any rights, privileges, favours, or exemptions, which are, or which may be at any time hereafter, granted to the subjects of the most favoured nations."

But recent occurrences have tended to perplex them on the subject, especially the case of the late George March (a British subject), whose estate was administered for a short time by two British subjects, in accordance with the dispositions left by the late Mr. March, and under the authority of her Majesty's consul. Ultimately, however, the local authorities have interfered; and, disavowing the consul's authority, have laid an injunction on the property, named a curator, and subjected the administrators to the law of which your memorialists so much complain. A more

recent case has also occurred, where the local anthorities at each took charge of the property of a deceased British subject—a person who belonged to the poorer class; but the circumstees equally shows the principle of the law. If the catenable be the only read object of the law stated and complained splan, namely, to afford protection by preventing embezziement, noupparently justifiable motive can be offered for not resoluble as of ar as regards those foreigners whose Governments might be desirous to release Brazil from the responsibility.

Your memorialists trust to the penetration of your lordship to take a full and correct view of the incalculable evils which mass be entailed on British commercial interests by the novelty of the Brazilian Government establishing one principle of security for the property of the French subject, and another interior for the property of British subjects.

Your lordship's memorialists rely with implicit confidence that her Majesty's Government will give the subject of this not morial that consideration which it may merit.

Rio de Janeiro, the eleventh of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

REPLY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE TO THE ADDRESS FROM THE "SOCIETÉ DES ECONOMISTES" OF PARIS.

The following letter was forwarded some time ago from the Council of the League to the Society of Political Economists in Paris, in reply to the address transmitted from that Association to the League, which has already appeared in our columns. The letter appears in the last Number of the "Journal des Economistes," and the interval that has elapsed between the transmission and publication is accounted for by the fact that the "Journal des Economistes" is published only once a month. We subjoin a copy of the original letter, together with the translation:

Londres, 18 Mars, 1846.

A Messicurs CHARLES DUNOYER, Membre de l'Institute, Président; HORACE SAY, JOSEPH GARNIER, et les Membres de la Société des Economistes, à Paris.

MESSIEURS,-Veuillez ne pas attribuer le long retard que les chefs de la Ligue ont mis à vous répondre à un manque de courtoisie de leur part, mais simplement à une grave indisposition qui, pendant plusieurs semaines, m'a tenu séparé de mes compagnons de travaux dans la cause du libre echange. En leur nom comme au mien, je vous prie d'agréer cette tardive expression de notre gratitude. Nous avons été sensiblement touchés à la lecture de votre lettre, où vous nous exprimez en termes si éloquents la cordiale sympathie des économistes de Paris pour les Free Traders d'Angleterre.

Je n'ai jamais douté que, lorsque les travaux et les intentions de la Ligue seraient connus au dehors, il n'éveillassent de nombreuses sympathies au sein d'un peuple aussi généreux et aussi éclairé que le peuple de France. Si ces tra vaux, pendant plusieurs années, n'ont point attiré l'attention des étrangers, c'est qu'ils paraissaient n'être dirigés que vers un but special et n'avoir pour objet que le redressement d'un grief purement domestique. Pourtant, des l'origine, les promoteurs de la lutte contre les lois céréales avaient tendu à une sin bien autrement noble et générale que la simple destruction d'un monopole injuste. Dans leur pensée le rap-pel de ces lois devait conduire à l'abolition complète du régime protecteur. Ils sentaient que le grand principe de la liberté commerciale était au fond de la querelle, et qu'a la solution d'une question toute spéciale se liait inévitablement le sort d'un système qui intéressait le présent et l'avenir, non-seulement de l'Angleterre, mais du monde entier.

Je suis charmé, Messieurs, que le retard involuntaire que ai mis vous répondre me permette de vous annoncer que l'événement confirme ces prévisions, et que la réforme aura un objet infiniment plus étendu que n'avait paru l'annoncer son titre:-Le libre échange, non-seulement en matière de subsistances, mais en toutes sortes de produits, devient anjourd'hui la politique commerciale avouée de la nation Anglaise. Non seulement tous nos principaux hommes d'état, abjurant un système erroné, se sont prononcés pour l'introduction pratique dans la législation Anglaise des principes de Smith et de J. B. Say; mais encore la grande charte de nos francises commerciales, promulguée par Sir Robert Peel, a été scellée par le vote des représentants de peuple Britannique.

Je n'ai pas besoin de dire à une Société aussi éclairée que celle des Economistes de Paris, que les suites d'une révolution si considérable ne sauraient se renfermer dans les limites étroites de Royaume-Uni, et que elle est destinée à s'étendre. Vous savez aussi bien que nous, Messieurs, quelle est la vive tendance des idées justes et fécondes à se propager, et combien il est difficile, lorsque une grande nation en a fait l'heureuse application chez elle, que les autres ne soient pas bientôt entraînées à l'imiter. Aussi longtemps que les peuples ont été uniformément soumis au régime des restrictions commerciales, ils ont pu lutter sur le pied de l'égalité: chacun trouvait une sorte de protection dans l'erreur commune à tous. Mais quand une grande nation maritime s'est affranchie des liens du monopole, je ne comprends pas trop comment les autres pourraient consentir longtemps à retenir ce lourd fardeau et à demeurer placées dans des conditions de travail et d'activité

désavantageuses. Nous espérons, Messieurs, que la société française, si colairce, ne tardera pas à sentir les désadvantages de cette situation, et qu'elle ne voudra laisser à aucune autre l'honneur de prendre sur le continent l'initiative des mesures favorables à la liberté commerciale. Il n'y a pour votre patriotisme qu'un mo, en de la préparer à cet heureux affranchissement: c'est d'initier vos populations à la connaissance de leurs intérêts et de leurs droits. Il est tout à fait désirable que les saines notions économiques cessent enfin de demeurer confinées dans le cabinet des hommes qui les cultivent ou dans quelque cercle savant, et qu'elles commencent à devenir familières à la masse de vos compatriotes. Il n'est donné à auoun gouvernement, quelque excellentes que puis-sent être sos intentions, de faire prévaloir une législation cessons d'en faire l'expérience en Angleterre. Il y a dix ans, le gouvernement de ce pays n'eût pas même conqu la pense de proposer au Parlement ces mesures au triomphe des quelles est aujourd'hui subordonée la durée du cabinet de Bir Robert Peel, Pour préparer ce résultat, pour donner au peuple d'Angleterre l'intelligence de ses vrais intéréts et le déterminer à manifester constitutionellement aon vœu, il a fallu éorire, discourir, discourir, mprimer durante beaucoup d'annees. Vous n'aures pai moins à faire sans doute. Vous constitutionellement approprie et la presse et la presse, ayant qu'aucun homme d'état intelligence done troits grands agents de lout progrès morral, la parole, la plusie et la presse, ayant qu'aucun homme d'état intelligence consente à vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté dans la vité d'état intelligence de la consente à vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté dans la vité d'état intelligence consente à vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté dans la vité d'état intelligence de le vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté dans la vité de la consente de vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté dans la vité de la consente de vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté de la consente à vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté de la consente à vous suivre et à introduire le principe de la allighté de la consente à vous suivre et à introduire le paritoire les verties de l'experience de la consente a vous suivre et à introduire le paritoire les verties de l'experience de la la consente a vous suivre et à introduire le la vertie de l'experience de la consente a vous suivre et à introduire le la vertie de l'experience de la consente a vous suivre et à introduire le la vertie de l'experience de la consente a vous suivre et à introduire le la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de la consente de raisonnable, wil n'est soutenu par une opinion publique

London, 18th March, 1846. Messrs. CHARLES DUNOYER, Member of the Institute and Acting President; HORACE SAY, JOSEPH GAR NIER, and the Members of the Economical Society of Paris.

GENTLEMEN, -I entreat you not to attribute the long delay in answering your address to the prominent members of the Anti-Corn Law League to a want of courtesy on their part, but to a tedious illness which has for several weeks separated me from my fellow-labourers in the cause of Free Trade. In their behalf and my own, I beg you to accept this tardy expression of our grateful acknowledgments. Yourst dress has been read by the members of the League with the liveliest feelings of admiration for the eloquent terms in which you have communicated the cordial sentiments entertained by the economists of Paris towards the Free Traders of England.

I never doubted that, when the labours and the motives of the League were comprehended abroad, they would securthe sympathies of the collightened and generous people of France. For many years those labours failed to attract the notice of foreigners, because they seemed isolated in their object, and directed to the removal of one solitary domestic grievance. But the promoters of the struggle against day linglish Corn Law perceived from the beginning, that in the success of their efforts was involved a far mobler triumph than that of the removal of an injurious monopoly. They foresaw that the repeal of the Corn Law would be the signal for the downfall of every protective duty—that the great principle of commercial freedom was at stake; and that not merely England, but the world at large, was now and for all future time, interested in the issue of the struggle of the Anti-Corn-Law League.

Fortunately, the delay which has occurred in answering your address enables me to congratulate you upon the recent confirmation of those views. Free Trade in core, and every other commodity, has now become the recognised policy of the English nation. Not only have all our leading statesmen, with a wise disregard of their former sequiescence in an erroneous system, declared themselves in avour of the practical application of the principles of Adam Smith and B. Say to the legislation of England, but the great Charter of our commercial liberty, promulgated by the Government of Sir R. Peel, has received the sanction of the representatives of the British people.

To a body so instructed as the Economists of Paris, I need not say that this step, on the part of England, involved. as a necessary consequence, a revolution, sooner or later, in the fiscal policy of the whole civilised world. It is a maxim. applicable alike to the discoveries in moral and physical science, that nations cannot afford to stand still whilst other are advancing in the murch of improvement. So long as all countries subjected themselves to the fetters of the restrictive system, they were upon an equality in the race. The folly of all was the protection of each. But when one great manifered was the protection of each. maritime people casts off the trammels of monopoly, it willbe in vain for others who retain the burden to attempt to preserve their true position in the scale of nations.

Pardon me for adding, that if your enlightened body share these opinions, your patriotism will prompt you to endeavour to confer upon France its honour and advantages of leading the Continent of Europe that of commercial freedom. Be saured that there is no collections and but there is no other mode of accomplishing this end but by instructing the people in a knowledge of their economical rights and interests. The theories which have hitherto been confined to the studies of the learned, or the divise of scientific societies must be made families to the minds of the tific societies, must be made familiar to the mints of the mass of your countrymen. No Government, however well disposed, can enforce a wise legislation, unless it be suttained by an enlightened public opinion. This truth is at applicable to England as to France. Ten years ago, the Government of this country could not have drawned of being able to carry through Parliament the measures upon which for Robert Diel now stakes the avistance of his Caki-

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noble et plus glorieuse mission pourries-vous vous propoacr que de prendre en quelque sorte vos populations par la main et de les conduire, en les instruisant mient de leurs vrais instruis, vers éette sainte fin du christianisme, la rapprochaintérâts, vers cette sainte nu du christianisme, la rapproche-ment des nations, la paix universelle et la fraternité du genre bumain? Ne vous faites pourtant pas illusion sur les difficultés que vous aurez à combattre. Vous allez vous heurter, comme nous, contre l'opposition active et combinés de tous ceux qui éxagérent les profits du monopole, et qui oroient leur fortune liée a la perpétuité du régime exolusif. Vous aurez à les suivre dans les argumentations les plus subtiles, à ré-ture des sophismes qui se produiront sous les formes les a les suivre dans les augumentations les plus subtiles, à ré-fuier des sophismes qui se produiront sous les formes les plus diverses et les plus compliquées, à déraciner des pré-juges aussi anciens que le mende. Ne vous laissez ni surprendre, ni décourager; la vérité est douée d'une si grande energie virtuelle! Nous n'avions pas moins à faire que vous; nous avions à attaquer le monopole sous sa forme la plus formidable, et pourtant nous l'avons vaincu. Pourquoi ce que nous avons si heureusement accompli vous seralt-il done impossible?

C'est avec une vive émotion, Messieurs, que je rends & voire honorable Societé l'expression des sentiments affectueux qu'elle a bien voulu exprimer au président et aux membres de la Ligue. Oui, c'est une cre glorieuse et nourelle que celle qui est témoin de co généreux échange de sympathiques manifestations entre les citoyons de deux peuples autrefois victimes d'une haine aveugle et d'un antagonisme insensé, mais destinés, j'en al la ferme espérance, à ne rivaliser désormais que dans l'accomplissement de ces exploits pacifiques qui font la prospérité et la vraie gloire des nations civilisées. Recevez, je vous prie, Mossieurs, de la part de mes collègues et de la mienne, l'assurance de mes sentiments de considération et de sincère estime.

(Signé)

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RICHARD COBDEN.

position of those who take an exaggerated view of their vested interests in monopoly. You will have to unravel sophisms the most subtle, to refute fallectes which Proteus-like, will assume different forms; to uproot prejudices as old as France. But be of good courage; truth will enable the champions of Proc Trade to surmount all difficulties. difficulties. We have encountered monopoly in its most for-midable shape, and overcome it. Frenchmen will never find that to be impossible which Englishmon have already accom-

In conclusion, let me avow the heartfelt gratification that feel, whilst reciprocating the affectionate sentiments expressed by your Society towards the President and prominent members of the League. It is a new and glorious era which witnesses this generous interchange of sympathies between the citizens of two great nations, heretofore the victims of mutual hatred and unreasoning hostility, but destined, I fervently hope, to become henceforth rivals only in those peaceful achievements which minister to the prosperity and true glory of civilised communities. I entreat you to accept from my colleagues and myself the assurance of our high-consideration and esteem, and I have the honour to remain Gentlemen, Sincerely and faithfully yours,

RICHARD COBDEN.

THE RUMOUR OF A RUMOUR.

(From the Times.)
There is a rumour of an immediate dissolution; or, to speak more correctly, there is the report of a rumour to that effect. What is the ground and origin of this report—whether the wish is father to it, or the fear is father to it—whether the protectionists wish Sir Robert to think that he must resign, or Sir Robert wishes the protectionists to think that he will resign—whether an immediate dissolution of Parlia. ment is not a mere blunder for an immediate dissolution of railways, or, after all, the report only expresses that indefinite dissatisfaction with the existing state of things which led Miss Squeers to exclaim, "I wish I was deal-I wish all The report exists, and is put about with diligence. The question is propounded. Something is to be gained, it is thought, by looking upon the event as possible. As the question is forced upon us, we have scarcely an alternative out to reply. It is by no means an edifying theme. When there is nothing else to talk of, the public generally begins to talk of a dissolution, just as some men, whenever they have nothing else to do, immediately begin to think of apoplexy, suicide, and such horrors. In fact, every time within these twenty years that things have come to a standstill, there has been a report of a dissolution. Anybody without an opinion in his head, can venture an estimate of the odds for or against that casualty.

Perhaps it is beside the question to ask who is to gain by a dissolution? The Miss Squeers who suggests the idea has probably given up all thought of gain. It is enough that somebody would lose something; or, if not damaged, will be at least disgraced; or, if not disgraced, yet stigmatised. The vision of a dozen agricultural constituencies, in addition to those which have already changed their numbers, turning out four and twenty "apostates," with an immense deal of pother, with much bluster and invective, and giving us in their stead four-and-twenty raw young men who have yet to apostatise, is enough to console these satisfied dreamers for the absence of any tangible advantage. Sir Robert Peel would "get it." Many speeches would be made and circulated at the control of the contr lated at a penny a piece. Many prophecies would be uttered. lleaps of statistics and financial statements would be collected for the benefit of those who are ignorant of facts and not versed in arithmetic. Tamboff and New Orleans, the Vistula and the Ohio, would again become names of terror. We should have a Saturnalia of apooryphal facts and impossible estimates. In the midst of the clamour there would perhaps be a dozen victories; though, perhaps, on the contrary, there would not be one. But granting the said dozen victories, whose would be the gain, whose the loss, in the day of reckoning? What would the protectionists have gained by a dissolution?

It is due to public peace and quiet not to canvass electioneering probabilities till the occasion setually arises. It is rather an American than an English usage to keep the sleetive contest always on foot. Therefore we will not at tempt to go through the counties, and cities, and boroughs, in anticipation of a new Parliament. We expressed at the time a gentle demur as to the wisdom and taste of Mr. Cob-den's masterly and hitherto unanswered review of the British constituencies. But, we certainly do not see where the protectionists can hope to find the means of turning the scale in another Parliament. Why do they not favour us with the names of the constituencies that are to settle the business? They talk of the 112. A balance of 56 changes in their favour, therefore, will be sufficient, not indeed to decide the question in favour of protection, but to bring the legislature to a stand still. Where will you get your 50? Name, name, name? How many cities and boroughs have been lately converted to the sliding soale? But your trust is in the counties—the English counties. They have already done al-most their worst. They have left no margin for extraordinary efforts. All the county seats will be insufficient for the

With so little to encourage even from the most friendly quarter, what is it that the protectionists hope to gain from the disolution? What at least beyond two or three stray trianshis, sounterested by many more defeats, and the other meral pleasure of agitation, misrepresentation, and abuse, of indulging without stipt in false logic, false facts, false statistics, alse finance, false politics during the hubbule of a general election? They would find these a poor compensation for all hist certain results goldies one or the other oblects. It is trivially poursely settled in the seven years loose of a partition to his minds. The abapter of secileum may do make the second to be exampled that the colors of the second to the second of the s With so little to encourage even from the most friendly

now is a dissolution on the Corn Law. A Parliament elected now will be a Free Trade Parliament; and if, for the comfort of the agriculturists, the story of the late Westminster election should be repeated a hundred times over, the result will be only more permanently, more decidedly, and more offen-sively adverse to the feelings and supposed interests of the aristooracy.

THE BEDFORD LEVEL CORPORATION.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)
There is life in protection yet. The Easter recess has not converted all the friends of native industry. Lord Essex has succumbed; but the fens are firm. A meeting of the Bedford Level Corporation was held on Thursday last. The Duke of Bedford was in the chair, and the Earl of Hardwicke was among the speakers. At that meeting the corporate seal was affixed to a petition to both Lords and Commons against the repeal of the Corn Laws, as destructive to the prosperity of the Bedford Level.

The Bedford Level Corporation lias a great faith in high prices, and a most ungrateful disregard for science. The petition attributes "the present prosperous state of the Bedford Level mainly to the encouragement given to agriculture by the restrictive duties imposed on the importation of foreign corn," and declares "that the improvements which have been effected in the drainage of the level and the cultivation of the land would not have taken place if the prices of agricultural produce had not been fairly remunerative.' We could imagine a much more faithful statement of the case than this. What if we were to put the advance of science as the primary cause of the prosperity in question, and substitute for the "restrictive duties" the public spirit and enterprise of the successive Dukes of Bedford, aided by the intelligent account and anterprise of the successive Dukes of Bedford, aided by their intelligent agents, whose present representative is Mr. Tycho, Wing?

It is very natural that the dying utterances of protection should rise from the fens. The inhabitants of this Bœotian region have always been staunch protectionists. They were as sturdy protectors of the fens themselves, while they stagnated over the level, as they are now of the Corn Laws. In 16:10, when Sir Cornelius Vanmayden was defeated in his projects for draining the fens of Cambridgeshire by the protectionists of that day, the arguments urged against the scheme by these supporters of domestic industry were exactly parallel to those maintained in favour of the Corn Laws by the speakers at Ely. Imprimis, the draining, said they, was an experiment. Many had burnt their fingers in these operations, and instead of draining the fens, emptied their own estates. So with Free Trade: it is on experiment also, and therefore to be condemned. The argument that water would find us level was disregarded in the one case; the axiom that demand will regulate supply is pook-pooked in the other. Again, there was in the seventeeth century the same marvellous regard for existing rights. "The fens, it was argued by the sapient defenders of things as they are, "afforded great plenty and variety of fish and fowl, not to speak of sedge, turf, and reed, which would be destroyed by The fen-bred mallard, or mud-fattened pike of the Nene or Ouse, was sweeter to your marsh man than the fat ox of Essex or the sheep of Leicestershire, then, just as the small loaf of Level wheat is sweeter than one twice its size of Dantzie flour. Again, there was great consideration for the thousands of poor people maintained by fishing and fowling in the fens, who would be thrown out of employment by the draining of their homestonds, the swamps and flats of Outwell and Ramsey. There is the same, benevolent regard for the half-fed labourer of the present day, and the same forget. fulness that the evils of scanty food and wretched wages are not aggravated by a change which promises to give more both of one and the other.

"However," says Fuller, ingiving the pres and cone of the drainage and anti-drainage parties, "the generality were possessed with a firm opinion that the project was impossible

to be brought to pass."

It is a pity that the science which drained the fans cannot be brought to bear upon the fen men. The steam-engine can draw off the muddy waters of the Welland or the Cam, but is powerless against the stagnant settlings of prejudice but is powerless against the stagmant settlings of prejudice and ignorance. We may substitute oom for sedge, and barley-field for bog, but who shall so manure mind that truth shall spring in the place of bigotry, and the green crops of sativity on the ground beauty by the ruk overgrowth of contented stupidity and unquestionable inclosing. The Earl of Blandwick shadowald he billed in a speech worthy of that document and its frameric. Nothing more daring interaction or more issued in logic, has been its little for the logic has been interested in the logic has been an expectation in the logic has been interested in the logic has been an expectation in the logic has been an expectation in the logic has been an expectation in the logic has been an expectation in the logic has been an expectation in the logic has been an expectation in the logic has been an expectation in the logic h

"The manufacturers said that they existed by means of art and science. Now he (Lord Hardwicke) replied that they could use the same language in the Bedford Level, for there they skieted by the very means of which the manufacturers make a boast. They existed there by art and industry; that great country had been brought into its present state of high cultivation by the art, and science, and industry of man (hear, hear). It was drained by the steam-engine; that great mark of the progress of human knowledge had been seized upon, not only by the manufacturers of cotton, but also by the manufacturers of wheat. Therefore they stood in the same position with the manufacturers of the north in that respect, inasmuch as their prosperity was founded, upon art and science." prosperity was founded upon art and science.

We are glad to find agriculture boasting that it stands on the same ground as manufactures. There used to be a disposition to oppose green fields to smoky towns, and village spires to factory chimneys. The Bedford Level, having now found out its sisterbood to Manshester, should go further, and borrow arguments instead of machines-convictions as well as steam-ongines. If the Bi-dford Level cultivators are like the Lancashire cotton-spinners, why do they not, like

them, defy the world and disolaim prote. You?

Lord Hardwicks himself gives us a ver voriginal answer to this natural and pertinent query:

"Let the Corn Laws be once repealed, and hofe, a long the progress of science in other countries, and the sdyan, ages we gave them for the purpose of rendering the British agricultural progress of second in other countries, and the savant, "quist gave them for the purpose of rendering the British agricu." Powerless in raising food, would cause the millewher of M. "dechester to supplicate Parliament for protection for his industry, and skill, and capital (cheers). Facts would soon come forth to show that a great pressure upon the cotton manufacturing in terest—caused probably, in some measure, by our souding out steam-engines to facilitate the manufacture of cotton at the very place where the raw material is grown, but been to the manufacturers a fearful notice of the risk they must run by compating unprotected with the advancing science of other countries. The cheap loaf was a sert of last hope to them. They thought if they could get a cheap loaf even for a time, they might so reduce the wages of labour as to hold up a little longeragainst the competition they had brought upon themselves. There might be, doubtions there were, hereous connected with the Free Trade movement who had ulterfor objects, but the immediate object of the movement was personal gain."

This, it must be confessed, is a new view of the subject. The fear that foreigners will manufacture is an argument against supplying them with manufactures of our making. Russia is madly bent on shirt-making-Manchester is paving the way to her own ruln by supplying her with shirts ready made. Europe has corn, but is deficient in broadcloth-England has broad-cloth, and is deficient in corn. Suicidal England, says Lord Hardwicke, which would exchange the fabric of her looms for the grain of her foreign Lord Hardwicke contrasts the disinterested motives of the protectionist peers with the selfishness of the Free Traders. Repeal of the Corn Laws is to have a tremendous effect upon prices. Wheat is to come down by the run, but somehow the great landholders are not to be affected. We have often maintained the latter half of this argument, but we do not remember having coupled it with the former. If the disinterestedness of the protectionist lords is to be supported by this pair of stools, something must come to the ground which it is not decorous to particularise. Lord Hardwicke's remarkable statement is worth preserving :

"He was of opinion that the House of Lords and the highest ranks of society were, of all others, the least interested in this question of Free Trade. Could it be believed that if his noble friend on his left, the Duke of Bedford, were to find his proprient on his left, the Duke of Bedford, were to find his property reduced one-fourth, or more, in value, it would make any very material difference in his comforts as a great and a proud British nobleman -proud from his descent, but noble from his virtues? But look at the condition of the artisan; if he suffer a diminution in his carnings, what a fearful effect is produced upon his comforts and those of his family! It was on this ground that he (Lord Hardwicke)/was prepared to support, in his place in the House of Lords, the present system of protection to the industry of land."

We beg to draw up a case in proportion. As the Duke of Bedford's rental from land is to his whole income, so is the price of his bread to the artisan to his whole expenditure. The repeal of the Corn Laws will diminish the value of land, says Lord Hardwicke, therefore it will diminish the Duke of Bedford's rental. But it will lower the price of bread. We cannot see how Lord Hardwicke makes out that it will, therefore, lessen the comforts of the artisan. However, Lord Hardwicke, like Orlando in "As you Like it," is not asked to please us—he is asked to speak. Ills auditory was not a very critical one. It was of the fens, femish—and the speech was worthy of the hearers. Protection, like the early Britons, has been driven from the haunts of civilisation to swamps and inaccessible morasses, and we can-not hall in Lord Hardwicke the Prince Arthur who is to lead it forth for daring deeds against the sturdy Saxons of the League, or the traiterous band who have forfeited their mationality for the good of the country, and slinken hands with those potent invaders, common sense and sound argument.

THE MANNERS MIXTURE, OR INFALLIBLE SOCIAL SPECIFIC.

(From the Examiner.)
It is a good thing for lords to mix with labourers. It is a good thing to play at orioket and quoits. There is merit in the promotion of sports and pastimes, but nevertheless Lord John Manners is mistaken in supposing himself the regenerator of the nation.

Things might be better than they are if there were more Lord John Mannorses in the world, more cricket and more qubits, but nevertheless things as they are, are not so had as Lord John Manners describes thom. It is, however, the good for-tune of Lord John Manners to be his own specific. He bewalls the alienation of classes; he finds that admixture is what is wanted; and so he mixes Lord John Manners for the improvement of the social elements. At Birmingham, at Manolicator, at Liverpool, the remedy, according to the words of the Apothecaries' label, is, the mixtures as before.

How great must be the happiness to a benevolent man of finding, in his own person; the remedy for a nation's evils, and that for the great work of scotal amalioration he has only to give the people a little more of himself. So when Lord John Manners surveys the wants and wose of the country, he has the comfort of knowing that he has an little mine to supply what is deficient, and to amend what is amise. He confers improvement with his company. He mixes with the people, and they are better, and he is the hater too, as he condescendingly explains; so that the Manners mixture is always improving and the Lord John who respective Birming them by mixing the Lord John who respective Birming them by mixing the times the Lord John who respective by mixing three years and was the more by mixing three years and was the more lightly processed by mixing three years and was the more lightly by the constant of the processor by discussed his mixing very contains. finding, in his own person, the remedy for a nation's evils,

ting medium possesses, of imparting its value wherever it goes, and enhancing it at the same time. The nountry then requires him to circulate himself actively. England expects Lerd John Marsons to do his duty. He tallst not apare limself; he must dine diligantly, but and bowl assiduously, and mix coptously. As the demand, "more Manners, the mixture, the mixture," rises, he must bestir himself to confer himself. His spirit of self devotion is happily great. He is the very Curtius of Bonquets, always ready to leap into the guif of the chair; and the vest sacrifice he is ready to make, to give the people the inestimable good of his precence amongst them, may be learnt from this declaration at the Birmingham Athenio Institution. His lordship began with a morel:

"I have learnt one practical lesson, which has taught me that it is not well to talk to one's neighbour at dinner."

We were idle enough to think that Lord John's neighbour had resented the interruption of his feeding; and our sympathies, we confess, we're with his neighbour, whom we get down to be in the right for preferring his meat to his lordwhich moralising, but we wore all at fault, for see what the lesson really was:

Whe I intimated to my friend on my right that but for heims are I should have been at the meet of my father's hounds, and no idea that he would have introduced it as a compliment; asserver, I meuro you that had your arriversary have been on the first day of the hunting-season, instead of the last, it would not have prevented my being present."

Prodigions! Utque magis stupeas ludum Paridemque reliquit. For the great object of mixing with the people he would even desert the hounds! This indeed is patriotism. How great is the bounty of this nobleman! How he gives his presence to his countrymen, knowing that it is the

one thing needed, and that wherever he bestows himself he effects regeneration, leaves men wiser, happier, and better. They have only to see the lord along them, and to improve. Considering what his sense of his own patrician attributes is, he way well have written these lines:

44 Let laws and learning, arts and commerce, die, But leave us still our old nobility."

Which, by the way, intimutes very truly, no doubt, that the extinction of learning would be quite compatible with the survivorship of the old nobility, who could continue to exist as well as ever without laws, learning, and arts.

Lord John Manners boasts proudly of the progress he has anade in national regeneration, and the announcement reads liko a pasango in a Royal speech :

"In the sural districts a great advance has been made; the Man pole is again erected in Kint, and cricket and other manly games are festered and encouraged."

We are very glad to hear it, especially of the May-pole in Kent, though we are not without misgivings that the hop pole may have been mistaken for it; and we cannot but regret that Lord John Manners was not a little more particulin as to the whereabouts of the May-pole, as many worthy persons might be disposed to make a pilgrimage to the sign of social regeneration. We rejoice, too, at the news of cricket; but much as we prize these restorations, we do not think it necessary to their welcome and appreciation to represent the whole country as having been a cave of Trophonius before the advent of Lord John Manners, and his juxtaposition with the industrious classes.

What in the world is such language as this about ?-

"Away, gentlemen, I say, with the cant that would have us believe all old feelings are dead—all English sympathics extinguished—all national affections chilled. There is not a sequestored nook in the lakes of Cumberland; in the mines of Cornwall; in the dim/close, hot alleys of Manchester or Stockport in the smoky streets of your own Birm upham, in which the gallant, trustful, manly English spirit is dead. Be it ours, then,—to call it forth; to exercise it, and through it to carry this light little island of ours through all straits, through, all dangers; and this, gentlemen, rely upon it, we can if we will." this, gentlemen, rely upon it, we can if we will.

It is quite unnecessary to cry, Away with the cant that English sympathies are extinguished, national affections chilled, the spirit dead, &c.; no one asserts any nonsense of the kind, and the cant, if cant there be, is Lord John Manners cant of conjuring up a cant that he may have the glory of laying it by exorcisement.

of laying it by exercisement.

Be it ours, says the modest nobleman, to call forth the English spirit. Bah! Pap for the million! Curds and whey for the English spirit. He sets up a May-pole, and conceits it calling forth the English spirit, and glorifies himself as a regenerator. Let him restore the fool's cap to its pristing uses, and that motley costume so symbolic of the Manners mixture, and we shall see his services requited in their suproprints honours. their appropriate honours.

THE THREE YEARS' EXPERIENCE. (From the Topic.) All the elements of proof lie in a small compass. It is

y successive to compare the three years before. and that three years subsequent to the introduction of the new system by Sir Robert Peel. From 1830 to 1841 our foreign exports fell off from fifty-three millions in value to forty-seven millions. But in the next three years pending a reduction of duties, the value of the experts rose from forty-seven millions to fifty-eight millions. Nor was the reduction in the customs' duties unpromising to the revenue. The total amount of the various reductions effected in the three years exceeded four millions sterling; and, as many of the duties had been totally repealed, the loss could not be compensated by increased consumption. But these four millions were not lost to the revenue. On the contrary,

the revenue had increased, and the returns of the present oth of April prove that it is as buoyant as ever. Neither had these relaxations been inimical to those branches of native industry, believed to be most dependent on protection. Flax afforded a striking instance. It has been freely

tion. Flux afforded a striking instance. It has been freely imported, yet, in face of a rapidly increasing foreign importation, the price has been higher. Wool inculcated the same lesson; the import duty was abolished; importation, increased; but prices in the home market was the present by the competition. Foreign cattle was to has examine. The most alarming predictions were industry that the probabilition on the importation of foreign of the probabilition on the importation of foreign of the probabilition on the importation of the probability. Have the graziers been probable to the supply of provisions have been outly for the supply of provisions have been outly. Further, experience has shown that substated between high prices and high prices and high prices and high prices and high prices and high prices and services, wages were depressed; but in the second term of

three years, broad was obser, and labour being in demand, wages rosa. But the most gratifying test was of a moral import. Uliminal statistics showed a connection between the increase and decrease of crims, and a declining or prosperous state of the country. In 1840 there had been a decrease of srims to the extent of five and a half per cent. I in 1844, of not less than ten per cent.; in 1845, of live and a half per cent. cent.; and the decrease of last year was especially marked in the most prosperous districts,—those of manufacturing. Thus, while the legislature had been occupied in reducing customs duties, in other words, gradually destroying protection to native industry, the interests of the labouring classes of commerce, and of morality, had been promoted.

In this way were the former prepossessions of the Premier overwhelmed by the evidence of his own executive measures, and he was constrained to advance, if possible, at an accelerated rate, in a course productive of so many public felicities. His first steps had been marked by timidity, if not aversion, to his task; but practice seems to have reconciled, and success emboldened him. Accordingly, the new tariff is more explicit in its principles and more comprehensive in its relaxations than its predecessors. His first aim has obviously been to pre-pare a scheme as closely consistent with his adopted principle of Free Trade, and as extensively satisfactorily as possible; and next—not to attempt too much at once—load himself with a heavier charge than he will be able to carry. Anything short of the ultimate repeal of the Corn Laws would be seen as the control of the corn Laws. would have been scouted, as he himself admits, by the commercial and manufacturing interests, and left a reserved bid of great temptation with he opponents; while immediate reped might have met a lion in the way in the Upper

A second leading principle bears emphatically on the general consumption of the masses. The Corn and Provision Laws had fallen with crushing weight on those who live by labour. The expenditure of the working man is not in luxuries, but in the necessaries of life, in bread, meat, and vegetables, of which the poor consume equally with the rich; but the income of the two classes being unequally apportioned, it is clearly unjust to subject them to the same ratio of pecuniary contribution. Such, however, was the ten-doney of the old system; which absorbed; either through the indirect operation of protective duties, or direct fiscal imposts, a large portion of the wages of labour. In consequence, the industrious orders have not participated equally with the rest of the community in the general progress of the country; and it is to remedy this disparity of condition, as well as mitigate a gross injustice, that the policy of Sir R. Peel is directed. The resources placed at his disposal by the property-tax afforded one means of translation with this evigency of our excitations and the second of the property-tax afforded one means grappling with this exigency of our social state, and the projected alterations of the tariff manifestly embrace the same equitable purpose. All articles that enter into the common sustenance of the nation will be placed more within the reach of the consumer. The bread-tax is at once reduced from a protective duty of 20s. to 5s., and will expire entirely in three years. But corn from Canada, or other colonial possessions out of Europe, will be immediately admitted duty free. On all other articles, apart from grain, that constitute human food, either vegetable or animal, there will be a repeal of the import duties, including cattle of all kinds, sheep and pigs; potatoes and vegetables of every sort; bacon, fresh beef, or slightly salted; pork fresh or salted (not hams). On other articles, considered, we presume, as a species of bucolic manufactures, duties have been retained, but reduced to about one-half; namely, on ale and beer, from 42s, per barrel to 20s.; on butter, from 21s. to 10s. per cwt.; on cheese, from Ils. to 5s. per cwt.; on hops, from 94s. to 45s. per cwt.; on oured fish, from 2s. to 1s. per owt. The duties on rice have been reduced; also those on foreign soup, and on candles the reduction is one half of the import duty. The preference duty one olonial coffee was relaxed in 1842; and in this session, sugar, another item in general use, will be dealt with. No concession, however, will be made in favour of slave-grown sugar, but on the sugar of Cuba and Brazil there will be an abatement of 3s. 0d. per cwt. in the differential duty,

From the alterations essentially affecting the labouring classes we proceed to those affecting their employers, and which may be said to constitute the Premter's third principle of fiscal revision. His aim has obviously been equality of sacrifices. It was not with the landed interest that the protective system originated, but the commercial and manufacturing classes, who till recently, as we have already shown, very tenaciously adhered to the mercantile policy. From the latter, therefore, fully with the former, it was fuir to call for concessions. In favour of the manufacturing interest, for concessions. In favour of the manufacturing interest, every duty on the raw materials of manufacture had been previously abandoned, with the exception of tallow and timber, on both of which relaxations are proposed. These form their compensation for relinquishing the protective duties on the coarser articles of manufacture, in wool, linen, and cotton, and for the reduction of wool, men, and cotton, and for the reduction of protection on the finer description of goods, from twenty to ten per cent. At present, the duty on silks, as before stated, is called thirty per cent., but is often still higher. It is proposed to adopt a new principle in the laying of the silk duties, and to impose 15 per cent. advalorem, instead of 30 per cent. Finally, relaxations are intended on the import duties on manufactured metals, dressed hides, boots, shoes, straw plat, carriages, and paperhaugings. But for every loss the Premier has dexterously made some kind of return to the sufferers, either by affording them greater protection from illicit comgetition, as in the silk manufacture, or by giving them freer access to raw materials The agriculturists are embraced in this principle of equivalents. They may suffer by the free admission of provisions and live cattle, but then, in the fattening of stock, they will save largely in their present outgoings for linesed cake and rape-cake, by the substitution of maise, on which the duty is repealed, as also on buckwheat; further, the reduction of the duties on seeds; especially clovers to about one half, will be favourable to them. Other compensations are intended in place of former invidious monopolies by the removal of special burdens, by an amendment of the law of pauper settlement, and the consolidation of the 16,000 parish authorities of England into 800 district boards,

MISCELLANEOUS

all the state taxes, we should not be accused, by any thought.

ful calculator, of attabling an exapterated importants to the mischiefs we the now enduring.—Lightpool discrease.

Hearth of Towns.—In one of the Government reports on the sanitary condition of the country, it is stated but there are more lives annitally lost in England, from removable causes, then were sabrificed at the battle of Waterloo! Nor is there any reason to question the accuracy of the strength of the country of the strength of the country of the strength of the country of the strength of the country of the strength of the country of the strength of the country of the strength of the country of the country of the strength of the strength of the country of the country of the strength of the country of the co that frightful calamity. These can scarcely be exage.
rated. It is fearful to think of hecatomis of human beings offered up to the gory god; of limbs lopped by shining steel, and hodies torn by shattering shot; and of the shining steel, and bodies torn by snattering shot; and of the long train of after evils—the sad heart and sore struggles of the widow, and the untold hardships of the orphan. Such scenes and sufferings appeal alike to the feelings and to the imagination. They are striking and dramatic. Poetry enshrings them in deathless verse—Oratory problaims them to the world in well-turned periods—and history records. them on her enduring page.
But there are other Waterloos—annual Waterloos—

whore death strikes down his thousands as surely as in the battle field; where men meet a far more painful end than that of the gallant soldier slain in a good cause: than that or the gallant soldier slain in a good cause, and where the victims, if not "unwept," are, at all event, "unhonourd and unsuing." Fever takes his stand in the undrained street, the nervow alley, and the crowded court, and alays his thousands and tens of thousands. But Pourly sings not of the strong mechanic stretched on his bed by typhus; oratory dwells not on the nameless aliments of the sick wife struggling with daily cars in a noxious atmosphere; and history takes no account of such a noxious atmosphere; and history takes no account of such insignificant units as little children poisoned by miasma from foul sewers and other receptacles of guringe. Yet there is nothing more certain than that "such things are." It has been demonstrated, over and over again, that there are ditrices in our large towns where fever is ever present. I.m. nent physicians have traced the course of undrained distinct by the presence of fatal epidemics; and a higher rate of mora-lity; and a lower state of existence, are the acknowledged consquences of want of water, bad air, and insufficient sewerage.

Let us, then, not lose sight of this "great faci," that "more people die annually in England, from removable cause, than were killed at Waterloo." Intemperance has its victims amongst all classes; but the "removable" causes here alluded to, are those from which the working and poor classes principally, though by no means exclusively, suffer. These are, scarcity and ill-quantity of water, bad air, and deficient drainage and sewerage—the bad air, and deficient drainage and sewerage being generally consequent on the scarcity of water.—Bristol Mercury.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION UNDER THE SEA.—The

British Government, by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the French Government, by the Minister of the Interior, have granted permission to two gentlemen, the projectors of the sub-marine telegraph, to lay it down from coast to coast. The site selected is from Cape Uninez, or from Cape Blancnez, on the French side, to the South Foreland on the Finglish coast. The sounding between these headlands are gradual, varying from seven fathous on the shore on either side, to a maximum of 37 fathous in midchannel. The Lords of the Admiralty have also granted permission to the same gentlemen to lay down a sub marine telegraph between Dublin and Holyhead, which is to be carried on from the latter place to Liverpool and London. The sub-marine telegraph across the English Channel will however, be the one first laid down. The materials for this are already undergoing the process of insulation, and are in that state of forwardness which will enable the projectors to have them completed and placed in position, so that a telegraphic communication can be transmitted across the Channel about the first week in June. When this is completed, an electric telegraph will be established from the coast to Paris, and thonce to Marseilles. This telegraph throughout France will be immediately under the direction of the French government, as, according to the law of 1837, all telegraphic communications through that pountry are under the absolute control and superintendence of the Minister of the Interior. Upon the completion of the submarine telegraph across the Euglab Channel, it is stated that a similar one, on a most giganic scale, will be attempted to be formed, under the immediate sanction and patronage of the French administration. This is no less than that of connecting the shores of Africa with those of Europe by the same instrumentality; thus opening a direct and lightning-like communication le tween Marseilles and Algeria. It has been doubted by several scientific men whether this is practicable, and, indeed, whether even the project between the coasts of France and periments the most satisfactory in their results, that not only can it be effected, but effected without any considerable diffloulty -Globs.

A FUNERAL-GOING DOG.—A correspondent of the Edin-burgh Courant tells the following dog story:—I knew a dog a few years ago, belonging to Mr. Henderson, late post-master, Fort William, which attended every funeral that took place in the trill the posttook place in that village and neighbourhood. There was nothing remarkable in his appearance. He was a rough, thick-set, atout little animal, a cross between a cocker and a terrier. His master taught him nothing nor seemed to take much notice of him. Gilliemor was his name; and a sulky, early little fellow he was, as all the little urbins that used to play about the next and a sulky in the second to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play about the next and a sulky seemed to play a sulky seemed to pla that used to play about the post-office could testly; for he had a mortal enmity to their noise, as he had also to began, at whom he would bark and enap furiously. He did not seen to he newforded at the care to be particularly attached to any person; nor did be care much about being coressed, neither did he associate with much about being coressed, neither did he associate with other dogs. The only remerkable feature in his character was his predilection for attending funerals with the period of the control of the contr

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DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

In our last Number we gave accounts of the state of distress in Ballylongford, Bray, Ennis, Headford, Cork, see, up to the 14th inst., when riots of a very serious nature broke out in Clonmel, and the military were called out. The following details will show that the calamity is increasing, and that provision riots of a very serious nature

are becoming of ordinary occurrence :

CARRICK-ON-SUIR, APRIL 10 .- Letters from the town announce the breaking out of riots similar to those which have already taken place in Clonmel and Tipperary; and which, it is to be feared, are but the forerunners of many scenes of turbulonce consequent upon the scarcity, or panio-it signifies but little which—together with the want of permanent employment for the labouring classes. The riots occurred here on the day after those at Clonmel, which is another town in Tipperary, higher up the Suir. It was evidently a premeditated outbreak. The bells both of the Carrick and the Carrickbeg chapel tolled, and the mob increased to a fearful gathering of all the country round about. With this reinforcement they paraded the principal streets, and having fixed on Mr. O'Donnell's stores, rushed with one according it, and in a second completely emptied it. Flushed with this success, they attacked Mr. O'Neill's, and succeeded in like manner in emptying his store. They then went to Mr. Rourke's, but he had prudently sent his stock away. At last the military appeared, which checked their progress in a de gree; and the stipendiary magistrate, Mr. Redmond, having read the Riot Act twice, and assuring the mob if they persevered in their outrageous course he would be commelled to order the military to fire, had, in a degree restored quiet. Of this you may be entisfied, that neither famine nor fever bud anything to say to this insurrection. It was a deliberate attempt to begin a general plunder; and whether the attack will be renewed again to-morrow, time only will tell. There is not a sufficient military force here, and the police are totally unable to repress such an audacious outbreak as the

CORK .- The reports from Cork are of the usual unfavour able nature. The Southern Reporter says :- "We have at this moment at least 30,000 people destitute in Cork, and of this number our workhouse cannot safely accommodate 3000. The labouring class has no employment, and their daily food has more than doubled in price, as will be seen by the following returns from the mayor's office:

Return of Londs of Potatoes brought to Cork Markets for six days, ending April 12, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, and 1846, with price per weight of 21 lbs.

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1041—April 120	U	· 93 10 93	54 to 6
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1845— do,	022	. 31 to 41	5 to 6
1846— do.	467	. 7\frac{1}{3} to 10"	10 to 12

According to the Constitution, symptoms of insubordination had, it seems, manifested themselves in that town on Tuesday :

"A number of people assembled, and went, it is said, to, among others, Mr. Collins, parish priest, and demanded food. He reasoned with them, as did some of the gentry, endeavouring to dissuade them from violence, and told them that what could be done towards procuring them food should be done as soon as possible. He succeeded in inducing them to disperse; but they did so with a threat that, unless something was done soon, they would return and help themselves from his potato pits. We give this matter as we have heard it; but we are not able to vouch for it, though we should not mention it had we not reason to believe it true.

The demands for Indian meal are daily growing stronger; but complaints of its dearness are still prevalent, as ex-

ample:
"In consequence of the supply of Indian meal which the relief committee procured from Liverpool being rather of an inferior quality, for which, however, they were not to blame, they deemed it advisable to make a pressing application to the commissary for a loan of a portion of that which the Government have in store. Mr. Hewetson having kindly complied with their request, 20 tons of the best description of white Indian meal was yesterday sont to the depots established by the committee, and thus any prejudice which might be created against this wholesome article of food by reason of the bad quality of that purchased in Liverpool, will be affected by the committee of the particular affects of the particular be effectually removed. The whole meal, which is also being sold at the rate of 1½d, per lb., is considered by the people much too dear, and they profer purchasing coarso flour at 10d, per weight of 7 lbs., than taking the whole meal at 10½d. We are assured that the whole meal is by far more multiple to the computation thought it advisable to make nutritious; and if the committee thought it advisable to make some reduction in the price, it would be a better class of food for the poor people. The demand for Indian meal is very great; and of course the fund in the hands of the com-

mittee must be proportionably diminished."

Tipperany County.—More Provision Riots on April 10.—The Tipperary Free Press announces the APRIL 16.—The Tipperary Free Press announces the breaking out on Thursday evening, the 16th, of further note at a place called Kilsheelan and Fethard. The accounts,

which are very brief, say :

"The boats coming up from Waterford were attacked at Kilshaelan on this day by a numerous band of men, women, and children, and the miscellaneous goods with which they were laden carried off in all directions. Informations being were laden carried off in all directions. Informations being received, the military and police were immediately on the spot; a considerable quantity of wheat belonging to Mesers. It liughes was recovered, and 18 persons made prisoners. It was almost barefaced robbory, as the articles taken were in a raw state. The stipendiary magistrate, Major Shaw, had a narrow escape; his horse having taken fright, jumped into the river with him, and swam a considerable distance."

"Fermann Thursday—There was a rising here to-day,

and Mr. Harvey's store attacked, from which three sacks of four were taken; the mob attacked Mrs. Wilson's store, but were repulsed. They were flually dispersed through the Praiseworthy exertions of the parish priest, the Archdeacon

repulsed.

The Drogleda Conservative severely consures that portion of the press which denies the existence of more than ordinary distress in the country, and asks:

"How can any man with Us., or even 7s., per week—and there are hundreds of labouring men working for 8d. per set a similarity of food! Possibles in this town are the pressure of the country set as a finite way are for something of a possible of the pressure of the country by the country of

food in the country—more corn in store! It is of this we complain—that in the midst of plenty, so much distress should exist in this unfortunate country. The staple food of the Irish (potatoes) has failed, and the low rate of wages paid the labouring classes procludes them from obtaining a sufficiency of bread or other food. Let us take a case in point — A labourer same fla par week—he has a family of point:-A labourer earns 0s. per week-he has a funily of five to support out of this (we speak of towns like Droghada). His expenditure may be reckoned as follows

Rent, per wook Yuel One stone of oaimeal One stone mealin meal and baking Milk, &c.		#. 0 1 2 1 0	d. 9 9 9 7 6	
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"Thus, the whole of his miserable pittance is expended on procuring a scanty supply of food; as for potatoes, they are out of his reach. Now, will any man in his senses dare maintain, that the poor labouring class can live on such scanty diet? Why, the paupers in the workhouse are far better fed. As to the lodgment of the poor, we are informed, by an agent who collects the rents of 70 cabins weekly, that in almost every instance the inmates are destitute of bedsteads, blankets, sheets, and coverlets; and that he has seen several grown-up girls, who toil from early dawn to eight in the evening in the factories, lying on straw, with no other covering over them save the clothes which they were during the day. At market on this day potators were 8d. per stone. Oatmeal, Indian corn, &c., are on the advance; the prospect before the poor is getting more gloomy; three long months must intervene before the new potato-crop can come into market; and in the name of an all wise Providence, are the poor to be allowed to suffer all the accumulating horrors of

In the mean time large supplies of Indian corn and meal continue to arrive at the Irish ports. The Cork papers announce the arrival in that port on Friday of the American packet-ship Camelia, register 1090 tons, with a cargo (about 25,000 bushels) of Indian corn, and 10,000 barrels of meal. Money alone is all that seems to be required to render perfect the precautionary measures of Government to counter-

act the evils of scurcity.

EMIGRATION.—The Waterford Chronicle of yesterday gives returns of the number of passengers in the vessels which have left that port for America; by which it appears that 2162 persons have already emigrated, and that several emigrant ships have not yet sailed. In addition to this, three large vessels have sailed from Ross, containing, it is supposed, between the three, some 800 persons. The Onronicle

thus comments upon these facts:

There will have gone after the season is over upwards of 3000 individuals from this country by this port alone. Not to talk of the rearing of these people—the trouble and expense of bringing up a healthy man, woman, or child, and specially leaving out the freparable loss to society in this country of their affections, hopes, and family ties—all now sundered and destroyed—not to talk of the countless living deaths of wholesale emigration from a feeling and warm hearted mother country—the amount of capital taken by these 3000 is immense. Assuming that each individual expends 10% in his passage, and before he settles; and that he has 10% more to establish himself, here is direct taking away of hard cash to the amount of 60,000l., gone out of one of the bleeding pores of Ireland to increase the misery which We are in possession of facts which show that many cunning landlords are sending the people away yearly, but by degrees, and not in such a manner as to sub ject themselves to a 'clearance' notice. If this system be continued, we shall be tempted to give names. After these things, who will blame the people for outbreaks occasioned by famine? There is nothing plentiful in the land but ruin! Employment is scarce—money is scarce—the people are being thinned—farms are being consolidated—bullock land is progressing:

" Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,

Where cows accumulate and men decay. "Since the foregoing was in type, we have learned that lon pigs, on their way from the fair of Fethard to Carrickon Suir, were seized at Thornney bridge by the country people, and carried off towards the foot of Slievnaman moun tain. We have also been informed that a vast number of persons are still watching for the hoats laden with provisions, in the neighbourhood of Kilsheelan, where the attack was

A letter from Carrick-on-Suir, of Friday's dato, says: Yesterday there was a meeting of magistrates, gentlemen, and merchants held in the Temperance-hall of this place, when the demands of the people of getting 1s. a day wages were yielded; and this morning 200 men were set to work on the roads, under the direction of Capt. Peebles, who has been indefatigable in his exertions to forward the intentions of the Government and to direct the labour in some useful channel; and accordingly he has selected the reads in the vicinity of the town, which are in a wrotched state. Triffing as the increase of wages is, still I look on this concession as laying the foundation for other demands, which you may rely on it will give rise to other outbreaks, which it will not be in the power of the small military force stationed here to repress."

The intelligence from the west to day is of a very unfavourable character. In the district of Annaghdown, in the county of Galway, distress is represented to prevail to a most alarming extent. One account says:

"The people of the place have openly declared that if employment be not immediately given, they can no longer withstand the distress they are labouring under."

A meeting of the gentry has been held, and a petition for relief forwarded to the Irish Government. One of the resolutions adopted on the occasion thus describes the prospects of the poor as affected by the potato blight :-

"Our parish was remarkable for its great and abundant crop of potatoes. It was the storehouse of the summer supply to our neighbouring towns, and we may say, county, list, unhappily, in our flohest shill and best tilled-props the rot prevailed to the most away extent, which leaves the par-

rot prevailed to the most awful extent, which leaves the parper, who in other years would get provisions on arealis, now
dependent on a benign Government, and a very limited benefaction of the neighbours."

Brark of Tipperant—Tim Ranths.— (From the
special Reports—of the Francis) at Cahir, Tursday April
21c—I am firstly persuaded, that were it not for the prelianworthy exercions of the Roman Cathelle plergy of the and
other districts, it would be a difficult task to restrain a
pertion of the Sooils, at leaks, from a lining till violance.
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pertion of the Sooils, at leaks, from a lining till violance.
I in object the course of the sooils, the sooils are the course of the sooils.

with enduring success. At the same time, if the Government do not step in and essist the local committee. I cannot say how the business will terminate. The reli at present afforded is all owing to the local committees; and much apprehension is entertained for the coming summer; and I now repeat, what I have already stated, that not only within twenty miles round Clonmel there will not be a single potato on the 10th of May, but there will not be one in the entire county of Tipperary by the end of that month, or, parinps, before it. This I give you on the most satisfactory authority, coupled with the evidence apparent to my ofen eyes.

The stop-keepers of the town have contributed very hand: somely. On Sunday Mr. Bianconi, the respected mayor of Clon-mel, proceeded to his newly-purchased property at Longfield, herout Carlied and Carlied Carlied. beyond Cashel, and made arrangements to give such of line tenantry as wanted it work at fair remuneration, and he sist. gave orders to have a sufficiency of provisions supplied to those not able to work and not having the means of procuring food. Mr. Power, of Gurteen, subscribed 2001. on Sunday, and employed over one hundred men at one shilling per day, and told the people he would do all in his power for thein I regret I cannot say as much for the generality of land-owners in the county. There appears to be a kind of drowsy sputhy on the part of the landed gentry as regards the wants of the people; but amongst this class I cannot include Capt. Bernal Osborne, whose conduct on the late oc-casion and since has endeared him to all the county. At a place called Barnes, about three miles from Clonmel, I mes 64 large drays containing 100 tons of flour, escorted by Mr. Swan, stipendiary magistrate, and two officers with a heavy body of the 13th Light Dragoons. The flour belonged to Mr. Sergeant and Mr. Grab, of Clonmel. Both these gen tlemen possess large mills here (Cabir); and as they feared an attack on the drays, the dragoons were called out to escort them to Cloumel, where the provision is to be shipsed for Waterford, and thence to England! There was no attempt made on the drays.

The little village of Barnes contains a great many cottages. Several persons were picking potatoes behind their houses. I went into about 20 languards (farm yards), where the people where engaged at this work, and I protest I never beheld anything so uttorly deplorable. One sound potato there was not in every ten. The people were absolutely orying over-them; and the invariable answer to my question of "What will you do?" was, "God is good; and we have hope still." The houses I mention were rather of the better sort, the occupiers possessing from two to five acres of The remaining portion of the houses—about 30 in number-had not a single potate at all, The people I observed picking the potatoes, told mo they were endoavouring to pick out a few for seed; but, as in other places, they said that any already sown in the neighbourhood had failed, and the only hope they had for next year was oats, if they could procure the means of purchasing the seed. There never was, they said, a year, for the last fifteen, that they and such a prospect of pointoes as they had had souson:

but now all were gone.

The village of New Lnn is on the road leading to Cashel; and in this extensive parish, with about 1500 inhabitants, you would with difficulty find as many sound potatoes as there are persons. These assertions may startle, but they are true, and beyond the power of human contradiction. There is another small village at a place called the Pass of Longh Loughler, a beautiful glon through which the direct road passes, and sweeps away round the mountain. Not a solitary potato with any person here. For two miles at either side of the road from this place to Cahir, there is not with the inhabitants even the trace of a potato. I was prepared, from all I had heard, to meet with great misery and dis-tress; but I confess the actual reality for outstepped my worst anticipations; and at every step the horrors of in-creasing scarcity in the prime article of food were terribly manifested. Between Clonmel and Cahir I visited every liamlet worth calling at, and also very many isolated dwelfings, and I found the same prevailing distress everywhere:

On arriving in Cahir I at once put myself in communication with gontlemen who, from their position and knowledge of the country, and the state of the people, were best

calculated to afford me accurate information.

The town and surrounding districts belong to Lord Glengall, who resides here. After the attack on the flour drays, a meeting of the inhabitants and gentry was held, and subscriptions entered into in order to give employment to the people. Lord Glengall, the proprietor of all the soil, gave 50°, whilst the Rev. Mr. Tobyn, P. P., contributed, out of his own scanty purse, Twenty Guineas. Government has done nothing here yet, but I understand that a person has arrived from the easile to make inquiry as to the state

of the people. In order to afford some temporary relief to the people, about 100 persons were put to work, making sewers, breaking stones, and repairing the streets and adjoining roads. The wages allowed are from 10d. to 1s. a day, but this is considered totally inadequate to support persons having more than one in a family—and the majority of them have five each—in consequence of the high price of provisions. I saw a number of the men at work; most of them had a pale, yellow, sickly-looking hue; and I assert, on the best authority, that the majority of these poor people subsist on one meal a day, and that previous to their being employed, they had not a meal of victuals once in forty eight hours! As I before stated, the people in this locality are very quiet; but when the temporary relief is exhausted, there is no calculating what may occur. There are a few potatoes in the neighbouring, farmers' places, but three out of every five are black (diseased), and these roots were selling here to day—bad and good, without being picked or engaged—at 8s. 6d. per barrel. The Rev. Mr. Tobyn, P. P. gave me a fearful ploture of the state of his large and populous parish. Seven eighths of the people have not a potato, and the remainder—even the more that farmers—won't possess one on the 10th of May. whality farmers—won't possess one on the 10th of May. The landlords, as a body, are doing nothing—this opinion is not of my forming—either by giving or endeavouring to procure employment for the people. Employment is all that is looked for. There are over 17,900 sores of incollivated land in Tipperary, and most of this is limited employment and the people be engaged in some probable manner, on this land? The country also about it, it is in dether mines, and there are very rich veins of collisioning discrete that could be worked with great advantage. I have also intentioned that Mr. Bargeant, the discrete formulation of the parish 10th cache. Every nine is Consultated that Mr. Bargeant, the discrete formulation of the parish 10th cache. Every nine is Consultated that the parish 10th cache.

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ENGLAND AND AMERICA AT BLOWS FOR WANT OF BETTER TO DO.

NARRATIVE OF A SAILOR.

"To enable us to anney the commerce of Great Britain, or to otherwise operate against her to her injury, through naval nears, we would recommend that the number of her steamers like the Mississippi, but rather onlarged, should be increased of thirty, and our sloops of war to forty."—The Secretary of the increased Naval Department to the Legislature, March, 1840.

"The bond of nations is free commerce."—Mr. Walker, Secre-iry to the American Treasury, 1845.
"Commercial intercourse is the only sure guarantee of the eace of nations "—The League.
"The keystone of monopoly is the Corn Law; remove it, and he whole fabric of injustice and impolicy must fall to the round."—Mr. Cobben.
"We will struck for the Corn League, he had a "The League."

"We will struggle for the Corn Law inch by inch."—Duke of ichmond and Lord George Bentinck.

At the village of Bladen, near Woodstock, in Oxfordaire, on the 12th of July, 1810, a boy named Samuel eech was seen by the inhabitants of that place with his ce turned towards London, and his back turned on his ome and on them, trudging up the green lanes with the

ttled thought in his head of going as a sailor-boy on board

He joined the Macedonian frigate at Gravesend, and in e time was initiated into the duties of the naval service. nie, the Macedonian was chiefly employed in blockading the
French fleet in Brest Harbour, and in harassing the commerce of the ports situated on the Bay of Biscay. A trip
was also made as far as Madeira, and from thence to the
coast of Virginia in America, where on board the Macedo
nian the conversation became common that England and
America were likely to go to war with each other. They
returned, however, to the coast of France, and were again
engaged in the blockade and the prohibition of Franch commerce before they heard any positive rumours that England
and I had to spring with allowing the wounded arm, and sent the poor fellow below to the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded arm, and sent the wounded ar uring the first two years and five months of this lad's sea

they heard those rumours, they, the men before the man did not know their truth, but the conduct of the captain, who had been officially informed of the fact, indicated that he knew something not known to the crew.

He was on deck almost all the time (says Samuel Leech): the look-out sloft was more rigidly observed, and every little while the cry of "Mast-head there," arrested our attention. Thus we passed several days, the captain running up and down, and constantly bailing the man at the mast head Early in the morning he began his charge to keep a good look-out, and repeated it until evening. The crew of the Macedonian had no doubt that if there was to be war with America their success was certain.

On each Sunday they were dressed and paraded in their best clothes, and enjoyed a kind of holiday, the captain frequently reading the church service. On Sunday, December 20, 1812, which was also Christmas Day, they found some other work to do. A stiff breeze was blowing favourable to fast sailing; they had hardly finished breakfast when the man at the mast-head shouted, "Sail-ho!" The captain rushed upon deck, exclaiming, "Mast-head there!" "Sir!" "Where away is the sail?" The man aloft replied. Then the captain asked, "What does she look like?" "A square rigged vessel, sir." After a few minutes, the captain shouted again, "Mast head there!" "Sir?" "What does she look like?" "A large ship, sir, standing towards us."

By this time most of the crew were upon deck, eagerly straining their eyes to obtain a glimpse of the approaching ship, and murmuring their opinions to each other on her probable character. Then came the voice of the captain, shouting, "Keep silence, fore and aft!" Silence being secured, he hailed the look-out, who, to his question of "What does she look like?" replied, "A large frigate bear ing down upon us, sir."

A whisper ran along the crew that the stranger was an American frigate, which was confirmed by the command, "All hands clear the ship for action, alloy !" The drum and fife beat to quarters, bulkheads were knocked away, the guns were released from their confinement; the whole dread paraphernalia of battle was produced; and, after the lapse of a few minutes of hurry and confusion, every man and boy was at his post, ready to do his best service for his country, except the band who, claiming an exemption from the affray, safely stowed themselves away in the cable tier. We lad only one sick man on the list, and he at the cry of battle hurried from his cot, feeble as he was, to take his post of danger. A few of the junior midshipmen were stationed below on the berth deck, with orders, given in our hearing,

to shoot any man who attempted to run from his quarters.

As the approaching ship showed American colours, all doubt of her character was at an end. We must fight her, was the conviction of every breast. Every possible arrangement that could possibly ensure success, was accordingly made. The guns were shotted and the matches lighted. A lieutenant then passed through the ship, directing the marines and boarders, who were furnished with pikes, cutlasses, and pistols, how to proceed, if it should be necessary to board the enemy. He was followed by the captain, who exhorted the men to fidelity and courage, urging upon their consideration the well known motto of Nelson, "England expects every man to do his duty." In addition to all these preparations on deck, some mer were stationed in the tops with small arms, whose duty it was to attend to trimming the sails, and to use their muskets provided we came to close action. There were others also below, called sail trimmers, to assist in working the ship should it he necessary to shift

her position during the battle. My station was at the fifth gun on the main deck. It was my duty to supply my gun with powder, a boy being appointed to each gun in the ship on the side we engaged for this purpose. A woollen screen was placed before the entrance to the magazine with a hole in it through which the cartridges were passed to the boys. We received them there, and covering them with our jackets, hurried to our respective guns. These precautions were observed, to prevent the powder taking fire before it reached the gun. Thus we all stood awaiting orders in motionless suspense. At last we fired three guns from the larboard side of the main deck. This was followed by the command, "Cease firing, you are throwing away your shot." Then came the order to wear ship and prepare to attack the enemy with our starboard guns. after this, I beard a firing from some other quarter, which I at first supposed to be a discharge from our quarter deck guns, but it proved to be the roar of the enemy's cannon. A strange noise, such as I had never heard before next arrested my attention. It sounded like the tearing of sails just over our heads. This, I soon ascertained to be the wind of the enemys shot. The firing, after a few minutes' cessation, recommenced. The rouring of cannons could now be heard from all parts of our trembling ship; and mingling as it did with that of our foes, it made a most hideous noise. By and by I heard the shots strike the sides of our ship. The whole scene grew indescribably confused and horrible; it was like some awfully tremendous thunder storm, whose designing roar is attended by incessant streaks of lightning, carrying death in every flash, and strewing the ground with the victims of its wrath; only in our case, the scene was rendered more horrible than that by the presence of torrents of blood which dyed our decks.

Though the recital may be painful, yet as it will reveal the horrors of war, and show at what a fearful price a vistory is won or lost. I will present the reader with things as they met my eye during the progress of this dreadful fight. I was have busily supplying my gun with powder, when I saw block suddenly fly from the arm of a man stationed at our gus. I saw nothing strike him; the effect alone was visible. In an instant, the third lieutenant tied his handkeroble round the wounded arm and any the manufallow halos in the same lieutenant. hoth ticah

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wound; the other had a grape or canister shot sent through his ancle. A stout Yorkshireman lifted him in his arms, and hurried with him to the cookpit. He had his He had his Two of the foot cut off, and was thus made lame for life. foot cut off, and was thus made lame for life. Two of the hors stationed on the quarter-deck were killed; they were both Portuguese. A man who saw one of them killed afterwards told me that his powder caught fire, and burned the fiesh almost off his face. In this pitiable condition the agonised boy lifted up both hands, as if imploring relief, when a passing shot instantly out him in two. I was an eye-witness to a sight equally revolting. A man, named Aldeiteb had to a sight equally revolting. A man, named Aldritch, had one of his hands out off by a shot, and almost at the same moment he received another shot, which tore open his bowels in a terrible manner. As he fell, two or three men caught him in their arms, and, as he could not live, threw himoverboard. One of the officers in my division also fell in my sight. He was a noble-hearted fellow, named Van kivell. A grape or canister shot struck him near the heart. lle fell, and was carried below, where he shortly afterwards

Mr. Scott, our first lieutenant, was also slightly wounded by a grummet, or small iron ring, probably torn from a ham-mack den by a shot. He went below shouting to the men to fight on. Having had his wounds dressed, he came up again, shouting to us at the top of his voice, and bidding us

light with all our might. The battle went on. Our men kept cheering with all their might. I cheered with them, though I confess I scarcely knew for what. Certainly there was nothing very inspiring in the aspect of things where I was stationed. So terrible had been the work of destruction around us, that it was terned the slaughter house. Not only had we had several boys and men killed and wounded, but several of the guns were disabled. The schoolmaster received a death wound. The brave boatswain, who had come from the sick cot to the die of battle, was fastening a stopper on a backstay which had been shot away, when his head was smashed to pieces by a cannon ball. Another man, going to complete the unfinished task, was also struck down. One of our midshipmen likewise received a severe wound; and the wardroom steward was killed. A fellow named John, who for some petty offence had been sent on board as a punishment, was carried past me wounded. I distinctly heard the large blood drops full pat, pat, on the deck. His wounds were mortal. Even a poor goat, kept by the officers for her milk, did not escape the general carpage; her bind legs were shot off, and

poor Nan was thrown overboard. Suddenly, the rattling of the iron hail ceased. We were ordered to cease firing; a profound silence ensued; broken only by the stifled groams of the brave sufferers below. It was soon ascertained that the enemy had shot a head to repair damages, for she was not so disabled but she could sail without difficulty; while we were so cut up, that we lay unterly belpless. Our head braces were shot away; the fore and main topmasts were gone. The mizen must hung over stern, and carried several men over in its fall. We were

in the state of a complete wreck.

A council was now held among the officers on the quarter deck. Our condition was now perilous in the extreme. Victory or escape was alike hopeless. Our ship was disabled many of our men were killed, and many more wounded The enemy would without doubt bear down upon us in a few moments; and as she could now choose her own position, would doubless rake us fore and aff. Any farther resistance was therefore folly; so in spite of the hot brained lientenant who advised them not to strike, but to sink alongside, it was determined to strike our columns. This was done by a brave fellow named Watson, whose saddened brow told how sincerely it pained his lion heart to do it. To me it was a pleasing sight, for I had seen fighting enough for one Sabbath, more than I wished to see again on a week day. His Brittanic Majesty's frigate, Macedonian, was now the prize of the American frigate, United States.

When the crew of the United States first boarded our

frigate, to take possession of her as their prize, our men, heated with the fury of the battle, exasperated with the sight of their dead and wounded shipmates, and rendered furious by the rum they had obtained from the spirit room, felt and exhibited some disposition to fight their captors. But after the confusion had subsided, and part of our men were snugly stowed away in the American ship, and the remainder found themselves kindly used in their own, the utmost good feeling began to prevail. We set to work to cleanse the ship, using hot vinegar to take out the scent of the blood that dyed the white of our planks with crimson. We also aided in fitting our disabled frigate for her voyage. This being accomplished, both ships sailed in company towards

the American coast.

I now felt myself perfectly at home with the American reamen; so much so, that I chose to mess with them. My shipmates also participated in similar feelings, in both ships. All ides that we had been trying to shoot each other so shortly before, seemed forgotten. We are together, drank together, joked, sung, laughed, told yarns; in short, a perfect union of ideas for the same and to a state of the same and the feet union of ideas, feelings, and purposes, seemed to exist hands. A corresponding state existed, I was told, among the officers.

Soon after reaching America, Samuel Leech entered that service; and in the United States brig of war, Syren, was employed on the coast of Africa in "annoying the commerce of Great Britain, and in otherwise operating against her to her injury," doing in the spring of 1813 what the American Secretary of the Navy recommends as requisite to be done in the spring of 1840, in the event of England and America going to war.

The orders of the commander of the Syren was to sink, hum, and destroy all English merchantmen, and every other English vessel with which they might engage and prove more than a match for. Leech says:

"The first land we made was Cape Mount. The natives came off to a considerable distance in their cances, clothed in nothing but a piece of cloth fastened round the waist, and extending downward to the feet.

Those people needed clothing, were desirous of obtaining it, were offered it by the merchants of Liverpool and manufactures of the contract of y, were citized it by the merchants of Liverpool and manufacturers of Manchester, and were willing and anxious to pay for it by exchanging the products of their country, which the merchants of Liverpool and manufacturers of Manchester had a desire to obtain ; but the orders to the American ships of war and to the English ships of war had been in the spirit of war, to sink have and destroy the trading ships of war, to sink have and destroy the trading ships of war. of wir, to sink, burn, and destroy the trading ships of each others scenttry, consequently the half-paked inhabitants of Africa had to the could free had to go with such imperfect dicting as they could be had to me with such imperfect dicting as they could be in the months three and it is months three and it is months three and it is months three and it is months to one in the months of the month

And why was this? Because England and France work at war; because England and America quarrelled, in so far that America would not refrain from trading with France. Samuel Leech continues to say of the natives at Capo Mount and of the English traders:

"As we approached the shore, we saw several fires burning; this we were told, in the broken English spoken by our sable visitors, was the signal for trade. We bought a quantity of oranges, limes, comon nuts, tamarinds, plantains, yarns, and bananas. We lay here for several days looking out for any English vessel that might come here for the purposes of trade." (After much cruising and little and the purposes of trade." poses of trade." (After much cruising and little success), "We saw a sail standing in towards St. Thomas. Hoisting English colours, our oilicers also donned the British uniform. We soon came near enough to hail her; for not doubting that we were a British brig, the merchantman made no effort to escape us. Our captain hailed her, 'Ship aloo! hallo! what ship is that?' 'The ship Barton.' 'Where do you belong?' 'To Liverpool.' 'What is your cargo?' 'Redwood, palm oil, and ivory.' 'Where are you bound to?' 'To St. Thomas."

Just at that moment, our English flag was hauled down; and to the inexpressible annoyance of the officers of the

Barton, the stars and stripes of America supplied its place.

"Haul down your colours," continued Captain Nicholson.

The old captain, who up to this moment had been enjoying a comfortable nap in his very comfortable cabin, now came upon deck in his shirt sleeves, rubbing his oyes and looking so exquisitely ridiculous, that it was scarcely possible to avoid laughing. So surprised was he at the unexpected ter-mination of his dreams, that he could not command skill enough to strike his colours, which was accordingly done by the mate.

"After taking out as much of her cargo as we desired, we proceeded to set her on fire. It was an imposing sight to behold the wild antics of the flames leaping from rope to rope, and from spar to spar, until she looked like a flery cloud resting on the surface of the water. Presently her spars began to fall; her masts went by the board, her loaded guns went off, the hull was burned to the water's edge; and what a few hours before was a fine trim ship, looking like a winged creature of the deep, lay a shapeless charred mass, whose blackened outlines, shadowed in the clear still waves, looked like the grim spirit of war lurking for his prey."

This was not all; but it is all of the naval engagements we have room to quote here. Those who incline to read more, as related by Samuel Leech, may find it in a book entitled "Thirty Years from Home: or, A Voice from the Main Deck, being the experience of Samuel Leech."

At the conclusion of his narratives of the two years of unnatural war between England and America—a war all the more disastrous that it was directed against the commerce of each other; all the more unnatural that each nation had an equal interest in the preservation of peace; and all the more horrible that the crews and officers of the war ships of each spoke the same language, and used that language, as we have seen in the case of the brig Syren and the brig Barton, to delude, by tricks and falsehoods, the unwary merchantmon into destruction— 'annoying each other's commerce, and operating to each other's injury"—as recommended against Great Britain in this year, 1846, by the American Secretary, in the event of a devartation of war :-- when Samuel Leech concludes his narrative of that war of 1812, which began because England insisted that America and France should not trade together, and which ended in 1814, when peace with France and England removed the cause of quarrel between America and England, he says:

"The Americans, as is well known, were most successful in their naval warfare (more successful than in their field warfare); but after all, that was a trifling compensation for ruined commerce, and for being brought to the very verge of national dismemberment. The losses of the British never made any distinct impression on the nation, otherwise than in teaching a tolerably sound lesson in discretion, and leading to many important improvements in naval affairs. I sincerely trust that both nations, united by a thousand inextricable ties, and profiting by experience, will in all time coming, avoid every description of warlike collision, and

exist on the happiest terms of amity and peace.'

Amen. But the extremes of the democracy of America, and the extremes of England, seem to exist beyond the pale of common senso. We have it in our power to stop the tongues of the western men of America, who speak so loudly for war; or if not their tongues, we may stop their hands. We can instantly—by the next packet, if our lords so will it-send those men to their spades and their ploughs to grow corn for us, to help us to live and make clothes and implements of labour for them. We may do more than beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-knives. The virgin steel now fushioned for bloodshed lies yet on the anvil, and it rests with us to fushion it for peace or for war, for swords or for ploughshares.

REUDEN.

DAGUERREOTYPE PORTRAITS.—The improvements made in these portraits by the recent discoveries is truly astonishing. By the use of improved leuses, a much more distinct drawing is obtained, exhibiting not only the extremes of light and shade, but an case semitone as well. But the principal alteration consists in the application of an entirely new process of colouring. Hitherto a coating of paint has been aid on, which has had an opaque and plastered appearance; but now the colours are so applied that they harmonise and blend with the metal, by which the transparent effect and the mellow softened tints of drawing on ivory are secured. In examining the collection of portraits at Mr. Board's rooms, in King William street, we were much pleased with some very striking likenesses of several of the leading men in the political as well as the religious world. Mensieur Phœbus is in reality a brilliant genius. It may be said of him literally that he takes a high walk in the art, and that no artist of audient or modern days can touch him, or indese come anywhere near him.

A MUSICAL BED,-The last novelty from Germany is musical bed, which receives the weary body and immediately "laps it in Elysium." It is an invention of appendiance in Bohemia, and is so constructed that by means of hidden modernia, and is so constructed that by medic of hidden mechanism, pressure upon the bed causes a soft and gentle sit of Antier to be played, which continues long enough to full the most watchil to size. At the head is a clock, the hand of which being placed at the hour the sleeper wishes to his, when the time arrives, the his playe, a march of Spontial, will drains and symbols, and in bort, with holic constitutions the same arrives the history with holic constitutions the same arrives that the state of the same arrives the history with holic constitutions the same arrives the same arrives and symbols.

AGRICULTURE.

LEASES AND TENANT RIGHTS. A DAWN OF HOPE FOR THE TENANT PARMERS.

It has been protended that the tonant farmers of England are rabid, unreasoning protectionists,—that the band of Parliamentary monopolists who talk, in the name of the farmers, incoherencies leading to doubts whether the speakers betray most of the ruffian or the simpleton, are the expounders of the farmers' opinions; yet nothing is further from the fact. The Bentincks, the O'Briens, the Mileses, and the Bankeses, the representatives and advocates of the tonant farmers!! - as much as wolves represent the shoopfeld, or fexes the poultry yard: and no more. But, in truth, farmers have been, and are more entirely unrepresented than any class in this country. Landlords are the legislature, and holp themselves to all that legislation can give them. The commercial, manufacturing, and trading classes, by their activity, combination, and intelligence, have, year by year, acquired greater power of enforcing attention to their interests, and their grievances; whilst fears of driving the masses to desporation. visions of riots in the populous districts, and of incendiarism in the agricultural, have ever compolled our dominant landouracy to pay a cortain degree of attention to the complaints and more pressing wrongs of the labouring classes. But who over heard the tenant furmers mentioned in public affairs, except to cover some scheme for enhancing rents, or diminishing the charges on landed proporty? Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Villiors, are literally the only members of Parliament from whose speeches a stranger to rural affairs could have suspected that any diversity exists between the interests of landlords and tenants. Doop and growing dissatisfaction has long existed on the part of tenant farmers with the state of the relations of landlord and tenant, and with the law by which those relations are governed; and in proportion as agriculture has improved has that dissatisfaction been growing deeper and deeper.

Nor is this surprising when we consider that the art of husbandry, as practised by our best farmers, is of very modern origin. Fifty years ago, the farmer was a sort of appendage to an estate, who gathered by means of a rude system of cultivation, a humble livelihood, and looked up to his landlord as almost a master. The independent cultivators of those days were the yeomen, the men who lived on their own little farms. The tenant farmer was but one degree better than "his honour's" bailiff. Now, however, the business of a farmer has become one requiring capital, energy, and enterprise, to an extent altogether incompatible with that humble bearing and dependent position formerly deemed the natural condition of a farmer, and to which the landowners would gladly tio him still. But then, if they do so, they cannot derive that increased income from their land which im proved husbandry will afford; and it has now be come a question, whether landowners shall reduce their rents to something like the standard of 1792, or accede to a new system in the economy of landed property which the spirit of the times demands?

Eventually, we have no doubt that the landowners will adopt the new and improved system which their own interests and those of the community alike require; but, to the actual occupiors of land, the present race of tenants, it is of vital importance that a new system should commence without delay. It has been the fushion to say that farmers are slow to improve; and it is undeniable that the soil is not usually made to produce anything like what it is capable of doing; but we utterly deny that the farmers as a class are to blame. On the contrary, farmers are vastly ahead of their landlords. The cultivation of the land is far better than, from the tenures on which it is held, and from the burdens to which it is subjected by the landlords, could have been expected. At this moment, a very large proportion of English farmers, holding their farms from your to year, have so invested their property in the soil, that they could not quit at a year's notice without sustaining very serious loss. Yet nothing stands between them and the caprice or supidity of landlords but yearly egreements; and it must be remembared that landowners are more dangarons. persons to deal with then men of braining they are the

spoiled children of society. And then they are, as a body, profoundly ignorant of the business and requirements of agriculture. The best farmer can nover be sure that some offence given to the steward, some fracas with the gamekeeper, or some political difference with the landlord himself, may not cause him to be turned out of his farm, and subjected to a heavy confiscation of property: Then there is no doubt, that after the farmer has greatly improved his farm for a few years, the landowner begins to think that he should have some share of the improvement the tenant has effected by his own capital and industry, and the rent is advanced Thus it is that rents have been got up, and kept up, under the system of yearly tenancies. The state of the cultivation of this country is far inferior to what it might be if the tenants generally had long and liberal leases; but it is far better than can be continued with safety to the farmers under yearly tenures. The farmers are now becoming fully aware of this, and in consequence are very generally discussing the questions of "leases and tenants' rights." The following passages from a reported discussion of the sort at the Burton-on-Trent Farmers' Club, which we extract from the Herby Reporter, will show the practical way in which the farmers deal with the subject. It seems that a circular from the London Farmers' Club induced the Burton Olub to depute some of its membors to draw up a report on the subject; which, after stating the hazard at which yearly tenants carry on their business, proposed the following resolutions for the adoption of the Club:

"That a tenant of land from year to year, ought to enjoy a legal claim to compensation for such improvements as he shall have made during his tenancy, and for which he shall not have received the whole benefit which he is fairly entitled to claim.

tled to claim.

"That the tenant has under a tenancy at will a fair claim to the enjoyment of his improvements for as long a period as a good farmer would require, if the length of his occupancy were made a matter of agreement beforehand.

"That impartial arbitrators chosen mutually by the landlord and tenant would, without difficulty, form a correct estimate as to what belonged to the tenant on this principle of adjustment.

"That it uppears to the Club to be advisable for the general body of farmers to join in petitioning the legislature to make a law which would give to the tenant a legal right to recover from the landlord such compensation for improvements made by him as impartial and competent arbitrators would decide to be his equitable right."

This does not go to the full extent of the necessity of the case, but it goes a good way in the right direction. But why is this confined to yearly tenants? Assuming this can be effected by the legislature, which, however, is not quite so simple an affair as some persons not fully acquainted with the law of real property in this country, seem to suppose. Upon that point, however, we shall not enlarge at present. The discussion on these resolutions was opened by Mr. Bass, who remarked that as the tenant is now liable for any dilapidations he may make upon the land, he ought to have an equivalent right to recover improvements against the landlord. And he appealed to the experience of the farming body to say, "whether improving tenants compelled, from the force of circumstances, to quit their farms before they have had time to reap the benefit of their improvements, ever do re-coire fair compensation for them?" The tenant commonly quits under circumstances which do not conciliate towards him the good will of the landlord or his agent; and the claims for improvements are not, therefore, often considered in a friendly spirit. The time for making a safe arrangement for the tenant is upon his entry. To rely on the personal character of any landlord, however honourable, is to trust to the chapter of accidents; he may change, he may become embarrassed, he may sell his estate, or he may die, and so the property pass into other hands, at whose morey the tenant will be. Mr. Bass said:

"The state of agriculture is changing every year, and new modes of outture are discovered by which land may be made to grown a larger amount of produce, and at a less expense, than is possible until those now means are tried. The furmer who adheres to the old system is brought into competition with others who have abandoned it, and his profits are every year becoming less. To enable him to keep page with the forward movement, he must begin by investing additional capital on his land. Without reckoning such improvements as draining, the merely increasing the fertile power of the soil by manures cannot be done without considerable outlay. Without a stronger guarantee than he now has, the tonant-at-will capnot prudently incur a large outlay, and without such outlay he cannot prosper."

Yet landlords are averse to giving the requisite security. He added:

"The longer I attend to the subject, the more I become convinced that the many impediments to proper agreements between landlords and tenants will not be overcome, except by giving the tenants a legal claim where there is no special agreement. There are impediments on both sides. Though many landlords are destrous of having their land highly farmed by their tenants, and are willing to give security for the capital invested in improvements, yet there are two many who are careless, or even averse to putting the tenant in an independent position. On the other hand there are many tenants too timid to undertake leases, and many others occupying small farms with small means, to whom it would not be advisable to grant them. Nothing but agreements from year to year, with clauses providing for compensation for improvements, would be accepted by this numerous class of tenants."

Now these last propositions are unsound. The weaker the tenant's capital, the longer must be his rotation of crops, if he is to farm well, and therefore to such tenants a lease is indispensable. But if it be meant that these tenant rights will enable the system of small capitals and yearly tenancies to be continued, then we say that they will do more harm than good, for it is only by tenants being "placed in independent positions" that any general improvement will take place.

There is, however, no practical difficulty in the way of such valuations of improvements as are proposed. Mr. Bass said:

"I have observed that in the discussion of this subject at the London Farmers' Club, none of the eminent farmers who spoke seemed to have any doubt that a just valuation of tenunts' rights could always be made by competent land valuers. If a farmer has a beneficial interest in a lease, and is at liberty to dispose of it to another, there is never any difficulty in estimating its worth, and in what does this case differ from that of a tenant leaving unenjoyed improvements in a farm held at will?"

The only way of effecting it is to appoint arbitrators in each case, and he added:

"It seems to me that the whole subject relating to the mutual claims of the off-going and in-coming tenants and of the landlord, requires a thorough revisal by the legislature."

This is a position nobody can doubt, who has known anything of the management of landed preperty.

The next speaker was Mr. Richard Chawner, whose remarks bespeak a fuller knowledge of the requirements of agriculture than is commonly met with. He said, he must make one objection to the report, that it placed the subject on too narrow a basis by not recognising the interest of the consumer. But, in fact, that is comprised in the consideration of what is best for the tenant, who, like the consumer, is interested in growing the largest quantity at the least proportional cost. Mr. Chawner thus enforced the necessity of a lease:

"In what position then ought the tenant to be placed? First of all he requires security of tenure. He must have the security of a lease for years, say 21, renewable every seven with the consent of the contracting parties. A long connection with college property has satisfied me upon this point, No prudent man will expend his capital—no skilful man can have the opportunity of carrying out his projected improvements (the result frequently requiring years for its development) unless he be insured in the possession of his farm for a certain term of years (Cries of "Heav, hear"). The next point of importance relates to the conditions of the tenure, the covenants in the lease,—and here the same principle must be kept steadily in view—viz., the good cultivation of the soil. This may be called the landlord's right; and in order to secure it, he should have the power of entering by himself or agent to inspect the state of cultivation, and of referring any question of dilapidation or neglect of the rules of good husbandry to competent and impurial authority. The schedule which should be appended to every lease, containing the system and state of cultivation of the farm, would be a very sufficient guide to any competent arbitrators between the parties. In addition to the respectability and capital of the tenant, the ever-ruling principle of self-interest is a security to the landlord; for it is notorious that in the good cultivation of the soil, and in that only, can the tenant hope for any adequate return for the expenditure of his capital and labour (hear, hear). On the other hand, the tonant ought to be allowed the uncontrolled power over his own skill and capital; he must be allowed to cultivate his furm as he thinks proper."

This is the just and sound view of the subject, and it is that to which farmers must adhere, if they mean to effect any sufficient alteration in the present system. And this we believe is more likely to be obtained by contract than by legislative interference; and it is far better that farmers should try to improve their own contracts with their landlords than rely upon legislative aid. They have had somewhat too much of that already; and he must be but an indifferent observer who supposes our landlord legislators will, at present, consent to pass any general measure tending to promote the independence of the farmers. Mr. Chawner well said:

pendence of the farmers. Att. Chawher wen said.
"We talk of confidence in landlords; but where is the confidence in the tenant, who is required to cultivate his farm according to a cortain and unvarying system, to pursue the same course of cropping under all difficultations. We have but to reflect upon our changeful cliffies, our weeping alles, the cliffest in markets, the difficulty of recenting markets, the cliffest in markets, the difficulty of recenting markets, the cliffest in markets, the difficulty of recenting markets, the cliffest in certain order, to be convinced as energy.

of the absurdity of the present system. And here I would ask those objectors to the ignorance of the English farmen to reflect upon the restrictions and difficulties under which the tenant farmer has hitherto pursued his useful avocation.

That goes home to the mark; and he added.

"And now, gentlemen, I would gladly pause, but that it is necessary to consider that worst of all tenures, tenancy will. Unfortunately there are circumstances under which this system will be continued; I deeply regret it, because the soil can never be cultivated according to its capabilities ander such a system of tenure. Some members of our (lab may consider that I lay too much stress upon the good cultivated districts with neglected ones. Compare Lincolnshire and districts with neglected ones. Compare Lincolnshire and parts of Norfolk with Wilts and Dorsetshire. In the former case it is well with all interests—the owner, the occupier, and the labourer; but in the latter how true—miserably true—is the reverse. The unsatisfactory state of tenant rights may be illustrated by what takes place in courts of lay. Evidence is produced for the plaintiff as to the custom of the country: equally respectable is the evidence for the defendant; but how conflicting, how totally opposed each to the other. The learned Judge, in despair, declares there is no law in the case; it must be referred, and it is, to a gentleman as remarkable for his impartiality as for his total ignorance of the subject in dispute."

And he further said:

"If this miserable system of tenancy-at-will must be continued, I would venture to make a suggestion, which, if it please neither landlord nor tenant, mey at least proper the soil. It is this: As the off-going tenant seeks to do as little as possible for the farm which he quits, so the on-toming tenant schemes to pay as little as possible, and the soil (i.e., the consumer) suffers; and as every practical man knows, the farm where the tenant is frequently changed required a constant increase of capital to restore its cultivation; it stay the plague,' I would place the landlord as the in-coming tenant. Let him pay the off-going tenant liberally for his cultivation up to the end of his term, and then charge the outlay upon the succeeding tenant in the shape of rent. The tenant will thus have his capital in hand to proceed at once with the cultivation of his farm. And here I would all you to consider the difference of entering upon a farm in a good state of cultivation, and one in a dilapidated condition. I have trespassed too long upon your attention. The importance of the subject must be my excuse. It must be sifted to the bottom; it must be discussed at every Farmers Clab—aye, and at every market table in England (cheers). We take no selfish view of tenant rights; we desire, showe all things, the good cultivation of the soil. If we succeed in placing tenant rights upon a secure basis, we shall equally protect the rights of landlords, and promote to the utmost of our ability the prosperity of the land we live in."

These remarks were deservedly received with much applause.

Mr. Govan said:

"He hoped to see the day when the landlord and tenant would be placed on a footing of equality. He never yet saw an agreement that he was disposed to sign, because agreements were generally all on one side; and he was satisfied that the day was about to dawn when one-sided things could exist no longer" (cheers).

Mr. Greaves advocated a legal right to be paid for improvements; saying:

"A law declaring the tenant to be entitled to just compensation for unexhausted improvements would at once effect more than would be effected by 50 years agitation of the subject by the farmers. I am not prepared to deny that the common system of tenancy-at-will is favourable to a certain class of tenants where they hold under the best landlends; but I take the liberty to say that it is only in the case of the best landlerds and the worst tenants, that it is the most favourable."

This seems to say but little for tenancies at will, even in the excepted cases.

He then asks:

"Can the tenant's rights be fairly ascertained? I have not the least doubt that they can; and I agree with the report of our Committee that this can only be done by a valuation made by arbitrators having a discretionary power to award compensation according to the particular circumstances under which the improvements have been made. It is sometimes said that a tenant's permanent improvements alone ought to be allowed for; but, as the report of our committee very justly argues, all improvements are more or less permenent, for there are none for which the tenant is immediately repaid. If a tenant took land for two or three years, would be expend money in manures, or lay part of it down to gran, or subsoil it, or even give it a thorough oleaning? The tenant has just as good a claim to compensation for tuch improvements as he has for building, erected, or for dring indi in the soil. In one respect, I think the report of the Committee falls short of what is required to ensure food farming in all cases. It only recommends compensation from the case of tenancy from year to year; but it was very properly remarked, that in the case of a lease, farmers were obliged to remit their improvements towards the interests of all would be better cared for. By the law, with the everybody acquainted with farming must be award for now is, the landlord can recover for dissillation of his land to the everybody acquainted with farming must be award now in the inproved his land to the amount of the law, with they improved his land to the same be award of pounds, but if he has omitted to copy a few substants of pounds, but if he has omitted to the party was a large compensation would be due to the party was a large compensation would be due to the party was a large compensation would be due to the party was a large compensation would be due to the party was a large compensation would be due to the party was

Mr. Basa, in reply, observed the question is to the base of the production of the control of the

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lord. Por himself, he was of opinion that the whole law of landlord and tenant regulred revisal."

"Mt. Charmer suggested the propriety of sending a formal notice to the landlords of the district, informing them of the decision of the club, and requesting their co-operation in petitioning the legislature. He had heard many landlords express themselves favourable to the resolutions."

That some of the landlords will aid in this "agricultural movement," we have no doubt; but in the main, it must be carried out by the exertions of the farmers; and the discussion at Burton-ou-Trent shows that there are men amongst them who are able and willing to work out the independence of the rural middle classes.

HOPE FOR THE SQUIRES YET.

In Scotland, at all events, the landlords are not under the necessity of abandoning their land on account of coming Free Trade in corn, as witness the following :

"GRASS PARKS AND CATTLE SALES IN SCOTLAND .- In various places in the south, grass purks are letting at a considerable advance-ou-the-prices of-former years. In the neighbourhood of Dundee prices are from seven to eight per cent. higher than last year. In Perthshire, the average is from ten to twenty per cent. higher. At Clow, in the Ochile, a park of nearly twenty acres, well laid down, and for the first time depastured, brought upwards of 80% on Monday, the 6th instant. At a sale of stock at the same place, cattle fetched very high prices. Blackfaced three year-old wedders brought from 23s. to 20s. a head; ewes, from 20s. to 25s. 0d.; Theriot hogs, 20s. to 21s. The Dunifries Courier states that the far famed Closebirn annual grass let; on the estate of Sir Charles Monteath, Bart., came off at Brownhill, on the 8d instant. Those upon the western side, or Shaw's estate, commanded upwards of 16 per cent. above the last year's let, while those on the eastern, or Hall side, were only a trifling shade below a similar per centage. The same respected proprietor and eminent agriculturist, on his estate of Mansfield, Ayrshire, last week, let his grazing fields at a rise of fully 10 per cent, above that of the preceding year."-

And as we have peculiar satisfaction in giving comfort and support to the agricultural mind, we reprint the following for its consolution and instruction. lessons it conveys are, Beware of panie; and whatever fou do, don't lessen your stock :

"High Price of Cattle and Sheep .- The prices which farm stock have brought at all the markets this year far exceeds the average of many preceding years, and indeed, as regards fat sheep, the rates are wholly unprecedented. No doubt, to some extent, the higher wayes for labour now current will account for so much of the rise as has been caused from the increased demand; but we understand that other causes have concurred in producing the present state of the market. The chief want in cattle is in two and three-yearolds, which are those usually bought for fattening for the market, and there is a great deficiency in the supply of these, owing to the panic caused by the tariff three years ago, which had the effect of checking the operations of many stock growers. As regards sheep, the high price is generally attributed to the great demand for England, consequent upon the extensive losses from foot-rot in many districts last year. At late markets the supply has uniformly been under that of the previous year, owing to the large sales of the six quarters and two year-olds last autumn; and to make up stocks adequate to the demand is attributed the rise in rents of pastures of all kinds this year."—Perthshire Courier.

Let us offer the furmers a word of advice: whatever dangers take place, let them never act under the influence of panie, induced by the representations of the monopolist landlords, until those landlords give evidence, real evidence, that they have belief in their own pro beeies, by coming forward and offering handsome and permanent reductions of rent. Let farmers act steadily on this advice, and they need fear no panic.

FANCIFUL DISTINCTIONS.

"GUANO TRADE.—It appears from a return issued yester-day by order of the House of Lords, that in the year 1841, there were seven British vessels (and no foreign ones) enthere were seven British vessols (and no foreign ones) engaged in the grano trade, of 1,733 tons, and engaging 87 men. In 1842, there were 41 British vessels, occupying 500 men, and 30 foreign ships, employing 50 men. In the next year, there were only 13 British (and no foreign vessels) engaged, giving occupation to 202 seamen. In 1844, however, there were 246 British vessels (engaging 4,313 men), and one foreign ship to the 12 men), and in 1845 no fewer than one foreign ship (with 18 men); and in 1845 no fewer than 670 British (engaging 11,434 men) and four foreign vessels (with 52 men). This return is prepared from John Covey, Registrar of Shipping at the Custom-house, and is dated the

Doubtless the peer-perhaps the Duke of Richmondat whose instance this return was ordered, hugged himself with the notion that he should thereby show what an important article, to the commercial classes, foreign manare had become, and to build upon it some monopolist fallacy. These artificial scaroity gentlemen are always especial advocates of the use of guano,—against which, however, in fit circumstances we do not say a word,— Publish because they imagine it to be a short cut to high produce without accuraty of tonure or reduction of rank. But what is grano, I laik reddy-made, com-

feeding of stock-which, during the process of manufacture, would afford profit to our farmers, and supply great additions to the animal food of the people. Yet the protectionists exult over the extension of the guano trade, and deny the farmers of this country liberty to import cheap food for their stock.

BLOOD FOR THE MARE!

"GAMBERERER SHOT.—Henry Jackson, head game-keeper to Sir George Sitwell, Renishaw Hall, and who has only recently been appointed such, went out near the hall on his rounds on Tuesday night. He had not been out long before three men suddenly came towards him, and one of thom fired a gun at him, but missed his aim. The same man fired again and shot him in the thigh. By some means he got into the hall, when medical aid was soon procured for him, and about a dozen of the shots extracted. Information was forwarded to the Sheffield police early in the morning, and an officer who had a knowledge of the locality and its inhabitants was promptly disputched to apprehend the offenders, who were known by the wounded man. In the course of the day the police succeeded in apprehending four of the persons who were suspected to have been concerned in the murderous attentpt. They were taken before a magistrate at Eckington, and remanded to Sheffield."-Sheffield

Are these the deeds of civilised, Christian men? We know not whether the poor men who have to risk their lives in defence of the game, or those who, having been demoralised by game preserving, would madly have murdered their fellow-creature, are most to be pitied. Towards the game preservers and the upholders of the Clame Laws, there can be but one sentiment, that of Indignant condemnation. We are glad to see, however, that some landowners are becoming alive to the mischievousness of game preserving:

"DESTRUCTION OF CAME.—During the last season up wards of 21,000 hares and rabbits were killed upon the es tates of Thomas Clifton, Esq., of Lytham, besides a large number of pheasants, partridges, and other game. We understand it is intended to thin the number still further, as Mr. Clifton is determined that the destructive rayages of game shall not be a source of complaint amongst his tenants another year."-Lancashire Paper.

We wish we could say the practice of game preerving was decreasing. But game preservers must have the public eye of the intelligent and humane of this country strongly directed towards them, before they will abandon their selfish and pernicious pleasures.

INDIAN CORN.

The following has been sent us by a lady, and we recommend her practical receipts as deserving of wide circulation: " Heigham, near Norwich, April 14, 1846.

"We lived six years in New York state, and have used Indian corn almost daily for the last fourteen years in our family, which is large. I always have found that our servants, after a very short time grew as fond of it as we are. I venture to send you my receipts, which I had printed in hopes of 'diffusing' this branch of 'useful knowledge." I sont some to Father Mathewat Cork, and he tells me he has had a few thousand copies reprinted for circulation. I have just sent a sheet to Dr. Lindley, and Mr. Gedge, of the Bury Post, hoping they will aid in the circulation; and perhaps you will find a vacant corner in the LEAGUE."

A DOZEN RECEIPTS FOR COOKING INDIAN

By a Person who has used it many years in her Family. By a rerson who has used it many years in her ramity.

Bread of Indian Meal and Flour.—2. Indian Meal Dumplings.—3. Johnny Cake. — 4. Mush.—5. Fried Mush.—6. Boiled Indian Pudding.—7. Baked ditto.—

S. Plain ditto,—9. Indian Meal Gruel.—10. Indian Pancakes.—11. Corn Cake, or Corn Bread.—12. Sweet Corn Cakes.—13. Light Corn Bread.—14. Plain Corn Bread.—Remarks.—10. Hominy, to make.—10. Hominy, to

Yellow Indian Corn is far more nutritious, and tastes

better, than White Indian Corn.

Indian Corn Meal must not be ground too fine; it generally requires to be sifted, and the coarsest bran taken out;

this when boiled is good food for pigs.

Bread cannot be made of Indian meal alone: one-third of meal to two-thirds of wheat flour is quite as much as the bread will bear; more meal would make it too sweet and sticky. To make bread, take for example 71bs. of Indian meal, and pour boiling water on it till it is all wet; it never knots like flour: then let it stand till it becomes milk-warm, and stir in one stone and a half of flour with the hauds; proceed then exactly as you would with wheaten bread; of course but little more water will be required. It takes rather longer to bake than wheaten bread.

Indian Meal Dumplings are made exactly like suct dumplings; or if you prefer them without suct, mix them with milk instead of water; they require longer time in boiling than flour dumplings. If any is left to be cold, it is good

out in slices and fried Johnny Cake, which is in fact a pudding, and caten hot, is made thus. Take about two pints of Ludian meal and mix with it about one table spoonful of melted pork lard or clear beef dripping. Dissolve one tea-spoonful of sait, and half a tea-spoonful of soda in a tea-cup, with cold water; pour milk into the meal till it forms a stiff batter; and the sait and water, and one beaten egg. Grease a shallow tin, such as is used for Yorkshire puddings, and pour the batter in the best oven for shirts two hours. in. Bake it in a brisk oven for about two hours. You may in. Bake it in a brisk oven for about two hours. You may make Johnny Cake without milk, by putting rather more lard-in-it-or its you please you may make it with milk and water, as convenient. N I Johnny Cake should never be made think; an inch deep is enough.

Mach is a minch deep is enough.

Mach is a minch deep is enough.

Mach is palian med surred into cold water, or milk and yeller milk thin, and then bolled for about half, an hour.

Mach is palian med surred into cold water, or milk and yeller milk thin, and then bolled for about half, an hour.

Fried Mush.—If any much be left, when it is cold stir in more Indian meal till it is very stiff: out it out of the pan ire pieces about balf an inch thick, and fry it in beef or poris

lard. It is excellent, Boiled Indian Pudding .- Make a suff better by attrings Indian meal into a quart of milk or water. Add two cablespoonfuls of flour, three of brown sugar, two test spoonfuls of ginger, and two of salt. If you make it with water, mix in a little chopped anet and one egg, but with milk those are not required. The rather loose, and boil for three hours as

Baked Indian Padding .- Boll three or four pints of milk, according to the size of the dish you mean to fill, and stir in Indian meal till it becomes about as thick as stiff batter. Stir in two or three onnees of butter, and half a tes-oupful of brown sugar. Add according to taste either a little grated lemon peel, or any spice you like. Butter a shaflow earther baking dish, and bake in a moderate oven for three quarters of an hom, or longer if needful. When cold it will casily turn out, and this pudding is better cold than hot.

Plain Indian Pudding.—Scald a quart of milk, and stir fra seven table-spoonfuls of Judini meal, one too spoonful of salt, one of ginger or circumon, and half a ten cupful of treacle. Grease a baking dish, and bake for about two

Indian Meal Gruel.—Stir a table spoonful or two of meal into cold water; boil it till it is thickened as much as you

Indian Pancakes. - Mix about a plut of mest with sufficient milk or water, and one beaton egg to make a thin butter; fry them in as small a quantity of land us possible.

Corn Cakes, or Corn Bread. Pour boiling water with a little sait in it on Indian meal; mix it asstiff as you can with the hands; roll it into balls the size of an orange, them flatten the balls, till the cakes are about half an inch thick. Fry them in a small quantity of beef land, merely sufficient to prevent their sticking to the pan, or hurning. They are to be eaten hot, generally as a breakfast disb.

Sweet Corn Cakes .- Mix one quart of milk, one beaten egg, a tea-spoonful of salt, and half as much sods, and two table-spoonfuls of treacle. Pour this on meal and stir it well till it becomes thoroughly mixed, and stiff enough to make into that cakes like those in the last receipt. Fry them for

Light Corn Bread. -- Stir four pints of Indian meal into three pints of tepid water; add one large tea spoonful of sal; ; let it rise for 5 or 6 hours, then stir it up with the hand; use as much dough for each roll as can be conveniently shaped in the hand; make oblong rolls about an inclu and a half or two inches thick; bake in a brisk oven.

Plain Corn Bread. - Take six pints of Indian meal, one tea spoonful of salt, four pints of hot water, and mix the roughly with the hands; let it stand for half an hour or more, then form it as in the last receipt, and bake it in a hot

Remarks.-All kinds of corn bread require a hotter oven than flour bread.

Never grind the corn too fine, or wift it through a fine sieve; no matter how course the meal if the husk is re-

The hotter the oven or Dutch oven, so that it will not burn the dough, the softer and sweeter will be the bread.

Hominy is a dish hardly known in this country except by name. It is a western word, and a dish most common for the Western States of America; it is simply "hulled core." The way to prepare it is this: Send the corn to the mill. and have it cracked or ground as coarse as possible. If there is any meal amongst it, sift it out, and retain only the cracked corn for hominy. The mill will have disengaged the skin, so that the cook can wash it off; this should be cone in cold water, rubbing it with the hands, and changing the water two or three times. Another method of getting vid of the skin is to souk the corn for about ten minutes in soda and water, or in lye, and then pound it in a mortar, but this is tedious. When the hominy is thus prepared, put it sto a large pot of cold water, and boil it steadily for six or eight hours. Add hot water frequently whilst boiling, otherwise the hominy will burn and become dark. It should be perfectly white, like well boiled rice. Send it to table dry and

The usual way in the Western States is to boil hominy twice a wock, and set it by in an earthen vessel for daily use. When wanted for breakfast or dinner, put a piece of butter into a baking-dish, melt it, then fill the dish with hominy well mashed down; let it heat thoroughly, and it is fit to eat. Some people allow the bottom to bake, then turning it topsyturvy in the dish, the crust serves to keep it hot.

For frying fish, use coarse Indian meal instead of bread

For stuffing, use Indian meal instead of grated broad.

PROSPECTS OF CHEAP AND GOOD FOOD.—Amongst the matters at present exciting interest, nothing as more important, or displays more the character of the commercial cuterprise of the day, than the steps new taking for insuring a future supply of food. Within a very few days, there has been rivalry between the American and Norwegian mer-chants in ice, turkeys, and capons, many of which have ar-rived in a state fit for the domestic table. Within the last rived in a state fit for the domestic table. Within the last three years, nearly 500,000 pine apples have been imported from the West Indies: turde in abundance; and even preserved spricots from Port Philip, in Australia. The measured spricots from Port Philip, in Australia. sures of the proposed tariff have, in many instances, been anticipated by intelligent speculators in the city, and reciprocated by agriculturists abroad. One intelligent firm in Monument Yard alone have added, within the last two years, many luxuries and necessaries to the table, including pine apples and turtle from the Baliamas; new potatoes from the zores; salmon from Labrador, imported by the Hudson's Bay Company; pork and bacon from Lisbon; preserved mosts from Australia; hope, smoked beef, and tongues, from the United States, &c. The most extraordinary results, however, perhaps from anticipated From Trade, have been in the importation of American choose. The pointoes, introduced as neverties from the Accountage of the pointoes, introduced as neverties from the Accountage of the pointoes, introduced as neverties from the Accountage of the pointoes. the importation of American cheese. The potetoes, introduced as novelties from the Azores last spring, have now become absolute necessaries, as they are the chief source on which a future healthy crop can be looked forward to. The Hordenhural Society has not been babling in animpositie the future wants of the community, by introducing swifting ware of food. Two new articles in farinaceous food lays been added recently in the importation of years and hadanes. In considerion with these statements, it is a matrix of motoristy there his wants of frust integrand but the slips provisions is such, and has been so for senting that the statements in the considerior in the future of the such as the considerior is such, and has been so for senting the considerior in the future of the such as the considerior is such, and has been so for senting the considerior.

REVIEW.

Economic Fallacies (Sophismes Economiques, par M. F. Bastiat.) Paris: Guillaumin; London:

M. Frederic Bastiat's able work, entitled, "Cobden and the League," has already introduced him to the favourable notice of our readers. He is a philosophical economist of the highest order—a man who unites profound science to active henevolence. a sincere love of truth to a firm resolution to assert its cause, and who combines a thorough hatred of falsehood with large power and resolute will to expose its delusions. The greater part of the work before us is devoted to the exposure of the fallacies of protection, which, though confuted here to the satisfaction of the great bulk of the people, have still some influence over public feeling in France, where the monopolists have been far more successful than they have been on this side of the Channel in feneing round their selfish interests by appeals to popular prejudice. But M. Bastiat does more than overthrow: he builds up. We may say of him, in a different sense from the poet-

" Diruit, ædificat, mutat quadrata rotundis."

That is, he throws down sophistry, he crects the system of sound principle, and he changes the angular forms of mere superficial extent for the circular of greatest capacity. In bringing this work before our readers, we believe that an analysis of the reasoning will be more instructive to them, and more equitable to the author, than a mere selection of specimens. In this instance, quotations would too closely resemble the brick which, according to Hierocles, the Greek blockhead carried round as a specimen of his house. Instead of picking out a few bricks, we shall endeavour to give a plan of the

M. Bastiat opens the discussion by stating as the first point in issue the comparative merits of PLENTY and SCARCITY.

There is something repulsive to common sense and common humanity in supposing that any man would deliberately assert abundance to be an evil to be deprecated; and want, a good to be sought. But we have sad evidence that this monstrous assertion finds advocates in the press and the senate. will be inundated with foreign corn," exclaims Lord Stanley; "Deprive not the Irish of your markets for their corn, else they will die of a plethora when consuming at home," whines forth that most self-complacent patriot, W. S. O'Brion; "Let bread be dear, and the farmers will be rich," is the great aphorism of M. Bugeaud on one side of the water, and Lord George Bentinck on the other. It is sometimes attempted to disguise the naked wickedness of this legislation to produce want by substituting the word cheapness for abundance, and the words high price for scarcity: but the terms are obviously identical. Cheapness is merely the sign of abundance, as dearness is of scarcity. High prices and famine price are one and the same thing; and those who legislate to seeme high prices for food are speculating in scarcity, and driving a trade in starvation. They deliberately plan the destruction of one portion of the population to extort high prices from the survivors. But we may be told that this view of the case carries the protective system to an extreme not intended by monopolists. But we say, if their principle is sound, it must sustain all its consequoncos; it must be valid for famine if it be valid for insufficiency of supply. The question between protection and Free Trade is simply a question between artificial scarcity and natural abundance; the extent of the scarcity is indifferent to the issue. Protection, however, has its logic, and we shall fairly state the argument by which it is supported. The producer who obtains a high price for his products, generally obtains a high profit—that is, a large remuneration for his industry. By rendering these products artificially scarce, he increases their price in the market, and therefore increases the amount of reward obtained for his labour. If, then, any special branch of industry be protected from competition, the price of its products will be thereby raised, and the remuneration of all engaged in the production will be increased in the sumo proportion. Apply this to all branches of production in a country, and you will secure the prosperity of all classes of producers. Such is the logic of scarcity as it is enunciated very distinctly every morning in the Post, and sometimes stated with great rhotorical skill. The same principles are maintained by Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Gamp, but the unfortunate creatures have not the skill to give it even the form of an argument.

We do not dony that this argument, as it has often been stated by the Morning Post in its special application to some one branch of industry, is specious: in fact, the syllogism is not false, it is simply incomplete. It presents the truth, but not the whole with; and it may decrive, because the truth asserted must be present to the mind, while the truth omitted may escape the cognisunce even of the imagination.

and a greater; which, however, are intertwined with each other. Let us consider the lesser first. It is assumed in the reasoning that high prices are coincident with high profits, and that consequently artificial scarcity will always increase the remuneration for production. But if instead of producing one article at a profit of five shillings, the producer at the same proportionate outlay can bring three articles to market at a profit of half-a-crown, though the price of each article is lowered by 2s. 0d., his ultimate gain is increased by the same amount. This at all events shows a possibility of profits being realised on abundant production, as well as by a system of artificial scarcity, and points to a serious flaw in the logic of protection, even when applied exclusively to the interests of the producer.

But men produce to consume; every man is a consumer, as well as a producer. The logic of scarcity only regards him under the productive aspeet. Let M. Bastiat state the supplementary

"The consumer is so much the richer, as he purchases the articles of which he is in need at a cheaper rate; he pur chases them cheap in proportion to their abundance, and consequently abundance enriches him; and this reasoning extended to all consumers forms the theory of abundance."

M. Bastiat very justly remarks that the theory of scarcity would never have been put into opposition with the theory of abundance, had not men been misled by illusive notions of exchange. Were man a solitary animal, incapable of making exchanges, the theory of want would be a palpable absurdity. Robinson Crusoe in his desert island would never have complained that the fruits of the earth grew in too great a quantity, or that the chests of the seamen which floated ashore contained too large a supply of clothes. But, as Archbishop Whately has well observed, "Man is essentially a catallactic animal,"—that is, an animal which makes exchanges. For this description of man, in his economic relations, the archbishop has been severely rated by some ignorant and conceited sentimental ists, who would substitute for sound science pedantic vanities and puerile conceits. But exchange, as M. Bastiat shows, is the principal fact in the inquiry; and the fallacies which prevail, arise from misapprehension of its nature and import. Let us first take M. Bastiat's comparison of the theory of want and the theory of abundance as applied to an individual and isolated human being:

"If man had been a solitary animal, labouring exclusively for himself, and consuming the fruit of his toil,—in a word, if he made no exchange, the theory of want would never have been introduced into the world. It would be too evident that abundance would be advantageous to him, from whatever source it might be derived; whether it had been the result of his own industry, or of ingenious implements and powerful machines which he had invented; whether it was due to the fertility of the soil, the liberality of nature, or even to a mysterious invasion of products which the waves might have brought him from abroad and cast upon the shore. The man would never have deemed it necessary to encourage himself, to find employment for his labour, by breaking the implements which abridge his toil, neutralising the fertility of the soil, or throwing back into the sea the articles which it had brought to his shore. He would easily comprehend that labour is a means, not an end, and that it would be absurd to reject the object of labour, through fear of injuring the means. He would understand that, if he spends two hours of the day to provide for his wants, every circumstance (no matter whether it be machinery, fertility, or gratuitous gift) which spares him an hour of this toil, the results remaining the same, places this hour at his disposal to make some further addition to his welfare; in fact he would comprehend that the saving of labour is progress."

But exchange raises two antagonistic interests. On the one hand, it is our interest to sell dear; on the other hand, it is our interest to buy cheap. The question then arises, whether legislation is to be guided by the interests of producers, or by the interests of consumers? Now it is, in the first place, evident, that all men are consumers, including the producers themselves; and in the next place, it is evident that it is impossible, and idle if it were possible, to extend protection to all classes of producers. So far, then, as the greatest happiness of the greatest number should be an influential principle in legislation, the interest of the consumers and the theory of abundance are unquestionably entitled to the preference.

All legislation for the exclusive benefit of pro ducers is obviously and essentially anti-social, being designed to restrict the supply of the wants of society. The system of protection, that of the Corn Laws, for instance, stands in this dilemma; it either excludes provisions, and thus produces artificial scarcity, or it does not. If it does, then the advocates of protection confess that they are injuring consumers—that is, the entire nation, to the utmost extent of their power. If they deny that these laws produce such scarcity, it follows that they do not raise prices, and consequently they are of no use to producers. Profession, then, is either mis-OHIEVOUS or USELESS: there is no other alternative.

The second sophism exposed by M. Bastlat is that which confounds wants with wealth, and obstacles with causes:

serted must be present to the mind, while the action of the large area of the large area of the large area of the large area. There are, in fact, two truths omitted—a lesser of his patient. The more

numerous, the more intense, and the more frequent these diseases are, the more people are willing, and indeed the more they are compelled to labour for his personal interest. In his point of view, disease, that is, the general obstice to he harmings is the cause of caneral promarity. All productions In his point of view, also see, that is, the general overacte to man happiness, is the cause of general prosperity. All produces make use of the same reasoning in whatever personally concerns themselves. The carrier derives his profits from the obstacle called distance; the agriculturist from that name bunger; the weaver from that named cold; the schoolman lives on ignorance; the jeweller on vanity; the lawyer of cupidity, just as the physician does on disease. It is then true that each profession has an immediate interest in the continuation, and even the extension of the special obtack which is the object of his efforts."

Intimately connected with this sophism is a third which attributes economic value to efforts instead of to results. It is the sophism of the Post on thene. cessity of employing the population irrespective of the consideration whether the employment be productive or unproductive. As this sophism, pushed to its remote but legitimate consequences, would find its full development in the fable of Sisyphus, eternally doomed to roll a huge stone up a hill, which tumbled back again so soon as it approached the summit, M. Bastiat calls the system Sisyphism. Let us remember the description of that hero's punish

"With many a weary step, and many a groan, Up the high hill be hurls the huge round stone; The huge round stone, resulting with a bound Thunders impetuous down, and smokes along the ground.

There are two systems with regard to labour; one recommends the production of the greatest amount of result with the least possible expenditure of toil the ther avers that to abridge toil and economisa labour is an injury to society. The clamour against machinery is pure Sisyphism. Sentimentalists, when they hear that the steam engine saves the labour of hundreds and thousands of men, exclaim that machinery is taking away employment. Sistphism is particularly eloquent on behalf of native industry. In Ireland it expends an abundance of bad rhetoric travestied from Ossian and Carlyle in recommending the exclusive use of Irish manufactures. Its first and last panacea for all the evils of humanity is, "give employment." Now we, who are not Sisyphists, believe it advantageous to give employment, when the labour employed leads to remunerative production; but so far as the result is unremunerating, the employment is but a rolling of the stone of Sisyphus, with the additional hardship that the toil is imposed where no punishment is merited.

But Sisyphism is a sad hypocrite; there is not one of its professors who does not exercise his intelligence to economise his own time and his own toil as much as possible. What Sisyphist, aspiring to be a statesman, does not look for a short cut to Parliament or place? What Sisyphean agriculturist does not endeavour to obtain the richest harvest by the least proportional outlay? What Sisyphist on the turf does not aim at winning as much as he can on every race? In fact, no man ever applies Sisyphism to his own individual cause. The conduct of every Sisyphist in the world is a practical refutation of his own doctrines.

We have only goue through one division of M. Bastiat's work, for which we venture to predict a permanent European reputation. We hope that the friends of Free Trade beyond the Atlantic will exert themselves to secure for it an extensive circu lation in the United States. The lessons which it inculcates are not more important to France than they are to America.

The Topic, Nos. 1—4. London: Mitchell. This is a new periodical, designed to furnish a condensed view of all the information necessary to comprehend the nature and bearing of whatever great question has the most prominent claim on public attention. The four numbers published respectively discuss the state of the Punjaub, the Oregon question, the new tariff, and the condition of Poland. Each is a very fair digest of the know. ledge attninable on the several subjects, written in a calm style, and with an impartial temper. We wish every success to this new literary enterprise. So far as it has gone, we find it perfectly satisfactory: but a larger experience is necessary before we can fairly estimate the skill required of the conductors in selecting subjects, or the ability displayed in their discussion.

THE COLISEUM. To those who love to spend an eren ing of quiet and innocent recreation, this place continued ing of quiet and innocent recreation, this place continue afford an agreeable attraction. The magnificent circular room, in which are placed the statues, forms a delighted promenade. In the evening, the whole establishment is promenade. In the evening, the whole establishment is brilliantly lighted up. The most placing and attraction feature in the exhibition is the view of London by modellighted the property of the state of the s feature in the exhibition is the view of London by modular. This is maneged so well, that any one, unless periodic quainted with the place, might suppose that he was ing the great and busy city at his feet, and this allow moon and stars were shining over his bead. The mississive well worth self.

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THE PLYMOUTH FREE TRADE ASSO-CIATION.

The Free Trade Association of Plymouth has rendered good service to the cause of commercial freedom by its activity and earnestness. For several years gratultous courses of winter lectures have been delivered under its auspices, and sound principles disseminated in a healthy and attractive form. We have just received a printed copy of the last of these lectures delivered, on the 26th of February, by the Rev. W. J. Odgers, "On the tendency of Free Trade to promore permanent and universal Peace." The lecturer has treated the subject with great eloquence and ability. We regret that our space will only allow us to give an extract or two from its pages:

MONOPOLY IN THE OLDEN TIME.

"In 1306 a law was passed prohibiting the use of coal in London, because some of the nobility and gentry complained that it infested the air with a noisome smell. Hackney coaches are said to have made their first appearance in Lon-con, in the year 1626. They were then only 20 in number for the whole of the capital and contiguous parts, and they did not ply in the streets, but were sent for, by those who wanted them, to the stables of certain inns where they stood. Ten years later, however, we find the King publishing a proclamation, in which he declares that the great number of hackney coaches of late time seen and kept in London, Westminster, and their suburbs, and the general and promiscuous use of coaches there, were not only a great disturbance to his Majesty, his dearest consort, the Queen, the nobility, and others of place and degree, in their passage through the streets, but the streets themselves were so pestered, and the pavements so broken up, that the common passages were hindered and made dangerous; and besides, the prices of hay and provender made exceeding dear.
'Wherefore,' concludes the proclamation, 'we expressly command, that no hackney or bired coaches be used or suffered in London, Westminster, or the suburbs thereof, except they be to travel at least three miles out of the same. And also, that no person shull go in a coach, in the said streets, except the owner of the coach shall constantly keep up four able horses for our service (the King's service) when required. Such an edict as this, so insolent in its tone, so arbitrary and absurd in its exactions, enables us to measure the distance between the 18th and 18th century. Yet I am fully persuaded that to those who may be living 50 years hence, many of the restrictions which now fetter the commerce of this country, will appear little less abourd than this law about the backney coaches appears to us. I must beg leave to offer you one specimen more of this vexatious Parliamentary interference with the trading concerns of the community. In 1363, an Act of Parliament was passed, from which the following are quotations. The preamble sets forth the extra agant and excessive apparel of several sorts of people beyond their estate and degree, to the destruction and impoverishment of all the land.' And then it prescribes the food and dress of different classes of the people. It enacted, that 'men-servants of lords, as also of tradesmen and artisans, shall be content with one meal of fish or flesh every day; and the other meals daily shall be of milk, cheese, butter, and the like. And the cloth they wear shall not exceed the price of two marks for the whole piece; neither shall they use any ornaments of gold, silver, silk, or embroidery; nor their wives and daughters any veils above the value of twelve-pence.'

"Further, 'Artisans and yeomen shall not wear cloth above the value of forty shillings the whole piece' (our finest cloth was then worth about six pounds per piece), ' nor the ornaments before named. Nor their women any veils of silk,

but only those of thread made in England.'

Ploughmen, carters, sh spherds, and such like, not having 40s value in goods or chattels, shall wear no sort of cloth, but blanket or russet lawn of twelve-pence, and shall wear girdles or belts; and they shall only eat and drink suitable to their stations. And whoever wears other apparel than

is prescribed by the above laws, shall forfeit the same.'
"Lastly: 'Clothiers shall make suitable quantities of cloth of all the before-named prices; and mercers and shopkeepers in towns and cities shall keep due sortments thereof,

so that these laws may be duly observed.'

"But the best specimen I have met with of restrictions on our inland trade, in the olden time, is that imposed by Henry III., in 1245. He proclaimed a fair to be held in Westminster, on which occasion he ordered that all the traders of London should shut up their shops, and carry their goods to be sold at the fair, and that all other fairs throughout England should be suspended during the 15 days it was appointed to last. The King's object, no doubt, was to obtain a supply of money from the tolls and other dues of the market. What made this interference to be felt as a greater hardship was, that the weather all the time of the fair happened to be exceedingly bad, so that not only the goods were spoiled, exposed to the rain as they were in tents covered only with cloth, and that probably imperfectly enough; but (the historian tells us) the dealers themselves, who were obliged to eat their victuals with their sect in the mud, and the wind and wet about their ears, suffered intolerably. Four years afterward the king repeated the same piece of tyranny, and was again seconded by the elements in a similar fashion. This time, too, scarcely any buyers came to the fair; so that it is no wonder the unfortunate merchants were loud in expressing their dissatisfaction.

"Now this is a picture of monopoly, worthy, I think, to engage the inimitable penoil even of *Punch* himself; and yet, about and unjust as this great Westminster market seems to us of the market seems. to us of the present day, do we not see combined in it all the clements of the larger monopolies of subsequent times? As Ring Henry III. caused this fair to be proclaimed that he might raise money for his own use, just so the land holding legislators framed and supported the Gorn Laws: and other restrictive edicts to put money into their own pockets. As the King ordered all the shops to be closed in London, and all fairs to be suspended throughout England during the 15 days of his Westminster market, just so legislators of after times would not allow Toutleb an appropriate the purphased times would not allow English manufactures to be purchased except at certain 'staple towns,' with they chose to fix es.
The mearable condition of the dealess themselves, expendition to the wind and rain with their feet in the mud for 10 days. to the wind and rain with their feet in the mud for 10 days, and the absence of customers, may serve to represent the section, and the physical sufferings produced by monocytus at costs. And the physical sufferings produced by monocytus at costs.

show you) restrictions on a larger scale have repeatedly set nationa at war.

WARB WAYN GROWN OUT OF COMMERCIAL RESTRICTIONS. "I shall now point you to some facts to prove how, on the other hand, inonopoly leads to contention, plunder, and bloodshed. In 1429, the Court of Denmark, for their own private advantage, prohibited the resort of foreign ships to fish on the coasts of Iceland; and required that they should, instead, come to Bergen, in Norway, and nowhere clae, and there buy fish from the Norwegians, at their own price. The ship-owners of London, Bristol, Hull, and other places, refusing to comply with such an unreasonable demand, resorted, as formerly, to the coast of locland, for the fishery of cod and ling. The consequence was, that contentions frequently took place between the crews of the English and Danish ships, and damage to such an extent ensued, that an Act of Parliament was passed, in the reign of Henry V for the purpose of obtaining redress for the extensive plunder that had been committed, and prohibiting any Danish sub-jects from coming to this country to trade, until restitution was obtained. Similar contentions continued in later times to be produced by the same cause.

"As the next illustration of the tendency of monopoly

I refer to the atroclous massacre at Amboyna, in 1023 Amboyna is one of the Molucca or Spice Islands, in the eastern seas. In 1531 this island was taken possession of by the Portuguese, who practised on the natives every species of tyranny and cruelty. At the commencement of the 17th century, the Spice Islands were taken from the Portuguese by the Dutch. The natives, however, experienced very little better treatment from the Dutch than they had done from their former oppressors. I lence the inhabitants of Amboyna were continually in arms, and the country became the constant scene of strife and desolation. At a very early period after its first formation, the English East India Company endeavoured to appropriate to itself a share of the Spice trade. In 1612, the Company formed a settlement at Cambello, in this island, from which the settlers were forced to retire in June, 1614. An attempt was made to accommodate the dispute between the English company and the Dutch, relative to the right of trading with the Spice Islands, and a treaty for this purpose was concluded in London, in July, 1619. But so many disputes occurred in executing the provisions of this treaty, that the grounds of contention appear to have been multiplied, rather than reduced, and at length reached such a point, that, under the accusation of conspiring to surprise the garrison and expel the Dutch from the island, Captain Towerson, and nine Englishmen, with nine Japanese and a Portuguese sailor, were seized at Amboyna, tried, pronounced guilty, and executed. This event, known as the "Massacro of Amboyna," excited the greatest indignation in England, and became the subject of the most formal remonstrances on the part of the British Government.

"During the war with Holland, in 1798, Amboyna was captured by a British force under Admiral Raineir. It was restored at the peace in 1801, was taken again by the English in 1801, and was again given up to Holland, at the treaty of

"And what was it that led to all this contention and bloodshed? It was in one word, monopoly. The main object of the different European powers, who endeavoured to possess themselves of Amboyna, was to monopolise the trace in cloves, the cultivation of which spice forms the principal object of industry with the natives. With the desire of keeping the cultivation of the clove-tree completely within their own power, the Dutch caused it to be extirpated from every island, with the exception of Amboyna, where they provided for a sufficient production of the spice, by compelling every native family to rear a certain number of clove trees. In the prosecution of their plans the island was divided into 4000 allotments, each one of which was expected to support 125 trees; and a law was passed in 1792, rendering it compulsory upon the natives to make up the full complement. Such are the tender mercies' of monopoly! According to this statement the number of trees upon the island amounted to 5(N),(NX) the average produce of which exceeded one million of pounds

" The next evidence I shall adduce to show that monopoly leads to war, is the famous Navigation Act, framed and passed for the purpose of monopolising all the carrying trade of Great Britain. The foundation of this Act was laid during the protectorate, and the system was perfected by the 12th of Charles II. This Act provided that no merchandise of either Asia, Africa, or America, should be imported into Great Britain in any but English-built ships, navigated by an English commander, and having at least three fourths of their crew English. The system now described continued to be steadily and pertinaciously maintained during more than 100 years, and was looked upon as a monument of wisdom and prudence, to which was mainly attributable the degree of commercial greatness to which we had attained.

"But Adam Smith very justly says, 'The Act of Navigation is not favourable to foreign commerce, or to the growth of that opulence that can arise from it. The interest of a nation in its commercial relations to foreign nations is, like that of a merchant with regard to the different people with whom he deals, to buy as cheap and to sell as doar as possible. But it will be most likely to buy cheap, when by the most perfect freedom of trade, it encourages all nations to bring to it the goods which it has occasion to purchase; and for the same reason, it will be most likely to sell dear, when its markets are thus filled with the greatest number of

"But what was the effect of this monopolising Navigation Act? One of its first consequences was undoubtedly the war with Holland, which broke out the year after it was passed. It is admitted also by a writer who ranks amougst the most zealous eulogists of this Act, that it 'occasioned at first loud complaints that, though our people had not shipping enough to import from all parts whatever they wanted, they were, nevertheless, by this law, debarred receiving due supplies of merchandise from other nations, who only could, and till then did, import them. In reference to the war coccasioned by the Navigation Ant, the ame writer (Anderson) says, 'In the year 1052 and the following year almost incredible destruction and quetures were made of merchant ships, as well as of ships of war and sailors, on both sides : there having been, in only nine months of the year 1009, four general naval engagements, besides lesser ones.' And

four general havel engagements, besides lesser ones. And all this is to be laid to the charge of monopoly.

"I have next to refer to M. Colbert's famous tariff of 1007, by which the importation of all manufactures into France was prohibited. Upon this, the Duich immediately in talliated by prohibiting the wines, brandles, and other productions of the prohibiting the wines, brandles, and other productions of the prohibiting the wines, brandles, and other productions of the prohibiting the wines, brandles, and other productions of the prohibiting the wines, brandles, and other productions of the problems of the problems of the problems.

"I may next refer to the war with Spain commenced th 1780. as another illustration of the 'tender mercies' of monopoly. The English merchants claimed the right of cutting logwood on the shores of the bay of Campeachy, in Mexico. But the Spaniards wished to monopolise this power, and resolved to annihilate the claims of the English. Great cruelties were inflicted on the crews of many of the English merclient ships, some of whom were seized and sent to dig in the mines of Potosi. Loud complaints were made by the English merchants to the House of Commons. The consequence was, that this matter of cutting logwood in the bay of Campeachy, which, as Goldsmith says, was considered as an object of too little importance to make a separate article in any negotiation,' finally led to a war which lasted nine years and cost us nearly fifty-four millions of money! This, again, is to be placed to the account of monopoly!
"Thus, how small a matter often leads to war!

was an equally small matter which led to the war between this country and France, which immediately followed that between England and Spain. In reference to that war, a celebrated French historian says, 'France lost in the course of this fatal war, the flower of her youth, more than built the current coin which circulated in the kingdom, her fleet, her commerce, and her oredit. It was believed (he continues), that it would have been easy to have prevented so many misfortunes, by accomodating matters with England for a small disputed territory, in the neighbourhood of Canada; but some ambitious persons, to gain importance, and render themselves necessary, precipitated France into this fatal war. The same thing happened in 1741, when the vanity of two or three people was sufficient to spread desolution through Eu-

rope. We see another illustration of the blighting and hostile influence of commercial restrictions, in Napoleon's Berlin Decrees, whereby he declared all the ports of Great Britain in a state of blookade, and forbade all trading with us, or in the articles of our produce and manufactures. This led the English Government to adopt measures of retaliation, which, as Porter says, ' proved directly and immediately injurious to our trade, in a greater degree than all the efforts of the enemy would probably have succeeded in accomplishing.' And many who now hear me can well remember the mischief and misery occasioned by these retaliatory measures.

"I might also refer to the American revolutionary war, as

having been likewise occasioned mainly by monopoly. Whoer, r,' says the celebrated Daniel Webster, of America - whoever has looked deeply into the causes which pro-auced our revolution, has found, if I mistake not, the original principle for back, in this claim, on the part of England to monopolise our trade, and a continued effort on the part of the colonies to resist or evade that monopoly. And what were the consequences of that war to this country It involved us in a debt of more than a hundred millions sterling, lost us the colonies altogether, and excited in them a hostile spirit fraught with evils, which have been ever

since and will long continue to be felt. THE HORRORS OF WAR.

"The expense of war is only one item, and a comparatively small one in the great account. The next item, and it is a larger one, is the amount of suffering produced by it. War is necessarily associated with suffering. Read the ac-counts just received from India, of forced marches immediately followed by fierce and protracted engagements, and then attempt to picture to yourselves the field of battle, with the 4000 killed and wounded men on the one side, and probably an equal or a larger number on the other. Bring home to yourselves only a single instance from that awful and uncounted aggregate of horrors, and how can you be unmoved by it! 'Death, come when and where it may be it on the bed of down, or on the supporting bosom of affection-is a solemn visitation. The agenies and shudderings of nature proclaim it to be the great trial hour of human deatiny. But that hour-in the hot assault, or amidst the lingering agonies of the battle field, or where the grouns of the crowded hospital are its harbingers -- how does it come? No pillow of down, no supporting arms are there to receive the victim; no kind voice speaks to him; no noiseless step of affection approaches, nor looks of love hang over him, like a pitying angel's countenance; but he goes down—man as he is, with all a man's sensibility, it may be with all a man's ties to earthly home and love-he goes down amidst grouns and executions, and horrors darker than the shadow of death that is passing over him. This is but one death, such as war visits upon the human race; and yet it would not be in human nature actually to witness one such instance, without the most agonising desire to afford relief. But now, what facts are these which the history of war unfolds to us? The single campaign of Buonaparte in Russia carried death, and such death —not to one thousand, nor to five thousand, nor to fifty thousand, but to five hundred thousand human beings. Alexander and Cosar, it is computed, caused, each of them, the death of two millions of the human race; and the wars of Napoleon bring up the whole number of victims sacrificed to the ambition of three men, to six millions! Bix millions of human beings! The aged, the young, the manly and strong, the fair and lovely, the imploring mother, the innocent child-and death, death to each one, without dis-crimination and without mercy! Six millions of human beings; sacrificed to but three ministers in the dark kingdom of war! But this is only an item, a single passage in the history of its fearful dominion. There have been in Christendom, since the reign of Constantine, nearly three hundred wars. What a mass of columities, of ranino and violence, of crime and misery, is included within the brief description of these three words, three hundred wars—what wante of the treasures of nations, what wer in the abodes of millions, it passes all human power to calculate! But all this, nevertheless, has been experienced, though it cannot be calculated or imagined. If uman hearts have felt it all. Not one drop of this ocean of ills but has fallen, a burning drop, upon nerves and fibres that have quivered with agony at its

"One who was an eye-witness to the horrors of the sacking of Moscow, in 1812, says, 'On one side, we saw a son carrying a sick father; on the other, women, who poured the torrent of their tears on the infants whom they clasped in their arms. Old men, overwhelmed by grief still more than by years, weeping for the ruin of their country, lay down to die, near the houses where they were born. No respect was paid to the nobility of blood, to the innocence of youth, or to the team of beauty. The late Sir Charles Ball youth would in the brankels after the battle of Walersaw the wounded in the hospitals after the battle of loop and he says, 'It is impossible to conceive of their suffirings. Turn which way I might, I encountered every form of enhanced from those whose condition left no need of words to sith competition. I know not, he continued when notions my fellow countrymen have of 80,000 wounded men they will into a town and its violaity. They still that com-

passionate emotions by subscriptions; but what avails this to those who would exchange gold for a bit of rag to hind up their smarting wounds. My heart sickens at the conup their smarting wounds. My heart sickens at the con-templation, he says in conclusion, and I am obliged to turn away from this picture of human imsery caused by pride, ambition, a love of military glory, and the folly of mankind, in paying adoration to their destroyers. Would not angels weep at such a scene as this? But is this all? Ah! no! Each of these dead or wounded soldiers had a mother, who had watched over his cradle, and had attended him in his sickness, and shed over him the tears of maternal soldingle. wickness, and shed over him the tears of maternal solicitude. Many had wives and lovers, to whom they were dearer than the light of the sun; many had children, who had looked to them for support and protection. We may rationally sup-pose, that for every man who was killed or wounded in this deadly conflict, the hearts of at least ten persons—parents, wives, children, brothers and sisters, were incerated. Oh, what hecatombs of sacrifices on the bloody altar of Moloch! How long, he adds, ' will mankind continue to be accessory to such crimes, by bestowing praises upon their perpetra-tors? How long will it be, ere every human being will deem it his imperious and solemn duty to disseminate the principles of peace, and extend her empire?'

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of THE LEADUR. Crediton, Tuesday, April 21st, 1816. 81s,—If any proof were wanting of the perfect indiffer-

ence with which the agriculturists in this part of the kingdom regard the effect which a repeal of the abominable Corn Laws will have on the value of land (however they may in their after-dinner speeches at agricultural meetings and else-where pretend to regard it), the following fact will supply

On Thursday last, the 16th instant, an auction was held by Mr. Thomas Hussey, auctioneer, at the Ship Hotel, in this town, for selling the fee of a small estate in this parish, about one mile and a half from the town, belonging to John Pidsley, Esq., called Yeo, otherwise Yew, containing 00 acres of land, now rented as an overland by Mr. Philip Francis (who lives on a small estate of his own, called Moore, adjoining Yew estate) at the yearly rent of 140%. and whose term therein will expire at Ladyday, 1848, at which time he will have held the estate for two terms, one of 14 and the other of 10 years), which, after a smart competition, was knocked down to Mr. Francis, the occupier, at the sum of 5520%, being but a fraction less than 39½ years value at the present rent of the farm.

It must be observed that scarcely any improvement can be effected on this property. Mr. Francis, who is an excellent practical farmer, and for many years following a suc-cessin competitor for prizes for sheep at the Devon Agricul-Shows, held in the Castle Yard, at Exeter, having, during his tenancy, got the estate into a high state of cultivation, as has been, without hesitation, admitted by all who looked at the property with a view to purchase, previous to the day of sale. I am, Sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E.

To the Editor of THE LEADUE.

Sir,-In addition to the observations made in your paper of the 11th inst, regarding both the benefit to the agriculturist and the country to be derived from the culture of flax, it may be stated, that land in the limestone districts of Yorkshire, not found to be worth more than 5s. per acre to rent, has, since the discovery has been made of the beneficial culture of flax, acquired a value of 15s, and 20s, per acre, entirely owing to the benefits derived from the culture of this article, it having been found the best preparation for a wheat crop succeeding bountifully afterwards, and that the stimulus has been so great, as for even limestone lands, perhaps scarcely three inches depth of soil, producing 25 or 30 bushels of wheat per acre.

As it has been remarked, flax or line is not an exhausting crop, as during its growth it covers and smothers the land, as well as fertilises in a superior manner to any other system of management, even far superior to the benefits of a summer fallow; but as to the crop itself, the best management, preparing it for such culture, is giving to the land from one-third to half a ton of rape-cake, broken into nuts, or ground into dust, to the acre, and from which as bountiful crops of wheat have been produced as from the best clay soils in certain limestone districts in Yorkshire, alternately hearing a crop of flax, wheat, and seeds, the latter one year mown and a second year entirely for sheep pasturage that system has substituted in a great measure the necessity of using rape-seeds or dust for the next rotation of crops.

FREE TRADE MEETING IN PARIS.—From fifty to sixty of the principal representatives of the industrial interests of Paris met on the evening of Tuesday, the 14th, in the Casino des familles, Custom-House Street, (rue de la Douane), to be present at a conference on Free Trade, in which MM. Louis Leelerc, D. Polonic, Frédéric Bastiat, Aloido Fontoyrand, Joseph Garnier, and Pepin, gave utterance to their sentiments. The details and illustrations into which these different speakers entered were listened to, for reach three bours with the nearly three hours, with the most lively interest. Before separating, the meeting unanimously adopted the following resolution: "This meeting approves the formation of a Free Trade Association, and rosolves to give thereto its cordial ulheronce and support." At the request of the greater part of the members of this assembly, a new conference will be held in a few days, at which a greater number of the producers of Paris will be called together. This first attempt at a meeting (in front of the Custom House!) augurs well; and, besides, the question is everywhere becoming the order of the day. The Agricultural Club of the Rue de Beaune, frequented by the greatest proprietors of France, has like-wise expressed a wight to hear from M. Blauqui an account of the struggles of the League, and its great champion Mr. Cohden.-Journal des Economistes, Paris, April, 1840.

SNUTTERS.-A gentleman once asked the celebrated Abernethy if he thought that the moderate use of snuff would injure the brain? "No, Sir," was Abernethy's prompt reply, "for no man with a single ounce, of brains would ever think of taking snuff!"

A Chester contemporary complains that England should be "daily and hourly bearded by a shillingless vagabond, whom the saum of circumstances has made the President of the United States. This is outdoing Jouathan at his own

CORN LAWS OF ATHENS AND ROME.

Attica is a promontory about fifty-four miles in length, and with an area of only seven hundred square miles, equal to a with an area of only seven hundred square miles, equal to a moderate-sized English county. Its surface is mountainous and rocky, but it is situate in the neighbourhood of more fruitful regions. In the well-known introduction to his history, Thucydides states that Thessaly, Bootia, and the chief part of the Peloponnese were fertile; but that Attica was an unproductive district, on account of the scantiness of its soil. Owing to the remarkable intelligence and practical energy of the Athenians, and the excellence of their political institutions as compared with those of other Greek communities, their numbers and wealth increased and became great, notwithstanding the barrenness of their territory. In the prosperous times of Attica, the population was about 020,000, of whom not less than 400,000 were slaves; which gives an average of about 7(8) initializants to a square mile. The population, however, was not equally diffused over the country but a long part of it was called a linear the country. entire country, but a large part of it was collected in Athens, which, with its appendages, Pirmus, Munychia, and Phalerum, must have contained nearly 200,000 inhabitants.

In comparing the food of an ancient with that of a modern nation, it must not be forgotten how many articles, now in general consumption, were then unknown; bread, meat, fish, cheese, with some of the commoner garden vegetables; wine milk, and honey, formed nearly the whole range of their diet, both solid and liquid. Tea, coffee, cocoa, sugar, spices, spirits, beer, butter, rice, potatoes, and oranges, as well as to bacco, were not consumed in ancient Greece or in Italy. From a very early time wheat and burley were the two sorts of grain used by the Greeks for food, as well as by the inhabitunts of Palestine; oats and rye were not cultivated. The Athenians claimed the honour of having first made wheaten bread, and taught the use of it to mankind;—a topic derived from their mythological story, on which their eulogists were fond of dwelling; and in the historical age, the common or household bread of Athens was considered by gourmands as the best which was made in Greece. The stuple article of food for the large population of Attica, and particularly for the slaves, who formed nearly four-fifths of the whole, was wheaten bread. The annual consumption of corn probably amounted to about 2,800,000, or 3,000,000 medimni, (556,638 quarters); and we learn from Demosthenes, who appeals to he official record, that of this quantity about 800,000 me dimni (148,437 quarters) were imported by sea from foreign countries,—one-half of the imports being obtained from the Black Sea. Strabo informs us that the Tauric Chersonese. now the Crimea, was the district on the Black Sea, which supplied this corn; the flat part of this peninsula was, he states, exceedingly fertile in grain, yielding a return of as much as 30 to 1, and was inhabited by a more civilised race than the Nomads of the neighbouring region. Pericles, in his funeral oration in Thucydides, extelling the power of Athens, says, that on account of its greatness and wealth all things were imported into it from all countries; and Demosthenes affirms that no other nation in the world consumed so large a proportion of imported corn as the Athe-

In the first place, it may be observed, that the Roman Corn Law was, in fact, a Poor Law. The existence of slavery seems to render a poor law both unnecessary and impracticable; unnecessary, because the working classes are slaves, and therefore maintained by their masters; impracticable, because an inducement is afforded by it to emancipate old and unserviceable slaves, in order to entitle them to public relief. The number of needy freemen at Rome was, however, sufficient to render them dangerous to the Government, and to create a accessity for appearing them by dougtions of food. Notwithstanding the existence of slavery in the ancient Republics, there was always a large body of indigent citizens—a wretched and hungry populace, as Cicero calls it—who exercised a most important influence upon the character and administration of the Government. Every reader of Aristotle's "Politics" knows, that all his characteristics of democracy are founded upon the preponderance and supposed interests of the poorer section of the citizens, This class existed in Rome, as in other less powerful commonwealths. Philip, during his tribuneship in the year 105 B.C., said that there were not 2000 men of property in the state. From its first introduction, therefore, the system the state. From its first introduction, therefore, the system of free gifts of corn increased rapidly. The feeling which led to its extension is illustrated by an anecdote of Piso, surnamed Fragi (the honest), who had always spoken against the Corn Law of C. Cracchus. After the law had passed, Gracchus, seeing him standing among those who had come to receive their allowance, reproached him for his inconsistency. Piso's answer was that he should not wish inconsistency. Piso's answer was, that he should not wish his own property to be divided amongst the citizens; but if it were so divided, he should plaim his share. The system of corn distributions was reprobated by Cicero, on account of its tendency to destroy industry; and of its large drains upon the treasury. Both Cæsar and Augustus diminished the number of the recipients of the public corn; but the improvident system, which they could not eradicate, was naturally continued by their successors. With respect to the emancipation of slaves, in order to entitle them to receive the public corn, it seems that the existence of a permanent list, and the examination which took place before a new name was admitted upon it, afforded a sufficient security against this abuse. We read, however, that many manumis sions were made for the sake of extraordinary largesses of Pompey and Augustus.

Not only was the Roman Corn Law in fact a poor law but it was a partial poor law. It was confined to the city of Rome. The distributions of corn were made only to the indigent freemen of the capital. Italy at large derived no benefit from them. Sicily is called by ancient writers (as we have already remarked) the granary, not of Italy, but of Rome. This restriction of the public bounty tended to give a disproportionate size to the capital, and to attract to it a worthless and needy multitude from all parts of Italy and

the empire. Above all, it was a poor law derived, not from local funds, Above all, it was a poor law derived, not from local funds, or even from a taxation common to the empire at large, but from the tributes of the provinces. The corn was not purchased from the proceeds of a tax levied on Rome or Italy: it was not a poor law in which the wealthier inhabitants of a district contributed from their surplus means to the maintenance of their poor neighbours. It was a poor law in which the populace of the conquering city were maintained at the expense of the conquered cities. It was as if several hundred thousand of the poorer classes of Paris had, during the government of Napoleon, been supported by taxas levied in government of Napoleon, been supported by taxes levied in Italy or Germany; as if the populace of Madrid had, in the sixteenth century, been fed at the cost of Flanders and the

Indies; or as if the paupers of Vienna were maintained by a poor rate collected in Lombardy. This poor law, therefore, bad neither, on the one hand, the spirit of charity, nor, on bad neither, on the one hand, the spirit of charity, nor, or the other, the safeguards against abuse which belong to such a poor law as that which exists in Great Britain. It was a countibution wrung from the weak by the strong; not as a sistance given voluntarily by the richer to the poorer chasses. Being a tribute exacted by the dominant part of the empire, and being used for the purpose of appearing the hungry population of Rome, it grew rapidly, and there was little inducement for those who administered it to check in little inducement for those who administered it to check it increase."-Edinburgh Review.

REGISTRATION APPEALS.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

WILLS, Appellant; ADY, Respondent, JUDGMENT.—CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL: There was a care JUDGMENT.—CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL: There was a care which stood over among the appeals, the only one remaining that of the borough of New Surum. It is a case which trust upon the very same points as the former case from Data mouth, Knowles v. Brooking (given in the Number of The LEAGUE for April 18th), in which the Court gave their judgment. We can see no difference between them. My brother Maule wishes me to say that he still retains his opinion and the view he took of that case, but the majority of the and the view he took of that case, but the majority of the Court decide that the same judgment must be given for the

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.

A. W. Paulton, Eag.,
Michard Potter, Eag.,
William Leavers, Req.,
William Wilson, Eag.,
R. G. Welford, Heq.,
Sidney Smith, Heq.,
Charles Swalsland, Eag., Crayford.

Charles Swaisland, Faq., Crayford.
TROST ESS.
Dr. Thomas Price, 7, Highbury-terrace, Islington.
George Thompson, Esq., 6, Waterloo place.
Cuptuin Cogan, Upper Mill., Hasmoremits.
BANKERS.
Messrs. Prescutt, Grote, & Co.
solutions.

Josh. Ivimey, Esq., 20, Chance y-lane. Mr. Frederick Farrand, Priory Villa, Poskham,

Personal Priory Villa, Pockham,
SECRETARY.

Mr. Alfred Lench Saul.

Prospectuses may be obtained, gratis, on application at the Soder's
Offices, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriers-street, Fleet-street. The Rela
(6d. each) are now ready, and may be had as above.

Persona desirous to Join the Society are requested to make applicate
immediately.

The Society's Offices will be open for receiving subscriptions and the
general transaction of business, every Puesday and Friday everlags, from
6 to 9 o'clock.

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION THE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION—
The Second Subscription is now called for, and will be paid on Today, May 5th, up to which time parties wishing to join the Society matake up Shares without additional entrance fees. Atterdance at the
Society's Hoons (Feat Temple Chambers, Whiterfarm street, Fiel sirri.)
for the purpose of enrolling new members, on Tuesday, the 2th April, ad
Friday, the 1st May, from 6 to 9 o'clock in the evening.

The Pirst Meeting for the sale of Shares will be held on Tuesday, the 12th
May, at 7 o'clock in the evening.

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Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with
J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the League may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, April 25, 1840.

We live in strange times. Lord G. Bentinck denounces gambling, and Mr. D'Israeli preaches up cousistency. There would be a perfect trie if Ikey Solomons distinguished himself as an advocate of honesty. The petty importinence, the vulgar taunts. and the malignant sarcasms with which Sir Robert Peel is assailed by the champions of protection, are so utterly contemptible in themselves, and so the roughly naked in their motive, that they have be come not merely offensive, but disgusting. Such splenetic offusions of mortified vanity and disal pointed ambition are, however, not unacceptable as ovidences that a bad cause always prompts bad advocacy. Lord George Bentinck has had large opportunities for studying the pernicious nature of gambling; and there are probably few legislators who could better explain the niceties of that ornithological operation, denominated "pigeon plucking." The turf is an admirable school for offciont training in gambling morality; and as his lordship is said not to be wholly destitute of shillties, we may believe that he has profited by that course of education which has the stable for its solicol, and the race-course for its university. He may have obtained no honours in Cambride, but we question not his title to the rank of senior wrangler at Newmarket. We are however all surprised to find him reprosching the Brome, it the encouragement of gambling. Color with notorious that the only legislative methods his lordship's name is constituting the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of their field that the control of the

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thought then, as we think now, that the Mipister and the Parliament earned no honour for themselves by shielding aristocratic delinquency from the panal consequences of immoral and illegal practices. We believe, that had the qui tam actions been permitted to proceed, there would have been startling revelations of systematic frauds, so gross. that indelible disgrace would have been attached to practices which still endure, because they remain unexposed. We are, of course, bound to believe that Lord George Bentinck knows nothing of such practices, and that the holy horror of gambling to which he gave utterance, when assailing the Premier, is a conscientious atonement for the shelter he afforded to the delinquents of the turf. As we are bound to believe this, of course we must believe it; but we confess that the domand on our credulity is a little excessive.

The course adopted by Mr. D'Israeli is purely a matter of taste. Spite and malevolence are incidental to literary humanity as well as to the other forms of social existence; but we doubt the expediency of yoking intollectual strength to moral weakness; we question the utility of presenting the worst motives in the best language. Sarcastic bitterness is a very different thing from senatorial wisdom; it is the sting of the wasp instead of the grasp of the eagle. Mr. D'Israeli has been misled by his historical precedents. It is only in despotic countries that Ministers are overthrown by epigrams. Sir Robert Walpole was never in the slightest degree endangered by the quips and cranks of Bolingbroke, who, in our estimation was a greater master of sarcasm than the author of Vivian Grey himself, formidable as that gentleman may be in his own estimation. Parliamentary wasps should remember that the pain of the sting is, after all, but of brief duration; and that it does sometimes happen that these annoying insects leave their life in the wound.

The feeling with which those petty provish personalities inspire men of plain sense and independent character was admirably stated by Mr. Bright in a speech, which we quote entire, as a specimen of manly sense and sturdy English spirit:

MR. BRIGHT said it might be as well to remind honourable members opposite that her Majesty's Government did not intend to stop any railway companies which might choose to proceed with their bills. The noble member for Lynn (Lord G. Bentinck) had taken a most unjust and ungenerous course in laying all the distress resulting from railway speculation at the door of the ministry. Time was when the noble lord was as loud as any in the praise of the present Government, and it was only when they formed their determination to lend themselves no longer to any system to keep up the price of food that the noble lord discovered they were not worthy of his confidence (hear). The great cause of railway speculation was the restriction which existed on trade. Through the operation of that restriction they had years of depression succeeded by years of excitement, when men who had carried on business with little or no profit, following as they thought the advice of the old adage, to make their hay while the sun shone, were seized with a rash and almost insane desire to obtain in one year that amount of profit which under ordinary circumstances would be spread over two or three years. After those resolutions had been passed, the invest-ments of capital and the state of the markets would be much more steady. They would be no longer prostrate on the carth one year and elevated to the clouds another. The fluctuations which had such an injurious effect, had arisen from the interference of the house with the trade of the coun ty, and he firmly believed they would exist no longer after sures of Government bad been carried. accurations of the noble lord (Lord George Bentinck) against her Majanty's Government for having encouraged gambling speculations, he (Mr. Bright) thought the noble lord should be the very last person in that house to make such a charge. When he (Mr. Bright) first took his seat in that house, he found the poble lord might after night, attending in his band the noble lord, night after night, attending in his place for the purpose of watching over a bill to defend persons who had been engaged in mad speculation, and who had been implicated in very dangerous gambling, contrary to the spirit and the letter of the law (hear, hear, hear). He thought if the noble lord were to look back and reflect a little, he would have he was the vary lost man in that house to set himself up as a grave authority in matters connected with speculation and gambling (hear, hear.)

THE PROTECTIONISTS AND THE GRUNOR.—At a numerously strended meeting of the ratepayers of the parish of Northbest Kant, on Easter Monday, the proposition of the vicar, "That it is expedient to enlarge the accommodation of the church," and proposing a rate for that purpose, was securived by a true majority; the meeting, which consists chiany of supporters of Lagricultural protection," using of opinion, that they were allegity sundently taxed the respect of the sample; and now that the Georgian proposed to proceed them all protection, and at the charge of the sample; and now that the Georgian proposed to proceed them all protection, and at

ROYAL POLYTHOUNIO INSTITUTION .- This admirable institution has been visited during the week by perfect mobe of the Easter sight-score. There was something to suit all tastes; and amongst those which seemed to exolie more extraceditary extension were the portraits of the distinguished leaders of the Sikhs, together with several of our own gallant officers, who by their taients and courage have left an undying name. The "Dissolving Views" exolted nearly as much attention as the last-named pictures, as they consist of many views in the Oregon territory. This series of views is well worthy of public patronage. They are taken from sketches, made on the spot by a gontleman, who resided there for nine years, and they convey a much better notion of the appearance of the country than can be understood by reading, or by the generality of engravings. Bosides these, there were lectures on Chemistry, by Dr. Ryan, and on Natural Philosophy, by Dr. Bacholiner. Both gentlemen deserve great commendation for the able and pleasing manner with which they illustrate and deliver the discourse. The Swing Bell and the Diver are among the wonders of the place, and excited particular among the wonders of the place, and excited particular attention; more particularly the Diver, who exhibits vaattention; more particularly the Diver, who exhibits various evolutions in the water, both above and below; more especially one in which he proved the advantages to be derived by using Wilson's patent coat, as it is quite capable of keeping three persons affoat at the same time, and does not alter the appearance of the garment. The music, conducted by Dr. Wallis, is one of the most pleasing features of the establishment; for while it pleases the car, it gives an agreeable finish and zest to the whole. Another machine is also able finish and zest to the whole. Another machine is also deserving of notice; it is for the purpose of cutting envelopes for letters, which is done with extraordinary rapidity. precision, and power. The museum is now arranged with great taste, and with a proper knowledge of what sejence requires, and the public are entitled to, by those who have the management. We therefore must do justing to the extraordinary exertions of the secretary, Mr. Longottom, who devotes his whole time and abilities to carry out this truly national task, which hitherto by him has been so ably done.

THE FUNDS.								
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MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MONDAY, April 20.—The show of English Whoat is again moderate to-day; the quality of most of it is inferior, and the trade slow, but about 1s. advance is obtained from the prices of this day week. There is another large arrival of Foreign Wheat; without any extensive transactions taking place. The malting season is nearly over: the consequence is, that though there is by no means a liberal supply of Barley to-day, all, except the very finest description of Chevaller, are 1s. cheaper than this day week. Oats come forward very sparingly, both from Ireland day week. Oats come forward very sparingly, both from Ireland and this country; there has been a large business done to day at fully 1s. over the prices of last Monday. Beans and Peas continue the same as last week.

5. H. Lucas.

	BRITISH.	Por In	norla	LOn	ariar
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FRIDAY, APRIL 24.—We have again to report a liberal supply of Foreign Wheat, which is of course being landed in bond. Small quantities are liberated by means of certificates. There is very little English Wheat offering; and the domand is limited. Barley, Reans, and Peas are purchiased sparingly for immediate consumption. There are fair arrivals of English and Foreign Cats; but of Irish, the quantity come to hand is not so large. There has been a moderate sais to-day, at fully Monday's prices; but no further advance can be established.

Account of CORN As a servined to the Best of Levine. Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from

the 17th of April	i to me sam or	April, both i	Dollleive.
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	English.	krish.	Foreign.
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ONDON AVERAGES for the Work onding April 21, 1846. Qrs. Price, 5674 58s, 2d. Qrs. Pr 179 34s. Ryo Barley 2008 Sla. 10d. Bonns Beans Stock of Corn in Bond, Mar. 5, 1846.

Wheat, Barley, Oats, Ryo. Brans, Peas. In London, 449560 17900 61109 Unit. King. 1138050 82910 96981 .. 6144 8469 .. 13413 M147 837386

Pous, Sec. 110.

Duty. Wheat, 17s. Od.; Barley, 8s. Od.; Outs, 0s. Od.; Ryc 8s. Od.; Beans, 8s. Od.; Pous, 9s. Od.

MEAT MARKET. The wet weather had considerable influence or the trade; otherwise prices would have been higher.

otherwise prices would have been higher.

PER STONK OF 5 lbs, BY THE CARCARE.

Prime Beef... 3s 10d to 3s 6d | Middl. Mutton 4s 6d to 3s 8d

Middling do. 3s 6d to 3s 2d Vesil, from ... 5s 6d to 4s 6d

Phino, or inferior Beef... 3s 6d to 2s 8d | Large, or infePrime Mutton 4s 4d to 4s 6d | rior Pork ... 3s 4d to 3s 6d

THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, APRIL 17. BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDICO.

G. A. Absahom, victualler, Portaca.

8. Evens, cotton-spinner, Aspul, Lancashire.
W. J. Idenden, taffor, Salmon's lane, Limehouso,
J. H. Bunks, engraver, Oreat Newport street.

BANKRUPTS.

BANKRUPTS.

T. Bedford, baker, Croydon Common. [Messes, Rüssell and Co., High street, Borough.
E. Bankey, surgeon, Canterbury. [Messes, Richardson and Co., Bedford-row.]
B. Billings, victualler, Harlow, Essex. [Mr. Butt, Great Russell-street, Bhoomsbury.
W. Steurman, carpantor, Princoss-street, Chelsen. [Mr. Smith, New Inn., Strand.
W. Mills, glove inanufacturer, Foster-lane, City. [Mosses, Esher and Co., Alderseste street.
H. R. Morley, marchant, Kingston-upon-Hull. [Messes, Hobblen and Co., Hull.
A. M. Beaumont, merchant, Honley, Yorkshire. [Mr. Cumming, King-street, Cheapside.

ming, King street. Cheapsido.

G. J. Juckson, sharebroker, Liverpool. [Messes. Cornthwalle and Co., Old Jewry Chambers.]

T. Figden, shoemaker, Liverpool. [Mr. Kirk, Symond's Inn.

A. Lord, dyer, Collyburst, Manchester: [Mosses, Gregory and Co., Bodford-row.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21. BANKRUPTCY ANNUELED. C. Goldsmith, Bristol, saddler.
BANKRUPTS.

8. M. Latham, Dover, banker. [Messra Bridges and Co. Rad Lion-square.

Red Lion-square.
R. Stephenson, Southwick street, Hyds Park, apothocary.
[Messrs. Chamberlayne and Meadon, Oreat James-street.
T.E. Descon, Comer Hall, Hortford, tanner. [Mr. Matthews, King William-street.
R. Brailsford, Enfled. common brower. [Messrs. F. and H. Palmer, Mitre-court-chambers, Temple.
J. Biggs, Houndsditch, undertaker: [Messrs. J. T. H. Baddelsy, Loman-street.

J. Biggs, Houndsmen, unusciazor. Local merchant. J. B. Crampern. Wharf-road, City-road, coal merchant. J. B. Crampern. Wharf-road, City-road, coal merchant. [Messrs. Parker and Co., Raymond's buildings. J. and H. Pace, St. Michael stalley, Cornhill, merchants. [Mr. N. Lindo, Kling's Arms yard, Moorgato-street. J. Balmon, Beaumont, Essex, carpenter. [Mr. Ambrose, Changewelson.

J. Clarkson, Barnsley, plumber, Mossrs, Jacques and Co.,

Ely-place.
J. Walker and B. Wilkinson, Loads, sharebrokers. (Messrs. Wiglesworth and Co., Gray's Inn.
W. Gross, Weymouth, shipowner. [Mr. Sowton, Great James-

T. Taylor, Newcastle-upon-Tyno, grocer. [Massrs. Chisholme and Co., Lincoln's Inn.
T. Allen, J. Litleworth, Staffordshire, hotel-keeper. [Massrs. Resi and Langford, Loudon.
J. Topham, Brewood, read-contractor. [Mr. Turner, Wolver-lampton.

D. Antrobus, Audley, Staterdehire, apothecary. [Mr. Wil-

liams, Hanloy. W. Bennett, Wolverhampton, Huplato, worker, [Mr. C. Brown, Bilaton. W. Bolshaw, Manchester, victualler. [Mossrs. Gregory and

Co., Bodford-row B. Dawson; Buerstil, Lancashire, woollen manufacturer, [Messiv. Norris and Co., Bartlett-buildings.
C. Stephenson, Coinc, Lancashire, worsted manufacturer, [Messiv. Johnson and Co., Temple.

H. Powkes, Manchester, sharebroker. [Messrs. Milno and Co., Temple.

1). Johnstone, Cherkon-upon-Medicek, Manchester, joiner.

[Mesers. Gregory and Co., Bedford now. H. L. Fitzjaines, Walsot, Bath, furrier. [Mesers. Wobb and Son, Dath. H. Hulelinson, Liverpool, merchant. [Messre. Sharps and

H. Hutchinson, Liverpool, merchant. [Measrs. Sharps and Co. Bestord-row. W. Kelly, Onester, brower. [Measrs. Humphrays and Co., Christic Liverpool, commission merchant. [Mozing Vincom 44, Co. Liverpool, commission merchant. [Mozing Vincom 44, Co. Christic Liverpool, commission merchant. [Mozing Vincom 44, Co. Christic Liverpool, commission merchant.]

BRITISH CONSULT OF ICE. PHIL DELPHIA. Know all Persons to warm those presents shall come. But I, GILBERT ROBBUTS IN Seq., his Britannia dialesty's Consultation hereby corruly, that R. was stron, Req. (was attosts to the onleady of COLUMBIA).

IN RESTORING HAIR),
is Mayor of this City, and that M. RAMDALL, Req., is Prothonotary of the Court of Common Plans, to both whose signatures full faith and credit is and that I sam personally acquainted with J. L. INDLIE, Req., another of the signers, and that he is a personally acquaited with J. L. INDLIE, Req., another of the signers, and that he is a personal respectability; and that I heard him express his unqualified approbation of the effects of OLDRIDGE B BALM, in restoring his Rair. Given under my hand and seal of Office, at the City of Philadelphia, December 29, 1823.

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Communeed in March, 1846.

Taustes.

William Anderson, M.R.C.S., 12, Chadwell street, Myddleton-square.

William Farmer, 29, Charlotte-forrace, Barasbury-road, Islington.

James Blaiey, Tibberton-square, Islington.

Thomas Sheppard, 5, Gainsford, place, Barasbury-road.

All letters should be directed to "The Second British Building and Investment Company," 3, Ivy.lane, St. Faul's, London.

The British Building and Investment Company was commenced on the 4th September, 1845, in five months carolled 1500 Sharcholders, issued 2900 Shares, and advanced about £10,685 to its Shareholders for the purchase of property. Such success is unprecedented in the annals of Building Scoleties.

At a Public Meeting, at which upwards of 1100 persons were present, held at the London Mechanics' Institution, on Tuesday, 17th Feb., 1846, Mr. W. Farmer, in the chair, the fellowing Resolutious were sarried unanimously: Moved by Mr. Baal, seconded by Mr. Lovejoy,—That this meeting highly approves of the plan on which the Second British Building and Investment Company is established; and cordially recommends it to the public as being based on equal justice to all, and providing for the members, desirous of purchasing property, the greatest advantages consistent with security to the whole body of mombers.

Moved by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Thomas.—That this meeting considers the conduct of the Directors, in wairing their right to receive et alim any advance from the Company during their right to receive et alim any advance from the Company during their right to receive et alim any advance from the Company during the first 12 months, sa highly honourable, and deserving of the sincere thanks of the meeting.

"We hold Macarthur's plan for forming Building Societies to be a decided improvement."—Weekly Dispatch

"He has really simplified and improved the plan on which Building colaties are condocted. "—Temperance Mrs., in the Mrs., of the Directors, and at Euceta lies, it is

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All goods afterwards ordered will be sent warranted equal to the

OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the GOLO.

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JONES'S £4, 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES warranted not to vary more than half a minute per week, present the Manufactory, 838, Strand, opposite Someract house. The text of a mathematical instrument with the elegance of an organic strate. On receipt of a Post-office order for is, above the price, a waitlibe sent free to any part of the kingdom. Read Jones's Skrick of Watch Work, "sent free for a 2d. stand

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CREAM (Patronised by Prince Albert). This inestinable Grap pasesses all the good qualities of the Pinest Naples Boap, without its distriable small inseparable from that article in a gonuine state. It is of a visipearly silvery appearance, produces a conany lather, which will not dry at
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In Pots, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., &c

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Manufacturers of Combs and Brushes of the best quality, and on the seast
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The recent dinner given by the Mayor Reems to have been a tery fine affair. The papers tell us it what very splendid, And that the Manhion house was well attended. The dresses of the ladies ald their duty In giving to the scene at extra beauty. Nor can wo justly pass unnoticed by The lords and gentlemon who may be averaged by The lords and gentlemon who may be averaged by The lords and gentlemon who may be averaged by The lords and gentlemon who may be averaged by The lords and gentlemon who may be averaged by The lords and RON, by this display of set. If averaging the shings by the display of set. If averaging the shings by the display of set. If averaging the shings by the display of set. If averaging the shings by the display of set. If averaged what will be uncaulify stand. In England or in any other lend. Render! we wish sincerely you'd been there!

Not only to have toasted to the Mayor, but to hiave seen what will must much sample. Allos in a very was and English. And English and EON'S display of choice attire.

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Allouwes in every description and make, including the Rogistored Coat.

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 186.—Vol. III.]

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SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1846.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

> By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE FREE TRADE MINISTER COMPLETE.

"The progress of the discussion, the lapse of time, and intervening events, have more strongly confirmed the feeling with which I spoke when I proposed the permanent and final settlement of the corn question. I will not deny that, during the debase on the question, my opinions on the subject have undergone a change, and it is this—that restrictions, which I at first believed to be impolitic, I now believe the BE UNJUST. Consequently, the sense of their injustice PRECLUDES ANY COMPROMISE ON MY PART. That which I have proposed, both as to the amount of duty, and as to the continuance of that duty, is all I AM ABLE TO OFFRE; and in answer to those injurious suspicions, I think it enough to say that I shall be perfectly ready to testify, BY ANY PUBLIC ACT, the sincerity of my intentions."—Sir ROBERT PEEL, April 27.

We were sure it would be so. The affinities of truth with right-of policy with justice-of sound economical doctrine, with broad and honest moral principle are too close and all-pervading, not to force themselves on the mind that has once heartily espoused either the one or the other half of this great dualism.

There is no such thing as partitioning off the domain of intellect from that of morals. Whatever holds in the one, will by-and-bye be seen to hold equally in the other. Force of moral volition is next of kin to clearness and fulness of intellectual perception; and a great truth, once fairly apprehended and comprehended by the understanding, will gradually surround itself with all the sanctities of ethical obligation, and become transfigured into a great duty. Those who have watched Sir Robert Peol's public course, since his first unreserved and practical adoption of Free Trade principles, and noted the course of thought indicated by his successive Parliamentary defences and expositions of those principles, must have perceived the traces of that mental process, whose final result was an nounced to the world on Monday night. The last stage of one of the most remarkable and important political conversions on record, is now finished the FREE TRADE MINISTER is now complete.

These words of the Premier's evidently come from a great depth of conviction. He is now at the root of the matter. His opinion has become a principle. He has long since believed monopoly to be impolitio—he now sees and feels it to be unjust. Before, it was a gross mistake—now, it is a monstrong fraud. Bofore, it was a grievous mischief Militar orying oppression and iniquity. Demilitar will not compromise the totality of its
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viction thus grounded and fortified is far more to be relied upon than one that rests on the basis of mere induction from an accumulated mass of exterior facts. It is simpler and grander. goes deeper down. There is more of motive force in it. All mon understand it. All mon can put faith in it. It is somothing to build There can be no mistake about it. It excludes uncertainty, and repels modification. It is essentially intolerant of negociation, compromise, and "adjustment." Policy and expediency have their shades and degrees-and very puzzling these are to the common eye. There is always a latitude of choice—a margin open for "arrangement"— a question of a little more or a little less. Morality is absolute and unqualified-speaks only in the imperative mood. When we come to a question of right and wrong, there is an end of choice—the answer must be a simple Yes or No.

This is the view which we of the League have always taken from the first. We have over held that monopoly was a wrong, in any and every of its actual or possible shapes and forms-and that neither truce nor treaty could be made with an iniquity. And our stoady and unwavering assertion of that principle of social justice, of which the totality of our domand is the obvious corollary, has been our sheet-anchor through all that storm and stress of Parliamentary conflict and popular agitation in which we have been working for upwards of seven years. We cannot express in too strong terms the satisfaction we feel at seeing this broad and plain view of the matter publicly and solemnly authenticated by the First Minister of the Crown. In any other sort of advocacy we have never been able to place much faith. The men who say, "A moderate or fixed duty would be a good enough thing in itself-perhaps the best thing, if we could only get it passed quietly-but we don't so much care about it; and as no other alternative seems open, why, suppose we say 'total repeal,' as anything is better than the sliding scale," are not the champions to be relied upon in those moments of difficulty and peril, which try what mon are made of. Give us the man who says, "The landlords tax on the people's broad is essentially and intrinsically unjust, and I can make no terms with injustice—I am precluded from a compromise with wrong." This is the man to brave the storms of open enmity, and baffle the chicane of treacherous intriguing, and lukewarm partisanship, and carry the people's cause, through all difficulties and obstructions, to a triumphant consummation.

It was hardly necessary for Sir Robert Peel to assure us, in so many words, that he "will be perfeetly ready to testify, by any public act, the sincerity of his intentions." That is a thing of course. It is already sufficiently implied in the very nature of his present convictions. The moral protest against monopoly, as not only an impolicy, but an injustice, tells us all we'desire to know. The vigorous denunciation of the wrong is pledge enough of the energy and effort needed for its extirpation.

This is a most timely and cheering manifesto from our Free Trade Minister. It makes our way very clear before us. It dissipates a host of per plexing rumours, and "reports of rumours." We see exactly where we are. What will the Lords do, and what will the Rigbys do-what curious and cumping scheme of "adjustment" has been, or may be, concocted among the select and secret committees of Pallmall—are questions now of extremely elender moment. We know the worst. There would undoubtedly, be great temporary inconvenishes in the protracted delay consequent on a Par

mior's ultimatum-the Bill, and the whole Bill, or something petter than the Bill-something more thoroughly in accordance with those views of the morality of the question which the author of the Bill has now deliberately espoused, and which would constitute the basis of his "appeal to the people."

We can remember no Mact or utterance of any English minister more strongly entitling him to an unreserved and entire popular confidence, than this of Sir Robert Peel's. Ho throws himself loose of all other reliances; easts away all other aids; plants himself and his policy firmly on the otornal rock of PRINCIPLE - and leaves the people to do the rest. And perhaps, after all, the people may have to do it. Nobody knows. It was, no doubt, a highly prudent and politic declaration of the Premier's-but only in that largest sense of the word, in which courage is prudence, and honesty policy. This bold and broad assertion of principle, this resolute refusal of compromise, while it gives him invincible strongth with the country, may not by any means strengthen him in Parliament. It will be beyond measure offensive in many quarters where he might else have counted on quiescouce or co-operation. It will raise up against him not a few bitter and determined enomies. Those who have hitherto amused themselves with the dream that he might he induced to allow certain protectionist modifications of his bill, and who have accordingly given him a dubious and half-hearted support, are now once for all undeceived, and we may look to see their precarious friendship changed into settled and volument hostility. It now remains for the people of the United Kingdom to show themsolves worthy of the Minister who, first among English statesmen, has onunciated the highest of social and political truths from the seat of official authority-staked official existence on the successful realisation of popular rights-and plodged the uttermost resources of official power to the subversion of an old-established and deeply-rooted public wrong.

PROTECTION TO NATIVE INDUSTRY IN BHETLAND.

The case of the Shetlandors, to which Mr. Forster and Mr. Milner Gibson so urgently besought the attention of the House of Commons on Wednesday last, is one of the completest and most palpable illustrations we know, of the iniquitous cruelty of that monopoly which hestrides the industry of these realms like a night-mare. There seems no escaping from landlordism anywhere. This baneful power pervades the entire circuit of the Queen's dominions with a sort of malignant omnipresence, and makes its detestable domination felt, in full force and potoncy of mischiof, even at the Ultima Thule of the empire.

It is a very simple story—the case of these hardy and honest islanders. Their soil is poor, their climate cold and ungenial, their agriculture rude and unimproved, and incapable, even in ordinary years, of feeding more than half of their little population of 82,000 souls. They are miserably ill off for corn-have next to no money-and manufacture nothing for the foreign market. Yet they are far from destitute of native wealth, and are very rich in native industry -if they could protect this from being "protected." Their seas swarm with excellent fish; and they have the stoutest hearts, the strongest and skilfullest hands, and the best tackle of any fightermen in her Majesty's dominious. And they have or might have—the best of customers for their fish. It seems liamentary success of the monopolists; but nothing that Shetland fish is particularly religion in Spain, and that Spain; in the World of the first state of the first

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haro of manufactures, the transaction can be complated only on one condition; - the Shatlanders must take out the price of their fish in com and flour-commodities in which it so happens that Bpaln is particularly righ. There is an obstacle, however. The landlords stop the way. Landlordism keeps a Custom-house in Shetland (under the same roof with her Majesty's commissioners,stops in between these two parties, just as the mutually gainful and necessary bartor is about to he consummated - and says to each, No. you Brain shall not have the fish, and Shetland shall not have the corn, except on torms which neither Shetland nor Spain can conveniently comply with. There is a little trade done, it seems, between the two. Some eight or ton sail of Spanish vessels are in the habit of annually sailing northward for a cargo of fish, but they carry no corn. At this very moment, we are informed, " a vessel from Spain is now actually on the way to Shetland, in Ballast, to load a cargo of fish, and would have taken a cargo of flour could the repeal of the Corn Laws have been depended

Why landlordism does this—what claim landlordism has on the Shotlandors, that it refuses them the right of exchanging their fish for other people's corn-landlordism does not say. Oppression is nover fond of exhibiting its title deeds. Our landlords have done nothing to further or facilitate this native Shotland industry, They do not catch the fish, nor find the boats and tackle. They have nover so much as given the Shetlanders a new idea in the art and science of fish-catching. Shetland industry is altogether "native," in the strictest sense of the term. Shetlanders know nothing even of the existence of the landlords, except through the medium of the law that prohibits Shetland from buying in the cheapest market and selling in the dearest—that chains down Shetland industry, and takes toll of Shetland hunger. Possibly, some of them may have heard the name of RICHMOND, the chivalrous protector of the Great British fish interest-but all that these fishermen really know about the fish protection, is, that they are disabled from carning and cating bread.

This standing case of grievance and oppression has lately received a fearful aggravation in the shape of failing corn crops, and rotting potato stores. In the document read to the house on Wednesday, by Mr. Forster, we are informed, that

"Letters recently received from Shotland all concur in stating that the islands are on the brink of famine. The crops of corn, at no time adequate to the subsistence of more than half the population (about \$2,000 souls), were very ill got in last season; and to add to the calamity, the stock of potatoes which the people are in the habit of keeping in pits during the winter, and on which they rely in a great measure for austenance during the spring and early part of the summer, have been found, on opening the pits, nearly all destroyed

Accordingly, the Shetlanders have petitioned Parliament for relief. A more moderate and simple potition Parliament never saw from a distressed interest. There is not a particle of mondicity about it. The poor Shetlanders' prayer is not for grants of money out of the taxes, nor for leans to promote public works and private employment. Poor as they are, they seem perfectly able to manage the interest on their own mortgages-and they are absolutely silent on the subject of portions for their daughtors. Nor do they say a syllable about protection for their fish. The people of England, Scotland, Wales, and Iroland, may buy fish where they will, and at what price they can, and Shotland will make no objection. There is nothing eleemosy nary in the relief prayed for by our brave Shotlanders. They only ask to be allowed to do what they will with their own, and dispose of the products of their native industry to the best advantage. If they could but buy their bread, as they are ready to sall their fish, at the honest market price of Liuropa and the world, they would be absolutely without a gridyance to complain of.

Such is the Shetlanders' petition. As it is respecially and constitutionally worded, the House of Ohnimons lies no objection to receive it and her Core hay be core bill and over gone his long to open the life on the land the control of the life. But any attempt to discuss it, to press and. The only that of the only chance of

enforce it, to bring home its simple facts and logic to the Floure's understanding and conscience, is ruled to be "wasting the time of the House." The meital of this touching narrative of cruelty and wrong was, it seems, received with "expressions of impationce from the protectionist benches, which were very much crowded"-crowded not with a view to the better protection of native industry in Shetland, but to trip up the heels of a Free Trade Government on a factory and philanthropy question.

Well might Mr. Milner Gibson ask, in his excellent speech on the subject, "whether this Shotland case was not quite conclusive with reference to the corn question ?' Every honest man's answer will bo, Yes; quite conclusive—conclusive not only with reference to the corn question, but with reference to the moral pretensions of Corn-Lawing landlords as protectors of " native industry."

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE BREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Fifteenth Week, ending Saturday, May 2.

On Friday night week the protracted debate on the Irish Coercion Bill produced some remarkable and noticeable "circumstances and accidents." First, Mr. Smith O'Brien intimated to the House that he had been privately coquetting with Lord George Bentinck, the object of both being a double defeat, to be brought about by a diagraceful coalition-Lord George Bentinck is one of those who say that the Operation Bill is essential, Imperative, and should be passed without delay. His principles of protection, he loudly protested, did not lead him to protect "the broad day assassing or the midnight murderer." Yet to effect the paltry, miserable advantage of annoying Sir Robert Peel, and still farther protracting and delaying the Corn Bill, Lord George Bentinck did not hesitate to enter into a private correspondence with Mr. Smith O'Brien, the object of which was to defeat the Coercion Bill, which the noble lord is panting for, as well as the Corn Bill, which he deprecates! Alas, for this country, if it is any longer to be governed by men whose political morality is infected by the flavour of the turf! Lord George Bentinck has never, of course, been an agricultural labourer; but the art, the science, the mystery of " nepotko" is quite familiar to him.

On the "order of the day" for resuming the debate on the Irish Coercion Bill, Mr. Smith O'Brien made a long speech, in the course of which he avowed that he was not a Free Trader, but an advocate of a fixed duty; and concluded by the following question :- "Although he was not prepared for a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, yet, looking at the existing necessities of the people of Ireland be considered the crisis must be met by admitting outs and wheat free of duty till the next winter; and he begged to ask the noble lord (Lord G. Bentinck) whether he and his friends would consent to suspend for three months the operation of the present Corn Laws, so as to admit those descriptions of grain, free of duty, into Ireland?"

Lord George Bentinck was " under the gangway," waiting for the question. He commenced his reply in this way:

"Under ordinary circumstances, it would not be fair towards an independent member of this house to ask him what course he would assent to with regard to particular measures introduced by her Majesty's Ministers. But under the peculiar circumstances in which we are placed, when we have a minister endeavouring to govern the country with but 112 members who place confidence in him, and when the party with which I have the honour to serve numbers 240, which with the Irish members constitute a majority of this house, I think the hon, gentleman (Mr. W. S. OBrien) is entitled to put the question to me, and I will endeavour to give him a frank and an honest answer (hear, hear). The question put to me is this-Whether my friends around me would support her Majosty's Ministers were they to introduce a measure, not for the abplition but for the suspension of the Corn Laws as regards Ireland for a few months ?"

And then be went on to say, in effect, if not precisely in terms, that though disbelieving in the universality of Irish distress, he and his friends were nevertheless prepared to adopt what, on his own showing, was the needless and useless proposition of opening the ports for three months-not in Great Britain, no !- but in Iroland!

In the course of the discussion, Mr. O'COMMELL, true to his principles, thus mildly but emphatically rebuked Mr. Smith O'Brian :

"Sir, I was sorry to hear my honourable friend, the mem-ber for Limerick, so adverse to the total repeal of the Corr ber for Limerick, so adverse to the total repeal of the Corn Laws. My sonviction is that nothing san "to good to the Laws. My sonviction is that nothing san "to good to the Laws. My son one of "hear, hear"). The excitations of the Corn Laws has done us no good (hear, hear). They have been concomitant with increasing milery—concomitant with increasing destitution; and therefore, if any man palls the Corn Laws to me, he must keep an his lattering that the corn Laws to me, he must keep an his lattering that the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal would be reason municipal to the corn law episal to the corn l

Corn Laws, and I wish to Heaven Jou would set shout one (hear, and shears)

Mr. amith Officien after this, had the singular infelicity to get up, and sak Sir Robert Peel if he would substitute a three mouths opening of the parts for a total shallion of the Corn Laws! Here is the question, and the answer:

Mr. SMITH O'BRIDN: Perhaps the right honourile gentleman would tell me whether he has made up his miss gentleman would ten his whether he has have up his mind as to my question? If not, I shall repeat it on Monday.

Sir R. Puzz: Whough somewhat indistinctly put, I can answer the question at once, and without hesitation. The honourable gentleman wishes to know, as I take it, whether I am willing to substitute for the measure of the Government, leading ultimately to the utter abolition of the Con Laws, a proposal for a suspension of those laws for three mouths. As regards Ireland, I say at once I can consent no such proposal (loud cheers).

After that, we had Mr. Cobden, and every wont of his telling speech must be read:

Mr. Condex: I think we have rather lost sight of the origin of this discussion. This somewhat irregular discus. sion arose from a question put by the honourable member for Limerick to the noble member for Lynn, in consequence of a private communication which took place between them (loud cries of "hear" from the Opposition). The question was this whether the noble lord and the party soting with him were willing to vote for the suspension of the Com Lave for three months, and that immediately, and to make that suspension applicable only to Ircland? Now we have another proposition before the house, not to suspend, but to abolish the Corn Laws (loud ories of "bear" from the Opposition); and I presume that the proposal of the bonourable member for Limerick is, that, instead of their abolitions to England, Scotland, and Ireland, we should substitute their abolition for three months in Ireland alone (loud cree of "hear" from the Opposition). Now, I beg in the first place to say that, before the honourable member for Limrick and the noble member for Lynn, there are other parties to be consulted as to this proposition. There are the people of England (loud obsers from the Opposition). I do not mean the "country party," but the people who live in town, and who will ultimately govern this country. I tell him (loss ironical "obsers" from the protectionists) the English people, the Scotch people, and, I believe, the Irish people, too, are determined not to be content with the suspension of those laws, but are bent on their abolition (loud cries of "hear," amongst others from Mr. O'Connell). I think this matter has been taken out of the hands of this bouse altogether; and I rejoice that this question of the Com Law can no longer be affected by the manouvring or private communications or compacts of any members of the legislature (cheers from the Opposition). It has been disposed of and settled out of doors; and though artifice may delay the measure of Government, though it may occasion great anxiet out of this house, the more certain is the bill to be carried (loud cheers); and the only proposal which can be successfully substituted for that of the Government is the total and immediate repeal (renewed cheers). When I hear the noble member for Lynn talk with a complete unconsciousness of past arguments which have been utterly refuted—showing an obtuseness which I can only account for by supposing that for several years past he has given his attention to sabjects wholly unconnected with public affairs (much laughter from both sides)—when I hear him boast that he is backed by 240 of the gentlemen of England—while I hear them cheer bim while he is giving such proofs of atter delusion as to the state of public opinion on this subject, I do feel anxious that the right honourable baronet should, if possible, appeal to the country (loud cheers from both sides), if it could be done without great inconvenience to the trade of the country and great derangement of the husiness of this house (ironical cheers from the protectionists). I say I wish the right honourable gautismen could appeal to the country, and the country would make a moral example of the gentlemen below the gangway, which they little anticipate (loud and longcontinued cheers from the Opposition). Now, as to the proposition of the honourable member for Limerick, has that honourable gentleman considered the practicability of opening the ports in Ireland, and keeping tham shut in England. Is he ready with another measure, or can he give us the details of a bill to be brought in by the honourable member for Limerick and by the noble member for Lynn (loud cries of these licer). "hear, hear" amongst others from Sir R. Peel)? I suppose he has planned some contrivance for preventing the introduction of provisions from Ireland to England; because if be has not, seeing that there is no Cuatom house at present be tween the two countries, there is no possible means of pre-venting the free circulation of corn from one to the other, and substituting for that brought from Ireland to the country the wheat of America and the Baltic (loud cree of "bear, hear"). The noble lord told us that what the wanted in Ireland was money, and not provisions, and heard the softlement re-cohoed on this side. Why, if I understand the accounts rightly, there is a failure, to positive defloiency of the stants food of millions of the scale food of Ireland ("hear, hear" from Mr. O Conneil). Bresume that no one here will now deny that Well, how is menor to annuly that deficiency of food. Why, if they deal change into ingots of gold thair perishing postered it would not feed the people. There is planty of corn, an benowable member below me says, and it is gent to Engage. He proposal is to:keep in Ireland this food for the people. But it is not in the well well not in the well well not in the well well not in the well well not in the well well not that sunnly is kept back, of course the million in the member for Limerick leaves out of his confidences the member for Limerick leaves out of his confidences the people of this country; may more he would intend the break leaves in Reglands while would continue the breaklast in Reglands while nfelicky

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prising (which I utterly deny)—or they will avail themselves prising (which a tractly soul) of the west coast of Ireland and its magnificant streams and varifalls for the establishment of those manufactures with which they can purchase the provisions to be written for their shores across the Atlantic (absers). I am most mixtons not should be made in most mixtons not to take up the time of the house by making any lengthened observations so as in any way to impede the progress of the great measure on the Corn Laws. I have intraded little in these debates, and deeply regret that the measures before the house have come to a dead look (hear, hear). Lam quite sure that the people of England are utierly puzzled and permitted that the people of England are utierly puzzled and permitted that the people of England are utierly puzzled. plexed at the present state of things. I am almost as much so myself (hear, and a laugh). During the recess I was called on to hold great public meetings in Manchester and in London, to remonstrate as to the present position of the Corn Laws. I asked, "remonstrate with whom?" I declare, on my honour, I can't tell now with whom we could fairly remonstrate. I can't blame the Government; and even if I were disposed to do so, I can't agree to add to the weight of censure heaped on them with an unsparing hand thear, and a laugh). I have no right to blame the members for Ireland; and inasmuch as I claim for myself the right of deciding what course I shall take in opposition to measures introduced into this house, I consider them catilled to judge for themselves how far they may be entitled to resist the first reading of the Coercion Bill (lond cheering). I deeply regret, however, the obstruction which has taken place. May I remind the homographic member for Limerick that the Liberal members on this side are quite as near in alliance with him for the mod of Ireland as the noble member for Lynn and his supponers (cheers from the Opposition). It is rather hard to hear consures dispensed on the Liberal members in the same breath in which compliments are paid to the noble lord and his followers. I do hope that, on this side at all events, there will be good humour and cordial feeling (bear, hear, and a laugh), and I don't despair that on another evening we shall make some advance in the Corn Bill; in the passing of which I believe sincerely Ireland is more interested even than England (much cheering).

Mr. Cobdon's speech produced a marked effect on the House; and Sir Robert Peal, Sir James Graham, and other occupants of the Treasury benches, were amongst the most emphatic of the cheerers. Happening to be closely observing the House, we feel convinced that Sir Robert Peel did not cheer the particular sentiment which provoked the subsequent personal altercation. The secret of the whole sfluir is this. Mr. Miles, Mr. Newdegate, and others of the protectionists, were terribly annoyed by the speech of Mr. Colden. Meantime, Lord George Bentinck had retired "up stairs," to refresh himself, after his speech on the terms of the "Holy Alliance." We are not quite sure that Mr. Plaracli was in the house during the whole of Mr. Cobden's speech ; we rather think that he was brought down while the member for Stockport was on his legs, and eagerly informed by Mr. Miles, Mr. Newdegate, and others that Sir Robert Peel had committed the unpardonable au dacity of cheering Mr. Couden's definition of " the people," a being those who lived in towns! Of course, he was told that he must get up, and try his hand once more at flaying a Prime Minister. We were struck by the peculiar loudness of the tones of Mr. D'Israeli, so different from his usual cool, cold, succeing style: it looked as if he had suddenly imbibed an impulse, and was exoterically excited. This, however, is an exoleric matter, and be it as it may, Mr. b Israeli proceeded to pin the First Lord of the Treasury in the following style:

Mr. D'ISRAELI: Before we go to a division on this quesion I wish to say a few words with reference to a circumstance which occurred during the discussion. I cannot help noticing an observation made use of by the honourable herber for Stockport, relative to a subject which in any line or in any place is well deserving of notice. I therefore that I may be permitted to advert to it in a few words. In making that observation the honourable gentleman has favoured us with a definition—which, if public men were to indulge in very often, might be considered advantageous. Its did moto. He has threatened us with impulations (hear, hear), he has held up to us the terrors of popular reprobation (hear, hear), and has imitated the conduct of many great examples in not shrinking from adding a definition of that with which he has menced, us (hear, hear). The authority he has followed is familiar to all of us—even its locality is recollected—but I can inform the honourable member that the streat in which the three celebrated individuals who conceived they were the people of England lived are told by the honourable gentleman, without the alightest reception—without the lonest modifying qualification, that he people of England are the people of England are the people of England are the people who live in the lowing and that definition was loudly cheared by one gentleman, destreading must be people of England are the people who live in the lowing and that definition was loudly cheared by one gentleman, destreading must be people of England are the people who live in the lowing detailed the transmitted of "no, no, "from Sir R. Peel and stays make a great impression on this hoase and disjoughment and several iron, members quest from some long manners, the right has the hon, member for Stockport lied, by Willy in Galled and several lion, members quest from the country of the remain of the people when the the country of the people when the threatened by the bean mamber for Stockport with the lower has a member of the country of the pe

ing into a furious speech (for, as we have already remarked, he was more impotuous than usual). Sir Robert Pool rose, and raising life hat, exclaimed, in a very murked manner, a That I totally dony?"

Mr. D'Israeli, thus arrested, in the full swing of his speech, paused, and said: "If the right honourable baronet means to say that anything I have said is false, of course I cease—I sit down."

In justice to Mr. D'Israeli, we must remark that Sir Robert Peel's interruption was far more significant than the reporters have indicated. In all the newspapers, Sir Robert Peal is reported as saying, "I totally deny that," which to a reader looks comparatively harmless. But the actual words were, and they were uttered in a very marked manner, "That I totally deny!"

We need not enter into the particulars of the various speeches which followed. The Parliamentary quarrel was succeeded by a Parliamentary reconciliation; and Mr. ('obden gave the following explanation of the meaning of the phrase which had excited the "scene:"

Mr. Cobden begged to remind the house that the language used by the hon, member for Shrewsbury, which had been adopted by the right honourable baronet, had not been used by him. That language was not his (hear, hear). What he said was, that the majority of the people ought necessarily to control the minority, and he was strictly correct in saying that the majority of the people—the bulk of the constituencies—lived in towns. In all constitutional states that would necessarily be the case (hear).

The debate on the Irish Coercion Bill was adjourned from Friday till Monday. On that night, Monday, Sir Robert Peel spoke: and uttered the following emphatic declaration as to his intentions with respect to the Corn Bill:

"I need bardly," said Sir Robert Peel, "refer to the ungracious surmise which I beard held out during the debute, that the Government had become indifferent to the progress of the Corn Bill, and had interposed this discussion with the view of defeating or delaying the bill I have mentioned (crics of "No, no," from the Opposition). I heard some honourable gentleman say that, though he did not think this himself, such was the public opinion. I declare (without any unnecessary protestation as to the sincerity of my conviction), that I hope it is sufficient for me now to state, that the progress of discussion, the lapse of time, and intervening events, have more strongly confirmed the opinion 1 entertained as to the necessity of the permanent and final adjustment of the Corn Laws (loud and long-continued cheers from the Opposition). I will not deny that my opinion on this question has lately undergone much change; but it is that restrictions which I first believed impolitic I now believe to be unjust (cheers). Consequently, my sense of their injustice precludes any compromise on my part (renewed obcors). What I proposed in the shape of the amount of duty, and as to the time of its continuance, is all I am enabled to offer; and in answer to those injurious suspicions which have been expressed, I think it enough to say that I am ready to attest, by any public act or declaration that is thought seccessary, the sincerity of my motives (loud and long-continued olicering). So fur then from urging the uniform usage of Parliament, with respect to such a bill as this, as a ground of obstruction to the commercial measures which Government has proposed, I have no wish to defer for a single day the final decision as to those measures

Another adjournment took place on Monday, but with the understanding that another night would terminate the discussion on the first reading of the bill for the Protection of Life and Property in Ireland.

In the House of Lords, on Tuesday, Lord Brougham delivered the following significant speech:

Lord Bupuchan called the altention of the noble and learned lord upon the woolsack, and also of the noble duke (the Duke of Wellington), to a motion he was about to make for five returns connected with the question of the importation of corn from Ireland. The production of these papers could not be objected to, because they had already been produced in the other House. It might naturally suggest itself to noble lords that he was rather premature in moving for returns which went to affect the discussion they were about to have upon that most important measure, the Corn Bill, which, he perceived by the votes of the other House of Parliament, had at various times and in different manners occupied its attention during many weeks of the present session. It was a measure which he perceived from the same votes—for of course he could only look to the votes for information—had made no considerable progress in that house. The state into which the business of the country had been brought, expording to the votes—which were the conjugative time had access to by the constitution of the country-base law of Parliament, and with the most perfect regularity he was bound to admit, was such that in the foreign capital from which he had lately returned he had heard grave doubts expressed respecting the expediency of our system system has persons with whom no doubt he differed upon passing all political questions. He had in value defended our system system has been such that friends at the French bar, and among franch politicinus. Fig had argued with them, that what they, looked upon as the radical defeat and vice of our system system system is always, temporary, and accidental nature which they had been as the radical defeat, and vice of our system which he had bearts lies, had been be against the present seate of seines which it had bearts lies, had no extra positions of the production of the production of the production of the production of the production of the production of the production of the production of the production of

mischief from the friction of the parts of the machine, or any resistance in the medium through which it moves, there is in that great political engine—(the perfection of human polity, as he firmly, conscientionally, and seriously believed—a well-regulated constitutional monarchy, acting by means of a well-regulated representative system)—a virineditative, a newer of re-adjustment, soft-normalize and adaptative, a power of re-adjustment, self-corrective and adeptative, which never failed to get rid of any temporary obstruction, and to restore harmony in the working of the great machine. Their lordships possessed a power within themselves of applying the corrective, and of administering an effectual remedy. If in any quarter, of whatever colour of politics, the desperate hope was entertained of frustrating the intentions of Parliament, and of the country, by endless and vexatious delays, or of postponing the arrival of that great, and, in his conscience he believed, most salutary measure into their lordships house till it should be too late to discuss it (for without ample discussion God forbid it should be carried) this session, then the remody was in their lordships own hands, for they had the power of anticipating the dis-cussion, and of coming to a deliberate and well considered opinion. And if, in the course of a fortnight, he should, by having recourse again to the votes, still find the same obstruction to this, and indeed to all business elsewhere for it was not to the Corn Bill, but to all other business that the obstruction referred-he should deem it his bounden duty, as their lordships had the unquestionable right, to bring on the subject for discussion without waiting for the and thus give noble lords an opportunity of discussing, and deliberating, and pronouncing their opinion upon the general principle of that great and most important commercial change. And when their lordships, after discussion, should have pronounced a favourable opinion upon the principle, as he carnestly hoped and confidently expected would be the case, then he might venture, without any gift of prophecy, to foretell that the passage of that and other measures would no longer meet with obstruction elsewhere, With the view, therefore, of preparing for the discussionwhich might be wholly unnecessary, but which might also become absolutely necessary—he took leave to move for the

The House of Commons on Tuesday, was ongaged in a discussion on the conduct of Mr. Smith O'Brien, who had deliberately refused to attend a Committee, on the plea that as at Irish member he would only attend to Irish offairs. This was adjudged to be a contempt of the jurisdiction of the house; and he was allowed till Thursday to consider whether or not he would submit, or else take the courses quences.

The care of Lord Ashley's Ten Hours' Bill has devolved on Mr. Fielden; and on Wednesday the second reading came on. The "gangway" section have been making great exertions to bring up country gentlemen to vote on this occasion—the only object being the impotent and contemptible one of finding, if possible, another occasion for injuring the Government.

On Wednesday, after the disposal of a mass of railway and other business, the order of the day for the second reading of the Factories Bill was proposed.

Mr. Humo urged the inconvenience of proceeding with the bill at a period when so much private and public bustness remained for consideration, and pressed Mr. Fielden to withdraw it for the present, and to obtain the assent of the Government to its being brought forward on some future Government night.

A desultory conversation arose, during which Sir Robert Peel intimated an opinion that he could not assent to any arrangement of the nature proposed. Various members having urged that the debate should proceed,

Mr. Fieldon rose, and, in a speech of considerable length, moved the second reading of the bill.

Mr. Ainsworth seconded the motion, referring to the progress of public opinion on the subject, and suggesting that a compromise might be effected by which the duration of factory labour might be limited to 11 hours.

Mr. Hume, after arguing that the bill would be an anjuntifiable interference with the freedom of commerce and trade, and an undue restriction on the employment of labour, moved that the bill be read a second time that day given months.

Mr. Ward seconded the amendment,

Sir George Strickland urged the expediency of regulating factory labour to the extent proposed by the bill, which he consequently supported.

Sir James Graham assigned reasons why the Government had determined to support the amendment. In our four great staple branches of manufacture, the cotton, woolien, silk, and linen, there were half a million of people employed, the amount of wages paid weekly was about a quarter of a million sterling, and the proportion to our whole annual exports borns by the exports of these four branches was no less than three-fourths, amounting to from 35,000,0001. to 40,000,000l. An error, therefore, would prove of vital fmportance. They were told not to treat this question as one of pounds, shillings, and pence. But capital, profit, and wages all resolved themselves into pounds, shillings, and pence; and they could not treat it otherwise than with reference to acknowledged principles. A diminution of chacent. on the capital amployed; and they could, therefore, only uphold wages by raising the price of the critale manufactured. But the competition in foreign merical rendered this impossible, and the reduction must like the full of wages. It was the hard lot of a min function the hard lot of a min function in the like his brow he should eat bready? and a like only copie to the working man was his labous, let thems he the only septial of the property of the control of the

He halleved that the repeal of the Corn Law would effect more good to the working population, believing as he now did that it was not merely unwise, but unjust. On this entheat he had shauged his opinion, and had been exposed to some obliquy on account of it. But having had an opportunity of calmly reviewing his judgment on this matter, he was more and more convinced that the Corn Law was the great obstacle to the prosperity of the capitalist and the walters of the working classes. On these grounds he joined in opposing the bill.

Mr. Mark Philips expressed his satisfaction with the statesmanlike specoli which had been delivered by Sir James Graham, and urged the practical objection to the interference with adult labour.

Mr. Bankes then moved the adjournment of the debate, which after some conversation was agreed to, being fixed for Wednesday week.

On Thursday, Mr. Smith O'Brien, still persisting in his refusal to obey the order of the house to attend a committee, was formally committed to the custody of the Serjeant at-Arms. The remainder of the evening was occupied by business of a varied nature. Mr. Hawes gained a victory over the Government on the subject of the long-disputed Danish claims; carrying a motion for componention by a majority of 18. Mr. Bouverie also obtained the appointment of a select committee, to inquire into the condition of labourers employed on railways and other public works, and to devise ameliorative measures.

In the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor proposed the second reading of the Government bill, called the Religious Opinions Relief Bill, the object of which is to repeal the various penal statutes which still slumber on the statutebook, against Papists, " recusants," Dissenters, and so forth. The introduction of such a bill, and its reception in the House of Lords, is a very striking proof of our progress. The Bishop of Exeter gave a slight note of opposition; but generally speaking the poers indicate that they have moved with the rest of the world on the subject of toleration. It is to be hoped that they will exhibit equal liberality on the subject of corn,

NOMINATION FOR THE FALKIRK DIS-TRICT OF BURGHS.

FALRIBE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 .- The nomination of candidates for the representation of the burghs of Falkirk, Airdrie, Hamilton, Linlithgow, and Lanark, took place here to-day, upon a huntings erected on a vacant space of ground called the Calender-Rigs, tused occasionally as a marketplace for the sale of cattle A good deal of interest was excited on the occasion, and but one feeling seemed to prevail, that Lord Lincoln ought to have taken the pledge proscribed to him-namely, that he should retire in Mr. Wilson's favour when a general election took place. The Liberal interest is divided to some little extent. Many are willing, under present circumstances, to give Lord Lincoln the benefit of their suffrages on account of the position he occupies in the present Ministry; but the great proportion of the Free Trade electors are determined to adhere to Mr. Wilson, the man of their choice, as they maintain that while Lord Lincoln goes along with them in the repeal of the Corn Laws, he will not be so fair an exponent of their views on other great questions of civil and commercial liberty.

The opnyans has been prosecuted with great vigour, short

as is the time since the candidates came into the field. According to Mr. Wilson's party, that gentleman has a majority of 100 as regards those electors who have pledged on both sides; but as there are fully more than 200 of the constituency who at present stand neutral, it is difficult to say who will be the successful candidate. The protectionist party are said to be united in their support of Lord Lincoln; and it is reported that all the influence of Lord Lincoln's fatherin-law, the Duke of Hamilton, will be brought to bear on the constituencies of Hamilton and Lanurk, in favour of his noble relative.

The two candidates, Lord Lincoln and Mr. Wilson, appeared on the hustings shortly after 12 o'clock, surrounded by a large body of friends. The crowd assembled on the sociation would not number much above 500 persons, who gave the candidates a fair and impartial hearing. After the Shoriff had read the writ, and the Act against

bribery and corruption,
Colonel Hamilton, of Cairnhill, came forward and proposed Lord Lincoln, whose nomination was seconded by
Ballie Swim, of Hamilton.

Provost Dawson, of Linlithgow, seconded by Dr. Hamilton, Airdrie, nominated Mr. Wilson, of Dundyvan. Lord Lincoln then presented himself, and was but coldly received. His lordship commenced by referring to the position which he occupied as a member of the Cabinet, and the absolute necessity there was for strengthening the hauds of the Government at the present moment by sending him to Parliament. He declared that he had no knowledge of the requisition which had been sent by so large a body of the electors some time ago to his opponent, Mr. Wilson, also he would not have come forward. In reference to not agreeing to the condition which was asked of him, that in the event of his receiving the support of Mr. Wilson's requisitionists, he would retire in that gentleman's favour when a general election occurred, his lordship stated that his sole objection to such a pledge was, that it would impose a condition on the constituency which was unconstitutional, insemuch as it would prevent them, if they should be pleased with the manuer in which he discharged his duties, from again asking him to come forward at a general elec-tion, which, however, he had no intention of doing. It sould not be unknown to them, it was known to the whole world, and he wished to make no scoret of the matter, and his colleagues did not wish to make any secret of it, that the force of the Government had been greatly weakened by their force of the Government had been greatly weakened by their adopting measures of Free Trade. Nobody could read the marspapers without observing that the Government were not apported by the large body that used formerly to support the large body that used formerly to support the large body that used formerly to support the large body that used formerly to support the large body that party were bent, not only on defeating their large body of that party were bent, not only on defeating their passing. Was it not not been that within these few days an alliance had been at the large body their passing. Was it not not be forced between the agricultural proposed by the large their passing the life flower of Commons, and the rescalery

of Ireland? Nobody could have falled to see that an attempt of this kind had been made, and was in progress of completion, unless others should come forward and support miniaters (hear, hear). Could anybody witness these things without seeing that nothing but the position in which the Government found themselves placed towards the country and towards the Ouege could induce them to paragraps with and towards the Queen, could induce them to persevere with these measures? Could anything be more painful, more irksome, and more onerous, than the position of the Ministers of the Crown at the present moment? They had not placed themselves in that position from a regard to any selfish object, or from a regard to any private feeling, or from any wish to retain power. For what, then, had they placed themselves in this position? It was done from a conscientious conviction that the measures which they had proposed were essentially necessary for the interests of the country. It must, however, be borne in mind that the protection party had more than once thrown it in the teeth of the Government that the country were not with them. They say, look at the election of South Nottingham. There their lrish Scoretary was defeated by a considerable majority. Look at their Colonial Secretary. He was unable to obtain his re-election. The protection party say that in both these instances the members of the Government were defeated by the protectionists. Now he would come to the third instance. Did not the protectionists point, and with still greater force, to the defeat of Captain Rous in Westminster? Do they not say, Here was a man who professed himself an advocate of Free Trade measures? (A voice from the crowd—"He was a turncoat, as well as yourself.") They might call him (Lord Lingoln) a turncoat. He could assure them that such a phrase passed him unheeded and unconcerned (hear, hear, hear). He had not the slightest hesitation in avowing that he was not always a Free Trader, and therefore he gave the person who had made use of the term the full benefit of his observation (hear). But he was referring to the case of Captain Rous. Captain Rous was defeated, and he was defeated by the union of the protection party with the extreme Free Trade Liberal party (hear, hear). The protection party in Parliament pointed, and with justice, to such a victory, and said, " Was this a proof of the desire of the country for Free Trade measures?" It was true that there was a love for Free Trude, but the country loved individuals more. Could it be possible that if the country were so interested in the progress of Free Trade measures as was said to be the case, they would reject him who was not only able to give asmuch assistance as another in carrying them out, but who also, from his connection with the Government would be able more efficiently to do them service? This was the manner in which the protectionists reasoned upon the subject, and the use they made of the rejections he had referred to (hear, hear, hear). He had very little doubt that Mr. Wilson's powers and abilities were greater than his; but he did say that it had been proved, at this particular juncture, that the Government now in power was the only one which would be able to carry these measures out ("hear, hear," and "Oh.") When it was found that the interests of the country demanded these measures, which could no longer with safety be postponed, did not the present Government endeavour to land over to others the power to carry them into effect? And what was the result? They were unable to do so. Lord John Russell himself had since stated, in the House of Commons, that he would have failed if he had attempted it. This being the case, he (Lord Lincoln) must ask, was it wise, in reference to these measures, to reject a member of the Government? Lord John Russell had failed, and it was proved that he could not carry them. Was it wise to reject a member of the Government, when by so doing they were destroying the moral effect which must attend the re-election of a member of the Cabinet as a representative in the House of Commons at the present moment? He was sure that if they were playing the game of the protection party, they could not play it more effectually and better than they were now doing (cries of "No, no," from the crowd). He heard a voice saving "No." But he would appeal to them whether, if saying "No." But he would appeal to them whether, if Lord George Bentinck, or any of those acting with him in the House of Commons, were to dictate the course which a constituency like this should pursue, where he knew that the majority of the Free Traders was so great, they would not desire that they should take that course which had been taken in Westminster, and when they had two Free Traders to deal with, that the electors should reject the one connected with the Government and take the other? He besought the electors to consider the consequences that must attend his rejection. He was confident that his anticipations would be realised and that they would find that the Government measures would be retarded, he should not say even for a time, but absolutely defeated. He was confident that if the result of the election should turn out to be that Mr. Wilson was returned, however much the Free Traders of Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, and other places, at other times might occusion they would deeply regret it. was confident that in these great marts of commerce there would be lamentation and regret. He was equally certain that it would be the cause of joy and exultation in No. 17, New Bond-street ("hear, hear," and laughter). He would not, he was sure, ask any man to wave his political opinions to him. He would not do it himself to any man; and he would set no man; and he would set no man to do what he himself was not he would ask no man to do what he himself was not prepared to do; but he must say that no political opinion would be compromised by this course, and he was quite confident that if the electors took the course which he recommended, they would be furthering in the only way which they possesse the measures which they had so much at heart. Had h Had he been addressing another constituency, he would have entered at some length into the question which was now before the House of Commons. He did so when addressing
the constituency of South Nottingham, before he was
defeated, because he felt that it was his incumbent duty to endeavour to convince them, however feeble might be his efforts. He felt, however, that the constituency he was now addressing required no conviction. Alle than that they were satisfied of the importance of the measure of that they were satisfied of the importance of the measure of Free Trade, and, therefore, he felt that it would be a more waste of time. An elector had called out to him that he was a turnoost, and Mr. Wilson, in his address, had stated that he was no new convert to Free Brade. He (Lord Lincoln) knew that such was the case, and he supposed that he meant to draw a contrain between himself and him (Lord Lincoln). If such was the case, and he would say that he thought that if they taxed him with being a turnocat and a convert to Brede, they do this to have in the searches he had made in the house of they had like a sarrioos he had made in the house of they had like a taxed by they had like a taxed of they had be said that he house he had made in the house of they had like a taxed of they had like a taxed of the high country to continue the motive which they ought to continue the motive which they had be said that he had made in the was like they had like a taxed to they had like a taxed of the him which they had like a taxed they had like a taxed they had like they had like the motive which they had like they

them who could assign any motive of a personal and in-proper character, they might brand him, if they would, and kick him out of the town (applause). Why, every interest connected with the maintenance of power, every interest in regard to his personal friends, every interest in regard to constituency that he respected and loved, every intensi of a domestic and private kind was at variance with the step he took (hear, hear). But he would not ask them to attach too much importance to that. He would not eak them to acquit him of any improper motives became his interests were all one way while his conduct we another; but he did say, that even as regarded this election the fact of his being a convert to these measures did no make him less fit to be the representative of these opinion than Mr. Wilson (hear, hear); and for this reason, that most frequently in public life nineteen twentieths of the men who went into Parliament adopted their principles, not from & curate observation and study, but because they were brought up in a certain society, and because they were educated in those principles. If the men who have been brought up in these principles have subsequently, after mature reflection and study, and after testing them by observation and expe rience, changed their views without any appearance of corrupt and improper motives, he thought that was rather an additional reason not only of the proof of the soundres of those principles, but a security that he was a fit and proper person to carry them into effect. Lord Lindoln then said that he had entered into this contest believing that he was acting in accordance with the wishes of the electors unammously, or something nearly so. He concluded by request ing those who had promised to support him at the poll to come early on Friday morning, and to bring their friends along with them, and said that although the contest would be a close one, he had every reason to anticipate success.

Mr. Wilson, who was received with great applause, made

some introductory remarks as to the poor effect which the remarks he intended to make would have upon the meeting. coming, as they did, after the able address of the Est of Lincoln, who was not only high in rank, but held the distinguished position of a Cabinet Minister. (A Voice: "It, not men, but measures that we want.") As, however, the electors who had been so kind as to put him in this position had not asked him to make any apology for them, he considered that he now stood in the high position of being for the first time on an equality with his lordship, as they were both seeking the same thing-the suffrages of the electors (cheers). The noble lord having stated his claims, it was now his (Mr. Wilson's) duty to do the same; but, before doing this, it might be necessary that he should say a few words on the position in which they respectively stood, as great part of this contest, particularly as regarded Lord Lincoln himself, was in reference to the relation in which they stood to each other. He hoped and trusted that be would be able to show that this contest was not of his seek. ing. It had been already stated, but he would take the liberty of stating it to them again, that a requisition from the electors of five different burghs had been presented to him some months ago. That requisition, so numerously signed as to secure, in his opinion, his election, asked him when a dissolution took place—a vacancy was not the word, but he considered them the same thing-to allow himself to be named as a candidate for their suffrages. In answer to this requisition, he sent a letter to each of the elector, siating that he agreed to pledge himself to come forward whenever they required him to do so. Things remained in this position till Monday week, when an application was made to him on the part of the friends of Lord Lincoln, but not by himself, that, in the event of the late member. Mr. Baird, resigning his seat, he, (Mr. Wilson) would waive his claim upon the electors at this time. The arguments used to induce him to do this were, in the first place, that Lord Lincoln was a Cabinet Minister. and that being a Cabinet Minister without a seat in the House of Commons, it was of great consequence that he should have a seat, so as to enable the prosent Government to carry through their Free Trade mes sures. His (Mr. Wilson's) answer at once was that for him self, he had not the slightest objection; but the question was, would the constituency go along with him? In order to ascertain this, he consulted the electors in the different burghs who had signed the requisition, and in three of the burghs it was carried unanimously to allow him to waive his privilege for the present in favour of Lord Lincoln. In two of the burghs there was a slight difference of opinion, but a motion to the same effect was ultimately carried by a majority. In allowing him to waive his claims for the present they attached to it a condition, that his lordship should pledge himself not to come forward when a general election took place, as it was their intention to give their suffrages to a candidate whose principles were more in accordance with their own upon questions of general politics. After being through all the burghs, he (Mr. Wilson) called spon Lincoln and communicated to him what had passed, see pointed out to him the condition to which he had allosed. His lordship frankly and immediately said, that that was condition with which he feared he could not comply. He asked his lordship to reconsider the matter, because if that was to be his answer, he was afraid that the arrangment would be broken up. The pext morning he received a communication from his lordelity, reiterating the same statement—that he still held that it was his duty to decise the same what statement—that he still held that it was his dud, such a pledge. He was glad, however, to hear from what his lordship had stated in the address which he had put himself. delivered, that he had now no intention to offer him again as a candidate for those burgins. (Lord Lincoln and add so throughout.) He wished his lordship had some him (Mr. Wilson), when he applied to him what he had be stated to he would be a second to the wind the second to the him (Mr. Wilson), when he applied to him what he had not stated; he would have felt it to be his duty to have commissed it to the constituency, and he would almost like spen himself to say that they would have so modified its witten pledge, and allowed the field to be left often for low life coll. (A Voice—"Leave it yet.") He would have so modified its witten coln. (A Voice—"Leave it yet.") He would have here is with them to judge of the causes which his less to the contest." He thought the pulley pledge which his less to be not so versed his fourth pulley more than reasonable tween his to diship a year that he would like to he had not intention of granding (with his ways distinction without adding to the had not intention of granding (with his contest in the ball district with the contest in the contest in the life of the

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He considered that they were all under a debt of great trailinds to the present Ministry, who had come forward with this bold measure—the boldest measure proposed in this country since the Beform Bill; and he hoped and trasted that, notwithstanding all the drags which were put upon it, it would yet come out of the House of Commons upsesthed. (A Voice—"What length will you go in extendinsestiled. (A voice— write length will you go in extending the franchise) "? He would answer that question by and-bye. While he thought they were under the despest chilgstions to the present Ministry for proposing so enlarged a measure of Free Trade, he thought it would not do to leave the subject without expressing regret that they had not gone But it was not the present Ministry that were enided to all the honour councited with these measures. They must go farther back. They must go back to the people, who had brought their weight to bear upon the question. That great body, the Anti-Corn Law League, were the chief instruments in carrying this matter forward (cheers). In fact, that League had set up a new sort of representation in opposition to the representation of the House of Commons: and the members of that League formed a body which acted so energetically on Govern ment, that they found there was no resisting it. then there also came to the assistance of Government an ally of a very extraordinary kind in the shape of a failure ally of a very extraordinary and in the sumper of a major in the potato crop; so that Ministers were obliged to consider the subject, and to devise the present measures. He thought that Government ought over to have clogged the measure for the repeal of the Corn Laws with the condition of three years. They ought to have repealed them at once (cheers). More than that, he would have had them to include, in this present bill, all the protective duties which exist, as protection was the worst of all ways to raise a revenue. He would also have all the import taxes taken off every article of food; especially of such articles as ton and sugar. He was also opposed to that clause in the Irish Coercion Bill, which declared that all parties who were found out of their houses between supset and suprise, and who were not able to give a reason for so being out of their houses, should be subject to such a heavy punishment as transportation (hear, hear, He considered that this was unduly interfering with the liberty of the subject, and was actually a sort of forging fetters for the people of Ireland (hear). Other laws should be adopted for the state of Ireland than these. Mr. Wilson went on to say, that he claimed their suffrages because he knew that his political opinions were more in harmony with theirs than those of his lordship; and that it would be altogether an anomaly for such a Liberal constituency to return as their representative a Conservative. Mr. Wilson then answered the question put to him as to the extension of the franchise; and stated, that while he was for an extension of it beyond the present 101, qualification, he had not made up his mind as to the exact length he would He concluded amidst great applause.

The sheriff then called for a show of hands, when only about a dozen were held-up-for-Lord Lincoln. A poll was demanded, on the part of his lordship, by Colonel Hamilton, and the polling was fixed by the sheriff to take place on

At this stage of the proceedings a person asked Lord Lincoin what length he would go in the extension of the suffrage; to which his lordship at once frankly replied that he would not extend it further than it was at present.

The assemblage then quietly dispersed.

STATE OF THE MANUFACTURING DIS-TRICTS OF LANCASHIRE.

(From a Correspondent of the Times.) MANCHESTER, APRIL 25 .- There is a whisper floating here that it is the intention of the "protection" party, by means of an unholy alliance, to extinguish the Ministerial Corn Bill and Tariff.

If there be truth in this rumour-which Heaven forbid !then will there he, for once at least, a fatal realisation of the trail of the well-known phrase, "Quos Deus vult perdere

It is difficult to believe that men professing to be culightened, as the "protectionists" do, and pretending to be acquainted with the condition and the wants of the country, would venture to exhibit so besotted a state of mind as to arrest—for that is all they could do—a measure, the justice and necessity of which have been proved and re-proved at least a thousand times, by mon of all ranks of life, and which could be enforced again and again, with the cloquence of truth and nature, and with a withering sarcasm, by thou-

mads of our horny-handed and fustian-jacketed operatives in this district. Were it not that we have the history of the Reform Bill before our eyes, and the absurd and futile ob sinctions thrown in its way by men said to possess hereditary wisdom, we could scarcely give credit for a moment to such a report. But well recollecting that period, and wit seeing the escapades of dukes, earls, and barons, who all antisingular countries are such a such a such as the second such a anticipated revolutions anywhere but in their heated imaginations, we are disposed to place reliance on the statement that the monopolists in-

and to overthrow the Bill,

If such folly and wickedness he contemplated, the protectionists must have most erroneous views as to the condition of the manufacturing districts, and, like the estrich in the bour of danger, must imagine that, by shutting their eyes to coming soils. coming evils, they will thereby escape from their comedensures. Defore such an act was perpetrated, would it not be wise in some of them to visit this hive of human intelligence and take of them to visit this hive of human intelligence and take of human intelligence. nce and industry, that an honest report of "the goodly Frace and industry, that an honest report of the surface with their own save would doubtless their own eyes and hear with their own sars would doubtless be exceedingly inconveniont, as staggering facts and alarming statements, painfully true, might derange impending endous and produce some serious conversions. But if the metestionists will be a staggering facts into the relation of the stage of the sta orations and produce some serious conversions. But if the critical state will not examine for themselves into the estate of the northern manufacturing districts let them. But if the of the northern manufacturing districts let them. "Inv not the fattering unation to their souls "shat all the resv of the kingdom are as blind, and partial, and indolent as themselves. To the great mans of the enlightened and liberal state feeple of Bugland (in whom may be comprised men's every political stade of opinion) the state—this fearful how as the manufacturing districts, is milly and scourselve how as the habitation of some political stade of opinion) the state—this fearful how as the habitation of some political stade of opinion to the state of the fearful how as the habitation of some political with (all works only learned to the state of the state

walls. How wise must be the policy of that Minister whose object is the maintenance of honest employment for our ingenious and ablebodied artisans and operatives, the continugenious and autopodied armans and operatives, the continuation to them of good wages in return for their labour, and the plentiful supply of sound, wholesome and cheap food! In these gifts the Minister would form the best and chonpest defence of this and every other part of the nation, and without them the tranquillity of no populous manufacturing district oan be proserved.

It may have been inferred, from the dead calm that appears to pervade all classes in respect to the great Ministerial measure of the session, that no public interest or anxiety is felt on the question. If such a notion provail in any influential circle, a great error has been fallen into. The interest, the anxiety, the intense desire on the subject, are strong and powerful as ever; and it would have been strange indeed had it not been so; for the struggle here has not been one of party, but of principle. After the first week's debate in the Commons on the measure, some impatience was exhibited from the frivolous nonsense dealt forth by tenthrate "Protection" orators; but, as it was felt that these gentlemen were indulging in a sort of last-dying speeches, charity and patience were extended to them with a liberal hand, in the hope that the farce of opposition would soon pass away, and be followed by a measure of substantial luatice.

The people here now appear to be in the transition state, from the passive to the active mood. Surprise and indignation seem to be spreading; and, if trickery or procrastination be tried as a hoodwink, the united voice of Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cheshire, will reverberate among the valles and hitle that the sound will be begand within 2. Standard and bitls, that the sound will be heard within St. Stephen's,

as on memorable occasions gone by.

Then, with reference to the League. A notion has been Then, with reference to the League. A notion has been entertained that that organization is virtually extinct, and that its resuscitation would be impossible. "The wish is father to the thought." The League had never more vital elements within it than at this moment. Let the "Protectionists" kick out Peel's bill, and the League, in 48 hours afterwards would be reanimated and full of vigour "as a giant refracted." its strides would be even the league. giant refreshed;" its strides would be over the length and preadth of the land; if a quarter of a million fund should be sufficient, a half million, or a million fund would be raised to meet monopoly in its strongholds, and to vindicate the justice of Free Trade. This is no idle boast, as the Protectionists and their allies would soon flud to their cost. The vast population in the manufacturing districts have set their hearts upon freedom from monopoly; and from the achievements of the past an opinion may be formed as to the successes of the future.

The opposition hitherto given to Sir Robert Peel's bill, too frequently "frivolous and vexatious," has been productive of extensive mischief. The suple manufacture of this district has been almost paralysed, and both masters and men have been driven nearly to the verge of ruin. The delay has been detrimental to all classes, and if much longer conlimied the effects will be disastrous. On all sides do we hear that the stagnation in trade will increase in proportion as the Corn Bill and the tariff are delayed. Manufacturers, merchants, and shopkeepers are haunted with uncertainty and indecision, not knowing, in this doubtful state of things,

what to do for the best.

A gentleman here, very extensively engaged in manufactures, communicates as ffollows :- " The present state of trade is much depressed, there being no demand. The spinning department is a good deal depressed, compared with the last year; still, that may be considered to be about the best part of the cotton trade. The hands, generally speaking, are pretty fully employed, with the exception of handloom weavers; nor is there any alteration in wages. In the present state of the market, parties who have to manufac ture even by power have great difficulty in maintaining their There seems to be a deep regret that the progress of the Ministerial measure is so much retarded, as the delay tends to depress manufactures. It is thought that, if it were to pass into a law, a revival of trade would immediately follow; but, on the other hand, if it be delayed too long, there is very little hope of experiencing a brisker trade before the latter end of the year.

Another letter from a leading merchant, with no strong party predilections, has the following passage: "That the present Free Trade measure before Parliament tends to depresent Free trade measure perore transment tends to de-press there can be no doubt, arising from the uncertainty as to its results. But eventually, if passed, it is the opinion of parties in political society, whether Whig or Tory, that it will do a great deal of good; and the majority are anxious

It is proper to add, that at present there are upwards of 1500 hand-loom weavers in this town entirely unemployed A communication made by two of the unemployed weavers to the writer of this letter is as follows:—"The present statement is to inform you that there is a great number of hand-loom weavers thrown on the streets for want of employment. The workpeople of Messrs, Aspinall, Turner, and Co., are 200 in number, all idle; of Messrs. Swainson and Birchwood, 300, all idle; of Messrs. George Fankner and Co., 300, all unemployed; of Mesars. Peter Dixon and Sons, 400, a few employed. The fabrics of work manufactured by those gentlemen are oblofly coarse handkerchiefs, buff checks, and occasionally coarse ginghams. We are told that our misery at present is caused by Sin R. Peel's measure in the House of Commons not taking its proper

Such is the present state of this populous district. It is placed in imminent peril, and the consequences no man can predionte.

One word as to the result of Sir R. Peel's measures. Should the bill be passed, the offset would immediately bessed in the restoration of trade to general activity, ir. the employment of all classes of the working community, and in the ployment of all classes of the working community, and in the diffusion of content and happiness among all ranks of the people in the manufacturing districts. On the other hand, if this bill, should be thrown out, or further delayed, there would be no outbreak, no resort to physical force or violence, no tumnition outbreak, no resort to physical force or violence, no tumnition outbreak, no resort to physical force or violence, no tumnition outbreak, no resort to physical force or violence, no tumnition outbreak, no resort to physical force or violence, then dependence on riot and insubordination. Their appeals have constantly been to the initial, to the judgment, the resort the entire thinking provest attacker additionates the content of the initial to the judgment, the resort the entire thinking provest attacker additionates. The provest in the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the physical state of the district of the district of the physical state of the district of the distric

immediate ropeal. The my will be for present, not procreetinated justice; and the victory will be decided in favour of the many, as surely as friduph has already crowned their

It is to be hoped, however, that the folly and hopelessness of arresting public opinion will be abrodoned, and that decent submission to a force so irrealstible will at longth be recent submission to a force so irrecistible will at longth by rescolved upon. By continuing their crusade, the protectionistic can gain nothing but odium, contempt, and defeat. The people are too many for them; and the claims of justice are too powerful and too highly prized by the industrial millionis of Great Britain to be given up, with recream feeling, at the summons of a select party of men, whom a breath has much, and whom a breath can uppeak. and whom a breath can unmake.

FOREIGN NATIONS AND FREE TRADE.

(From the Times.)
The Continent of Europe and the United States are infosted with one class of polisicians and political writers, whose blind and ignorant hostility towards this country has led them first to ascribe to the Government of England oertain general characteristics, infinitely remote from the true spirit of our policy; and, secondly, to shape all the incidents spirit of our poncy; and, secondry, to support in the incidence of our history to fit their preconceived errors. To support the doctrine that the views of the British Cabinet are invariably dictated by the most long-sighted cunning to the most seefish ends, these wiseacres indulge themselves with unif-mited perversion of fact, and they invent the strongest theories to account for their construction of the simplest occurrences. According to this absurd class of observers, Great Britain mule war upon the Chinese solely to enforce the sale of optim in the Celestial Empire, and it was not Sir Henry Pottinger, but the French Envoy, who opened the five Chinese ports to the trade of all nations. The Right of Search Treaties were crafty conventions, framed solely to comble British cruisers to harass the commerce of all other states. The emancipation of the negroes was a scheme for improving the cultivation of sugar and cotton in India by the voluntary sacrifics of 20 millions of money and the des Struction of the permanent prosperity of the West Indian colonies. The late campaign upon the Sutley was not the result of an unprovoked aggression by the Sikhs, but of the grasping designs of England upon the Panjab. So that, by dint of misstatements and misconstructions, the most glorious, humane, and praiseworthy traits of our history are obsenred, and an attempt is made to throw suspicion upon each of those great changes in national policy which have of late years originated with England, but which are destined to make the circuit of the globe when they have triumphed over the prejudices of less enlightened communities. The onward course of this country is, indeed, by no these childish cavillings of our foreign detractors. We have no fear but that the best men of our Own contamporaries and of all time will do justice to the services which England has rendered in this generation to the interests of freedom, religion, civilisation, and liumanity. As long as public opinion at home is enlightened, and the public conscience sound, we care as little as any people ought to do for the consure or applause of the world; but we are conscious, and we may reasonably regret, that the complete accomplishment of the great public objects we have in view is sometimes postponed by the imperfect comprehension or the unfounded mistrust of

These remarks may be applied with particular cogency to the progress of Free Trade in foreign countries, and to the impression which the measure now before the Honse of Commons has produced in the world. It has at once stult! fied all the predictions and belied all the arguments of the Continental protectionists with reference to the policy of this country, and it has shaken the ground beneath them at home. After having denounced in every shape those com-mercial treaties by which England was, in their opinion, seeking to compass the destruction of every country with which she has an established trade, they see her, disdaining to make a mero political bargain where the laws of commerce insure her success, strike down the barriers even of protection, whilst they are still hugging the chains of probibition. The competition which they dreaded before becomes infinitely more formidable since the industrious classes of England are to be supplied with food at the same rate as the rest of Europe. The protection which we are removing in not so much protection to the British farmer as to the foreign manufacturer; and instead of imitating our example, or the example of the unprotected manufactures of Switzerland, there never was a time when foreign Governments have been more likely to encounter a vigorous resistance to a re-

form of their tariffs.

But these delusions, these mistakes, and these pernicious remedies for artificial diseases, will ore long be corrected and discarded by the force of example, truth, and time. The whole argument against Free Trade is already narrowed from a general defence to back the laws of public economy were themselves denied, and their application altogether resisted. But experience, and, above all, the example of this country in a variety of public and private transactions, have put down these absurdities. The defence of protection is now conducted by what the lawyers call confession and avoidance. Its foreign partisans do not vonture to deny its general advantages, and they acquit England of any intention to commit a deliberate suicide; but they allege some peculiar obstacle or disquali-fication for the introduction of Free Trade measures amongst themselves. Frae Trade principles have supported the public revenue in England, lowered prices, kept up wages, extended trade, and opened a new era of greatness to the people of this country; but the German minor States shrink with alarm from the moderate suggestions of commercial re-form made by the Prussian Government. The Russian official journal declares that a long course of rigorous protec-tion is an indispensable preparation for the dangerous indul-gence of Pres Trade; and that until the imperorubles created a Manchester by bountles and prohibitions, a president shall be indirectly given to the cultivation of her agricultural shall be indirectly given to the cultivation of her agricultural produce elsewhere; so that, like the dog and the shadow in the fable, he drops the solid interests of the empire to grasp at a system of imaginary and fallacious improvement. In France, upon two necessions, the Minister of Commerce and of Finance have held language which, indeed, we expected from them; but which their adjusts of Chinact and M. Duchetel; must bare blushed to held the most openion of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of understanding the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of high the reliable of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the principles of the condensating the co

enriched by the system of probibliton, and of man who them selves declare that without prohibition they should be nothing. But at no distant period the real interest of the con sumor and of the people will be hetter understood. The French nation will inquire what it is that constitutes the difference between themselves and their neighbours, and makes prohibition so indispensable on one side of the Changel and Free Trade on the ofter. They will ascertain that in England a vast system of financial reform has been in progress for many years, by which the burden of many millions sterling of taxe tion has been removed from the people, from the necess ries of life, and from raw materials. They will remomentiat since the Revolution of July no remission of taxation whatever has taken place, with the single exception of the duty on the sale of wine in 1831, though during the whole of that period the prosperity of the country and the public revenue have gone on to increase. A private momber of the Chamber of Deputies recently brought forward a measure for the reduction of the salt duty from 3d. to Id per kilogramme and so irresistible was the case he es tablished, that in spite of the Minister of Fluance, the Chamber adopted the proposal. For the first time for many years the interest of the consumer has thus been beldly and fairly pressed upon the French Legislature. M. de Lamartine, more aspeolally, has distinguished himself by the enlightened sagacity with which he has taken up the cause of the labouring population; and we have no doubt that if he will apply his eminent capacity and his independent character to promote the application of a more liberal commercial policy, he will render the greatest services to his country.

It is true that we confidently anticipate that Free Trade will secure great advantages to this country, and we are far more anxious to make those advantages our own than to obtain the assent of foreign nations to the principles we profess. This is now the extent of those interested and designing views which some of those nations impute to us. vited them to accompany us; upon their refusal, we con-tlemn them to follow us. They will seek in vain to strengthen the bolts and bars of protection. The wall of Uhina would not save them now; for men will not always believe that the welfare of society depends on making things artificially dear which are naturally cheap, or on raising obstacles to the free intercourse of mankind, to which they mainly owe whatever of wealth, enjoyment, and civilisation they already possess.

THE OBRIEN AND BENTINCK COALITION.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)

The well-timed and most effective speech in which, on Friday night, Mr. Cobden brought back the wandering attention of the house to the real question before it, and did prompt and sharp justice on the authors and the objects of the O'Brien and Bontinck convention, may, probably, have a use beyond the immediate occasion. Other parties, besides the honourable members for Limerick and Lynn, are too much in the habit of "leaving out of their consideration the people of this country;" and the very dangerous blunder of rather losing sight of the origin of the discussion" which has been so long dragging about, and seems still to have an indefinite futurity of duration, is one to which dircumstances offerjust now so many plausible inducements, that we must lay our account with seeing the weaker headed sort of politicians altogether unable to sustain a concentrated attention to the facts before their eyes. We must, in common kindness, recall these wandering wits, and brush up these cloudy memories—for the consequences might be serious of carrying this kind of forgetfulness too far. It is really a work of charity no less than of patriotism, to keep perpetually present to the protectionist mind that unaltered and unalterable state of facts on which the responsible beads of the party will eventually have to form a judgment. They will have their attention brought back, one of these days, to the "origin of the discussion"—either by Sir Robert Poel and the House of Commons, or by the League, the constituencies, and the country; and it is highly desirable that their attention should not, in the meantime, be suffered to wander so far as to require a harsher and more disagreeable species of memento.

We beg then to remind all those extremely imprudent persons who dream that the question now before the country is ausceptible of some cunning sort of compromise, or # adjustment," that the whole business has long since been taken out of their hands altogether. As the discussion now lingering through Parliament had not its origin in any Parliamentary party, or combination of parties, it lies not within the power of party men to settle it by private compaot among themselves. It is not a thing to be "arranged." Mr. D'Israel's "gentlemen of England," and Lord George Bentinck's patriots who "reign in the heart" of Ireland, /did not set this question going, and caunot stop it or turn it aside now that it is going. Parliamentary parties did not oreste that revolution of opinion which has prepared the people of the United Kingdom to expect and demand a legislative revolution to match; nor can they control that fearful necessity which has given sudden development and materity to a force that might else have taken another year or two to fluish its growth. The question is not theirs, in either of its great elements—and any protension on their states of the state of the stat part to dispose of it by way of "arrangement," is a sheer impertinence. After all their arrangements are completed, they will discover that "there are other parties to be consulted," namely, those who, whether living in towns or villages, buy and sell, and receive wages, and pay taxes, and est bread, and have votes, and make Houses of Commons, and are, de jure and de facto, the rulers of the empire in the last resort. For the answer which these "other parties" would make to that question on which the fauatics of the protectionist faction pretend a desire to ascertain their opi-nion, we are contented to refer to Mr. Cobden's well-remembered analysis of the state of the constituencies, the data and results of which have not yet been confronted by any counter-statement or calculation that has chanced to come

counter-statement or calculation that has chanced to come under our observation.

The percet and unbesttating conviction felt by those who have most carefully studied and best understand the great practical problem of electoral dynamics, as to the results of that "appeal to the people" which would instantly ensure that "appeal to the people" which would instantly ensure of any serious attempt at compromise, is the chief source of the country now exhibited the country now exhibited the country now exhibited the country now exhibited the country and absolute assurance of faith in a supply all Bir Robert Peel-mainly because the backet things and absolute assurance of faith in a supply all Bir Robert Peel-mainly because would be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested to be a doelly and onested by stocking and should be a doelly and onested to be a doelly and ones

to, because the Premier really has (generally epacking) a very happy way of managing these things, and there is a prevalent impression that the protection is have tolerably prudent men among them, in that "other place," where alone imprudence could have any practical consequences. Still, the feeling is—if it must he, let it be. If they are ready, we are ready. If they will have it so, they shall have it so. And though we have the shortest political memories and the best hearts of any neo-ple on the face of the earth, have the simplest possible spice of vindictiveness in our composition, and are fond of economising our expenditure of the ways and means of moral and political warfare—still, there would be a sort of satisfaction in "making a moral example of the gentlemen below the gangway," the idea of which tends to abute the repulsiveness of this onerous and disagreeable necessity.

For our own part, we enjoy, on the whole, a hopeful and comfortable faith that all this is sufficiently well understood by those with whom the responsibility really lies. We are not without our apprehension, at times. The present signs of public opinion and feeling are so liable to be misinterproted, that the possibility at least of an erroneous construction being put on them is an cloudint which cannot be safely excluded from our calculations. We are alive to the risk which exists of the repose of conscious strength being mistaken for indifference and lassitude. The subsimistaken for indifference and lassitude. The subsi-dence of agitation, where activity is felt to be superfluous, may very possibly be confounded, in some quartors, with "reaction." Yet we must allow, that any year exclose and Yet we must allow, that any very serious and painful apprehensions on this score contain an implied imputation on the judgment and patriotism of those with whom the question really rests, which cannot be justified in the absence of direct cyldence. Where the consequences of a false step would be so palpably and so gratuitously mischievous, it is but fair to presume on the exercise of at least than constitutional decorring, indicates the propriety of assuming that a body of legislators, charged with so vast a responsibility cappet he found greatly wanting in the first sponsibility, cannot be found greatly wanting in the first and most elementary of political virtues. At the same time, we must warn the Promier, that there ought to be no need-less experimenting on the prudence and sagacity even of the most august tribunal of the empire. Computations with an unknown quantity for one of their elements are intrinsically uncertain and deceptive -- A pradent minister should beware of making superfluous exactions of the prudence of others, whose means of correct judgment are necessarily inferior to his own.

MORE NEW CONVERTS.

(From the Economist, April 25.) It afforded us great pleasure, last week, to allude to the sound reasons which Lord Essex adduced for his conversion to the principles of Free Trade. But we have been even more struck by the singular ability and clear comprehension of those principles, as exhibited by another recent convert, contained in a letter addressed by the Rev. Christopher Nevile to Mr. Alison. This letter is a remarkably clever and racy production, of less than fifty pages, in which the writer, who had acquired some considerable reputation as an advocate of protection, gives an account of the process of observation and reasoning by which his convictions became changed, and by which he furnished himself with the most unanswerable arguments to all the fallacies of protection. For the space occupied, we have seen no production which has in a more satisfactory manner disposed of all the leading errors and prejudices against Free Trade. Mr. Nevile adopts as his motto, "Change of opinion is not inconsistency," and we are satisfied that no one will read this pamphlet without being convinced that, in the writer's case, change has only been in accordance with the enlightened convictions of a powerful and vigorous mind, which has with feli-city grasped at the truth and thrown error aside. It appears that, five years ago, Mr. Nevile published a pamphlet in defence of protection, which had a flattering reception from Mr. Alison and others. After a laborious inquiry, we have understood with a view of following up his first pamphlet in further attempts to defeat Free Trade doctrines, Mr. Nevile has found their truth to be irresistible, and his opinions are ontirely changed." He says to Mr. Allson:

"I address my recantation to yon, on grounds which, perhaps, may surprise you. I trace my conversion to an attentive perusal of your works. I am indebted to the most distinguished protectionist writer for my conviction that our protective system has been most injurious to the country."

The process by which Mr. Nevile first doubted the accuracy of his former opinions, and at length fully embraced his "new views," is strikingly expressed in the following

words:

"A review of our position was enough, indeed, to shake my faith in my political system. I found great distress existing; the only assignable causes by the advocates for protection, being over-production and over-population. And under what circumstances were we placed? An overflow of capital, driven abroad, to our ultimate loss; for want of profitable employment at home—an immense number of workpeople, especially agricultural labourers. in vain seeking employment—millions of sores of land uncultivated, and many millions capable of great improvement—the markets apparently glutted with manufactured articles we could not consume, and with agricultural produce which could not be sold! I asked myself how could any nation be duced to anything like distress with a superfluity ejevery element of prosperity and comfort? An answer there must be; but I could not find it then. I now believe it can be found. The word is monopoly. I have become convinced that protection to native industry, where it has had any affact at all, has been distribution."

Mr. Nevile draws a clear and striking contrast of the actual free competition, notwithstanding a nominal protective duty, which has existed with respect to our manufacturers, and the real and operative monopoly which the owners of the land have unwisely secured to themselves, and shows in the land have unwisely secured to themselves, and shows in what way competition has been so favourable to the advancement and prosperity of the former, while monopoly has been so injurious and destructive to the latter; and he habply exposes the great fallacy and error of referring the prosperity and existence of a pursuit to some nominal price, as the lowest at which production can be repaid. In all such resconding, the power of committing processes, of indiseased quantity, and of generally improved management, are entirely, explicitly, and of generally improved management, are entirely explicitly, and of generally improved management, are entirely tooks of the price negative to repay production in 1411 downward to those made by land villuers of the breamtidity there has negative to the price of the other branches of industry, we are indebted entirely to the system of protection with which, unfortunately for themselves, the proprietors of land have had the logislative power to burdien their properties. If ad the same "baueful prisciple" been applied to manufactures, the result would have been the same

been the same:

"If the first twenty or a hundred cotton mills erected had been protected from competition, can any one conceive that an inactionery would have improved as rapidly as it has done? It would have been easy to show that after calculating the rost of row material, wages, with profits, interest, &c., that a year of cloth could not be made under a certain price, and that price might have been artificially sustained. It is evident what the consequences would have been. It has, however, been open for any man with capital and skill, to build a mill and manufacture cloth, and the price was regulated, not by what all could make the for, but by what any one individual could afford to sell it at the improvement in machinery, any economy in the manufacture. for, but by what any one individual could afford to sell it at; we improvement in machinery, any economy in the manufacture, must eventually be adopted by all parties, or they could not set tain themselves in the market. The moment they were not dersold, their business was at an end. The duties levied at foreign goods were of no avail, for the competition at home

desoit, their business was at all state turns leviel a foreign goods were of no avail, for the competition at home was unlimited.

"How different has been the case with our agriculture! The legislation was in the hands of landowners: they calculated his cost of growing wheat, and they advanced the duties on ferencern so as to exclude it under that price. The land could be multiplied, and the inevitable consequence was, they acquire a monopoly of the market. According to the well-known principle, it might have been expected that agricultural imposement would be slow. Necessity, the great mother of inventee heing removed, the probability was, that the progress in the cultivation of the soil has been retarded. Has it been the record or not? Has British skill, capital, and industry, probable or not? Has Pritish skill, capital, and industry, probable corresponding effects in the production of food? Has the last owner, who is the real manufacturer, however indirectly has be made the fullest use of all the means at his disposal? I will take an answer from yourself, the most able writer on the sit of protection. I could confirm your testimony by numerous clety."

This extract really explains the whole secret of the rand progress and prosperity of our manufactures, and the sutionary and depressed condition of our agriculture. The landowner who goes to Parliament and votes for protection to land, virtually offers a premium or encouragement to the occupiors of his land for indolence and neglect. He vir tually and voluntarily deprives himself of all the advantage which would arise from an active exercise of ingendered economy; while he introduces a new and additional closest of uncertainty, wholly inseparable from all artificial systems. and especially such as impose great abuses upon societ, which deters the free application of capital. From these causes the landlord has injured himself infinitely more, in the mere amount of rent which he now receives, than are advantage which he has obtained by restriction. We have not the slightest doubt that had the trade in com been perfeetly free since 1815, the rents of lands and the profit of farmers would have been much higher than at present, while the price of food would probably have been little more than half its present rate. This is exactly what has been the ray in manufactures, by the operation of the principle so well explained by Mr. Nevile. High rents and high farmer profits are not inconsistent with cheap food.

Mr. Nevile disposes, in a most satisfactory way, of all usual pleas set up for protection in the shape of special bar-

"The titles never belonged to the landowner. The land he been bought and sold liable to this payment, which has recently been converted into a corn rent."

"The titlesare therefore is in the situation of a mortgagee; and the titles are, therefore." no tax whatever in growing corn on this tract of land."
"The highway-rates are wholly made up of labour,
those rates would, therefore, accommodate themselves to any
diminished scale of agricultural prices; besides, good roads are
conductive to the profitable occupation of the land."
"The expense of improved implements might, with nearly are non-investigative by the profit forward as a tax was investigative. much justice, be brought forward as a tax or an impediment producing corn at a lower price." * "The poor name

producing corn at a lower price."

* "The poornies are not proquiting to land; all real property is equally character.

* "It is true that the capital ongaged in manufacture is not rated to the poor, neither is that employed in agricultur. And if the protectionists are justified in their assertion, that freevery pound embarked in manufactures, lbt. are engaged a synculture, the less we say on that score the better."

* The mait-tax falls upon the consumers, and not upon the grown, and cannot be considered a burden upon the land in particular.

The indirect taxacters are supported by the constitution of the constitution of the considered and control of the constitution of the co

The indirect taxes, amounting to about 80,000,000. of 48,000,000l., are "levied upon production or consumption of the whole nation, and are by no means paid by the land or agricultural classes in particular." To the common segument, that protection becomes needful in consequence of the national debt, Mr. Nevile gives the following unamers able reply and apt illustration of his reasoning:

"If the price of any article is artificially raised to enable the producer to pay his share of any national debt, that prorument inconsumity render the consumer less able to pay it. Seppose a community consisting of A, B, C, D, E, and that A produces corn, B cloth, and C hardware, and that there was just debt to D and E. If all these articles are protected, and the prices raised, the protection is nugatory. If form and is the price if the price is the price is the price is the price in the protection in the protection is nugatory. debt to D and E. If all these articles are protected, in prices raised, the 'protection is mystory. If born lives is sentially raised in price, it is unjust; but in neither case on the joint power of A. B. and G. to meet their common debt be creased. If in this country we should assume that there are the look of the protection is unitarily that the artificial price order is advantage to any one party, as he will lose as mich is commodities he buys, as he can gain in the one he sail. If the protection is unequal, it will enrich one party an improved the protection is unequal, it will enrich one party an improved to force the canital, the skill, and injustry of the tone party for increased. Be far from it, it is very possible, that or simple to force the canital, the skill, and injustry of the tone particular channels, which they would not take in their ham course, the whole trade, commerce, and prosperly as any particular increased. The national debt desired he can many particular included by a tax upon the season in from any particular included by a tax upon the season in from the arminist, that one immense debt is a reason in from the arminist, that one immense debt is a reason in from a constant the most unlimited from Trade.

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Alt. As view particular in the dear upon the season in from a constant that one production of the season in from the constant the season in from the constant the constan

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FREE TRADE CLUB.

TRUDYRAG The Right Hon, the Barl of Rednor. The Hon, Charles Palham Villiers, M.P. John Lewis Ricardo, Esq., M.P.

Jöhn Lewis Ricardo, Esq., M.P.

GOÉMITTER,
Briggs, Major-General, F.R.S., F.G.S.
Briglit, John, Esq., M.P.
Olark, William, Esq.
Cobden, Richard, Esq., M.P.
Cogan, Captain Robert
Ducle, The Earl
Davy, Edward, Esq.
Fitzroy, Lord Charles, M.P.

Gibaon, Thomas Milner, Esq., M.P. Gibson, Thomas Milner, Esq., M.P. Ivimey, Joseph, Eaq. Moore, Robert R. R., Esq. Raduor, The Earl of Ricardo, John Lewis, Esq., M.P. Ricardo, Ralph, Esq. Thompson, George, Esq.
Villiers, The Hon. Charles Polham, M.P. Wilkinson, Norman, Esq. Wilkinson, William Arthur, Esq. Wilson, James, Esq. White, William, Jun., Esq.

BANKERS. Messrs. Ransom and Co., Pallmall East, SKORETARY. Mr. James Adolphus Moore.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The committee of management, in accordance with the rules of the club, now renders an account of its stewardship

for the past year.

The estimate for receipts and expenditure laid before the general meeting of the members of the club, on the 19th of May, 1845, contemplated an expenditure for the year 1845, of 1772l. 10s., and receipts amounting to 2480l. 6s. The receipts were calculated upon the then charges for entrance-fee and annual subscription. Since that time, however, a large reduction has taken place in the anticipated income, in accessquence of a considerable number of possons, originally offering as members, not have joined the club. The result has been that the actual receipts have fallen short by 5612. 10s. of the original estimate.

The current disbursements of the year fell within the estimate, but the purchase of plate, linen, and cutlery, which was rendered necessary in August last, when the household management was transferred from a steward, who had contracted to provide these articles, to the house-committee, tracted to provide these articles, to the house-committee, created an extra expense of 4721. 10s. 3d., to meet which there was cash in the hands of the bankers, 3411. 14s. 2d., and arrears recoverable of 1701. 2s., making a total of 5111. 16s. 2d., showing a balance in favour of the club of 1701. St. 11d. The resolution of the club of the c 801.58.11d. The property of the club at that period was 449/. 14s. 6d.

The number of subscribers, at the end of the year 1845 was two hundred, but the committee felt confident that as the objects and advantages of the club became more widely known, its numbers would rapidly increase; and, during the present year, they have found their expectations realised, 120 members having been admitted, makes the number this

On the 31st of March, 1846, after clearing off all liabilities, there was a balance in hand of 397t. 18s. 5d., and 386t. to receive, which affords a gross sum of 7331. 13s. 5d. to-

wards the expenditure of the current year.

The committee feel assured that the foundation of a most valuable institution is laid, and that the rapid increase of members will soon ensure the results which its originators

Such an increase is confidently expected, the Committee relying on the exertions of the members to aid in the accomplishment of this object, which will render the club one of the most prosperous and useful institutions in the metropolis. (Signed) John Briggs, Chairman. 27, Regent-street, St. James's, 6th April, 1840.

OBJECTS OF THE CLUB.

The Prec Trade Club has been established for the purpose of bringing into more immediate and friendly contact those who are interested in procuring for British capital and industry emancipation from the restrictions which have been placed upon their productive powers. Many distinguished and highly respectable advocates and supporters of commercial freedom are spread over the country, at great distances from each other. The Free Trade Club offers to all these the general country. cach other. The Free Trade Club offers to all these the opponunity of inter-communication in reference to the evils produced by monopoly in their several professions and localities, as well as for concerting the means of more effectually bringing their grievances before the legislature of the

One of its immediate objects is, to afford a place for the the cause in the metropolis, where they may have an oppor-tually of seeing their friends from different parts of the country, when they visit London.

The terms of admission have been reduced to a scale much below those of any similar fusitution: the members will obtain the usual secommodations of a London Club; and a supply of all ordinary refreshments at moderate trices.

and a supply of all ordinary refreshments at moderate prices.

It is the intention, also, of the Committee to make such additions to their present library, from time to time, as shall make that department of the alub directive and valuable to those of the members who may desire to refer to the best works on social and coopenate solding. Donigious of books, suited to the objects of the alub and the pressite of the members with the objects of the alub and the pressite of the members and friends, whose seed the library requested, and will be grassfully solutioned add the library so-objection of his members and friends, on, it is trivial ordinary and objects of the library so-objection of his members and friends, on, it is trivial ordinary of the members and friends, on, it is trivial ordinary of the members and friends. The want of the color of the library of constitution of the members and friends of the color of the

As this club is formed for a specific purpose, it must be well indenstood that no gentlemen is eligible as a member, who is not opposed to the principle of all protective and differential duties. To this he will be pledged by his application to be admitted as a modification to be admitted as a modification.

There is the content of th

Entrance Fee .. 1. Aupual Subsoription Non-ARRIDENT MEMBERS, (beyond fifty miles from

Loudon), Annual Bubscription
No entratice fee is regulied from non-resident members. RULE V.—Each candidate for admission shall be proposed as a Free Trader, by one member (on personal knowledge), and seconded by another; and the candidate's name and usual place of residence, his rank, profession, or other description, must be forwarded to the secretary at the time of

Foreigners may be admitted by the committee for one month, without payment: after which period they may be admitted for the further term of one year, on payment of the annual subscription.

It is suggested, for the convenience of members, that they should leave with the secretary orders on their bankers, or agents in London, to pay their subscriptions to the bankors of the club, on the 1st of January in each year. Blank forms of such orders will be supplied by the

N.B.—The situation of the present house is peculiarly convenient for country members—intersecting, as it does, the great thoroughfares of Piccadilly and Regent-street; public conveyances to all parts of the town and its suburbs pass the door at all times of the day and night.

A list of sleeping apartments in the immediate neighbourhood of the club is kept by the secretary, and members intending to come to town can, by writing to him, and stating particulars, have an apartment engaged, and ready for them on arrival.

MEETING OF CORN FACTORS IN MARK-LANE.

(From the Globe.)

A very numerous meeting of corn factors, and other persons connected with the corn trade, was held on Morday in the large room of the Corn Exchange, Mark Lane, immediately after the business of the market was concluded. Its object was to take into consideration the present deranged state of the corn trade, and the extensive injuries inflicted on the interests of both importers and purchasers by the continued delay of the Corn Bill. Several statements, illustrative of this state of things, were made by some of the oldest and most extensive factors, who represented that the overloaded state of the granaries, and the continued arrivals, without any immediate prospect of clearance, keep the foreign trade in a state of stugnation. After an animated discussion, it was determined to embody the views of the meeting in a memorial; and a deputation was appointed to wait on Sir Robert Peel, to urge on the right hon. baronet the necessity of pressing through Parliament the measures agreed upon by his Government, and sanctioned by the House of Commons, with all possible despatch.

This movement on the part of the corn trade of London will produce similar demonstrations from the provinces. The corn trade at present suffers partially. The full measure of its embarrassments and losses has not yet been poured upon the market. The manufacturing and commercial interests are now chiefly affected. Every week supplies additional proofs of the stagnation to foreign and domestic trade, which delay in proceeding with the measure has caused to the manufacturer of, and trader in, our staple commo-

But further delay will produce injury upon the class which the protectionists blindly intend to serve by their obstructive policy. Suppose that they succeed in keeping the bill in the Louse of Commons until the commoncement or middle of June. The price of grain is remunerative at present; and no quantity now in bond, or that can be brought in from abroad, will have any considerable effect upon it. But if the present accumulations should continue in bond until a few weeks before harvest, and if all the grain and flour which will arrive in the spring months should go into bond, instead of passing into consumption, the whole quantity accumulated before the bill can leave the House of Lords will then be poured into the market, and will necessarily have the effect of greatly depressing prices. Let the furmers he wise in time. Of all classes they are most immediately interested in protesting against delay. Their "friends" will, if allowed to proceed in the course they throaten, prove their worst foes. The remunerative prices in which they now re-joice are delusive. A resulton is at band—caused by the very policy which they think will protect and preserve them—which will assuredly lay bare the fallacy, and show them the refuge of lies in which they were taught to trust.

FREE TRADE.—MEMORIAL OF COTTON-SPINNERS.

The following is a copy of the memorial which has been forwarded to Sir Robert Poel, But., &c. &c., as agreed upon at the last general meeting of the operative cotton spinners of Manchester:

To the Right Hon. Bir Robert Peel, Bart., M.P., &c. &d., the Memorial of the Operative Cotton-Spinners of Manchester and Salford. Sheweth

and Salford.
Sheweth,
That your memorialists are cotton-spinners in the boroughs of Manchaster and Ralford, and deeply interested morally, provided and deeply interested morally, in the prosperity of the manufacturing and commercial enterprise of the country, interested is their cape. It is the commercial enterprise of the country, interested is their cape. It is the commercial enterprise of the country, interested is their cape. It is a support of the ball to the conformation of the deeply state of trule in these statings with the conformation of the trade, and manufactures of single-send would be constituted to be vell-being it lie that of the community. It is that the conformation of trade of other purelitation within they are entered in the conformation of the conformatio

ment of all classes of the civilised world; and more especially

ment of all classes of the civilised world; and more especially the happiness of your memorialists.

Analyzour memorialists have, for many years; witnesses with respect the missiv and destitution, and in too many hasances, the immorality of the working classes of this country, which which, in the chimon of your memorialists, have been destrict and extended by the restrictions on traid and commercial intercourse with other nations, which the messaless of first tercourse with other nations, which the messaless of first halesty's Government are calculated to remove. Your memorialists when with great alarm the indurious effects upon field, which the delay of the passing of the Corn Bill is now catality, and firmly believe, that further obstruction will materially injure, if not rain, the prospects of your memorialists, insamuch as commercial confidence is to a great extent destroyed by the innertainty which prevaile as to the motion of the settlement of the whole question.

the certainty which prevails as to the motion of the settlemen's of the whole quastion.

Your memorialists, therefore, most respectfully but firmly recommend that you will, without further delay, insist on the immediate passing of the Cora Bill, believing as they do, that every argument that can be arged against it has been heard, and that all the attempts now making to delay the settlement of the question are distated by a desire to retard, rather than to reason on the merits of the subject, as affecting the industrious community of England.

munity of England.
Your memorialists further beg most respectfully to state, that they are quits prepared to stand by your Government, and, if need be, to defend the Queen and her responsible savisers, from the factious attempts that are now making to allens to the people from their Queen and her Government.

Signed, on behalf of the meeting.

GEORGE JOHNSON, Chairman.

DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

DUBLIN, APRIL 28 .- The Clare Journal, which reached Dublin to-day, brings the following circumstantial and substantiated account of the destitution of a portion of the people on the western coast of the county of Clare, Can anything be more harrowing than this detail?

" Kilmurry Ibrickano, April 24, 1846. "Two copies of the following memorial, from about two hundred poor housekeepers, a list of their familius, sveraging shout one thousand souls, have been forwarded—one to the Relief Commissioners, and snother to the Lord Lieutenant:

"The humble Memorial of the poor resident cotifers on the ploughlands of Cleunogarnane and Clohanes, in the parish of Kilard, and barony of Ibrickane.

"Humbly Shawath."

of Klard, and barony of Ibrickane.

"Humbly Shawath,
"That in consequence of the mysterious affliction of an allwise Providence of the potato crop, memoialists (from the
swampy nature of the soil of these localities) have, by the potato
rot, it en deprived of all means of subsistence for themselves
and families, and are at present the most miserable beings on
the face of the earth.

"That a read was passed by special sessions presentment,
lat Vict., chap 21, and for which a sum of 450t, was granted to
give relief on the premises—that said read, leading from Occupe
O Neil's by Lough Donnell to Ciohanneinchy, was approved of
by the civil engineer.

by the civil engineer.

by the civil engineer.

"That in daily expectation of relief on the premises by opening of said road, memorialists have, from time to time, pawned all their day and night covering, and are at present suffaring from cold and hunger in a state too much for human endurance.

"That memorialists would long since have taken rofuge in the poorhouse, but, being under the impression that they would have neither house nor home on their return to sholter themsolves and families, and would, consequently, for evermore go to ruin.

solves and families, and would, consequency, to ruln.

"That the memorialists respectfully, yet fervently, crave your honourable bloard will be ginefously pleased to take their wretched condition into consideration, and order such immediate relief on the premises, as may be the means of saving the lives (if not of memorialists will ever pray.

"Being the nearest resident magistrate, I regret to have to state that this memorial is too true, and that it rather underrates the state that this memorial is too true, and that it rather underrates the state of destitution the poor are in.

"Burron Machamana, J.P.

"As magistrates of the barony above named, we have made

"As magistrates of the barony above maned, we have made inquiry into the condition of the memorialists, and find, that some local public-work is actually necessary for heirsustainined and support.

FRANCIS G. MORONY, J.P. THOMAS H. MORONY, J.P. THOMAS MORONY, SCH., J.P.

DUNGARVAN, APRIL 23.-Under this date a correspondent of the Waterford Freeman writes as follows :- "On Tuesday a crowd of labouring men presented themselves at the Reverend Dr. Heally's door, and called on him to get the Reverend Dr. Heally's door, and called on him to get them work. The Doctor exhorted them against the com-mission of any violence or breach of the public peace, and assured them that every one of them would be employed on the following day, at one shilling per day. The "Tipperary boy," from the thick of the crowd, cried out that a shilling a day was too low, and called on the people not to work for loss than is, 6d, per day. At the request of Dr. Heally, the "peelers" were sent for, and "my bould Tipperary boy" was marched into "quod," where he remained till the temperature of his cell reduced his excited and foolish the temperature of his cell reduced his excited and foolish notions and feelings to the standard of cool reason; and after expressing compunction for his conduct, and promising to behave himself like an honest and peaceful man for the time to come, he was discharged. Many believed him to be an incendiary. The demand for the Indian meal here is most pressing and extraordinary, so much so that two or three hundred persons are waiting to be served. uuparga persons are waiting to be served every morning opposite the house in which it is retailed. The accounts from the surrounding districts relative to the condition of the peasantry are heartrending and alarming in the extreme. In Killongford, Kilrosenty, Comeragh Killnafrelian, &c., the stock of potatoes is consumed, and the inhabitants of these places are now using their seed potatoes, which will last them but a very short time; this is the case with many of the farmers, but the condition of the cottler and labourer is far more deplorable. Some of them had no potatoe gardens tilled at all, on others they failed; they have no relief committee to get them " meel or mait," and are left to their fate—to starve, perish, or plunder. A carrier from this town, as he was coming from Clonmel, a few days since, called into a house which he saw convenient to the roadside, for the purpose of lighting his pipe. It was ten o'clock in the morning, and there were five or six little boys and girls squatted on the floor of the wretched house, crying. "Have you any fire?" said the commin. "No," replied the father of the children, "and what is worse, I have not a morsel of food to give them pour children whom you see there bawling with hunger; not that I get work to carn it."

work to sarn it."

ADVANCES OF EARLYS.—The time him artired when it can no longer be denied that upon the research of their wife plays the means denied that upon the research of their wife plays population, and plays a chieff of their wife population, and plays the research of their strains of

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A JOURNEY TO THE MEADOWS OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

No. I .- GETTING OUT OF TOWN.

Persons acquainted with the thoroughfares of London know that they are sometimes choked, blocked, or locked with their traffic. It is as difficult to ascertain, when a look occurs, which of the draymen shouting, cabmen whipping. or butchers' hoys "chaffing," has been the cause of the stoppage, as it is to discover who have caused the lock in the political world. But there is a lock in the political world. Never was the line of street, from St. Paul's to Temple Bar, more completely and inextricably choked, by its vehicles locking together, than is the Parliamentary thoroughfare at this moment, by which bills travel from the House of Commons to the House of Lords, and from the House of Lords to the House of Commons. And yet in the line of Fleet-street, and Ladgate-hill, with the crossing of Farringdon-street, there are occasionally lockages in the traffic so inextricable that the most skilful of the police are bafiled in making a clearance; and no clearance is made until some unlooked-for condescension on the part of a few drivers, who back out, leads to a general movement forward, as the unlooked for perseverance of a few jolly waggoners, "all of a row," with their ponderous vehicles from the country-a " country party" in the street, formidable enough to obstruct the traffic, dogged enough to get into a fix and remain in it, led at first to the stoppage.

Being a passenger the other day for the country, to obtain a glimpse of the spring, the fresh green of grassy Hertford shire, the new buttercups and daisies among the grass; the suckling lambs and their fleecy mothers among the buttercups and daisies; the farm fields, with new crops upon them; the farmers, with new notions in their heads about their fields and crops of corn; and, perchance, the lord of Essex, or his park and mansion, or his farms, who has become a kind of Lengue lecturer, putting new notions into the heads of farmers about crops of corn, and Corn Laws, and competition with foreigners ; being a passenger for the country on the outside of one of those busses which gathers from the multitudes of the metropolis, one by one, the railway passengers, and transfers them by the score to the mouth of the iron giants, who swallow them by the hundred, I got fixed in one of those locks in the street which are unpleasant at any time, and particularly so when one's appointment is with a railway train. Still, it was not all lost time. Having no thing to do but to look and listen, to sit and see, I looked and listened, and sat and saw; and the parallel between the street police and the political police in urging onward the loads which would not be urged onwards, seemed to be remarkable enough to justify me in drawing my pen on the subject, as some of them drew their batons, or as others have been drawing, or threatening to draw, their pistols.

There were several waggons loaded with grain or with flour. From their bulk, they were conspicuous among the other vehicles. They had come down the street, and were warned in their progress by others loaded with straw crossing from the bridge, and halted at the crossing. One or two butcher's boys in light carts, whether in joke or in earnest I did not know, demanded that the policeman should turn the worn-loaded waggons back, and allow them, the said boys in the carts, to get past, they being charged with the safe and early delivery of joints of meat for that day's dinners, to those rich enough to have prime joints of meat sent home in light spring earls. But though these impetuous youths, with all the volubility of tongue, all the forwardness, most of the impudence, and some of the "chaff" and the "clang" peculiar to them, insisted that the police should make the loaded waggons go backward to let them and others in light vehicles get on, no such counter movement could be effected. I do not know that the street police said, but they might have said, as one of the political police did-one not unknown in Fleet Street and elsewhere, for his services in clearing a passage for obstructed traffic, "that as well might the corn resolutions of the House of Commons move backwards, or be turned aside, and left in the siding, as to think that those ponderous corn waggons, each with a tonuage of loading, should be backed up hill to let butchers' boys, and the light fry of vehicles go by."

I say, I do not know that the street police spoke thus; nor am I sure that the political policeman, to whom I allude, us celebrated for his services in cleaning obstructed thoroughfares, used the comparison as it is given here; I rather think it is roversed from him: at all events, whether speaking of corn-loaded wagons in the streets, or corn-charged resolutions in Parliament, he said it was impossible that they could remove backwards, or even be set aside, to make room for butchers' boys, or the butchers themselves, who had come whip in hand at an impetuous pace into the street, getting into a fix by their impetuosity, and only stopped from running over some one (some of those poor Irishmen with heavy loads on their breks) by being stopped in their headlong ourgor,

And speaking of Irishmen with loads on their backs, I am reminded that in the street stoppage the humblest carrier of alload mass worst when he carrier set stoppage it is him black our legisless.

only to bear his his that had make no from the, but very often and particularly if an Irlahman, and known to be one, he has to bear the "chaff" of the thoughtless, and even the best. banded cuts of the impetuous boys, who have whips is their liands, and who drive, or attempt to drive, others that they themselves may get along.

I cannot say that I observed any Irish gontleman with his onb and his tiger, though gentlemen with cabs and tiger were there, who at a moment when there was some hope of an early extrication, drove into the confusion, to the locking up of himself and the hindrance of all who were about to move; and yet there were cases not unlike this, of vehicles being driven in which might have been kept out for no pur. pose apparently but the strange satisfaction of being locked up, to the great annoyance of those seriously active in clear. ing the thoroughfare, and to the pleasure of their own drivers—if pleasure it could be—of being in the midst of confusion, delay, angry words, and personal accusations.

Of which there were enough to serve all the street of London, Meluding Billingsgate-market, for as long a time u the length of a session of Parliament.

Some brewers' drays, loaded with beer, had stopped the countrymen loaded with straw; or, which amounted to the same thing, the men of straw would not move, because they said-and swore it as they said it-that the brewers stood in their way, and that they had done nothing to be called on to make way for the beavy waggons of the millers and the commerchants, which were coming down Pleet-street, and were

The police took hold of the reins and led horses, diverand vehicles where they found an opening, whether the drivers assented to it or not. They did so even against the loud protests of such drivers, that they were not to be led in that way by the "Peelers" (a phrase more commonly applied to the police in London than any other), yet allowing themselves to be led notwithstanding.

Then one driver shouted to another, that the lockage and confusion had been all that other driver's fault; and that other retorted the accusation; and cabmen shook their while at one another, and gave significant hints of what each would do to each, if they had not happened to be where the were. And the drivers of such light vehicles as those we see in every street, with soda water and ginger beer, interfered with the stormy cabmen to quiet them, but made the confusion greater by adding new elements of discord. The tradesmen of the streets had their business suspended; ca tomers could not approach the shops; or if they were in ther could not move out; and passengers who could move on some parts of the pavement were obstructed at other, at could not proceed on such business as they had intended to proceed upon. The very dogs of the street seemed to join in, and add to the noise and confusion by their barking; and to the great hindrance and annoyance of those actively engaged in effecting a clearance, men, snarling more suppishly than the dogs, barked at and found fault with everything and every body that was engaged doing something useful. Were it not a daring flight of imagination almost equal to that of the author of the "Revolutionary Epic." one might have thought that some snarling dogs had been bitten by some other dog labouring under Peelphobia-that sad looking dog for instance, which was unmuzzled at Shrewsbury in 1841, and became Peelphobious two years after, and bit the hand that he begged a bone from.

But a riddance was made at last, and the lighter carriages were obliged to give way to the heavier, and the heavier moved on and got out of the way; and we at last reached the railway station too late for the train.

But as there were other trains, and other means of getting into the green meadows of Hertfordshire, I ultimately got there; and if there should be nothing better next week to fill these columns, I may contribute to two or three of them such posies of cowslips and daisies, and buttercups, as ! have found in the fields, with such other field and farm-yard affairs as possess any interest for readers engaged in the emancipation and advancement of English agriculture.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

THE PIN TRADE.—There is much talk amongst scientific persons, and those to whom the welfare of our own manufer ture is of interest, respecting the improvements recent made in pin making; improvements which have dress; caused preparations for closing many large works on the caused preparations for closing many large works on the Continent. The machinery by which the new pin is make to which Mr. Kirby, of Newgate-street, the holder of pates, has given the name of "Regina," is of the most extraord; nary character. Strings of wire enter it upon the bire side by thousands, and almost immediately appear at the other pins in the most perfect form, literally besded and goings to a degree of perfection. Activing microscopic nower to detect pins in the most perfect form, literally headed and goings to a degree of perfection, defying microscopic power to eated a fault in shape and finish. The sticking of the pin into paper is likewise completed by the same machinery is as is credibly regular and rapid order; and it is a carrous paper into the least gratifying, that, although the lating operation is accomplished by this invention, the great damage broadly the enormous reduction of although the lating operation in the enormous reduction of although the properties by their "preparation" and Smaking by and a many their "preparation" and Smaking by and a many their preparation and smaking by and a many their preparation and smaking by and a many their preparation and smaking by and a many their preparation and smaking by and a many their preparation and smaking by and a many their preparation and smaking by and a many their prepara

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AGRICULTURE.

AGRICULTURAL WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

A MONOPOLIST GROAK FROM THE FENS.

One of the last, porhaps the very last, petitions which will ever be made in favour of that flitting and mischievous illusion, "protection," has lately exhaled from the fens. At a meeting of the corporation of the Bedford Lovel, held at Ely, when the Duke of Bedford was in the chair, and the Earl of Hardwicke, and his brother, Mr. Yorke, one of the members for Cambridgeshire, were present, after the business was over, which, the report tells us, "occupied a very short time"-(how true it is idleness leads to mischief!) - a Mr. Layton got up and proposed a petition by the corporation "not to alter or repeal the present Corn Laws." The Earl of Hardwickedisclaimed all previous knowledge of the petition; but not so his brother, Mr. Yorko, for whose benefit the scene was obviously got up. Our readers will recollect that some time in last autumn Lord Hardwicko gave utterance to sentiments on rural affairs which the local monopolists thought betraved an intention to leave monopoly in the lurch; and his brother, Mr. Yorke, was so enigmatical and pragmatical upon the subject of the Corn Laws, that his constituents-monopolist and antimonopolist-combined to exhibit their supremo contempt for him, and to testify their just appreciation of his doubtful dodges and shallow artifices. Now there can be no question, that at the period we refer to, both Lord Hardwicko and his cadet, Mr. Yorke, had prepared, or were preparing, to cast their lot with Sir Robert Peel, and to cut themselves adrift from monopoly-that foundering hulk. But suddenly the lord and his shadow took a short turn, returned to their vomit, swallowed all their semi-Free Trade words, and the one resigned his court lackeyship, and the other stuck to his county seat Whether the Premier refused some monstrous demand on the part of the lord—for his lordship is a very likely man to rate his own importance in a proportion inverse to that at which it would be rated by others-or whether the snug family seat in the pocket county was deemed too valuable to be lost-we cannot say. But whatever be the cause, both lord and brother have now reappeared as flaming monopolists. The petition, suddenly presented, pistol·like, to the Level corporation, was a means intended to induce the farmers, squires, and squireens of Cambridgeshire not to turn out Mr. Yorke at the next election. Will the dodge

However, as the last of a species soon to become extinct, it may not be uninteresting to our readers to have a few passages of the petition, and the speeches by which it was supported, presented to their notice. Like the unrolling of a mummy, it is, however, a somewhat nauseous task; and its disgusting character is not redeemed by its usefulness-for these monopolist fallacies will soon die of sheer exhaustion. Like rushes on land which has been drained, though they seem to live unharmed for a brief season, nothing can long maintain their noxious vitality. As a relic of a former world of thought, or rather no-thought, this last croak of monopoly is not the least curious. It retains to the last the distinctive characteristics of its kind. It is literally a bundle of fallacies; its conclusions seem naturally not to follow from its premises. In a word, it is a monopolist plea for monopoly. What more can be said?

The petition begins by stating that the corporation was founded in the reign of Charles the Second, to drain the fens:

"That owing, as your petitioners believe, to the low prices of spricultural produce in this kingdom, and other discouraging circumstances, the embankment and draining of the Lovelmade slow and unsatisfactory progress for the first century and a hair, after the establishment of the corporation, but that within the last fifty years many millions of capital have been expended in the improvement of the draining of the Level, by their is produced in the improvement of the draining of the into cultivation, and the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming one of the most feeling provinces in the Level is becoming the feeling provinces in the level is becoming the feeling provinces in the level is becoming the feeling provinces in the level is becoming the feeling provinces in the level is becoming the feeling provinces in the level is becoming the level in her Majesty's dominions.

So larse good selected of the monopolists of the land appose all the rest of the thing blants of the design to be a laborated at the Wallaw in the land a continuous of the land and the land at the l

That your petitioners believe that the present prosperous state of the Bedford Level is mainly to be altributed to the encouragement given to agriculture by the restrictive duties imposed on the importation of foreign own, and that the improvements that have been effected in the drainage of the Level and the cultivation of the land would not have taken place if the prices of agricultural produce had not been fairly remunerative."

That monopoly has not oncouraged agriculture is now admitted oven by the monopolists. Bosides, why, in spite of the great natural fertility of the fens, is their cultivation so generally inferior? They have been reclaimed, it is true; but we ask any farmer, who is a farmer, whether they are more than half cultivated? Of Peel's measures the petitition says, that

"If carried into a law they will be attended with most disastrons consequences to the landed interests of this country, as well as to all classes of the community dependent upon them, and more especially to the small farmer and the labourer."

So said the older feumon of the period of marsh and morass; and their resistance for a time was a great impediment to the reclamation of the fens; and the petition concludes with this bouncing non sequitur:

"That the protection afforded by the Corn Laws against the importation of foreign grain, while it has been beneficial to the agriculturist, has been instrumental to the welfare of all other classes of society, since, during the existence of those laws, large masses of capital have been created by those engaged in manufacturing and commercial pursuits; our foreign and home trades have been placed in a state of unexampled prosperity; and this nation has risen to a degree of wealth and splandour unparalleled amongst the various States in the habitable globe."

But our manufactures and commorce have flourished, so far as they have flourished, in spite of the Corn Laws. Indeed, as the system of restriction of which the Corn Laws form the key stone has been weakened, national prosperity—agricultural as well as trading—has tended to increase. Mr. Layton and Mr. Ball, the mover and seconder, seem to have contented themselves with the simple assertion, that the reasons Sir Robert Peel-has given for his measure—which nine-tenths of the community doem unanswerable, and which certainly have not been answered—according to the fen lights, should have induced him to give "greater protection." Who shall estimate fenman logic? Mr. Ball said:

"What so proper as to appeal to the House of Peers, and ask that body if the opinions and arguments of the last thirty years were all to be abandoned in one moment, because a power was rising up not recognised by the laws, threatening to sweep away the rights of the British community, and abolish all that it had long been thought necessary to preserve!

Fancy the rights of the British community being swept away with the Corn Laws! We always supposed those rights to have had root in deeper and more wholesome soil. But so it is with the monopolists; they ever try to hitch their rotten cause on to something else—just as an auctioneer lots an article nobody eares for, with some useful ones—and hope to carry on their rottenness under cover of that to which they have appended it. But that won't do now—the trick is found out. Lord Hardwicke, however, out-spoke the other fen monopolists, for he thus argued the case of monopoly on local grounds:

"There was no part of the British dominions, which, from its position, had more right to express a strong opinion on this question than the Bedford Level, inasmuch as there was no part of the country in a position resembling it. The manufacturers said that they existed by means of art and science. Now he (Lord Hardwicke) replied that they could use the same language in the Bedford Level, for there they existed by the very means of which the manufacturers made a boast. They existed there by art and industry; that great country had been brought into its present high state of oultivation, by the art and science, and industry of man (hear, hear). It was drained by the steam engine; that great mark of the progress of human knowledge had been seized upon, not only by the manufacturers of cotton, but also by the manufacturers of wheat. Therefore they stood in the same position with the manufacturers of the north in that respect, inasmuch as their prosperity was founded upon art and science."

If they stand in the same position as the manufacturers, why is it they do not repudiate monopoly as the manufacturers do? And read this, oh people of England, as a specimen of hereditary wisdom and aristocratic information:

"That was the ground which he took as a supporter of the principle of protection. And he was satisfied, upon looking controlly as the grantion, that the manufacturer of handshakes before heavy years of his existence had passed, would be the manufacturer of handshakes before heavy years of his existence had passed, would be the manufacturer of handshakes before he will be allowed to have protected to the produce of his mills. Let, the Corn, have be once repealed and before long the progress of salence in the countries and the advantages we gave them for the long the produce of his mills of the light had been to be allowed to

and capital. Facts would soon come forth to show that a great pressure upon the cotton manufacturing interest, caused probably in some measure by sending out steam-engines to facilitate the manufacture of cotton at the very place where the raw material is grown, had been to the manufacturers a fearful notice of the risk they must run by competing unprotected with the advancing science of other countries. The chesp loaf was a sort of last hope to them, they thought if they could get a cheap loaf even for a time, they might so reduce the wages of labour as to hold up a little longer against the competition they had brought upon themselves."

That is not to be surpassed. There were, however, a few rational men present, one of whom, Mr. Gay, in opposing the potition, said:

"If it were certain that agriculturists had gained by the Corn Laws, then the owners of land had a right to call upon the legislature not to repeal those laws. But were they not begging the question! Itad not agriculturists respect the benefit from circumstances independent of the Corn Laws? True, the land did bear peculiar burdens; but it was rather their duty to get those burdens removed, than to insist upon protection, in opposition to the interests of those who were not directly connected with the land. If the Corn Laws had produced benefit to the agricultural interest, to what extent had other interests been damnified! If it had raised the price of corn, although the farmers had put more money into their pockets, they had extracted it from the pockets of others. No doubt the owners and occupiers of land must fear any change in the present system, for they had embarked their capital in the purchase and cultivation of land, and were naturally fearful lest any alteration should damnify them. He once thought protection was necessary, but like the 120 spoken of, he had changed his mind, and was in clined to think that farmers had not reaped any banefit from the Corn Laws."

And this is the view of sensible men who were once protectionists. But we have before stated what was the real object of the petition.

WHAT DO THE FARMERS SAY?

Perhaps there is no class of tradesmen who suffer more from the prolonged opposition of the monopolists to Sir Robert Peel's Corn Bill than the farmers; and they and their real organs hesitate not to speak of the obstruction and the obstructives in terms of strong disapproval. Now, the eventual success of Free Trade measures is no longer doubtful; and though a temporary delay may serve the purpose of politicians who fight their party fight by means of jockey lords, and men of that sort, it can do nothing but harm to those who live by their industry rather than their wits, and especially to the farmers. Let us hear what the Mark Lane Express, the only cool-headed upholder of monopoly amongst the professed "farmers' friends'" organs, says on the subject. Indeed, so absurd are the speculations of most of the "farmers' friends" newspapers which advocate monopoly, that we doubt whether they over heard a real live farmer speak, except in the presence or under the dictation of the landlord. They appear to have about as deep an insight into rural affairs as those who would take their notions of the British peasantry from the labourer and peasant, as represented on the London stage, have of the condition of the agricultural working classes. Let the farmers judge whether the following passages from the Mark Lane Express do not convey a far more accurate idea of the actual state of affairs than the bombastic twaddle of landlord-inspired organs:

"Whatever view parties may take of the commercial scheme proposed by Sir Robert Peel, none will be disposed to dispute the evil consequences arising from the delay now taking place in the progress of the measure to an issue, he that issue what it may. Trade and commerce are now experiencing a taste of the paralysing effect under which agriculture has suffered since the advent of Sir Robert Peel to office in 1811. So soon as the plan of the Premier for aftering the Corn and Provision Laws was propounded to the Legislature and the country, at the beginning of the session of 1812, no one who was not wifully blind or lamentably obtuse could doubt the ultimate result of such measures. It was the beginning of a system, the complete establishment of which at no distant period was as certain as the relation of cause and effect. We feel convinced that, if the opinious of all the intelligent farmers in the United Kingdom could be ascertained, there is not a lithe of them but would admit that, when the question of outlay, dependent upon time for return, occurred in the course of his business, a doubt would intrude itself on his mind of the perneived that the concession made to Free Trade principles was but an earnest of a yielding up of the whole. There can be no question that, during the last three years, considerable expenditure has been made upon improvements in the soil; but if these could be minutely unalyzed, we believe they mould the found to be principally made by the owners of the soil, who foresaw the necessity of preparing themselves for a change of circumstances."

The farmers, he says, show no disposition to take an active part against Free Trade, but remain in a state of quiescence; and, in truth, it has ever been so, except when they have been goaded or cajoled into temporary activity by the landowners. The landovds know, however, that the cry of wolf had been made too often and that it would not make any impression how. The writer then speculates on the proposal of the material now before Parliament, and gives it as his deliberate on that the Materials.

now before Parliament, and gives it as his deliberate opinion that the House of Lord will be a light of the seems to us, their the deliberate that the light of the seems to us, their the deliberate the seems to us, their the deliberate that the light of the light o

Upper Mother is a diretimetance ralities enteritated Upper Mouse, is a bircumstance ration estended to instance the chances of its being passed by the Lords. We incline to the opinion that the image time the measure, particled no change takes place in the Commons, and no active resistance is made by the landed interest, both land lord and tended, the mome optimise it is that the mamber of the supportors of the Ministerial measure will increase. We know that the 'farmers' friend' journals assume to repudiate this view, and foster false hopes as much as they can, ancavraging the farmer to believe that the Government scheme will be rejected by the House of Lords."

But this, like most of the statements of the "fariners' friends," will probably prove a delusion. The writer then cites, as evidences in support of his view, some passages from the Bankers' Circular, a thorough-going monopolist print, which are to this effect:

"We have been credibly informed that every resident Hertfordshire nobleman, except one, is prepared to support the Minister's Free Trade measures in the House of Lords; and a surious exhibition they will make of their souse and consistency when they have done so. Some time about Christmas the Herifordshire noblemen and gentry assem-blad in county meetings to put down Mr. Cobden and his confederates, so far as their interference with the electoral franchise is concerned; and we inserted a resolution, moved by Lord Daore, setting forth their intention. This interference was nothing more than a means to an end; and a means too, however unjustifiable and unconstitutional it may be, which noblemen of both parties had frequently before recorded to for the same purpose—viz., the acquisition of political power. Cobden was but following their example; and when he found, by such meetings as the Herifordshire, that his proceedings had alarmed the aristocrapy there were that his proceedings had alarmed the aristocracy, there was no measure to his expression of delight that he had touched a spring that had produced such an effect; which, he said, would only stimulate him to further similar exertions till he had accomplished his object. The Minister, however, suddenly proposes to grant him all he asks."

And afterwards the wailing monopolist (the Circular) adds:

"This, if rumour speaks truth, is the exhibition of Hertfordshire valour, consistency, and judgment, in the persons

Now we are not disposed to fight the battle of the Hertfordshire landocracy; but we must say that though, as a class, they may be violent, pucile, ignorant, and solfish, they do not materially differ from the landocracy of other counties. And the inference drawn by the Mark Lane Express is inevitable. He says :

"' Four months' have, it seems, produced a wonderful affect on the Hertfordshire members of the Upper House: Is there any reason to suppose that the 'conversion' is confined to Hertfordshire? Is it not fair reasoning to presume that the like 'change of opinion' may have taken place in noblemen residing in other counties? and who can tell how far the 'contagion' may have spread?"

There may not be many of the landowners who have the moral firmness to avow the error of the opinion they had taken up without examination, and acted ons through life, as Lord Essox lately did; yet there are many who will quietly make the same "short turn," which has been made by the "brains of the aristoeracy," if, as the lawyers say, "any such there be."

THE BRITISH LION TO THE LORDS.

A correspondent of the Mark Lanc Express, who signs himself "An Essex Tenant," sends a memorial to the House of Lords as a specimen of the way in which the "British lion" should address the lion's protector, the House of Lords. A passage will put our readers in possession of the force and elequence of the "lion" language. The memorial or petition, after stating that the country does not demand Free Trade; that the agricultural interest is intensely anxious to oppose Sir Robert Pool's measure; that the farmers are not acquiescent; and sundry other assertions, for which his lionship has obviously drawn upon his imagination; thus power-

"There is hardly one in a thousand who does not anticipate the sanction of your lordships to that measure but with horror; and, my lords, were low prices for agricultural pro-duce now prevalent, England at the present moment would be as distracted as ill-used Ireland; every element of disor-ganisation and discontent is only repressed by the present state of the averages. Let the Premier's Bill but pass your lordship's house, and the present averages fall but 10 or 20 per cent., and anarchy and discontent would cooks the same foul spirits of mischief and of evil which always attend-and are ready to do their bidding; and having marshalled the victims of Free Trade and injustice into one united and compact phalanx, tremble, my lords, to auticipate the torror; and, my lords, were low prices for agricultural proand compact phalanx, tremble, my lords, to auticipate the direction that mass of discontent and poverty might pursue. Hitherto, my lords, the attachment of the landed interest to the church and to the throne has been proverbial. Will not the paupertantion of that interest diminish the ability to mot the pauperisation of that interest diminish the ability to maintain the expenses of the one, and the interests of body and soul clash fearfully in upholding the other? My lords; agination receives the laurel of victory; and discharged now by the party in whose service she has been so successful, the will glue her services to the party the has plundered; and those, two great interests, which united might defy the jealousy of a world, will had towards each other a mallerant hatter of the party of the part world, will feel towards each other a malignant hatred, a world, will feel towards each other a malignant hatred, a flame so interms and accrebing that will blast every kindly feeling towards each other; the maniferances of intermities and the social disruption will exhibit to the world a national plature, over which angels might weep—a scene as which the patriot will tremble; and there will follow consequences from which the agricultural interest imposes its deliverance at your hands. Within your localities during deliverance at your hands.

by unternished hanour and consistency. Thank heaven, there is many a heart guiltless of perflip and urong, strong for the coming contest for our country's eafety; and your reward, my lords, either in triumph or defeat, shall be a nation's gratifieds, and the yel more glorious approval of your own unbiqued consolonces. Under the foetening care of your fordship's house, England has triumphed over foreign foce, and trampled on the sag of every enemy; in the nineteenth century of our country's greatness the mighty junction is to be selved. Will your honourable house, supported as it is by all that is great and powerful, succumb to that foul confederacy whose avoised object is to himble, nay, to tread the herediflery peerage in the dust? Muy heaven avert so terrible a calastrophe!"

Oh, British Ilon, British Ilon, how can you utter such burning words? How can you say such fierce things of the betrayed "agricultural interest?" represented as that interest, when advocating monopoly, is, by political lords, mortgaged squires, roaring land-agents, and the most subservient class of yearly tenants whose capital is absorbed by the protective system into the landlord's pocket. After reading this effusion, we rubbed our eyes to see whether we had not misrcad the signature as "An Essex Tenant" instead of an "Essex Calf," for certain it is that the bleatings of the poor animal leads to the suspicion, that in this case the skin only is that of the lion, and that the creature covered by it is of a less ferocious and less generous class.

AGRICULTURAL COMMON SENSE.

When the history of the decline and fall of the corn monopoly comes to be written, the Harleston Farmers' Club will deserve honourable mention as amongst the carliest agriculturists who repudiated protection and the claim to live upon profits derived from artificial scarcity. The following brief account of the last meeting of the Club, which we extract from a local journal, shows that the Club is still keeping the lead of the majority of Farmers' Clubs in England:

"HARLESTON FARMERS' CLUB—Fifth Meeting for 1846, April 8th.—Subject: 'The Cost and Value of Protection to the Farmer; the Statistics of the Question rather than the Principle' Previous to the discussion it was decided, at the unanimous wish of the members present, that the terms of the question should be altered. It was considered that any arguments founded on a compaprobably be deceptive, because it is not accurately known what portion of the former have been owing to the law, or what share of any depreciation in the latter may be due to its repeal. The principles of Free Trade in general, and of Free Trade in corn in particular, with the past effects of protection on agriculture, and particularly on the tenant farmers, and the probable future effects of Free Trade on these interests, were therefore discussed, instead of the cost and value of protection statistically considered. After an interesting and protracted debate, it was unanimously decided—That a Free Trade in corn will benefit the nation without injuring the agricultural interest, provided those requests of the farmers for the repeal of the malt-tax, for an improved tenure embracing more liberal covenants, and the other just claims on the legislature and the landowners which this club has always advocated, be at the same time conceded. The club desires also to express its opinion, that the proposed Government measure errs in not making Free Trade total and immediate, believing that the delay of three years will act injuriously in deferring the settlement of these necessary arrangements.

LEASES IN THE OLDEN TIME.

The following curious extract from an old book has been sent to us by a correspondent, and bearing, as it does, upon the vital question of leases, now so much agitated amongst farmers, will be interesting to our agricultural readers:

"Agriculture Leases, 1688.—The right honourable Henry Lord Delamer and Earl of Warrington's advice to his children." His lordship was born 1651; lived in the reigns of kings—Charles I. and II., James II., William and Mary, in which latter he was made Earl of Warrington and Change of the Freeheaven. cellor of the Exchequer.

"To my dear Sons.

"In the management of your estate" (Defamer Forcet, "In the management of your estate" (Deramer Forces, Cheshire), "take these directions along with you. In the letting of your demeans or other farms, it being supposed you will get the best rent you can, it seems advisable to let them for twenty-one years; and as often as you can take a fine of about a year's value, and then the yearly rent to about proportionably to what the fine and interest of it will amount to at the aird of the taken. For sa by this you can be not to at the end of the term. For as by this you can be no looser if your rent be duely paid, so it is the most probable way to have it well paid, in regard that if your tenant be behind with his rent, if it be not above a year, this fine will set you right. In the next place, the payment of the fine is a strong argument of the ability of your farmer; and besides, a rent that is less than the full worth of the farm is better paid, than when it is at the utmost value. And farthermore, by paying of a lesser rent, farmers are encouraged to make improvements, whereby your rent is not only better secured, but also at the expiration of their lease the farm is

"In the next place, tye your farmers to repairs, for they will do that for sixpence, which they will set down to you at

will do that for sixpence, which they will set down to you at eighteen pence.

"And because plouping is the desiruction of most farms, hind out your farmer from ploughing sither headout or the next other ground that is not project to be brokened." In the next place like it least one that of the feet of the ground be in proved only in passage. Then oblige him to make to make the least that is make as he plought every year, and he proved the same arranged in the project to any ground that he had already make the property and the project to the least the same arranged to the project the same arranged to the project that the life already make the project that the life already make the project that the life already make the project that the life already make the life arranged to t

(1088) "your farm will be it formed panuyworth at the end of the term as which he took it. Desides these general of the term as whom he was to take good severy rules, I can prescribe you none, save to take good security

rules, I can prescribe you none, save to take good security for the performance of his coverants, and to appoint some person to see whether he fall in any of them.

"As for such part of your citate as is highly leases for lives or years, my opinion is, that if all of it were for leases of the second of the second se or years, my operation and the best for tenant and landled twenty-one years, it would be best for tenant and landled. First, because it would put the tenants upon some son of First, because it would put the tenants upon some sont of industry, which is too much neglected by such as have least for three. And secondly, because the landlord would be a certainty, and accordingly he knew how to dispose his affairs. Therefore, if you renew such leases, as are upon lease and if you lease are the years, let it be again for years; and if you lease any that fall out of lease, let them also be for twenty-one years. "Then, as to renewing leases for lives, if one life is to be

added to two yet remaining, take two years value to do it, added to two yet remaining, take two years value to do it, unless one or both of the remaining lives be very aged or is ferior, for then you may expect half, or a year's value more, as the case may fall out. If but one life remain, and two more are to be added to it, then take five years' value, unless extreme age and infirmity alter the case. For the changing of a life, take one year's value, unless the aforesaid object. of a life, take one years value, timess the moresaid objections lye in the way. But never change any life save where there are three lives in the lease, neither add one life when one only remains, unless upon an extraordinary consideration. Now, as to the value of a tenement, my intention is soluti it is worth when your old rent and services are deducted; for if those be not abated out of the value, you make your tenants pay for what they have not; and secondly, your treatment of them would be unequal; because some are much higher rented than others, and an equal hand give great content to tenants

Tenants may well afford to give these rates, and grownick by their landlord, because they are under the worth of what they would take of a stranger. And if the tenants will keep their leases full, landlords may afford to take these rate, though under the true value. And that you may as wellfer the real advantage, as have the reputation of such an entate, as I hope by God's blessing to leave you."

"Landen: Drinted for Lahr Larrence at the stranger of the stranger of the stranger of the stranger.

London: Printed for John Lawrence, at the Angel, and John Dunton, at the Raven, in the Poultrey, 1694."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

5, New-street, Covent Garden. Sin,-Observing an article in your paper of last week, upon Indian corn, in which it is stated that "bread caunot be made of Indian meal alone: one third of meal to two thirds of wheat flour is quite as much as the bread will bear, I take the liberty of sending you a specimen of bread made from Indian corn in the ratio of seven pounds of Indian meal to one pound of flour. I have also made bread entirely of Indian corn, although it has not given such general sainfaction as that made partly of English flour.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, April 28, 1846, THOMAS INCLIS. [We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the two small loaves referred to above, and to assure our readers that we found them equal to the best wheaten bread we ever ate-ED. LEAGUE.]

THE CORN LAWS.

Ne crescat populus, scribit Malthusius ardens; Ut quoque decrescat Lex Cerealis adest.

Pous olim capitis populum decrescere fecit; Nuno facit hand allter Lex Cercalis idem. Trinity College, Cambridge. C. DE LA PRYME.

Which may perhaps be thus rendered:

Malthusians write with earnest pen-"Don't multiply, ye sons of men!"
Th' obedient Corn Law waves her mace, And checks the propagating race.

Once on a time this swarming world Was thinn'd by gibbet, sword, and flame; But now the Corn Law, flag-unfurl'd, Goes forth and perpetrates the same. (P. D.)

THE NEW TARIFF.—The Commissioners of the Costoms' Department have issued instructions to the collectors and controllers of the revenue at the several ports and places throughout the United Kingdom, to prepare and transmit to the Impertor-General of Imports and Exports with the as the same relate to their respective ports, viz.:—A return of the quantity of each description of goods ordered for cossumption, free of duty, or upon payment of a decreased me of duty, in pursuance of the resolutions of the Home of Commons, and in accordance with their orders to those offoers in March last, to carry, such resolutions into impediate effect, distinguishing those cases in which bonds have been required from the importers to pay the duties herefore chargeable, in the event of the repeal or reduction of day not receiving the sauction of Parliament. It will be need lected that the first resolution of the house, and the Trelected that the first resolution of the house, and the free sury order consequent upon the same, had resisted the admission of maine, or Indian norn, mast, back-order, and rice, at new and reduced rates of duty, on a series boud, adapted and framed for the inproce, binding articles so delivered, in the aven, of the resolution of the rice as law, and which appeared in full in ohr columns the time; and the second comprised the special resistant foreign produce and manufacture. The of conditions of the triple of the conditions of the resulting and the second comprised the special resistant number of others. At restricting fractions of the return is to be made up to the striple of the second conditions of the return be required for Parlament of the return be required for Parlament of the return be required for Parlament of the first had been also up to the second conditions of the return be required for Parlament of the first had been also up to the second conditions of the return be required for Parlament of the first had been also be made up to the second conditions of the parlament of the conditions of the return be required for Parlament of the conditions of the parlament of the conditions of the parlament of the conditions of the parlament of the conditions of the parlament of the conditions of the parlament of the conditions of the parlament of the conditions of the parlament and the second of the second o

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FALLACIES OF PROPERTION. - (Sophismes Economiques, par F. Battat, do.) Paris: Guillamin; London; Dulau. Second Notice.

M. Bastiat very justly observes that many ex-ploded fallacies are abandoned by the advocates of protection in their words, and maintained in their actions. The most important of these is the fallacy of "the balance of trade," which lies at the basis of the pernicious mercantile system, which has been so long the hane of civilisation and the main impediment of human progress. According to this theory, a nation is in the course of being impoverished when the value of her imports exceeds that of her exports. If a principle be sound in itself, it must be valid in the widest extent to which it can be carried. Suppose, then, that the country exported everything, and imported nothing;-we should like to know who and what is to pay for the exports? The blunder is simply that the protectionists do not see that imports are the price paid for exports, and that a check upon imports must depreciate the returns for the goods exported. theory of the balance of trade is just the reverse of truth; the excess of imports over exports is the precise measure of the profit that the nation makes by its system of exchange, just as the profits of a merchant are measured, not by the quantity of the goods he sells, but by the amount of what he re-

If it be once acknowledged a sound principle of legislation that the State should artificially encou rage producers without any regard to the interests of consumers, there is no assignable absurdity which may not be deduced from such a thesis. M. Bastiat best exposes the fallacy in the following clever parody of protectionist petitions:

To the Right Honourable and Honourable the Members of the Legislature, the petition of the Manufac-turers of Candles, Tapers, Lamps, Chaudeliers, Candlesticks, &c., and the producers of Tallow, Oil, Resin, Alcohol, and all other matters employed in giving light.

Humbly Showeth,

That your Right Honourable and Honourable protectionists are in the right road. You reject abstract theories; abundance and cheapness have no charms for you. The fortunes of the producer are your only care. You wish to fortunes of the producer are your only care. You wish to save him from foreign competition; in a word, you wish to reserve the national markets for national industry

We are about to offer you an admirable opportunity of applying your—whatshell we call it?—your theory? No, nothing is more deceptive than theory. Your doctrine? your system? your principle ?- But you love not doctrines; you have a horror of systems; and, with respect to principles, you deny the very existence of one in social economy;—let us, then, call it your practice—your practice, without theory

We endure the horrible competition of a foreign rival, placed, as it appears, in conditions so superior to ours for the production of light, that he inundates our national markets at an extravagantly low price: for so soon as he appears, our sale is at an end—all the consumers apply to him, and a branch of French industry, having innumerable rami fications is at once struck with the most complete stagnation. This rivel, which is no other than the Sun, wages such desperate war against our interests, that we suspect him to be instigated by perfidious Albion, inasmuch as he withholds from that haughty island much of that radiance with which he appropriate our ill most Proposed in the complete our illustration in the complete our interest our interes which he overwhelms our ill-used France.

We pray you, therefore, to pass a law commanding the closing of all windows, skylights, vontilators, fanlights, curtains, shutters, blinds, doors, and, in a word, the shutting up of all openings, apertures, and holes, by which the light of the sun is allowed to open into houses, to the prejudice of the sun is allowed to onter into houses, to the prejudice of the thriving branches of industry with which we flatter ourselves that we have enriched the country, as it would be ungrateful for the country to expose us to such unequal rivalry and competition.

We pray, noble lords and gontlemen, that you will not mistake our petition for a joke, and that you will not reject it without at least listening to the reasons which we can address in the seasons. duce in its support.

In the first an the first place; if you close the ports against the free admission of natural light, and thus create a demand for artificial light, what branch of industry is there in France which will not gradually feel-she benefits of the protection?

If more tailow be gonerimed, more sheep and oxen will be required; artificial meadows will; in consequence, be multiplied meat, wool, hides, and especially manure, that basis of all agricultural prospority.

If more oit be consumed, the cultivation of the olive, and similar trace.

irmore oil be consumed, the cultivation of the onve, and similar troos, will be indefinitely increased. These rich and exhausting plants will enable us to profit by the increased fertility which the multiplication of cattle will give to the land. Our moors and wastes will be covered with the resinous trees. Countless swarms of bees will collect honied treasures on your mountains from those flowers which now

"Are born to blush unseen, And waste their sweetness on the desart air." You will realise everywhere the pools description of his

"The best perfuming the air with minds, All for to adorn sweet, Castle Hyde?!... stora premote of all-toniture and second increointy of The state of the s

guaines, sempared with which the show-rooms of the present day are no batter, siten soldiers bulles.

There is no class in society, even if we go to the gatherer of resin on the top of his sand hill, or the and inliner at the bottom of his pit, whose washs and comforts will not be increased by conceding our prayer.

Reflect upon this, noble lords and goatlemen, and you will be convined, that there is not a single Frenchman, from the wesltby banker of Auxin down to the humble vendor of matches, whose condition will not be ameliorated by your granting our humble potition.

We foresse your objections, noble lords and gentlemen, but there is not one of them which you will not be compelled to take from the books of the advocates of commercial freedom. We venture to defy you to niter a word against our

dom. We venture to defy you to uiter a word against our claims which does not instantly turn against yourselves, and the principles by which your policy is directed.

Will you tell us, that if we gain by this protection, France will be no gainer, because the consumer must defray the

expense ?

We will answer you:

You have no longer a right to invoke the interests of the consumer. Whenever he has come into competition with the producer, you have enorificed him without any regard to circumstances. You have done so to encourage industry, to enlarge the field of employment. For the same reason you should do so now.

You have yourselves anticipated the objection. When you were told "the consumer is interested in the free import of iron, coal, sesame, cheese, yams, and wefts"—"Yes," you replied, "but the producers are interested in their exclusion." Well, then, if consumers are interested in the free admission of natural light, the producers of artificial light are interested in its exclusion.

But you will say, the producer and the consumer are the same. If the manufacturer gains, the farmer will gain likewise. If agriculture prospers, it will create a demand for the shopkeepers. Well, then, if you confer upon us the monopoly of lighting France during the day, we will buy more tallow, charcoal, oil, resin, wax, gold, silver, bronze, crystal, glass, to support our industry: and furthermore, we. crystal, glass, to support our industry; and furthermore, we and those from whom we derive our supplies, as we become enriched by our gains, will consume more, and will diffuse prosperity through all branches of national industry. Will you say that the light of the sun is a gratuitous gift, and that to refuse gratuitous gifts would be to reject wealth itself, under pretence of encouraging the means of its acquisition?

But take care that you do not destroy the very essence of your policy; hitherto you have always rejected foreign produce because cheapness brought it near to a gratuitous git, and your prohibition became more stringent the nearer it approached a gratuitous gift. To obey the exigencies of other monopolists, you had only a half motive; to grant our demand, you have a complete motive; and to reject us on the precise foundation on which we are more firmly founded that all the others, would be to establish the equation

that is, continued multiplication is equivalent to subtraction, or in other terms, to heap absurdity upon absurdity.

Nature and industry combine in different proportions, according to soil and climate, in the creation of a product. The part which nature takes is always gratuitous; it is the part taken by labour that fixes value and determines price.

If an orange of Lisbon sells for half the price of an orange

grown at Paris, it is because a natural, and therefore gratuitous heat, effects for the one what the other owes to artificial and costly heat.

Hence when an orange comes to us from Portugal, it may be said that one half is given to us gratuitously, and the other half at a price; or in other terms, that, relatively to Paris, we get the orange at half-price.

Now it is precisely on this semi gratuitousness (excuse the word) that you found your arguments of exclusion. You say, how can national industry sustain the competition of foreign industry when the former has to do every thipg, and the latter has only to do half the work, the Sun taking charge of the rest? But if semi-gratultousness determines you to oppose competition, why should complete gratuitousness induce you to admit competition? Either you are no logicians, or you ought, when you reject semi-gratuitousness as injurious to your national industry, à fortlori, and with double zeal, reject perfect gratuitousness.

Once more, when a product, coal, iron, obcess, or manufactured goods, comes from abroad, and we can acquire it with less labour than we could produce it ourselves, the difference is a gratuitous gift hastowed upon us. This gift is more or less considerable, according as the difference is greater or less. It is the fourth, the half, or three fourths of the value of the product, if the foreigners ask us but three fourths, one half, or one fourth of the price we should otherwise have to pay: It is as complete as it can be; when the giver, as is the case of the Sun with light, asks us for nothing in return. The question then is, and we state it formally, whether you desire for France the blessings of gratuitous consumption, or the advantages of expensive production? Ohoose, but be logical; for whilst you reject, as you do, cost, iron, oheese, and manufactured goods, in proportion as their price empraches zero, it is a monstrous incongenity to admit the light of the sun, the price of which is at zero all the day

Were a similar petition prepared in England, we doubt not that Lord Stanley would present it to the peers, vouching for the respectful tenor of its lunguage, and the constitutional justness of its argumonte:

"You laugh-'tis well-the tale applied May make you laugh at tother side."

Put corn for light, and Tamboff for the Sun, and you have the noble lord's memorable speech, only stratly improved in temper, and much strengthened in the cogency of its arguments. In fact, the light-taxers in England could quote the window-duties as a precedent, and they might also use the argument and they might also use the argument of independence of foreigners, whose caprice may induce them to withhold supplies by referring to the normal of the supplies by referring to the supplies of the first of the supplies of The True Grandeur of Nations: an Oration. By Changes Summer, Esq., Boston, Musskolmistic.

London, Smith.

This cloquent cration, advocating the principles of universal peace, and denouncing the barburism of war, was delivered in the principal church of Boston, on the festival commemorating the anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence. It was no small proof of confidence in principle,no slight exhibition of moral courage, to soize such an opportunity for denouncing those appeals to popular prejudices and vulgar passions, by which a party in the United States have ondeavoured to force their country into hostile collision with Great Brituin. He has, however, proved hispself equal to the occasion; and we doubt whother any audiversary oration has over been pronounced in Boston exhibiting so large a combination of brilliant oldquence with resisticss argument.

As the work has been republished in England, at a choap rate, and is likely to obtain a wide airculation, it is not necessary to give any formal analysis of its contents; we shall, therefore, only make a few extracts, which require neither introduction her comment. The first we have to bring before our readors describes the honourable nature of peace:

"IN OUR AGE THERE CAN BE NO PRACE THAT IS NOT HOOUR AGE THREE CAN HE BO PRACE THAT IS NOT DIS-HONOURABLE; THERE CAN BE NO WAR THAT IS NOT DIS-HONOURABLE. The true honour of a nation is to its found only in deeds of justice and in the happiness of its people, all of which are inconsistent with war. In the clear eye of Christian judgment, vain are its victories; infamous are its spoils. He is the true benefactor and alone worthy of honour who brings comfort where before was wretchedness; who dries the tear of sorrow; who pours oil into the wounds of the unfortunate; who feeds the hungry and clothes the naked; who pulposes the fatters of the slave; who does jus-tice; who collisities the ignorant; who collisons and exaits, by his virtuous genius, in art, in literature, in science, the hours of life; who, by words or actions, inspires a love for God and for man. This is the Christian here; this is the man of honour in a Christian land. He is no benefactor, nor descrying of honour, whatever may be his worldly renown, whose life is passed in acts of force; who renounces the great law of Christian brotherhood; whose vocation is blood; who triumphs in battle over his fellow man. Well may old Sir Thomas Brown exclaim, 'The world does not know its greatest men; for thus far it has chiefly discorned the violent broad of battle, the armed men springing up from the dragon's teeth sown by Hate, and cared little for the truly good men, children of Love, 'Cromwells guildess of their country's blood, whose steps on earth have been as noiseless us an angel's wing.'

The application to nations of the Rule of Right recognised in the case of individuals, is very ably

"Who has told you, fond man! to regard that as a glory when performed by a nation, which is condemned as a crime and a barbarism, when committed by an individual? In what vain conceit of wisdom and virtue do you find this in-congruous morality? Where is it declared that God, who is no respector of persons, is a respector of multitudes? Whence do you draw these partial laws of a powerful and impartial Gol? Man is immortal; but States are mortal. He has a higher destiny than States. Shall States be less amenable to the great moral laws? Each individual is an atom of the mass. Must not the mass be like the individuals of which it is composed? Shall the mass do what individuals may not do? No. The same moral laws which govern individuals govern masses, as the same laws in nature prevail over large and small, controlling the fall of an apple and the orbits of the planets. It was the beautiful discovery of Newton, that gravity is a universal property of matter, a law obeyed by every particle in reference to every other particle, and connecting the celestial mechanism with terrestrial phenomena. So the Rule of Right, which binds the single individual, binds two or three when gathered together—binds conventions and congregations of men—binds villages, towns, and cities—binds states, nations, and empires—clasps the whole human family in its sevenfuld embrace; nay more :

Beyond the flaming bounds of place and time, The living throne, the sapphire blaze,

it binds the angels of heaven, the seraphim, full of love, the cherubin, full of knowledge; above all, it binds, in self-imposed bonds, a just and omnipotent God. It is of this, and not of any cartily law, that Hooker speaks in that magnificent period which sounds like an authem, Of law po loss can be said, than that her seat is the bosom of God, her voice the harmony of the world; all things in heaven and earth do her liomage, the very least as feeling her care, the greatest as not exempted from her power; both angels and men, and creatures of what condition seever, though each in different sort and manner, yet all with uniform consent admiring her as the mother of their peace and joy."

The distinctions between true and false patriot ism are ably drawn:

"I do not inculcate an indifference to country. We incline by a natural sentiment to the spot where we were born, to the fields which witnessed the sports of childhood, to the sent of youthful studies, and to the institutions under which we have been trained. The fluger of God writes in: indollike colours all these things upon the heart of man, so flust in the dread extremities of death, he reverts, in fondiess, to narly associations, and longs for a drainglift officially water from the bucket in his fathers well. This semimons is independent of railection, for it begins before redestion, grows with our growth, and strengthens vitit our strength. It is blind in its nature; and it is the duty of seal of his to take care that it does not absorb this whole antistances, its the morel night, which has any closed. He would easier with the morel night, which has any closed. The world seal resident in the marries of others, which it imports all a seal resident of the marries of others, which it imports all a seal resident of the marries of others, which it imports all a seal resident of the marries of others, which it is included a seal resident. It is marries of others, which it is included a seal resident of the marries of others, which it is included a seal resident. "I do not inculcate an indifference to country, . We inan inborn sentiment of attachment to the place of hirth, in-guines into the nature of the allegiance which is due to the flate. The old idea, still too much conceived, is, that man is made for the fitate, and not the flate for man. Far other-wise is the truth. The flate is an artificial body, intended for the security of the people. How constantly do we find, in bomen instory, that the people have been sacrificed for the fitate; to build the Roman name, to secure to England the trident of the acc. This is to sacrifice the greater for the trident of the aca. This is to sacrifice the greater for the less ; for the fleating possessions of earth to barter the immortal soul. Let it be remembered that the State is not worth preserving at the cost of the lives and happiness of

It is not that I love country less, but humanity more that now, on this national anniversary, I plead the cause of a higher and truer patriotism. Remember that you are men by a more sacred bond than you are citizens; that you are children of a common father more than you are Americans."

We shall conclude by extracting the noble pero-

"Let it not be said that the age does not demand this work. The mighty conquerors of the past, from their flery sepulcires demand it; the blood of millions unjustly shed in war crying from the ground demands it; the voices of all good men demand it; the conscience even of the soldier whispers ' Peace.' There are considerations, springing from our situation and condition, which fervently invite us to take the lead in this great work. To this should bend the patriotic ardour of the land; the ambition of the statesman; the efforts of the scholar; the persuasive influence of the pross; the mift persuasion of the sanctuary; the early teachings of the school. Here, 'in ampler other and diviner air, are untried fields for exalted triumplis, more truly worthy the American name, than any anatched from rivers of blood. War in known an the Last Reason of Kings. Let it be no reason of our Republic. Let us renounce and throw off for ever the yoke of a tyranny more oppressive than any in the annals of the world. As those standing on the mountain-tops first discern the coming beams of morning, let us, from the vantage-ground of liberal institutions, first recognise the ascending sun of a new era! Lift high the gates, and let the King of Glory in—the King of true Glory—of Peace. I catch the last words of music from the lips of innopenno oud beauty:

'And let the whole earth be filled with his glory!'

"It is a beautiful picture in Greeian story, that there was at least one spot, the small Island of Delos, dedicated to the gods, and kept at all times sacred from war, where the citizens of heatile countries met and united in a common worship. So let us dedicate our broad country! The Temple of Honour shall be surrounded by the Temple of Concord, so that the former can be entered only through the portals of the latter; the horn of Abundance shall overflow at its gates; the angel of Religion shall be the guide over its steps of flashing adamant; while within, Justice returned to the earth from her long exile in the skies, shall rear her serons and majestic front. And the future chiefs of the Republic destined to uphold the glories of a new era, unspotted by buman blood, shall be 'the first in Peace, and the first in the hearts of their countrymen.

But while we seek these blissful glories for ourselves, let us strive to extend them to other lands. Let the bugles sound the Truce of God to the whole world for ever. Let the solfish boast of the Spartan women become the grand chorus of mankind, that they have never seen the smoke of an enemy's camp. Let the iron belt of martial music which now encompasses the earth, he exchanged for the golden costus of Pence, clothing all with celestial beauty. History dwells with fondness on the reverent homage that was bestowed, by massacreing soldiers, on the spot occupied by the sopulaire of the Lord. Vain man! to restrain his regard to a few feet of sacred mould! The whole earth is the sepulchre of the Lord; nor can any righteon; man profanc any part thereof. Let us recognise this truth; and now, on this Sabbath of our country, lay a new stone in the grand Temple of Universal Ponco, whose dome shall be as lofty as the Armament of heaven, as broad and comprehensive as the

GOD'S LAWS VERSUS CORN LAWS. A LETTER TO HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTER-BURY, PROM A DIGNITARY OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH. (From Tait's Magazine.)

The title of this tract is not more remarkable than its contents, and the quarter whence it emanates. To find "a Dignitary of the English Church," one who proclaims himself, by inheritance and education, a Tory, denouncing the Corn Laws to his ecclesiastical superior, as directly opposed to the laws of God and the well-being of man, is a pregnant sign of the times, and we would fain hope an earnest of im-

The " Dignitary," a man of learning and piety, who deeply feels the responsibilities of his order, has, as appears from every paragraph of his letter, taken a comprehensive and philosophic view of the social and political history of the most remarkable nations of antiquity, and has also kept pace with the development of opinion is his own age. But he starts from a higher point than oan be assumed in mere human reasoning; from the direct commission and trust of the Creator, as revealed and committed to our first parents, to " replonish and subdue the earth, and to have dominion over it." This commission, originally given to Adam, and never revoked, was renewed in the charge given to Noah; and it is broadly contended:

Under the terms of this commission, a right seems to be give Under the terms of this commission, a right seems to be given to all men to partake of all the fruits of all the earth, provided they be willing to earn it with the sweat of the brow; and that no human legislation can interfere with this vasted right of every individual, without violating fled's law; and that all stampls, either direct or indirect, to limit this greatened, can originate only in violence and tyrunny—at least, not till the torms of the commission be thoroughly fulfilled, and the whole earth he subdued and replantahed.

The letter sots out strenuously arguing that it is highly proper and decorous, nav, the bounden duty of the ministers of the church, and especially of the lords spiritual in their place in the Upper House of Parliament, to interfere in such place in the Upper House of Parliament, to interfere in such questions as Corn Laws; and to use their utmost sagnelty and wisdom in correcting what is smiss in legislation, and ambining what is defective. The clergy and men of all ranks are foundly told:

Should, then, in a community bearened apparently by the great truins of the Gospel, and acknowledging Christ's ministers as an important element in its constitution, cortain principles prayed, and practices by granted thereon, which isnd to add to the wealth of the rich, and to diminish the narrow comforts

of the poor; it appears to me that the ministers of God, who; by their arguments, maintain, or, by their ellence countre at, such principles and practices, betrey the cause of the poor, whom it is their essential duty to protect, and are in great danger of ceasing to be "the sait" of the social mass.

Believing, as I do, that the Corn Laws, which, for a generation of thirty years, have regulated both the price and quantity of food in Great Britain, have tended, and to still tend, to increase the wealth of the rich, and to diminish the comforts of the poor, it is my bounden duty to profess publicly this belief, and to attempt to relieve our poorer brethren from the pressure which these laws seem to inflict upon thom.

Throwing a rapid glance along the current of sacred and profane history, from the beginning of the world until the appearance of our Saviour on earth; the doctrines and principles which he promulgated, and the enlightened and humane civil institutions which, though still very imperfect, have grown out of the Christian system, are ably and elo-quently contrasted with the principles of polity which regu-lated even the most illustrious and highly civilised nations

of antiquity.
Limited as is our space, and though this Letter contains much that is more apt for what we conceive its main object, -namely, forcing thought, if not absolutely carrying conviction, into high places,—we must quote one passage, which, among many others, must show the "protectionists" that the "Dignitary" is something different from those most useful labourers, in their own sphere, the Anti-Corn-Law orators, whether of the hustings or the platform. He reverts to the principles and labours of the early apostles and disciples, the first Christian missionaries, and thus strikingly presents the contrast:

Presents the contrast:

The natural man, the selfish creature, as known to us from actual experience, and as we find him faithfully depictured inprofano history, arts upon principles directly the reverse of these. He loves his own locality with an instinctive feeling. He wars steadily against all attempts to enlarge the sphere of his local attachments. His home, be it ever so homely, is his paradise. Within that narrow limit, he cherishes these prejudices which have grown with his growth, and strengthened with his strength. He values all his petty privileges in proportion to their exclusive character, and resolutely resists any attempt to communicate them to others; and if he is a member of the more favoured class of the community, values his position, not according to his own real elevation in the scale of humanity, but according to a fictitious standard of his own invention, of but according to a fletitious standard of his own invention, of which the favourite test is, the graduated depression of all placed

On such selfah principles were constituted the world-famous constitutions of the ancient states of Greece: Sparta itself, that wonderful creation of the human intellect, presents us with a view of the most vigorous attempt ever made by man to fix within narrow limits energies which never can be permanently thus controlled, to cast all minds in one unvarying mould, and, as it were, to stereotype an everlasting imprint of social life. There were many points in this system which a disciple of Malthus would gladly reproduce. Sparta had an aristocracy as fixed in its dimensions as the everlasting hills which looked down upon her mean-looking capital. Into her sacred band no new blood could possibly be infused,—no merits, however great, or whatsoever might be their nature, could entitle a Spartan, not legitimately descended from members of the privileged class, to have his name registered among the blood nobility of Sparta. Her middle class was limited in number, and her laws positively forbade any increase of its constituent members. The first-born male of every Poriodian family was alone regarded as the representative of his class. His brothers, debarred from marriage, were compelled to servile labour on his territorial lot, without any hope of improving their position, except by the death of their brother without male offspring. The lower classes were represented by the Helots, slaves of the lowest description, without any social rights, without property, and whose numbers were kept down to suit the exigencies of the times by private assussination and public massacres. It has been supposed—and the supposition is partly borne out by tradition—that Lyeurgus borrowed some of his institutions from Moses. The only conservative principle, in this exclusive state, was the exemplary self-donial of the aristocracy. Its members were contented to forego all the luxuries of life, and to restrict their wants, as far as the body was concerned, to a provision for sufficient, protection against cold, hunger, and thirst, fley were, constitutions of the ancient states of Greece: Sparta itself, that wonderful creation of the human intellect, presents us with exemplary self-defined of the aristocracy. Its members were contented to forego all the luxuries of life, and to restrict their wants, as far as the body was concerned, to a provision for sufficient, protection against cold, hunger, and thirst; they were, literally speaking, contented "with food and raiment." A Spartan noble, for centuries, lived as plainly, if not more so, than the lowest Helet of the community. Such self-denial was not without its reward; for the power of the Spartan aristocracy flourished for a period of time, of which we have no similar example in the histories of ancient states. To secure power, the desire of which is the last infirmity of noble minds, they voluntarily resigned those sensual enjoyments which ignoble minds regard as most to be desired. Even the fall of Sparta had nothing abrupt or destructive in its results. She died of a gradual decline, without any dangerous convulsion, without any internacine war of brother against brother, or wholesale massacre of citizens by kindred hands. But Sparta fell "without a sign;" her greatness is really the "magni nominis umbra" of the poet, recorded in hooks alone, and not leaving the impress of her her greatness is really the "magni nominis umbra" of the poet, recorded in hooks alone, and not leaving the impress of her mind upon the history of man. She stands alone,—her pedigree begins and ends with herself; she had no ancestors, and

left no subcessors.
Athens was less exclusive in her institutions: her population consisted not of the pure Correpian race alone, but was an amalgam of almost every tribe in Gracee: t peated revolutions consisted not of the pure Cecropian race alone, but was an amalgam of almost every tribe in Greece: Presented revolutions had fused most of her free inhabitants into a compact demo-oracy, instinct with life, and boundless in ambitions; her movements were consequently less gramped, and her activity more decided than those of any other free state of ancient Orecce. At a period almost autocodent to the regular history of the race, Athens had sent forth colonies, which in time swelled out into the fair proportions of the Hellenie states of Ionia; nor did sho, to the latest period of her power, cease to act upon the same principles, and to send her surplus population to distantshores. But she could not transfer her affections to her transplanted children. Her care was limited by the boundaries of Attica and a few neighbouring islands. Thus to her colonies she was an unkind stepmether—to her acquired subjects a cruel and despotical mistrass. She thought that the brute force at her command would enable her to defy the discontent of those depondents would enable her to defy the discontent of those depondents would enable her to defy the discontent of those depondents would enable her to defy the discontent of those depondents would enable her to defy the discontent of those depondents and tributaries. But she drow the reins too tightly; they snapped in her lands; the fleet of her dependents went over to the enemy. Her navalsupromacy was thus overlinews; and she fell amidst the horrors of a home-war and civil bloodshed, with a suddenness in direct contrast with the slowness of her ascent. But she did not full without a sign. The sons whom she had cherished in the days of home-liberty, left the impress of her marble wonders, whose ruins still breathe. After many a bloody struggle; not without glory, Athons gradually subsided into the peacoful teacher of her ruder conquerors, the favourite seat whence the ancient world derived its intellectual know-ledge, and finally, the pride and glory of the unchristianized of world.

orld.
The wiscat of her sons answed thomselves with constructing The wiscat of her sons annual thomselves with constructing systems of policy, in which all the advantages resulting from social and political life were to be secured, and all the sylls avoided. But as they knew not of the high mission adman, they could never raise their imaginations boyond the contemplation of a territory limited in quantity, and consequently of a body of citizens limited in number. The necessary operation of what we now call the Mailmain laws was particuly, well known to them; and that the principle on which they get would necessarily provedual to any preserving community arrived of the carry names had a the transfer of the community arrived of the carry names had a the transfer the community arrived of the carry names had a contemplate to continue the carry names had some means taken to counterpot the period place. and to keep the number of citizens within the prescribed limit. It grieves me to write, that although hoth Plato and Arisote hint at certain anterior measures which might palliate the will they teach openly, that the only effectual remedy against it although cortainty, was the destruction of superfluous infants, he fore they can appreciate the gift of life.

Still there was an authority even in their days which might have taught them a better lesson. That authority the majority

Still there was an authority even in their days which might have taught them a better leason. That authority the majority of their countrymen regarded with something of the venerating with which we regard the Holy Scriptores. Old Homer, had they consulted him, would have told them of lands untilled by the hand, introdden by the foot of man, which watted for monthing but man's labour to change them from a howling wither thing but man's labour to change them from a howling wither mans into smiling gardens, which would have furnished her with ample domains, ready to be occupied by that superfutous logicalism which was the source of their difficulties, and against the evils supposed necessarily to result from which they know of no better remedy than the destruction of their own children, the continuous removal of the genial spring from the course of the year.

But the high attitude which England is called upon to assume as a colonising country, possessed of means and resources, such as the world never before saw, for executing the commission originally given by the Creator to man, it less to our immediate purpose than the narrower but more pressing question of Pree Trade. It is enough that the subject of colonisation is ably treated, though only on general principles, and illustrated by examples drawn from the history of the greatest conquerors and colonisers of the ancient world. One sentence from a brief and masterly sketch of the Norman Conquest we copy as an indication of the general spirit of the "Letter."—"It must be confessed that the period of the Norman domination is marked by events which, however pleasing they may appear in the eyes of a medicaval enthusiast, have no charms for the truly benerolent man, who wishes to improve the great body of his cou-

But setting out with better principles, and with nobler ends than ever yet animated conquerors, and possessing unrivalled means and advantages, which are proudly enumerated, the "Dignitary" exhorts his countrymen to fulfil the high destiny for which Providence seems to have selected this favoured land, and to become the beneficent agents in the great works of peopling and civilising the world. There is, however, one great but not insurmountable obstacle to the accomplishment of an object in which it would be glorious even to co-operate, namely, our restrictive commercial policy, and the condition to which it has reduced our indutrini classes; our laws that are opposed to God's laws. This obstacle, which the reasonings and persuasions of this Letter must tend to remove, is thus treated:

As far as human reason can infer, as far as experience can lead us to conceive, there is but one visible obstacle to prevent us from fulfilling so glorious a duty; and this obstacle has been thrown across our path, not by any necessity imposed upon us by the physical laws of the universe, nor erected by the ingenuity of human enemies, but deliberately built up by our own emicidal hands. We the favoured, the energetic the patient suicidal hands. We, the favoured, the energetic, the patient the hard-toiling inhabitants of this realm, so powerful for god so abstemious from evil, able to produce to an animited extent all the other necessaries of civilised life, and to part with them as a medium of exchange, cannot and do not produce a suf-ciency of wholesome food for the healthy maintenance of our

ciency of wholesome food for the healthy maintenance of our existing population.

The Legislature in an evil hour passed laws, which, however wisely intended, have eventually prevented us from supplying this deficiency in proportion to our wants. I need not receptulate to your Grace the history of our Corn Laws; most probably, it is better known to you than it is to me, But your Grace must well remember the memorable year when they assumed their present form, and the instinctive hatred with which their enactment was regarded by those who have since that time been called "the masses." The Bill, against which, in its every stage, those poor people published their turbulent and riotous protests, passed into a law.

Its proposers and supporters affirmed that it was invested.

passed into a law.

Its proposers and supporters affirmed that it was imposed upon them by necessity; and, to a certain extent, perhaps it was so. We were table that it was necessary in our transition statements a universal war to almost a universal peace; to save the landowners from certain ruin—to lighten the burden of the national debt—to enable us gradually to descend from the false position into which we had been inevitably brought by our isolated existence of so many years' continuance, and especially by the fearful debasement of our legal currency. It was most than hinted that were only time allowed, all might be rectified, and we might again safely and gracofully descend to the level. and we might again safely and gracefully descend to the level of other nations.

of other nations.

With the truth or fallacy of these arguments, it is not my present intention to deal. But I know this, that since that period a generation of men has passed away, that the Com Laws are still in force, although mitigated in their stringency. and that the arguments addition for their continuance, are of that character, which, if unrefuted must render the laws perpetual, cripple our over-elastic energies, arrest us in our ouvari course, and render our statesmen the by-word and scorn of futuro generations.

The "Dignitary" next sets himself to combat the backneyed arguments of the protectionists, and to demolish, in particular, the thrice-refuted fallacies, which our residen have so often seen knocked upon the head during the last dozen years. But we have little to say on this section of the "Letter," save to express a fervent hope that, for the unmon good, it might take effect in quarters where Color Thompson and the League might in vain raise their voice. This hope is indeed one main ground of our satisfaction at the appearance of this remarkable pamphlet. The writer at once gives up the point of the labouring population being fed as generously as he would have them fed from the produce of our home territories; and roundly denies the seessity of any restrictions. His working man's dietary, or his definition of what, "wholesome food" is, would really go for the make the country deserve to all small stop of "Ment". to make the country deserve its old appellation of "Meny

to make the country deserve its old appellation of "Alery England."

"Wholesome food," (he says,) according to my defailing ought to consist of a diet, of which bread made of the ground seeds of the more generous cercalia, ought to consistent a relief element; and this bread might, to a certain extant, he partially displaced by preparations of the seeds of legominous plant. But along with this farinaceous food, there ought to be consistent a full proportion of animal substances, whether he the first adding, that there should also, or the form of milk, butter, cheese, fiesh, fowl, or fish. I have no haddened and in the carealis, or of ruiber sapilists shappen of elements is the carealis, or of ruiber sapilists shappen of elements is glishman's bill of fare.

Such was the food of the patriarous, the fish, the confortably, with all their numerous flowing haddened was the food which belonised on brought fortally was the food which belonised on brought fortally was the food which belonised on brought fortally and with Gell like the light and with the first mimerous flowing the same was the food which belonised on brought fortally and with Gell like the light of the first of

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THE POLICE DE three sire of his according to the sire of his according to the sire of the si

Herodoins states as an historical fact, that the warriors of Egypt received, among other perquisites, a daily allowance of breed, butcher's meetrand wine; even her very bondamen, when tasked bardes to their work, were allowed to rovel in the luxurios of

We sell this sound and admirable dootrine; and some remarks follow about the physical condition of the Irish, and the poor of the North of Scotland, which we gladly hall from the pen of a "Dignitary of the English Church;" though such language about the people's food, or want of food, might, forty years since, have qualified a man for Botany Bay. The conclusion is:

It is therefore a gross fallacy to affirm, that the agriculture of these islands furnishes its population with a sufficient quantity of wholesome food. The utmost that can be said under this heal is, that it does provide a sufficiency for the consumption of the easier classes.

Instead of favouring what are called the Malthusian doctrines, the "Diguitary" contends that a numerous and increasing population—where religion and morality, wise legislation, and an culightened system of civil policy fulfil their great purposes—is to be regarded as a special blossing of Providence, as a token of the divine favour. This, he holds, is the doctrine taught in the Scriptures, and corroborated by profaue history. Thus it is stated, that

rated by profane history. Thus it is stated, that

Sparta was ruined by the want of Spartans of the ancient stock. So also Athens and Carthage foil because their citizen population did not increase in proportion to their ever-increasing number of imperial subjects. Rome was in some degree either wiser or more fortunate in this respect; but even Rome, with much greater advantages, and with more liberal principles, showed alarming symptoms of a similar disease, and tried various means of remedying the gradual decrease of real Romans.

What but God's judgment has smitten the regions once ruled over by the great monarchs of Assyria, Media, and Persia, with sterility and barrenness—sterility in their soil and barrenness in their families? We read in the pages of Herodotus of the almost incredible productiveness of ancient Babylouia. "This," writes the father of history, "this is the most fertile of all the regions with which we are acquainted in its crops of cerealia. It does not attempt, however, to produce vines, figs, and olive trees; but in grain crops it is so fortile, that, on an average, it returns its seed two hundred-fold, and in favourable seasons even three hundred-fold."

In another passage he states, that this province alone, after feed-

that, on an average, it returns its seed two hundred-fold, and in favourable seasons even three hundred-fold.

In another passage he states, that this province alone, after feeding its own great population, could spare enough to supply with feed all the public establishments of the same district barely farnishes the necessaries of life for two or three patry cities, and for a few windering tribes of Arabs, who have located themselves among its mighty ruins. If we look at Asia Minor, especially at the portion occupied by the Ionian Greeks, which was pronounced by Herodotus to enjoy the most genial climate and the most fertile soil known to him, we see the same astounding result. Its spontaneous fertility, its natural advantages, have been counteracted by some causes powerful enough to prevent its few and scattered inhabitants from deriving any corresponding benefit from their happy location, and, which is more to my purpose, from continuously kleereasing in number. In Pales time, and all through Syria, the population is evidently dying away; and the land now very purthily outivated, will apparently be soon left desolate. Even in islands like Cyprus and Crete, the same course of things is discernible. Cyprus, when under the Venetian government, had a population of 1,500,000 souls, when for a certainty it could trust to nought but its own soil; now that it has become a part of the Continental dominions of the Osmanli, it with difficulty feeds 60,000 human beings.

The Osmanlis in Europo, Asia, and Africa, are duily decreasing in numbers; and Turkey, in the words of Lamartine, is dying for want of Turks. Our islands, on the contrary, are yearly adding some three or four hundred thousand souls to our population, and no improvement in agriculture can possibly enable our farmers to increase the quantity of marketable fooil in projection to the call for it on the part of our increasing population. Even the series of bad harvests which preceded the summer of 1841, and the consequent distress, might perhaps have checked

tion. Even the series of bad harvests which preceded the summer of 1841, and the consequent distress, might perhaps have checked for the time, but did not prevent, our continuous increase in numbers. Time will therefore, in spite of all obstacles, in a few years virtually repeal the Corn Laws, and compol us to derive no small portion of our daily bread from other sources than the British soil. than the British soil.

The peculiar advantages which landowners, as a class, possess, are not overlooked in the "Letter;" while of those protective laws which, in 1814, might have been necessary, us temporary measures, it is said:

The transition from a state of almost universal war to a state of pace as almost universal, required delicate management; and the extraordinary legislation of the day, which placed us in a very invideous light to the rest of the world, was, it may be held, a prudent precaution to secure us from great and imminent evils. No sound-minded politician of that day over dreamed that they were to be one of our secresspent institutions to

held, a prudent precaution to secure us from great and imminent evils. No sound-minded politician of that day over dreamed that they were to be one of our sacrosanct institutions, to be non-removeable and perpetual. The constant struggle against their continuance, the war of words which was ever maintained upon the subject, ought to have acted as a full and sufficient warning to the agricultural interest, that they were but the result of a temporary policy, and not to be regarded as the sacred and unafterable code of the Medes and Porsians. If the laudholders obstinately refused to accept these continuous warnings, we may regret their folly, but cannot deeply sympathize with the sorrows which may be the result of such chronic blindness.

I have read that Sir Robert Walpole once described the landed interest as a sheep, which, when seized by the shepherd, submitted to its fate without a struggle, and sliently yielded up its rich fleefe. But the same great statesman's rustic symbol of the mercantile and commercial interest, was what an Orientalist would call "the father of our hams and bacon," who, when rough bands were laid upon him, disturbed the neighbourhood with his annuarical clamour; and, after all, however closely the instrument was applied, yielded only a few uspless bristles to the shearer. In our lays we have witnessed a change as wonderful as any celebrated by Ovid: the slient slieep has become the loud grunter, and coases not to disturb our social system by her discordant bleatings.

The advantages which landlords have derived, and must continue to desire the slient slieep has

The advantages which landlords have derived, and must continue to derive, from railroads, are not forgotten; and wonderfully little sympathy is displayed with aristocratio disguat at the pestilent vulgarities of smoky manufactories, sleam-engines, and a besmirohed industrious or an upstart washing to the coming wealthy commercial population. What follows, if coming from a less sacred source than a Church Dignitary, would be thought to smack of stark radicalism.

thought to smack of stark radicalism:

I must confess that I feel little sympathy with the morbid feelings of a nobleman or gentleman, who, after passing hair his lime in London, and mixing there with its busy population, content to walk, or to ride, or drive, amidst a continued throug, then twices to the country for the remainder of his year, to have his news shattered and his squamifity distorbed, should two or three strangers be found wandering among his plendid scenes of his ample domains. It is the invasion of these samed retreats, so there to the pride and even to some better feelings of he aristoorasy, that makes a manufactory an odious aight, and a relation of the pride and even to some better feelings of he aristoorasy, that makes a manufactory an odious aight, and a relation of the pride and even to some points for his passion of the pride and even to some points for his passion of the pride and even to some points of the pride and even to some poin

spacious gardens, with their profusion of all rare plants that could either delight the scent or charm the eye, drove the tillar of the ground from their immediate vicinity, whether pleasant spots on the lower, or upper sea. And where nature was less adapted for such pleasant seats the shephard reigned supreme, and covered the hills of Apalia and Lucania with countless flocks, which were maintained with little expense, and managed principally by slaves.

England, the empress of the commercial world, and with wings capable of wasting her to the remotest parts of the earth, is tethered by cords from which she cannot break loose to her Island Home. The mass of engines which the present generation has either inherited or created, the iron-stone and coal mines in various districts, the railroads over which she can so easily convey her produce to the seashore, furnish the capitalist and labourer with facilities and capabilities which they would in vain seek to realise in other regions. And the very density of the population, which is no small constituent in the elements of her productive power, is compelled, as it were, in proportions of the population, which is no small constituent in the elements of her productive power, is compelled, as it were, in proportions still more dance, to spread around certain centres. Hence the continuous process which threatens to convert England into great operative factories and blesching greens; to make it averything but a rose bad, or a park residence for exclusive proprietors.

prictors.

But, if this be the the case, why should our splendid aristo-But, if this be the the case, why should our splendid aristocracy, who have nothing but local prejudices to tether them to cortain spots, not remove themselves, if they cannot abate the increasing nuisance? The progress of manufacturing industry will daily enable them more and more to put money in their purses, and to go forth and establish spacious parks, inviolable preserves, in the wilds of Canada, the stoppes of Australia, or the boundless plains of Southern Africa. I see no reason why a powerful nobleman, who now rejoices in the preservation of hares and pheasants should not be more ambitious in this line. A preserve of wolves, grisly hears, moose deer, not to speak of smaller game, in Northern Canada, would really be aristocratic, or even royal.

This remarkable Letter closes with a view of the Revolution produced in this country by the Emancipation of the Catholics and the Reform Bill; changes not fess mighty or important in their consequences, that they have been quietly accomplished, and are silently doing their work. But hopeful and cheering conclusions are drawn; and, in substance, we are told that, morally and physically, the British empire never stood among the nations of the earth in so powerful and noble an attitude as at the present time. The Tory -what was deemed Sir Robert Peel's party-are, in this pithy paragraph, shown the folly of the senseless cinmour, and more senseless invective, in which they are indulging against that great Minister and his Liberal col-

The statesman who would attempt to steer the commonwealth The statesman who would attempt to steer the commonwealth by the principles and through the channels of the unchanged constitution, would undoubtedly strike upon shoals and rocks not marked on the older charts, and experience atorms and whirlwinds where his predecessors had been favoured with regular trade winds and fixed monsoons. To attempt, therefore, to bind down any of four living statesmen by any declaration made by them under our former political system, smacks strongly of insanity. All taunts, also, and shanderous invectives against the statesmen of cither party, because their present ogainst the statesmen of either party, because their present course of action may not be in strict consistence with previous expressions of opinion, are more idle talk, not worth a wise then's consideration.

The ecclesiastical order is also admonished of its present duty; and the necessity of the school and library for the working classes is as distinctly recognised as that of the church. But, returning to the original point; before the blessings anticipated can be realised, "the Corn Laws must be abolished," and "the sconer the better." Their present existence on the statute book is considered "a disgrace to our legislature;" and once more, therefore, a voice is raised in solemn warning.

Steps in wrong directions often place men in difficult positions, whence either advance or retreat may be accompanied with some risk. We cannot advance, nor can we stand still; retions, whence either advance or retreat may be accompanied with some risk. We cannot advance, nor can we stand still; retreat therefore is our only resource. Any attempt on the part of our aristocracy to give buttle in their present position, will expose them to something worse than defeat; for assuredly a temporary victory, on this point, would in the end prove more fatal than many defeats. They are in the wrong, and we know, as a general truth, that a continuous struggle against wrongs terminates not with their correction, but involves the wrong doors in imminent danger. I can assure your Grace, that there are many bad eitizens, who contemplate with pleasure the continued resistance of the aristocracy to measures which millions regard as necessary to their very existence. May God in his mercy avert any continued struggle between the many and the few on this point, and may we never see our glorious aristocracy worsted in a sordid attempt to increase their wealth at the expense of the poor! Your Grace will remember the robuke which Dr. Johnson administered to a Sir Thomas Robinson, who expressed his fears that corn imported from Ireland might prove projudicial to the English corn trade. "Sir Thomas," said the Doctor, "You talk the language of a savage. What, sir! would you prevent any mass from feeding themselves, if by any means they can do it? The great mass of our people are being rapidly convened that "they can feed themselves by honest means," and will assuredly regard the man who may attempt to prevent them from doing so as a savage.

The Dignitary—and we can assure our readers that this is no sham designation—device all connection between what he regards as Tory principles and the odious and impolitic Corn Laws. And we must acknowledge that the pure high-bred Whigs, until a new light lately broke upon them, have

sen quite as wrong-headed on this point as the Tories. We have deemed this Letter entitled to more space than it is usual to bestow on a pamphlet of the day, from the belief that, coming, at the present crisis, from a Tory and a Churchman, it is calculated to do much good. The writer, while he stirs the staguant and sluggish waters, also contrives to throw oil upon the angry surges which threaten to submerge the vessel of the State. That besides fulfilling the higher functions of a peacemaker, he is an accomplished soliolar and a philosophic student of history, accustomed to view moral and political questions from a calm and companions wealther wealther must be apparent to accurate the con-

to meet direct a difficulty which cannot he avoided and therefore, instead of incidentally discussion the grounds of distinction between raw material and manufactures, we shall as out by a direct explanation of the grounds on which a difference is established, not for the purpose of justifying premiers, parties, or parliaments, but for clucidating the principles of plain common sense.

Raw materials should not be subjected to taxation, for the simple and obvious reason that whatever diminishes the supply of material acts as a prohibition on the industry to be employed in its manufacture. A tax on the import of wool would at once lessen the amount of employment given to combers, spinners, weavers, and cloth-dressers; but as food is a raw material in every kind of manufacture, being worked into the thews and sinews of the operative, it appears, on the first aspect of the matter, that a tax upon food, so far as it is enforced, acts as a prohibition of manufacturing industry, and a consequent diminution of the amount of employment distributable among the working population. On the other hand, it may be urged that corn being virtually a manufacture from the soil, produced by farmers and labourers, in the very same way that calicoes are produced by the owners of factories and their factory hands, the incentive given to the production of food at home supplies a compensating amount of employment to the agricultural population.

As we are not about to enter on any discussion of the Corn

Laws, we need only say here that discouragement by taxation is a very different thing from encouragement by protection; the former is a positive and obvious evil; the latter, a very questionable and doubtful good. Indeed, we should not have referred to ble corn question at all, only that any examination of the tariff from which that question was wholly excluded, would too closely resemble a representation of "Hamlet," with the part of Hamlet omitted by particular

Raw material, then, ought not to be taxed, because such an impost limits employment and diminishes the amount of means for the application of industry. But taxation must fall somewhere; the interest of the national debt and the cost of our extensive and expensive civil, military, and naval establishments, must be maintained; under this necessity, we think that duties may fairly be levied on the import of manufactured goods, because all taxes are ultimately paid by the consumer, and the consumers of imported manufactures belong to a class of society the best able to bear the burden of fiscal imposts. Taxes on imported manufactures may be levied for the sake of protection, for the sake of revenue, or for both purposes combined in different proportions; but it is important to bear in mind that the objects of a protective tariff and a revenue tariff are not only incomment, but are directly opposed to each other. The design of protective duties is to exclude, that of revenue duties to invite, imports. When, therefore, any advocate for high import duties argues at one time for the sake of protection to native industry, and at another for the sake of the public revenue, he is manifestly contradicting himself, and demolishing with one course of reasoning the arguments he lius endeavoured to establish with the other. It is, indeed, an evil incidental to revenue duties that they must, to a certain extent, be protective; and, therefore, in every tariff for revenue purposes it is important to fix the scale of duties so low as not to discourage consumption. The less that consumption is, the less will be the import; and the less the import, the less will be the revenue.

Now, the rate of duty fixed by the new tariff on the import of manufactured goods is in nearly all cases so low as to be utterly worthless in a protective or prohibitory point of view; there would not probably be a yard more of Franch silks, muslins, or laines imported under a system of perfect freedom, than at so moderate a rate of duty us ten per cent.; and there is probably no class of manufacturers—always execonomy-who would object to having this incidental shadow of protection altogether abolished, so far as their own private interests are concerned. It must, therefore, be clearly understood that these duties are maintained solely and exclusively for the purposes of revenue, and that they must cease with the exigencies which have called them into

The distinction between raw material and manufactured goods, though apparently simple, becomes a little compliented, when we reflect that the product of one branch of manufacture becomes the raw material of another. Organzine silk is the product of the throwster, but it is the raw material of the weaver; rectified spirit is the product of the distiller, but the raw material of the varnish maker; flour is the product of the miller, but the raw material of the baker. Hence arises the inherent injustice of every protective tariff: if it served one class, it seriously injured many others; if it stimulated one brauch of production, it struted and blighted several other branches. We say nothing here of the injury done to consumers, because that is sufficiently obvious; but, looking to artistic as well as to economic results, there is an obvious want of logic in every protective tariff: for, while it encourages the fudustry where the article was a product, it discourages the industry where that product became a raw material. But there are many materials which are used in manufactures, not singly, but in combination with others. In such a case, protecting duties levied on one portion of the materials discourages the consumption of the rest, and thus becomes a tax on whatever branches of industry may be engaged in their production, There was a singular example of this incidental effect of protection in the old wool duties. To make good clothis from English wool it was necessary that it should be comsonolar and a philosophic student of history, accustomed to view moral and political questions from a calm and commanding position, must be apparent to every one who reads even the above garbied passages from his Letter. And surely the solemn protest and regorded testimony of such a man must forably come home to those of the self styled protectionists who are not altogether deaf to the voice of Christian charity, nor yet to that of reason and experience.

THE NEW TARIFF;

ITS BYPKOT ON BRITISH MARUPACTURED ART.

(From the Art Union.)

The principle on which the new tariff is based may be simply it and as consisting in the removal of all taxwion from the imposition of a duty on very, and the lands will be impossible to a region will be maintained or sequence was, that the demand for hopitals wool greatly increased, and its price rose in the south of Germany suffer the weevers in the south of Germany suffer individual to the weevers in the south of Ge

to try experiments on the mercantile value of the liberated artifles, and several of them already have been tound available for useful purposes to which they were not previously known to be applies be.

ON THE EFFECT OF COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES IN RESPECT TO PO-PULAR INTELLIGENCE.

Ho favourable, then, to intelligence, both directly and in directly, are the social relations which obtain in towns and group of the course point is, that clice owe their origin to fixed orate and traffic, and that it is the effect of commercial betite and traffic and traffic and traffic and traffic are the course of the c cial habits to give great comparative expansion and discipline

Wherever men are employed in trade and manufactures, the diversity of their occupation must, in itself, suggest varied thought, and stimulate to some degree of mental effort. It is true, as the arts advance, men become intent on dispatoh, which is best realised by a division of labour, and the effect of that process is to separate artisans into classes, leaving only a narrow province to each. But this method of probeeding must have its limits, and where most acted upon, each man knows full well what his kindred craftsman is doing, though that section of labour may be one in which he has himself no share.

Is is also in the nature of machinery that it should, at least in many cases, greatly leaven the demand on the spontaneous ability of the workman. Results which once depended in a great degree upon his individual skill, are made to follow, and with more certainty, from the action of the instrument which he is now required to superintend. But the action of that machine is as a constant lesson on human ingennity. It shows what the ingenuity has done, and suggests what it may do. Less demand may be made on the manual skill of the mechanic, but that does not prevent his thoughts from being familiar with a wide range of ingenious operation. If an old man, he will know something of the history of his craft, and of others carried on about him; and in many cases his mind will be a chronicle of the inventions which have so greatly changed the processes of manufacture alnoe the years of his boyhood. His thoughts, we may be sure, will not be those of one who has learnt to look upon the world as doomed to stond still. He lives in the midst of tire skill and enterprise of his country; and he necessarily hears much concerning the skill and enterprise of other countries. In his mind, the leading idea in regard to society is that of progression—onwardness, and not, as in the case of the peasant, who, whatever he may see of change in the nature of his implements, is disposed to look on matters about him as doomed to be in the main as they have been. In the view of the one, change is generally regarded as hopeful; in the view of the other, it is an object of dread, as being too commonly identical with mischief.

If there are onuses in connection with commerce which operate thus favourably on intelligence in the case of the humbler classes, to whom it furnishes employment, there are of course others of a much higher description, which affect the merchant, and the capitalist. Such mon, as we have already observed, possess a direct interest in knowing, more or less, the natural and the artificial of all lands, and in weighing the knowledge thus acquired, in order that it may be turned to the best account. In the wide and venturous traffic which engages such heads, the greatest consequences are known to depend on the possessing, or the not possessing, such knowledge and discornment. Hence the intricacy which belongs to social policy when taking its texture from the relations of commerce; and the causes which naturally contribute to give such caution, and compass, and vigour to the gonine of the ministers of commercial states, exert a similar influence over the people generally in such states. Questions by no means simple in their nature, are always rising to the notice of such a people. In such communities, accordingly, the power of making the difficult plain is of great value. It is only by means of the many that the fewcan hope to see their plans carried into offect, and this necossity develves upon them the further necessity of becoming effective teachers of the many, and teachers of as much promptitude as vigour, the many with whom they have to deal being always immediately about them.

But whatever may be the result of a comparison between the men who have become rulers in commercial states, and those who have distinguished themselves as members of a landed aristonracy, no comparison can be made between the intelligence of the society at large with which these two classes of grant mon have stood respectfully associated. We repeat, the people of a large commercial city feel necessarily much more than any other people, as citizens of the world. They see that their interests depend, not on themselves merely, nor on their immediate neighbours, but on the relations which they may possess sufficient wisdom and power to maintain with the ends of the earth. No nation wanting in the capacity to look thus abroad, can ever become great in the hisfory of commerce: and the continuance of such greathest, if once realised, must depend on the continuance of that capacity—the fear being, in the case of such a people, as in the case of a prosperous individual, that men will learn to place an unide reliance on their supposed sagacity; that familiarity with change will beget an undesirable tendency towards changes and that the success which has resulted continuance of such greatness towards change; and that the success which has resulted from caution, may be followed by disaster, as consequent upon presumption. It is true, in a great degree, of states, as of mon, that they think all power mortal except their own.—From the Age of Great Cities, by Robert Vaug-

THE BRITISH LION.

The British Lion for a long time good-naturedly consented to associate, as guarantee of respectability, with a lady called Britannia, who used to ait with a tea-board and tousting fork, on the reverse of our copper coins. At has he left the aforesaid help, and never afterwards did anything under

the aforesaid hely, and never afterwards did anything under a skilling, but now, as a royal animal, prefers crowns and half-flowns. His aristocratic predilections are natural enough, for an illustrious personage always has him in her arms, and often exalts him above her crown.

With our jolly tare he was an especial favourite. They fought for him—store by him; the main was their home, and they allowed their tells to grow to show their relationship; and when they did not their claws, or, as they called them, grappling from, upon anything, they never let go but with anich test at the same time surking test of that their enemies with the loud row of their causion, to they water never known to leave on the law, upon any property, he test.

The Law, when it puts its saw about the property, he test.

covery of within is doubtful, calls it putting a Lieu upon it, meaning that it intends to have the Lion's share, but, with its usual objectory, it alters the spelling, to avoid an action

In social life we have nothing to designate great ability, power, ealet, or any distinguishing mark in a man from his fellows, except by calling him a Lion.

This is the poetical side of the picture, but as faithful his-

torians we must say that in reality he has made a sad beast of himself; for since peace has been proclaimed a virtue, and war a vice, all regard to decency seems to have left him, and he associates with shocking low company, and it is quite melancholy to see one, once so noble, in his imbecility and

degradation.
Of lats, he has condescended to do anything for employment, actually cadging from door to door, with a very extraordinary horse, who carries a horn-an animal without a character from his last place; in fact, nobody as yet has found out where such an impossible beast could come from, found out where such an impossible beast could come from, being nothing but a horse marine. The poor Lion, as if really ashamed of his downfall, carries about with him a ribbon, on which is written a kind of deprecatory apology, running thus:—"Lioni soit qui mal y pense." This makes it werse and worse. Where did he learn French? Why not put it in plain English, as a British Lione should do? The English will heat the Franch at any time! will beat the French at any time!

You may now see him sometimes, covered with gold, like a ginger-bread toy at a fair; at other times hanging about a public-house door, playing the fool, with his face painted red or blue, according to the landlord's fancy; for which indignity he is allowed the full swing of the place, as he attracts custom to the house, and no doubt gets dreadfully drunk at lines, as he outs strange gambols, such as standing on one

leg, and other ridiculous antics.

Every paltry tradesman, now he finds he is to be had cheap, engages him to tout for customers to his petty shop.

The quack doctor employs him to stand sentry over a box of holuses, to physic his friends, instead of piles of cannonballs, as formerly, to physic his enemies, and he is com-plaisant enough to make a face, as if he felt the effect of

The brushmaker, who wishes to recommend his bristles, places him in front of the shop, with his whiskers, or smellers, extended in the most ridiculous manner.

The hairdresser, who has very little respect for Lions o

any kind, except in the way of wigs, employs the poor beast merely on account of his fine head of hair, to attract his customers. It is very amusing to see the old brute with his hair in full curl and his whiskers trimmed à la mode; but such, indeed, is the melancholy fact.
The dentist borrows his valuable aid, and most ungrate-

fully satirises him at the same time, by making him show his teeth, as an advertisement, so long after he has ceased to bite, leading people to imagine that they can procure as good a set by entering the shop of his employer.

Indeed, he has so un-Lionified himself as to go into the rvice of the milliners; and, above all, French milliners. Here he stands over the brass-plated door of some corsetmaker to Her Majesty, continually smiling and simpering, so as not to alarm the fair creatures who swarm to the shapemakers; but his attempt at amiability and softness is most ridiculous. A smile on a face never intended to express anything but fiercexess! You might as well try to turn a duelling-pistol into an Eau de Cologne bottle.

Thus, according to the trade of his employer, does he had the himself to the year great degradation of his case.

befool himself to the very great degradation of his once-honoured name; in fact, he has turned from a warrior into a warchouseman; his roar is no longer feared, for, instead of his once-dreaded note of preparation, in answer to an insult, a complimentary one is sent to the offender, who is invited to come and stop a few days, and talk the matter over, and who returns laughingly with a very different belly-ful to that which would have greeted him in days of yore. He now settles all quarrrels with soft words instead of hard

The consequence of which is, that numbers of small animals, that did not know they had voices before, encouraged by his tameness and silence, try their feeble crows and growls, and flatter themselves that their pigmy attempts sound as powerful as the thunder-like roar of the once noble British Lion.—By Alfred Crowquill, from "Our Own Times.

USES OF POLITICAL ECONOMY.

I wish, for my own part, there were no such thing as political economy. I mean not now the mere name of the study; but I wish there had never been any necessity for directing our attention to the study itself. If men had always been secured in person and property, and left at full liberty to employ both as they saw fit, and had merely been precluded from unjust interference with each other—had the most perfeet freedom of intercourse between all mankind been always allowed—had there never been any wars, nor (which in that case would have easily been avoided) any taxation then, though every exchange that took place would have been one of the phenomena of which political economy takes cognisance, all would have proceeded so smoothly, that probably no attention would ever have been called to the subject. The transactions of society would have been like the play of the lungs, the contractions of the muscles, and the circulation of the blood, in a licality person, who soarcely knows that these functions exist. But as soon as they are impeded and disordered, our attention is immediately oalled to them. Indeed, one of these functions did exist for several thousand years before it was even suspected. It is probable that (except perhaps among a small number of curious spe-culators) anatomy and physiology would never have been thought of, had they not been called for in aid of the art of medicine; and this, manifestly, would have had no existence, but for disease. In like manuer it may be said to have been disease, actual or apprehended—evils or imperfections, real or imaginary, that in the first instance directed the attention of mon to the subjects about which political economy is conversant; the attention, I mean, not only of those who use that term in a favourable sense, but of those no less who hold it in abhorance and of our ancestors who never income that term in a favourable sonse, but of those no less who hold it in abhorrence, and of our ancestors who nover heard it. Many no doubt, of those evils have been produced or agravated by the obscration of circoncous views of folitical decorpony, just as there are many cases in which secondary medical treatment has brought on or half hand disable but in these, no one will don't that it is from correct medical views we must hold for a our.

And you don't sell this remitt, that the greater part of those who to in the way induce distant. The first hand of these who to in the way induce distant.

folly of trueting in physicians to desire one sail with medicines—of temporing with the constitution; and thin then solves seems from any high folly as long at that their solves seems from any high folly as long at that their solven perhaps they are actually temporing with their solvention by an excellence of aprillation liquors, or of other atmittable, not bearing the name of medicines, but not the less powerful in their schools on the human frame. In like manner, you may observe many have ventured boldly on measures tending to produce the most important results on national wealth, without suspecting that these had anything to do with political economy, because the name of the science was with political economy, because the name of the science was earefully avoided. Buonaparto detected that name. When earefully avoided. Duoisparte decessed that maine, When he endeavoured by all possible means to destroy the commerce of the Continent with this country—means which brought on ultimately the war which ended in his overthrow—there is no doubt he believed himself to be not only in the consulting the heat interests of his annul. injuring us, but consulting the best interests of his own dominions. Indeed, the two ideas were with him inseparable; for all that he bimself had ever acquired having been at the expense of others, he could not understand how we could gain, except by their loss. Yet all the while, he was is the gain, except by their 1088. Yet an the wante, he was in the habit of saying that political economy, if an empire were of granite, would crumble it to dust. That erroncous political economy may do so, he evinced by the experiment he himself tried; but to the last, he was not aware that he had been in fact practising such a system :—had been practising political economy in the same sense in which a man is said to be practising medicine unskilfully, who through ignomuce prescribes to hie patient a poisonous dose.

Anatomy and physiology, though, as I have said, they probably owe their rise to medicine, as that did to diseas, are yet universally ucknowledged to be among the most curious and interesting studies, even for those who have no design to apply them professionally in the practice of medicine. In particular, they are found, the more they are studied, to throw more and more light on the stupendous wisdom of contrivance which the structure of organised bodies displays; - in short, to furnish a most important portion of natural theology. And it might have been anticipated, that an attentive study of the constitution of society should bring to light a no less admirable apparatus of divinely wise contrivances, directed no less to beneficial ends ;-that as the structure of a single bee is admirable, and still more so that of a hive of bees, instinctively directing their efforts towards a common object, so the Divine Maker of the human body has evinced no less benevolent wisdom in his provisions for the progress of society;—and that though in both cases the designs of Divine Wisdom are often counteracted by heman folly-by intemperance or neglect, as far as relatesto the body—and by mistake or fraud in respect of the community—still, in each case, attentive study may enable us to trace more and more the designs of a wise Providence, and to devise means for removing the impediments to their completion .- Archbishop Whateley.

JOURNAL OF THE REV. W. ROBERTSON .- Not the least among the curiosities of Seville is the tobacco manufactory. Tobacco is one of the royal monopolies, and it is manufactured in a palace. A very cursory glance at this singular establishment will afford some idea of the great value of this monopoly. It is a noble and stately edifice, of a quadrangular form, 600 feet in length by 480 broad. It is surrounded by a mont, and approached by a drawbridge, like a regular fortification. Soldiers are continually on duty at the entrance and in the courts; all the work people are carfully searched every night on leaving the establishment, and no cloaks are permitted within its precincts—all precaution against the abstraction of the practions weed. It employs no fewer than 5000 hands. Of these, 3000 are women; shoot all of whom are employed in twisting cigars. Of the 2000 men, a great proportion are similarly occupied; while a considerable number are employed in the manufacture of all the different articles and implements which are required in the establishment. Women are preferred for the manufacture of cigars, as lightness and delicacy of touch are of importance in this branch of the business. I'wo immense halls are set aper for the cigar twisters—one for the men, and the other for the women. The largest of these, in which 3000 women are seated, busily engaged in rolling up the fragment leaf, each with a little basket of bread and fruit beside her for dinner, presents a very extraordinary spectacle. The work is performed with amazing rapidity, and a single individual will real the fragment of the property of the fragment of the performed with amazing rapidity, and a single individual will real the fragment of the performance of roll up from 500 to 600 elgars per day. The time of labour is from 7 o'clock A. M. to 4 P. M. One part of the process sufficiently disgusting, but out of consideration for the lover of cigars, we refrain from mentioning it! We saw the whole process of manufacturing snuff. The tobacco leaves are first steeped in a decoction of Brazilian tobacco, plums, wilnuts, lemon-peel, &c.; the heart stalks are then removed, and the leaves twisted into ropes, and coiled up in tight pactages. These are pressed by a machine, not unlike a large cheese-press and are then stored up for six or eight moults to ferment. Afterwards they are uncoiled, and chopped into small pieces by a very clumes set of hammers worked by mules. When chopped sufficiently, the tobacco is conveyed to the mill and ground into sumit. The stems and heart talks are, I believe, manufactured into a coarse article. When the wind blows in a particular direction, it is said that this establishment may be nosed at a league distant. There this establishment may be nosed at a largue distant. There are flye rayal tobacco manufactories in Spain, of which this at Seville is the largest. The quantity of cigars consumed by this nation of cigar smakers in Europe. All Spaniaries and decidedly the greatest smokers in Europe. All Spaniaries smoke, and all smoke cigars. The pipe is comparablely asknown. The cigar gleans betwint the lips of the hanger noble and the poor muleteer. Like death, it is all are alike subjected to its away. It is all are alike subjected to its away. It is all are alike poor manys but, and mingles with the rich perfumes of the halls of the wealthy. This have gine.

of property, is labour. The proposal to keep untruly strictions, virtually includes the easing of personal vision consists in collections for the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of the property in the constant of

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THE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.

Charles Swaldand, Baq., Crayford.

TAUFREM.

Dr. Thomas Price, 7, Highbury terrass, Lalington.
George Thompson, Mon. 5, 3, Macron plane.
Captain Cogan, Upper Mill, Haminersonith.
SANESSE.

Mesers. Prespott, Grots, & Co.
solitoron.
Josh. Ivimey, Esq., 26, Chancery-lane.
susversa.

Mr. Prederick Parrand, Priory Ville, Peckham.
susversa.

Mr. Prederick Parrand, Priory Ville, Peckham.
susversa.

Mr. Afred Lanok Saul.
Prospectuses may be obtained, gratis, on application at the Society's (Moss. East Temple Chambers, Whichight-street, Frost-street. The Rules (ed. exch) are new really, and may be had as above.
Persons cosirous to Join the Society are requested to make application immediately.

REE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.-The second subscription is now called for, and will be paid on Tuesday, May 5th, up to which time parties wishing to join the Society may takes shares without additional cartence feed.

The First Meeting for the saie of Shares will be held on Tuesday, the 12th Nay, at 7 o'clock in the evening.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. W., Barton on-Humber.—The parties can have no legal right to a county vote; first, because they are merely trustees; and, accordly, bacause, if they were bond file owners, the annual value is not sufficient. To give votes to six persons the clear annual value should be 80%.

the clear annual value should be 60%.

The Parody from Dovonport has been received and declined.

Mr. Editor.—Sir.,—As a peruser of your worthy paper, I shall feel grateful in seeing an anwor in your next week's Leaour to the following question, which will put an end to a disputed case; that is—Will leasehold property in a borough under any circumstance give a vote to the tenant for the borough, and one to the landlord for the county?—R. C. M., Blackburn. Answer,—Certainly not—if there are any buildings, that would give a borough vote.

berough vote.
We beg to acknowledge the receipt of 6l. 9s., through the hands
of Mr. Peace, from some kind friends at Sheffield. The money
has been distributed among the more necessitous of the Gordacre labourers, who beg thus to return their sincere thanks to their unknown friends for the seasonable relief.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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

POSTSCRIPT.

, LONDON, Saturday Morning, May 2, 1846.

Lord Brougham has called the attention of the House of Peers to the long delay of the Corn and Customs Bill in the House of Commons, and has intimated his intention to bring the question before their lordships, without waiting for their passing through their final stages in the Lower House, should further procrastination be attempted. Though this would be an unusual, it would not be an unprecedented course; and had it been taken at an earlier period, it might have prevented much of the delay of which his lordship so reasonably complains. Now, however, that the division on the Coercion Bill has taken place, the discussion of the tariff will be resumed next week, and speedily brought to a decisive issue. There are many reasons why we should desire an early debate in the Lords, so as to indicate the probable course that they will take when the measure comes legitimately before them; it might be of some advantage to show that the premier duke of England, the premier Duke of Scotland, and the only duke of Ireland, are advocates of the free import of corn and provisions. To the first of these, the Duke of Norfolk, we cannot refer, without doing him the justice to explain a misapprehension, which has exposed him to much censure and ridicule: we allude to what is called "the curry-powder speech." The Duke recommended the use of a little curry-powder as a remedy for the diseases likely to result from the exclusive vegetable diet to which the labouring classes had been reduced, and stated that this was the chief reason of curry boing an ingredient in Hindoo cookay, as pepper pods are, for the same reason, in the outlingly preparations of Bourborn Europa. The Duke of Hamilton is the sole survis tor of the peers who signed the mamorable protest scalar the Corn Law, prepased by Lord Green with and the Majora of Vellaley and through the will be and thought the will be and through the will be and through the will be and through the will be and through the will be and through the will be and through the will be an an arrangement of the will be a wil

The Spice at the in this is the The same of the same of the same retiring habits have prevented him from taking an active part in the discussions on the sulfect.

Unless, however, some very great and obvious advantage were to be gained, we should depresate a premature discussion of the tariff in the House of Peers. The merits of the case would be overwhelmed by petty controversies on points of form, and excuses would be furnished for cross voting, which, in the present state of political party, might be attended with injurious consequences. conversion of the landholders to Free Trade is going on more rapidly than is generally imagined. They perceive that rents are not falling, and that the price of land is even rising in tho market. The potitions presented to Her Majesty by the Dukes of Richmond, Buckingham, and Cleveland, requesting that the royal assent should not be given to the ministerial measures without a previous dissolution of Parliament, were few in number and unimportant in character; in fact, they were evidence of the utter failure of the protectionists to get up an agitation; and even the Morning Post could not find a word to say in favour of such remonstrances. There is manifestly a sinking of the heart on the part of the protectionists, which shows that they are beginning to perceive the certainty of defeat, and we hope for their own sake that they will submit with resignation to an inevitable necessity.

EXCHANGE.—Two things are necessary to the completion of an act of commerce; first, that we should have what others want; secondly, that we should be at liberty to receive what they can afford to pay in, and it will be worth our while to take. A merchant in the actual state of things can afford to soil a piece of Leeds or Manchester goods in Prussia or Poland for a hundred crowns. If he could afford to take eighty, he might sell two pieces where he now soils one. If he was allowed to lay out the eighty crowns in corn, and bring it to England to a free market, he could sell the corn for as much as would give him a profit or the relative to the rela for as much as would give him a profit on the whole; and consequently he would accept the cighty crowns, and sell two pieces instead of one, and get two profits for himself, and give two profits to the manufacturers. He is restrained from selling the corn; and therefore he is restrained from doing all the rest .- Catechism on the Corn Laws.

FUNDS.

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MARKETS.

CORN MARKET. Minday, April 97.—A fair supply of English Wheat on show this morning was early cleared off at fully last Monday's prices; in some instances rather more money was made, but no general advance can be noted. The Baxley trade, now that the making soason is over, has become very inactive; no diteration is maling in the quotations of the best descriptions of Barley; all sorts are difficult of disposal, and inferior qualities are is, worse sale. There is not any distration in the value of Beans and Pass. Thore is a tolerable subply both of English and Irish Oats, which is aqualled by the domand; and though the trade is not quite so brigk as this day week, a fair business has been done at the same prices as on that day.

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the week. English Wheat is in fair demand, at	1,0	ATAIN	ID.

provement noticed on Monday. The Poreigh Wheat trade continues in a dull state, with no new feature to mention. The Final lines of the supply of Oats causes holders to ask higher rates; but buyers are unwilling to advance, and the amount of business done is limited. Barley, Beans, and Peas are without alteration; as are also the duties on all descriptions of grain, except Rye, on which the duty has advanced is.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 27th of April to the 1st of May, both inclusive.

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Duty. Wheat, 17s. Od.; Barley, 8s. Od.; Oats, 6s. Od.; Rya
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Stock of Corn in Bond, April 5, 1846.

Wheat. Barley, Oats. Ryo. Bonss. Peas. Flore

In London, 481491 18641 71515 Unit. King. 1227374 88092 109120 71515 20003 11007 MEAT MARKET.

Trade upon the whole very dull; and prices tending to de-

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THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

BANKHUPTCIES ANNULLED.
T. Reynolds, 6, Cow-cross-street, checesemonger.
W. Benyon, Birmingham, button manufacturer.
BANKHUPTS.
E. Clifford, Minster, Kent, victualler. [Messrs. Butterfield and Venour, Gray's Inn-square.
P. Kloft, South-street, Manchester-square, checsemonger.
[Mr. Spiller, Camomic-street, Bishopsgate-street.
W. Chamberlain, of East Dereham, Norfolk, grocer. [Mr. Storcy, Gray's Inn place.

Storey, Gray's Inn place.
T. Williams, Penchurch-street, merchant. [Mr. T. H. Pell, Great Winelesterstreet.

Great Winchesterstreet.
T. E. Descen and F. Day, Hemel Hempstead, browers. [Mr. Greshem, Castle-street, Holborn.
R. Bone, Durham, grocen. [Messrs. Crosby and Crompton, Church-court, Old Jewry.
T. Jackson, Balterhebble, Yorkshire, wersted spinner. [Messrs. Jaques and Oc., Ely-place.
T. Buckworth, Nottingham, increer. [Messrs. Sale and Worthington, Manchester.

T. Buckworth, Nottingham, increes. [Messrs. Sale and Worthington, Manchester.
W. H. Wilson, and R. Vause, Kingsten-upon-Hull, merchants.
[Mr. Hicks, Gray's Inn.
B. Bensley, formerly of Woking, Surrey, but new of Poelholm,
Monmouthshire, printer. [Mr. Nicholse, Monmouth.
J. Buttery, Manchester, commission agent. [Messrs. Gregory and Co., Miller, Manchester, manufacturer. [Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row.

TUESDAY, April, 28,
BANKRUPTOLES ANNULUED.
J. Quarton, Stamford bridge, Yorkshire, grocer.
IJANKRUPTS.

J. Quarton, Stamford by dog. Vorks) iro, grocer.

O. J. Bond, Tranquil Valo, Ulsokheath, tailor. [Mr. Rugle-heart, Great Knightrider-street.

H. Wahnck, Nelson-square, Dlackfriars-road, dealer. [Mr. Broadstreet, Golden-square, grocer. [Mr. Burn, Great Carter-lane.

O. Pulling, Hay's Wharf. Tooley-street, and Trinity-square, Sonthwark, potato salesman. [Mosers. Maples and Co., Vraderlok epiace, Oil Jowry.

A. Bigchall. Manchester, sharebroker. [Mesers. Raed and Langford, friday-street.

F. Rambsen, Manchester, ironfounder. [Mr. Coppook, Olaveland-row, St. James s-quare.

T. Creethen, Liverpool, stockbroker. [Mesers. Sweeting and Go., Laiffeid-row.

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BRITISH CONSUL'S CONFIGURE OF THE CONFIG S SALM OF COLUMBIA,

Is Mayor of this City, and that M. R. MDAU., Ben., is Protection of the Court of Common Pleas, to both Whost signatures full rath and credit is due. I further certify light are percently acquainted with f. L. Millis, Ben., another of the signam, and that he is a person of great respectability; and that he is a person of great respectability; and that he lie a person of great respectability; and the signam and that he lies. Given funder my hand and seal of Office, at the City of Philadelphia, December 28, 1822.

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No. 5 — 16. British North America.
No. 7 , 23. Canada and the United States.
No. 9 , 20. Central America, Trans, California, &c.
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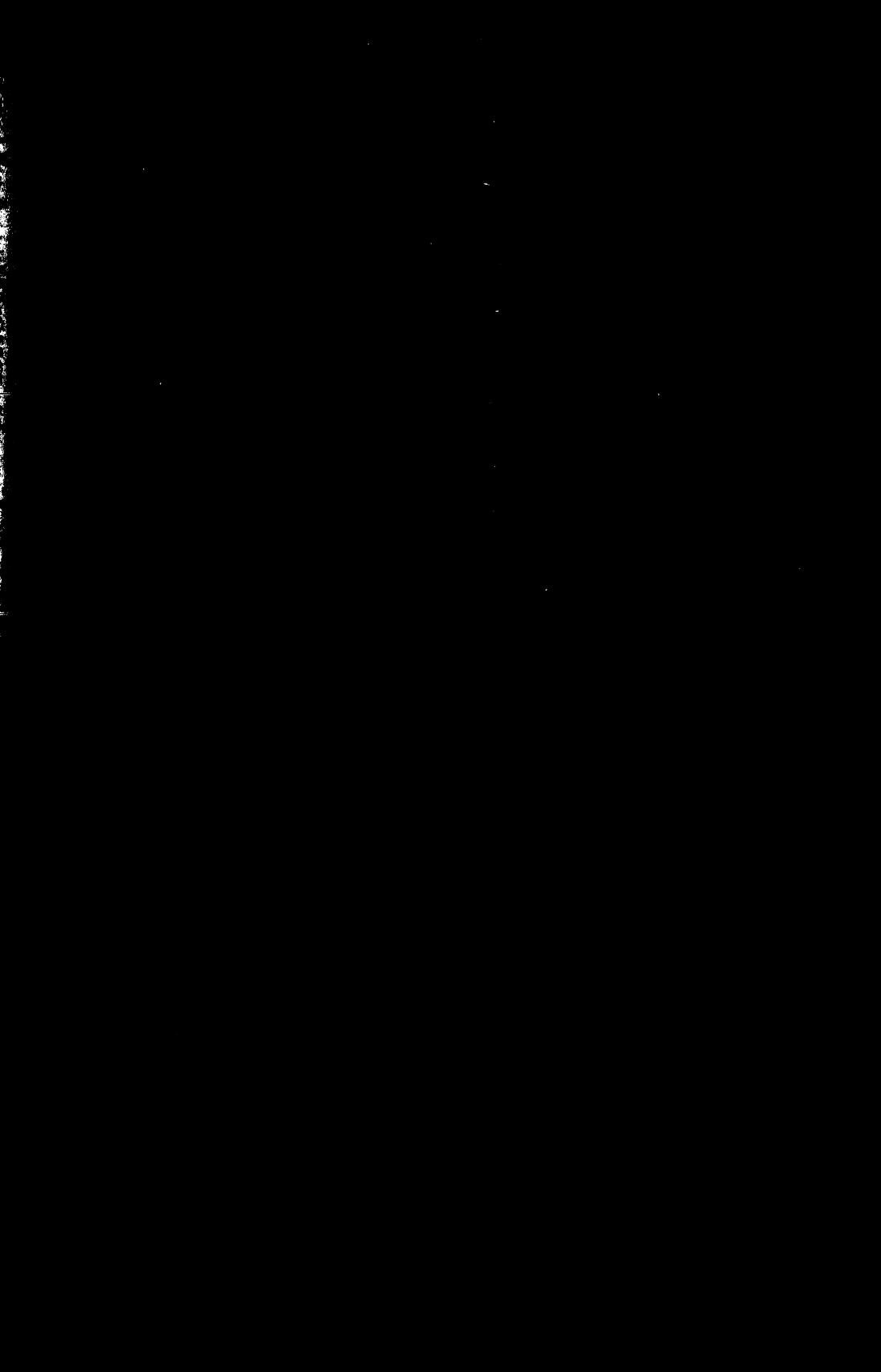
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THE LEAGUE.

No. 137.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1846.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

> By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE REAL QUESTION FOR THE COUNTRY.

"The real question for the country is, ARR THERE RESTRICTIONS CONSISTENT WITH JUSTICE? That is the question—that is theory question."—Sir Robert Perl. May 4.

I have satisfied inyself that this law is injurious, and further, that it is unjust to the great body of consumers."—Sir James Graham. April 20.

"THE LAW OUGHT TO LOOK EQUALLY ON ALL."—LORD JOHN RUSSELL, May 4.

We have again to discharge the grateful task of recording the fearless and full-toned atterance, by our leading statesmen, of those great and all-commanding principles which, when enunciated by official lips, and clothed with the prestige of official authority, sensibly influence the destinies of a people, and—if less appreciably/not less really—govern the public opinion of the world. Again has our Free Trade Minister, concurrently with the ablest of his colleagues, and with the most distinguished of his political opponents, declared the landlords law of artificial famine to be not only impolitic, but intrinsically unjust—and, as such, not admitting of any of those cunning devices of compromise or "Mjustment," by which your over-clever politicians think to patch up a truce between right and wrong. The Premier keeps to the cardinal point of the whole question, and is determined that others shall keep to it. Ho "adopts, and deliberately repeats, that expression" which has carried dismay and confusion into the Rigby camp, and sent a thrill of joy through every honest man's heart. Here he takes his stand—on the solid rock-foundation of moral right and justice. Here he fortifies himself—ready for all contingencies. Monopoly is unjust, and there can be no making terms with a moral wrong. It is of no use asking, "How is it you never found this out before?" He owns at once, he ought to have found it out before. All that can be reasonably said on this head he grants, with a manly canour and straightforwardness that must command spect even where it does not at once silence critiism. He "admits that he ought to have seen that con restrictions were unjust some years ago." He wity that this conclusion was not fixed on his and at an earlier period." He regrets greatly esn make no pretonsion to political and infallibility, and that truth comes to him by try of experience and reflection, rather than by All perfectly true—and all perfectly bethe medition. "The quation really for the All of Preoral one at the what period a legislation of the period a legislation of the period at the

Sir Robert Peel's speech of last Monday night (which appears in another part of our paper) will have been read with the liveliest satisfaction in every part of the country. It is, in all respects, the speech of an accomplished statesman, and of a wise, far-seeing, and earnest man. Even apart from its groat intrinsic value, it derives a special interest from the circumstances under which it was delivered. It was worth noting, that this able and elaborate exposition of the cthics of economical reform was an impromptu effort. The Premier was taken by surprise. The discussion so indiscreetly raised by the blundering lord whom the protectionists are obliged to put up with as a pis-aller leader, had not been expected to arise before the debate on the third reading; and there was no time for that preparation which the Minister's sense of the importance of the subject would otherwise doubtless have induced him to bestow. No particular preparation, however, was needed. He did excellently well without it. Nothing helps advocacy like a good cause and a strong conviction. A ready clearness of thought, and force and ease of diction, are the natural consequences of the earnest adoption of a great principle. Truth has a very quickening efficacy on the mind that intelligently and heartily espouses it. We have more than once observed, that since Sir Robert Peel has given in an unre scrved allegiance to the principles of commercial freedom, he has seemed to have a more perfect mastery over his own powers, and to be capable of doing fuller justice to a mind naturally acute and vigorous. It does not surprise us that he found it one of the easiest of tasks to vindicate, on the shortest notice, the position that artificial restrictions on industry and hunger are both politically and morally wrong.

The argument is, in truth, of the simplest. "The restriction upon the import of food—that is, the increase of the natural price of food by legislative enactment"-in other words, the imposition of artificial difficulties in the way of life-contradicts the common sense, and offends the common conscience of mankind. "The presumption-the natural presumption" of human judgment and feeling is altogother against it. If defensible on any ground, it must be on the ground of "some great public reason connected with the public good;" to set up a private reason, based on the interests, or supposed interests, of a class were adding insult to injury. Now, is there any such public reason for taxing the people's bread? The Premier was once of opinion, with other statesmen of his time, that there were such public reasons, of sufficient force to overbear the natural presumption against restriction, and to make that right which otherwise were wrong. He has now carefully re-examined them, one and all-re-examined them under circumstances presenting the strongest imaginable inducements to conclude, if possible, in favour of their validity-and he fluds himself constrained to admit, that they are, one and all, sophisms and fletions. The "independence offoreigners" fallacy; the "wages" fallacy; the "burdens" fallacy; the "agricultural-interest" fallacy -every one of these is a demonstrated falsity in point of fact, or a palpable absurdity, in point of logic. There is, therefore, nothing to take the case from under the jurisdiction of the common sense and conscience of mankind—nothing to break the force of that indignant condemnation which the voice of public morality pronounces on all attempts artificially to curtail poor men's wages and means of existence. Not being demonstrably necessary on public grounds, the bread tax is demonstrably unjust and iniquitous. "It is because I cannot with truth alege that if you establish kree trade in corne you will thereby winder us dependent upon

foreign nations for a supply of food—it is because L do not believe that the rate of wages varies directly with the price of corn-it is because I cannot persuade myself with respect to the farmer, that the continuance of protection is necessary to agricultural prosperity-it is because I cannot establish these facts, that I have come to the conclusion that the natural presumption in favour of unrestricted import ought to provail: therefore it is, I think it Unjust to continue the legislative restriction.

Well might poor Lord George Bentinck complain that" a new feature and a new character have been given to the discussion of this question." What is to be said against this? And-what is more to the point-what is to be DONE against this? Do the men live (at large) that would dare join issue with a Minister who thus appeals to the country on a plain, broad question of moral right and wrong?

We might abstain from detailed comment on a speech, every word of which is sure of commanding the attention due both to the intrinsic importance of its subject-matter, and the position and reputation of the speaker. But we must express the especial gratification we have derived from the truly noble tone and spirit in which Sir Robert Peel adverts to the influence of England's example on the opinion and legislation of other nations. It is quite true, as he is well aware, that a Government like that of France may for a while he "controlled by a predominant influence in the Chambers, supported by those who are interested in the maintenance of restriction"-this is a subject on which our Free Trade Minister can speak feelingly. But he has a generous confidence in the power of truth and justice to counter work and overthrow the domination of the oligarchical sordidness that would make a nation pay black-mail to an "interest." He has faith in PRINCIPLE, and in the EUTERE, He " be? lieves that in France and other countries, the interests of the great body of the consumers will, at no remote period, be recognised." He can, indeed, give no guarantee that it will be this year, or next year; but the time will come-is coming. Already he sees the leaven of truth and sound principle at work - and he knows that it must, in the nature of things, work on till it shall have leavened the whole mass, He points with delighted satisfaction to those "societies in France, formed of intelligent men," who are preparing the way for the future Free Trade Minister of that country-and he has full faith that, after all, on the whole and in the long run, the intelligent men are too strong for the dunces. He has the proud confidence, too, which besits an English statesman, in the moral power of England over surrounding nations. Ho is " confident, that if we set them the c.r. ample"-" if we adopt the motto of ADVANCING in commercial freedom, instead of receding"-then, "notwithstanding temporary obstructions, the influence and example of England will prevail." In the mean time, we are not to make our knowledge wait on their ignorance. Right is right, whatever France may happon to think of it. If France and England cannot yet agree to adopt the policy which is good for France and England, that is no reason why England should not adopt the policy which is good for England. " If the double benefit cannot be got," of a joint abolition of restrictions, and mutual freedom of intercourse—at all events, " let us not pay a higher price for a worse article, because we cannot induce France to buy a good article at a cheap rate; -words which go straight to the root of the miserable "reciprocity" fallacy that would make England the humble copyist of other nations!

This is worth having worked seven years, for Speeches like those of Sir Robert Peel and to a

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blunders,

John Russell, on Monday night last, and of the class that guide the public opinion, and mould the public policy of the world. Such utterances by the statesmen of a great country are very fruitful of results. There is a vast futurity in them. They go far to make that history of which they are prophotic anticipations. They do much to hasten the full flow of that tide of which they indicate the direction and the force. The sentiments and convictions recently avowed by every public man standing in the front rank of English statesmanship, mark the advent of a new era of Government and legislation, whose motto is "ADVANCE!" and whose consummation will be, "England's trachine THE NATIONS HOW TO LIVE."

POLITICAL ECONOMY, AND SHORT HOURS OF LABOUR.

Many of our readers will have observed with interest the proceedings of the second annual meeting of the Birmingham "Association for the Abridgement of the Hours of Labour," held on the evening of yesterday week; from which it appears, that public opinion in that town has recently been directed, with much carnestness and a considerable degree of success, to the important social object of diminishing the duration of the labour imposed on assistants in retail houses of business, by inducing shopkeepers to adopt earlier hours of closing. Although the subject is one which must possess deep interest for every friend to the wellbeing and improvement of the industrious classes, we might not have thought it necessary to advert here to a question not directly within the scope of our own labours, but that certain expressions, used on the occasion by our respected friend Mr. Scholefield, appear to us to convey an erroneous and deprecintory estimate of the practical value of those great principles of economics, of which he is well-known to be a zealous and efficient supporter. In the course of a speech marked by kindly and generous sympathies with that sadly overworked class, whose cause he was pleading, Mr. Scholefield declared himself us follows:

"He was sorry to say that in his views upon this question he differed with many, with whom, on subjects of public poticy, he usually concurred. He agreed in their opinion that the wience of political conomy did contain within itself a remedy—more or less complete—for the evil complained of. He believed that its principles, rightly understood and wisely applied, would satisfactorily abate, if they did not entirely remove that evil. But he was far from being so highly in his views as not to admit that he might be in error; and whether or not, he could not but admit that a very error; and whether or not, he could not but admit that a very small portion of the community concurred in them; so small a portion, indeed, that their practical application, perhaps on portion, indeed, that their practical application, perhaps for many years to come, was a mere dream. If so, was he to be told that he must wait? Must be defer action till hundreds and thousands more of his fellow creatures had sunk under their grievous toils? Must be wait till be had converted the scepties to the truths he himself funcied he saw no clearly in the science of political economy? No, he would do no such thing. Some clause must be under und at once do no such thing. Some clauge must be made, and at once. If counsel and persuasion would not do, they must try-the effect of public opinion. If that failed, they must resort to legislative enactments, legislative compulsion. There was no time left them to fight for the abstract truths of political

We cannot help thinking, that on further reflection, so sound and enlightened an economist as Mr. Scholefield will be disposed very considerably to modify the sentiments here expressed. It strikes us that he commits two very serious errors;-first, in suggesting a resort to "legislative compulsion," to offect that which more legislative compulsion never can effect, but at a cost of police force and ospionage that public opinion in England would refuse to endure-and next, in underrating the practical power of political economy to redress the class of social ovils which he so feelingly deplores. Mr. Scholefield does not soom to us to put sufficient faith in that remedial action of sound and just oconomical legislation which, in the abstract, he admits it to possess. The process by which commercial liberty tends to abute the social evils resulting from an overstrained and excessive competition among employers and workpeople, is represented by him as being much more tardy and precarious than we believe it really is. When Mr. Scholefield says, that the "practical application" of the science of political economy to the removal of these evils must be regarded, "parkaps for nany years to come," as "a mere dream," he does political economy the

instice of overlooking what it has actually aphieved in this direction, under circumstances by no means favourable to the full development of its natural tendencies. He seems to forget that in Manchester political economy and economists have already secured for young men employed in warehouses and counting-houses the precious weekly half-hollday, on the Saturday afternoon-when their time is all their own, for self-improvement, recreation, healthful rest, or more healthful activity, of mind and body. Perhaps, too, our friend is not aware, that the leading political economists of that home of political oconomy are, at this moment, among the most active promoters of the early hours' system in shops. All this, be it observed, without any of that "legislative compulsion" which Mr. Scholefield so hastily and unwisely invokes, to accelerate a result which will naturally and inevitably work itself out, as the public mind is prepared for it, and as circumstances render it practically feasible and safe.

The experience of Birmingham itself might sufficlently suggest how very needless it is to look to legislative compulsion to supply the supposed deficiencies of political economy. All that has been done—and, seemingly, well done—in Birmingham, has been done according to the most approved principles of political economy; and only because it has been so done, is there ground for believing in the permanence and extension of the social reform thus commenced. The committee of the association, in their report, "have the greatest pleasure in announcing, that those tradesmen" who have adopted the early hours' plan, "far from complaining, have every reason to be well satisfied with the alteration, as they find that their business can be done in less time than has been the custom; and that so far from being diminished, their business has increased." In that case, they will of course persevere in an experiment at once lucrative and agreeable; and their example will find imitators. Does Mr. Scholefield think that, if they had not "reason to be well satisfied with the alteration," either public opinion or legislative compulsion would avail, to give it permanence? The change works well, and bids fair to grow from the exception into the rule, simply because political economy pronounces in its favour. We entreat our friend to put a full and unreserved confidence in his own principle, that " the science of political economy does contain within itself the remedy" of all evils resulting from those grievous misapplications of time and labour which he so justly laments.

There cannot be a greater mistake than to regard political economy as unfriendly, either in theory or in practice, to the abridgment of the hours of labour. It is not the economists, but the protectionists-the Sisyphists, as our French coadjutor, M. Bastiat, happily designates them-who would aggravate the burden, and lengthen out the duration, of labour. It is they who render the business of production and exchange artificially toilsome, and compel the artisan and the shopkeeper to do more work for the loaf, or the shilling, than need be. Political economy is always for abridging and minimising labour. "Buy in the cheapest market, and soll in the dearest"-what, after all, does this mean but "Take life as easily as may be, do no needless work, make a little labour go a long way, make a few hours do the work of many, and reserve the rest for recreation and self-improvement?" Such is the direct practical tendency of all sound economical legislation-to diminish the sum of human toil, and abridge the hours of labour. The best and most efficient abridger is the legislator who removes those restrictions on trade and industry which artificially lesson the exchangeable value of labour, and which compel the labourer to expend more than he need of this great first commodity.

For our own part, we believe that those most important social reforms which Mr. Scholefield has so much at heart will come much more certainly and rapidly than he appears to expect, when the liberation of commerce and industry shall in the made the conditions of the Englishman's life and then they are at present de tradition of

and as the same of for clerks, porters, artista and all kinds of habourers extends with it, the industrious classes will be more their own masters they will be better able to make their own tens with the capitalists—to give less, and receive more. This early-closing movement, be it remembered was born of commercial prosperity—of that pros perity which opened on us in the year 1844, with abundant harvests and cheap bread - and its life and power are altogether dependent on the continuance, the extension, and the security of commercial prosperity. The real thing to be done, with the view of abridging the hours of labour in this country, is not so much to suggest incentives and inducements (which nature has already provided most abundantly) as to give facilities. We all lore leisure, and would gladly have much more of it than the present conditions of industrial life in England afford to any class of working men. What we want is such an addition to the market value of labour as shall make ten hours go as far as twelve, and eight hours as far as ten-which is exactly the object and tendency of the science of political economy.

THE PROGRESS OF LEAGUE PRINCIPLES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES—THE SPANISH FREE TRADE LEAGUE.

We trust the triumph of our principles at home will shortly bring our labours to a close; but our joy and rejoicing on that account are not confined to the happy results achieved in our own country The honest pursuit of truth and justice have attracted the sympathy of the wise and good of all nations, who see in the great principles advocated by the League the dawn of that millenium of peace and brotherhood, of liberty and civilisation, for which they have hitherto sighed in vain. Our communications with our brethren in America, France, Germany, Holland, and Spain, all breathe the same spirit-all are animated by our example, and rejoice in our success as the harbinger of their final triumph in the same course.

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There are few communications which have given us more pleasure than those with our friends in Spain, because that is the country from whence we least expected to hear that our principles had taken root, or to see a periodical devoted to economical questions, giving details of the League Bazaar at Covent Garden, extracts from The League, as counts of its proceedings, the speeches of Cobden, Villiers, Bright, Fox, &c. It is gratifying to see that even in that benighted country there are an enlightened few who perceive that, under their existing monopoly system, Nature has lavished her bounties in vain on their rich and beautiful coun. try, and who are struggling for that commercial freedom which presents the best means of securing its moral and political regeneration. Our readers will sympathise with the efforts of the Spanish Free Tradors, and we doubt not will read with much interest the following translation of the admirable letter, addressed to the Secretary of the League by Don. Juan Antonio Secano:

Office of the Amigo del Pais, Madrid, Soth March, 1816. TO THE SCORETARY OF THE ENGLISH ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

My dear Sir,-I have received your esteemed letter of the 28d of February, from which I perceive, with much sais faction, that my exertions in defence of the principles of the Economical Society of Madrid have called forth a sympathising and approving voice in the Illustrious Esglish League. Being charged by a twice-repeated election with the direction of the periodical of this society, no other testimonial, after theirs, could be more flattering to me then that of the Association of which you are the worldy Secretary.

Plunged into a career of reliabliness by the avaries of the powerful classes, both countries lieve, for many years parknown no other feeling than that of rivalry, no other all than that of the ascendancy of one upon the mins of the other. Nevertheless, during the flere struggle manuals to uphold the privileges of the few over the manuals and the well-being of the many, there appeared in the manual and an inches enlightened men who, alevated by their senter in the love of mainking above the common noises and demonstrated; logically as well as about the moral code have targets the Bottleshood of man, consider the sections process the parameter at a line with the sections of the contract of the

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Madrid was founded, like all others in this kingdom, to spread this new mode of teaching over all parts of the country; and from its commencement it line not relaxed in its patriotic task.

At that time the inclienable civil and ecclesisatical tenure entirely shut out the commercial classes from two-thirds of the territorial property of Spain. The energetic voice of Jovellanos was raised, and, supported by the powerful influence of this association, the fetters were broken which bound the land to the privileged bodies; and the source of human subsistence was restored to freedom of traffic. These same classes possessed, in the tithes, the most valuable perhaps the only, portion which the cultivator could carry 10 market, after satisfying the first wants of his family. The reiterated votes of the Economical Society of Madrid tended to incline the balance in favour of the abolition of that locust of tillage, the titles, when they were under discussion in the Parliament. The restrictions which impeded the internal fredom of trade in articles of food were abolished by the terce of public opinion, enlightened by the labours of this society; and there has been scarcely any administrative abuse got rid of, whose existence had not been previously undermined by its continued representations. Nor is there an existing abuse, the abolition of which has not been repeatedly called for.

Still the Society is of opinion that little has hitherto been accomplished for the freedom of the commerce of the world, as long as the sale of its products remains cramped by restrictions avowedly in favour of the monopoly of particular interests. Spain presents to the world a scandalous neglect of her most important interests while the rich and abundant produce of her fields lies valueless in the storehouses, or anxionally begs for the lowest pittance in her markets. The casy and steady export of her natural products will be the basis of the economic regeneration of Spain.

England may with advantage secure to herself the benefit of this exportation. She can obtain from us better and cheaper corn than that of the United States, or the North (of Europe). The price of a quarter of wheat, in most parts of Spain, is 25s.; whereas in the London market it sometimes sells at 70s. the same measure. A difference of 40s. is a wide margin, from which may be abated one-third for the advantage of the English people, another third for the benefit of Spanish agriculture, and the remainder for the encouragement of internal transport, and the maxigation of both nations.

Selfish interests, in both countries, oppose themselves to the immediate attainment of such immense results. But the mask has already fallen; knowledge has united the people to put to flight the birds of prey, who, under the pretence of representing the national feelings, feed upon the real substance of the thinking classes and of the people.

The press and the spirit of association will exact justice from economical as well as from other tyrannics. The people will not travel backwards at the whim of a handful of landed or manufacturing monopolists. Wise men recognise constant progression in the operations of nature; and in this constancy, the eternal and incontrovertible law of civilisation in the moral, as of attraction in the physical world; but they have never found a sliding scale of duties on the introduction of grain, nor any system of prohibitions for the real or pretended protection of manufacturers of cotton.

Sound principles are gaining ground in public opinion in Spain; and a short time since, a mercantile association was formed, whose chief object is to promote freedom of trade, as you will have seen in their newspaper, "La Guia del Comercio," which has been sent to the League by the editor, D. Casimero Rufino, who also desires to enter into correspondence with you.

We have watched with much anxiety the progress of the new Corn Law proposed by Sir R. Peel, and the discussion consequent upon it; and we deplore the delay of a measure so eminently beneficial to the well-being of the people and the prosperity of the country, as well as to the interests of those nations who have intercourse with it. We hope, netertheless, that the principle of Free Trade in corn will specify be adopted, and that upon this basis the peace of ingland will be firmly maintained with a people born to be their brothers and their friends.

My enlightened associates in the editorship of the "Amigo del Pais" participate in these sentiments, and deserve equally with myself the consideration of your Assocation; since each one in his sphere labours for the development of Spanish prosperity, by the means of economical freedom. In all countries great obstacles oppose themselves to the regeneration of nations. Everywhere the powerful classes cling to the remains of ruinous privileges sequired ly force, or intrigue, during a barbarous and uncaldented locial state; but enlightened men of different fiations, uniting whiles the same banners, moved by a common conviction, will struggle against these degrading abuses, these powerful obstacles; since, whatever may be the differences which separate them on other points, there is among them all one universal religion, which is, faith in the triumpit of divillanlion and improvement.

Por this holy purpose I shall have the greatest pleasure in entering into a mutual correspondence with four as its may sall your convenience.—Yours, valy, duly.

The abolition of monopoly multiply and the a minimum the control of monopoly multiply and the control of the co

each other by a war of tariffs, equally mischievous with cannons and bombshells, in destroying the development of their natural resources? We believe not. The signs of the times portend the commencement of a moral revolution, which will not cease until the principles of commercial aggression and retaliation are laid in the dust. We have already had the pleasure of recording the formation of a Free Trade League in France-Spain has followed the example set by her neighbours, and has established a "Moreantile Confederation" for the same objects. It is a good omen that the leaders of the confederation are not insensible of the difficulties before them, because it shows a determination to persevere to the end. We encourage them to procood in their good work, never doughting that their labours will be finally blessed with success.

The following oncouraging letter has been addressed by the Secretary of the Spanish Mercantile Confederation to the Secretary of the League, inclosing the rules of the confederation:

SPANISH MERCANTILE CONFEDERATION.
Secretary's Office, Madrid Moreantile Society,
Madrid, March 25, 1816.

DRAR SIR,—This Board of Direction, justly appreciating the extraordinary efforts of the English League against every class of monopoly, has been apprised of your communication to our mutual friend, Don Juan Antonio Scoane, whom it appears you have stimulated to the advocacy of the same principles of political economy which the League promulgates.

For your satisfaction I beg to say, that having already resided for some time in England, similar sentiments have long been entertained by myself. To these I have not ceased to give expression through the medium of my periodical, the Guia del Comercio, since January, 1812. The country, however, has nover responded to my impressions until January of this year, when, as you will see by the circular and regulations inclosed, the Spanish Mercantile Confederation was constituted.

The Directory of the Confederation desires me to offer to yourself and to the League, in their name, an expression of that mutual sympathy which ought to animate our endeavours to obtain the glorious triumph of our common principles; principles which the Spanish nation held in practice in its province of Arragon, until the discovery of America, when the House of Austria arbitrarily proscribed them from our land. We trust, however, that we shall ere long recover the benefits of Free Trade with moderate turiffs, so as not to exclude any of the known products of the world. For so arduous an enterprise, and in a country like ours, you may easily conceive how many obstacles this Board will have to encounter.

I am desired, therefore, to place myself in communication with you, in order to express the concurrence of their sentiments with your own, and their anxious desire to enter into an explanatory and advantageous correspondence. With this motive I have great pleasure in placing myself at your service, and remain, &c. &c.,

CABIMERO RUFINO, General Secretary.
To Joseph Hickin, Secretary of the Anti-Corn-Law
League, Manchester.

(Introductory Prepace to the Rules of the Spanish Mercantile Confederation.) MADRID MERCANTILE ASSOCIATION. The commerce of spain.

The peace in which the nation reposes, and in the preservation of which the commercial classes are more interested than any other—without which there can be neither order, enterprise, nor trade—induced the commercial body of Madrid in January, 1844, to establish a Society based upon the interests of every class of its members.

The benefits to be derived from the spirit of association and enterprise are now well understood by all enlightened countries of modern times. Among all the societies which in our own country have fulfilled the moral and patriotic objects of their founders, the meed of justice is due to the Mercantile Society of Madrid. Its labours and persevering exertions, during the two first years of its existence, have been fully appreciated and approved by the sympathetic and spontaneous incorporation with it of the commercial bodies in the various cities and districts identified by the same objects of pursuit with that of the metropolis.

Still there is an imperative necessity for the formation of a body practically acquainted with the necessities of our commerce, and the utility of drawing closer, by the bonds of an effective union, its various branches and interests, and which should be qualified to assist the Government with its advice, whenever it may think proper to consult them upon its measures. This is a serious defect—particularly that of the want of a certiful board of direction—which has become very evident to this and similar societies desirous to throw off the weakness, and impricals isolation, includent to their present management. This has been very appropriately mannifested, among other bodies, in the commercial champer of Billots, in its exposition of Sept. 27, 1843, and by that of Challe of Jane 16, 1845, from which we quote:

own disunion, or in consequence of the political disturbances which have distracted the aftention, both of governors and governed, from the spirit of the age. During this epoch, more especially, commerce has been like an orphan chandoned to its fate; although in meetings, and before tribunals, it has sometimes mot with repreaches, or expressions of barron sympathy."

Actuated by the recognition of this inmentable evil, and stimulated at the same time by various communications, and by moreantile bodies and meetings in several of the principal districts and towns, the directing body of the Madrid Morcantile Society resolved to name a committee of its own which should occupy itself in framing and proposing some regulation for the advancement and combination of the before-named elements. This honour was delegated to Senors D Alsjandro Pena Arillarejo, D Pable Martines, and D Casimero Rufine; who, after saveral meetings, and amidst many obstacles and difficulties in the compilation of each article, at length, in the course of last year, completed its task. It was then presented to the Direction; and having been again discussed and modified, was finally approved.

To give solidity and firmness to this grout association, and to avoid its exposure to the dangers of apathy and distant the rivalry or indifference of its members, which have always been the rain of such associations, it has been provided, that no involuntary labour shall be required, nor any, even the most insignificant personal expense incurred, without immediate payment from the funds of the Society.

One of the questions most debated, was that of the fitting title to be adopted by the new association; that of the Spanish Mercautile Confederation was at length approved of. Its objects and aims are solely to combine for the defence of its associated branches from all injustice affecting the exercise of their commercial functions—to promote the diffusion of knowledge, the improvements and prosperty of commerce through the peaceful medium of the most illustrious men to be elected from each of the provinces of the monarchy, and sent to the Directive Council in the Metropolis.

Necessity and expediency have every day the more forcibly urged the formation of a society to organise the various commercial bodies for the promotion of the common interest, and to protect and defend the rights of each one in particular. This union once effected, much will be done to render Spanish commerce powerful for the welfare of the country and of the mercantile classes,

To the Madrid Mercantile Society is due the glory of having promoted and established this organisation. It now rests with the commercial classes to complete the work. Let every merchant and tradesman, whatever may be their rank concur in enrolling their names, the class and extent of their business, and the province and population where their establishments are situated. Let them cast aside mere personal and class interests in support of this project—let them join this Confederation, which, avoiding political objects, will confine itself exclusively to the careful promotion, by legal means, of useful reforms for the general good. The apathy which benumbs our commerce, must be thrown off, as well as that careless indifference and inactivity, so fatal to its prosperity. A united and compact body once formed will soon find itself respected and possessed of that influence which belongs to commercial mun in the mercantile age in which we live.

The Freeholders' Bellding Society, Manchester.—(From a Correspondent.)—I attended the meeting of this Society hist night. It was their fifth monthly meeting, and was hold in the Corn Exchange, the largest room in Manchester, except the Great Free Trade Hall. On entering the building, I was struck with amazoment. There were nearly 700 persons present, all on the qui vive, either paying or receiving subscriptions. The walls, four square, were covered with printed bills, such as "Nos. 1 to 100 at this table," "Nos. 101 to 200 at this table," and so forth, of which there were 50, so that there were 50 stewards receiving money. The regulations were admirable. Though nearly 4000L was received in sums from 10s, and upwards, no confusion provided, and the whole was done in little more than an hour. Instead of names, the members are distinguished by numbers from 1 to 1000, holding in the aggregate upwards of 7000 shares! Notwithstanding that a promium of 4s, per share was charged for new shares, yet 200 were taken up last night, in addition to the branches, of which there are ten; 7l shares were sold last night. Only imagine a sum of 4000L being received every month, in one 80-ciety alone, for building purposes! Where will monopoly be cre long?

REPRESENTATION OF MONMOUTHSHIRE.—A requisition is in course of signature, calling on Captain Edward Bomerset togoffer himself, in the protection interest, as a candidate for the representation of the county of Monmouth. Lord Granville Bomerset, aware of the active cauvase carried on against himself, has already issued an address to the electors, in which he says: "I am unwilling to disturb the county of Monmouth, when Parliament may confinue for a county of Monmouth, when Parliament may confinue should be misconstrued. I now, therefore, take the liberty of informing you that when the time to enter upon a contest shall arrive, I shall appeal to you to decide upon my marits as your representative."

Ms. Baintin Contrant's Davear.—Air. Cochrane's defeat has not been taken so graciously by his followers as by the honourable gentleman bimself. Some of the more obstreperous of his political supportess as Bridgors could not restrain their indignation against the witness Walsh, whose evidence, it may be remembered, disposed a one of the property before the house. On this instruction of the property before the house. On this instruction is in the property of t

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THP FREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE BRESION OF 1846.

Sixteenth Week, ending Suturday, May 9.

On Friday the Coercion Bill was removed out of the way of the Corn Bill, the first reading having been carried by a majority of 274 to 125. On Monday, after votes sanctioning pensions to Lord Hardings and Lord Gough (the House of Lords passing similar votes on Tuesday), the Corn Bill came on for discussion. The question was, that the house should resolve itself into committee on the Corn Importation Bill, whereupon

Lord George Bentinck rose, and remarked that a new feature had been given to the discussion since the measure had been introduced. Sir Robert Peel had declared that the restrictions which he once considered were impolitic, he now believed to be unjust. It was proper, both to him and the house, that he should have an opportunity of explaining the grounds which had produced such a change during the last three months. They might be charged with producing stagnation of trade by these delays; but the charge was applicable, not to those who opposed, but to those who proposed, the change in the law. But it was alleged that the farmers were anxious for a settlement. That was true, if affirmed of their desire for a rejection of the measure. They certainly did not anticipate by it to obtain higher prices for their corn; if they did so, in the face of an importation of 1,500,000 quarters of foreign wheat, they must be what Lord John Russell had once described them to be, as dull as the clods they tread upon-

Lord John Russell rose, and, interrupting the noble lord, explained that he had never applied such an epithet to the farmers of England. He had merely spoken of those who had termed him an enemy of the farmers, because he had proposed an 8s. duty.

Lord George Bentinck resumed, arguing that a large importation of foreign grain must necessarily produce a great precipitation of price, and that notwithstanding the alleged famine and stagnation, more corn had been sold in the 288 grain markets of this country during the four months of the present year, than in the four corresponding months of the preceding one. The fluctuations of price in the markets of the Continent, not merely in wheat, but in rye and oats, the food of the people, greatly transcended the fluctuations in this country under the operation of the sliding scale; and Mr. Huskisson, up to the last year of his life, had advocated the essential importance of steadiness of price. Our example had not yot "shaken Prussia;" France, to judge from the language of M. Guizot, and other public men, was not likely to abandon, with us, protection to native industry; the last news from the United States were not favourable to the adoption of our new commercial policy; while the potato famine in Iroland receded as we approached the predicted periods. The Irish markets had been disturbed by the false alarm raised by the Government; but it was subsiding, and prices were settling downwards. All these allegations the noble lord supported by figures, citations, and private documents; and concluded by moving, as an amendment, that the house go into committee that day three months.

Sir Robert Peel expressed his surprise that after the ample details furnished from the Scarcity Commissioners any gentleman should get up and deny the existence of distress in Ireland. No doubt it was not universal; but there was distress to an unparalleled extent, and disease, arising from deficiency of food. To check this, the Government were purchasing provisions, but the fund which supplied the means was taxation. Lord George Bentinck charged them with propagating delusion on the subject of Ireland ; yet the noble lord was willing to be a party to a three months. opening of the ports in Ireland, to remedy a distress in the existence of which he did not believe. They were blamed with taking superfluous precautions; but this Irish case would not be confined to the present year; and had they neglected their duty, the censure upon them would have been ten times more severs. Adopting and deliberately repenting his affirmation, that the restrictions on the importation of grain, which he once believed impolitic, he now considers unjust, he proceeded to show why he thought them incompatible with justice. No doubt he should have found this out earlier; and he admired those who from the outset have an intuitive perception of what constitutes true principles and polloy. But when a man changed his opinions, why should he not have the manliness to avow it? That was dishonesty, where conviction was concealed from a regard to persoual consistency. But the question was not a personal one-it was national. Restrictions on the importation of wheat was not of general importance even to the agriculture of this country. Drawing a line from Inverness to Southampton, the wheat-growing districts would be found chiefly on the cast side; and the western side of the island, as Lancashire, had no interest in restriction. The great defect of Irish agriculture, and even of this country, was the want of capital; and the delay of a final settlement of the Corn Law question prevented its application. In no country more than in this, with its ancient habits and mixed monarchy, was there greater importance to be attached to the maintede de ritorial ariatocracy. But the question was, the anistence of a territorial aristocracy. Burke consider the language which the English aristocracy by in the language of th

as the procursor of a revolution.

He accepted the comparison as a compliment; for it was the French aristocracy who had themselves precipitated the revolution, by their resistance of all change, and their maintenance of exclusive privileges, when the necessity and the reason for them had passed away. The growth of our manufactures, and the increase of our population, had brought about a state of things, when the continued maintenance of restrictions on the importation of corn were no longer compatible with justice; and he, therefore, thought that their removal would as much strengthen the aristocracy as it would benefit the country. He had not affirmed that France was ready to change her commercial policy, in imitation of our example. He relied on the prevalence of good sense. Ultimately the interest of the great body of the consumers would prevail, and they would come to see the folly of buying dear and had hardware, cotton, and linen, instead of cheap and good. A similar feeling was growing up in the United States-in fact, there was a movement of the public mind in every commercial country on the subject of Free Trade, which our example must impel. But even if we were not met by reciprocal advances on the part of other countries, we suffered no harm by relaxing our restrictions. Direct trade was better than indirect; but even if we exported gold in return for our imports, that gold must be obtained elsewhere in exchange for some other production. He concluded by emphatically expressing his confidence in the truth of Free Trade principles, and their ultimate progress.

Mr. George Bankes deplored the tady conversion of Sir Robert Peel, whom he had formerly compared, not to Turgot but to Neckar, as being in possession of similar virtues and weaknesses, and feared that his concessions to public opinion would lead to further and more disastrous changes.

Lord John Russell thought that whatever of argument the speech of Mr. Bunkes possessed, resolved itself into an objection to any change of opinion on the part of Sir Robert Peel. In Gil Blas, the assistant to Doctor Sangrado objected to the perpetual bleeding and hot water, as never effeeting a cure, but always ending in death. Doctor Sangrado admitted this, but replied that he had written a book, in which he had proved bleeding and hot water to be the only infallible cure for all diseases, and he could not, therefore, change his practice. He was no admirer of the wisdom of Neckar, but it was not that minister, but the aggressions on and the impatience of the French people which led to the revolution. The safety and security of the aristocracy in this country depended on their wise deference to public opinion, and this was compromised when they maintained a law adverse to the interests of the community, and the repeal of which was viewed with so much unnecessary alarm. There had always been a wide difference between the opinions of Sir Robert Peel and such of his former supporters as now assembled "under the gangway." If not, why had he undertaken his first Free Trade experiment? If it were their destiny to teach the nations of the world how to live, let them deeply consider which of their laws and institutions were incompatible with the general welfare. Be wise beforehand; let them be taught by Catholic emancipation, the Reform Bill, and the Corn Bill; stand by institutions which are good, and give up or correct those which ought to be abolished and amended; and by that great example earn the universal title of a wise and understanding people.

Mr. D'Israeli said they did not blame the Government for the precautions which they had undertaken, but for the new commercial policy which they had proposed. The space was so short, between the last and not the least able of the protection speeches of Sir Robert Peel, and the development of his Free Trade schemes, that it was not to be wondered that they were not prepared to follow him. The speech delivered that night by the First Lord of the Treasury had not been heard for the first time. It had been delivered in different localities, and by master hands, in Stockport, in Durham, and in that classic theatre, whose representations must necessarily influence exhibitions elsewhere, and consequently it might be expected that the inferior company would adopt the popular performance. He felt this when Sir Robert Peel was tracing that picturesque line across the country; he thought of rival railways, and said this must be the line of the member for Stockport. The real question was, whether or not the measures of the Government would displace capital and labour; if they did not, he would abandon his opposition. But he insisted that they would have that effect. The capital accumulated under protection was lent by Lombard street bankers to Lancashire manufacturers, and they must not forget what fostered their infancy, even if they had outgrown the support. He admitted that a protective policy-could not be supported on isolated and petty arguments. as peculiar burdens; if they could not make out a complete and overwhelming case, they had none. But the territorial aristoerncy, under which public liberty had grown up, did not comprise the whole of the landed interest. That embraced a large body of the people. Since the time of Walpole, a considerable proportion of the soil of England had passed into the bands of individuals from our great seats of industry; and this investment of capital showed that there was nothing alien in our laws to the free and ready occupation of land in this country. Colonel Torrens, in his series of pamphlets, called " The Budget," had started the subject of the circulation of the precious metals—a moot point amongst political economists; and an acute thinker, Mr. John Mill, had come deliberately to the conduction that hostile tariffs must be met by hostile tariffs—that the only legitimate basis of exchange was reciprocity. 'A country, with great capital, might go on unburt for a time; but ultimately we must exchange more and more of the labour of this country for a decreasing

smount of foreign productions.

The gallary was cleared for a division, but none tookpies and the house went into committee. It was understood the this was owing to a mistake, the Sprakes not having head a motion for the adjournment of the debate.

When the house was in committee, and Mr. Greene had read the first clause of the bill,

Lord George Bentinck moved that the chairman repor progress. On this there was a division:

Por the motion ... Against it 181

Majority against it

Mr. P. Bennett then moved that the chairman report pro. gress, and "don't" sit again. This created great laughter, He corrected himself by saying "report progress, and ak leave to sit again." Another division took place, when the numbers were 100 to 05.

Another motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Packe, on which

Mr. Charles Buller asked what was the object of these repeated motions? The house ought to come to some understanding on the subject.

Colonel Sibthorp disclaimed anything in connection with "understandings." Their course was straightforward, lie had moved for returns which had not been produced.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer explained that the production of the returns required time.

Sir Robert Peel suggested the withdrawal of the motion, on the understanding that the Committee should not proceed that night. This was ultimately acceded to.

On Tuesday the house went into committee on the bill and after passing wheat and barley, on arriving at "oats," Lord George Bentinck got up, and delivered another violent tirade, terming Ministers "political prostitutes," and using other phrases not very decent. He affirmed that the reduction of the duty on oats would ruin the agriculture of le. land (as if Ireland were a rich prosperous country!), and accordingly moved that "oats" be omitted. Unluckily for the sagacity of Lord George Bentinck, it turned out that the effect of the amendment, if it were carried, would be quite the reverse of what he intended. It would admit our without the payment of even the nominal duty of one shill ling. This was a galling discovery. Lord George was obliged to abandon his amendment, and though he substituted for it an amendment to omit the whole clause, wheat, barley, oats and all, he abandoned that also; and in spite of an abortive attempt to get up a debate, the Corn Importation Bill, and afterwards the Customs' Bill, triumphantly passed through committee, amid great cheering.

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There was nothing in the business of Wednesday or Thursday requiring specific notice from us, though in itself intrinsically important. We trust that next week we shall have the satisfaction of reporting the passing of the Corn Bill in the House of Commons.

We here give at length the speeches of Sir Robert Peel and Lord John Russell, delivered on Monday night. They will both amply repay perusal.

SIR ROBERT PEEL'S SPEECH.

Sir R. PEEL.—Sir, I shall in the first place notice that part of the noble lord's speech, the concluding part of it, n which he referred to the position and circumstances of Ireland. I certainly little expected, after the information that has been laid on the table of this house by Her Majesty's Government, information not given on any unfair selection, as the noble lord states, but the full and entire reports which have been received from the Scarcity Commissioners appointed by her Majesty's Government,-I did not expect that any hor gentleman would deny those allegations (hear, hear). Sir, I know that scarcity is not universal throughout the kingdom; I know there are parts of the country in which the rotate of the country in which the disease affecting the potato does not exist, or not to that calamitous extent in which it exists in other parts; and there may be gentlemen writing from Ireland that in the markets in their immediate vicinities there has been no great rise in the price of potatoes. You may multiply those letters from particular countries where the disease has not prevailed, but they will be no contradiction to the fact that sickness does exist in that country, growing out of the scarcity of there exists in many parts a scarcity of food almost to an unparalleled extent, and that the remedy her Majesty's Government are now applying is the purchase of food in order to provide subsistence for the people, who would otherwise he subjected to the greatest privation (hear, hear). And out of what source does this money come which is thus applied to the purchase of food? Is it from any great fund at the command of her Majesty's Govern. ment applicable to the purchase of food for the subsistence of the people of Treland? No; the source from which the purchase of food is made is the general taxation of the people of the United Kingdom (hear; hear). "But," says the noble lord, "some 60 tons of potatoes have been shipped from Ireland for the supply of Liverpool and Bristol," and the noble lord asks us why we did not go into the markets and purchase the quantities so shipped? Is the noble lord ready to interpret the named analysis of food to this country. ready to intercept the natural supply of food to this county ready to intercept the natural supply of food to this country, and pay for it out of the taxation of the people? Does he charge up with indifference in not having purchased the food sent for the ordinary supply of the people of this country?. There are, no doubt to the probability of the probability of the probability of the probability of the probability of the probability of the probability of the probability of the purchase of Indian corn and the purchase of Indian corn and the purchase of this indian corn and the purchase of this indian the purchase of this indian the purchase of this indianness that the purchase of this indianness that the purchase of this indianness that the purchase of this indianness that the purchase of this indianness that the probability of the purchase of the indianness that the purchase of the indianness that the purchase of the indianness that the purchase of the indianness that the purchase of the indianness that the purchase of the indianness that the purchase of the indianness that the purchase of the indianness that the purchase the racy on the part of the papple of

ther we are justly chargeable with exaggeration of facts for the surpose of facilitating the passing of the Corn Bill (hear, bear). The noble lord says that by the adoption of these measures we are countenancing delusions. Bir, that is a heavy charge (hear, bear) ; but how, then, came the noble lord himself to consent to this extraordinary measure—that he would permit, for the period of three months (great cheering), the importation of food into Ireland to be free (obsers)? Was not the noble lord ready to give his consent to that measure (cheers)? Yet the noble lord not only believes that it would be no remedy for the distress, but he denies there is any foundation for the allegation of the existence of famino in Ireland ("hear, hear," from the protectionists). If that is the case, what could induce the noble lord willingly to consent to so extraordinary a measure (loud cheers), one, too, which he believes would be no remedy—the relaxation of the duty on the importation of corn and provisions into Ireland (cheers)? If it is the duty of the legislature to undeceive the people, and not to countenance delusions, it is clearly incumbent on those who think with the noble lord to resist the application of so extraordinary a measure ("hear, hear," from Lord G. Bentinek). I do not understand the poble lord's cheer; this is what the noble lord says—"I belive that the importation of foreign provisions duty free into lieland would be no remedy whatever for the present evils; believe what the people of Ireland want is money with which to purchase food, not food without money (hear), but still I will give my consent to the free importation of food," Well, but the noble lord thinks there, is no particular neces sity—that is, not any necessity—for resorting to any extraordinary measure. He thinks the resorting to an extraordinary measure is countenancing and exciting delusion, and has kept up the price of food (hear, hear). Yet he says he is ready to countenance that delusion by permitting, for three months, the free importation of food into Ireland (cheers). Am I wrong in saying the noble lord is ready to consent to that measure? And on what grounds is be realy to consent to it? Because the Irish members wished it! Well, the Irish members only wished it under a strong impression on their part that there is a necessity for it (hear, hear); and if nearly all the Irish members do represent that there is such an alarm of scarcity in Ireland that it is necessary to make a temporary provision for it by suspending the law imposing a duty on the import of foreign food, does the noble lord believe that those Irish members, on whose expressed wish on the subject he is ready willingly to consent to the measure, have entered into a conspiracy to delude the house into a belief that this sickness and scarcity exist? I certainly infer that the noble lord must have had a strong impression himself that there is such a scarcity as to justify such an extraordinary measure, because the noble lord did not profess any readiness to yield to the opinions and wishes of the Irish members on another subject (cheers). The im pressions and wishes of the Irish members were against the oercion Bill, but the noble lord resisted them; he though the necessity for the Coercion Bill was established, and against the wishes and opinions of a majority of the Irish members, he acted on his own opinion, and refused his consent to the rejection of the measure (hear, hear). Therefore, if the noble lord thinks no case for it has been made out in Ireland, why is he willing to consent to a temporary suspension of the duty on forcign provisions imported into Ireland (hear, hear)? Why does he do so, if it is countenancing delusion,—if it is enculated to raise prices and to aggravate the evils of the present calamity (cheers)? Sir, you will find this Irish case is not limited to the present year; as far as Ireland is concerned, you will find the temporary suspension of the duty will not be sufficient; you will find that in the course of the present year a much smaller quantity of land has been planted with potatoes than in former years; you will find that this arises first from the mwillingness of the farmers to let their land in connere for fear the rent should not be received, and partly from the opprehensions of the cottiers and pensants that the same disease which has affected the potatoes this year will affect them in the next (hear, hear, and cheers) You must calculate on the probability that the pressure will extend beyond the month of August next, and that in the pext year, as in this, there will be a deficient supply of food therefore, as fur as Ireland is concerned, I absolutely deny that there has been any exaggeration on the part of the Government. I peremptorily deny that there has been any intentional exaggeration for the purpose of facilitating the passing of any measure. A Government seeing the progress of the disease, and being responsible for the protection of the people against famine and scaroity, bus a high and important duly to perform; if that Government was known to have neglected any reasonable precaution against those evils, any precaution by which they might have been obviated, que universal condemnation would be pronounced against it, and only at the risk of such condemnation could the executive Government have neglected such precautions; in such a case, the censure you lavish on us-and most unjustly-for our superfluous precaution, would be lovelled with ten times more force, because with ten times more justice, if we had presomed that all these statements were untrue, and had neglected the precaution of increasing the supply of food in Ireland. Sir, the noble lord says I stated the other night, that in the course of this discussion the opinions I enter tained on this subject had undergone a change; and that the restrictions which I some time believed to be impolitic I now believed to be unjust (hear, hear). Sir, I adopt, and deliberately repeat, that sontiment (cheers). I believe these restrictions on the importation of foreign corn are unjust chase. (cheers). The noble lord may have a right to blame me for not having made that discovery at an earlier period ("hear, hear," from Lord George Bentinck and the protec tionists); he may say I ought to have seen that these re-strictions were unjust three or four years since (hear, hear); well I admir to Alexandra admir that those who, having well, I admit it (cheers) i. I admit that those who, having an intuitive perception of what is right respecting matters of communications. of commercial polloy—that those who, after giving a patient and deliberate consideration to the anticorphase adopted the right course.—I admit that they, and not others who at a later manual and admit that they and not others who at a later pariod have adopted their sentiments, are entitled to all the gredit of the policy that has been purshed thear, hear, hear). But it is the duty of those who see reason to change their opinions to have the manliness to avow them change their opinions to have the manliness to avow them (loud alterna). This is dislicated to be copyinced, and yet try to consult your craft far (one shade) to admit the blander of amountained the little by making the change of disantille myself to the sendance of the noble-lord dishess findments by protection as a philips quantille great the considering the change of the noble-lord dishess findments protection as a philips quantillative conner, really has to consider it where the change of the noble-lord dishess findments of the protection of the change of the noble-lord dishess findments of the consider it.

Punish me, if you will, for not having discovered that sooner; let the discovery disentitle me to your confidence but you cannot, on account of the personal imputation, escape the necessity of arguing the questions-are these restrictions politic, and are they just (cheers)? I do not think, then, they are consistent with justice; the noble lord says he has a right to hear from me the grounds on which auterthin that opinion. Sir, I had no reason to believe this discussion would come on to-night; I thought a debate would take place on the third reading; but I had not the alightest reason to suppose that the noble lord in the exercise of his discretion would have made a demand on me at any period of this discussion for the grounds of my opinion. But, as the noble lord requires me to do so, I will assign e grounds upon which, after mature consideration, after hearing these debates, and even after having listened to the speeches of the noble lord himself. I have come to the conclusion that these restrictions are not politic, and are not consistent with justice (hear, hear, hear). I do not think we can defend the restrictions on the importation of food, that is, an increase of the natural price of food by legislative intervention, except upon some great public reasons connected with the public good. I think the presumption is against these restrictions; the presumption, and it is a natural one, particularly in this House of Com-mons, which has adopted the principle of freedom from restrictions in respect to almost all other articles of import, is in favour of an unrestricted import of food; but even con sistency on the part of this house requires that the same principle which has been applied to almost all other articles of foreign produce should be applied to food also, unless you can establish some clear distinction, some reason founded on the general and permanent welfare of the country, distinguishing the article of food from other articles of manufacture and produce, and showing that it is for the general interest of the community that this restriction should be maintained (hear, hear). And it is because I cannot with truth allege my belief that by establishing a Free Trade in corn you will thereby become dependent on foreign nations for that supply, -it is because I do not believe that the rate of wages varies with the direct price of food-it is because 1 carnot persuade myself that the continuance of this protection is necessary to agricultural prosperity-it is because I cannot establish these facts, I have come to the conclusion that the natural presumption is in favour of unrestricted import; therefore it is I think it unjust to continue the legislalative restriction. I have listened to the argument, that because in this country we have a very heavy taxation there is a reason for the continuance of the restrictions on the import of food. But on mature consideration and reflection 1 be lieve that argument to be totally without foundation (cheers) I believe it is impossible to assign a high rate of taxation as n valid reason for maintaining the Corn Laws (cheers). I believe it to be illogical to contend that because the great mass of the community are heavily taxed, and necessarily heavily taxed, in respect to the consumption of all other commodities, therefore this is any good reason to lay a tax on the importation of wheat (loud cries of "hear, hear, hear"). I cannot contend that by increasing the range from which you draw your supplies of food, by bringing your food from the United States and the Continent of Europe by increasing the number of countries in different latitudes which can feel an assurance that the British market will be open to them, and that there will be no operation of a sliding scale to exclude their produce when it has been brought to our markets-I cannot contend that this dependence upon foreign nations constitutes a reason for maintain ing those laws any longer (cheers). Now, look at the different classes of the community-take first the manufac turing population-is it just towards them to continue these restrictions? Can we maintain in argument that the great mass of the population who depend for the means of pur chasing subsistence upon daily labour, and are employed in manufactures-can we say that they are interested in the maintenance of these laws? If you tell me that the maintenauce of these laws will ensure them a more abundant supply of corn at a lower price-not in this or the next year, but I give you the greater latitude—if on a series of years you show me that the maintenance of these restrictions will ensure that abundant supply at a lower, or, if you will, at an equal price, I admit that is an argument for continuing them. But I doubt whether that is the case (hear, hear). And when I am constantly asked what will be the price I calculate of wheat in future years, and told that I am disturbing the Tithe Commutation Act, which was founded on a price of 56s, the quarter, whereas the price of wheat may fall to 48s., I think these questions afford a strong presumption in the minds of those who put them that the unrestricted import of foreign corn will have a tendency to reduce the price of wheat. The apprehension that the Tithe Commutation Act will be permanently deranged by permitting a free importation of wheat must proceed on the assumption that the calculation on which it proceeds is erroneous, and onory of lower rather than higher. With respect, then, to the great manufacturing population, can we contend that it is for their interest that the price of wheat should be enhanced by restrictions on its import (cheers)? I don't believe that the price of wheat will be enhanced by the removal of these restrictions (hear, hear), I don't believe that the removal of the restrictions will have a tendency to increase fluctuations (cheers). I therefore believe that the great mass of the manufacturing population will be doubly benefited by the removal of these restrictions; first, by increasing the demand for these manufacturing articles upon which their labour is expended; and in the next place by giving them from the wages they receive a greater command over the necessories and comforts of life (cheers). So far then as that part of the population is concerned, I cannot maintain these restrictions in order to consult their interests. Bitt now, with respect even to the agricultural body itself, immediately engaged in the production of articles of food. With respect to make there is no contest, nor is there any great contest about barley, and there only remain wheat and cats. Let us then cousider how much of this country are districts producing wheat. I apprehend that the wheat plant requires exposure to the sun, and if you were to divide Great Britain by a line drawn from Inverness to Southampton, I think you would find the wheat growing districts to be in a greet extent to the cantward of that line. Indentingan to say that to the westward, in Biropshire and Identiment to say that to the westward, in Shropsums and Somerseshire for instance, you won't find wheat growing districts. But, speaking generally, both in Scotland and ingland, think youwill find the wheat growing districts to the castward of a line drawa as it have described I don't speaking the the district to the westward. I don't speak the the district to the westward, I don't speak the the district of Lancaulties are the the the district of Lancaulties are the the the the the think of the the the the the wheat growing districts of the doublety are think that the wheat growing districts of the doublety are

comparatively speaking, those lying exposed to the sun on the eastern coast, with the freedom from the humidity of the western coast; and it would be difficult to show that even the agricultural interest is directly concerned in increasing the price of wheat (cheers). Now, let us take Ireland—the noble lord himself read me a pretty strong lesson, that Ireland is not much interested in the continuance of these restrictions. The noble lord, on a former night, described the position of the Irish farmers to be this :- he said that Lord Essex had declared that the farmers who had a large capital and much skill might contend against unrestricted import; but speaking of farmers without capital and without much skill, it would be difficult for them to contend against uprestricted import. The noble lord said that there are SHS (00) farmers in Ireland, and that they all answer the description, speaking generally, as a muss of persons, without capital, and certainly with-out skill. What has protection then done for them (loud cheers)? It is true that there are and,000 persons employed in the promotion of agriculture in Ireland, with all their families depending on them, and at the present moment they are farmers without capital? If it can be asserted of them as a class-I flo not say universally, for, of course, exceptions to such a description are to be found—if it can be asserted generally of the farmers of Ireland as a class that they are men without capital, can we contend that the system of protection has been to them a benefit (hear, hear)? Why, to make the assertion that they have realised no capital is a very strong proof that protection has not been for their benefit (cheers). And then, with respect to the agricultural labourers in Ireland; can we contend that protection has ever operated for them advantageously, or that to them it has ever been beneficial (hear)? There is direct proof to the contrary. If you state that the agoleultural labourer is in distress—that he is suffering from searcity and disease in many parts of the country, what is the answer from the advocates of protection? Why, that it is nothing extraordinary, that it is nothing unusual, nothing out of the common course of nature, that every time it is the same (" hear, hear," from the Opposition benches). We are told, further, that there are six weeks in every year in which the agricultural labourer finds at impossible to make the two ends meet. His potatoes fail in June or early in July, and he then finds the greatest difficulty in procuring the substi-tute by which to sustain life. Well, if that be the normal state of the Irish agricultural labourer, if that he not the exceptional case for which we are contending, if that he the ordimery condition, and if you say that therefore we are not justified in adopting any extraordinary temedy, can we con-tend that protection has been greatly for the benefit of the agricultural classes in Ireland (hear, hear). Tuke it as you will, if the present is an exception to the rule, in that case our remedies are justified. If, on the other hand, you state that there is always prevailing throughout the country during two months in the year destruction and familiesupposing this allegation to be correct, can you have a stronger impeachment of that state of the law under which hitherto the Irish agricultural classes have existed (cheers from the Opposition benches). I have thus attempted to show, and I, at least, and of that opinion, that the continuance of these restrictive laws is disudvantageous for the manufacturing interests, and for the interests of that class, in Ireland, which is immediately connected with agriculture. And now, with respect to the agricultural classes here,- I do not mean to maintain that this change in the law will be altogether unnecompanied by distress ("hear, hear," from the protectionist benches). I cannot deny that so great a change cannot be made without involving it in some distress; I wish, indeed, it were possible to make any alteration in any great system of law without subjecting some class to some distress. But, is it not the fact, that the parties who will be the most distressed will be those who have not sejonce, and skill, and capital? It would be impossible permanently to maintain a law which could not be shown to be advantageous to men of capital and skill, and only to be maintained in order to give the means of subsistence to those who have not capital and skill. Nor should we be justified, as a permanent system, in maintaining these laws, and taking the food of the great body of the community, on the allegation not that they were necessary for the protection of agriculture, were science and skill applied to agriculture, but that they were necessary for the protection of those who had given in their adherence to the old system, and had unlimited means by which they could better it (cheers). And if you cannot permanently maintain it, my firm impression is, that the sooner you make known to the country what is your ultimate decision the better (hear, hear). Why, I believe also the agricultural inferest is of this opinion (chaers from the Opposition benches). Yes; I believe the agricultural interest is most desirous of ascertaining the ultimate decision of Parliament with respect to the permanent system finally to be adopted. That is my decided impression (hear, hear, and cheers). I believe that the agriculturist with capital and skill, not only derives no advantage from these laws, but that he is subjected to direct injury. I consider that he has no interest whatever in the maintenance of those laws. I do not deny that there are cases in which, from the absence of capital and skill, there may be, and probably must be, some temporary suffering; but what I do deny is, that you could defend a permanent system of protection on the alleged necessity of protecting that class. And if you cannot base it, as a permanent system, on that ground—if those laws are not for the advantage of capital and skill as applied to agriculture, their duration is, I believe, necessarily temporary; and, if temporary, the sooner, as I said before, a permament arrangement is made the better (loud cheers from the Opposition; and cries of "No, no," from the protection benches). This is the argument; the hon gentlemen who interrupt me may have rouson to show that this argument is ofther not conclusive or that it is, fallacious; but that is strier and constantly or that it is intuiting that an early settlement of these laws is absolutely required. The noble lord says, that a Minister of England would do well to adopt the language of the Minister of France, if he would see the advantage of upholding a territorial aristocracy—the maintenance of a territorial aristocracy—the maintenance of a territorial aristocracy being eigenstal to the preservation of the Conservative principle of legislation. preservation of the Conservative principle of legislation. Naw, L. am disposed to adopt the descrine of the Remele Minister—of M. Outsot. I tell we have been fire the first importance that a territorial aristorial alternational distribution and that in no country is it of gratificing stripe and the character of the sound of the character of the country is a territorial aristory and the character of the country of the character of the country of the character of the country of the character of the country of the character of the country of the character of the c

cortain state of public upinion and of society would be the most offerinal way of maintaining the logitimate authority of a territorial aristocracy (loar, hear); and if I thought that the confinuance of this protection was essential to the maintenance of that territorial aristocrany, I should see in that fact a very strong reason for the preservation of protection; but I must see whether it be for the real interest of the territorial aristogracy to attempt to maintain its authority by contlining restrictions on our commercial policy. The question fa, will the just and legitimate influence of the landed evision acy he best maintained by consenting to forego, or by insisting on the maintenance of this protec-My firm belief is, that it will more iporease the just inflaence of that body now to forego protection (cheers from the Opposition henches). Why, of all the authorities on the Lubject, there is not one who dwells more upon the importance of a territorial dristocracy, upon the necessity of maintaining the authority of the aristocracy in this country, or who dilutes more philosophically upon it, than Mr. Burke. He says that it is essential that a territorial aristogracy should he maintained in this country; he says that the aristogracy has at all times taken the lead in all measures of reform and that, on the other hand, it is the great strength and support of conservative government. He asks, how is it that the territorial aristocracy of England has so long maintained its position? and he says that it is because it has always and invariably identified itself with the people, because it has never pertinaciously insisted on the continuance of privileges when the time for foregoing those privileges bad arrived. He draws a contrast between the aristocracy of England wisely consulting public opinion, relinquishing its privileges when called upon to do so, and the territorial aristocracy of France, insisting no the retention of its privileges when, from the course of events, those privileges could no longer be concealed. In a former debate my hon, friend the member for Dorsetshire, thinking, perhaps, he was uttering a severe surcasm, though I took it as the highest possible compliment, compared me to a Minister of France, to Turget; and he thought I was laying the foundation of a revolution in this country by adopting and applying the principles of Turgot. Has my honourable friend so read history as to think that the doctrines of Turgot led to the French Revolution? Does my honourable friend think that, if the sristocracy had not acted as it did-if it had not insisted on the corvers and on the other privileges of the order, the doctrines of Turget would have precipitated the French Revolution (hear, hear)? Does not my honourable friend feel that it was this conduct of the aristocracy, this asserting of bygone rights and immunities, rather than the doctrines of Turgot, which paved the way to that revolution (hear, hear)? I do not refer to the privileges of mistocracy because I think they will be destroyed by conceding Free Trade in this country. I truly believe, speaking of the territorial aristocracy generally, that they will receive no injury from such a policy. I make ex ceptions; but speaking generally of the interests of hand in this country, I do not believe that the value of land, that the privileges of land, or the influence of land, will now diminished by acceding to that policy (cheers from the Opposition). And if it will not, I am sure you are establishing only a new claim on the affections and the sympathies of the people by making a willing enerifice. If it is demonstrated that these laws are for your benefit, then you are wise to maintain them; but if you have the conviction that agricultural prosperity and the value of land and of agrioultural produce is closely interwoven with manufacturing prosperity, then, in this country, in this complicated state of society, you cannot without serious danger to the hand, fix a great and lasting charge upon the manufacturing population (hear); and if you would avoid that, then, I say, better for the interest—the extended permanent interest of the territorial aristocracy to make this concession fairly and at once (cheers from the Opposition benches.) There are many privileges that the aristocracy have had that have been volunturily abandoned, and without any loss of influence whatever. How long is it since one of these privileges was that the land alone should form a qualification for a seat in this house (hear, hear)? That was one of the ancient privileges of aristocracy, and you might argue that the abandominent of that was destructive to the influence of a territorial aristocracy (hear, hear). The constitution and long prescription had required that the sole means of entering this house was by the possession of land; you found that the law was avoided, and that it was insufficient for the purpose; you voluntarily relinquished it, and by relinquishing it has the influence of the aristocracy been, diminished (hear, hear)? Was not this a proof, among many others, that power has been secured to you by a timely abandonment of nominal privileges much more than by a pertinaclous adherence to them (hear, hear)? Well, now, for some months, for two or three months, we have had before us an expectation of this great change; the country has had a fair knowledge that, if this law should pass, there will, on the lat of February, 1819, be a duty of is, only applicable to the import of foreign corn. The people of this country, it must be remembered, are a reflecting and provident people; they look forward; and, I ask, has the interest of land, in consequence of the announcement of the contemplated change, been injuriously affected,-are farms out of loase, lias there been less domand for them than usual? not a conviction, on the part of the tenant, about with capital and skill to outer a farm, that there has not been, for the last ten years, a period in which he could enter on his occupation with greater advantage than at this moment (hear)? There must be in this house many gentlemen who have lately had farms to lease. Have the offers for them diminished? Is there any necessity of letting them at lower rates? As I said long ago, before this change was imputed to me, I think agricultural is to such an extent interwoven with manufacturing prosperity, that it is more dependent on that than on anything class. Reflection has confirmed me in that opinion, and I think it is for the permanent welfure of the agricultural interest, that we should lay the substantial and certain foundation of manufacturing and commercial prosperity (hear, hear, and cheers). The true interests of the land must be co-existent and consistent with the prosperity of commerce and manufactures. with the prosperity of commerce and manufactures. In point of fact, agricultural prosperity cannot exist without commercial prosperity. In all relaxations of commercial restrictions we lay the foundation for improved commercial and manufacturing prosperity, and, therefore, on that account I look forward to their direct operation on land, and I feel satisfied you will find that the value of land will increase with the removal of those restrictions and with the new claims which, by define your consent you will have to the with the removal of those restrictions and with the new claims which, by giving your consent, you will have to the sympathies of the people (cheers). And as to these laws, I believe that, with respect to the greater portion of the community, not only have they no direct interest in their con-

tinuance, but that their wishes are directly to the contrary, and that, on that account, each laws are only to be maintained at the expense of protracted and bareasing strife (cheers). I believe that the repeal of these laws is the futorest, direct and indirect, of the agricultural classes also. I osilnot acknowledge that they are necessary to the extension of scientific agriculture, and as I cannot assign that reason for the maintenance of restrictions, I come to the conclusion that the natural presumption is in favour of an unrestricted trade in corn, that it would be unjust as well as impolitic to continue longer the existing prohibitions (cheers). After the best reflection I can give to the whole of the subject, therefore, I now deliberately repeat what I said before, — that restrictions which at first I believed to be impolide I now believe to be unjust (cheers). I am sorry that this conclusion was not fixed in my mind at an earlier period (ironical cheers from the protection benches). Yes, the bon, gentlemon who cheer me retain their former impressions. I dare say their views are more just than ours. But, even, although I should pay the severe penalty of losing their confidence, it is my duty to avow that my sentiments have undergone a change, and not persist in defending restrictions which I cannot think are consistent with justice. The noble lord has referred to the relaxation of restrictions by foreign countries, and has said that the promises I made two or three months ago that other countries would follow our example and relax their restrictive system have not been fulfilled. Why, considering that we are now only going into committee on the bill (cheers), considering we are told that the law will never pass, and that it is confidently expected that here or elsewhere it will be defeated (cheers from the protectionists), the noble lord cannot expect that when the bill has only been read a second time, foreign countries should relax their restrictive systems. But I did not promise that your legislation would be immediately followed by such results. I prophesied that other countries would in time follow your example, but I did not say they would do so at an early period. There are, however, countries that have shown a willingness to adopt your course cheers). Since I made the declaration in favour of a more liberal commercial system, the Two Sicilies have made an alteration in their commercial code (cheers, ironically taken up by the protectionists). That is a small country, I admit, but is it not a convincing proof that you have made some progress already, and that the charge made by the noble lord is an unfair charge to be made? With respect to France, is an unfair charge to be made? With respect to France, the noble lord said, I promised that France would adopt our principles. I said no such thing. I said this—that I gave credit to the French Government for being too enlightened to wish to persevere in all their present restrictions on British articles of manufacture, but that I believed that Government would be controlled in both Chambers by the in fluence exercised by those who were interested in upholding the present restrictions (cheers). But I said that ultimately the opinion of the Government, backed as it is by that of many intelligent men in that country, would prevail over these interested parties, and lead the way to a more liberal commercial code. That is what I said, and all I said. I did not would be an immediate alteration in the law. What I said then I now believe. I believe that in France the interests of the great body of the consumers will at no remote period prevail, as they should prevail, over the interests of the few; and I believe now, that if you adhere to your mettoof advancing in your commercial relaxations, France will follow your example; but that if, instead of advancing, you recede, your example will be much more powerful in an opposite direction. I know that societies have been formed in France to introduce into commerce and manufacture a freer system. They will be able to show that it is not for the advantage of the great body of the consumers that they should buy dear and bad hardware, dear and bad cotton, and dear and bad linen. They will be able to show that the great mass of consumers in France will benefit by obtaining instead the cheaper and better articles of this But I never promised, knowing as I did the strongth of the interests in the French chambers, that those interests would at once yield to the influence of reason (clicers); that on the approach of an election the Ministers of that country would adopt our principles. But if you set them the example we now propose, this example will prevail—the truth of these principles will be discovered in France—the interests of the great body of the people will be understood, and, being understood, they will prevail (cheers). Well, in the United States, I believe they will prevail there also. I don't say immediately, but I know this, that a movement is taking place in the public mind in every country (cheers); and that the example of England, as it told most powerfully in favour of restriction, will now be the strongest argument in favour of relaxation. But if we now retrograde - if we say we are convinced that we have been wrong in the stops we have already taken, then we shall continue in every country the system of restriction. The noble lord said, that if we got the corn of France and the timber of Prussia, the great consideration was, what we should get them to take in return. Why, suppose they took nothing in return, what should we suffer from that (choers and counter-cheers from the protectionists)? On what principle does the noble lord think foreign commerce is carried on? When we buy the brandies of France they are not given to us—something is given in exchange for them. We cannot take the silks of France, the timber of Prussia, and the corn of Prussia, without paying for them—there is no mode of making purchases but by giving an accordant for them. chases but by giving an equivalent for them,—but, do you send out gold to those countries now? I have not seen any diminution in the gold of the Bank of England that could be attributed to this cause. If there has been a decrease in gold, it has been from our internal concerns. I have not seen gold, it has been from our internal concerns. I have not seen that any great quantities of it have gone to Prussia. What will astonish you still more perhaps is, that I wish it had (cheers). This country would be able to command a sufficient quantity of gold if it were required in the steady and legitimate course of trade. When a regular commerce is carried on there can be no drain of gold, and even if they take nothing but gold we can only procure that by the same take nothing but gold we can only procure that by transmitting our manufactures for that gold, and then purchasing corn and timber with it. I should not be alarmed, therefore, if there should be an export of gold from this country, knowing that we shall obtain that gold by exchanging our manufactures for it. No analy awaret can take place as will manufactures for it. No such export can take place as will derange our internal affairs, or derange the stability of our commerce. By permitting a freer access to the brandles and silks of France, I am persuaded that we shall inflict no wound on the commerce of this country, even if France should not adopt the same with reference to our manufac-tures. We shall be able to get a better and a cheaper article by introducing French brandy, and we shall enable our own population to apply what they save to the purchase of other articles of consumption. Of course, if Plance could see her

advantage in making a corresponding relaxation in her true then I admit shandleste comparer in better then to early satisfies that it is better to exchange immediately then to early satisfies for the produce of other countries. But if we can't have the double advantage, don't let us refuse to have the single (lond cheers). If we can't have the good article chempte not let us refuse to avail ourselves of it because our neighbours will not do the same. Sir, I have that confidence in the example of England, that when it is seen to be in farest of commerce, and not in favour of restriction—when the public attention in different countries is called to it—I still retain the impression, that at no remote period this principle will ultimately provail. I therefore relterate the situated in the indication of your intentions—"Advance, and do not retrograde in the course of your commercial point." (The right hon, haronet resumed his sont amid loud and continued cheering).

Mn. Bankes then addressed the house, and was succeeded by

LORD JOHN RUSSELL. LORD J. RUSSELL: The hon, and learned member who has just sat down (Mr. Bankos) has declared that he did not men to taunt the right hon. gentleman opposite (Sir R. Peel) with changing his opinion, and has stated that he believes the change of opinion to be sincere. At the same time I mad say, that the speech of the hon, and learned member was s much wanting in argament, and consisted so much of a reg. tition of what I considered taunt against the right hon, gen tleman opposite, that I do consider that that does form the staple of the objections which are felt to the course which the Government is now pursuing (hear, hear). I cannot but ask, supposing the right hon. gentleman—as I think we man in justice to him suppose-to be sincere in the opinion be now professes, I cannot but ask, what course it was possible for him to pursue? Diminish, as much, as you please, the su. city and disease of potatoes in Ireland, still you must admit that in some parts of that country there does exist great ditress. We have readily agreed to grants for the purpose of relieving that distress, and have admitted that relief vas required by some extraordinary measure. Such being the case, those who are in favour of a change of the Corn Law would have argued-it is impossible for them not to have so argued-that this formed an additional ground for taking into consideration the Corn Laws (hear, hear). At work have been said that large sums of public money would have been laid out in, and a great portion of the taxes applied to the relief of the people of Ireland, in cases where they are suffering from want of food, and yet you still maintain a law by which food is not admitted here from foreign countries roady to send it us (hear, hear). If the right hon gentleman opposite had thought that these Corn Laws ought to be maintained under all circumstances, he might have made an argument for their maintenance; but if such is not he opinion—if he feels that these laws could not be maintained to the advantage of this empire-how intolerable would have been the position of the right honourable genderan if he had aftempted to defend these laws, and had asked only for temporary remedies and temporary grants for relief (hear, hear, hear). What other course could the right hon. gentleman, as the Minister of a great country, take—holding the opinion be professes, and I believe sincerty entertains, that this question ought to be finally settled—than that which he has taken (hear, hear)? No doubt this is not consistent with the course he took before, and the hon, and learned gentleman says, with great satisfaction, "I see no reason to change my opinion." heard arguments in variety for the last few years, which I need not endeavour now to repeat, sufficient to show that these Corn Laws have produced great evils in this country, and that in times of distress, when food was dear, mortality and orime have increased in proportion to the dearness of food (hear, hear). I know but one example like the consistency which the hon, and learned gentleman would seem to recommend, and that is contained in the novel of Gil Blas. I recollect that Gil Blas, when assistant to Dr. Sangrado, says to his master, "I have now been your assistant for some months, and I see that every case ends fatally; we have tried bleeding and hot water whether the patient was a young person or old, whether the illness was sudden or of long standing, and the termination has always been the same; we have effected no cure; our treatment has only increased the disease, and ended in death." And then Dr. Sangrado replies, "It is quite true; there is not a treatment case in which we have effected a cure; my treatment seems to have no good result; but I have written a book to show that it is the only cure, and therefore it is impossible to change it" (cheers and laughter). The hon, and learned gentleman seems to be alarmed at the prospect of evils approaching us, and it appears that he has found agreat likeness between the right hon. gentleman of posite and Neckar. I confess I do not see those points of resemblance to which the hon, and learned gontleman has inued, or any resemblance between the abolition the Corn Laws and the commencement of the French Revolution, though I am no admirer of his wisdom, firmness, or talent. I believe that the cause of the French Revolution was the oppression of the French people, and I entirely agree in those observations which the right honourable gentleman quoted from Burke, to the affect that the safety and the necurity of the aristoracy of this country depends on their wise observance of public opinion, and their determinant the right honourable opinion, and their determinant the right honourable opinion, and their determinant the right honourable. opinion, and their determination not to maintain laws which the country feels convinced are injurious to it (bear, hear). I wish to maintain the landlord aristocracy, and I do not wish to see them supplanted by any other class of the community; but I think, with respect to these Coro Laws, that if the aristocracy went on from your in year maintaining laws which it could be shown had be effect of raising the price of corn grown on their own inch and thereby tending to increase their incomer and it, a might be the case, the majority of the community tome to be of opinion that the aristocracy were acting from such mostlyst, there would their be no position contains the mass the obstitute maintaining of those law is the when these Open laws are done away with the aristocracy be in a worse position than the aristocracy be in a worse position than the aristocracy were acting the could be any the divinite by their beauty in a state of the community of the country and the state of the community and the country are not be in a worse to the community and aristocracy are not be inventigated. the country feels convinced are injurious to it (bear, bear) I wish to maintain the landlord aristooracy, and I do not wish

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turns; and with respect to other matters. I do not know any country in this world where any class less is position at once so become be a constant of the country of the co commerce, towards the end of the last century, took a great start and made great progress (lines, hear). They have the advantage of competing for political power with all the other advantage of companing for pointing power with an theother classes of the community, and they are able to chief places in the House of Commons, whilst shey mostly possess the whole of the House of Lords; and they have the further advantage which a civilised community, such as is to be found in this country, always carries with it (hear, hear). I must say that I do not know that there is any class in the world which the English landed arise any country in the world which the English landed aris-tocracy have to envy (bear, hear); and if I were asked with respect to their political power, I should say, that while they competed with other classes of the community, which likewise have acquired wealth, and likewise have intelligence, and are fitted to rise to the highest posts which British subjects can occupy under the constitution, the English aristocracy need to be proud to fill no other situation than that, which their own ability, exertions, and industry, and those of their forefathers, enable them to do. The honourable and learned gentleman soems much slarmed at the idea that the country will have to pay very dearly for this boon of the abolition of the Corn Laws, and he appears afraid that we shall part with all the gold in the country, Wheat is to be brought from other countries, and it is said that the foreigners will take nothing but gold in exchange. But gold must be obtained somewhere: and so, if we have rold, we must give manufactures in exchange for it. But then it is contended that we do not know the price that must be paid for gold; but, for my part, I think that matter may be safely left to the manufacturers, who will know the price which gold naturally should bear (hear, hear). There fore I may that any alarm of that kind is really preposterous. lu point of fact there has been for several years a great quantity of wheat imported; at first there was an exportation of bullion and of specie, but after two or three years the course of trade became regulated, the export of our manufactures has increased, and these manufactures have been taken in exchange for corn. Such will be the result when trade is constantly carried on, as will be the case under the law which the right hon. baronet has proposed (hear, hear). And now, Sir, I must say a few words on the question with regard to which the hon. and learned gentleman has also spoken, namely, as to the division which has taken place between him and those who follow the noble lord the member for Lynn, and those who still follow the right honourable gentleman the First Lord of the Treasury; and I must say, I do not think this difference of opinion has arisen for the arst time during the present year (hear, hear). Whatever may be said, a difference of opinion has existed. It has appeared to me for years that the opinions of the right nos appeared to me for years that see opinions gentleman the First Lord of the Treasury, the opinions of the right hon, gontleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and the opinions of others who now act with them have been exceedingly different from the opinious of the hon, and learned goutleman who has just spoken, and of others who have acted with him during the present session. Accordingly we have seen, from the first commencement of the ministry, that there has been this great difference of opinion between them. The right honourable gentleman, the First Lord of the Treasury, said, at the beginning of the present session, that the experience of the last three years of Free Trade, in certain articles, has convinced him of the propriety of proceeding in the same course; but if the right honourable gentleman had been a friend of the protection so common on the part of the great body who vote for the maintenance of the Corn Laws, why were those experiments in Free Trade made? What could have induced those experiments in the commercial policy—the enlightened and the enlarged policy, as I think, but at all events, the commercial policy opposed to the views of the hon. gentlemen below the gangway? We have seen, in the course of the last few years, whether, with respect to this commercial policy, or the Canadian Corn Bill, or on religious questions, such as the Maynooth Bill, that there has been a great difference of opinion between the Government and those who, before they succeeded to office, were their most active and cordial allies. What is the conclusion to be drawn from this? The conclusion is, that though there was a union to put an end to the late Government—though there was a combination, there was no party united in their views of public policy. Therefore, I think for the public interests, it is better, far better, that the right hon, gentleman should entertain his views of Public policy, and that those gentlemen should fairly declare their views and the opinions they honostly entertain, and tote against the right hon, baronet (hear, hear). The hon. and learned gentleman who has last spoken has referred to an association—meaning what is commonly known by the league, and of another association existing hel, with another object—the repeal of the legislative union. Now, I do bog the hon, and learned gentleman to consider a little—as he has so strong a dislike to yielding to associate the little as he has so strong a dislike to yielding to associate which tions, as he does not approve of the course of policy which has been agitated in our market places, and in our streets for years, and as he thinks it wiser that improvements should commence with Parliament, and should be sent as law at once among the people rather than that they should be the consequence of popular agitation—as I collect that to be his opinion—I wish that he, and those who act with him, would consider the experience of late years. For many years we contended for the question of Parliamentary referred. liamentary reform. I remember, Sir, that I said in this house, if we did not allow it to flow on with the river, we must expect it to rush like the torrent. I was laughed at for that expression; it was said to be an abourd and ridd-culous expression. But when the Reform Bill was introduced, the popular fury rose to such a height that it would consent to making but the bill and to was then seen that it duced, the popular fury rose to such a height that it would consent to nothing but the bill; and it was then seen that it would have been where to have made some concession to the previous agitation. And, with regard to the subject which may arise when the question of corp shall be settled, experisity with respect to that country to which the hobble lord the member for thynn, and the lion, and learned gentleman have alluded, hope, that he said others will abilities whether there may not be measures, which it will be wise in Parliament there may not be measures, which it will be wise in Parliament to same house of sea quality to by popular agitation (sheet). Of this is an arise descens expetie nations of the world—to leach the nations of the world—to leach the nations of the world—to leach the nations of the world—to leach the nations of the world—to leach the nations of the world—to leach the nations of the world—how to live—we, the leach the nations of the world—how to live—we, the leach that nations of the world—how to live—we the leach that nations of the world—how to live—we the leach that he would how to live—we the leach that he had the world—how to live—we the leach that he had the world—how to live—we the leach that he had the world—how to live—we the leach that he had the world—how to live—we the leach that he had the world—how to live—we the leach that he had the live had the

right hon, gentleman for now declaring the Corn Laws to be unjust. Why are they injust? Because they are restrictions; and if they are not authorized and justified by the general safety and walfare of the country, we ought not to uploid what are otherwise unjust fave. And, if there are other laws which stand in the same position, do not wait till agitution shall rander a change inevitable. He wise beforehand (hear, hear). Profit by the example of Catholic emancipation, of the reform in Parliament, and of the Corn Latter and audogroup to accure what along our by maintained. Laws, and endoavour to accure what alone can be maintained. Stand by the institutions that are good, and give timely correction to abuses which ere unworthy of your support. This is the way, I am convinced, by which you will give a great and noble example, and by which, in the sight of all nations, it will be said "Truly this is a great nation, this is a wise and understanding people (hear, hear)."

THE CONDITION OF OUR WEST INDIAN COLONIES.

To the Editor of the Economist.

Sir,—In a circular which I addressed in May, 1845, to the shareholders of the Jamaica Railway, I said:

the shareholders of the Jamaica Rallway, I said:

"I am deeply impressed with the conviction that the falling off in the aggregate production of the Island staples, may be traced to many concurring causes besides that of the abolition of slavery. I apprehend, that the want of the medersary capital, on the part of resident proprietors—the want of confidence on the part of absentees (resulting from deficient crops, the natural effects of the great social changes which have been so recently brought about—the numerous instances in which estates are the subject of legal proceedings—and, above all, the inexperience of the hulk of the community, as to the most economical mode of applying free labour, added to the comparatively small progress which has been litherto made in agricultural science have, one and all, so overlaid and entangled the question of com-

progress which has been hitherto made in agricultural science have, one and all, so overlaid and entangled the question of comparative cost between the two systems, that the solution of this most important and interesting problem, by a deliberate, and careful, and practical analysis of overy branch of the subject, has yet to be attempted.

"Connected, as it is, with the success of the railway, as well as of other projects for benefiting the island, I have determined on devoting a few months of prospective leisure to the task. With this view, I have engaged the services of Mr. Thomas Dickon, of Thorseway, near Caistor, Lincolnshire, a gentleman who has been long and extensively known as an experienced and accontine agriculturist, and who will accompany me to Jaand aciontific agriculturiat, and who will accompany me to da-maica. With his assistance, it is my intention to recertain, by maica. With his assistance, it is my intention to escertain, by porsonal observation, the actual condition and present mode of cultivating estates; and it will be our united endeavour to apply to the necessition of tropical agriculture the results of practical experience in this country."

I will now submit as briefly as I can the result of our observations in Jamaica. For the sake of clearness, I will ad dress myself seriation to the various causes which I had previously imagined as having a concurrent influence in the

decreased aggregate production of the island.

The abolition of slavery has, of itself, had a considerable effect; because with it the artificial system of production without profit has received a serious check. I need not trouble you with any explanation of the causes which made the original cultivator of a sugar estate by slave labour dependent upon the English capitalist for the necessary means; or the temptation which was held out, by the facility with which such assistance was procured, to injudicious investments. It is enough for my purpose to state the fact that a very large portion of Jamaica estates were constantly under mortgage to English merchants, whose annual emoluments in the shape of interest, commission, freights, and overcharges on supplies, were so great, as to reconcile them to the impro-bability of their being repaid the principal money; while the planter had no alternative but to continue the cultiva-tion possibly with the hope of ultimate independence, but certainly as the only means of propitating his creditor, and saving himself from foreclosure and ejectment. So long as slavery existed, he contributed, by the labour of his slaves to the production of the estate. Abolition deprived him of this, and left him a mere incumbrance on the mortgagee. The latter received an instalment of the debt in his share of the 20 millions compensation fund, and finding himself the only responsible party in the transaction, declined to incur the hazard and expense of working the estate by free labour. The result of all this has been, that a large number of estates have been abandoned, which, under a sounder system, would never have existed.

As somewhat analogous to the preceding may be cited the cases of numerous estates, where joint ownerships—receiver-ships in chancery—life interests—and other similar predicaments, have only begun to operate seriously when a stop was put to their being worked by slave labour. Any one acquainted with Jamaica will be at no loss to adduce instances in every parish where the finest properties are rendered wholly unproductive by some one of the aforenamed causes, and which might be advantageously cultivated, could the legal difficulties be removed.

Another serious drawback upon the cultivation has been found in the long and unexampled droughts to which the uand has been exposed during the last ten years. effects of these visitations have no doubt been aggravated by the fact of their occurrence at the time when the transition from slavery to freedom had unbinged the usual relations of society, and had beyond all dispute (for a time at least) deprived the planters of that labour which was indisponsable to the efficient cultivation of their estates. It will be readily understood how two such powerful causes have com-bined to dissipate the available means of the planter, and bring about the inevitable abandonment of the cultivation.

Liere, then, we have important elements of decreased production, which, although called into action by the substitu-tion of free for slave labour, have really nothing whatever to do with the comparison of the relative cost of either system. Let us now proceed to examine the arguments and position of those who are unaffected by any of the preceding contin-

It is alleged by the Jamaica plantors, and reiterated by the absentee proprietors, that it is difficult to secure a supply of labour on sufficiently reasonable terms to work the estates to profit; and that it is ulterly impossible to secure continuous labour from the negroes at any rate of wages; that immigration is consequently indispensable, for the purpose of meeting this double difficulty; and it is made a ground of complaint, that while they are threatened with an increased competition in the home market they are to lumpered by

complete, that while they are threatened with an increased competition in the home market, they are an impered by any armanic restrictions as to be prevented from increasing their population to any sangille extent.

During our recent gloom in Jamaina, Mr. Dickon and I, either together or separately, visited 16 out of the 22 parishes into which the island is divided. Our avowed object was to make inquiries respecting the system of cultivation and management of the stanles. And the all important question of the stanles, and the all important question of the stanles, and the all important question of the stanles, and the all important question of the stanles, and the situation of the moment, to

the latter topic. We found that, although everybody was ready to bear witness to the generally acknowledged want of inhour in his district, the cases were exceedingly rare (see rare, indeed, that I could actually enumerate than), where our informants spoke from their own personal axistiones of and in these cases a little inquiry sufficed to show that the unwillinguess of the labourers to work upon the Caulos might be traced to either inability to pay the wages, or range?

difference of opinion as to the rate.

The best evidence which I can adduce of there being no general disinglination on the part of the negroes to work, is the fact, that we mut with more than one instance where they had continued to labour on the estate without having rethe honour of their employer to pay them out of the first money which came into his hands. We also found that from some parishes, where the circumstances of the planters were the most reduced, the negroes had migrated to others, some 80 and 40 miles distant, in search of employment—not so much for increased wages, as for the sake of securing regularity in their payment.

It must, however, he recorded that, in some districts, we found that the labourers had, in the month of August after the anniversary of emancipation, and for a week or ten days immediately subsequent to the vernal and autumnal rains, almost universally abscrited themselves from their labour on

It is impossible to deny the great evila to which such an interruption must subject the planter; but even these are certainly to be mitigated, and, I believe, effectually overcome by a greater regard than is at present paid to providing continuous employment, whereby many portions of the outliva-tion might be more economically and efficiently performed than they are at present, and by the payment of such moneywages as will induce the labourer to value his place more than his provision ground.

But I shall be met by the assurance, that the cultivation of sugar will not admit of paying higher wages than is, or In. 3d. per diem. Let us examine for ourselves. The matering are not always at hand to analyse the outgoings of a Jamaica estate; but I happen to have before me the particulars of one of the estates which we visited, and which bears so fully upon this head, that I shall be excused for giving them at length. It will be seen that they fully corroborate the accounts already published by the Jamaica Agricultural Society respecting Donbigh Halse Hall and Seville estates.

ACCOUNT OF ACTUAL EXPENSES OF MONEY MUSK ESTATE IN THE PARISH OF VERY JAMAICA.

For 30 Acres of Plants. Ploughing, three men per acre; opening plough holes, 30; dropping manure and planting, 20; carrying out manure, 15; first cleaning and supplying, 12;	
second cleaning, 8; third cleaning and banking; 14; trashing (if heavy lodges), 10	3,5
. For 200 Agres Ratoons.	

	trashing (if heavy lodges), 10 For 200 Agres Ratoons	3,540
	First turning trash and moulding, 8 men per sere; cleaning and supplying, 7; clouning and moulding supplies, 5; booting (lightly), 4 For 30 Acres Gulnes Corn.	4,800
	Planting, 2 men per acre; singling and moulding, 10; supplying and drawing makers, 12	720
	Billing 60 acros pastures, at 2 men per acro Employment during Crop	120
J	About the works—say, total for crop, 16 weeks——2,720 Cutting canes, 20 per diem ————————————————————————————————————	
I	Tying canes and loading wains (inferior hands). 2,000 Children drying trash, 10 for 16 weeks . 800 Wain men and boys, 10 per day . 800	
ı	Wargoner and boy	
	I wain-man and how out of crop 400	9,552
l	2 cattle boys for 365 days each	
		1,010
	£', a ,	20,612 d,
	Cost of 15,636 days labour, at 1s	
	— 800 — at 14d 15 o	0

Total cost ... Storling 901 19 0 Add the following general charges in Jamaica old

rency;	OILL	U	11.
Coopers raising and heading 200 hinds, at 3s, 4d., and	£.	ß.	d.
60 puns, at 5s.	48	6	R
Carpenter 2001., 3 masons 501., blacksmith 201.	270		
Watchmen 40/., domestic servants 180/., moson work 50/.		_	
Work Off.	270	U	Q
Copporanith work 40t., wharings 100t., ranger 20t Medical attendance 25t., eattleman 20t., mill tim-			
berø, 10/	35	0	n
hers, 101. Stayes, puncheous, packs, deals, and smiths coals	300	ũ	ŏ
Nalls, rivots, tools, &c., 17/., sundries for steam on-			
engine, 90%.	67	0	0.

of, pork, laid, &c. &c. 1056, lamp and pr	unt oil, ta	l -		
low, &c., 487		. 153	0	O
kes 280%, 10 head cattle purchased 180%	• •	400	0	0
salarios, attorney included	••	. :000	U	0
		-		~-
	Curronoy	~	_	

Storling 1,202 0 Add for day labour 🦏 . 901 10 0 Total expenditure £2,103 10 Q

Estimated value of 200 blids, sugar at 30/ Ditto of 60 puns, rum at 18%, do.

Currency 7,080-or £4,248 clari-The foregoing valuations of the produce are too low, but I adhere implicitly to the original figures.

Here, then, we have a gross revenue of 4,200/. sterling produced by 20,642 days labour, at rates varying from 1s. and 4fd. per day, and coating in the whole the sum of 9001. Without going into the questions of how far the net proceeds of the estate might have been increased by the sale of corn and cattle, which form items on the debit side, or how far the labour actually employed might by the fider extensive use of implements have been economised, if think it may be safely asserted, that if necessary the daily wages might have been augmented from 50 to 75 per sant, without subjecting the proprietor to anything like loss in his guilivation.

the proprietor to anything like loss in his guilivation.

The estate in question has no peculiar advantages beyond those by which it is surrounded. It was not the time of our visit under the charge of the son of the proprietor, and although suffering from many portions of the prevailing system, its general condition and appearance were among the best which we witnessed. We were assured that the only labourous employed were the former slaves on the estate.

We are again told that no amount of wisses will senter continuous labour. This assertion has not borne, out by what we saw, opon, several, estates, and continuous it is com-

0 0

plotely refuted by our experience in the construction of milway between Kingston and Spanish Pown. We a played for upwards of a year an average of 500 men, with ployed for upwards or a year an average or non men, winto bapariencing at any time any difficulty from interrupted bour. I shall be told that we paid exorbitant wages, and the the work was such as suited the tastes of the negroes from a nature and novelty. True, we paid 4s, per diem, but we to care to accompany it with strict and constant supervision, a we found our account in substituting the pick-axe, to shovel, and the wheelbarnw, for the worn out hoe at little wooden howl, whereby we secured the removal of cubic yearls of earth as the daily task, and for which yearls had been accountable the first Professional Control of the P should have had to pay something like its, itd. in Englan I cannot well imagine what there was in either the nature novelty of the work to make it more inviting than the labor on an estate, or on their own provision grounds. The on coercion we used was the certainty of dismissal for absence and we found it work well.

The capital which some would suggest should have bee devoted to the economy of manual labour—to the erection steads engines—the laying down of tramways—the important tion of skilled agricultural inbourers and artisans—to the ju dictions management of cattle-the more perfect and scier tific tilings of your soil, and the more economical manufact ture of your produce—has been devoted to the importation of human beings—to, in short, a modified species of slav trade, You have staked your existence on physica strength—you have asked for and obtained "liberty to compete"—you have had a clear stage, and you must look for no favour. Look around you. Your first competitors are the East Indians, with their labour at 3d and a clear stage. per day; your next, the planters of Java, China, and Manilla with their millions of populations; your next, those of Cube and Brazil, with their crowds of African slaves, whose thew and siners are so many mere marketable muchines, to be

used and used until they snap, and are replaced by others I refrain from urging, with the force which the subject merits, the franstice which any scheme of immigration, by means of public taxation, must inflict upon the mercantile chases in the towns, or on those planters who look to other appliances than manual labour for the cultivation of the soil and above all, on the present labouring population, who already pay 3-5ths of the duties on imports, and who are to be further taxed for the mere purpose of creating their own competitors. I will rather ask, Who can magnify the evils of a system of small holdings and separate self-dependence when once created, or who can set hounds to the demoralising effects which the introduction of a large body of Pagan Hill Coolies is to have upon the nascent Christianity of the negro race?—or what can guarantee the island (for the laws do not) against a general defection on the part of the Coolies after the first twelve mouths, and their becoming no olle and dangerous body of vagrants, locust like, cursing the land? It will be in vain that the colonists shall seek to rid themselves of their presence by incurring the vast expenditure of their removal. The pollution of their vices will have been already sown broadcast, and cannot full to yield a corresponding harvest,

If, then, we look at immigration as a remedy for high wages and interrupted labour, we find it unavailing-as a means of enabling the planter to sustain increased com-petition, a broken reed or as a financial operation, an unwise investment. We find it too depending on injustice for its accomplishment, and involving in its operation an amount of social evil which it is sickening to contemplate.

In my next letter I will endeavour to trace some of the real difficulties which beset Jamaica interests .- I am, Sir, your obedient servant, WILLIAM SMITH. London, 30th April, 1818.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, May 6, 1846.

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

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CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

Great Torrington, Devon, April.

Size,—I shall thank you to insert in your paper the account of the distribution of the beds and bedding given to the agricultural labourers of this town and neighbourheed. I should have written the account of the distribution before, but savera filness in my family has caused the delay. but severe illness in my family has caused the delay.

but severe filness in my isinity has caused the delay.
Good Friday last was the day fixed on for the distribution of the League-present to the labourers of this town and neighbourhood. About 10 o'clock in the morning the labourers from different parishes round Torrington began to labourers from different parishes round Torrington began to assemble at my house, and were there met by the Rev. James Buckpitt, Independent Minister, with T. K. Tapley, Esq., surgeon, Philip Fry, Esq., M.R.C.V.S., and a great number of other friends, with the Great Torrington reporter for the North Physics of the Thomas Elsavority who will be the parishes the parishes and the parishes are not particularly to the parishes and the parishes are not particularly to the parishes and the parishes are not parishes as the parishes are not parishes as a second parishes are not parishes as a parish parishes are not parishes as a parish parishes are not parishes as a parish parishes are not parishes as a parishes are not parishes are not parishes as a parishes are not parishes North Devon Journal, Mr. Thomas Elsworthy, who gave a report of the distribution of the beds, &c., in that paper. The Rev. James Buckpitt addressed the labourers in a speech of considerable length, and under the canopy of a blue sky and a bright sun explained to them the object that the National Anti-Corn-Law League had in view in thus seeking a repair of the Corn and Provision Laws. The rev. gentleman to the labourers that the League, hearing that the agricultural the labourers that the Lengue, hearing that the agricultural labourers were in such a destitute state through me, George Toms, who had put himself in communication respecting their destitution, had induced the bonevolent individuals to send them the present of beds and bedding which they had that day met to receive, and he trusted that when they (the labourers) would lay down on their beds, they would offer up a prayer for those individuals who were endeavouring to raise the present agricultural inbourers from the state of starvation which they had been brought to.

The labourers heard the observations made by the rer, The labourers near the observations made by the regentleman with tears of joy, and at the conclusion tremendous applause was given for the League and others who had assisted in any way in so good a cause. After the address, we then distributed the beds and hedding to the underneated the labourers, and if you had only become tioned individuals, labourers; and if you had only been present to witness the tears of gratitude, and the earnestness expressed by the labourers and their wives that we would be kind enough to thank the gentlemen of the League for their gifts, it would, I think, be long remembered by you.

Lonnnot give you the least idea the good effects that the distribution of the beds and bedding which have been given away has had upon our opponents, for since Good Friday I have had hundreds of agricultural labourers, or wives, giving me a most awful account of their destitution; many of them have brought me written statements, signed by the farmer whom they work for; others by the overseer of the parish; some by the minister of the parish. If I could only have time to take down their statements it would be a second lreland. I will send you the different statements which I have had delivered to me, should you think it would be of any ser. vice so as to induce others to help to relieve such distress. I will with pleasure attend to it, and at any future time I shall be most happy to receive anything for those starting labourers, and will distribute the same amongst them.

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divided the present of the League to the greatest object which I trust will meet the approval of the givers.

I beg to remain, Sir, yours, most respectfully, Oxfolog Loya.

P.S.—I should state that the labourar all have loss rent, from 1s. to 2s. per week, out of their miscrable earning.

Charles Waterton, Esq., of Walton, ined to destroy the game withinghis received, mode of putting an one to post of

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A FARM FOLLO HAMBEE IN HERTFORD. SHIRE.

In a farm yard, with an orohard of cherry-trees and appletrees clothed in blossom boyond it; and a field of green pasture with cows in the pasture beyond the orchard : and a field with ploughs, and horses, and men, and women, and boys, at work in it beyond the green posture; and other nastures and mendows of grass for hay beyond the ploughed field; and white daisies, and vellow buttercups, and cowslips, in all of them; and hodgerows in green leaf and fragrant blossom surrounding the fields-large, rough, and rustic, though green and blooming, like the men of the fields; not free from vices, but possessing virtues, and much to be pleased with; the woods of the lord of many acres rising above the fields, and looking down upon them, as lofty above the humble shrubs of the hedgerows, as the lord who dwelt within them in his noble mansion was above the humble workers in the fields who dwelt in tiled sheds;-in that farm-yard with pools of rain-water large and foul in it, and wet dung which had been washed by the rain-water, and heaps of bean-straw and chaff upon the wet dung, and Toung pigs and old sows with their snouts burrowed in the straw and chaff in search of east away beans, as some legislators may be seen in search of cast-away arguments gathering minute particles of fact with full mouthfuls of fallacies, and swallowing all-digesting them and existing on that kind of provender scattered on the political daughill by men who have winnowed the grain from the chaff long ago, only because it is their nature not to have a higher tuste nor a higher power of discrimination in filling their mouths with chall and dirt for the sake of the one or two grains of fact which may be there; - in that farm-yard, with the pigs in it, some of which are grown-up hogs, and are old enough to remember-if hogs have such memories or such knowledge -the time when the lord of the land on which they were bred and fed was a monopolist, which he is not now, when be was all for the confining of hogs like them to the mere grains of "native grown" corn among the chaff on the dunghill, and not as he is now, in favour of hogs getting food good and clean, that Englishmen may have enough of nativefed bacon, even if that bacon is fed on foreign grain; in that farm yard, in the occupation of a tenant of that remarkable lord—the Eurl of Essex-I met that tenant, and had a conversation with him. And after talking on several topics, nch as the making the most of the mamure which lay around, much of it wasted, and converting it into a productive element of new crops, and of the rearing of hogs and the conversion of hogs into good hams and bacon, we talked of the conversion of the landlord from a monopolist to a Free Trader, and the process by which it had been done; and of the effect which the conversion of a monopolist landlord was likely to have on a monopolist tenantry.

FARMER: You know that I have always been in favour of the Corn Law. I cannot say I have changed my opinions, as Lord Essex has changed his. Probably I have not the spacity of judgment that he has; perhaps I have not seen the same arguments presented to me in the same way. He is a landlord and I a tenant. A landlord may see things differently from a tenant. If I were a landlord I might have all the high hopes for the future prosperity of agriculture which his lordship has; but I do not see what a tenant has to hope for. If he augments the produce of his land, by sinking capital in the land, he has his rent augmented upon him. If he does not improve his land, he loses by it. I see no hope for the tenant farmers.

WHISTLER: It is to be fairly expected that Lord Essex will not stop in his own exertions to advance agriculture. He says there are some tenant farmers who never should have been farmers; but there are landlords who never should have been landlords. As landed property has hitherto been managed, and must still for some time to come be mana ed, the landlord's services in promoting agricultural improvement are more necessary to it than the tenant's services. As tenures and conditions of agreement now exist between landlord and tenant, the power to improve the cultivation of the land is almost entirely in the hands of the landlord. But I think there is much to hope for from Lord Essex. On the question of Free Trade he adopted the opinions and prejudices of his class without inquiry, as he now confesses. May we not suppose that he has adopted the customs of his his farms on insecure tenures to his tenants, and loading those tenants with conditions as only asses are loaded—and they only so loaded by very thoughtless or very cruel hoys-may we not suppose that his lordship has as thoughtlessly adopted and acted on the tenurial customs of his class, as he confesses to have adopted and acted on the opinions and prejudices of his class about Free Trade? He says, that until the Corn Law question came to a crisis, he had never given it any serious consideration, save on one side—his own side—that of protection. But when it came to a crisis, he was indused to inquire, and read, and study the arguments on the other side—the Free Trade side—to what it was that had converted Sir Robert Peel; by which inquiry, reading, and study, he found himself con-tened. And listen to what Sir Robort Peel confesses the other day; and not only confesses, but proclaims as a legishaive fact. "I will not deny," he says, "that during the debates on the question, my opinions have undergons a change of the debates of the question, my opinions have undergons a change—and it is this; that restrictions, which I at first believed to be impolitic, I now believe to be unjust."

PARMER: But Sir Robert Peel is not a tenant farmer,

with a rout to pay. Ho is a receiver of reuts. Now, as I said before of Lord Essex, I might think as he thinks if I were a landlord, and had seen all the Free Trade arguments as he has seen it. as he has seen them; but as a tenant, I see nothing to hope for. Explain to me, if you can, how improved agriculture is to do the tenants any good when his rent goes up with his produce, and saidon fulls with the price of his produce.

Whitties: This is the very point at issue between landlord and tenant; but it is not the point at issue between the League and the but it is not the point at issue between the League and the but it is not the point of the between the league and the but it is not the point of the between the league and the but it is not the point of the but it is not the but i

League and the tenant formers, between Free Trade and tenant the tenant formers, between Free Trade and tenant formers, between Free Trade and tenant formers for the tenant for the tenan

you will receive the profits of your improved agriculture for sterm of years which no caprice or dipidity on the part of your landlord, and no accident to his life, can deprive you of. This is and must be the first principle in all agricultural improvement. Lord Essex will do nothing to soldeve that success which he foretalls to the agriculture of England, unless he adopts a system of lesson liberal and long enough to secure practically to his tenants the profits of their capital and skill.

FARMER: Do not you think that if tanants-at-will were to be legally entitled to compensation for all their improvements on quitting their farms, it would be a great bonefit to

them—as good as if they had leases?

Whistler: A benefit, compared with their present state of helplessness as tonants-at-will, but not so good as a lease, I observe that farmers' clubs in different parts of the king dom are discussing this question; and I regret exceedingly to see them wasting valuable time and a fair opportunity on such a worthless object as the improvement of tenaucy-atwill. Under no form whatever, with no possible qualifications can tenancy-at-will be rendered fair and equitable to the tenant, or beneficial to the hundlord and the progress of agriculture. I will say more, that no honest landlord, if not a weak-minded or ignorant man, will seek to have tenantsat will upon his land, to expend capital and skill and health and strength on that land. Many landlords, who are honest men; let their farms on yearly tenancies, dismissing the tenants when they think fit; but if honest, they are ignorant, having never studied the subject, as Lord Essex says be nover did until the Corn Law came to a crisis; or they may be, unlike his lordship, so weak minded that they cannot study and understand such subjects; or, unlike his fordship, they may be so inveterately prejudiced in favour of their territorial supremacy—the remnants of feudal power, that they will not yield independence and security to their tenantry even when convinced that such independence and security would be to their own advantage. And it is possible that there are some, a good many perhaps, who have used their tenantry as political instruments in the polling booth, as mercantile men use their bills of exchange, bonds, and notes, and take them to the money market to make profit of them; the profit being places of honour and emolument under Government, in the army, the navy, the church, the law courts, and the palace. But I believe the time has arrived, or it is not far off, when subserviency to a political party in Parliament through the use of such men as you at the hustings will be impracticable. We may therefore hope that you tenant furmers will be looked upon by your lords as farmers employed in the advancement of the national agriculture, and not as political beasts of burden employed in the advancement of families to high prizes in the lottery of politics and plunder. And so I return to the point which I say is the one at issue between you and your landlord-that of security of tenure by a lease—and a liberal lease untrammelled by Game Law covenants; and all the other fendal covenants which you know well, but which are too numerous at pre-

FARMER: Do you think we are, landlords and tenants, so near that age of prosperity and general well-doing foretold by Lord Essex, as to need nothing but a repeal of the Corn Law and a system of leases? If you think so, I must say about you as I have said of my landlord, that I cannot see

things as you see them.

WHISTLER: But I must take the liberty of saving, my dear Sir, that while you, like your landlord, did not read or listen to any arguments, save those on your own side of the question, up to the coming of the Corn Law crisis, you, unlike your landlord, have read nothing, or almost nothing, since, on the Free Trade side of the question. You told me that yesterday. You say that you have read the debates in Parliament during the present session, or so much of them as appears in the County Herald; and you complain that if the Free Traders have good arguments in favour of the farmers seeking Free Trade, they do not state them. But, Sir, the Free Traders in Pailinment are done with the argumentative part of the subject; that is taken out of their hands. Their business is now to vote, to consummate by enactment, that which they have taught for years. When they were teaching, and you were not listening, that was not their fault. You should have listened to what concerned you so much. If you were to say to your clergyman, at the conclusion of the church service, "You must preach your sermon over again; I was not listening to you. I and my neighbours here were asleep; or, we were playing and idling while you were praying and preaching; we must have it al over again, and the congregation must be halted here until we have it all over again,"—if you were to say that on Sunday, and every Sunday, to your parson, and go on alceping at church, and idling, and never listening from week to week, from year to year, what would that large inajority of the congregation say to you who had been listening?

PARMER: I hardly see how this applies. But admitting that it does apply, I want to know farmers, as I suppose you will call us, are to do now that

we are woke up.

WHISTLER: I do not call you idle boys. You are a most hard-toiling and struggling class of men; but the best of your energies and the greatest of your struggles go for notice that the struggles are the struggles and the greatest of your struggles go for notice that the struggles are mischigates. thing. Some of them are mischievous. You must not only do new work, but you must undo some of the old. You are not "idle boys," but you are sometimes "mischievous boys," and you must undo some mischief by abstaining from a repetition of it. If you will let me, for a few minutes, compare you to schoolbore. I will tall you what borne of you compare you to soloolboys, I will tell you what some of you have done in Hertfordshire. A boy who was far in advance of any of you, who sought to teach you and make you equal to himself,-you, to please your master (you do not do so now when your master confesses that he was wrong and that boy was right) you, though knowing that your neighbour was a better farmer than any of you, getting the best of crops out of indifferent land, and profit from cultivation, when you were only getting loss, you scouted that boy, fell on him, and abused him, and called him ill-names in the market-place. You must not do so again. Indeed you will not, for Lord Essex is now of opinion that this farmer was right, and he and you were wrong, and you only called that neighbour illnames in the market-place, and hissed him and hooted him, because you knew Lord Essex was pleased at your doing so and like some other "bad boys," you had never been tength-better. If I had nothing else to rejoice at in the conversion of your landlord to Free Trails pringiples than the fact that his tenants will have no interest, or supposed interest, in ill-using their Free Prade neighbours, I would

rejoice; for that aloue is a great galutin Herifordshire.

Fangus; Who do you speak of anthe hop so far in advance of in, and whom we ill used; they support, with swalls and whom his form, ship turned out of his farm?

WRIGHLEN: Nos L mean-Mr. Lattlimore, of Wheatham

stead.

Baseman: Because I wee going to say, that it was not his polyhipques, the towart farmers, that said enything against him who wrote against the game; quite the reverse. were all too well plaused to any anything against him. And as for Mr. Lattimore, I do not think he was ever opposed by us but in a fair way. We did not agree with him, and opposed him, as we would have opposed you.

WHISTERS: But you would not listen, and bissed, and shouted him down at public meetings. You now listen to him; you now listen to me. Two years ago, though you are still of the same opinion as then about the Corn Law, so you say, you would not have permitted me to have stood here, not because this is your farm, but because the farm is Lord Essex's, to speak of Free Trade as I have been doing. The truth is, you dared not have done so. Now, my oldect with you farmers, is to get yourselves raised to independence as occupiers of the land; not that you may dare to differ in opinion with your laudford, but that you may be able to cultivate your hand as it should be cultivated. I have spoken of leases; but a lease is not enough. It is absolutely requisite to secure you against the landlord, or his agents, or his successors, when he dies. But there are things which must be effected, through the united efforts of tenants and landlords, before agriculture can reach that healthy state predicted for it by the Free Traders years ago, and now predicted for it by Lord Essex. The rights of lords of manors over copyholders, must be qualified to allow copyholders to cut down hedgerow timber, divert springs, water courses, or, in other words, to drain. The copyholders and their tenants being the parties interested in the improvement, and the lord of the manor, or other superior, as the case may be, having no direct interest in such improvements, the latter is a fatal obstacle in the way of progress.

FARMER: What do you think of the Duke of Richmond's Bill for charging the expense of permanent improvements,

by drainage on the beirs in tail.

WHISTLER: The object is good; and the machinery, so far as it goes, is good. But it reaches only a very short way. And so does Sir Robert Peel's proposal to pass an act, if the new Corn Law scheme passes, to lend money from the treaenry to assist in agricultural improvements. Sir Robert's in-tention to lend public mancy, as I view it, is not only useless, but bad. Where proper security is offered for money, it can be got now to improve the cultivation of land to any amount, from private individuals or from banks. If the security offered is not good, the money ought not to be lent, not alone because public money should be as carefully parted with as private money, but because, to lend money to landlords or tenant farmers who do not give such security as a private lender would accept, is to offer a bounty on the continuance of the present loose system of tenures. Private individuals lend money fast enough to landowners, when it is notoriously for their private expenditure, when it is not for the improvement of their property, but when there can be no doubt it will involve them in debt for life, and their property in bondage and bad cultivation for many years. Why then should there be any difficulty in obtaining money to improve the property? Let a tenant be properly protected from mortgagees, from the laudlord, and from the landlord's creditors, by a lease of twenty years duration at least. Let him be the borrower of the money, and his lease the security (I speak of estates where the landlords are already drowned in debt, and cannot borrow money). Let the tenants in this and all cases pay their rents according to the prices of farm produce. Let the lawyers have as little to do with the land as possible, but above all, let the tenant be efficiently protected from 1 is landlord, and there is no fear but that the time will come, and come soon, of which Lord Essex speaks so hopefully when ne says, he sees better times coming for landlords and tonants, and for all.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

Note .- A circular received from a member of the Burtonon-Trent Farmers' Club did not come to hand until too late by several weeks to give the opinion requested upon it for which that opinion was to be used. Yet I am obliged to the gentleman who seat me the circular; and as he suggested that some notice might be taken of it in this paper, I now do so. The foregoing dialogue with a tenant of the Earl of Essex, expresses part of my opinion on the proceedings of the Burton on Trent Farmers' Club, namely, that it is a waste of precious time to attempt any improvement in tenancies at-will. The resolutions were:

"That the Burton-on-Trent Farmers' Club is of opinion that a tonant of land from year to year ought to enjoy a legal claim to compensation for such improvements as he shall have made during his tenancy, and for which he shall not have received the

compensation for such improvements as he shall have made during his tenancy, and for which he shall not have received the whole benefit which he is fairly entitled to claim.

"That the tenant has under a tenancy-at-will a fair claim to the enjoyment of his improvements for as long a period as a good farmer would require, if the length of his occupancy were made a matter of agreement beforehand.

"That importal arbitrators along a partially by the leaders.

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"That impartial arbitrators, chosen mutually by the landlord and tenant, would without difficulty form a correct estimate as to what belonged to the tenant on this principle of adjustment.

"That it appears to the Club to be advisable for the general hody of farmers to join in petitioning the Legislature to make a law which would give to the tenant a logal right to recover from the landlord such commensation for investments made by him the landlord such compensation for improvements made by him as impartial and competent arbitrators would decide to be his equitable right.

In the first place, it is gratifying to see the farmers turning to the advocacy of that kind of protection to agriculture which alone can protect it—security of tenure—security to money, skill, and industry. But I can go no farther with these resolutions. So far from believing "that impartial arbitrators, chosen mutually by the landlord and tenant, would, without difficulty, form a correct ortimate as to what belonged to the tenant on this principle of adjustment," I believe that no arbitrators could do so; and moreover, that "impartial arbitrators" could not long exist under such a system. Even now the land-valuers are the land-vultures of England. They are an encumbrance from their numbers, their expensiveness, their inefficiency, and frequently mischievousness, greaterthan anything which now impedes agricultural improvement. A sound system of loases needs no land-valuers or arbitrators. Let the tenant go in free; onter on his lease with all his capital in hand, not by paying it over to a predecessor, or to the handlord, who had paid that predecessor and the arbitrators, and land white this money, and let him hold the transport of the land with this money, and let him hold the form on another lesses as will secured him a white of the the farm on such a lease as will secure him a return of the the farm on such a lease as will secure time a return or the capital and interest. Let him he under restrictive clauses during the flast two or three years of his lease upt-to exhaust the golf. If he does, not rough his bargain, let him go out leaving the farm free for exception to share upon it as he entered a lightness one with the capagnent of his improvement in his poster if there was a replying the to him. No arbitrator could settle the question so fairly, whether the

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land had been improved or not, and the least rapacious of the land vultures could not settle the case at so small a cost. The new tonant would again have his own money free in his own hands, and the old tenant would have his own money to go into a new farm free, to improve it as he improved the other.

THE FALKIRK ELECTION.

The polling commenced at eight o'clock on Friday. In the early part of the day Mr. Wilson had a decided majority; but as the returns came in later in the day, his friends be came less couldent of success, though up to the last moment they were not prepared for the defeat of the candidate. At l'akirk, on Saturday last, the sheriff officially announced the poli as follows:

	•		1	ducol	n.	Wilson.
Palkirk				1003		181
Linitingow	,			27		55
Hamilton				105		44
Airdric				11.5		143
Lamark	••	• •	• •	96	••••	69
				604		495
Maj	ority	for La	rd Li	ncoln,	,11.	

It will be seen that Lord Lincoln's majority has been chiefly obtained in the burgh of Hamilton, where his father in-law the Duke of Hamilton, possesses very considerable influence. After the official declaration of the poll, Lord Lincoln returned thanks to the electors; and Mr. Wilson then addressed the constituency in a speech in which he alluded to the fact that, of 100 electors of Hamilton who had signed the requisition to him, only 12 had redeemed their promises of suppore; and expressed his intention of coming forward at the next election. It is stated by the Glasgow Citizen that Lord Lincoln declared to his committee that had he been again defeated in his attempt to obtain a seat in the House of Commons, he should have felt called upon immediately to resign his office of Chief Secretary for Ireland.

COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES.—CAUSES OF THE RECENT DEPRESSION. -Many persons, and amongst them some who are generally well informed, are of opinion that the recent severe depression in the staple manufactures of the country has been caused principally by a falling off in the demand for foreign markets; and we must confess, that although not supposing this to be the chief cause of the evil we had an impression that the striking difference between the state of the cotton manufacture in the first three months of 1845 and 1848, was, in some degree, caused by a falling off in the exports of yarn and manufactured goods. We and, however, from the monthly circular of Messrs. Dufay and Co. of this town, just issued, that this impression was erroneous, and that, in all important articles of manufacture, with the exception of printed and dyed calicors, the exports for the first three months of 1846, exhibit an excess over those in the corresponding period of 1845. The following are the comparative quantities of the most important articles in each period:

1	J#133.	1840.
Cotton yarn, [2	21,495,811	 23,750,243
Plain calicoos, vds	137,919 924	 143,415,089
Caliboos printed and dyed, yds	82,358,102	 76,867,334
Cambrics and muslins, yds	695,791	 1,173,462
Cords and fustians, ydx	370,619	 542,418
Tiben and cotton cloths, yds	201,935	 428,273
Iduans, yds	17,568,839	 18,687,640
Woollens, yds	234,703	 218,555
Wornted, yds	214,555	 923,119
Worsted yarn, Ib	1,007,701	 862,501

These facts, proving as they do, that the recent depression has been caused almost entirely by a falling off in the home demand, exhibit in a very striking manner the injurious effects resulting from the protracted discussion in the House of Commons, and from the derangement produced by excessive railway speculations; but, at the same time, they furnish strong grounds for expecting a gradual improvement in husiness. During the last six months, the condition of the working classes of this country has been, on the whole, comparatively good; and, although the purchases of dealers have been on a much smaller scale, it is by no means pro-bable that consumption has diminished. On the contrary, judging from the deliveries of sugar, coffee, tea, &c., we bolieve it has been dooldedly on the increase; and, therefore, the stocks of intermediate dealers must have been considerably diminished. Indeed, we believe, that they were scarcely ever known to be so low as at the present time. The deelers must, however, eventually come into the market, and take supplies, not only for present wants, but also to provide those stocks, without which, under ordinary circumstances, they cannot advantageously carry on their business. -Manchester Guardian.

THE BRASON AND THE CHOPS.—Since our last we have had true April weather, with an occasional dash of March or February. The temperature has generally been low, out of the sun, and the rains have been both frequent and heavy. On Saturday afternoon, there was a violent storm of thunder and lightning between Liverpool and Manchester, and great quantities of hail have vince fallen. Although the country has much improved to the eye, during the last formight, yet the continuance of wet weather is very unfavourable to the ground. In many places the oats are not yet sown, although it is at least a month after the usual time, and we have not soon a single place in which pointous are planted in the open fields. At present, appearances are much against the productiveness of those two crops, but a few days of fine weather would still make a prodigious difference. With regard to the greatest crop of all, that of wheat, we should say that its appearance is very good in this part of the country. The grass crops, as we have already stated more than once, are unusually fine, and live stock of all kinds is in better condition than it has been in the spring months for some years. In the rural districts, nearly all the feathered visitants of In the rural districts, nearly all the feathered visitants of spring have made their appearance. A few swallows, not enough to make a summer, may have been seen skimming over our different streams during the last week, and the ouckoo is heard, between the showers, in all the well-wooded parts of the country. Great numbers of young birds are already hatched in the copies, and a few days of warm weather would bring the hedges into blossom. The only spring visitor which has not yet arrived in this part of the country is the corn crake. The blossoms of the fruit trees have been less injured in this neighbourhood, by the early froats, than was at first supposed, but the nights continue very sharp, so that they are not yet out of danger.—

Liverpool Times.

AGRICULTURE.

FARMERS, IS THIS YOUR LEADER? "We want a 'leader,' an uncommon want,
When every day and year brings forth a new one,
Till having filled all the gazettes with 'runt,'
The 'olique' discover he is not the true one."

We feel for Stafford O'Brien; and we doubt not his constituents deeply sympathise with him. In truth, the painfulness of his position is enough to melt the heart of a bullock, to say nothing of a Northamptonshire grazier.

The political monopolists, at the commencement of the present session, were in great straits for want of an effective leader. act of defending monopoly had convinced every public man of note in the protectionist party that monopoly was indefensible. It had been thoroughly exposed in all its naked deformity throughout the length and breadth of the land. One could not get into a railway-carriage or an omnibus without hearing disquisitions on the laws governing the exchange of commodities, which, ten years ago, would have done no discredit to professors of political economy. Monopoly, which is vice in one of its most noxious forms, had been seen by the British public, and of necessity it had become the roughly detested. Then there was the failure of the potato crop, a failure which the monopolists, notwithstanding their asseverations that there was none, well knew to be real.

But the dominant landocracy of the realm had no disposition to abandon their monopoly, because it had been demonstrated to be mischievous to the public, injurious to the operative, and, above all, ruinous to the farmer. They knew, or at all events had a suspicion, of all that before. Monopoly is not loved by the monopolist aristocracy, on account of the things about which they have talked, but for its effects, of which they say nothing-in public. It was not merely for the sake of high rents that they hugged the Corn Law with such desperate energy, as to peril their social position and constitutional power in its defence; for rents may be, and where the farmer can make a fair bargain, will be, as high, or higher, under Free Trade than under monopoly. But they wanted the high rents of the present times and the feudal power of bygone ages. They wished to receive the high rents from a dependent, servile, cap-in-hand tenantry, who would march to the poll at the command of the landlord's steward, and farm according to the capricious will of the landlord's game-keeper.

Our agricultural readers will well understand for what it was the monopolist landlords wanted to preserve monopoly, though perhaps the inhabitants of towns will scarcely comprehend its full extent. Landlordism should be seen on its own ground to be understood. They who have not seen landlordism at petty sessions, in the peachers' wing of the county gaol, in its dealings with the tenantry and so forth, know nothing about it. Nevertheless, these things are grievous, cruel realities; and such things were to be maintained. Hence, though the brains of the monopolist party had been knocked out, monopoly did not die. Then came the question of leadership. D'Israeli might be retained as a sharp-shooter, and would appear to the greater advantage from being the only man amongst the party who can protend to sharpness. But D'Israeli, the ex-"sedition" loving candidate for Marylobone, who may be taken as an exemplar of lack-land political advanturers, would not do to lead the squirearchy. They wanted some one of more weight. The dull Bramston had tried his hand at "lard and grease," and made a sad mess of it. The duller Miles had not been very successful in his opposition to the "invasion" of foreign cattle; while Bankes, the dullest, had been saved from conspicuous failure by his very dulness. Nobody could ever see that he had any object or purpose, and his speeches were commonly supposed to relate to the objects he had in view. He is one of those who make a dark subject darker by talking about it.

At this period of monopolist despair, the commencement of the present session, Mr. Stafford O'Brien chivalrously undertook the post of monopolist leader in the House of Commons, and by his first speech in that character proved himself to be a person of some dexterity and adroitness. But his very talent proved his roin as a monopolist leader. He had been through the last three or four years of

the Corn Law discussion, and he attempted to make a plausible desence for monopoly, after all, and with the knowledge of all, that has been proved and ad. mitted against it. Moreover, his own speech proved that he was undergoing that process of conversion to Free Trade which every man of average intellect and ordinary political honesty, who has seriously attempted to defend monopoly, has invariably undergone.

The very measure of his success in that speech, proved him to be no genuine monopolist. This would not do for his party. He was too clever, too plausible, too solicitous of finding reasonsalbeit not very good ones -for monopoly. Mono polists don't want reasons. They therefore be. thought themselves of starting some man as their leader, who would not attempt to reason, who knew nothing of the subject; to whom all that had been said or written for the last seven years, for and against monopoly, was as if it had not been said or written. They wanted the freshmen of profound ignorance.

Moreover, they wanted some one with recklessness onough-to-say-all-the-exploded sayings; some one with all the prejudices, without the responsible lity of landowning. Bramston, Miles, Bankes, O'Brien, were men of large possessions; they had a certain status in society; if they had the power, they had not the will to fling themselves into the breach made in the fortress of landlordism with the during of one who would stake all upon a desperate chance. Seeing, then, the qualities-positive and negativewanted in their leader by the monopolists, they could not look in a more likely place than the racing stable. There they sought and there they found what they wanted. Lord George Bentinek now leads the monopolist host, much to the satisfaction of the genuine monopolists.

But, farmers, is he your leader? Does he represent your opinions? Are you content to be represented in Parliament by the unflinching and unscrupulous defender of the Game Laws? Ask any of the farmer witnesses examined before the Game Law Committee what they think of Lord George Bontinck? whether they like the courtesy, the fairness, or the accuracy of this new "farmers' friend?"

Let farmers, too, read his speeches—if they can, for truly 'tis a heavy task—" your true no meaning puzzles more than sense "—and see whether the description Sir Robert Peel gave of the speech of the new and fast leader of the monopolist's on Irish scarcity, when he said "the multiplication of letters from parts of the country where disease does not prevail, forms no contradiction to the fact that there does exist in other parts of that country disease arising from scarcity of food."

But this has always been the game of the monopolists; they are ever looking beside the mark; and being unable to avow their real objects in maintaining monopoly, talk wildly about something else. Farmers are now becoming aware of this, and the new leader, from Newmarket, of the monopolists, will help to make it still clearer.

A GLANCE AT THE WHEAT CROP.

Whilst the monopolists in Parliament are doing all they can to prevent the abrogation of their special law to create scarcity, the wheat crops of this country are offering evidence of the precarious nature of the supply of food afforded by our own soil. Our own observation has satisfied us that upon a very great breadth of strong and cold land the wheat crops have sustained considerable injury. We do not say they may not be restored by dry and warm weather, but we are by no means confident that they will. Insects of all kinds injurious to wheat are unusually abundant from the nearly entire absence of frost during the past winter, and in many places are committing serious rayages; and the succulent state of the plant has randered it very susceptible of injury from the sharp frosty nights which have lately occurred. We extract a few passages from local reports on the subject. The reader, however, will remember that the greatest damage was done last yes, and was probably subsequent to the reports we refer to From the Cambridge report we learn:

"That the wheat, without exception, is a 1994. "That the wheat, without exception, are is very early; some of it is losing solourands partly through the wet and cold walks continuing so full a plant throughout warm sunuy days would, are help to the season, it is the middle of the true in comparison with het was a lost the season, it is the middle of the true in comparison with het was a lost to month earlier now than it was a lost to the month earlier now than it was a lost to the month earlier now than it was a lost to the month earlier now than it was a lost to the cold to

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So, in Yorkshire, we find the agricultural reporter of the Mark Lane Express soying :

"Of the appearance of the wheat plant, we know how illusive all remarks on this ticklish subject at this season of the rear often are—how appearances for good or for evil are disappointed or thwarfed by a few genial days, or vice verid. However, this we will certainly say, that though the breadth of wheat sown is somewhat large, we never remember a greater deficiency of plant for many years past, and we have heard older and sound-judging farmers say their wheat sever looked so ill. And, unhappily, this is not because of any temporary check to a winter-prond crop, which a few warm showers will restore; it is a thinness and baldness of plant spiring up'; thousands of acres have been ruined with the dug, which not being checked by the frosts of winter, and being, owing to the wet summer of last year, very numerous to commence with, have made said destruction; this, with the hundreds of acres lost by the floods, reduces the breadth to an average; and should an unfavourable season follow, we may need as much more as the million and a quarter of quarters of wheat now in bond. Our millers have no stocks, ear farmers' stocks are not more numerous than usual, and our markets are assuming a firm and lively tone."

Again in Leicestershire:

"The late heavy rains and cold temperature have had a great effect upon the wheats in dry land, and the blade hus assumed a yellow tinge which is exceedingly unpleasant to the eye, but perhaps not of that ultimate consequence to the crop as many expect. In some cases, from various causes, the plant is very thin, and presents a weakly appearance; but we are glad to state that these are by no means numerous. The late rains have been a great hindrance to cleaning the crops from weeds, as on all strong land the operation of horing has been suspended, consequently much wheat is in a very foul state; but should we now be favoured with drysumny weather, this work must be carried on with perseversuce, and both the horse and hand hoe must be constantly in action. Upon the whole, as to the wheat crop in this county, we may conclude that it presents an average appearance, with promise of a fair yield; but, of course, at present, all is surmise as to the result."

So another report says:

"The wheat in the northern part of the county are suffering from the effect of the late rains. They have a most sickly appearance. The white small is making sad havoe in the bean fields, whole acres having been entirely destroyed," -Payne's Leicester Advertiser.

Again, also :

"The state of the spring wheat begins to excite some alorm; the long continued cold and bleak weather, with rain and custerly winds, have not only checked vegetation in general, but caused a great-breadth of wheat in the midland districts to turn yellow and set. We hope a change for the better is at hand."—Birmingham Pilot.

Such is the character of the reports of the wheat crops at the present moment. We freely admit, that on our own farm, we look at the state of the wheat plant with great apprehension, and we know that feeling is shared by our neighbours, with respect to their own wheat.

What interests are at stake on this subject ! A few weeks of wet and cold, or dry and warm weather, may determine whether trade shall flourish and the people be fed, or whether bankruptcy, disease, and death, shall be the portion of thousands. Yet there are Two HUN-DRED AND FORTY MEN, calling themselves representatives of the people, who are striving by the most desperate means, and under the guidance of the most reckless and ignorant leadership, to make the nation stake all on the issue of our own harvest. To speak in language the new monopolist leader may comprehend, we ask, what would a Nowmarket leg say to backing an ill-trained horse without being allowed to "hedge?" Yet this is what Lord George Bentinck and his monopolist faction would have the people do; to stake all on the result of the year's produce of one half-cultivated island, and that when failure will inevitably end in national distress.

THE VALUE OF LAND IS RISING.

following needs no comment. It is a striking proof of the fallacious character of monopolist assertions:

Sale of the North Cove Hall Estates, in the Large Room, at the Norfolk Hotel, Norwich, on Thursday schnight.—The attendance was exceedingly numerous, and to a great extent representation of the state extent represented the individual and collective respectability, as well as opulence of the sister counties. Mr. Suppon, previous to opening the sales, ventured to address has audience at some longth on the all absorbing subject of the contemplated (and he opined certain) abolition of the Corn Laws. He acknowledged that till within the last year he had been a thereugh going protectionist. A three years' he had been a thorough-going protectionist. A three years' test however of Sir Robert Peel's measures, added to his exlensive experience up to the present period in the letting and sales of landad property, he was now free, and proud to imples that sliding and other scales have fallen from his yes, the result of which was, that he was now a thoroughoning anti-protectionist. Mr. Simpson observed, from an honest and firm conviction, that rems which had been set on fair and liberal principles, within the last seven years, of live and let live, would be permanent, and he fearlessly stated that the years purchase on such rentals has risen within the last six months, and in all probability will continue to rise on the settlement of the great question in respect of Free Trade in corn, &c. For the truthfulness of the statement, Mr. Simpson referred to recent lettings and sales which lave been published, not only by himself, community and demand of an increasing population (in the ratio of about 1900 alay), the dipital skill, industry, and the production that markets in published. oning anti-protectionist. Mr. Simpson observed, from an

form such a counterpoise as will enable us to compete suc-cessfully with the miscrably uncultivated lands and minds of exotic origin and worth. Instead therefore of the motio of "agitate, agitate," let un aubatitute that of "cultivate, oultivate," and let landlords assist improving tenants by making advances (in the nature of improvements in drainage, &c.) of the additional capital which may be required, charging for the same at the rate of 4 per cent. on that expenditure which shall be judiciously faid out. Hence the tenant farmer will reap an additional benefit of at least 10 per cent., and a permanent improvement of the value of the form (agent landows). Mr. Simpose that farm (quast landlord) will supervene. Mr. Simpson stated that in his humble opinion Sir Robert Peel is, at least, one of the groutest, most talented, and fearlessly honest ministers that has ever "lived in the tide of times."

The following is an account of the sales:

Lot 1. The mansion called North Cove Hall, with 516 scree of arable, pasture, marsh, and wood hand, wabought in at Bold the next day by private contract to Wm. Everitt,

Lot 2. A freshold form of 122 acres, sold to John Slip.

per, Esq., of Ashley, for Lot 3. A freehold farm, of 75 acres, producing (includ-ing the land in hand) 1251. 78, 9d. per annum, was bought 3180

in at
An offer of 31001, was made for this lot on the following day; the selling price is now 32609.
Let 4. An estate, principally freehold, comprising 180 acres of land, of first-rate quality, a gentlemanty resi-

donce and buildings, the rental amounting to 3221.78, 3d. per annum, bought in at An offer of 80007, has been made by private contract,

but the price now is \$500?.

Lot 5. A small furn-house, and 17 acres of land (free hold), producing 37. 19s. per annum, bought in at 850? was offered.

hold, producing 30. 198. per annual, occasion as 850? was offered.
Lot 6. A freshold cottage, and 2a. 2r. 34p. of land, sold to the Rev. Charles Clarke, for
Lot 7. Two freshold tenements, with gardens, 8c., containing together In. 2p. bought in at
Sold to Win. Everitt, Esq., by private contract, after 215 220

the sale, at 280%.

Lot 8. Two freehold tenements, altogether contaming 1a. 1r. 25p., sold to Benjamin Andrews, Esq.

Lot 9. Four inclosures of land, principally freehold, containing 3a. 3r. 25p., producing 13%, 5s. 2d. per annum, bought in at

The advowson of the rectory of Woodton, situate about five miles from Bungay, was offered on the same day. 3000%, were bid, but the reserve price being 3350% it was bought in. Mr. Simpson is instructed to trent for the disposal of those lots bought in at the sale, since which he has received several applications to purchase. The proprietor, however, who is a gentleman of large landed and other property, is not at all indisposed to retain those portions of the lands which form the cream of the estate.—Norwich Mer-

A "FARMER'S FRIEND!"

Farmers and labourers should judge of men who profess to be their "friends" by their acts rather than their professions. Here we find the record of the acts of one who, if his own account of his love for farmers and labourers were believed, would be thought the ne plus ultra friend of the industrious agricultural classes. What a pity it is that so much beneficence is purely

"RICHMOND IN SCOTLAND.—We understand that upwards of 20 individuals, small farmers and cottars, on his grace the Duke of Richmond's lands in the district of Strathbogic and neighbouring parishes, have been served with summonses to remove themselves, with their families, at the first term of Whitsunday."—Elgin Courier.

THE LAW OF DISTRESS.

The following report brings home to the mind the injustice of the law of distress, which enables a landlord to sweep away all the offects of an insolvent tenant, to the utter exclusion of all the other creditors:

> "Tuesday, April 28th. " (Before Mr. Commissioner Shopherd.) "RE VINCENT, INSOLVENT.

"TILNEY, NORFOLK.—The Insolvent, Robert Vincent, of Filmey St. Lawrence, in the county of Norfolk, furmer, ap-

plied for his interim order and protection.

"Mr. Thomas S. Wright. Solicitor, Bond Court, City, appeared on behalf of the insolvent, whose debts are 1751, 28.6d. and credits but 2/. 14s. He has no property beyond his excepted articles, which are valued at 10/. 3s. On the 4th of October last he was possessed of household furniture, im plements in trade, &c., of the value of 150%, and his stock in trade and goodwill as a farmer were then valued by Mr. Goddard, an appraiser, at 00l. more. On the 18th of March, in the present year, the insolvent was sold up by his land-lord, Mr. Wright, for the arrears of rent which he owed. His receipts from the 25th of November to March were about 400l. for the sale of sheep, potatoes, &c. His principal local oreditors are the Commissioners of the Eau Brink Estate, in oreditors are the Commissioners of the Eau Brink Estate, in the county of Norfolk, to whom Mr. Thomas Archer, solicitor, of Ely, is agent, 98l. for balance of rent; Edward Durrant, Esq., King's Lynn, Norfolk, 12l. 10s. for potatoes; Mr. Reed, basket-maker, King's Lynn, 11l. 10s.; Mr. Wm. Wright, farmer, Fring, Norfolk, 3ll.; Mr. John Sutterbeg, farmer, Tilney St. Lawrence, 8l.; and Mr. Wm. Wright, farmer, of Clenchwarton, Norfolk, 6l. No creditor attended to appears." to oppose."

FLAX OULTURE.

We observe that the Royal Agricultural Society has resolved to offer a prize for essays on the growth of flax. Now a full and complete account of the culture of flax, and the use of ju soud, has just been published by Mr. Warnes, of Trimingham, which should be in the hands of every enterprising farmer. The cails upon our attention, since we have received the volume have prevented our noticing it in detail, which we hope to be able to do next week.

GAME AND THE GAME LAWS. THE RURAL PLAGUE-SPOT.

It will be our duty ere long to comment with some frequency and severity upon the conduct of those who for their own selfish and puerile amusement, uphold a system of law which demoralises and disorganises the society of our agricultural districts. We need scarcely say we allude to the practice of game preserving and the Game Laws. For the present we content ourselves with placing before our readers a few illustrations of the Game Laws which have recently occurred. The first case is extracted from the Worcestershire Chronicle, and relates to an instance which happoned on the estate of Mr. Berkeley, of Spetchley, near Droitwich, a most notorious game preserver. The form of the complaint was for an assault violence and bloodshed; being the usual and ordinary consequences of game preserving :

"At the county Petty Sessions on Tuesday, April 28th, William Allen, an assistant gamekeeper to Mr. Berkeley, wak charged by William Worrell, of Droitwitch, with assaulting him on the 9th instant. Before this case was entered into, Mr. Hyde, who appeared for the defendant, applied to the Bench for permission to bring before them two charges for offences against the Game Laws which he was prepared to prefer against Mr. Worrell, but us it appeared that the summons for the assault was dated prior to the game cases, it was first entertained."

Mr. Worrell, who is clerk at the Spetchley station on the Birmingham and Gloucester railway, then deposed to the circumstances of the assault, which were as follow:

"Mr. Worrell, who lives near the station and rends land of Mr. Berkeley, is my relative. As I am in the habit of often going to his house, he has given me permission to take a near cut to the station through his fields. On the 3th instant I went to Mr. Worrell's and remained there all night. Next morning, about half-past six o'clock, I was returning to my engloyment, accompanied by two sons of Mr. W.; when I had got about fifty or sixty yards from the railway, Alten jumped out of a hedge, and, exclaiming, 'I have caught you at last,' knocked me down twice, and rifled my pockets, from which he took a piece of twine; after I had got up the second time I ran off towards the station, and was pursued by the defendant, who would have again struck me with a thick stick, if he had not been prevented by one of the railway screants. I afterwards went to Mr. Hiscock, head gamekeeper to Mr. Berkoley, and told him I had been grossly assaulted by one of his assistants, and if an apology was not made I should take out a summons. By Mr. Hyde: There was no person with me but Mr. Worrell's two sons.

I had nothing in my pocket but a piece of twine.

(Mr. H. here produced a piece of twine and a wire as the articles that had been taken from the prosecutor.)

"I distinctly swear I never had a wire in my possession in my life, nor did I ever set one. The wire was never taken from me. I was in the same field on the evening previous with Mr. Worrell's sons. Mr. Worrell asked me to go and look at some owes which were shortly expected to year. It was about half-past nine o'clock. I was not there at any other time of the day.'

Now, if in fact Mr. Worrell had been catching game upon his relation's farm, which he was not, could such a savage assault be justified? But when we see the master, who should have felt some of the civilising influences of education, so absorbed by a pernicious passion for game, is it surprising that his ignorant gamewatcher becomes a ferocious rufflan? The report then states that

" John Worrell corroborated the cyldence of the prosecutor, both as to the assault, and his being in company with him on the previous evening.—Joseph Howell, foreman at the railway station, stated that he saw the assault committed, and that he wrenched a stick from Allen's hand while in the act of striking Worrell. This witness also stated that Allen had told him and other parties that he gets 11. from Mr. Berkeley, and M. from the head keeper, upon every conviction. A porter at the station, named Jelf, also stated that he saw the assault committed, and saw Allen rifle the complainant's pockets. This closed the case for the prosecution, and Mr. Hyde found that the assault had been proved, but urged in miligation that the defendant had acted r an erroneous opinion, that he had the power, being an assistant keeper, to search parties suspected of having gins and other mares in their possession.

What will law-respecting people of England say to this phase of the Game Laws? To meet Mr. Worrell's statement, the game-preserver's agent called his head keeper, who was not) present :

"Charles Hiscock, the head keeper to Mr. Borkpley, deposed, I saw William Worrell in a field in the occupation of Mr. Worrell, about 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 8th instant. He was walking by the side of the hedge, I saw him twice go down into a ditch, and stoop down as if he was setting wires. I desired Allen to watch him."

This, let it be remembered, was on the land in the occupation of Mr. Worrell's relation !!! The headgamekeeper proceeds thus:

"About two hours afterwards I went into the same field and found two gins set, and a dead have in one of them. I was about 100 yards from the complainant. Worreli came to my house on the morning of the 9th and said, 'I've been so foolish as to set some wires, I wish you could get me out of the scrape, as it will be very injurious to my character.' I suid, 'My good fellow, I can't do it, it is more than my place is worth.'—By Mr. Pallen: I never had any dispute with Allen when Mr. Brown, the contractor was provent; I cannot recoilect that Allen accused me of yiving him dealth hares to mit in gins for the purpose of procuring conflictions. —Mr. Pallen: Did you ever give him a dead hare to but in a gin for that purpose ?—Witness: I have plays him a hare, but I cannot tell what he did tolik it. —Mr. Pallen: Tall About two hours afterwards I went into the same field

the truth, yes or no, did he ever put a here in a gin by your directions ?- Witness (after a long panse) : WELL, HE DID. Mr. Pullon: Do you swear you saw William Worrell in the field at two o'clock on the 6th first,—Witness: I Do."

The plot thickens reader. Recollect this Mr. Berkeley, the game preserver, gives his servants money, much money, for every Game Law conviction they obtain; and take with that fact the keeper's admission about the dead hare. Now, mark the conclusion of the case :

Jelf, the railway porter, recalled, and examined by Mr-Pullen - About two o'clock in the afternoon of the 8th inst., Wm. Worrell was engaged in looking over the invoices of a luggage train which had just arrived; after that he was employed in checking goods which were to go off; it is the complalnant's duty to remain at the station all day, and I distinctly state that he was not absent from his business one minute during the whole of that afternoon. The Bench said that a more extraordinary and scandalous case had never been brought before them; indeed, they considered that not one word of truth had been to dexcept by the prosecution; and Mr. Folov, in stating the decision, characterised the transaction as one which warranted their inflicting the full pe nalty. Allen was therefore fined 11. 3s. tid., and 10s. tid. costs, or two mouths' imprisonment. Mr. Hyde said, that from what had transpired, he would withdraw the charges Against Worrell."

Now, had Mr. Hyde's request been acceded to, the head keeper's information against Mr. Worrell for poaching, supported by the testimony of the pure and disinterested witness, Allen, would have been heard first, and the prosecutor might have been convicted of an offence against the Game Laws. But suppose the person so charged had been a mere working man, who might not have been able to prove so distinctly that he was elsewhere at the time of the alleged offence, what would have been the result? Truly this was a "scandalous" case; but our knowledge of game preserved districts compels us to say with regret, that we believe it to be by no means and extraordinary" one.

As a pendent to the above, we extract two othergame cases, reported in the Leicestershire Mercucy.

At Loughborough Petty Sessions, on the 30th of April:

"Before the Rev. J. Dudley, and J. G. D. B. Danvers, Esq. "GAME LAWS -- Henry George and George Wilkins, of Long Whatton, were charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on land in the occupation of George Jarrom, farmer, where the right to the game belonged to E. Dawson, Esq. Neither of the defendants appeared, and the parish constable proving the service of the summons, George Monk was worn, and deposed that on Wednesday night he was on the look out,' and saw defendants in a field sown with dills. George had a gun. They were looking about as if in search of give; he had no doubt they were in search of game;—
of give; he had no doubt they were in search of game,—
mr. Dudley: 'For hares probably?'—Writess; 'They
might be!—Mr. Dudley; 'H was a place where hares might
be found, I suppose?'—Witness; 'YES, SIR.' Defendants were fined 10s, each, and costs (9s. 9d.) each); in default, two months' hard labour."

Note the illegal and leading questions of the justice. In the other case:

"William Wright, of Long Whatton, was charged with using certain engines for the purpose of taking game on the 98th of April, where the right belonged to C. M. Phillipps, 1989. The information was had by Allcroft, the head game keeper, and George Handley, an assistant, was sworn in support of it. He said that on Tuesday morning he was in Onkley Wood, about six o'clock, and saw some snares standing. One had a hare, and another a rubbit in it. Wright came and took them up. Defendant denied the charge, and said he was collared by Handley when on the Feoflee land, and taken by him down to the Hall, at Garendon, when Mr. Phillipps' instructions were that a summons be taken out against him. A worrant, however, had been taken out, and he was apprehended, and kept in custody, so that he had not an opportunity of procuring witnesses. Handley, he also said, put a rabbit into his (defendant's) pucket. The dog worrying is the foundation of it. Handley said the reason a warrant was taken out, was that he was afraid Wright would run away. - Defendant was fined 51, including costs; and, in default, sentenced to two months' hard labour

The defendant in this case is the man who was very seriously injured by a dog being set upon him some months ago, and Handley is the person who was found quilty of setting it on him: which explains Weight's remark, The dog warrying is the foundation of it?"

Now is there not a strong probability that this charge was a trumped up one? Poor Wright had not the opportunity of rebutting the charge, which Mr. Worrell was fortunate enough to possess. But when two such illustrations of the Game Laws are offered in one week in different parts of the country, is it not proof decisive of something wrong in the system?

GOOD NEWS FOR THE FARMERS.

The grievous injury inflicted upon the community by the Game Laws has at length attracted the attention of the intelligent members of the Common Council of the city of London, who on the 23rd of April last, passed a resolution to petition Parliament for the repeal of the Game Laws. The following are the remarks of the mover and seconder on the occasion.

"Mr. W. S. Hule, the chalman of the London School Committee, rose to move that the court should penilon Parliament for the repeal of the Game Laws. He said it quonces of the iniquious Game Laws in the newspapers quantes of the impressed with the opinion that the souner they were wholly abolished the better. He rejoland, that Parliament was engaged in an investigation of the injurious

effects of the system which was adopted for the amusement of a few at the fatal expense of the many, Was it to be for a moment supposed that a man whose family were almost starving could see a have cross his ; ath without making an effort to supply his wife and children with food by possessing himself of what he considered as much his property as it was the property of the man of fortune, who pursued it with impunity? Some people argued that the individuals who were tried for trangression of the Game Laws were not the most moral in any part of their conduct. But what rendered them loose of morals but the existence of those cruel laws which deprived them of their liberty and dismissed their families to the workhouse for an offence which, though cri-genuity, other than vental, regarded in a moral point of

view.

'Mr. R. Taylor supported the metion, and pointed at the prisons all over the country as evidence of the demoralising tendency of the Game Laws. The chaplains who attended the gnols in which are deposited the individuals who had violated these laws, stated that they found no other kind of deprayity amongst them, and that it was quite impossible to induce them to believe that they had committed any crime. Neither morality nor religion intimated to them that they had not as good a right to possess themselves of game as those who were out of the reach of necessity. It was seen in what multitudes labouring men came to town to the unions. Was it to be wondered at that the want which drove these multitudes to London should drive them to the adoption of those unlawful practices which often led to the commission of more awful offences? Let the court look at those dreadful con-flicts which involved murders and terminated in executions. It was a remarkable fact, that men who are executed for the fittal consequences of those conflicts were objects of commiscration, and not of abhorrence and detestation, which marked the departure of a criminal found guilty of murder under other circumstances. The legislature were in fact, by continuing the Game Laws, manufacturing poor people into criminals."

A slight opposition was offered, and an amendment was proposed to petition for the "alteration," instead of the "repeal" of the Game Laws, but the original motion was carried by a large majority. This is as it should be. The Game Laws constitute an "injustice," with which there can be no compromise; it must be abated.

POPULATION .- It is a cruel joke to talk about the evils of an increasing population, when that population is cut off by law from the power of selling the produce of its labour for the interest of a robber caste, who tell us plainly, that like the French noblesse, they will pay no taxes, unless they may have liberty to take the amount again from other people, and who, if speedy change of mind be not vouchsafed them, will come to the same rough end.

HOW THE MONOPOLISTS BEHAVED NINE YEARS AGO-"On Thursday (18th March 1837) Mr. Clay-brought on hismotion for an alteration in the Corn Laws. As soon as Mr. Clay had finished speaking, an agricultural member (Mr. Cayley) rose with the seconder, and endeavoured to stop proceedings by counting out the House. The number was found above forty, and the seconder went on. Their first movement having thus failed, the landowners mustered kin and clan, and finally came down to the number of above two hundred. The ordinary routine of a-thousand-times-answered fallacies was put forward, and received as might be expected in an essembly where every man had made onth that he had a pecuniary interest in the question before him. At the instance of friends about me, I made repeated attempts to offer reply, as also to explain my reasons for not voting upon the actual question; but was unable to gain a hearing. Thank God, I have many better places! If I had been a jobber in a railroad or a dabbler in some monopoly, wishing to make a random of a danoier in some monopoly, wishing to make a similar explanation, I should have been heard with reverential sympathy, to the extent that human organs could supply. Sir W. Molesworth entered upon a demonstration of the mode of operation of the competition generated by the limitation of food, which was perfect in its way, but confined to a portion of the field. Mr. Hume was received with grouns and hideous laughs when he attempted to open the case of that part of the community who have not three hundred pounds a year in land; and when he proceeded to connect the question with the New Poor Law, the sounds that issued from the landed benches had a touch of the New Zealander."-Letters of a Representative, by Col. Thompson.

Letters from leeland, received at Copenhagen, state that a great misfortune has befullen that country in consequence of the present eruption of Hecla: a fatal malady having at tacked the caule, from cating herbage which had been covered by the volcanic ushes. As high winds had prevailed for some time, the ashes were scattered throughout the island; and a great number of cattle, especially oxen, cows, and sheep, had perished. If the ecuption of Hecla is prolonged for two months more, all the rural proprietors who have not enough hay to keep their berds-and the majority are in this condition—will be obliged either to slaughter their eattle, or to abandon them to certain death on the pastures thus poisoned by the volcanic ashes. The cruption of Mount Hecla was extremely violent. The flames which issued from the three great craters attained a height of 14,400 feet; and their breadth exceeded the greatest breadth of the river Picersen, the most considerable river in Iculand. The lava had already formed lofty mountains; and amongst the masses of pumice stone vomited by the volca-no, and which have been found at a distance of three fourths of a mile, there were some which weighed half a ton. By the cruption of Hecla, the enormous quantities of snow and ice which had accumulated for several years on the sides of that mountain have melted, and partly fallen into the river Rangen, which has overflowed its banks several times. The waters of that river, which rans almost at the foot of Mount Heela, and which raceives a large portion of the burning lava, were so hot that every day they cast upon the banks numbers of dead trout almost half-baked. Every night vivid streaks of the aurora borealis illumined the sky.

APPLICATION OF LEBCHES.—The following method of facilitating the application of leeches is recommended by Dr. Reim. Let the lecches be put into a houle filled with good beer, leaving them there until they seem to become lively. After they have been allowed to remain in this state for a few seconds, withdraw them from the liquid and immediately apply them. The process is almost infallible; even very feeble loughes, and which have lately been used, fasten as well as if they were employed for the first time. Gazette Médicale de Paris.

THE DORSETSHIRE POOR

To the Editor of THE TIMES.

Sin,—I beg most earnestly to call your attention to the accompanying correspondence which has just taken place between the Poor Law Commissioners and myself.

between the Foor Law Commissioners and myseu.

My letter will explain the grounds on which I made a
claim for exception on behalf of the applicant, W. Sopr.
and the extract appended to it from the "Application and it. and the extract appended to it from the port Book" of one of the relieving officers of the Dorchester Union, will inform you of the nature of the application.

I also beg leave to enclose two letters, one anonymous the name of the writer of the other I desire to conced by the reason he has given. In consequence of the representations made to me in these letters, and the melancholy at nouncement that the failure of the potato crop had increased the distress of the writer and his companions, I determine to take the first opportunity that offered of putting to the to take the declaration made by the Poor Law Commissioner in their general order of August 2, 1841, and December 2 1814, that out door relief should be granted to the able bodie in cases of "urgent necessity;" with what success I leave you to judge from their reply.

Although much good has been effected in the country Dorset, by the disclosures which have appeared from the to time in the public prints, with reference to the abjectors dition of the agricultural poor in that county, still the pretice (it might almost be called an agreement) conting amongst labourers generally, of keeping the unfortunate labourers at a rate of wages shamefully disproportionate to his services, and barely sufficient in many instances, to sate him from starvation.

Immediately on receipt of the anonymous letter abover. ferred to, I visited the dwellings of these unfortunate per sons, which are situated about 16 miles from my residence. and I found their condition to be even worse than they be represented. In two instances the family consisted of sir persons—the labourer, his wife, and four children. The cottages were commodious, and in good condition; but de terms on which these men were working for their employed were as follow: -7s. per week each. Out of this pitting. they were compelled to pay to the tenant, as rent for the landlord's cottage, 1s. 6d. per week; "gristing," as it is called, or wheat unfit for the markets, at 6s. 6d. per bushel it had been as dear as 7s. 3d. for six weeks during the ar months previous, which was the price, if not higher than the market price, of the best wheat sold in the county. The had fuel for the labour of cutting the furze growing on the farm, which amounts, in my opinion, to the same thing to paying for it; and potato ground at the rate of 91, per are. It is true that, in the year 1845, in consequence of the failure of the potato crop, they only paid 1/. 13s. as rent for a quarter of an acre; but in 1844, 2l. bs. was demanded set paid for land to that extent.

My visit to the dwelling of these poor people chancel to be at their dinner hour, when I found that the mealt'er were about to partake of consisted merely of a small que tity of horse beans and turnip tops boiled in water. asked the wife of one of the men what she intended to po pare for her husband's supper when he returned home from his hard day's work, and her answer was, in the met cheerful tone, "Why, bless you, Sir, horse-beans and tur-

I believe this to be the condition of the agricultural lahourers, generally, in the west part of the county of Dorset-I know it to be so in the parish of Bettescoombe and the al joining parishes, and the case of William Soper is by no means un unusual one in any part of the county.

I do not shrink from the thousand reflections which may be passed upon me from these cases, herein exposed, laving occurred on my own property. I do not profess to be a bit less culpable for the existence of such cases of misery and privation than any other landlord in the county. There en deavoured to remedy these evils by calling attention to the injustice of the course pursued towards the labourer, and by setting an example of paying for work done in money instead of in kind, or by a species of track. It matters not, I am convinced, whatever the rent of a farm may be, or whethers lease is granted or not; whether the price of wheat may be 20%, or 10%, per load; whether the demand for labour is abundant or not, the average amount of wages in the county of Dorset remains always the same, at 7s. per week. They appear to be fixed by custom, combination, and a tyrannical use made of the New Poor Law.

I om well aware of the odium and succes which will be cast upon me for again thrusting these cases before the pub am perfectly indifferent to the result. I feel convined by bringing the aid of the press to bear upon all these instances of hardship and injustice, much good will be effected. as there has been already, and the labourer will. I am in

hopes, reap the benefit .- I am, Sir, your obedt, servant, R.B. SHERIDAY. 18, Spring gardens, May 3.

THE GOVERN We have been favoured in Galway with a carge of Indian meal, which has been duly lodged in the stores of Mr. Fynn a geutleman by whom we are assured that, so strongly built is the concern, it is imprognable to any attacks that may be made upon it, in the event of a popular outbreak,-Golass Mercury.

The people of Sligo are now suffering want. On Theoder alarge body of lubourers walked in procession through the town, carrying two loaves on polls, and proceeded to the workhouse to ascertain from the l'oor Law Guardians then assembled what relief would be afforded them. They see promises, we believe, in plenty, but unless they can live his the cameleon, "th'air promise cramm'd," we think their case is hopeless. The guardians will do nothing for them.
They can do nothing, and it is absurd to let a contrary inpression go abroad. Why should the people be permised to be "fool'd to the top of their bent?" Why should they should they be a lowed to be to b allowed to labour under the delusion that a board of goardings of the state of the dions can assist them, when that board has no power to recourd door relief? and if they had, could the research ti? We must look for aid in other quarters, and and it? We must look for aid in other quarters, food an employment are what the people want. Older food can be procured by throwing open the Government granules and distributing, at a low price, the Indian meal. Then as to employment, there is a grant of \$20,000 at the disposal of the Board of Works for the relief of and Iraling. Since Champion.

THE ACRICULTURAL INTEREST. WILL Dight a farm at Collingbourne, Willis consults acres, the property of the Marquis of Avision and. During the that noted the mobile cent. During that being period the rackle cetyed no less than 18 application with the cetyed of the Corn Laws.

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REVIEW.

FALLACIES OF PROTECTION.—(Sophismes Economiques, par F. Bastiat, &c.) Paris: Guillamin; London; Dulau. Third Notice.

We resume our notice of M. Bastiat's work by quoting his exposure of the fallacy of Reciprocity, which was revived by Mr. D'Israeli on Monday night, in a style that shows the worthy member for Shrewsbury to be one of the babes and sucklings of political economy, from whose mouth nothing but a miracle could "perfect praise."

"We have just seen that whatever renders transport costly in the course of the interchange of commodities is virtually a protection; or, if another form of expression be preferred, protection is in its operation identified with whatever renders

"It is then correct to say that protection is a marsh, a shaking bog, a lagoon, a stony acclivity,—in a word, an obtacle, the effect of which is to augment the difference between the price of consumption and the price of production. It is at the same time indisputable that impassable roads and iron-bound coasts are genuine protecting tariffs.

"There are people—a small number, it is true, but still there are people—who begin to comprehend that obstacles are not the less obstacles for being artificial; and that our prosperity has more to gain from freedom than protection, precisely for the same reason that cauals and railroads are more favourable to it than bridle-paths and bullocktracks.

"But they say, this freedom must be reciprocal. If we throw down the barriers before Spain, while Spain does not throw them down before us, we should evidently be dupes. Let us, then, make commercial treaties on the basis of just reciprocity; let us concede to procure concession; let us make the sacrifice of buying to obtain the advantage of selling.

"Persons who reason thus are, I am sorry to say, virtually protectionists; only they happen to be more illogical than the protectionists, just as the latter are more illogical than the prohibitionists.

the probibitionists.
"I shall demonstrate this by an apologue.

"STULTA AND PUERA.

"There was once upon a time, no matter where, two towns, named Stulta and Puera. They constructed, at great expense, a road which connected them together. When this was completed, Stulta said, 'Here is Puera inundating me with her products; the matter must be taken into consideration.' In consequence, Stulta levied and paid a corps of enrayeurs (men employed to lock the wheels of carriages), so named because it was their duty to impede all the conveyances which came from Puera. Soon after, Puera had her corps of enrayeurs.

"After the lapse of some centuries, intelligence having made considerable progress, the mind of Pucra was sufficiently enlightened to discover that these mutual obstacles might be mutually injurious. She sent an envoy to Stulta, who (omitting diplomatic forms) spoke to this effect: 'We have constructed a road, and now we block it up: that is absurd. It would have been better to leave things as they were. We should not then have had to pay, first for the road, and then for the blockade. On the part of Puera, I come to propose to you, not all at once to renounce the opposition of our mutual obstacles—that would be to act upon principle, and we despise principles as much as you do—but to diminish these obstacles gradually, taking care equitably to bulance our respective sacrifices,' Thus spoke the envoy.—Stulta demanded time for reflection; she consulted her manufacturers and her agriculturists. Finally, after the lapse of some years, she declared that the negotiations were broken off.

"At this news, the inhabitants of Pucra held a council. An old man (it was always believed that he had been secretly bribed by Stulta) rose and said: 'The obstacles created by Stulta injure our sales; that is a misfortune. Those which we have created ourselves injure our purchases; that is suither misfortune. We can do nothing with the first, but the second depends on ourselves. Let us, at all events, get rid of one, since we cannot of both. Let us suppress our enrayeurs without asking Stulta to do the same. One day or other she will learn how to manage her affairs better.'

"A second councillor, a practical matter-of-fact man, free from principles, and thoroughly imbued with the antiquated wisdom of his ancestors, replied: 'Listen not to that dreamer, theorist, innovator, Utopian, economist, and stultomaniac. We should be ruined if the impediments of the road were not equalised. There would then be more difficulty ingoing than in coming, in exporting than in importing. We should be, in respect to Stulta, under the same disadvantageous circumstances that Havre, Nantes, Bordeaux, Lisbon, London, Hamburg, and New Orleans, are in reference to towns placed at the sources of the Seine, the Loire, the Gamone, the Tagus, the Thames, the Elbe, and the Mississippi; for it is more difficult to ascend than to descend the stream—(A Voice: 'Cities at the mouth of rivers are more prosperous than those at the sources'),—That is not possible. (The same voice: 'But it is the fact'). Well, they have prospered contrary to rule.'

prospered contrary to rule."

"Such conclusive reasoning made the assembly waver. The orator completed its convictions by speaking of national independence, national honour, national dignity, national industry, influx of produce, ruinous competition; in short, he carried the continuance of the obstacles; and if you are curious in the matter, I can bring you to a certain country when you will find road-makers and road breakers working together on the best terms—by the decrees of the same legislative assembly, and at the expense of the same tax payers, the one at clearing and the other at blockading the roads."

The Life and Speeches of Daniel O'Connell, M.P. Edited by his Son, John O'Connell, M.P. Dublin, Duffy: London, Dolman.

There is always a difficulty in reviewing the life of a statesman who still lives and acts amongst us, for there is at least a chance that his destined work is unaccomplished and his mission incomplete. It has, however, bean the fortune of Daniel O'Connell to achieve a success which has taken its place in history, and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the large and to survive to hear what is virtually the

issue. We should gladly hear from himself an account of the difficulties he had to encounter, the prejudices he had to explain. Such a revelation would be a valuable leasen in mental discipline for all who may hereafter devote themselves to the service of mankind. It would tell of many errors incident to humanity; it would confess many misapprehensions, and acknowledge many mistakes, but it would show that confidence in the rectitude of a cause will eventually triumph, not only over the opposition of adversaries, but over the failings of self.

O'Connell was educated in France, during the period when the first obullition of popular rage, set loose after conturies of oppression, threatened to render the popular cause odious to every lover of social order. Trained from his infancy in strict religious principles, witnessing the perils to which his beloved instructors of St. Omers were exposed by revolutionary violence, insulted, in company with his brother students, by the fanatics of the National Guards-for there is a fanaticism in irreligion, as well as in religion—it is not surprising that O'Connell came to Ireland a thorough enomy of democracy, and of most of the principles now bearing the name of liberal. A singular circumstance contributed to strengthon his anti-revolutionary opinions. Among those who had come over with him and his brother in the packet-hoat, were John and Henry Sheares, who had not only witnessed the execution of Louis XVI., but displayed to their fellow-passengers a handkerchief which they had dipped in the blood of that monarch, as a trophy of the triumph of freedom.

The profession of the law had been recently opened to Catholics. O'Connell embraced it, and became, in 1794, a student of Lincoln's Inn. He ascribes to his witnessing the trials of Horne Tooke, Hardy, Thelwall, and their associates, his reconciliation with the principles of democracy; and he was not the only person whom the excessive spirit of persecution, displayed on that occasion, brought back to the advocacy of liberty.

O'Connell returned to Ireland on the eve of the asurrection of 1798. Friends and enemies have equally assailed him for his want of sympathy with the united Irishmen at that period; but, as Lord Plunket justly remarked, it was a Protestant, not a Catholic conspiracy. Its original leaders were as hostile to the altar as they were to the throne. The Catholic part of the insurrection, originally designed to be the episode, but rendered by circumstances the principal, was much more of an agrarian or servile revolt, than either a religious or a republican movement. The conduct of the Irish Parliament during this crisis, destroyed for over its character as a legislature. It had become a nuisance which required to be abated; and when it committed suicide at the Union there were those who said with equal bitterness and truth, that it had cheated the hangman.

O'Connell entered public life as an opponent of the Union. In his maiden speech he made a remarkable declaration:

"Let us,' said he, 'show to Iroland, that we have nothing in view but her good; nothing in our hearts but the desire of mutual forgiveness, mutual teleration, and mutual affection; in fine, let every man who feels with me proclaim, that if the alternative were offered him of union, or the re-enactment of the penal code in all its pristine horrors, that he would prefer without hesitation the latter, as the lesser and more sufferable evil; that he would rather confide in the justice of his brethren, the Protestants of Iroland, who have already liberated him, than lay his country at the feet of foreigners."

There is a grave historical error in this passage. The penal laws were not imposed by the English Government; nor was their relaxation owing to the Irish Protestants. Sir Robert Walpole found it no easy task to check the rage for persecution manifested by the ascendancy in the Irish Parliament; and that ascendancy never voluntarily relaxed a single article of the penal code. Every concession made to the Catholics previous to the Union was purchased or exterted from the Irish Parliament by the interference of the English Government.

We have reason to know that many of the great men who resisted the Union to the last regretted that they did not submit to the measure when they found it inevitable, and stipulate with the Minister for a fair representation of Iroland in the Imperial Parliament. So far as numbers went, Iroland obtained better terms than she offered when her Parliament petitioned for a Union in 1707; but the representatives of the boroughs were mere nominees of patrons; indeed, there was hardly a borough in Iroland which possessed anything like a constituency. The sale of seats was perfectly notorious. Cashel was frequently set up to auction; and Tralegowas actually introduced into a settlement for younger children. This abuse was the chief ground of the argument for repeal urged by Mr. O'Connell in 1810:

"Outrofithe one hundred, such as they are, that sit for this country, more than one affinit now nothing of me, and are unknown to be. What, for example, do not know about Andrew Straham, France to the king. What one Heavy

Martin, barrieter at law, care for the rights or liberties of Irishmen? Some of us may, perhaps, for our missyrtunes, have been compelled to read a vertuse pamphlet of James Rievels; but who knows anything of one Crile, one Hughan, one Cackin, or of a dozen more whose names I could mention, only because I have discovered them for the purpose of speaking to you about them; what sympathy can we, in our sufferings, expect from those men? What solicitude for our interests? What are they to Ireland, or Ireland to them? No. Mr. Sheriff, we are not represented — we have no effectual share in the legislation—the thing is a mere mockery."

It was not until 1811 that Mr. O'Connell began to attract notice as an active leader in the Catholic committee. He, like many others, was duped by the belief that the bigoted obstinacy of George III. was the principal impediment to emancipation; and that the Prince of Wales only waited for an opportunity to declare himself the friend of the Catholies. He exonerated the Prince from all share in the perverse but ludicrous efforts to suppress the meetings of the Catholic committee; and laid the blame on the Lord Lieutenant and his secretary, who merely acted under orders from England. In discussing the failure of the efforts to form a Liberal administration after the death of Perceval, Mr. O'Connell stated the grounds of his confidence in the Prince Regent, who, as he stated, had given solemn pledges to the Catholics of Ireland:

"The first in rank, though not in order of time, is that communicated to the Catholics of Ireland, by his Graco the Duke of Bedford. He lives—my witness lives: what is said here will probably reach nim through the public papers; and I call upon him, publicly to contradict anything I advance, which is not literally warranted by the fact. Thus, then, do I state, that in 1803, about the commencement of the Fox administration, when the Catholics, flushed with hope at seeing their late advocates in power, were about to prepare petitions to Parliament, the infulsiry used many means to postpone that measure. At that period, and as one of those means, his Grace the Duke of Bedford, then lord Lieutenant of Ireland, did communicate to the Catholics of Ireland, the wish of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, that the question should not then be agitated; and at the same time, his decided conviction of the justice of our claims, and his decided resolution to admit them whenever he should have power to do so.

a Perhaps I can state this pledge; but I see persons before me to whom this language was held; and I am quite sure that the Duke of Bedford would never, never have conveyedone idea on the subject, if he had not his authority directly from the Prince.

"Secondly, my lord, we have had in the same year, the same pledge repeated to many Catholics, by the Chancellor of Ireland, George Ponsonly.

"The keeper of his Majesty's Irish conscionce must be supposed to have had a kind of reversionary solicitude for that of his Royal Highness, the hoir apparent. Mr. Ponsonly does, I understand, distinctly avow the authority under which he communicated to the Irish Catholics the promise of emancipation—when, in the fulness of time, he, whom we then cherished as the early friend of Ireland, and the prondest hope, should have it in his power to rouse the enthusiasm of an electric people round his throne.

of an electric people round his throne.

"Good God! what a prodigal waste has since been committed—not of wealth, for that, comparatively, is no more than trash—but of the cheerful and best defence of the monarch, the Irish people's love.

The third pledge is a written one, and is in the possession of a Catholic peer, not now present. I have not the honour to be sufficiently known to the Earl of Kenmare to have applied to him for it; but I entertained hopes of being able to procure it through a friend of mine, and of his lordship. It is sufficient to say of that pledge, that it afforded for years consolution to the Irish Catholics; and the discretion with which it was communicated, enhanced its value. I believe, my lord, I need not state to you how little doubt it could leave of the firm decision of the Prince's mind upon our question.

upon our question.

"The fourth and last pledge, which, for the present, I shall mention, was that given by his Royal Highness to a noble lord now present. At the conversation I allude to, that noble lord was accompanied by the late Lord Hetre, and the present Lord Cliden. After rething from the presence of his Royal Highness, the declarations which he was so graciously pleased to make, were from a loyal and affectionate impulse of gratitude, committed to writing, and signed by the three noble lords,"

It was, indeed, for many years the general belief in Ireland, that the Prince Regent's violation of these pledges, and his hostility to the Catholic claims arose from female influence. The Hertford ascendancy was identified with the Protestant ascendancy; and, as was said of another royal sonsualist, "new policy could not be expected at court until the advent of a new petticoat."

The year 1813 was one of deep interest in the history of the struggle for emancipation; a measure of concession received a second reading in the House of Commons, but unfortunately it was accompanied by certain "securities," of no great value in themselves, but which seemed to authorise the interference of Government in the ecclesiastic discipline of the Irish Catholic church. In the discussion of these clauses at the Catholic committee unhappy dissensions arose. There were many who thought themselves bound to abide by the decision of the Catholic prolates, there were others who claimed for the laity the privilege of free action, and these Mr. John O'Connell flippantly denounces as subismatics. It may be schism for laymen to resist prelates in matters relating to spiritual jurisdiction, but certainly laymen have some right in distinguishing between what are and what also not the legitimate objects of spispopal function; and lifety court of Rome his recognised this right in ware, the legitimate objects of spispopal function; and lifety court of Rome his recognised this right in ware, the legitimate objects of spispopal function; and lifety court of Rome his recognised this right in ware, the legitimate objects of spispopal function; and lifety court of Rome his recognised this right in ware, the legitimate objects of spispopal function; and lifety court of Rome his recognised this right in ware, the layer of the legitimate objects of spispopal function; and lifety court of Rome his recognised this right in ware, the layer of th

potentates. Those paragons of piety Charles V. and his son Philip of Spain, waged war against the popes without ever being suspected of the sin of schim

The unhappy dissensions in the Catholic body tended greatly to strengthen the patrons of Protestant ascendancy in both Houses of Parliament. The Catholic aristocracy of England, aided by the amiable and learned Charles Butler, were anxious to make terms with the Government, and were probably led farther than they at first intended in the way of concession, by the intemperate zeal of the Rev. Dr. Milner, who asserted the claims of his church in terms that would have been deemed strong before the Reformation. Still, as this controversy was only a mischievous episode in the history of emancipation, we regret to see that it has been revived by Mr. John O'Connell, and revived for so mischievous a purpose as to misrepresent the new colleges in Ireland. He assumes that the education of the laity is as great an interference with the ecclesiastical discipline of his church as a share in the appointment of the clergy, and he claims the authority of the prelates against these institutions. Into controversies of opinion we need not enter, but a misrepresentation of fact is a very different matter. No one knows better than Mr. John O'Connell that the Irish colleges are not merely tolerated but supported by no inconsiderable minority of

the Catholic prelates.

The year 1813 closed with a manifestation of increased hostility to the claims on the part of the Irish Government, then administered by the Duke of Richmond and Mr. (now Sir Robert) Peel. Ostentations patronage and favour were displayed to the leaders of the Orange party; juries were packed, and the purity of the bench exposed to suspicion. The trial and conviction of Magee, the editor of the Evening Post, for a libel, seemed intended to silence the press; but it was at this crisis that O'Connell matured a new and efficient system of agitation, destined to prove to his countrymen the truth of their own proverb, "the darkest hour in the twentyfour is the hour preceding day." Here the volume abruptly closes, but with an intimation that a continuation may be shortly expected.

may in shortly expected,

THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDUSTRY.

At a crisis like this, when the downfall of that gigantic monstrosity, the Corn Laws, amid the firm phalanx of the corn lords, who made so protracted a struggle to uphold it, shows the people what they can do-when the long-tried have been triumphant, let them not abandon the arms that have gained them the buttle. Let them all work; but, above all, work together. There is no being (unless ill or idiotic), but has power to take part in the business of removing misory, and creating happiness; there are none who, under any other plea, can claim exemption from the bond due to the universal brotherhood to which he belongs. It is ground on which there is no neutral track-no pausing point; he who will not go forward must go back-humanity never stands still; he who will not assist at the work of regeneration, must expect to be regarded as a renegade; he who will not aid the apostles of the people, to be deemed an apostate. To gain an advantage is not all-there is much in the subsequent use of it. Public integrity must be based upon private worth; these who have stood together in the field of strife must carry their confederate strength into the field of social exertion, and strive with the same heart and zoul that they did in the battle:

Man, poor and feeble when alone.
The sport of every passing wind,
In war--in trade -hath ever shown
Ho's all resistless when combined.
If then, when fears or interests plend,
Combining crowds together press,
Why cannot social feeling lead
Mon to units for happiness?

A very humble home may become a beacon-light to its immediate neighbourhood. Good, like all the elements of nature, is indestructible: it may be scattered, it may be obscured, but it is never utterly lost. That so much good has been so often unavailing to its originator, is the fault of the disjointed framework of society, amid which the unworthy monopolist often wins the reward that another has carned. Many remain fuert because their supposed ability, and apparent field of action, is small; but all merit has an expansive quality, and grows in capacity and skill according to the exercise it receives. But even granting that the power be small, as the most modest of these willing defaulters may allege, yet the combined power of even such workers must do much. Let them turn their attention one moment to the coral-limeet. How little can each of those atoms offect! yet, by combined and persevering action, behold the coral-reefs they raise amid the mighty waters of the occan! Happy are those spirits-and, measured by the highest standard, as great as they are happy—who give unobtrusive ministry in the cause of human improvement; who rejoice in its ad Vancoment, whather their share in the work be known and acknowledged, or not. Many such, happily, there are. The most eminent, yet most modest—or rather, considering the consequences they produce, the most considerable, yet the most unconscious -are to be found among the women of the working classes - the mothers of the rising sons and daughters of industry. Much will society owe to these patient workers, however little it may acknowledge. Men of industry-England's best and bravest men-do to them the justice you desire to have done unto yourselves. Turn to the bosom friend, the friend of your boart and boarth and recompense, by your intelligent aid and devotion, the disadvantages that the present social system surrounds her with. Give to your sons and daughters equal education; endow colleges for both; your united offorts may do this, and much more. Let your watchword be education. Educate the hoart: educate this reasoning and reflective faculties, not your children's only, but your own, also. It is a common error to regard education as the business of only a portion

of IIIc; when it is, in fact, a work that must be going on throughout life. Let this great business, then, not be neglected, as it regards either the infant or the adult—man or woman. The world is by this time too wise to let one half of its mental capital lie dormant, or die, for want of cultivation and exercise; or, which is far worse, and more likely, if no high direction be given it—take a pernicious and perverse course, infecting the atmosphere it might purify, refine, and illuminate; and, instead of creating for you conclutors in the work of happiness and improvement, plant your path with impediments to your own felicity and advancement.—

L'eople's Journal.

NURSERY TALE.

THE STORY OF THE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS, " SUITED TO THE MEANEST CAPACITY."

There was a little lady who had 21 000,000 babies, and she wanted to get cheap bread for them, but she could not, because of the Corn Law. So she went to the Lords, and she said—

"Lords, Lords, repeal this law, or I cannot get cheap bread for my bables."

Then the Lords said to her, "Pooh! we are the landed interest; what do we care for your babies? The Torios to a man will stand by us." She went to the Tories, and she said—

"Tories, Tories, desert the Lords; the Lords won't repeal the law; and I cannot get cheap bread for my babies." Then the Tories said to her, "Madam, we have no objection to eat dirt; we do it every day; but at present we are under the orders of the Duke." So she went to the Duke, and she said—

and she said—
"Duke, duke, order the Tories; the Tories won't desert
the Lords; the Lords won't repeal the law; and I can-

not get cheap bread for my bables,"
Then the Duke said to her, "F. M. the Duke of Wellington is Commander in Chief of the Army, but he is neither a maltster nor a miller. All communication to his Grace must be made through Sir Robert Peel." So she went to Sir Robert Peel, and she said—

"Peel, Peel, speak to the Duke; the Duke won't order the Tories; the Tories won't desert the Lords; the Lords won't repeal the law; and T cannot get cheap food for my babies."

Then Peel said, "the Tories brought me in, I know, but I should like to rat and cut the snobs. However, as yet there is no pressure from without, there's no great fact to frighten me."

So see went to look for a great fact; and she heard a voice saying to her, "I am ready to come to your help, if you will only get somebody to form a League, and call me into notice. There's Richard Cobden." So she went to Cobden, and she said,—

"Cobden, Colden, form a League; the League will soon become a fact; but there's no fact yet to frighten Peel, and Peel won't speak to the Duke; the Duke won't order the Tories; the Tories won't desert the Lords; the Lords won't repeal the law; and 1 cannot get cheap bread for my babies."

Then Cobden began to form the League; the League began to become a fact; the fact began to frighten Poel; Peel began to speak to the Duke; the Duke began to order the Tories; the Tories began to desert the Lords; the Lords set to repeal the law; and so the little lady got cheap bread for her babies.—Punch.

Loss of the Falco.-Letters have been received containing the announcement of the total loss of the brig Falco, on the coast of New Zealand, and an attack made on her unfortunate crew and the plundering the cargo by the natives. The Falco sailed from Boston in the early part of last year, on a trading voyage to the islands of the Pacific, having on board the new American consul for New Zealand. She touched, on her way to Swan River, King George's Sound and Adelaide, and then proceeded, after a prosperous voyage, to New Zenland. She arrived at Port Nicholson in the month of June, and sailed thence, with the Government mails on board, for Auckland, via Table Cape. On the 27th of the following month the vessel reached the Cape, and she was brought to anchor at a place called Wangawai, where, in the course of a few hours afterwards, it came on a violent storm. During the succeeding night she rode with both auchors down until about two o'clock, when the windless broke in two by the excessive strain. Immediately she drifted through the breakers over a reef a mile in extent, and struck on a shell of rocks and sands on a steep shore. For a time the situation of those belonging to her was perilons in the extreme; every sea making a complete breach over the decks, and nearly washing them off; as the tide receded, however, high and dry, enabling the crew to walk ashore. Finding the vessel not much injured they returned, and were preparing to get her again affout, when a large number of natives, in concert with the Europeans living on the Island, rushed on board and committed the most disgraceful outrages. Having hemmed in the captain and officers on the quarter-deck, and threatened them with violence if they offered any resistance, they broke open the hatches, and getting into the hold commenced plundering everything that was valuable. They opened the mail bags and boxes, and scattering their contents in the hold, obtained all the Government despatches, which they tore up and destroyed. They afterwards began to strip the vessel tearing off the copper shouthing, and destroying the bull in every part with pole axes. It was evident that the work of destruction was a preconcerted plot between the whites and the natives, and that unquestionably the chief blame was to be attributed to the former, who seemed to vie with each other in their outrages. The American consul contrived at the onset of the attack to escape with a large amount of specie and papers of great value, which he had charge of, and obtain shelter in a gentleman's house, some distance along the beach. Some few days afterwards an attack was threatened by the natives to possess themselves of the treasure, but their nefarious plans were frustrated by a number of armed gentlemen, who guarded the place night and day until the arrival of a vessel to take the consul and the offlicers and crew of the Falco to their destination. The wreck was subsequently burnt-THE CORN LAWS. The Dukes of Bucclouch, Devon-

shire, Sutherland, Norfolk, Hamilton, and Bedford, the Marquises of Lansacowne, Breadalbane, Anglescy, and Ailsa, Earl Fitzwilliam, the Earls of Carlisle, Clarendon, Fortescue, Essex, Fitzhardings (we believe); and several officer that might be pointed out, are all against the continuance of the present law, and will vote for the measure of Sir Robert Peel.—Sun.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL TRADE

The Liverpool Standard of yesterday, in replying to our remarks on Wednesday last, says:

"It is a corollary recognised by every Prec Trader, that where the country we diminstrate the purchase from any particular country we diminstrate ability to purchase from ourselves in return. The colour of British America takes from us in manufactures the first amount of the produce—grain or timber—which we import has him. Transfer our domaid for such grain or timber to the foreigner, and we by no means receive from him the equivalent amount of purchases from us in return. Thus we handed on to the markets of the Baltic, in 1842, the supply of this country with its timber."

We are glad to find that the Standard recognizes the truth of what he calls the corollary, but what we should rather cal the maxim of the Free Traders," that when we coase to purche. from any particular country, we diminish its ability to per-chase from us in return." It is, we believe, perfectly in-fragable, and forms the main foundation of the doctrine of Free Trade. It is not, however, true that British America takes from us in manufactures the whole amount of the produce we import from it. A part of that amount is taken in colonial and other produce purchased in other countries by exports of British manufactures; and, therefore, in that re spect, the trade of British America is precisely like our tradwith the rest of the world. The main point, however, by which we feel it necessary to advert, is the assertion, that which we feel it necessary to agreet, is the assertion, that "we handed over to the markets of the Baltic, in 1812, the supply of this country with its timber." Now, if this assertion means anything at all, it means that the measure of 1842 has destroyed the Canadian timber trade. Does the Liverpool Standard mean to make any such assertion? Ha the Canadian timber trade been destroyed? Has it been diminished? No. The import of timber from British America is now not only larger than at any former period, but is evidently increasing with great rapidity, as the following statement of the quantities of Canadian timber imported into the United Kingdom, for the last three years, will abundantly show:

Surely if, by the measure of 1842, we had handed over the timber trade to the markets of the Bultic, we should not find this rapid increase in the import of Canadian timber over ing just at the time when that measure might be sail to come fairly into operation.—Manchester Guardian.

THE SUPPLY OF SUGAR.

(From the Liverpool Times.)

Great anxiety now prevails with regard to the supply of sugar. Serious fears are entertained that the importation of colonial and other admissible growths will fall short of the consumption, so as to leave little or none at the end of the year to meet the spring demand. The Government have been disappointed in their expectations; our colonies lave not increased their production in the ratio that was auticipated, and the arrivals of foreign free labour sugar base been comparatively insignificant-nor does the future prsent a more flattering prospect. A drought, of unusual severity, has visited the West India colonies, and wellinformed parties calculate that it will cause a deficiency in the crop to the extent of many thousand tons. The lowest estimate of the deficiency is 15,000 tons, the highest 10,001 to 45,000—it may be safely assumed to be 30,000, or a foll eighth of the usual importation from all the colonies. This misfortune will not exercise so injurious an effect on the British public, as it must have done before the admission of free-labour foreign sugar. It cannot, however, fail to raise prices, and that very considerably, because the quantity of Java and Manilla, or other free labour sugar, that can arrive for several months, is so small, as to go but a short way to compensate for the deficiency in the West India im-There were only about 8,000 tons of free labour sugar imported last year. Even supposing this to be doubled in the course of the present year (a result not unlikely to be attained by the close of the season), parties versant with the sugar trade, reckon upon the supplies. taken as a whole, proving quite insufficient for the now enlarged consumption. Three estimates of the probable inportation of all admissible descriptions for the current year, have been shown, amounting, respectively, to 220,210, and 255,000 tons. The average of these three estimates is 238,00 tons. Last year, the consumption reached 240,000. This year, it can hardly be so low as 200,000, and may possibly be 270,000—even at present prices, with the probability of reaching 280,000, if, by any means, prices fall materially. It thus appears, that the supply is likely to prove 22,000 tons or about eight per cent. short of the smallest estimate of con-10 conscouence of this state of the trade. have advanced materially during the last year, particularly for sorts adapted to the wants of the country which have be come source, so much so, that the stock in London of West Indian sugar is less than what it was at the corresponding period of last year, in first hands, at this great emporium not a single cask at Bristol, and only 93 in the ports of The bulk of stocks now held are Rast India, a growth, most of which enjoys no favour with consumers.

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growth, most of which enjoys no favour with consumers.

The article of mclasses is in a still more striking position, the stocks in the country being less than two months deveries, and the import for the year not likely to reach threfourths of what would be required for the year's consumption, even at the present rates of delivery!

The prices, so might be expected have advanced greatly, not less than 40 to 50 per cent. on the currency of the corresponding month of last year—indeed, they are higher than before the reduction of duty, which took effect on the 14th of March.

The following figures exhibit the present value, in books of West India and foreign sugar:

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A PROTECTED LABOURE.—VERSH
is giving only five shillings per may to his single wife and children. This week one did from the control of the Board of Cracilly had to apply to the Board of Cracilly manner to buy a confine last he will be a feel to the first and the shilling a week to the first shulling.

FREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.

A. W. Paulton, Beq.

A. W. Paulton, Beq.

Bempel Harrison, Beq.,

Wiffin Leavers, Seq.,

Will, Beq.,

Laring Boulaland, Beq., Crayford.

Taverses.

Dr. Thomas Price, 7, Highbury-terrace, Islington,
George Thompson, Eq., 6, Waterloo place.

Captalu Cogan, Upper Mill, Hummersmith,

Marketts.

Measrs. Preacott, Grote, & Co.

Soliciton,

Josh. Ivimey, Baq., 20, Chancery-lane.

succurrant.

Mr. Aifred Lench Baul.

Prospectuses may be obtained, grafts, on application at the Society's Office, Seat Tomple Chambors, Whitefriars-street, Floet-street. The Rules (st. each are now ready, and may be had as above.

Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application insteads of the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley insteads of the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley insteads of the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley insteads of the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley insteads of the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley insteads of the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley insteads of the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to make application in the Bouley are requested to

THE

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION.—
The Second Subscription is now called for, and will be paid on Tuesday, May 5th, up to which time parties wishing to join the Society may are up shares without additional contence free.
The First Meeting for the sale of Shares will be held on Tuesday, the 12th May, at 7 o'clock in the evening.

TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the

Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with

J. Galsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchoster; and the LRAGUE

may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, May 9, 1846.

The consummation of our hopes is at hand; the

ministerial measures passed through committee

with scarcely more discussion than is raised by an

ordinary turnpike bill; and even the debate, slight as it was, exhibited signal proof that the protectionists have lost courage and confidence, exhibiting in their tactics the blunders of despair. There is

one infliction yet to be endured; Mr. Benjamin

l'Israeli, anxious to relieve Punch from the "fix "

in which our worthy cotomporary depicts himself as placed, has menaced the house with a speech on the economies of protection; and if he fulfils his threat,

the "specially Pompey" is likely to fix itself on the

honourable member for Shrewsbury. He will win

the cap, and establish a strong claim to a fair allowance of bells into the bargain. Seriously, we pity the country gentlemen who will be compelled to listen to the incomprehensible ravings of the

"Prophet of the Caucasus;" his jumble of me-

taphysics and statistics, speculative funcies and

misunderstood facts, elever sarcasms and absurd doctrines, misapplied jokes and mis-stated figures, imaginative dreams and palpable fallacies, will no doubt afford a rich treat to those who derive plea-

sure from the absurdities of intellectual abcrration; but to the poor squires a section of the Talmud

would be equally instructive, and at least equally amusing. A clover Danish fable describes a puppy going through a very elaborate process to tie a kettle to his own tail, believing that the noise it

produced would attract a crowd, not to laugh at the animal, but to admire the music he produced; romantic aspirants to the professorship of sentimental

economy seem to adopt a similar course, and D'Is-

racli's kettle is sure to produce a discord of noisy

sound which will equally perplex himself and his

must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

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anditors. It will be said of him as of the Leontine sophist, who undertook to prove starvation a luxury, that he is-

An intelligent man,-but for want of a conscience, He takes mighty trouble to talk mighty nonsense.

There is, however, a compensation in all those matters. The sparkling paradoxes of the incipient philosopher, like the soap-bubbles of a child, will glitter for a moment; but as they burst, they will sprinkle the puffer with his own dirty water. Men get weary of the conjuror exhibiting the pretty pictures of an intellectual kaleidoscope, and soon detect the means by which the effects are produced. D'Israeli has dealt with the fallacy of reciprocity, as the showman did with the dwarf, whom he derigned to pass off for a giant; he has overlaid the fallacy with verbinge as the showman did the mannikin with garments:

That sail in bresails and length ne grows, Swell'd by the monstrous pile of clothes-To eli, twelve jackete twelve surroute,
To eli, twelve jackete twelve surroute,
Twelve shiftledone, twelve plintful block.

Twelve shiftledone, twelve plintful block.

The shiftledone shiftledone, twelve so
Thomas that the jawns are not of the proportion.

O numerous that the jawns are not of the proportion.

surdities too amazing to continue amusing. W are doqued, however, to sit out the exhibition, and we have only to pray that the funtasia may not be protracted beyond the limited powers of human endurance.

There are significant symptoms of a readiness to cut the matter short in the Lords. It is even now spoken of as un fait accompli; and those who were at first opposed to it, discuss what consequences ought to follow from what they believe to be an invincible necessity. Even the Duke of Richmondonacting his favourite part of the British lion, exhibits Snug, the joiner, under the skin. Lord Stanley, who was to have been the Bully Bottom of the piece, has been spirited away, by the Queen of the Fairies, or has been charmed into silence by Puck; and it is doubtful whether the performers will have spirit " to play out the play."

It is almost certain that the Ministerial measures will have found their way to the Upper House before the publication of our next paper. The debate on the third reading in the House of Commonsmust, under any circumstances, be a tame and poor affair. All the stage tricks are exhausted; the mock duel, which should have been reserved for the last, has gone off before its time, like the premature explosion of a grand finale of squibs and crackers at Astley's. The interest of the drama is at an end. Every one knows what the conclusion must be; and the only question is, whether the performers will at once wind up, or whether the full of the curtain will be forced by the hisses of the audience.

	TH	C F	JND	8.		
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MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

Monday, May 4.—English Wheat is in very fair supply this morning; millors are very cautious in their operations, and prices are 1s. to 2s. lower than this day week, and the trade heavy at the reduction. In Bonded Wheat there is not much doing, and late rates continue. In Barley, Beans, and Peas, of which the arrivals are not large, the little passing is on pravious terms. The entire amount of Oat arrivals is only 10,051 qrs. The attendance of buyers is not so good as last Monday, and it is more difficult to do business in consequence; but generally lower prices are not taken, except for light English Oats, of which there are a good number of samples for sale, and which are just the turn in favour of the buyer.

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.	of Irish Outs is better than for some time pust	; and ti	io amplita
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3	Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks, Whoat, 55s. 0s. 3d.; Outs, 22s. 10d.; Rys, 33s. ud.; Bos ons, 33s. 76d.	. 10d.; 1	inrioy,
, '	One, 138, 10d. Duty. Wheat, 17s. Od. Barlon Sc. Od. One.		
V.	Potty. Wheat, 17s. 6d.; Barley, 8s. 6d.; Oats, s. 6d.; Boans, 8s. 6d.; Peas, 9s. 6d.		; Rye,
·	Stock of Corn in Bond, April 5, 1840 Whoat. Barley, Oats, Rye. Beans,	D	10
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Primo Mutton 4s 2d to 4s 0d | rior Pork .. 3s 4d to 3s 0d

Prime Beef., 3s 10d to 3s 6d | Middl.Mutton 3s 10d to 3s Middling do. 3s 4d to 5s 2d | Vegl. from ... 4s 4.1 to 3s

Veal, from .. 4s 4d to 3s Small Pork .. 4s 10d to 1s

FRIDAY, MAY 1.
BANKRUPTS,
J. W. Pitsch, Sackvilleostreet, Piecadilly, tailor, [Mossrs, Davios and Son, Warwick-street, Regent street.
G. B. Wadsworth, Broad street, Goldon-square, apothecary, [Mr. Kirkman Lane, Argyle-street.
C. Hambridge, Curtain-road, conclisioith. [Mossrs, Carter and Gregory, Lord Mayor's Court-office, Old Jowry,
E. B. Smith, and J. A. T. Matthows, Great Dover-road, glass merchant.

J. Harlow, Loisaster-square, tobacconist. [Mr. Bagster,

W. T. Timewell, Charlotto-street, Blackfriarc-road, silver refiner [Mr. F. Stevens, Queen-street, Choupside. O. Baxter, Church-street, St. George's, Southwark, currier, [Mr. Burn, Tokenhouse-yard. W. Sheffield, Bagnigge Wells-road, grocor. [Messrs, Hill and Matthews, St. Mary Axe.

W. and J. Bhoffield, Lower Acton place, Bagnigge Wells road, grocors. [Mosses, Lawronce and Plows, Bucklershury.
T. Gandy, Lower-road, Islington, grocor. [Mr. Rac, Warwick-

court.
C. J. Edmonds, Bluntisham, Huntingdonshiro, apothocary, Mr. H. Grainger, Bucklersbury.
W. Bradshaw, Greeton, Northamptonshiro, cattle salesman. [Mr. G. F. Cooke, King street, Cheapside.
J. Harrison, Kingaton-upon-Hull, ship chandler. [Mossra, C. and J. Allen, Carlisle street, Soho square.
E. T. Allen, York, apothecary. [Mr. Rushworth, Staple's-inn.

inn.
T. Hanson, Leeds, builder. [Mr. Rushworth, Staple's inn.
R. Mursden, Brynmawr, Brechnockshiro, linondrapur. [Mr. W. Mawsen, Manchester.
W. Mawsen, Manchester.

P. Mottram, Shrewsbury, draper. [Mr. Gordon, Shrewsbury, T. Hurrison, Hirmingham, violualler. [Messrs, Vincent and

Co., Temple, E. Pow, Manchester, cabinet maker. [Messes. Gregory and

Co., Bedford row.

8. Rodgett, Blackburn, Lancashire, ironfounder. Parry and Co., Temple. SCOTCH-SEQUESTRATIONS.

W. Smith, Painley, manufacturer.
W. Cuthhortson and J. Twondie, Clangow, fron merchants.

R. and W. Smith, Edinburgh, cloth morehants. O. Adecek, Edinburgh, clothier. W. Macfeat, Edinburgh, glass merchant.

TUESDAY, MAY 5.

BANKRUPTS. J. Miller, Whitibury-street, Hampstead road, painter, [Mossrs, Lacoy and Co., New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, J. Valle, Manchester, silk printer. [Mossrs, Reed and Langford, Priday-stroot.

J. Dalloy, and A. Inskipp, Long-lane, Bermondaey, lenther manufacturers, [Mr. Loughborough, Austin-friam, J. G. Ufford, Holloway, common brower. [Mr. Poschoy,

Sallisbury square.

J. Willis, Bucklorsbury, cating housekeeper. [Mr. Smith, Onlden-square.
J. Woston, Bishopsgato-street within, hatter. [Mr. Wilkinson,

Nicholas-lane.
W. Thompson, Minories, ship chandler. [Mosars. Allen and Nigol, Queon-street, Cheapside.
H. Walters, Bristol, victualler [Mr. Hassell, Bristol.
W. Brook, Manchester, stuff merchant. [Mr. Hammond,

J. Taylor, Huddersfield, commission agent. [Mosars, Moggi-

J. Taylor, Huddershold, comments agent. I mesers, meggison and Co., Ring's-road, Belford-row.
E. J. Staples, Bristol, surgeon. [Mesers. Stevens and Co.,
Gray's impeguars.
S. M. Wads, Liverpool, cotton dealer. [Mesers. Johnson and
Co., King's Bench-walk, Temple.
J. Taylor, Liverpool, merchant. [Mesers. Gregory and Co.]

Taylor, Liverpool, merchant. [Mesers. Gregory and Co.]

Bedford-row.

COTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

O. Brown, Edinburgh, writer.

A Bulliof Me. Oldford, boller.

W. Machicen will Co., Oldford, bull boller.

J. and W. Stefepson and Co., Knows, Benfrewshire, poweriloom manufacturers, cameras are a study of the property was heart

PRITIATI CONSUL'S OFFICE, PHILADELI'ITIA.—Know all Persons to Winds, these presents shall come, casy of Chart I, Gilbert Hohentson, Ber his Brighnic Mary's General, to hereby could, that it. Wallion, Esq. (was research to the efficacy of this City, and that M. RANDALI, Beq. is Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, to both whose signatures full faith and credit is an interfer sortify that I am personally acquainted with J. L. INGLIS, Esq. another of the signers, and that he is a port of a great responsibility is all the one of a sequential sports in the effects of OliviliDue's MALM, in restoring his Hair, Great responsibility and the court of Court of Court of the signers, and that he is a port of the analysis of Philadelphia, Desambles of the effects of OliviliDue's MALM, in restoring his Hair, Great responsibility and the court of Court of Court of Court of Court of Court of Court of Court of Court of Court of the signers.

(Signed)

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Milner Olbson, Baq., M.P.

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The attendance of the Friends of the Society is earnostly requested. Cards of Admission may be had at Smith, Elder, and Co's, 65. Cornhill; C. Glipin's, 3, Hishopsgate-street without; Hatchard and Co's, 187, Piccadilly; and at Crosby Hall.

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All goods afterwards ordered will be sent warranted equal to these

JONES'S 44. 48. SILVER LEVER WATCHES warranted not to vary more than half a minute per week, are selling at the Manufactory, 536, Strand, opposite Somerect-house. They coming the truth of a mathematical instrument with the elegance of an organization of tasto. On receipt of a Post-office arter for is, above the price, a will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Road Jones's "sketch of Watch Work." sont free for a 2d. strang.

RETT'S IMPROVED PATENT BRANDY (No. 1) RETT'S IMPROVED PATENT BRANDY (No. 1) at 15% admits of no rivalry but in (No. 2), the finest brown loggest 15% admits of no rivalry but in (No. 2), the finest brown loggest 15%, per haperint gallon. Lower quotations must be researced with 25%, per haperint gallon. Lower quotations must be researced with 25%, per haperint gallon. Under three Brandles the very best of their respective kinds, we invite comparison and defy competition! Mamples may fixed, that of the Counting house, and a single gallon or upwards with 15% freely instead at our Counting house, and a single gallon or upwards with 15% forwarded to order —HENRY BRETT and Co., (lid Furnival's inn. Holborn:

TENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.—The largest assorting at of Stoves and Fenders, as well as Constituted from the worled and its stores and Fenders, as well as Constituted from mongery, in the worled and its stores and Fenders, as well as Constituted for the worled and its stores and Fenders, as well as Constituted for the bronzed seroll do., with steel bar, 10s. 8d.; from fonders, 3 stores as 8d. 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, se 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed ornaments, From fitted with standards, 3 feet, 1s.; wrought from kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s 6d.; fast, 6st-bifferes stoves, with bronzed ornaments, From Lay black dillar, 5cop from fast ditto, ditto, with ornale ornaments, from Lay black dillar, 5cop from fast stoves, 2 feet, 18s.; 3 feet, 27s.; bed-room register stoves, 2 feet, 1s.; 5 feet, 27s.; bed-room register stoves, 2 feet, 1s.; 5 feet, 3r. 5 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 7 feet, 7s.; 6 feet, 5s.; 7 feet, 7s.; 6 feet, 6 fe

CEORGE and JOHN DEANE, SADILIERS and HARNERS MARBIEF, Invite hiterition to their dig. Tandem, and Carriage Harners, manufactured on their own premises, by workmen of much experience, and under the direction of foremen of superior shifty and skill. Their leather is invariably dreased by first-rate London curriers, the furniture is also of the best town manufacture, and G. and J. beans warrant that the productions of their manufactory cannot be surpassed for beauty, strength, and cheapness, by any other house. Horse clothing made to order: canteens of heat seasoned wood. Deane's London-made whips, and all articles for stable and travelling use in large variety.—No. 3, Arthur-street East, opening to the Monument, London-bridge.

OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the COLO-NIES. Parties leaving England will find to their advantage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO. 8, 163, Frenchurch-street, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hosiery, Gauss-Merke Under Shirts, &c., adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the roy-age, is kept ready for framediate use, and at prices for more reasonable has usually charged for the same articles.

Bedding, Military Accourtements, Cabin and Camp Purniture of every description. Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

National Tableau of Public Interest, which has been Eight Months in Proparation.

THE Royal Family at Home, consisting of the Queen and Prince Albert carcasing their Pour lovely Children. The Grouping and Colouring by Madama Tussaud, the Models and Portraiture by Mr. P. Tussaud, is new added to the Collection.—HAZAAR, Jinkor-atreet, Portman-square,

"This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."—Tunn. Admittance, 1s.; Napoleon Rooms, 6d. Open from 11 till 4; and from 1 till 10.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE, A White Powder for the Teeth, compounded of the Choicest and most Recherche Ingredients of the Oriental Herbal; the leading requisitor of cleanliness and efficacy being present in the highest possible degree. It bestows on the teeth a pearl-like whiteness and frees them from tartur; imparts to the gums a healthy strances, and to the breath Agrateful sweetness and perfame.

CAUTION—"A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, Hatton Garden," is engraved on the Covernment Stamp, which is affixed on each box.

All other Odontos are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!

THE NEW "COLOS-BAL ESTABLISHMENT."

SAL ESTABLISHMENT."

The Houses just open d by MONER and SON Occasion more attribunt they ever have done. The public assemble in multitudes wast, To behold the great rival of present and past. This monarch of all vast commoretal affairs. Is throng d in the warnhouse, is throng d on the stairs. Is throng d in the warnhouse, is throng d on the stairs. The show-rooms and gallery likewise present A proof how the mind of the public is bont. Such excitement has never prevail'd in the cast, Or not since the tunnel was open d, at least. Let the thousands that crowd to behold what is done by the dauntiess projectors, E. MOSER and SON, Remember this fact, that, however they fock. They could all be supplied from the present spring stock. Were troble the number to visit the Hart. E. MOSER and SON could accomplish their part. Let the hint be sufficient for thousands to come And behold the grand market—or lay out a sun;

Tweed Taglioni. and Taglienis
Summer Conts in every description and make, including the Registered
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cluding the Registered
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A new work, entitled "Past, Present, and Future directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or accordance to post free.

directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or services post free.

Mourning to any extent at 6 Minutes netted.

Oassavs.—Any article purchased, or made to measure, if account of will be immediately a pahanest or the monay canning. Compared to the monay canning. The B. MONES and BON. Tellurs. Woollen Draperi, Laction 1111.

Hosters. Outstrors, and Oassars Warehousement.

guard the public against imposition, but have learned this in measurement. The second compared with this of the factor is made to this heart of the factor is the have no connexion with any class to the particle of the those who desire genuine class factoring the many to the ment, call or sand to Minories, and Aldgatar, or satisfy the london.

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188.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1846.

[8d.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

LEAGUE FUND.

Ministers of 21 and upwards to the LEASUR FUED patilled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publifor fivelve months from the date of the receipt of their

toplers of half-a-crown, and under \$1, will have and to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an adgment of their subscription; and it is requested Abscribers will be kind enough to send their names diesees to the offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's igs, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

As there is considerable risk in the transmission of ad silver by post, parties wishing to forward small Dilions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly reed to make their remittances by post-office orders.

Towncil of the League would also suggest to their in the country the importance of transmitting their wise of THE LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such Limens especially furmers) as may be either hostile or firent to the question of Free Trade.

By order of the Council, JOSEPH HIOKIN, Secretary.

E DEBATE ON THE THIRD READING. prenother part of this paper we shall probably ole to announce that the House of Commons based its LAST CORN BILL—has done, once for with laws for "regulating the supply of food to people"—has shaken itself free, for ever, of a possibility beyond the power of human legislasustain. After a discussion of almost unexed length, broken by intervals, which have Parliament and the country superabundant ortunity for consideration and reconsideration, peron the point of seeing it finally ruled, by a that no power of political accident can renithat everything which landlordism has been g these 80 years past has been done wrong, and be undone, and that entire Free Trade in the necessaries of life is henceforth to be the policy reat Britain.

only remains for our hereditary and ecclesiaslegislators to say which they prefer—Sir R. Bill now, or Sir R. Peel and the League's some three months hence. We await their hips decision on this issue with a calm relion the will and the power of the Government the country—with a reliance which would on indifference, but for our sense of the cala s consequences that must ensue to the indusolumes from even a three months' delay. Sir Graham, it will be seen, has "a very strong t that the measure under consideration will in short time become the law of the land." It is hi to hear this from a quarter so likely to be to med. We are glad to know that this is and shall be delighted to find the minis

themsel as ready for the worst, and believe themsel as ready for the worst, and believe themselves are the second of the second

To respond you have a partition.

ness and stupidity, there is nothing to be said. The element of the absurd is not altogether absent, but it does not exist in sufficient proportions. The coruscations are too few and far between. Mr. Cayley's recitations about the " British oak," and Mr. Miles's curious and agreeable calculations about what wheat is likely to fetch, and Mr. Newdegate's pleasantry about "the spirits of Pitt and Canning speaking" by the Cayley lips—all are insufficient to animate that ponderous mass of insipidities and platitudes.

Although the debate, as a debate, has been of a flatness and dead-level duliness that precludes comment and disavows criticism, the occasion will ever be memorable for those emphatic utterances, by our first-class statesmen, of great and fruitful truths in political ethics, for which we have so often of late had to thank her Majesty's Ministers. on the policy and on the morality of economical legislation, the voice of official authority is clear, full-toned, and uncompromising. The Home Secretary's exposition of the deep interest which the industrious classes -agricultural and manufacturing, capitalist and operative-have in the low and steady prices naturally consequent on a Free Trade in food, was, as usual, masterly and decisive in its logic, and pervaded by a spirit of generous sympathy with the rights and well-being of the great mass of the community. As regards the agriculturists, he showed, on evidence which landlordism dare not gainsay—the evidence collected and published by one of landlordism's own select committees-that that much deceived and abused member of British society, the "working farmer," has nothing to fear, but everything to hope, from the abrogation of a system which has only lured him to his ruin with tempting promises of impossible performance. And he crushed, with becoming scorn, the impudent and hypocritical pretence that the agricultural labourer has, or can have, any beneficial interest in laws that doom him to pay artificially high and fluctuating prices, out of wages which remain unvarying, or at about starvation point.

Nothing could be more overwhelmingly complete than Sir James Graham's demonstration of the action of high prices of food on wages-on the wages both of the agricultural and the manufacturing labourer, whose "interests," as he most lucidly shows, are at all points "identical." High prices of the necessaries of life, and increased post of living, injure the manufacturer's home market by absorbing that surplus national income which constitutes the national fund for the purchase of manufactured goods; the more we have to spend on the article of first necessity, the less remains for comforts and luxuries. The "paralysis of the home market," thus consequent on abridged consumption, compele the over-stocked manufacturer to resort to the costly and losing expedient of "forced exportation to the disciplation verified by the result. For our thriftless process, and the dwindling wages fund the labourer to the labourer. The narrowed and narrowing margin account calls for an exacter and more rigid economy. foreign market." Capital wastes away under the the labourer. The narrowed and narrowing margin of profit calls for an exacter and more rigid economy. The weaker capitalists shipt up. The operatives are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were. Many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in request as they were many men are not so much in r

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Secretary so forcibly tells us, in words that call forth "ironical cheers from the protectionist benches," and impose instant conviction on every man of sense and honesty-

"This country can no longer be regarded as an egricultural country. I repeat that if we act and legislate as if this country were purely agricultural, error lies at the very ribor of the argument. Whether it do for weal or for we we lieve become a manufacturing and a commercial country; and we must legislate for the great commercial and manufacturing interests. I admit this, and I say that the councetion between the commercial, the manufacturing, and agricultural interests, is intimate and palpable. There cannot be commercial and manufacturing prosperity without creating a demand for labour in the agricultural districts. We find a proof of this in the progress of docks, of railways and canals, and whenever the demand for labour in the seats of wealth and in the mainfacturing districts is strong, labour is attracted from the most distant rural districts; and even in the rural districts, when there is a state of manufacturing prosperity, and when the price of food is low, wages rise."

We cannot sufficiently express our delight at the manful and generous pertinacity with which, throughout his admirable speech of last Monday night, Sir James Graham keeps close to the one vital, central, and all-inclusive question-" WHAT IMPROVES THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURER?" "The question is indeed narrowed to this point. What we are to consider is not whether the interests of the landlords are maintained by the protective system—the question for deliberation, and which waits our decision, is THIS—Are laws restricting the importation of corn into this country conducive to the happiness, comfort, and welfare of the tillers of the soil of the MULTI-TUDE? That is THE WHOLE QUESTION. That is the issue we are to decide on." It is a question of the work and wages, the comforts, happiness, and improvement, the mights of the working and bread. eating people. "This is not a measure for the producor. I mean it is not a measure for the producer alone. The great body of consumers—THE MILLION —are deeply interested in this mutter, and surely it is evident that in this legislative assembly THEIR WELFARE OUGHT TO BE THE PRIMARY CONSIDERA-

Utterances such as these from the lips of the statesmen who wield the power and guide the deatinies of the first commercial country of the world, are indeed-like the great and beneficent measure which they vindicate—fated to be "memorable in history;"-memorable, long after their immediate occasion shall have passed away, as marking the ascendancy of new ideas and principles of public policy-heralding the advent of a new era of government and legislation, in which " the prosperity, contentment, peace, and happiness of the great body of the people, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE INTE-RESTS OF ANY PARTICULAR CLASS," shall be the only recognised spirit of statesmanship. Revolutious have been made on the principle of "the people, the only source of legitimate power." The bloodless revolution with which her Majesty's Ministers have now identified their fame and fortunes as public men, has as broad a programme of truth and principle-"THE PROPLE, THE MULTITUDE, THE MIL-LIONS, THE ONLY LEGITIMATE USUFRUCTUARIES OF POWER,"

Ms. Nawdegath's Committee.—Mr. Wilson, president of the Council of the League, has been three days under examination before this committee. From what we have learned, we have no doubt he has succeeded in overtup the whole case which the monopolists have been ended the ing to get up against the League. The facts stated by Mr. Wilson excited much interest, and his evidence hill high a creat affect many the manufacture. great effect upon the members of the committee.

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE PREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF 1846.

Seventeenth Week, ending Saturday, May 16.

One of the greatest events in modern history is passing through the House of Commons with far less interest than a common turnpike bill. So thoroughly has the debate been exhausted, that even the House of Commons refused to receive any more; and the last reading of a most important measure has passed with an indifference scarcely credible. On Friday the discussion was a sham one. On Monday, the third reading of the bill was commenced; but the debate, if debate it can be called, was all on one side.

The Marquis of Granby, the eldest son of the Duke of Rutland, was selected as the leading opponent of the third reading. The most striking part of his speech was the following:

"He thought that even if the right honourable baronet was right in his opinion that the aristocracy would not be injured by the alteration of the Corn Laws, this would be a poor recompense to them for the loss of the yeomanry of lingland (loud cheers from the members below the gangway).

"And you, good yeomen,
Whose limbs were made in England, show us here."
The mettle of your pasture; let us swear.
That you are worth your breeding, which I doubt not;
For there is none of you so mean and base,
That hath not noble lastre in your eyes.
I saw you staid like greyhounds in the slips
Straining upon the start. The game 's afoot;
Follow your spirit; and, upon this charge.
Gry—God for the Queen! England! and Lord George!"

(cheers and loud laughter). He did not believe that the measure of the Government would pass the legislature, but if it did, he hoped that his anticipations of the evils which would ensue might prove incorrect, and that the expectations of the right honourable gentleman, however vague and uncertain they might be, would be verified. The right hon. gentleman had told them that he would not consent to remain at the helm, unless that helm were suffered to traverse freely. He (the Marquin of Granby) feared that if the right honourable gentleman should succeed in altering the course of the vessel, from the praiseworthy motive of reaching the port of presperity and plenty more directly, his fate might be that of many a mariner before him, and that, driven to lee ward by tides and currents of which he had not dreamed, he might leave the vessel a helpless and deserted wreck on the barren and inhospitable shores of Free Trade (cheers from the agricultural benches). If that should happen, he would venture to prophery that the noble lord, the member for Lynn, and his crew, would come forward and endeavour to get her off, but he feared that it would then be too late. The noble marquis concluded by thanking the house for the attention with which he had been heard, and moved as an amondment that the bill should be read a third time that day

Mr. Gaskell (who resigned his appointment as a Lord of the Trensury on the promulgation of Sir Robert Peel's plans), seconded the motion; and Mr. Sheridan, who advocates a Corn Law, made the following statement as to Dorsetsbire labourers:

Mr. Sitkhidan rose with great reluctance to address the house on a subject which had something of a personal nature about it, but as the honourable member for Dorsetsbire on Friday last, during the discussion upon the report of this bill, had cast some reflections upon the correctness of a statement made by him (Mr. Sheridan), he trusted that he should be allowed to say a few words in his own defence.

He was quite aware that he was out of order in alluding to subjects discussed in a former debate, but as a reflection had been made upon his character, and members had been in-dulged with an opportunity of vindication under similar circumstances, he trusted that the same indulgence would be extended to him (cheers). It would be in the recollection of the house that the noble lord the Secretary for Ireland, in reply to some observations made by the senior member for the county of Dorset (Mr. G. Bankes), suggested that the honourable member would be more properly occupied in comparing the agricultural condition of the peasantry in Dorsetablire, than that of the peasantry in Ireland. With all respect to the honourable member, he must say he thought this was very sound and wholesome advice, and he hoped that the honourable member and his colleagues would take it into their consideration (hear, hear, and cheers). An honourable member for Dorset, who was recently elected (Mr. Floyer), said in reply, that as far as regarded his own neighbourhood, and other parts of the county with which he was acquainted, the statement of the noble lord, which was the statement originally made by him (Mr. Sheridan), was at direct variance with the truth. These were strong expressions, but he was sure that the honourable member who used them knew so well what was due to him member who used them knew so well what was due to him (Mr. Sheridan) as a personal friend, that he could not have intended to say anything offensive. Now he (Mr. Sheridan) would not make any statement of an opposite character, nor would he say anything which would rest solely on his own responsibility, but he would produce to the house a statement made by gentlemen connected with Dorseishire, clergymon of the Established Church. Since Friday last he had addressed letters, smoong other gentlement day last he had addressed letters, among other gentlemen, to the Rev. Sidney Godelphin Osborne and the Rev. William Scott, the brother of the member for Roxburghshire. Mr. Scott said in reply: "I do not understand Floyer's saying that he never know wages so low as 7s. a week, for I have known several instances of the kind, and if you are below the mark in stating 7s. as the average amount of wages, it is only fid. under the mark." The next document he would read was a letter from the Rev. Bidney Godolphin Osborne, who said, "I have read with much astonishment the speech of Floyer. I send you a statistical return of the Blandford Union, made three years ago, and I believe it to blandford union the present year. At the time it was made I was claiming of the Union, and I tested its truth myself. In the state of the time in the present year. samething between one-seventh and one-eighth of the reach the semething between one seventh and one-eighth or the whole population were paupers. The average pay of the whole population were paupers. The average pay of the suity—the best, I believe, in the county—did not, I believe, reach the seventh part of the light of the latter. The hone bright the map of the latter were so lower the seventh pay each in which wages were so lower the light is week. Now, in addition to the latters to which he light is ferred, he (his, flighten) had taken the trouble to write to

the relieving officer of the Dorohester Union, who had sent blim a letter in return. He must say that it appeared to him stranga that a gentleman like the hon, mamber, the chairman of a Board of Guardians, should some forward and state that he did not knew any case in which wages were so low as 7a. a weak, when day after day, weak after week, and year after year, he had signed his name to the relief and application book of the Dorchester Union (hear, hear). Now, the relieving officer of that union said in his letter, "I believe that the average rate of wages in my district does not exceed more than from 7s. to 7s. 6d. per week; and I think that the extract which I send fully bears me out in that opinion." He had inquired whether there was any case in which a man working by the day was paid more than 8s. a-week?—and the relieving officer said, "I cannot point to any such case in my district." So much for the assertion that wages were not so low as 7s. a-week. But to make his (Mr. Sheridan's) case still stronger, for his character was at stake, he would cite the extract which had been sent him from the books of the Dorchester Union for the quarters ending the company 1845, and March, 1846. (The hopographs mem-December, 1845, and March, 1840. (The bonourable mem ber here read the names of several persons who had been relieved by the union in question, whose wages did not amount to more than seven shillings a-week.) As to the district of the Blandford Union, the wages there were on the average 7s. a week. House rent was high, the cottages dilapidated and unhealthy, and fuel scarce and dear. In the Monkton district wages were 8a.; house rent, is. to is. 6d.; but for this large gardens were attached to the cottages. About Anderston the wages were?s. About Hilton, 7s., with low house rent. About Milpoint, 7s., with house rent from 1s. 6d. to 2s. About Spetisbury from 7s. to 8s., house rent from 1s. to 1s. 6d, About Howton, 8s., house rent is. About Kingston from 7s. to 8s., with high house rent. Here, however, the labourers had potato ground free. Fuel, however, was scarce and dear. About Strickland wages were from 7s. to 8s.; house rent from 1l, to 8l, per annum. About Felton the wages for single men were 6s., for married tran 7s.; house yout was bigh. Hadau there also for married men 7s.; house rent was high. Under these circumstances his honourable friend was doing him an injustice in saying that the statement which he had made in the newspapers was at variance with the truth. But the hon. gentleman went further. He mentioned that in Dorsetsbire he never knew a time when the labouring population were so well off as at present. Now the clerk of the union to which reference had been previously made, stated in answer to questions put by him (Mr. Sheridan), that the number of paupers in the union was 148, while last year it amounted to 120, a statement certainly not tending to prove any increased prosperity of the condition of the labourers for this present year. But his honourable friend had gone on to say, that although there might be particular isolated spots where the wages were as low as had been described, those exceptional cases arose from particular circumstances connected with the labourers; that they were not probably up to their work. Now, in the name of heaven, how could a man be up to his work on horse beans and turnip tops (hear)? He stated, in his place in Parliament, that the labourers cottages were so small, so dilapidated, and so crowded, that they engendered disease and immorality, that their wages were scandalously low, quite inadequate for the support of the labourer and his family. These were not his opinions alone, they were the opinions of the resident clergy and gentry in the neighbourhood, and they were also the opinions expressed at a public meeting at Sturminster by the noble lord the late member for Dorsetshire, an expression of opinion which, as he (Mr. Sheridan) believed, had cost bim his seat in that house (hear). Now, it might be said, how could he, with these opinions—with these details staring him in the face how could be, after the expression of his desire for the improvement of the labouring classes, have the courage to oppose the measure which the right honourable baronet had brought in? He would reply, that he had yet to learn that the withdrawal of all protection would have the effect of improving the condition of the agricultural labourer (hear, hear, from the protectionists). The noble lord opposite stated that the price of labour depended upon the price of corn. He did not agree with the noble lord in that -indeed, he thought that the question had been for ever set at rest. He maintained that in Dorsetshire wages never varied, whether wheat was 20% or 10% per load (hear), and referred to a letter from a Dorsetshire labourer, complaining of the treatment experienced by his class at the hands of the farmers, who would not allow the labourer to earn more than 7s. a week, which "made their lives bitter, and them to wish for the grave. ' He (Mr. Sheridan) believed, indeed, that the wages were fixed by custom, by combination, and by a tyrannical use of the New Poor Law, and he would state a case proving how the Poor Law was administered so as to affect wages. The labouring poor were often in the habit of applying to him for advice, and in February last a poor woman of the name of Randall pame to state the case of her family. She was married and had seven children, the united carnings of the family amounting to 10s. per week, out of which 4l. went to pay house rent. Finding their ininsufficient for the support of their family, her husband had applied for assistance to the union. The rehis band had applied for assistance to the union. The re-lieving officer, however, refused, as the applicant was an able-bodied man, and in work. He (Mr. Sheridan) wrote to the relieving officer upon the subject, and the reply was, that the case was refused by the board of guardians, Randall having an opportunity of bettering himself, which he refused, because he was unwilling to take a situation out of his own parish. Thus it was that the labourer was forced to received these scandalously low wages. He would not be received. these soundalously low wages. He would not be received into the union as having work, while the wages he received into the union as having work, while the wages he received for that work were quite inadequatate his support. He knew that it would be said upon that side of the house that the price of labour depended upon the demand and supply (hear, hear). He quite agreed with that, and he ackney, ledged that by the repeal of the Corn Laws a stimulus would be given to trade, and an increased demand would arise for labour. But the change would be confined to the manufacturing districts, and would be confined to the manufacturing districts, and would be one which would not, he conceived, at all benefit the agricultural labourer (hear, hear). He would remind the house that at this moment trade was flourishing, and labour in demand; atill he would wenture his life that there had not been an increase in the wages of the Dorselshire labourer; that now, when wheat was from one, to coe a quarter, the rate of reministration to the agricultural labourer was the same as it had been last year when wheat was 4%. (hear, bear.) To prevent all imputation of partiality, we give the appear

pused that fine Covernment had attempted no reply to the vary able speeches of his notice friend (the blavum of Cinnby) and his honourable friend (Mr. Gaskell). He haved to prive that the present protection was essential to the welfare, not only of the present protection was essential to the welfare, not only of the landers, but of the tenants and the labourers. He should consider, first, the working of the law of 1626; next, the present law and, hastly, their prospects under Free Trade, as the private of the private that the private of the private that the private of t first, the working of the two distributions, and, the working and, lastly, their prospects under Free Trade, as the prisciple was to be worked out in 1849. He wished, in taking this view, he had had the benefit of a report about to be laid on the table of the other house (that of Lord Braumon's committee), which he ventured to say would prove that the rest of the community would be placed in the most perilous circumstances if the principle of Free Trade was fully car. ried out. It had been said that the cause of the present proposal was because the sliding scale had not operated, and that there was a famine in Ireland. That was the assertion, but there was no argument to prove this assertion. The year 1844 was one of extraordinary production, whilst in year rows was put up in a damp state. But what a glo-rious thing it was, that owing to protection they had such an ample supply in 1844 that there was four months consumption to spare in 1845. He admitted that wheat sold at 184 a quarter in 1841, which in the year after brought 70s. or 72s.; but he himself sold wheat in 1841 of such prime quality that it weighted 66lbs. per bushel, and was equal to the finest Dantzio for milling purposes. Nobody could say, then, the bread we were now eating in London was bed bread, and at the same time for the last two or three months very little foreign corn had been brought into consumption. The foreign corn was all waiting to be poured into the market when the 4s. duty was imposed, if it ever was (hear), Now the amount received into the revenue under the exist. ing law, and that of 1828, was an important point, unless all indirect taxation was to be abandoned. He found that for the 13 years, from 1828 to 1842, the average revenue was 200,9581. a-year; but under the law of 1812 the average duty was 11s. 6d. per quarter, and the average price of 53s. 4d. The amount received by the revenue was 60,36%. so that under the old system the consumer had the alvan-tages of low prices, and the state obtained a greater revenue. The Corn Laws had afforded a fair moderate protection to the producer, had been of advantage to the consumer, and had proved advantageous to the revenues of the state. All that the protectionists sought was to preserve these all they said was, "Let well alone" (hear, hear). In considering the full effect of the proposed changes in the present system, under which such benefits were derived by the community, it was necessary to look to the results of the total re duction of duty which it was intended to make in 1849. And, first of all, let the house inquire what prices would be likely to prevail in this country when that reduction had been carried into effect (hear, hear). Her Majesty's ministers had wisely declined to prophesy on this point (hear, hear). They had refused to express any opinion on thesubject, notwithstanding the information they must necessarily ave at their command (hear, hear). liowever, any indivi dual who took the trouble of making the inquiry could easily come to a conclusion as to the price which would exist should an abolition of all duty be carried into effect (hear, hear). It was not from Europe alone, but from America Asia, and Africa, that the supply was to be looked for. He would prove that land in this country, under whatever system of agriculture might be adopted, whether the three and six course, or the four and five course system, could not be expected to compete with Russia and America, and that the tenant could not be compensated for the loss of protection were he to be remitted all rent whatsoever (hear, hear). It was of the most absolute necessity that the public should have a clear idea as to the value of the ingredient of rent in the consideration of the price of a quartern loaf. The rental of England was, on an average, 19s. 11d., or say 20s. an acre. Taking the produce of an acre of land under the Lincolnshire mode of cultivation, at four quarters of wheat, and estimating the value of the quartern loaf at 7d., it would be found that the ingredient in that price to be placed to the account of rent would amount to one halfpenny. That was his statement, and he should be glad if any one could show he was wrong, or contradict him. Let them now see what they had to expect from the opening of the ports. From authentic returns, it appeared that the price of wheat at Odessa in February, 1845, was from 16s. to 17s. a quarter, if to that were added 7s. Od. for freight, the total cost of a quarter of wheat landed in London at that time would have been but 24s. 9d. In June the price rose to 20s. and 21s., the freight being still the same. In March the price of wheat at Stettin and Rostock was from 26s. to 26s., the freight being only 6s.; so that from all these parts of 20s. a quarter (hear. sent into London at an average of 30s. a quarter (hear, hear). In summer the prices rose considerably, but never amounted to more than 84s. Od. The quantity of wheat sent to other countries from those ports was very considerable. Mr. P. Taylor, who had extensive information on subjects connected with the corn trade, stated that three-fourths of all the wheat ground at Marseilles came from the Black Sea, and similar evidence had been given by Mr. Freyns. It would be found that the average price of wheat Preyno. It would be found and an activities and terminating in 1848, was about 24s. 10d., the freight was 7s. 0d., which gave the whole cost of a quarter of wheat for that period as 32s. 7d. It was a curripus fact that the rise and full in prices in England and Odessa did not correspond. Thus the highest price in this country, during the year 1889, was 70s. 8d., whilst at Odessa it had not exceeded 27s. 8d. How would it be possible for England to compete with foreign countries under such average prices as those (order of the such as the latter did not as yet grow wheat for experistion, and that the latter did not as yet grow wheat for experistion, and that any of her grain which reached our markel was nothing more than the studies of the best damand. It had been shown that the studies of the best damand. It had been shown that the studies of the best damand. It had been shown that the studies of the best damand. It had been shown that the studies of the best damand. It had been shown that the studies of the best damand. It had been shown that the studies of the best damand it had been worth (as we understood his hold members). It had been shown that the studies of the best damand it had been worth (as we understood his hold members). It had been the studies of the best damand it had been the studies of the best damand of at Odessa, for 10 years commencing 1893 and terminating in 1849, was about 24s. 10d., the freight was 7s. 0d., which

year when wheat was 47s. (hear, hear.)
To prevent all imputation of partiality, we give the appeals of Mr. Miles, premising that the entire of the debate was of the dullest possible character.

Mr. Miles was porty the debate had then allowed to divisor into a discountry of a host law uniter.

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(a length) he (Mr. Miles) had ever heard of on the part of an eld sorn merchant. He said he would contract to deliver sure quarters of wheat at the per quarter in London, as son as the ports had been opened. If it took but bla., said he, then I shall make 20,0000. If at 48e, the loss is that he offered to stake all he had in the contract of the con but he offered to stake all he had in the country on the realt (hear, hear). In fact, as none of the foreign average cross 30s, he (Mr. Miles) was inclined to assert that the fature price in this country would be about 40s. That we his price (hear, hear). And now he would consider the effects of such prices on this country. He would examine under the different systems of agricul. me. He would not take the cases of poor lands; but would ramine the result as applied to farms in the richest posithe first take a farm in Nottinghamshire under the fourcourse system. It was a farm of 400 acres, let at a rent of il per acre. 100 acres were under wheat, 100 under barley, If per acre. 100 acres were under wheat, 100 under barley, 100 under turnips and green crops, and the rest went to the seport of sheep and hoggets. At the price of 52s. 5d. a qr., the wheat would yield 905., the barley 670., 400 hoggets, eret, &c., 720%, making a total of 2355%, a year. With the pices which might be expected to exist under the new system, the wheat at 40s. would produce 700l., the barley at 20s. vould yield 502l., and the 400 hoggets and ewes 570l., making total of 1832l. Or, in other words, there would be a loss on 400 acres of 528L a year, or of 1L 1s. 10d. an acre. So that here would be a loss on the farm, under the Free Inde system, of one fifth, if he were not wrong in his calculaions. Suppose the rent were reduced a quarter, or 100%, there would main in to the tenant, to be divided between the Hofis of capital and the wages of labour, a loss of 4827, 10s. on the farm, or a reduction of 11. 1s. 10d. per acre. He would take another farm in Lincolnshire, under the five-course system, producing 18551. The total produce, under a Free Trade system, would be 14561.; so that there would be difference to the farmer of 3991. Deduct a quarter of the rent, and the loss to the farmer would be 2991., or 11, 10s. prace. The lower the quality of the soil, the higher the amount of capital required, and of labour employed on the land. If, under a system of protection, cultivation had acceded from the valleys to the tops of the hills, would it not at once commence a retrograde course under an opposite smem? Take 1000% as the capital of the farmer, for every hundred acres, and they would see that they were at once playing with a capital of 250,000,000%. How much had England benefited by the oultration practised by the farmers under the present system? This would be seen from a return he held in his hand of the quantity of coombs sold in Norwich for the last thirty-seven years, from 1805 to 1843. however for the rust thirty-seven years, from 1905 to 1940. In 1805 the number was 50,844, and the price 92s.; in 1843 the number was 241,644, and the price 48s., so that the produce had tripled, while the price had fallen one-half. He had another return, showing the wages of labour employed on land in quinquennial periods. From 1785 to 1790 they med to 7s. 2d., from 1830 to 1840 they were 11. 6s. 7d. He admitted that in some parts of the country wages were too little; but if they went into purely agricultural districts, and not into those which had been the ancient seats of sanufactures, they would find that though the price of wheat might not have gone with the price of kbour, pari passu, yet it had notwithstanding had an effect. He had obtained another return from a Lindhalm forman of the price conshire farmer of the rate of wages and the price of wheat for eptennial periods. From 1818 to 1826 the price of wheat was 31.8s. 5d., and the wages of labour 13s. 5d.; from 1837 to 1844 the average price of wheat was 81. 2s. 6d., and the rate of wages 12s. 8d. He would ask gentlemen to compare the average taxation paid by the British with that pid by the foreign farmer. Look at the average taxation per head in this country, and the average of general and the taxation in America. However they might cheapen head, the rate of taxation would not be lowered essentially. He would take the state of Chin, one of the largest weatern He would take the state of Ohio, one of the largest western states of the union. In that territory the general taxation as Gs. 9d. per head, the state or local taxation os. 8d. In cur own country the amount of taxation was 11. 18s. per beal, which showed at once a difference of 11. 7s. 9d. in the wight of imposts (hear, hear). In America, the largest and the revenue was derived from the sale of land, the pice of which had been os. per some for some years past. This, at thirty years' purchase, would give you the splendid stand of 2d. an acre. In England we had an average rental of 1d. per acre; the poor rates and local rates were 4s. 6d. an acre. the great title great ti are, the great tithe was os. an acre, and the small tithe L & an acre. The whole of these charges came to 11. 11s., to that this left a difference in the amount of rental and of bed charges, payable by the American and British farmer of 11. 10s. 10d. The Englishman paid in taxation an annual am of 11. 7s. 0d. in addition to the local charges. With subburdens, he did not see how they could maintain any cannot in with their forcing rivals. It seemed to him the medition with their foreign rivals; it seemed to him persail impossible (hear, hear). It appeared by the Prussian station, that in the period from 1838 to 1830, the amount of rain remaining the sail of the frain remaining over after the internal consumption was proided for, and also after the quantity r the next year had been set apart, was 28,000,000 gra. He had say what they had to look for from America; in highes corn had been relief from the same land for a hundral years together. may year together, and he believed the same thing had ocand in other districts. But should we be anabled to send an of our manufactures to America, for unless they showed as we could do that, they went entirely on fallacious feach, and sacrificed the hopes of the agriculturist to a feach of About 1820 the cotton manufacture was generally manufacture and in America. Mr. Elsworth said: "Had the far laws been absolutely repealed in 1820, the establishment of manufactures in the United States might have been provided for many years, but no observe in those laws can of manufactures in the United States might have been made for many years, but no change in those laws can appear the interests of protection, and any materially change the interests of protection, and any den made would not be compalished (see a boon to an obtain halon, but as a measure, forced on the Covernment of a population indeedsing, whore rapidly are wants of a population indeedsing, whore rapidly are wont of agricultural protection with any protection of the constitution of the protection of the constitution of t

be brought forward a measure upon the subject of tithes, had conferred one of the greatest booms upon the landed intercet they could have regarded; not so much as regarded the saving of money which it effected, but as the total destruction of that jarring which had so much prevailed, and the bad feeling which had existed between the clergyman and his parishloners. That set passed in 1835, and it happened that in that year the lowest prices prevailed that had been long known in kingland. Wheat was at 89s., and he would ask honourable gentlemen who recollected that year, whether, if the Tithe Commutation Act had been calculated at 80s., it would have effected its object (bear, hear)? But the tithe system had been founded upon septennial averages, and it was extraordinary to observe the little variety in the price of wheat from that time to the present, being, he believed (but he spoke from memory), about 1s. 8d. to 1s. 4d. upon the septennial average. But if the Corn Laws were repealed, the farmer would have to pay his rent charge when the price of wheat was much lower, as he had endeavoured to show it would be, than the average that had been bitherto maintained. He entreated the house to remember the state of the clerical titheowner, living probably in a parish with no country gentlemen around him, looked up to by his parishioners, and obliged to exercise acts of benevolence and charity, with probably a large family of his own dependent, and sons whom he must bring up to fill the same station in society he himself held—that of a gentleman. Take a clergyman so situated with a stipend of 800l. a year. If you took away one-fifth of his income, you would reduce it to 240l. This he (Mr. Miles) thought was a great hardship (hear, hear)—it was a hardship, first, as regarded the farmer, and afterwards most injurious as regarded the income of the clerical tithcowner. There was still another topic he wished to allude to before he sat down. If all the land capable of improvement had been brought into cultivation—if all the improvements in agriculture had been tried and exhausted—and still all had failed, there had been yet a resource to fly to, which every one acquainted with the commercial history of England would see ought to be made available, before the trade in corn was thrown open. What had become of the colonies (hear, hear)? What reward was to be given to them for their honour and fidelity to their engagements? Only in 1848 an Act was passed by which Free Trade with Canada was established. Now he had certainly opposed that bill ("hear, hear," from the Opposition benches). He had connected it connected the trade was better the benches the had connected it connected the trade was better the benches the had connected it connected the trade was better the benches the had connected it connected the trade was better the trade where the trade was the trade was a stable to the trade was the trade was a stable to the trade was the trade was the trade was a stable to the trade was th tion benches). He had opposed it conscientiously; but he was bound to say, although there were reasons against that bill, on account of the contiguity of Canada to the United States, and the difficulty of preventing smuggling, yet these reasons did not exist as regarded Australia, Van Dieman's Land and other colonies (here). Therefore Diemen's Land, and other colonies (hear). Therefore, he thought that after those colonies had loaded the table of the house with petitions, they would think it hard to be cast off by the mother country and left to free competition with other nations, who had actually met us with hostile tariffs (cheers). The hon member here, in allusion to the feeling engendered in Canada, quoted an extract from the speech of Mr. Sherwood, the solicitor general, to the general effect that the result of a substitution of commercial relations with the United States, in place of those with the mother country, would bring about a change in political relations also, and if the Canadians were forced into a new sphere of political attraction, they would not be culpable for the effect. Those sentiments which were uttered by Mr. Sherwood, at a Free Trade meeting at Manuscal was he helicard as a free trade. Trade meeting at Montreal, were, he believed, cohoed by multitudes more in Canada. The question should also be viewed relatively to the quantity of our manufactures that was taken by these colonies. The hon, member here read a number of extracts from returns, to show that the increase of cotton goods taken by the British American colonies was greater than the increase in the quantity taken by the United States. It was clear that if these colonies were treated properly, and as parts of the United Kingdom, they would be bound nearer to this country, while at the same time more good would be done to the manufacturing population of this country than by throwing open the trade with countries which met your advances by hostile tariffs (hear, hear). Then there was talk about compensation; but every farmer who could do a common arithmetical sum would know how to estimate the value of that compensation, by calculating what it would amount to in his particular locality. He found that the compensation amounted to 396,000L, and a reverend friend of his had taken the trouble to calculate how much it would amount to in Essex, and he seked the agriculturists to take that county as an example, and then thank her Majesty's ministers for their splendid boon. The honourable member proceeded to quote various figures, to show that the relief afforded by the measures of the Government to the agriculturists in highway rates, &c., would amount to 21d. per acre, while he observed that he had already shown that the loss Notes, be 14. 1s. 10d. per sore, and as regarded a farm in Lincolnshire, 14. 10s. per acre (hear, hear, hear). He then read an extract from a letter of Alderman Copeland to his constituents, expressing the hope that other honourable members who entertained similar views, would endeavour to carry them out by voting against the third reading of this bill. He also read an extract from the pamphlet of Mesers. Morton and Trimmer, and from that, after saying that he would not duote the former speeches of honourable gentlemen near him against themselves, read an extract from an American magasine, in favour of the principles of protection as applied to the productions of the United States (hear). It was for the sake of the humbler classes, for the sake of the humbler classes, for the sake of those who, being without capital, had nothing but their in-

layed this measure, but he should like to know when a question of such paramount importance had ever been brought forward in the House of Commons? It was a question which involved an entire change of the commercial policy of this great country—it was, in fact, a direct and positive transition from a system which had stood the test of years, to new and theoretic principles; and what rendered it most suspicious and most worthy of country productions. it most suspicious, and most worthy of careful analysation, was that it was brought forward by one to whom (however sincerely they might admire his immense abilities) they were, unhappily, unable to accord the possession of that political firmness and consistency, which ought to be, and were, the highest attributes of all great statesmen (loud cries of "hear, hear"). He was at a less to think what could have induced the right honourable baronet at the head of the Government to turn his head on his call details and on his Government to turn his back on his old friends and on his old principles. It was idle to talk of Ireland. They (the protectionists) were willing to consent to any measure that might be considered essential for meeting the distress in Ireland; and it was foolish, therefore, to throw Ireland in their teeth (a laugh). Victory in that house might not be theirs, but, thank heaven, there was another ordeal through which this bill must ness hefore it because the law of the which this bill must pass before it became the law of the unter this our must pass before it became the new of the land (loud cheers from the county members, and laughter from the Opposition benches). Yes; a tribunal as yet unawed by popular clanour—as yet unawayed by the maxims of political economy (so we understood the honourable member to say); and at that orded the political of the pulsition of the political ber to say); and at that ordeal the polities of the author of this measure, and the policy on which he and his colleagues came into office, would be thoroughly sifted, and when it would appour that the system which he was now endeawould appear that the system which he was now endea-vouring to abolish was one of his own creation, which had not only given protection to native industry, but pro-duced revenue and created prosperity, they would, he ven-tured to predict, pause before they gave their assent to such a proceeding, or at all events they would interpose between the people and that minister who now held office mainly at the pleasure of his former appears (bond shapes from the the pleasure of his former opponents (loud cheers from the protectionist party).

The hon, gentleman was followed by Sir J. Graham, whose speech we shall also give at full length, and we strongly recommend it to the reader's careful perusal.

SIR J. GRAHAM: The house, sir, is evidently weary of this protracted debate (cheers), and the general public longs for the opportunity of finally, as far as we are concerned, deciding that important question which now, for nearly three months, has been hanging in the balance under discussion here (cheers); and, having on several occusions before addressed you on the subject, I am most unwilling needlessly to occupy your attention; but, at the same time, should be still more unwilling to appear wanting in respect to the noble lord and to the hon, members who have addressed you against the motion for the third reading of this bill, in speeches of considerable ability, in the course of the present evening. Sir, my hon friend who has just aut down has observed that firmness and consistency are great qualities on the part of a minister; and, avoiding those strong terms of vituperation in which other members have indulged, he has nevertheless censured her Majesty's Ministers for tergiversation, as he terms it, on this most important subject. No member of this house has more warmly advocated the cause of my hon. friend and those below the gangway in former discussions than I have. I feel all the advantage of the qualities which the hon, member described as virtuous in a Minister; but still, sir, charged with heavy responsibility, as a servant of the crown, at a time of public difficulty, and, as I think, of danger, I have not hesitated to give effect to the opinions which I have deliberately formed on this great question which now awaits our decision (load cheers). Sir, the hon member has stated that he believes that this question, whatever may be its lessue nore, will not passe into a law on account of opposition he anticipates in another quarter. I will not venture to indulge in prophecy on that subject; but my own auticipation is, that this question, from the result of discussion both in Parliament and out of Parliament, is of discussion both in Farmament and out of Farmament, is virtually settled (loud cheers); and my strong opinion is, that the free import of corn into this country will in a short time become the law of the land (continued cheering). Entertaining that anticipation, and having a deep interest in agriculture and in the welfare of the landed interest, I must own that I differ altogether from the noble lord the member for Lynn; and I cannot think that either the farmer or the landlord will derive the least benefit from these protracted discussions, so far at least as the immediate influx of the foreign corn accumulated into this country has been pre-vented by the postponement (hear). If I were obliged to put my finger on the point where I think this delay must be injurious, I should certainly say that delay is, in my judgment, calculated to affect most injuriously the farming interest and the landlords of the country (cheers). Observe, there is accumulated now a stock nearly of 1,000,000 grs. of foreign wheat; that accumulation has been gradual and progressive. My belief is that when we met in January the portion then accumulated might have been admitted into the home market with the greatest benefit to the consumer, and without any detriment whatever to the producer. Three or four months have elapsed, and that producer. Three or four months have staped, and that accumulation is becoming great; the period of a new hervest is not very distant, and, if my anticipation is correct—if, notwithstanding all this protracted opposition offered, public opinion shall prevail, and this measure becomes law, the affact of long delay, as under the operation of the law the effect of long delay, as under the operation of the law which I condemn, pouring in towards the time of harvest large accumulations of grain will be that the influx will be sudden, will be large; and though from circumstances I do not believe that on the present occasion the operation of that influx will be so injurious as on former occasion yet there is infinite danger of injurious effect being produced as the inswitches consequence of his recreated debate. sion yet there is infinite danger of injurious effect being produced, as the inevitable consequence of this protracted debate. Now, Sir, before I proceed to the other topics which have codoreed with reference to this measure, I should wish to designify noticing some of the points adverted to by the hon, contieman who has just spoken. He said, I think, that the present Corn Law was a good thannous make sure. Now, I know that I may be charged with incordinging out this subject generally; but, with reference to the point I submit that have uniformly expressed in university opinion. I do not think that was a said measured to the first of

masure. But that, after all, is not a measure to be main tained for the producers only. The great body of consurners, the great body of the public, after all, constitute those whose interests, whose welfare, is to be peculially regarded thear, hear). This forces upon my recollection a topic to which I must refer. The Lon gentleman has said, and with great truth, that contiemen, adhering to the opinion which I myself heretefore advocated, have under present circumstances of great difficulty, main-Now, excuse me for maying that under the present circumstances they have fought this battle well; but I recollect debates which have occurred in this house before the last session, when the strong point of argument was against this measure, and I must say that until the present session the cause which these honourable gentleman now support, not only by their votes, but also by their speeches, had not then the advocacy of their arguments (hear, hear). I will be perfectly trank to hon, gentlemen. It has been my fortune to argue this question now for many years (hear, hear). Yes, and I am about to state to you my experience in that respect. I have seen, from the force of public opinion, arguments which were urged successfully in this house some years ago, one by me, abandoned as no longer tenable, by those who used them (bear, hear). I myself am conscious that when we debuted this question at a former period, arguments were nrged with reference to landlords exclusively -to their position-to their interests, as connected with their political position, which are now abandoned arguments which no hon member ventures now to urge upon this house; and which I do not believe even at the meetings in Bond street any hon, gentleman would venture to propound thear, bear). I am told that the issue is now narrowed to a small point which it is necessary for us to debate thear, hear). could not be put more clearly or explicitly than it was stated by the hon, member for Shrewsbury a few nights ago. He maid the real question is, whether this measure is for the interest of the multitude Chear, hear a. That, he said, was the question at issue; and the hon, gentlemen said, " If the measures of the Government have not a tendency to oceasion a displacement of labour "that kind of labour which is of the most permanent character, and thereby to occasion a great social suffering, and ultimately great political disaster, then the measures are good, and he was not prepared to oppose them" (hear hear). The question then in narrowed to this, - it is not whether the interests of the landlords are upheld by this measure; but the question as put by the hon, member for Shrewsbury, and repeated by the hon, member for Somersetshire, to night is this, -whether the law restricting the importation of corn into this country is conducive to the happiness, the comfort, and the welfare of the labourer and tiller of the soil (hear, hear)? I conceive that that is the only question, and that that is the issue we are now called upon to decide. The honourable gentleman who last addressed you commented, I think upon a pumpllet by Messa. Morton and Trimmer, and made this observation, which was very true, that the data upon which their statements were made not being admitted, the arguments resting upon them were worthless, and he went through a great number of statistical details as to farms in Nottinglamshire and Lincolnshire, assuming his own data He assumed, for instance, that under the existing Corn Law wheat was raised at 52s, forgetting that even under the present restrictive law we have had the price as low as 39s. And again, he assumed, that under the altered state of the law under Free Trade 10s would be the price, upon which ground he rested his opinion which he has not explained, and in the absence of all fixed ground for admitting any of his data I must be allowed to apply the same observa tion which he himself applied to Messis. Morton and Trimmer's paraplet, what was admitting the data Leannot admit for one moment the arguments upon which he rested his opinion. But the hon, gentlemme indulged not only in prophecy with regard to the fate of this bill-not only in inconclusive arguments resting upon the data which he assumed but certainly the result of his reasoning was not half so fanciful as was some of the knowledge he has recently collected (hear). He has informed us that in Russia there is an annual accumulation of 28,000,000 quarters of grain over and above the consumption of the Russian people, and avail able for exportation (beat). Can a more forcible argument be urged in favour of this measure (hear), that year by year there is produced in Russia, over and above the consumption-my hon, friend was most specific-he said not only beyond consumption, but beyond what was required for seed and consumption, nearly 28,000,000 of quarters availwho for exportation? Again, what was his description of the culture of land in America? He save he has seen nomewhere an account of some land in America which has been cultivated year after year for wheat without manure. and that that has been the case for a century thear, hear, boar). If these statements are true,-if Russia has 28,000,000 quarters of grain ready at all times for exporta-tion, and if in America they can grow wheat year after year or a century without manure, all our Corn Laws must be uncless (hear). There is no restriction that can be imposed which would protect us. It is quite clear that any kind of protection would be useless to guard this country against the importation of foreign corn, and the home producer could not compete with such fertility as that, and with such boundless production. Then the hon, gentleman referred to the question of tithes, and he said that my hon, friend the member for the University of Oxford, in his absence, had touched upon this question. That observation was quite true. My hon, friend did so, and I had the honour of following my hon. friend; and I endeavoured to reply to him upon that point in a manner which to my judgment was con-clusive. I am numilling again to repeat the argument; but it is very short. So far from thinking that the present shange in the law is injurious to the tithcowner, I consider that the opposite is the case, and that it is injurious to the tithepayer, because, observe, the quantity of wheat to be paid to the titheowner is measured by a number of quarters of grain fixed at the time of commutation; and if the apprehensions of my hon friend and those around him be true, that land will be thrown out of cultivation, the titheowner under that commutation is guarded against all such risk; the quantity paid to him is an immutable quantity, and is only exposed to the danger of a variation in price. But, observe-before the commutation he was liable to all those variations in price—his position was not in the leastaltered; but it would have been quite altered, if before the commutation the legislature had passed a law of this description. He was bound to aubmit to the change in price; but, by the antecedent law, he was secured against any change in quantity, sud therefore I must say, that so far as relates to the lithe- of the people of this country did convince me that a change

owners this bill involves no injustice whatever. The case of the titheowner appears perfectly clear, and he is not exposed by our proposed alteration of the law to the slightest risk. Now, then, as regards the colonies. I am bound to say, that my hon, triend was, as he stated, with respect to Canada, an cager opponent of the proposed alteration in the law which was to place Canada on the same footing as if it were an integral part of Great Britain (bear). Then, when the honourable member for Gateshead (Mr. Hutt) proposed last year a similar measure with respect to the Australian colonies, my hon friend was found dividing among his opponents; and I must say with frankness, looking back to the post, and to all the discussions on the Corn Laws which have taken place in my time, that if I were to mention the discussion in which the opponents of the proposition of extending the area of our supply of corn were least successful in argument, I should mention that debate in which my hon, friend opposed the hon, member for Gateshead; for aithough I voted with my hon, friend, yet I am bound to state that that my hon, friend's argument did not seem to me to preponderate. Another point had been referred to by my hon, friend, who spoke of what he called the insignicant sum which had been offered as compensation to the landed interest. Now, on the part of her Majesty's Government, I absolutely dischain that the term compensation has ever been used by them (cries of "Oh, oh"). I absolutely dischain that the term compensation has ever been used by them (cries of "Oh, oh"). lutely disclaim it. If this be a measure for the public good, then I should deem it highly disgraceful to the Covernment to propose, and still more disgraceful to the landed interest to accept, any compensation for the passing of a measure framed for the public good. But though the Government know nothing of any proposition of compensation; it is true that concurrent with this measure there have been brought forward by the Government some measures which are for the public good, at the same time that they are adapted to alleviate the pressure of the burdens on land. I shall refer to another branch of this most important subject-I mean, to what has been said by various members on what they called the Irish case. The noble lord the member for Lynn had said that the Government had acted with bad faith respecting Ireland, and that they had communicated to the house no information respecting the distress there but what sustained their own views, and that they had kept back other information of another kind which various parties had put in their hands, and the noble lord specified instances, and he said that the Commander of the Forces had sent different accounts from those we have laid on the table; he said also that the Poor Law Commissioner had sent us different accounts from those which we have produced; and I think he said the prison inspectors had also sent different accounts from ours. Now I have made every inquiry in the proper quarter, by sending to the Horse Guards, to learn whether any such information had been received there from Sir E. Blakeney, and I am in a condition to give that assertion of the noble ford a most positive de nial. Then with respect to the Poor Law Commissioner, by the month of November last, I thought it my duty to adise the Crown to appoint a special officer, to preside in Dublin over the administration of the Poor Law in Ireland. That was in November. Since then I have been in constant communication with that gentleman. He is amember of the Scarcity Committee in Dublin. That committee makes weekly reports to the Lord-Lieutenant, and each week those reports, signed by the Poor Law Commissioner, are transmitted to me, and I think I have laid all of them (with the exception of two, which I am ready to produce) upon the table of the house, and they in the strongest manner corro borate the statements that have been made by the Government respecting the state of Ireland. It is possible that the noble lord may refer to Mr. Gulston's mission to Ireland; but he never was appointed to make any inquiries on this subject; he left Ireland in November, he did not visit any part of Ireland later than the beginning of that month, when the disease in the potatoes had not been completely discovered; he was employed during the months of September and October, he was ordered to investigate another matter, and therefore any information he may have received respecting this matter was of an unofficial character. With respect to the prison inspectors in Ireland, I do not know who were the prison inspectors in Ireland. I have written to Ireland to ascertain who they are, and what information they have furnished to the Lord Lieutenant; and as soon as I receive it I shall not fail to communicate to the house, and the noble lord, the whole of that information. The noble lord says we have kept back information which would have shown that the distress is fur from being universal; but is this a fair mode of putting the matter? for I before said that the distress is not universal, but that it was widely spread, extending over almost every county in Ireland, and that the difficulty of dealing with it arises from the fact of its being scattered, and from its intensity where it exists. That is the statement I have made, and to that statement I adhere in the most deliberate manner. Sir, I do not know whether the hon, and gallant member for the county of Armagh is in his place; ut I wish to say with re to the specch he made the other night, that I have here a letter which I received not very long ago, in which he depicts the distress of his own neighbourhood in the most glowing terms, and declares that it is deserving of Government aid, in the shape of a pecuniary grant (a cry of " Read"). This letter is addressed to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and states that the undersigned, being deeply sensible of the calumity with which Ireland is threatened, by the failure of the potato crop, and considering that in such an emergency it is the duty of every man to do his utmost to avert the frightful evils that might he expected, recommended the outlay of a sum of money in draining Lough Neagh, and the last paragraph is in these terms :- That a grant of 38,000% by the Government would he met by 118,000/., raised by the proprietors of the neighbourhood, and others, and that the result would be a mighty improvement to the north of Ireland, and to the health of the district; and that it would afford an opportunity "-let the house mark this-" of employing the labouring population, whose condition it would be frightful to contemplate. unless industrial measures of this kind were applied." This memorial bears the signatures of the Lord Primate, Dr. Crolly, Lord Charleville, Lord Acheson, and, among other names, that of William Verner, M.P. (hear, hear.) though I am afraid that the Irish case is one of unquestionable pressure, as is more apparent from day to day, yet I am bound to say that I never have rested my support of this measure on the Irish case. I have stated before, and I state it again, that the urgency of that case did precipitate the reconsideration of the laws which prohibit or impede the importation of grain into this country; but I say also that, from the moment that the reconsideration shall become ne-

in this respect had become necessary. I am not on the casion about to trespass on the time of the house by his ... ing the arguments which brought me to that conclusion be I will say this much: -- The hon, member for Showsbury (Mr. Disraeli), I think it was, who said that the message would have an injurious effect from the export of the p. cions metals which must arise from the constant large us portation of grain for this use of the country. Now I agree that in the present state of our monetary system large of portations of the precious metals are inconsistent with sound state of the currency here. But my behef is, that if the ports of this country were kept open regularly, so far from that exportation of the precious metals taking plant ordinary years, that exportation would be prevented by tr. measure The corn taken by this country will, when ; trade has become an established trade, be trainly paid for the barter; and the result, I think, will be, that/trade will be retended, and that the injury which the export of the preces metals to meet distress arising from failure of the home pe duction causes, will be prevented. I shall now, with the jet mission of the house, state shortly my opinion as to the effects to be apprehended on our foreign trade from this measure But I cannot separate the question of the home trade from the foreign trade. My opinion is, that the foreign trade and the home trade, in a series of years, will be found to be indissolubly connected. Now the foreign trule can only is maintained by our having the power of consuming the act cles taken in exchange; but a high price of provisions des ables the consumer from taking those articles. He cannot go into the home market, consequently the home market a paralysed, and what is the result of that? That a stimular is given for the forced exportation of goods for the foreign market; the foreign market in consequence becomes clutted. the exporter is injured, and the result is, again diminished power of consumption at home; and, therefore, it appears that the foreign trade cannot be injured without the trade suffering also. Then as to procuring wheat in the foreign market; I conceive wheat is more universally consumed in this country than in any other country in the world, and whatever the price or scarcity is, it is found that the quantity consumed varies less with the price than its of any other article that is consumed in this country. All those who are in easy circumstances, whatever is the pass always consume the same quantity of wheat, and the labouring poor are so much attached to wheat, that they will fore; o almost all other articles approaching to articles of the first necessity, rather than go without wheaten brend. Consequently, whatever is the price, the quantity of wheat used in this country is never much diminished. New, if wages do not full when wheat rises, then the price of wheat rising, and the quantity purchased remaining the same, the sum available for the purchase of all other articles is dimnished What, therefore, is the consequence of a rise of prices. that the labourer is incapable of purchasing articles of manufacture. The effect on the home market is instantance, there is a glut in that market, this reacts upon the foreign market, and there is an immediate derangement, which new be traced to the effect of this increased price of corn thear, and cheers). And this, sir, brings me to the point, which after all, is the point of primary importance; what is the effect of this state of affairs upon the condition and the less piness of the labouring classes? Now it has been said, that although the manufacturing labourer may gain by a preperous state of trade, and by the low price of provisions, that truth is not equally applicable to the case of the agricultural labourer. I admit the number of the agricultural labourers; I admit their importance; I will not say their paramount, but their very great import ance; and if you can show, as heretofore I thought I could that this portion of the community will be injured by su alteration of the Corn Lawe, your argument will be couch sive against this change; but having given my most anxious attention, to the best of my understanding, which the noble lord the member for Lynn calls one of sexagenaric nimbertly (laughter), I have come to the conclusion that it is not true of the agricultural labourers, that their position is dif ferent with reference to the high price of provisions from that of the manufacturing labourers: their position is in this respect identical, and both the agricultural and manufacturing labourers suffer by the high price of provisions. I know not whether my hon, relative the member for Shaftesbury is in the house, but I was surprised, when he had detailed to as the condition of the agricultural labourers in Dorsetshue. and the wages which they habitually received, to find with all his warm hearted sympathy for them, the conclusion at which he has arrived (hear, hear). What is the statement he has made? That these labourers receive only for wares 7s. or 7s. 8d. a-week, and as I understand from the hon metaber for Dorsetshire, who followed the hon member for Shaftesbury, and who went further than him in one respect. from this pittunce of 7s. or 7s. 6d. a week there is a deduction of Is. or 2s, for house rent, thus making the whole camings of a Dorsetshire labourer from 5s. to 5s. fid. a week; and my hon, relative declares that the rate of wages does not vary with the price of provisions, and that when pro sions are high wages do not rise. He thinks that their condition is hopeless, but let him try one experiment; if they could not alter the rate of wages, let him alter the price of wheat (cheers). Other interests may suffer, possibly the furmers may suffer, possibly the landlords may suffer by the change, but I defy you to do any injury to the Dorsetablee labourer (cheers), by lowering the price of an article of the first necessity, on which he lives, and without which he cannot subsist. I understand, also, that this is not only the pre sent condition of these labourers, but that it has been their condition for the last 30 years. Now, we are not debating Magna Charta, or any great principle of the constitution, but we are discussing a law which happens to be about co incident with this condition of the Dorsetshire labourers, and to be about thirty years old (hear, hear). And when my hon relative depairs of proenring any rise of wages in Dorsetsbire, let him try the experiment of lowering the price of food (cheers). the price of food (cheers). And now I am about to state why I think it is quite clear that this change will affect the manufacturing and the agricultural labourer palpably and dis tinctly. It is easy to consider the condition of the country at the period which the noble marquis reviewed, the close of the reign of Elizabeth, and to carry ourselves back to that period; but what we have to contemplate is the state of affairs which now exist, and with which it is the duty of statesmen and of Parliament to deal. It cannot be denied that this country can be be denied. that this country can no longer be regarded as, an agriculturel to note the state of the state o ral country (ironical cheers from the protectionist benches).

I repeat that if we act and legislate as if this country were purely agricultural, error lies at the very root of the arga-ment. Whether it be for weal or for woe, we have become a manufacturing and a domineroral occupity; and we believe the late for this great commercial and ballocal taring the sec.

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abut this, and I say that the connection between the com Bereial, the manufacturing, and the agricultural interests, is intimate and palpable. There cannot be commercial and manufacturing prosperity without creating a demand for la-boar in the agricultural districts. We find a proof of this in the progress of docks, of railways and canals, and whenever the demand for labour in the seats of wealth and in the ma pulseturing districts is strong, labour is attracted from the most distant rural districts, where there is a state of manufacturing prosperity, and when the price of food is low. What will be the effect of this change on the condition of the labourer? Now really let us be sincere in the matter (lond cheers from the protectionists). I appeal with confidence to the reason and candour of honourable gentlemen below the gaugway; and if I can establish that manufacturing and commercial prosperity will so operate on the price of labour in the agricultural districts as to raise wages when the price of provisions is low, then, if we are somere in our wish to legislate for the good of the labouring dases, whether agricultural or manufacturing, my reasonng will be conclusive, and you cannot resist the mea one we propose. Wages do depend upon a demand and supply; and when a demand for labour operates among the agricultural classes, and raises wages, they obtain the three greatest advantages which a working man can simultaneousle enjoy -full employment, high wages, and a low price of provisions (hear, hear, hear). There is a period of oscillation, production is stimulated, the prices are low, the demand slarge, and this demand for labour affects the rate of wages in the agricultural districts: the oscillation again comes, the quantity has been unnaturally stimulated, the price of wages is low, with a diminished quantity of food the price is radianced, the ports are closed, the home market is desmoved, the foreign trade is injured, the exportation of the precious metals caused by the sudden demand for corn elerates upon prices, and wages fall (hear, hear). What, then, is the condition of the labouring classes, whether in the agricultural or manufacturing districts? That whereas before they enjoyed the three greatest benefits of full empl sment, high wages, and low prices, they are now subjected to the cults of deficient employment, low wages, and an araficial light price of food (hear, hear). I am unwilling, Someodlessly to prolong this argument, but I state what has carried conviction to my own mind. I am satisfied what the effect of a change will be on the labouring classes, agricaltural as well as manufacturing; and if that be the issue we have to try-and the hon, member for Shrewsbury has get it upon that issue, which is most fair, I am satisfied that s have no course to take, but to agree in the passing of t'as measure (cheers). No sophistry, no ingenuity of arguneat will satisfy the people of this country that it is to their recrest for the price of food to be directly raised, and that whiteely wages should fall; no sophistry, however able, will satisfy the people of this country that you are thereby ding what is really calculated to promote their interest, how ver generous may be your intentions, and however unequi wed may be the expression of your wishes (hear, hear). 1 "Il next glance at one other argument, that it is to the merest of the working farmers that these laws should be mantained. There was, Sir, a committee over which you presided, which sat in 1836, and before which several witlesses of great experience and ability gave evidence upon the point. I am unwilling to detain the house, but there we two witnesses to whose testimony I wish shortly to call the attention of the house. They are statements made by the boant farmers with reference to their own interest, and is a gooded themselves. The first witness to whose testimay I would call attention, is that of Mr. John Ellis, a bugs tenant farmer, in the neighbourhood of Leicester. The first question was asked him by my right hon, friend the Paymaster of the Forces (Mr. B. Baring). He was

it is for the advantage of the farmer to raise prices, is it the do not think so; I am not of that opinion. I do not thak it is to the advantage of the farmer to have very high

What do you consider most advantageous to the farmer?—A with do you consider most advantageous to the farmer?—A so dy price icheers); that the farmer, when he goes to take tred should look to some steady price, and not look to advantition croumstances, to keep him out of a difficulty.

Description of the comment would have been the offert of creating

Do you think the present scale has had the effect of creating r are fluctuations of price than there would have been under the re-thread scale? That is a question that I cannot answer, a they relied scale? That is a question that I cannot answer, a they rule been in the corn trade, but I am certain that the Co-law have raised dedusive hopes in the farmers."

That the hon, member for the Tower Hamlets (Sir W. Clay) esel, "You are decidedly of opinion that steadiness of we is the circumstance most important to the farmer?-Maginion is not in accordance with that of most people with respect to the interest of landlord and tenant. Up to a cosin point, I hold that they go together; that it is the intreet of the tenant to keep the land in good condition, as it a of the landlord that he should do so; but his landlord's laterest is to have a high price, to enable him to pay a high ten. I do not think it is the tenant's interest to be cla-merous about a high price; it makes very little difference the whether I pay a high price or a low price, and I think the country thrives better all round me if the price is a modern drate one; it is better for me not to have a high price, proided my expenses are in proportion."

The farmer is a capitalist, and is it of importance to him the district capital the returns upon his capital?—Just so. He would do that better, and feel more certainty, if he were traced a steady price of wheat?—Yes he would.

Suppose that the recognitive system or any system of Corn

Suppose that the present system, or any system of Corn textends to produce fluctuations in the price of wheat, that he ruinous in its consequences to the farmer?—There is dept of it.

Then he was asked by the honourable member for Somerw. Mr. Miles)-

by you think you could do without protection altogether?—
In the present state of things. I think we must come to
the train think that the poorer class of farmers at present
to the train think that the poorer class of farmers at present
to the train think that the poorer class of farmers at present
to the price at which wheat can be maintained?

is it your opinion that upon the average of years prices can gian to that height?—It is my opinion that they cannot, and statish y will not attain 50s, with fine seasons.

And the consequence is, that the poorer farmers have fulla-

These questions were put in 1836, and recollect that in 1842 protection was reduced one-half, and under the present heteure there is to be a less duty, which is to endure for its jears, and so we shall arrive by easy steps (laughter ad character). ad cheers) at what this tenant farmer, in 1830, forowarned has inevitable, and which he considered desirable. That is the opinion of an English farmer. I shall now give he the opinion of an English farmer. I sum how give the opinion of a Scotch farmer, of a gentleman with the I have long had the pleasure of being acquainted, at the post of the most experienced and receiptful agri-

culturists in that seat of excellent farming-I mean the Lothians. The following is the testimony of Mr. Howden: The hou, member for the North Riding of Yorkshire asked him, "If you had been sold off in 1820, do you think you would have been better off than you are now?" Now, observe the answer which Mr. Howden gives, after twenty years of protection. He replied:

"I do not know that mine is a fair case to be taken as a gene ral case, because I started very poor it. Hie, and I have had a hard struggle, and other circumstances that contributed to as what me. I am the only remaining farmer in the parish where I was brought up. Except myself, there is not a farmer, nor the son of a farmer, remaining within the parish but myself. This was brought out still more clearly by the next ques tion put by the hon, member for the North Riding of York

"What is the reason of their having all gone away?" Mr. Howdon replied, "The money rents that were exacted of them; they all conceived that they were to have 80s, a quarter, and their calculations were made upon that; it soon appeared that that could not be realised, and they were not convorted, and varie has been the conservance." ruin has been the con-equence.

Then there has been a great change of tenantry in your neighbourhood? There has been "And that has been caused by the fall of prices? Yes, and

the want of accommodation on the part of the proprietors.

The proprietors have not reduced their rents in proportion?

They now have generally done so, but they were later in doing it than the circumstances required, and therefore the tenantry fell."

Now, what does this show? It shows that there was a miscalculation on the part both of the tenant and the landlord. 80s, was said to be the price which the protection law of 1815 would afford. Landlords believed themselves justified in assuming that 80s, would be the price which communitus annis wheat would bring; and, although I know the landlords in that district to be generous and honourable menfor I have known them from my earliest youth-yet, acting with perfect honour and fairness in their calculations in the belief that wheat would bring 803, per quarter, they post poned the reduction of rent too long, and the fall of their tenants was the consequence (hear, hear). Mr. Howden was next asked-

"In your opinion did the Corn Law that was made in 1815 deceive both the landlord and the tenant?—It did. I believe that the calculation upon which they took at that time was almost universally 4t, a quarter.

"The general impression was that the Corn Laws then made would have the effect of keeping wheat at the price of 80s., and both laudhord and tenant were decrived in that? Yes.

"If the Corn Law had not the effect of keeping up the price, something must have reduced the price"—It did reduce; but as to the cause, I shall not pretend to say.

"The Corn Law having meaning a point of the course of the cause of the course of

The Corn Law having promised a price of 80s., falled to per-

Now, that is the statement of a tenant farmer. I have shown you the effect of protection upon the labourer, and I have shown you its effect upon the tenant farmer in relation to his landlord. I have shown you, whatever the amount of protection at any given period, the conclusion inevitably resulted which happened in Mr. Howden's case, and in many others in the United Kingdom, not from any want of generosity on the part of the landlords, but from a false conviction of the inevitable effect of the law (hear, hear). I be lieve that it is as much the interest of the tenant farmer as it is of the landlord, that there should be a greater certainty of price, which can only be obtained by a repeal of your restrictive laws (hear, hear). Let me now glance for a moment at the condition of the hundlord. And here I must observe-and I state it without meaning the least offence to the gentlemen below the gangway-that they assume to themselves that they have a monopoly of the land of the country, and that the opinion of all the landed proprietors is in favour of protection (cheers). Now, I know not where you will find a very prosperous large landed property where this happy result may not be traced directly, either mediately or immediately, to the prosperity of trade and commerce (cheers, mingled with cries of "oh, oh"). Allow me, without offence, to try this particular question with reference to the manufacturing districts. Take the county of Lancaster, for instance,—the scat of the cotton trade. Who are the great landed proprietors in that county? There is the Earl of Derby, on whose land the town of Bury is built. he opposed to this measure (cheers)? There is also the Earl of Burlington. Is he opposed to this measure (hear)? There is also the But it may be said that the Earl of Derby and the Earl of Burlington are not fair examples of the feeling of the landed proprietors in that county. Well, then, take Lord Francis Egerton, who is connected both with commerce and agriculture, and the inevitable effect of whose experience is to render him a strenuous advocate of the proposed alteration (hear). Let us go, in the next place, to the West Riding of Yorkshire, the great seat of the woollen manufacture. There is Lord Fitzwilliam. Is he opposed to this change (hear)? Or let us go to the seat of the cotton manufacture in Scotland. What is the county in Scotland which is most commerce and manufa lependent on Lanark shire. And what is the opinion of the Dake of Hamilton on this question (cheers, answered by ironical cheers)? You may treat this argument with contempt if you please, but it will be impossible for you to hold yourselves forth as the exclusive representatives of the agricultural interest on this question (hear). The hon member for Somersetshire mentioned an extraordinary fact, that the price of wheat, which averaged 90s. in 1805, had fallen to 48s. in 1815, while the produce of the country had increased. Now it is a enrious fact that, coincident with the commercial and manufacturing prosperity of that period, the rent of the land has risen, and not the rent of the land only, but the fee simple of the land has increased, while, as the hon, member has shown, the produce of the soil itself has increased. If you pass this measure, a great fall of price may take place below that which we have known for the last three years; but I am sa tisfied that the great body of the people will obtain this inestimable advantage—that they will have an ample and perfect security against a sudden rise of price to any great height (hear). Now I may take shame to myself, but I am bound to say that, although late, I have arrived at this conclusion after a more recent and careful consideration of this matter, combined with experience, and I say that the real truth of the matter, as it appears to me, is summed up in a masterly manner by Lord Grenville, in 1815, and I believe that what he says is actually true. I cannot persuade myself that the laws which regulate the importation of corn tend to produce plenty, cheapness, orateadiness of price. As far as they operate at all, my helief is that when carefully examined in practice and tested by experience, they produce the very op-posite effects. Lord Granville lays down the general prin-ciple which is the converse of this. He says that monopoly is the parent of sceroity, of dearness, and uncertainty. Softwe that this proposition is strictly true (hear, hear).

believe that it is impossible to cut off any of our sources of supply, and not trench upon the means of securing abuit dance. I believe you cannot show that you can limit the supply of any commodity and not enhance the cost of the artiele. To reject the advantages which I have pointed out would be to deprive ourselves of the beneficial arrangements that have been made by Providence for the sustentation of man. It is perhaps scarcely necessary for me to add that I um most anxious to see this measure pass unmutilated; for l entertain a strong conviction that if it becomes the law of the land, it will protect the labourer against the effects of dear prices imposed upon the first necessary of life; that it will prove a scenrity to the farmer in his speculations and his profits, and more than ail, that this measure will reconcile the prosperity of the Fundlords with the interests and the goodwill of the community at large; that it will extend our commerce; increase the prosperity of our manufactures; that it will place our foreign relations upon a safe and stable foundation; I conscientiously believe that it will be memorable in our history (cheers), as securing the prosperity, contentment, peace, and happiness of the great body of the people, without reference to the exclusive interests of any particular class (hear, hear).

On Friday right the debate was again resumed, in the course of which/Sir Robert Peel and Lord George Bentinck spoke at great length. The House came to a division this (Saturday) morning about 3 o'clock, when the numbers

For the Third Reading . Against it

Majority for Ministers .

A NEW KIND OF MAY FERTIVAL :- Intersected as our land is with railways -- covered as our seas are with steamers -we should wish to see our May festival become a grand and instructive pilgrimage time. It is good for tran to run among his fellows-to see distant spots-to become acquainted with new and untrodden localities. Travel is a glocious pile for purging nonsense. The lion of the country coterie has the conceit taken out of him by London's sold shoulder. The prejudice stuffed John Bull, who lintes the French for cating frogs and wearing wooden shoes, very soon becomes ashamed of his cherished opinions, if he airs them on the other side of the water. The townsman has much to learn from the countryman—the countryman from the townsman. Let them mingle as often as may be. Whick your agricultural population amid the chimneys of the regions of iton and cotton. Bring the souty men of the forge, and the pale men of the loom, amid ploughs and havrows. The change will do both good—will inspire both with new ideas - will kill eld prejudices--will make people think less of themselves and more of their neighbours. We have list too much class warfard lately. Now that a peace seems like ? 10 be at hand, we would cement the alliance with personal in-We should like to see the man of Lancashire shake bands with the man of Somersetshire. We would have the raddy tenant of 500 arable acres conducting the weaver freed for a space from the roar of the engine and the chatter of the power boom -around the rustic homestead; and again, it would as much delight us to see a friendly lextalionis practised by the operative of the north in conduct ing, in his turn, his country acquaintance from engine to furnace - from mill to mechanics' institute. Now, this is much more than mere dreaming. It would have been but idle imaginings were it not for steam; but, thank heaven, we now wield a power which '0 years ago we wot not ofa power which is working a greater revolution than ever was rung in by clang of toesin, or baptized in the blood of kings. Let May time be celebrated then, not by the monster devices of yore, but by the monster trains of the mesent day. Our ancestors danced round a pole-let our holiday movements run in a more extended circle. Railway companies can do much in this way; and if employers of labour unite with this rolers of the rails, cheap, very cheap trips might every summer be instituted which would reveal to millions new beauties of creation -open to them fresh fountains of thoughtfresh means of enjoyment. -- Jerrold's Skilling Magazine for May.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION .-- Dr. S. Ryan, in his chemical lecture during the last week, has taken the oppor tunity of explaining a patent fire detector, the employment of which, to use the learned doctor's own words, would prevent the possibility of fire occurring in any situation undetected. Its construction depends upon two points that may be easily understood. First, the suspension of a weight by a material which is separated by a moderate heat exceeding the highest temperature of summer; and, secondly, the employing the weight thus disengaged to discharge an alarm by its fall. The weight consists of a metallic box, weighing about six ounces, which is hung on a nail by a ring or staple in its cover, and there are two kinds. In one the union is effected by means of a glass cylinder, hormetically scaled, and completely filled with morenry, at a temperature of about 90 deg., and which is consequently fractured by the expansion of the mercury, on being exposed to a temperature slightly higher; on the other form, the union is effected by a finible cement, which suddenly liquifies at about 100 deg. The effect of any undue temperature on both is the same; viz., to detach the box from its cover, and cause the box to fall, which discharges the alarm-and the report which follows would be heard throughout the largest building, and is perfectly harm-less. We regret that Dr. Hyan was prevented lecturing on Friday last, by sudden judisposition; but we trust that in a few days he will be combled to resume his duties.

We with much pleasure notice a new envelope, and for which a patent has been obtained by a Mr. Morgan. Its advantages are, that greater disputch is obtained, as sealing is not required; it having a comented flap at the end, which incloses the letter with perfect safety; or it may be fastened with the stamped head of her Majesty. The machine by which these envelopes are out, is in the Polytechnic Institution, and affords great amusement to the viators by the rapidity with which it performs its operations, outling many thousands in a minute.

An old waman who had some up from Exeter tol Londou, and was contemplating going back again, happened in conversation to hear that the Birmingham Railway Company, had reduced their farms, whereas the Great Western had not done so. "Then," said she, with great determination, "Man, shall go back by the Dirmingham line."

CONDITION OF OUR WEST INDIA COLOMES

OFFICE II. CAMARCA PATERIORS. To the I liter of the Lean see I.

Site, I will now entersons to trace some of the cylls

The marger evil of Jamaica is absented in. We know nominates of I also absence in and of its effects, but we thall fact to oppreciate the evils of Jamaica absorategism by may comparison with whee occurs in Treband. It is of a diffrient character. In Irebuid we have absentee landlords in Jamaica, absentic cultivators. Just take one moment to brigging the distinction. It will assist you to fattey an tanglish l'estowner who mete al of letting out his estate in Lincolne ine to one or meastenants, shall decide on keeping the whole is becown bends, and carrying on the cultivation by menes of a stiff and fario cervants, while he removes to take up his permanent residence in Rome or Naples. Just take eta suptanther and increme his health so delicate that Leaves, his determination never to hazard a return to the variate of Lapland, and his badiff knows these. If such a men should tell you that his estate we profitable, I think the most that he could be and would be, that he was more bully than wise; but it, on the contrary, he told you that he get no office, and cred has individual one as a beston formant annu, the Corn Laws, you would hugh in

Here then you have, mutates mutandes, an absentee Ja

In mean properties. See W. L. Lance no de me to say anything derespectful of these point men. There no quirted with them for preferring a resolution in I ordand to the personal supervision of their raintee in Jamesen I cannot even fairly blume them for having remained so long in the position of farmers in stead of landleeds, because the nestitutions of shavery were wholly oppered to the existence of a middle or tenant class. Then position excites wither wonder nor sympathy, and it is only recorded because I de are to point out the exils which have been entailed upon the island by the system.

The first and self-evident evil (and which is common to firsh and bamaica absenteer in is, that society is deprived of those influences which would be exercised by a resident propertury, in meaning the tone and tastes of all below them -in beganing and charishing that interchange of regard and respect between the rich and poor, which forms so strong a link in the second chain, and in dispensing the benefits of their expensionre among the community whence their reve mue is derived.

The second evil is peculiar to the case of the absenter former. It is the tempt ition which is held out to the abuse of power and trust on the part of the c who are invested with (us it were) are spone ide authority in matters of de tailed mains evenent and expenditure. I am sure that I shall not be accurated of libelling a community, when I assert that the tendency of Jamaica ale enteers has been to fovter un faithful seewardship to a notorous extent. It is unincessary to entaine on this object. Excey one who knows anything of the past history of Januara will join with me in Janie uting that the moral sundard has been most grievously debased by the flagment and unblushing examples of successful knowery. The perquisites of planting attornics have passed into a proverb.

Let us turn to evils of a different character. Let us imagine the absentic proprietor, who 20 years ago was accustomed to receive a large revenue from his Jamaica estatehas eeen that revenue year by year duninishing, and at length from less efficient management, unfavourable sen sons, want of letour, or any other merginable cause, finds his income numbilated, or at best precarious. If he has no other resource, he feels the necessity of retrenchment, and he joins the crowd of fellow sufferers in calling for iminteration and protective duties. If he is a man of substance, he holds his Jamanca estate as a sort of lottery in which he is occasionally to draw a prize, but he never thinks of patting it into comparison as a property with his smaller es tate in Kenter Sussex. If you converse with these parties, you will find them eloquent in a signing reasons for failure thigh duties were the ery once want of labour is the bugbear now), but you will also find that diligence to examine and apply the remedy bears but small proportion to the carnest trees of complaint. Talk to them of going to Jamaica, and giving their personal supervision to their affairs, and there will be no lack of reasons to prevent them. Talk to them of expending capital in either an improved tillage of their hand, or in the adoption of implements for the economy of labour, and they will tell you either that they are too poor, or too little confident of the result to try the experiment. In the meantime the estate is worked on a beggaring hand to mouth system - nothing is done that can be left undone - the land is badly tilled - the pastures are neglected -the cattle are starved -the buildings fall into decay apathetic indif-ference and false economy take the place of energetic exertion and indictions expenditure. Want of labour, and want of rain, are found more palatable excuses that dustry and capital.

But the exil does not rest here. Colonial society is composed of ever changing materials. The ranks of the planters are supplied by young men, who, for the most part, leave the mother country before they have acquired any practical acquaintance with true principles of agriculture or rural economy. Many of them have been brought up in towns, with no previous knowledge whatever of their future pursuits. They see the system which I have described in full operation under experienced managers, and they readily enough be lieve that it is a sound one. They copy the example and extend its operation.

But to follow the absentee a step further. When matters get desperate—when, instead of revenue, he finds a loss as the result of the year's cultivation, he begins to think seriously of abandoning his estate; and the probability is, that the manager who has (at all events if not promoted) been unable to avert the depreciation, offers a rental, and is accepted as a tenant. It is equally possible that, instead of renting, he may purchase the estate. This introduces us to another class of planters. It will be readily understood that the former manager has no large amount of available capital. It will be assuming a better state of things than actually exists to believe that he is able to pay for the estate if a purchaser, or for the eattle if a tenant. The more usual course is to incur a debt for these purposes with some Kingston merchant. Be this as it may, I am sure that the instances are exceedingly rare where, as either purchaser or tenant, be has 500L in the shape of float ing capital to carry on the cultivation. Now, when I tell you that this party will attempt to cultivate and manufacture a crop of, say 100 hinds of sight and 30 puncheons of rum, of a gross value of some 3000%, in a country exposed to

droughts and other drawbacks, upon such slender means, it sorely will not require much penetration to understand the You will not be surprised to can ex and chances of failure. bear that one-half of the available sugar land upon the esinto is uncultivated; that it is impossible for him to anticipate the various processes of cultivation; to substitute ma-Cornery, or any but the simplest and least expensive imple ments for the economy of immunal labour, or to expend his scanty means in drainage or irrigation, or in the application of artificial manures. Here, then, we see that the want of capital brings with it imperfect farming. Let us now examine how their combination acts upon labour and wages.

I have elsewhere said that the planter does nothing which be can have undone; and as it is important that this part of the subject should be well understood, I will endeavour to illustrate it by an instance which fell under our observation, and which will be readily admitted as by no means of unfre quent occurrence. We were visiting an estate on the north ede of the island, in a district where the want of continuous Johann was most severely felt. The estate was in the hands of a tenant, a most industrious, deserving gentleman. It was tone of targe expublishes; but a considerable portion of the cane land was uncultivated. Our host had pointed out a certain number of acres, which he intended to put into plants in a few months, and in the course of conversation on the subject of labour, he told us he had that day discharged 40 labourers. We were somewhat startled at this, and ventured to suggest that a portion of these might have been advantageously employed in preparing the cane land for planting; but his immediate reply was-"Oh! I cannot space the money to do that so long before it is wanted, although I should like to do so, because I should so much more readily get labour now than I shall then." deavouring to explain the effect which these wholesale and sudden changes might have on the question of continuous labour, we were met by the assurance that it could not, in his opinion, make any difference; and he justified his own views by quoting the example of an adjoining estate, where they had discharged 100 labourers on the previous day.

What alternative, then, has the negro, but in self defence to look to his provision ground as a stand by for subsistence? and where is the wonder that, when the periodical rains have fallen, he chould be more ready to attend to his own cultivation than to that of the planter? What is more natural than that a want of continuous employment should beget a want of continuous labour?

But we must trace the evil of want of capital still further. The planter is insensibly led to identify good management with small expenditure. He thinks rather of making a good money bargain with his labourers than of paying them liberally, and taking care, by personal supervision, that they give him an equivalent. He has not yet learned that quality is as essential a consideration as price, and he would think it the height of extravagance to lend labour-saving tools to men who ought to provide their own. They do proyide them, and sadly inefficient they are. From the fact of his employing labour (to any extent) merely after rains or during crop, he is exposed to the competition of his neighhours who are in the same predicament; he therefore soon finds that, if he attempts to superadd strict surveillance to low wages, the negroes will strike and go elsewhere. He thinks to get over this difficulty by employing the labourer This, if less troublesome, is not less costly. The constant drain upon his small stock of ready money irritates and annoys him. He can look with comparative complacency on the loss of cattle, the dilapidations of his buildings, the failure of a field of canes, or the imperfect working of his mill. These are all contingencies which either require no immediate outlay to remedy, or will at the most only diminish his annual profits; but the wages are a weekly infliction. His want of capital, which prevents his availing himself of labour at other seasons of the year, in like manner prevents his adopting machinery as the means of diminishing his dependence on manual labour at a time when the demand is greater than the supply. He looks upon immigration as the panacea for all his troubles, and he

Another difficulty which besets West India interests is the want of that subdivision of labour which is at the root of economical production. This is the peculiar legacy of slavery. The planter is at once an agriculturist, a manufacturer, and a carrier; nay, we might go further, and say that he carried on the trades of a cooper, a carpenter, a wheelwright, and a black-mith, for during the existence of slavery he was obliged to perform all such work upon his own estate; and so stagment is everything like individual enterprise in Jamaica, that the system still prevails to a most inparious extent. I trust that the introduction of railways will lead to the more general employment of public carriers; and I have no doubt that an enlarged competition in the home market would require that greater attention should be paid to the manufacturing process, for the purpose of securing not only economy of cost, but a great improvement in the quality of the sugar.

The subject of central manufactories has been already mooted, and their establishment is looked forward to with anxiety by the colonists. I am not, however, inclined to think that their adoption can ever become so general as to dispense with the keeping up of works upon the majority of estates. There are comparatively few localities where the canes could be economically removed. For the purposes of centralisation tramways are indispensable, and these could only be applied in particular districts. Immense advantages would, however, be derived by the island from a more complete and scientific manufacture of sugar, as it would not only show the necessity for superior tillage of the hands now under cultivation, but would afford facilities and encouragement for bringing forward all others in the neighbourhood.

I will resume the subject in my next .- I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, WILLIAM SMITH. London, May 6, 1816.

FALSIFICATION OF ADAM SMITH.— MR. CAYLEY AGAIN!

(From the Daily News.) The long-wished for deliverance from that wearisome word grinding which the protectionists call "speaking," is now at hand. To night a division is looked for most confinow at hand. dently. Human mature can hear it no longer. Even the party itself is tired of its own talk. It is difficult to keep 30 members within ear-shot of the one who is on prosing duty for the passing hour. Machinery is said to tire in time. Steam-engines need some intervals of rest. The mill-wheel of protectionist gratery is coming to a latter of any wheel of protectionist oratory is coming to a state of ex-haustion. The ceaseless humming and droning becomes fainter. The act of dividing will seem, comparatively, an intellectual operation.

No future Dryasdust will ever explore the unhappy of lumes of Hansard, sacrificed to the reports of this detail Wooden volumes will answer every purpose, and keep of numbering of the series unbroken. The wear and beg type is all in vain. A thought; a new fact; an unraylend sophism; an original illustration; any indication of he fity; where shall we find it, through all this dreary waster words? "There's no such thing." Not one argument to been set up, the refutation of which had not long ago been

tiresome by frequent and needless iteration As to had lectual combat in reply, as much of that stimulus megan found in beating a feather bed. There may be mind in ; making and reason in roasting eggs; no species of many tion, however humble and unskilled, is so utterly mechan-

us this protectionist speech making.

People will go great lengths to save their lives; they few, whose lives are worth saving, could undergo drudgery which protectionists have sustained to say they believe, their pockets. They have shown themsels alike soulless and sordid. Sometimes, looking only at a pertinacity evinced, we have been disposed to say when gallant stand this would have been, if made in deferoes some great principle, some public right, some clam ! But no such senseless mechanical start could have been made for a really good cause. The tree deur of the theme would have been inspiration. discrity would have risen into dignity by the truthful cm : a public object. Integrity, for great purposes, supplies place of genius. To pry into prisons rather than dwelling houses, and to be interested about chains and fever bat than intrigues and routes, makes the difference between busy-body and a Howard; but no gleam of bughts. glances over this Serbonian bog. The only semblance luminousness is in some fitful flashings of sarcasm. ruscations from the foul vapours of revenge and makes engendered in its level dreariness. All else is dark at

And on Tuesday night the dark debate had a new escape from a mean termination. The unpleasantus hearing Mr. Newdegate had enforced the members toral forgetful of possible consequences. And then the vocal Lord G. Bentinck raised a cry to "Divide." This, reader British and noble statesmanship! We are greatly discussed forsooth, by the ungentlemanly proceedings of Congres-Would a manouvre, worse than any trick of the turf, had been tolerated there? In this country, anything is recketed fair in politics and in law; politics and law being by that argument, the mere conventional description of two kind of prostitution, by which the privileged replenish their purand gratify their passions.

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Lord George, or St. George, as the Marquis of Gratis dubs him by the bit of Shakspere which formed a portional his "craim," was disappointed of his honourable and pattern purpose by the obtuseness of Mr. G. Palmer, who had beculisted to serve as a speechmaker that night, and was 4 termined to do his duty literally. On he went, regardless of noise or nudging, like the stupid servant in a farce, who is sure to nonplus his master, at the critical moment, by a rest rigid adherence to his instructions. So the speech was made. and the time for division, with a protectionist majority, was lost. Leaders like Lord G. Bentinck are well matched with

followers like Mr. G. Palmer.

While we are upon this characteristic of pettiness and pultriness in the monopolist opposition, there is one pass in the speech of Mr. Cayley on Monday night recommend :. it to a notice for which it possesses no other claims. Me Cayley professed to cite an opinion of Adam Smith's: the citation was a perversion and the opinion a falsification Even this, however, is not so very remarkable in protections! speeches as to call for especial comment. But this is not all. Mr. Cayley was Tract writer to the Protections! Association. Under the sanction of the committee, he put forth a pamphlet on the reasons for the formation of that society, which was largely distributed. In that pample: were sundry demonstrated falsifications both of the opinion and the language of Adam Smith. The demonstration by Lord Radnor in the House of Peers, and by a writer in the LEAGUE journal, was so complete, that Mr. Cayley was come pelled, for common decency's sake, to make some apology and he did make a partial and pitiful acknowledgment and apology in the columns of the Morning Herald. tion in his speech, on Monday night, is one of those very quotations, so garbled, so falsified in meaning and impled opinion, and so partially and pitifully acknowledged sol apoligised for. At the time, it was justly declared to be "rare to meet with literary dishonesty so glaring." After the exposure, to repeat the trick in his speech is yet nor glaring. In any working class club for discussion, as the means of arriving at knowledge and truth, such condet would have been promptly followed by ignominious expul sion. Occurring in the House of Commons, amongst many instances of disingenuous rhetoric in protections we shall only say that it deserves to be recorded. Let that page of Hansard be read, when all else is disregarded. that monopolist morality in debate may be distinctly un derstood.

The passage referred to by Mr. Cayley, for the purpose of showing that he has Adam Smith's authority for "instead of making manufactures the foundation of the commercial tem to make agricultur its foundation," is in chapter electron of book 2, of the "Wealth of Nations." Few readers would suspect Adam Smith of making agriculture the foundation of a commercial system. After a picked and perverted phase, Mr. Cayley suppresses, both in his tract and his speech the sentences immediately following, and which are remarkably applicable to the present discussion:

applicable to the present discussion:

"When the public deliberates concerning any regulation commerce or police, the proprietors of land can never mistriction it, with a view to promote the interest of their own partial it, with a view to promote the interest of their own partial it, with a view to promote the interest of their own partial it.

They are, indeed, too often defective in this toleral knowledge. They are the only one of the three orders when revenue costs them noither labour nor care, but comes to their revenue costs them noither labour nor care, but comes to their assist wors, of its own accord, and independent of any plant of project of their own. That indolence, which is the natural effect of the case and security of their situation, renders them to of the case and security of their situation, renders them to often, not only ignorant, but incapable of that application of mird often, not only ignorant, but incapable of that application of mird often, not only ignorant, but incapable of that application of mird often, not only ignorant, but incapable of the application of mird often, not only ignorant, but incapable of the application of mird often, not only ignorant, but incapable of the application of mird often, not only ignorant, but incapable of the application of mird.

A HINT.—An American physician announces that he has changed his residence to the neighbourhood of a charch yard, which he hopes may prove a convenience to his na marrous partients. merous patients.

A London newspaper informs its readers that an additional number of sentinels are to be placed in Life Park, to prevent the robberles which happened last writer.

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III

PROTECTIONIST MEETING AT MACCLES-FIELD,

TRIUMEN OF FREE TRADE.

A From the Macelesfield Chronicle, May 16.) A meeting of the silk weavers of Macelesfield was held on Park Green, on Monday evening last, the object of which will be seen from the following placard, by which it was omened:

"FAIR TRADE versus FREE TRADE.

· He had not received any remonstrance against this reduc-ntem the silk trade itself. If Coventry, or Leek, or Muc-andalastic hadraid, they had intelligence and courage enough 13.18 (this reduction." Sir Robert Peel's speech on the proposed

spiral (this reduction. Six Robin) Pick's speech on the proposed for each best kideless, March 10.

This is the challenge 1 offer; show me one relaxation was mesone removal of protective duties that has not contributed to the welfare of the producer? Six Robin Picks

Mercel Mecke field. The above challenge has remained but measured, we have already experienced some of the of this new tariff, we have received what may be called that in reliment in our empty home and threatened responsible weeks bet it answer the challenge of Sir Robert Pelant better prove that we have "concept" enough to tell in that we have a right to have a protection for our property at seven. For this purpose a public meeting will be held on 1 k typen. Tor this purpose a public meeting will be held on 1 k typen. Moreby, May 11th, 1816, at 70° lock in the exemine, where Mr. J. West, and Mr. J. Leach, of Manchester, will attend easile a sthe meeting; and a petition against Sir Robert Perl's measures will be submitted for your adoption. Silk counterful case and weavers are myited to attend, and the Anti-condaw I same, their friends, or agents, are challenged to a discussion! are every opportunity will be afforded to all pates to express their sentiments on this important question. The hour of meeting was seven o'clock, and when the bu-

saness commenced, shortly before half past seven, there acceptations than two or three thousand persons present, and ultimately the crowd around the hustings amounted to touly double that number. The show of hunds being in favour of the motion that Mr. John Stubbs should preside, car centleman took the chair, and commenced the proceed.

arge by a brief speech.

Mr. West opened the discussion by remarking that it might be said the silk weavers of Macclesfield had been somewhat early in coming forward to protest against the Government measure, which took away a portion of the protection hitherto enjoyed by their trade. The fault of the delay was not altogether theirs. A correspondence had been opened by some of them with Mr. Brocklehurst, M.P., eight or nine weeks ago, when the advice of that gentleman was given against a public meeting, it being his opinion that any opposition on their part to the proposed silk duties, might stir up the Laceashire manufacturers to a counter agitation, the result of which might be the abolition of all import duties on silk. This, he (Mr. West) thought was very unsatisfactory reasoming, and he considered that the weavers Ind as good a ight to have and express an opinion as Mr. Brocklehurst, they had now began to feel the bitter effects of the alteration d the duties, in actual or proposed reductions of wages and, therefore, at the eleventh hour, they had determined to come forward to meet the challenge of Sir Robert Peel, to show that the reduction of protective duties was imprious to their trade. Mr. West asserted that a i qurious to their trade. reduction of wages would be the inevitable effect of the more ruense competition with France, which they were now called upon to maintain. In many branches of the silk manufactore the French could manufacture cheaperthan the English, and he would adduce satins as an example. He had been shown a piece of French satin by a manufacturer, who told him that the like could not be produced in Macelesfield at less than 3d, or fd. a yard higher than the price charged for the French article. Our inability to compete with the French and the consequent reduction of wages to be anticipated from the diminution of protection, were the main points insisted on by Mr. West, though he also dwelt at some length on the general view of the Free Trade question, maintaining that the universal cheapness which Sir Robert Peel's measures were intended to produce, would not benefit the silk-weaver, but the contrary, if, as he firmly believed, they would tend to a great reduction in his wages. He would tell his fellow workmen that if they did not oppose this measure, they would repent when it was too late were so foolish, he, for his part, would not feel it his duty to stand forward, as he had done formerly, to defend them from mevil which they had brought upon themselves for want of timely resistance. The effects of the change were already left in the depression of their trade, and in an actual proposal for the reduction of wages. Mr. West concluded by proposing a resolution condemnatory of the policy of the Government, especially as applied to the silk manufactures. (cheers). The resolution was seconded from the body of

Mr. FALVEY, who was received with cheers, said he had been over on a visit to Macelesfield, when the placard called the present meeting, and inviting discussion, had attracted his attention as he passed along the street on Sunday morning, and that was the first intimation of it which he had received. It had been his intention to return to Manchester on Monday (that day), but on seeing the placard, he atones resolved to accept the challenge it contained, and therefore he now stood before them to oppose the resolution now submitted to them by Mr. West. Mr. Falvey commenced by referring to his connection with Macclesfield, and the deep interest he felt in its prosperity. He would not advo-cate measures which he thought would be injurious to Macclesfield, but he considered that the Government policy, now under discussion, would be advantageous instead of being detrimental to its interests, as had been asserted by Mr. West. He was borne out in this view of the subject by the opinions expressed by many of the silk manufacturers themselves. He had that day met with Mr. Potts, whom they would all admit to be an excellent master, and one who paid as high as any in Macclesfield, and he had told him that he would prefer the Government measure of 15 per cent. duty to the present state of things when the nominally high duty was so much evaded by means of smuggling. Mr. Falvey said he would mention that as his opinion at the meeting, when Mr. Potts gave him full authority to do so. Mr. Falvey also mentioned that many other manufacturers in Macclesfield entertained the same view. He advised them to beware of being led away by Mr. West's predictions as to the reduc-Cathedral would be burned, and that the prediction might not go unfulfilled, he had at last put the torel to it himself (hear, hear). It was a somewhat suspicions circumstation that the present proposal to reduce picions circumstance that the present proposal to reduce wages was being made by a protectionist instead of a Free Trade irm, and that Mr. West should have been selected as the negociator of the matter between them and the opera-dives (hear, hear). He contradicted Mr. West's assertion that the people of this country were unable to compete with

the French in the manufacture of silks, and worned them against the folly of proclaiming their belief in their own inferiority by the vote of that evening. By doing so they were virtually inviting the manufacturers to reduce their wages. Mr. West ought to have produced the cheap French satins with which he had frightened them, and thus enabled them to compare them with those of their own manufacture. He (Mr. Palvey) would tell them that they were not equal in quality to the satins manufactured in Macclesfield, and that in plain heavy goods of every description we could beat the French. In some of the lighter Pancy articles, the French. through their superiority in the airs of design, might have the advantage of us. But even in regard to these, the diffi culty of competition could not be so very great, seeing that Coventry, which depended principally on the ribbon trade, and other light fancy articles, and which had a very burge constituency, embracing a great proportion of the working classes, sent two Free Trade members to Parliament (hear, hear). As to the depression alluded to by Mr. West, and paraded by him as a proof of the alleged ruinous tendency of Sir R. Peel's measures in regard to their trade, they all knew that that depression was not confined to the silk trade. Business of every kind throughout the country was paralysed, in consequence of the suspense, in which the country had been so long held through the bigoted and obstitute opposition of the protectionists to the passing of Sir R. Peel's Corn Bill and Turiff. In Manchester several thou ands of hand from cotton weavers were out of employ ment in consequence of this etaguation. But it was not from Free Trade, but for the want of it, that the people were now suffering (cheers). He felt confident that, instead of falling off, the trade of Macclesfield, as well as that of other manufacturing towns, would become more flourishing than ever they had seen it, when Sir R. Peel's measure came into full operation. These are only a few of the leading points of Mr. Falvey's speech, which was listened to throughout with deep attention, and frequently cheered, to the great chagrin, we believe, of the protectionist party, who had per s maded themselves, that he would meet with a different recention in a direct appeal to the working men of Maccles. fie'd. Mr. Falvey concluded by proposing the following amendment to Mr. West's resolution:

"That we entirely approve of the commercial policy pro-pounded by her Majesty's Government, and especially of the great and comprehensive measure for the total abolition of the

Mr. LEACH, from Manchester, replied to Mr. Falvey in a rambling speech, which was more declamatory than argumentative, and which appealed to the feelings rather than to the reason of the people. Some idea of the stapic of it may be drawn from the fact that Mr. Leach condescended to retail the hundred-times-repeated joke of the Irishman, who boasted that he could buy potatoes for a penny in Ireland which cost him sixpence in this country, but who comessed that the sixpence was easier got in England than the penny was in Ireland! He met the assertion of Mr. Falvey in 1c gard to the hand loom weavers of Lancashire, who were out of employment, by pointing to the increase of cotton spinning and weaving factories which had taken place within the last few years. The deplorable condition of Ireland was appealed to, as an illustration of the working of Free Trade. The Irish, in following out the principles of Free Trade, sent over to this country those provisions which ought to be kept at home, for the subsistence of their own miserable people, and the some principle would equally apply to other places, held that it was wrong to take away the calico from Lanca shire, or the woollens from Yorkshire, so long as the inha bitants of these places were in want of a shirt, or a pair of blankets. Mr. Leach also complained bitterly of the suffering inflicted on a race of weavers in India, who had been ruined by the competition of English manufacturers. According to Mr. Leach, one country or province ought not to interlere with another in that way, but he did not explain how the in numerable links, which already connect all countries, and render them dependent on each other, were to be severed in pursuance of his new system. He diluted on the toils and privations endured by the working classes in this country, which none denied; but he did not condescend to propose to the meeting any plan of his own which would be more effectual than Free Trade, as a remedy for the awful state of things produced by a long perseverance in monopoly. Mr. Leach concluded by exhorting the meeting to vote for Mr. West's resolution, and sat down amidst the cheers of a portion of the meeting.

Mr. Joseph Edwards, a silk weaver, seconded Mr. Falvey's amendment. He said that from the style in which they had been addressed by the speakers on the other side, one would be induced to conclude that the operatives of this country had flourished under what was miscalled protection, but they all knew that the reverse of t at was the case, and even Mr. Leach's speech itself proved as much. He considered the question of wages, in its connection with Free Trade, was very simple. The price of labour, like that of everything else, was regulated by the demand for Trade, by increasing the demand for labour, had a necessary tendency to raise wages. This was the general view of the question, looking to the trade of the country at large, and this general result could not fail to affect. Macelesfield, which depended mainly on the home demand, and was, therefore, deeply interested in the prosperity of the country. After de-livering a speech full of sound reasoning, Mr. Edwards concluded by seconding the resolution.

Mr. S. BENTOTE made a few ramarks which, though on the side of protection, were delivered in a very calm and reasonable style. He doubted the correctness of the statements and the arguments that were advanced by the Free Trade party as to the large quantity of French silks smuggled into this country. Were the amount as large as was stated, they would oftener hear of seizures of silk goods by the custom house officers. He had heard that remark made by a Member of Parliament to Lord Dalhousie, in an interview held by his lordship with a deputation from the silk trade.

As it was now half-past 9 o'clock, the meeting, which had kept well together, notwithstanding the increasing darkness, began to be impatient for a division. The Chairman, therefore, proceeded to put the question to the vote with great clearness and deliberation, stating that the vote on Mr. Fal-vey's amendment, approving of the Government measures. would be first taken. Having called on all who approved of that amendment to hold up both hands, the number which were instantly raised, left no doubt as to the issue. The numbers held up for the original motion, according to the statement of parties who had a commanding view of the farextending crowd, did not amount to more than a third or fourth of those who voted for the amendment. The Chairman declared the amendment carried, which announcement was received with cheers.

THE BUILDING TRADES STRIKE

(Prom the Times.)

BIRMINGHAM, WEONESDAY EVENING .- The strike of be operatives of the building trade, empenters and bricks Livers, in this town, may, as far as present approximees go, be said to have virtually terminated to day. The meeting of the masters at Newton in the Willows, on Thursday Inst. has not been without its effect on the men, although it must be admitted, as subsequent proceedings prove, that the adherence of the masters on that occasion to the declaration required by them to be signed by the men, produced an unfavourable impression against the builders. So soon as it became evident, after the proceedings of the conference at Newton, that the masters were resolved to resist the strike, and were determined, at all hazards of loss and meonvenience, to close business rather than submit to the demands of the operatives, it became manifest that owing partly to the expansived state of the union funds, and the dissatisfaction of many of the unionists themselves, but thore especially to the disagreement which had arisen be tween the carpenters and bricklayers, that some mode of arrangement must be adopted. Accordingly the mayor of Birmingham (Mr. 11. Smith) Aces requested to interpose his kind offices, and that gentleman, without loss of time, in the most friendly and conclusiony parit, cought an interview with the heads of the principal building establishment in Birminghum. The result of the movor's interviews with these gentlemen at first appeared extremely doubtful; but on Monday evening a meeting of the mester builders (at which Mr. S. Briggs presided) took place at the Acorn Temple, in Temple street. A deputation from the men attended, and as a matter of course considerable discussion sensued. Reporters were not present; but it may be stated, upon the best authority, that while the employers expressed themselves upon all occasions inclined to listen to the reasonable chains of those they employed, they were determined to resist the "unreasonable" and "tyronnical anthority" of "Unionists," whether for "a diminution of time or a disproportionate rise of wages Still, as was admitted by many musters, present, they could not altogether justify the "declaration" they had required to be signed by the men previously to taking them back to their employ. The declaration referred to, and which received the sanction of the Newton meeting, was as follows:

"We the undersigned do hereby declare that we are not, or will not remain members of any trades unions, or of other or creties under whatever designation, they may be known, which here for their objects any interference with the rights of labour, or with the orrangements that may be entered into between emplayers and workpeople.

"And we further declare that we will not appropriate, and . as for as we are able, will not permit to be appropriated for the pur-pose of supporting a furn out between elsewhere amongs tho building branches, or otherwise ony sum or curry of modes be longing to any sock, bursal, or other correty, which has been es-lablished for being other purposes only.

The Birmisghem masters on Monday night, as before intinuted, doubted the policy of requiring subscription to the above declaration, and the more especially as it was confended that the press of the country had denounced it as anjust, and likely to injure rather than benefit the cause of free and uncontrolled-labour. In fact, according to the opinion of more than one influential builder, it was placing the mas ters in a wrong-position, and so far from enlisting the sympathies of the public in their favour was likely to excite them in favour of the unionist turn outs. In accordance with this feeling the meeting at the Acorn come to the following resolution, which was placarded through the town this morning:

"It was resolved, that in order to convince the workness on gazed in the bailding departments, and the public generally, of the disposition of the employers to meet the views of their near, in a few spirit that the written declaration hately submitted for withdrawn, and that they may merely be requested to declare that they do not support any branch of the building trade that isent present 'out on strike for an advance of waves "May II." "May II." "May II." "May II."

After the adoption of these resolutions the musters assem-

bled intimated to the deputation of workmen in attendance (understood to be from the carpenters), that upon such a verbal declaration they were willing to receive them back into their employ at the old rate of wages (4s. per day), leaving for future consideration any addition they might be disposed to make to men whom they deemed entitled to increased remuneration for their labour. There seems to be a prevailing opinion that while some of the journeymen curpenters, in consequence of their superior hundieraft are deserving of a higher rate of wages than at present paid, there are others, who, at the present time, are receiving more than their workmanship merit. According to the present scale there is no distinction skill and industry receive no higher remunoration than the opposite of those qualifications.

The deputation expressed themselves, individually, as atisfied with the terms proposed by the masters, but as thos had no authority from their brother workmen to conclude any arrangement, they left the Acorn without expressing any conclusive determination.

It ought, however, to be observed, that as regarded the bricklayers, the masters made no proposals. They caused the strike, requiring an additional 6d, per day, and it is left for them to make what arrangements they best can to resume their work. From the carpenters they will now receive little or no support. A quarrel in Birmingham, at least, has taken place between the two bodies, and the bricklayers will be left to take their own course.

The "strike," however, may, as before observed, he considered as at an end. The unionists had a meeting at the "Odd Fellows' Hall" yesterday," and at many of the large works in the town and neighbourhood work was re-sumed this morning. At the extensive establishment of Messrs. Branstone and Gwyther, a firm who employ several hundred of workpeople, in London, Crewe, Birmingham, and other parts of the country, 50 out of about 100 carpenters employed in this town returned to the shop and pursued their former avocations, and there is no doubt that many more would have done the same, but anxious not to take an active part in the strike, in fact, altogether immical to it, many of the workmen had, in prospect of its long continuance, gone to visit their friends at a distance until its

"It should be mentioned that, although the carpenters' " strike" is thus, at least for a time, at an end, a great por-tion of the workmen expect an advance of wages, and it is hoped that the masters, many of whom are pursuing a prosperous business, will not forget the deserving.

To Mr. Smith, the mayor, great credit is due for his kind conduct as amicus curio.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

Subscriptions received during the wook ending Wednesday, May 13, 1846.

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

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, subscribers are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for George Wilson, League Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.

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THE LEAGUE

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CORRESPONDENCE.

14, Octagon, Plymouth, 11th May, 1846. My DEAR SIR, I was much pleased with Mr. Smith's letter on the cultivation of the cane and manufacture of sugar, inserted in the LEAGUE of the 9th inst., and as a companion to it I send you a letter by a Tobago planter, addressed to the Editor of the Tobago Chronicle, and dated on the 29th of August, 1815, which not only corroborates Mr. Smith's statements but even goes beyond them. It is abundantly clear, from the statements of both writers, that the blacks are as ready to work as any other people when they receive fair wages for their work, and are assured of honest payment. The object of immigration is not to supply any deficiency of labour, but to overstock the labour market, and thus bring down the ra e of wages. It is an aggravated form of slavery under the disguise of a new name, and without its legal responsibilities. It is a renewal of the slave trade at the expense of the resident labourers, and for which they have to thank those mistaken friends who imagine they best serve the cause of freedom by giving free-labour (?) produce a preference in the British markets.

I now remain, my dear sir, your's, faithfully, Paulton, Esq. William Hamilton. A. W. Paulton, Esq.

PROFITS OF SUGAR CULTIVATION IN THE WEST INDIES.

To the Editor of the Tobago Chronicle and Royal Gazette. SIR, - Since the period of freedom, almost every planter in this island has bitterly complained of the rumous returns of his sugar cultivation, and it is seldom I have spoken with any parties on the subject of our prospects but they look to me for sympathy in their want of prosperity; and not a few thought proper to remark that, within six months of the period of my purchase of Arno's Vale Sugar Plantation (it was placed in my possession on the last day of February, 1841), there would not be a cane or labourer on that estate. To show how utterly mistaken my kind friends have been in their prognostications, I beg leave, through your columns, to lay before my neighbours the accompanying debtor and creditor account for the crop just shipped, which I pledge myself to be correct. I p to the 18th October, 1814, I employed a manager, but, I thank God, I find myself capable of managing my own affairs, and can do better without one. I am also my own attorney, and my own book-keeper, all which, in these times, is important to a renter or proprietor, as it saves a few hundred pounds per annum, in one shape or other, and makes a man master of his own business, and prevents his falling into expensive and, it may be, indifferent hands. An experienced planter estimates my ensuing (1846) crop at upwards of 100 hhds.; but I calculate upon 90 hlds.; which (seasons permitting) will be an increase of 10 hlds. upon 1845 crop; and mark! my expenses will be less. I recommend proprietors at home to rent their plantations. An industrious renter on the spot would be, in these difficult times, deeply interested in the soil, and in the welfare of the labouring class; would exert every means to improve the capabilities of the property; and, by being frugal at all ends, might reap a fair remuneration for his hard services. But it is evident to all who dare to speak out, that proprietors resident in Europe, employing multifarious agents both at home and in the colonies, may management agents out at nome and in the colonies, may expect, on poor estates nothing but ruin, and on the very best, but little short of it. The maximum of my wages is 8d. per diem. I have 110 people on my pay list, constantly engaged; and, instead of Arno's Vale being abandoned, I refused, in the most mouth the side of the last than 10 distributions. the past month, the aid of no less than 12 effective labourers. In writing this letter I do not mean anything offensive to any man or set of men, but I think it time to speak the bare truth, and put down the malignant observations that are occasionally hurled at those who are as independent as your most obedient servant,

Arno's Vale, 29th August, 1845. Expenditure and Receipts at Arno's Valo Estate for one year, from the 1st of August, 1841, to the 1st of August, 1845.

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To the Editor of Tus LEAGUE.

Birmingham, May 13, 1916 Sin,-I have read with much interest your remarks on what fell from me at a recent meeting on the subject of what left from me at a recent incerting on the subject of abridging the hours of labour, and beg to thank you for the very friendly, as well as candid, spirit by which they are distinguished. I wish, however, to correct what seems to use to be a misapprelieusion on your part as to the particular aim of my observations. I concur entirely in your view, both as to the ultimate beneficial effects of Free Trade, and as to its certain and early triumph over the mistaken polar of protection. I therefore hall the changes advocated by the present Government as measures of infinite value and in portunce. But I hold that, even when these are carried portance. But I note that, even when these are carried much will still remain to be done before the industrious classes can reap the full advantage of their skill and patent toil, in the attainment of that legitimate share of fest and leisure which all the discoveries of modern reience and all the aids of improved art, as applied to agriculture and manufacture actures, have hitherto failed to secure to them. The laws by which the weight of our heavy taxation may be equit ably apportioned—the laws which, under a sound and na tural system, regulate the distribution of that wealth which is due to the exertions of the producing classes - are yet, I think, imperfectly understood, or only partially acknew. ledged. So long as this is the case, --so long as an artificial and erroneous system takes the place of those natural lass, so long, in my opinion, may there be need for artificial re straints and legislative interference to protect those who can so ill protect themselves—the overtasked women and children of this overworked country.

These are the views to which my observations were meant to refer. Whether they be just, or otherwise, is a question, with the discussion of which I have no right to occupy your valuable space. I write to offer an explanation of which I conceive you to have misunderstood; and to that explanation I wish strictly to confine myself.

I am, Sir, your obliged and faithful servent, WM. SCHOLEFIELD.

THE SHORT TIME BILL A letter addressed by Mr. J. Eccles, a well known cotton spinner and manufacturer of Blackburn, to the editor of the Blackburn Standard, gives an account of the results of an experiment made by him, similar to those made by Messrs. Horrocks, Miller, and Co. and by Mr. Greg :- "I find that the result of my late trad of working 11 in place of 12 hours is exactly the same as that of Messrs. Horrocks, Miller, and Co., of Preston; and also of Messrs. Greg, of Bollington; say a loss of 74 per cent. of work. Now I am bound to say that this is a much greater loss than I expected, or than I was led to believe would be the result both from past experience (as referred to in my former letter) and from the conviction of those in my employ who were desirous of trying the plan. I may explain to you that my machinery is now all on the self acting principle, and is, consequently, moved by the steam engine, and, there fore, is much less dependent on manual labour than the hand mules; and it was to these I had reference in my former address. It is well known that the cost and fixing of self acting mules is nearly, if not quite, double that of hand mules; and they dispense with what will be acknowledged by all persons conversant with the matter the most ar-duous employment in cotton mills. The loss in spinning was greater than in weaving; but in consequence of start ing some new looms, and altering others at the time, I could not draw a fair comparison of the difference. The results of Mr. Eccles's experiment are the more important, as he is well known to be decidedly favourable to a diminution of the hours of labour; and because, as may be gathered from his letter, he was of opinion, previously to his experiment, that no material diminution of produce would arise from the

abridgment of the time of working.—Manchester Guardian.
Facts for the Monopolists.—Facts are continually transpiring which prove the groundlessness of the prediction, that Face Continually and the provential transpiring which prove the groundlessness of the prediction, that Face Continually and the agriculturing. At all the mark that Free Trade will ruin the agriculturist. At all the markets in the north of England, the prices of all kinds of stock have for some time been inconveniently high; and this description applies to the sales by auction which have taken place throughout Northumberland at the May term, just past. Horses, which were last year scarcely salcable at any price, now realise twice the sum then asked; lean cattle are bought with avidity at good prices; and the demand for sheep greatly exceeds the supply. To show that this general account is not exaggerated, we will narrate more particularly the prices given at the sale of Mr. Johnson's stock, at Chillingham Newton, near Wooler, on Thursday last. The ghort horned cover and about 151 each some bringing short-horned cows averaged about 45% each, some bringing nearly 70 guineas; bulls ranged from 30 to nearly 90 guiness the best one fetching 901, 10s, and a year old bull 511, 10s. the two year old queys averaged from 411, to 421, the one year olds within a trifle of 301, and the calves between 161. and 17%. Draught horses averaged 36%, the best selling at 50 guineus. Tups and tup hogs sold for 16 or 17 guiness, and ewes and lambs for four guineas. Surely these are prices high enough to cheer the heart of the most desponding protectionist. We cannot believe that, with these facts pefore them, the Dukes of Richmond and Cleveland will again venture to talk of the "alarmed agriculturist," still less of "the ruined farmer;" for it is deserving of remark, less of "the ruined farmer;" for it is deserving of remark, that though several foreign breeders and dealers were present, they failed, with only one exception, to outbid our native breeders. This proves that our farmers do not mean to abandon stock breeding as a hopeless attempt to compete with foreigners. But Mr. Johson's farm supplies a still more "telling" fact. The new tenant, we are informed, has taken it at an advance of rent, over that paid by Mr. Johson, of no less than 300% a year. And this with a certainty of Free Trade! It is gratifying to know that our sgricultural labourers participate in this prosperity. At the birings held here and at Morpeth, last week, both male and female farm servants were engaged readily at advanced wages. We leave our readers to draw their own conclusions. New. leave our readers to draw their own conclusions.

At the last meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, Mr. Fuller, M. P. transmitted from the Rev. James Williams one of the potato-eye scoops used in North Wales, along with a statement of his experience in the improvement in the bulk of the potato as food after the extraction of the eye, around which the development of the vegetative principle being the strongest, the removal of such portion along with the eye removes, in his opinion, the cause of that "strong

flavour found in the potato at this season of the year.

A BROTHERLY COMPLIMENT.—" OCTOBER 10th, 1669. Up, to walk up and down the garden with my father, to talk of our concernments; about a husband for my interpretation there is at present no appearance; but we make an endayour to find her one now, for she grows old and arrays.

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PASSAGES FROM THE LIFE OF AN ENGLISH FARMER.

PASSAGE 1: Indicating what kind of man he was.

Mr. Hurst took a hammer from his pocket and a nail; and when he had closed the gate of the Wellburn field, he drove the nail into the post above the latch. He then tried to bit the latch, and could not; and then he shook the gate with his armoutstretched, and it was firm. After that, he took the faggets of thorn which old Adam had cut from the ledge with his bill-hook, and warped them into the bars of the gate—the rough heads undermost, to keep out the pigs. When all was finished, he looked across the field, and said the second week of May was late to sow barley; still, if it pleased God, they might have a good crop even yet.

And old Adam said, " I'es, master, an' it please God."

Mr. Huist then bade Adam go home with him to the farmhouse. Whereat, when they arrived, the other men of the form who held the ploughs, and the lads who drove the ploughs, and the head carter, and the threshers, and the shepherd, were all seated in the kitchen on the forms around the large table. And Mis. Hurst had put bread on the table and beer, and the round of beef, and the cold chine of pork, and the cheese; and Mr. Hurst said he was glad to see it all ready, and bade the men begin. It had always been his custom, and the custom of his father and grandfather, in Berrybill form, to give God thanks and the men their supper at the end of seed time and harvest; and he would not, he said, let the custom go down, if he could keep itun. Yetthis might be the last seed-time they would all see in Berryhill together. The great event which had just happened, and which they were all to be engaged in, the last duties of to morrow might bring about changes on the Berry estate which none there assembled would like

All of them said they hoped nothing would happen to put Mr. Hurst out of Berryhill furm; or if they did not all say so, they looked as if they would have all said so had it been necessary for all to speak. Even the boys who drove the teams at plough, and scared the birds from the seed corn, seemed as if they would have said they hoped Mr. Hurst would never go out of Berryhill, had not their months been so full of bread and meat that they could not speak. Old Adam said he remembered that time one-and fifty years as if it had been but yesterday, when the last event of the kind happened, and that was the year before Mr. Hurst was bern, and he was not sure but there was barley in the Wellburn field that very year.

And then he reckoned how many times he had known barley in that field; how many times he had mown it, and how often it had been reaped; and how many bushels an acre he had known on it in the best years; and what was the price of barley in those years, and what the price of wheat; and when wheat was at a certain price, what bread was at a gallon. And Mr. Hurst told what be hed made per acre from that field, after paying the rent and all charges, in some years when it was barley, and some years when it was wheat. And the shepherd told of the ewes with two lambs, and these lambs he had seen in that field when it was grass. ploughman said they had never turned up soil and harrowed in seed in better order than the soil was that day. And Mr. Hurst said, that to their credit he must say the ridges had never been more neatly finished off, and the water furrows drawn more evenly and expeditiously in any field on Berryhill form since he had known it as had been done in the Weilburn that day. And the two young men who drew the water furrows in the ridges after they had been sown and harrowed, were so pleased to hear their master speak of their work in such a measure of praise, that tired as they were, they would have gone out on that instant and furrowed up twenty fields if the work had been required, and never have felt the shadow of discontent upon them. They would have done any thing to please Mr. Hurst and one another—run a race, leaped the burdles, danced a hornpipe, or sung a song; and they were so near the singing point of good fellowship, that Mr. Hurst, perceiving it, said "No, not on this occasion. We have always had a song on such nights as this before; but the solemn and mournful duty we shall be all engaged in to

morrow must forbid singing and jollity to night."

And then, speaking of what was to be done to-morrow, he said the horses not wanted to go in the procession would be turned into the meadow to grass. Diamond and Dick, the two black mags, would be taken to Crookley Down, to join the procession; and as Adam was old, and not able to walk as he once could, he had better get the second riding saddle and put it on Rosy, and ride. But Adam said he would not ride. Mr. Hurst pressed on him that for his own comfort he should do so. But Adam said no, it would trouble him too much to get on and off; he was too old to ride. Besides, the nobles and the gentles would be all riding, on horses or in coaches; no, he would not ride; he would walk on foot. He had walked on foot on the last occasion of the kind, this time one and-fifty years, and he would walk now.

Whereupon, Mr. Hurst said they would, in that case, turn Rosy into the meadow, with the other horses. And he soon after bade them all good night, and reminded them that tomorrow would soon he here. Upon which the men departed, and went to their own houses; and agreed as they went that the sky looked as if to-morrow would be a fine day.

PASSAGE II: Foreshadowing a change.

The morning of to-morrow came, and it came early. It had no mountains of clouds to climb over to make it late; no fogs to wade through, to make it ill-humoured and out of countenance. It came overflowing with the joy of the year's youthfulness. It came hand in-hand with young summer; not the full-grown, full-dressed, blooming June, but with May in her girlhood—fairy-footed, happy, romping young May. On her head were the first of the forest leaves, and sprigs of budding hawthorn, from the hedge-rows. Around her feet were the flowers that childhood loves—the field-daisies, and the cowslips. She tripped along the copsewood sides, where the cowslips grow, and stood on tiptoe and looked into birds' nests. She found the diligent thrush on her warm eggs, and dried the dew from her back, and hade her mate sit on the start bough and sing to her, and make her happy. She bade the bres, that had not been with

her since last year, come with her, and she would show them where blooming gardens were, and orchards. And the cherry blossoms that had slept all night in the darkness, and the dew, woke, and opened their eyes as infants do; and she kissed away their tears; and bade them, and the birds, and the bees, join all together, and bloom, and work, and sing. She found the young Forget-me-not, infant of its race, and she embraced it, welcomed it to the world, and called it pretty. The primroses, then growing old, and the daisies, that are never old, she found on the grassy margin of the farm fields, where horses, and ploughs, and heavy-feeted men had trampled and crushed them; and she lifted their bruised heads and healed them, and made them look up and bloom as if they had never been trodden on.

Wherever she set her young foot and breathed her sweet breath, deadness came to life, and age took upon itself a new youth. So froliesome was she that she would touch the log, felled last winter, that had neither root nor branch, but which lay at the carpenter's shop to be sawn into boards, and even it would put out buds and leaves. Not even the despised turnip, from the farm-fields, which had fallen into the winter ditch, and was there abandoned as too worthless to be recovered, did she despise and think too mean. She touched it; and it felt the hand of life upon it, and put forth its feeble shoot to lay hold of that hand. And it grew in strength, and raised itself higher and higher every day, until it burst forth in bloom, as if in gratitude and praise to the Author of all life, whose summer angel had come upon the earth and had not overlooked even it, the lowliest and the lost.

Early as the morning came, Mr. Hurst and his men came forth from bed as soon. The horses not to be used that day were turned out, for the first time that year, to grass; and the very oldest of them, even old Captain, who could hardly reach a slow trot on other days, snorted and threw up his hind-heels, and lay down and fumbled, and got up again and cantered, so pleased was he with liberty and the first day of summer grass. As for the younger nags, they careered at the gallop to the farthest end of the meadow, below Berry turnpike and up again, and into the river itself. And the ass followed them routing with delight; and the cows, always sober and disposed to graze peacefully at that time of the morning, raised their tails and hobbled after the ass and the slowest of the horses. And the geese with their goslings and the old drake, weddled to the meadow and cackled and ate grass, though it was ordered they were not to go there and the sows and the young pigs went too, and gave much trouble to those who were sent to bring them back again.

And the boy Adam, grandson of old Adam, was out at the Wellburn field as early as any bird of the morning, to keep the rooks and the wood pigeons from the barley-seed sown yesterday. And never had rooks to contend with a more vigilant watcher of a newly-sown field; for this was young Adam's first day at working for wages. All the work he had done before had been voluntary, and paid for by a hunch of brend and cheese. Now he was hired, and this was his beginning. Not a rook alighted nor came within sight of him, even on wing, but he shouted to it. And he not only walked round and round the field—he sometimes ran; and though he more than once asked himself what he was running for, he ran again, he was so light spirited, and so pleased to be work ing for wages. He knew the squire was dead; but if he had been made squire in his stead he could not have been more happy than he was at being advanced to earn fourpence halfpenny a-day, and to have his dinner in a bag with him, to eat it in the field, at whatever hour he chose. He knew all the people were going to meet the squire's funeral coming from London, at Crookley Down, or that those who did not go to Crookley Down to meet it would go to the top of Morton-hill, to see it coming, and that Morton-hill was three miles away, and that nobody would be left within that space of three miles but himself. Still he was pleased, even to be left alone, because he had been told that the care of every thing on the farm had been left to him.

And by the hour before mid-day not a human being but himself was left on three miles of country between Berry-hill farm and Morton hill,—all had gone to meet the squire's funeral coming from London. But long before that hour, the rooks had discovered that the watcher of the seed corn had nothing more formidable to keep them off than his loud voice and a stone thrown at them if they came near enough, and which stone they could avoid, and still pick up the seed.

And they did pick up the seed, and the solitary watcher could not prevent them; but at last they flew away, one after the other, until only two were left, and everything around him was silent, and he almost wished that those two would not go away. But first one of them, and then the other, flapped its wings, and rose into the air, and circled round him, and went away and left him alone. And the shining sun had also gone, and the south was black. Morton-hill had its darkly wooded north side towards him, and it was black. Everything was still, not a chirrup of a bird was heard, and he thought he felt the shadow of the dark woodlands of Morton-hill, and of the black clouds above them, falling upon him, and going into him, and turning then upside down, and making them horrid and fearful. One of these fearful thoughts was, that this might be the last day; that everybody and everything was perhaps dying or dead, and nobody left in the world but himself; that the whole world was putting on black to go to its own funeral!

There was a tree; he would go up into that tree and look all round, and see if there was any living or moving thing within sight. And he did so, and almost fell from the tree with fear when he saw the white roads in the valley below him covered with a moving black line of people, and horses and coaches more than a mile in length.

It was the squire's funeral; and as it moved on, the darkness of the sky grew deeper, and the air became denser and hotter, and more silent and solemn, until about the time when the coffin was laid in the family vault of the old Abbey; at which time there was not an unweeping eye in or near the Abbey grounds—for he had been a good squire, and many mourned for his death, and those who did not weep for grief wept because others did so—they could not restrain teams upon a sorrowing death.

tears upon a sorrowing day, in sorrowing company.

The darkness of the sky grew deeper, the clouds came nearer, and pressed the hot thick air to the earth; and as the people turned from the death vault of the Abbey, and came out of the Abbey doors, the firmament seemed to have come down from its place in the heavens, and to stand upon the earth, and crowd into a heap the hearse and mourning coaches and black horses, and the horsemen and the foot people, as if it would suffocate them, and lay them all where they had been laying the squire's coffin.

Not one of them but expected to see every moment a flash of lightning followed by a burst of thunder. But there was no thunder. Drops of rain—slow, large, and uneven in their slow

dropping—came down. Then they consed. Then they began again, and once more ceased. And gusts of wind, that seemed to rise from the dead, came through the Abbey doors and made the plumes of the hearse flutter, and made weak women, and men weaker than women, think they saw ghosts upon the wing escaping among the trees by the chance of the Abbey vaults being open.

And the wind rose into conflict with the rain, and neither yielded to the other; both came on pouring and blowing, and the heat went as if it had never been a warm day, and loft nothing but cold, and people shivering in the cold and the wet for the remainder of that day; or marvelling when they kindled good fires at home to warm and dry themselves, that the weather should have changed so unaccountably; or prophesying when they tried to warm and dry themselves, and could not become comfortable, that, "who could tell but this day was the forerumer of evil days to Berry estate!" The old told the young of such foreshadowing of changing fate, which they had heard of in their young days. And the young did not resist the prophecy.

And evil days to Berry estate did come, and to Berryhill Farm before long. But when we recount, as we may possibly do in a few other passages of Mr. Hursi's life, the causes that brought about these evil days, we shall see that the state of the weather at the old squire's funeral was not one of them, though the death of the squire was.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" AND FREE TRADE.—We noticed on Wednesday last, the leaning which the Mark Lane Express was beginning to show towards Free Trade opinions. In its number of Monday last, the bias is still more decided; indeed, its principal article would have been quite in character in a journal devoted to Free Trade. The writer says:

"It is passing strange that, despite the serious apprehensions of a considerable number, and the positive conviction of a great proportion of the agricultural body, that the proposed measures of the Government, if passed into law, will most materially affect the profits to be derived from the cultivation of the soil, there seems no lack of disposition to embark capital in the pursuit, that improved appliances are brought in sid with more carnestness than heretofore, and an increased vigour manifested incompatible with the dreary prospects that would seem to await the result of their labours. We are sensibly alive to the indomitable perseverance of our countrymen; we know that there are no men more brave, more resolute, more determined, or who will advance on a forlorn hope with more firmness and determination; but yet, forlorn though it be, there is even in that case a 'hope.' Must we then come to the conclusion that the British farmers are resolved to display in their peaceful occupation that spirit of determination to meet an ordeal which threatens rain to themselves and families, entertaining still the 'hope' that the result may not be forlorn, but that they may surmount the difficulties and dangers which seem to await them? We conscientiously believe that such is the case with many of those who entertain serious apprehensions for the future. If such he the spirit of the British farmer, that tricked and deceived as he has been, ho is prepared to exert his energies in the pursuit of his occupation, and that he is met by his landlord in such a manner as the exigencies of the times require, who can form an estimate of the probable produce of the soil of the United Kingdom?"

If, as the Mark Lane Express anticipates, the farmers are disposed to manifest a spirit of determination, in their struggle with their foreign competitors, we quite agree in the conclusion, that no one can form an idea of the prosperity to which agriculture may attain.

M. GUIZOT ON FREE TRADE.—The discussion on the commercial treaty between France and Belgium was resumed on Monday in the Chamber of Peers, and derived all its interest from a speech delivered by M. Guizot on his commercial policy, and which the honourable member wound up thus:

"Putting aside the legitimate interests of Free Trade, which I am for from disavowing, there are others which call for the attention of the flovernment. There is always at a given time a defined state in the capital employed in production, and in the same way a defined state of national labour. It is a serious act to cause disorder in a capital thus employed, either as regards its investments, or the use it is turned to: it is a serious act to cause disorder in the labour of production—to change it, or displace it. Numerous interests would suffer from it interests which have as urgent a claim to protection as any others. The evil consequences would be still greater, as influential and political interests would be compromised.

tical interests would be compromised.

"This is a question of public interest—one of those state questions which demands the undivided attention of a Government. I do not say this to reject in an absolute manner all change in the economical system; I do not mean to say that greater concessions must not be allowed to Free Trade than have already been conceded; I am far from thinking so; its end is an increase of intercourse between nations, the maintenance of the blessings of peace, and the establishing of that peace on a firm footing; but the first condition of this great work is to proceed generally, and not to strike a sudden blow in the established order of things, which, instead of being salutary, would cause disorder. This is an imperious duty of the Governent—a part and parcel of all well-founded legitimate and healthy policy. And in the great example, so often quoted in the Chambers, and which is taking place at our very gates, you may be assured that this principle is much more respected than it seems

bers, and which is taking place at our very gates, you may be assured that this principle is much more respected than it seems to a first and superficial glance.

"Gentlemen, our commercial policy has not neglected any one of the great duties imposed upon it; it has acted in a liberal spirit, tending to remove the obstacles that separate nations; to facilitate and extend their commercial relations; to consolidate them by a general harmony so dear to all; such has ever been the aim of our commercial policy. But at the same time, as was its duty, it remained conservative, avoiding to occasion any disorder in the state of things actually established in the investment of capital and of the labour whonce riches are derived. This was our duty, and we trust we have fulfilled it. We are convinced that any dovernment in its senses and any length of time in power, will feel, as we have felt, the imperious necessity of accompilshing it. This was the twofold idea which prosided over all our acts of commercial policy, over the treaty now under discussion, as over the other treaties concluded between Sardinia and the kingdom of Naples, as over other commercial negotiations now pending. We do not moth to any that policy in general is a stranger to these transactions; we hold that national industry owes a tribute to national policy; but we at the same time deem it the duty of the Government to restrict this tribute within the smallest limits; to ward off from industry as well as from other great public interests, all disorder, all suddon change, which, being unexpected, might be fatal."

Sona.—When this article was "protected" by a duty its sale was unimportant. A first-rate grocer in a town like Leicester, for instance, would think 2 out. a large order to give a traveller at one time. Now, however, that the article is entirely exempted from duty, the same grocer ordered 10 tons' weight instead of 2 out. When it was proposed to take the duty off, the manufacturers of the article, like the landed interest with corn, petitioned against its removal, and predicted their own removal in consequence. So great, however, has been the demand for the article, that it is experted to nearly every part of Europe and to Americal the well as to our colonies.—Leicester Chronicle.

AGRICULTURE.

DEFEND THE LABOURERS FROM PRO-TECTION.

It seems that the squires of Dorsetshire are determined to keep up their notoriety to the last. Known throughout Europe as the scandal of Britain, they persist in blazoning their shame in the House of Commons Donnet hire is the county in which, of all England, landlordi in reigns supreme. The squirearchy despo e of the county repre entation at their will and plen are. Came preserving is the rule of the county; good farming the exception, it it exist at all. The labouring population is said to be redundant, yet there is less capital, and a smaller num ber of hands employed to the acreage in farming the cultivated lands in Dor et hire them in any other English county. What ne general be aid? Yet it must be added, that there are wide tracts of land, now in weste and woodland, which only require to be ead tivated to give full employment to the labouring population. Moreover, if the Dorset hire vales were to be completely diamed, a they ought to be, the county would not produce behourer enough to do the work. Nor would there be any difficulty in finding farmer. to form Dorsetshire as well as Lincoln-hire is formed. But landlordism, surrounded by ho to of obsolete notions and tantostic prejudices, bearing in its heart the direct feelings of tyranny, forbids it; and, meanwhile, how fire the Dor et Jure laboraces? Why, it was made a most point in the House of Commons a few nights ago, by two protectionist Dorsetshire members, whether the average rate of wages for able-bodied men in Dorsetshire is 7s, or 75, 6d a week!!

It appears that the semor member for the county, Mr. G. Bankes, made the destitute condition of the Trish peasantry the ground of some attack on the policy of the Government - forgetful of the old proverb about those who live in class houses, and drew down upon himself the retort that in his own county, and on his own countes, the destitution and degradation of the labouring classes might be stated as a parallel case to that of Ireland.

Mr. R. B. Sheridan, member for Shaftesbury, in Dorsetshire a gentleman who seems to want the logical faculty of drawing conclusions from premises, who looks one way and goes another, argues against, and votes for, monopoly had just published, in the Times, a correspondence between him self and the Poor Law Commissioners, with respect to the refusal of a Board of Guardians to give relief to an agricultural labourer, whom Mr. Sheridan (thought to be entitled to it Mr. Sheridan's letter was reprinted in Title Layoun of last week. The substance is this, the was applied to by labourers in full employment to interfere on their behalf, that the men carned but 7s, a-week, out of which they had is 6d, a week to pay for rent, were compelled by their employers to take inferior grain at full market price, and paid at the rate of 91, per acro for a bit of potato ground Mr. Sheridan visited them, and found them at dinner on "boiled horse-beans and turnip tops" We do not know that any details can deepen the misery of such a picture, and it is beside our present purpose so to do. But there is one thing mentioned by the complaining labourers which distinctly marks the ordinary rate of Dorsetshire wages, namely that when at job-work, such as threshing, &c., the price is always so set that no more than 7s, a week can be carned! That is a fact worth more as a guide to the rate of wages than all the assertions, general or particular, of all the landlords of the county.

Nevertheless, Mr. Floyer, one of the new members for Dorsetshire, freshly sent to Parliament to represent the monopolist landocracy of the county. ventured to charge Mr. Sheridan with the publication of fulsehoods, and to deny that in Dorsetshire wages are so low as 7s, a week. Upon the third reading of Sir Robert Peel's Corn Bill, and imme. diately after the monopolist Marquis of Granby had based his defence of monopoly on the assumption that the wages of agricultural labourers vary with, and in proportion to, the price of corn, Mr. Sheridan came forward to correct the imputation on his own veracity. A low passages from that speech conclusively overturn the protectionist fallacies about rural wages, and place the Doysetshire squires in no

very favourable light before the public. Mr. She. ridan said :

"It would be in the recollection of the house that the noble lord the Secretary for Ireland, in reply to some observations made by the senior member for the county of Dorset (Mr. G. Bunkes), suggested that the honourable member would be more properly occupied in comparing the agricultural condition of the pea-antry in Dorsetshire than that of the peasantry in Ireland. With all respect to the honourable member, he must say he thought this was very sound and wholesome advice, and he hoped that the honourable member and his colleagues would take it into their con-

He then adverted to Mr. Floyer's contradiction of his own statement, as to wages in Dorsetshire, and said that he had in consequence written to several persons in the county, elergymen, guardians of unions, and so forth. The Rev. Sidney Godolphin Osborne, whose full exposure of the destitute condition and miscrable abodes of the Dorsetshire poor our renders will remember, in reply said:

"I have read with much estonishment the speech of Floyer. I send you a statistical return of the Blandford Union, made three years aco, and I believe it to be true in the present year. At the time it was made I was chairman of the amon, and tested its truth myself. In 1843 something between one seventh and one eighth of the whole population were purpora. The average pay of the union -the best, I believe, in the county—did not, I believe, reach eight shillings a week, including carters."

And the Rev. Mr. Scott, brother of a monopolist member of that name, replied:

"I do not understand Floyer's saying that he never knew ware a so low as seven shillings a week, for I have known several instances of the kind, and if you are below the mark in stating seven shillings as the exerage amount of wages, it is only sixpence under the mark."

Nor is that all. Mr. Floyer is the Chairman of the Dorchester Board of Guardians; and although he had week after week signed his name to the application book for relief, in which 7s. are constantly named as the ordinary weekly wages, yet he ventured to assert in the House of Commons that he did not know any case in which wages so low had been paid. Thus writes the relieving officer of the Dorchester Union to Mr. Sheridan:

"I believe that the average wages in my district does not exceed more than from 7s, to 7s, 6d, per week; and I think that the extract which I send fully bears me out in that

He had been asked whether any labourers had received more than 8s. a week, and his answer was ⁶ I cannot point to any case in my district." After reading the extract sent by the relieving officer, Mr. Sheridan said:

"As to the district of the Blandford Union, the wages there were on the average is, a week. House rent was high, the cottages dilapidated and unhealthy, and fuel scarce and dear. In the Monkton district wages were 8s; house-rent, Is, to Is, 6d., but for this large gardens were attached to the cottages. About Auderston the wages were is. About Hilton, 78., with low house rent. About Milpoint 78., with house rent from 18. 6d. to 28. About Spetsbury from 78. to 88., house rent from 18. to 18. 6d. About Howton 88., house rent from 18. to 18. 6d. About Howton 88., house rent, Is. About Kingston from 7s. to 8s., with high house Here, however, the labourers had potato ground free. Fuel, however, was scarce and dear. About Strickland wages were from 78, to 88., house rent from 1l. to 3l. per annum. About Felton the wages for single men were 6s., for married men 78.; house rent was high,

He afterwards said these low wages were not excoptional cases, but rather form the rule, and added:

" Now, in the name of heaven, how could a man be up to his work on horse beans and turnip-tops? He stated, in his place in Parliament, that the labourars' cottages were so small, so dilapidated, and so crowded, that they engendered disease and immorality, that their wages were scandalously low, quite inadequate for the support of the labourer and his family. These were not his opinions alone, they were the opinions of the resident elergy and gentry in the neighbourhood, and they were also the opinions expressed at a public meeting at Stourminster, by the noble lord the late member for Dorsetshire, an expression of opinion which, as he (Mr. Sheridan) believed, had cost him his seat in that house. Now, it might be said, how could be, with these opinions-with these details staring him in the face-how could be, after the expression of his desire for the improvement of the labouring classes, have the courage to oppose the measure which the right honourable baronet had brought in ?

Yet, with singular inconsistency, Mr. Sheridan said he " did not see how the withdrawal of all protection would have the effect of improving the condition of the agricultural labourer."

Is Mr. Sheridan incapable of reasoning? At all events, on his own showing, they cannot be worse off than at present; and he admits that " the repeal of the Corn Laws will give a stimulus to trade and cause an increased demand for labour." Does he suppose that such effects will not operate on Dorsetshire? Or, perhaps, he thinks that the prejudices of landlordism in that county are such as to

the Dorsetshire squires stand before the world, a do not believe they will long resist the tide of a provement in husbandry, which will set in κ unrestricted trade, and that simply because it own interests will compel them to adopt a \bar{y}

Yet, protectionist as he is, Mr. Sheridan es, pletely overturns the plea for protection, locally on the interest it is pretended the labourer has in monopoly. He said:

⁶ The noble ford epposite (Lord G. Bentinek estated) the price of labour depended upon the price of correct did not agree with the noble lord in that index 1,1-1. that the question had been for ever set at rest. He : third that in Dorsetshire wages never rand, not wheat was 201, or 101, per load, and referred to a from a Dorsetshire labourer, complaining of the tament experienced by his class at the bands of the fire who would not allow the labourer to carn more tree a week, which 'made their lives bitter, and them to e for the grave."

And again:

 $^{6}\, He$ would remind the house, that at this momentum was flourishing and labour in demand; still be would a ture his life that there had not been an increase in the wa of the Dorsetshire labourer; that now, when when from Mis. to files, a quarter, the rate of reman contact agricultural labourer was the same as it had been but, when wheat was Vis."

When the Dorsetshire squires shall enable ε tenants to improve their farms, by granting far leases for long terms of years, without the research tion of game, then, and then only, will wages in \mathbb{N}_{+} setshire rise.

Mr. Floyer attempted to escape from his position:

" In his neighbourhood the common rate of wages w_{t} : at the lowest, with a house free, a garden, some ful, and a patch of potato ground-advantages which, taking the Mi of the house to be from 1s. to 2s. per week, night bees. mated as raising the rate of wages to about 9s

Now, had this been true, the rate is seamer enough; but the truth is, the house-rent is usualle, in ninety-nine cases out of every one hundred, part by the Dorsetshire labourer out of his Sender par tance of 7s. a-week. We say this advisedly, at 1 upon the authority of those who have long known the wretched condition of the Dorsetshire peasanty And we doubt whether the average is so high as to a-week, for there are more able bodied single near receiving less than that sum than the number of those who get 8s. And it must be rememberd that the man who receives 8s. a-week is always earter, shepherd, or something of that sort, and gives extra labour fully equivalent to the additional weekly shilling.

However, refutation takes no effect on the metapolists. Facts seem to make no impression on the: minds; for, notwithstanding the correction of a id low monopolist, Mr. Miles with the utmost stokery afterwards, during the same evening, asserted "that protection was a system adapted to beneft the labourers!!!" How has the system of pertection benefited the Dorsetshire labourers?

WHERE'S THE OBSTACLE TO GOOD HUSBANDRY?

There is something wrong somewhere in the farming business; else why are farmers alone, of all the industrions of the nation, unable to go alone? Why has it been said they must have "protection?" Why are they belectured by every squire who gets a smattering of the mistry, and seeks to use it, like an alchemist, to convert his clods into gold, to uphold his rents?

But agricultural chemistry and scientific farming are not what farmers want. They must have something else first. Don't let us be misunderstood; we by 100 means depreciate the value of science in connection with husbandry. But it is of no use to talk about scientific farming to the yearly tenant, who incurs great hazard in undertaking even the most common improvements. We say advisedly, farmers are ready to farm with science and enterprise as soon as the landowners will let them.

Let the farmers look at the following description of their class, given by Mr. Cayley, the monopolist member for the North Riding of Yorkshire, and which he used as an argument for resisting the Government measure on the importation of corn:

"Mr. Ellis had been alluded to by the right hon baronet. and portions of his evidence before the committee of luis quoted. He (Mr. Cayley) distinctly remembered the examination of Mr. Ellis (being one of the committee); but who was Mr. Ellis? He was a farmer and also a market guidener. Did the farmers of England consist of market guideners? deners? Were they all large farmers and men of educa-tion? Were they all of that class? No, they were not. They had risen from the labouring classes; many of them had been old servants in the employment of large landed oprietors, who looked forward with pleasure to the with bar every kind of rural improvement? Badly as male possession of a piece of land, and who eventually were

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enabled to obtain that possession, by investing the carnings of their earlier years. Such Men composed, in his opi-NION, THE MAJORITY OF THE FARMERS OF ENGLAND the exceptions were those who had large capital, and those who received a liberal education. It was the former classthe smock frock farmers, he might call them - who would be most affected by a repeal of the Corn Laws."

Hear this, ye farmers of England! Look at the above picture of your class drawn by one of your protectionist FIGURES !!" This is the condition to which the momopolist squires would, if they could, reduce you-a bettermost kind of upper servants.

We leny that farmers with little capital are benefited by monopoly; on the contrary, they have suffered more from it than farmers of ampler means; but it seems now confessed that it is to protect the "old servant" class of farmers that the community is to be afflicted by mono $po^{t_{V}}$

But away with such silly twaddlers as Mr. Cayley, and their nonsense about "old servant" farmers, and let us see what those who write and speak for the farmers, the real farmers of England, are writing and talking about. Now the Mark Lane Express is perhaps the most accurate representative of farmers' opinions of the day, and what do we find the objects of that journal? Why, to justify the farmers from imputations of want of skill and enterprise, and to show that bigotted adherence to obsolete usages, which has so retarded agriculture, is not fairly attributable to the farmers: and it seeks to place the blame where blame is due, upon the landlords. Contrast the following remarks on the coming Corn Law with Mr. Cayley's puerili-

"It is passing strange that, despite the serious apprehensions of a considerable number, and the positive conviction of a great proportion of the agricultural body, that the proposed measures of the Government, if passed into law, will most materially affect the profits to be derived from the cultivation of the soil, there seems no lack of disposition to emhirk capital in the pursuit, that improved appliances are brought in aid with more earnestness than heretofore, and on increased vigour manifested incompatible with the dreary prospects which would seem to await the result of their labours. We are sensibly alive to the indomitable perseveinnce of our countrymen: we know that there are no men more brave, more resolute, more determined, or who will advance on a forlorn hope with more firmness and determination; but yet, forlorn though it be, there is even in that case a Chope. M st we, then, come to the conclusion that the British farmers are resolved to display in their peaceful occupation that spirit of determination to meet an ordeal which threatens ruin to themselves and families, entertaining still the 'hope' that the result may not be forlorn, but that they may surmount the difficulties and dangers which seem to await them?

Here is a quiet vein of sareasm, directed to the loudtongued prophets of ruin to farmers, from Free Trade; to which prophecies the farmers are calmly giving the he by "embarking" more "capital in that pursuit."

But the issue does not rest with the farmer alone. He is ready to do his part, and more than his part; but how is he backed by the landlord? See what the farmers' advocate says on the subject :

If such be the spirit in which the British farmer, tricked and deceived as he has been, is prepared to exert his energies in the pursuit of his occupation, and that he is met by his landlord in such a manner as the exigencies of the times require, who can form an estimate of the probable produce of the soil of the United Kingdom? We hear much of the necessity of stimulating the tenant farmers to increased exertion, of rousing them from their old jog-trot habits, of forcing them to cast aside their antiquated prejudices; but what, we ask, is the extent of reform required of the tenantry as compared with the landlords? We have no hesitation in asserting that, taking the landlords as a body so far as regards the management of their estates, and the tenantry as a body so far as regards the management of their farms, the former are centuries behind the latter.

This is strictly true. Nor do the landlords employ the most competent agents; but even the agen a-head of their employers, though often fearful drags upon enterprising farmers.

The tenants, however, have found out that to be successful, they must be secure of reaping where they have sown, and that they must attain social independence.

The writer proceeds to say:

"It is, however, gratifying to know that the tenant farmers are beginning to look into their real position, and that the relation of landlord and tenant will, beyond a doubt, be speedily better understood and better defined. We cannot concur in the eminion that in order to maintain a kind and concur in the opinion, that, in order to maintain a kind and friendly feeling between landlord and tenant, the latter must he kept in a state of dependence upon the former. In a primitive state of society, that species of connection might be not only agreeable but useful to all parties; but to the tenant former of these since when the second content of wind and farmer of these times, who possesses an educated mind and independent spirit, the surest bond of friendship between himself and his landlord will be, a reciprocity of interests, and the recognition of his just rights, as well of position as of property. By the time that the question of 'tenant right' has been discussed at the various farmers' clubs throughout the control of th right, has been discussed at the various farmers cause throughout the country (and we trust it will be in every one before the year 1846 has expired), we may hope that tenants generally will begin to understand the subject better, and that the landlords will see that instead of lessoning the value of their estates, or decreasing their legitimate influence, it will have a direct tendency to increase both."

The abrogation of the delusions of protection was a necessary preliminary to the assertion of independence

by the tenant farmers; the game has been well opened for them by the Free Traders, and we shall be mistaken if the farmers do not play it out.

FLAX CULTURE.

The growth of thax is attracting the attention of vast numbers of farmers, who see that by the ordinary fourcourse system all has not been done for husbandry of which it is capable." We learn also that fabries of flax are coming more into use than heretofore, and that there is every prospect of an increased demand for flax, which, however, at present sells at prices amply remunerative to the grower. At this time, therefore, the publication by Mr. Warnes of his book "On the Flax Crop, and the Use of its Seed" (printed by Clowes and Son) is very

The readers of THE LENGUE will be well aware of the general outline of Mr. Warnes's plans. He grows flax; and in preparing the stalk for the spinner, emplovs at good wages so many men, women, and children, that it is quite clear, that should the growth of flax become general, it will at once furnish employment for all our (so-called) redundant agricultural population. The growth of flax too is very profitable; then why is it not more grown? There is a notion that it is an exhausting crop, and most leases forbid its cultivation; but it is not so, provided the seed be consumed on the farm for feeding stock. On the contrary, the cultivation of flax and consumption of the seed is one of the most certain means of improving the fertility of all kinds of soils. The great object required for the general introduction of flax culture is, that there should be persons to purchase the stalks in their raw state from the growers: for though the manufacture of the stalk into flax is not very difficult, it is not strictly a tarming process, and will not be readily adopted by the general run of farmers. However, we have no doubt that as the growth extends, a class of flax-dressers will soon

Another part of Mr. Warnes's plan is feeding cattle with the seed (linseed) crushed, boiled, and mixed with cut straw, grass, &c., and a little meal; and that in boxes, by which the manure is improved and econo-

We cannot give an extract from the book more useful to our farming readers than Mr. Warnes's description of his bullock boxes, which is as follows:

"It is impossible for the inexperienced to form a correct estimate of the advantages of box feeding cattle. The plan is simple and feasible,—its greatest recommendation. Lofty and incomprehensible theories have been too long obtruded upon the agricultural community, to the exclusion of those benefits which were absolutely within their grasp. The farmer's attention has been directed to fattening his cattle upon foreign food, and to the vain attempt of enriching his land by foreign manure, instead of obtaining both from the resources of his own farm. In attempting to point those out, I am sensible that I shall again be subjected to the fate of a prophet in his own country

"The sketch in the appendix represents the elevation of one angle of my boxes, and the ground plan of the whole; including passages, space for cribs, grinding, turmps, grass, and straw houses. The angle in which the cooking depart ment is situated, consists of buildings that were formerly used as stables, &c. The whole is surrounded by a wall. The cost of creeting similar boxes, with the same advantage of a wall, including such materials and labour as could fairly be brought into the account, would average about 30s. a box, which would be repaid in a year. For instance, if the crection of a box costs 30s., and the bullock fattened in it pays that sum more than he would have done if grazed abroad. the money is of course returned to the pocket, and the box remains for future inhabitants. To be more explicit; let twenty bullocks be divided, and ten fattened in boxes, and ten in the yard or field. I assert that the former will pay 151, more than the latter. But in justice to my own experiments. I must add that the advant ige of box be from 21, to 31, per head, over the field or yard; and the extra expense of attendance amply repaid by the economy of

" The description of these buildings is difficult, because however clear and explicit, it must convey ideas of magnitude and intricacy, while neither exists. To make ten boxes, a space will be required of 90 feet long and 124 wide; then let a line be drawn from one end to the other, three feet and a half wide from the side most convenient for the passage. Next let the mould, to the depth of one foot, be excavated from the other part and thrown on the side intended for the front, and spread to the thickness of a foot This will give two feet from the bottom of the boxes to the surface. A wall of brickwork, four inches wide and two feet high, is next to be built round the inside of this part excavated, and intersected at distances of eight feet and a buil. At each angle the brickwork should be about nine or twelve inches square, which will both support the posts and afford inches square, which will both support the posts and afford strength and durability. Upon the wall a sill of wood is next to be placed, for which purpose large poles, either squared or split, are adapted. The foundation being now complete, posts six feet long, and the necessary sills and ties, may be placed upon it. Across the ties the most ordinary poles may be laid to support a roof composed of the trimmings from hedges and ditches, and completed with a thatch of straw or rushes. Two gates, according to the drawing, must be added to each box; one of which is to move on hinges, and the other to be secured to the top and move on hinges, and the other to be secured to the top and bottom sills of the building, so as to be taken down at pleasure. Presuming that we have taken advantage of a barn or other walls on farm premises, the external part is finished.

The internal has merely to be parted off with a few poles between each bullook and the passage separated by the cribs, which are to move up and down between the interior posts,

which are placed upon the angles of each box, and support the roof on the passage side.

"The superiority of box feeding, and summer grazing over any other system I shall attempt to point out next week. In the mean time, I offer the following questions for the calm consideration of all interested persons; and I hope their calculations will be made with the aid of their pen and ink, that when mine shall appear they may be compared, squared, and the balance drawn; and then, I feel persuaded, that the account will preponderate much in my favour. But there is a spirit in men worse than prejudice, which I do not expect to overcome, nor shall I make the attempt. Time is the best developer of all things.

"1st. What are the advantages to be obtained by feeding eattle in boxes, with turnips, and with or without the addi

and. With grass, or without the addition of artifleial

'3rd. What extra degree of efficacy may be expected from the box manure over that of the farm yard?

"In conclusion, I would observe that straw houses are very necessary appendages to the boxes. Their shape is im material, and structure sample. According to the space in the yard the encumference must be adapted. The earth should then be excaynted to the depth of five or six feet, and a wall four inches thick of brick or stone be built from the bottom to the surface, which wall is then to be thickened and raised three feet higher, leaving a space for the door. Upon the wall planks are to be laid on posts five or six feet long attached, which are to be covered over with a roof, ac cording to the elevation. A building of this kind, placed near the doors of a barn, will be found at all times most convenient to receive straw from the thresher; and being supk in the ground, is rendered capable of containing an extra quantity of straw, particularly if trodden down by a horse/

We may mention that this plan of feeding with boiled linseed and cut straw, and making manure in boxes, is not confined to fattening cattle. We have adopted it with mileh cows and young stock, with the best results. In feeding young stock, the proportion of straw to linseed would of course be much more than for fattening cattle. Nor is it necessary that the farmer should grow his own linseed.

In Mr. Warnes's book the farmer will perceive full accounts of his experiments, his plans, and their results; and he has illustrated his text with cuts which will be very useful to those who wish to adopt the plan of box feeding.

In recommending this work, we must not omit to guard the reader against some very erroneous economical notions on the subject of Free Trade-homo production, independence of foreigners, and so forth; but which, however, ought not to repel the intelligent farmer from the truly valuable suggestions made by Mr. Warnes, who often gives a bad reason for a very useful practice. Neither can we altogether overlook the writer's occasional flings at the League, which we suppose were necessary to keep up his reputation as a "protectionist;" for, assuredly, the whole scope of his work is to show, in practice, the utter absurdity of protection to agriculture.

Indeed, Mr. Warnes's quarrel with the League is founded on a mistake. He seems to suppose that the Free Traders have discountenanced and opposed the growth of flax. Nothing is further from the truth. The use made of the protectionist's recommendation to grow flax was this—we say you monopolists pretend that you require protection on wheat against foreign competition, and yet you recommend farmers to grow flax an article altogether open to foreign competition; and the argument is one which has pinched the monopoli-ts not a little. So far from opposing the system Mr. Warnes recommends, we ask him whether his plans have not met with more effective support, and been made more extensively known, through the medium of THE LEAGUE during the last six months, than by all the monopolist aid he has had from the very commencement of his exertions?

WHEAT, &c .- The following is an account " of the quantities of wheat, barley, oats, wheat flour, and oatmeal, imported into Great Britain from Ireland, from the 5th day of March to the 5th day of April, 1846 (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 162, of the present session)." Month ended the 5th of April, 1816:

					Quartery,
					19,540
					10,119
14.					50,800
					Cwts.
Wheatmenl or Flour					89,0 18
	• •				50,360
	ul or	al or Flour	al or Flour	al or Flour	al or Flour

CATTLE. - An account " of all cattle, sheep, and swine im ported into Great Britain from Ireland, from the 5th day of January to the 5th day of April, 1816 (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 25, of the present session," published by the House of Commons yesterday, gives the following results:

			Number
Oxen, Bulls, and Cov	YH.,	 	14,869
Calven		 	183
Slivep and Lambs —		 	11.121
Hurina			160 041

Since the year 1825, when the trade between Great Britain and Ireland was placed under coasting regulations, the official record of the interchange of produce and manufactures between the two countries (except in so far as the article of corn is concerned) has of necessity been discontinued. The foregoing return, therefore, has been framed from non-official documents collected at the ports of exportation, and consisting chiefly of printed market and slifpping

REVIEW.

The Life and Times of the Hight Hon. Henry Grattan. By his Son, Henry Grattan, Esq., M.P. London: Colburn.

At a time when the affairs of Ireland attract a more than ordinary share of public attention, these volumes, which comprise nearly all that is valuable in the history of that country, and which supply materials for clucidating, and perhaps explaining, the principal anomalies in its social condition, are replete with interest and instruction, not merely to the statesman and politician, but to all who feel desirous to maintain the integrity of the empire. We differ from the estimable writer of these memoirs in the general inference be deduces from the record, but this does not lessen our estimate of the value of the record itself. We know not, indeed, a better repertory of arguments for the maintenance of the union between England and Ireland than this work. a very disproportionate part of which is devoted to the advocacy of repeal. The very first measure ad vocated by the great patriot, "the Free Trade" for Ireland, involved in its principles an identity of commercial interests between the insular kingdoms which stand between Europe and the Atlantic, and must, if fairly developed, have compelled an identity of legislation. The spirit of monopoly delayed the union which was vainly sought as a boon by the Irish themselves in 1707. The spirit of monopoly rendered the measure so imperfect, that the attainment of its objects was long impossible; and the spirit of monopoly still prevents their complete realisation.

It has been said that the Turks have only encamped in Europe. When Grattan was born, Ireland with more truth might be said to be merely garrisoned by that eless on which the law conferred exclusively the privileges of political existence. But these garrisons submitted as reluctantly to English rule as the Beys in Egypt did to the sovereignty of the Sultan; and only consented to dependence because the strength of England was necessary to support their powers of oppression. Gratten attempted from these discordant elements to form a nation; it was a glorious effort - it was even magnificent as a failure. But, unlike most other failures of statesmen, Grattan accumulated in his struggle so many elements of good, and developed so many resources of power, that his ill success is fraught with more advantage to his country them in a Cother nations have reaped from the most decraive triumphs of pa-

Henry Graffan was born in Dublin, July 3d, 1746. His father was Recorder of the city, and for many years its representative in Parliament, where he supported the 'system then pursued by the English Government towards Ireland. The difference in politics between the father and son was early developed, and the former, who died while Henry was a student in the University, alienated from him the paternal mansion. He lost his mother, to whom he was fondly attached, while qualifying for the bar in London, and she died so suddenly, that she had not time for taking the measures neces ary for securing hun the reversion of some landed property she had destined for his use.

Though Grattan had obtained high honours in the Dublin University, and had been a most dili gent student while at the Temple, he did not exhibit any remarkable powers in his first essays as a lawyer, but his abilities as a politician becoming known to Lord Charlemont, that patriotic nobleman brought him in for one of his boroughs, and he took his seat in the Irish Parliament Dec, 11, 1775. At this time, the restrictions imposed on the manufactures and commerce of Ireland for the supposed benefit of England had reduced the country to a state of bankruptey; and this distress wavaggravated by an embargo which the Government imposed 1 proclamation on the export of provisions; but also, at this time, England was involved in a calamitous and expensive war with her American colonies; and as the struggle deepened, it became necessary to court the aid of Ireland by a conciliatory policy. The patriotism of the Trish senator and the policy of the English Minister had, however, to struggle against a pensioned Parliament. The Irish admi-mstration was nothing but a series of bubes and jobs. As Grattan said, in one of his earliest speeches, "Ministers had taken the jewels out of the crown, and had staked them against the liberties of the people." Grattan's motion for an address to the crown, simply setting forth the distressed condition of Ireland, was lost by a unijority

About this time intelligence was received that the French meditated an invasion of the north of Ireland. The inhabitants of Belfast and Carriekfergus applied to the Government for protection, and wore informed that the only force which could be spared for their defence amounted to about 60 The inhabitants armed themselves, formed independent companies and assumed the name of Voluntkens. Their example was contagious, Similar associations were fermed in various

parts of the country; and the Lord Lieutenant, after having delayed until the enemies were almost in sight of the coast of Ireland, found himself obliged to furnish the volunteers with arms.

In Ireland and in England this has been generally represented as a great national movement. It was no such thing; it was, in fact, nothing better than an association of the partisans of the ascendancy an armed Orange League, not to defend the rights of Ireland, but to prevent English participation in the plunder and oppression of the Irish Catholics. The demand for Free Trade was a landlord cry to raise the price of produce at home by exporting to foreign markets; and it was accompanied by the formation of associations to prevent the import of English manufactures, Catholics being at the time excluded from every lucrative branch of manufacture, and even prohibited from residing in many of the corporate and market towns. Most of our readers have heard of the distich said to have been inscribed on the gates of Bandon:

"Turk, Jew, or Atheist, May enter here, but not a Papist."

And they may also have heard of the clever retort by a poor scholar, when excluded from the anti-Popish town:

"Whoever wrote those lines, wrote well; For the same is inscribed on the gates of hell."

We know not whether the poetic prohibition was literally emblazoned over the gates; but we know that its spirit was observed with the most rigid strictness, as any one may see who consults the strange records of impolicy and intolerance preserved in the Report on Irish Corporations. We have two lists before us, -that of the officers of the Volunteer companies who took the most active part in the great movement of 1782, and that of the officers of yeomanry corps and of the magistrates who exhibited the greatest barbarity and cruelty in the melancholy insurrection of 1793. The lists are almost identical. The most flaming patriots in the one period were the most bitter persecutors in the other. Let us not be misled by names. The "Free Trade" sought by the Volunteers in 1778 was simply freedom of exports to enrich landlords, and prohibition of imports to curich Orange manufacturers. The combination was a decided fraud and. wrong on the great mass of consumers—the Catholic population. It was significant of the real object of the movement, that its greatest demonstration was made on the 4th of November, 1779, King William's birth day, and round the statue of that Orange idol in College Green.

We by no means assert that all the Irish patriots were patrons of ascendancy and monopoly. We believe that from the first such men as Grattan, Yelverton, and Hussey Burgh embraced in their view the whole Irish people. The following brief speech of Burgh's is decisive on that point:

"The usurped authority of a foreign Parliament has kept up the mest wicked laws that a jealous, monopolising, ungrateful spirit could devise, to restrain the bounty of Providence, and enslave a nation, whose inhabitants are recorded to be a brave, loyal, and generous people; by the English code of laws, to answer the most sordid views, they have been treated with a savage ernelty; the words penalty punishment, and Ireland, are synonymous, they are marked in blood on the margin of their statutes; and though time may have softened the calamities of the nation, the baneful and destructive influence of those laws have borne herdown to a state of Egyptian bondage. The English has sowed their laws like serpents' teeth, and they have sprung up in

But assuredly this cannot be said of Fitzgibbon, Latonche, Langfield, Oglo, St. George, and Sir Richard Musgrave. None of these men had sympathy with the sontiments of the brilliant peroration in which Grattan wound up his speech on moving the Declaration of Right:

"Hereafter, when these things shall be history, your age of thraidom and poverty, your sudden resurrection, commercial redress, and miraculous armament, shall the historian stop at liberty, and observe, that here the principal men among us fell into mimic trances of gratitude,—they were awed by a weak ministry, and bribed by an empty treasury, -and when liberty was within their grasp, and the temple opened her folding doors, and the arms of the people clanged, and the zeal of the nation urged and encouraged them on, that they fell down, and were prostituted at the

I might, as a constituent, come to your bar and demand my liberty. I do call upon you, by the laws of the land and their violation, by the instruction of eighteen counties, by the arms, inspiration, and providence of the present moment, tell us the rule by which we shall go,—assert the law of Ire-land,—declare the liberty of the land.

"I will not be answered by a public lie, in the shape of an amendment; neither, speaking for the subjects' freedom, am I to bear of faction. I wish for nothing but to breathe, in this our island, in common with my fellow-subjects, the air of liberty. I have no ambition, unless it be the ambition to break your chain, and contemplate your glory. I never will be satisfied so long as the meanest cottager in Ireland has a link of the British chain clanking to his rage: he may be naked, he shall not be in iron; and I do see the time is at hand, the spirit is gone forth, the declaration is planted; and though great men should apostatise, yet the cause will live; and though the public speaker should die, yet the im mortal fire shall outlast the organ which conveyed it, and the breath of liberty, like the word of the holy man, will not

Majesty, and the Lords and Commons of Ireland, are the only power competent to make laws to bind Ireland."

We find that the Rowleys, the Skeffingtons, and others who were supporters of the Declaration of Right, opposed the concessions which the English Government made to the Catholic body; and that these concessions were carried by the "Custle hacks," or the party which always voted as the Government directed. Thus the Catholics were in debted for the first measures of emancipation to the English Government, not to the Irish Parliament; and we may add, that in a preceding generation Sir Robert Walpole had to exert all the power and influence of England to prevent the Irish penal code from heing rendered even more oppressive and disgraceful than it now stands. Grattan, on this occa sion, made a noble profession of nationality;

"The question is now, whether we shall grant Roman Catholies the power of enjoying estates, -whether we shall be a Protestant settlement or an Irish nation! whether we shall throw open the gates of the temple of liberty to all our countrymen, or whether we shall confine them in bondage by penal laws? So long as the penal code remains, we never can be a great nation. The penal code is the shell in which the Protestant power has been hatched, and now it has become a bird, it must burst the shell or perish in it.

" In Holland, where the number of Roman Catholics is comparatively small, the toleration of their religion is an act of mercy to them; but in this country, where they form the great bulk of the inhabitants, it is an act of policy, an act of necessity, an act of incorporation. The question is not whether we shall show mercy to the Roman Catholics, but whether we shall mould the inhabitants of Ireland into a people: for so long as we exclude Catholics from natural liberty and the common rights of men, we are not a people we may triumph over them, but other nations will triumph over us. If you love the Roman Catholic, you may be sure of a return from him; but if you treat him with crucky you must always live in fear, conscious that you ment his just must always live in lear, conscious in a you ment his just resentment. Will you then go down the stream of time, the Roman Catholic sitting by your side, unblessing and in blessed, blasting and blasted?—or will you take off his chain, that he may take off yours?—will you give him free-down that he may guard your librate? dom, that he may guard your liberty?
"In Ireland, as connected with England, the indulgence

we wish to give to Catholies can never be injurious to the Protestant religion, -that religion is the religion of the state, and will become the religion of Catholics if severity does not prevent them. Bigotry may survive persecution, but it never can survive toleration. But gentlemen who speak of the enormities committed by Catholies growing under a system of penal laws, do not take into account the enlightening and softening of men's minds by toleration, nor do they consider that as they increase in wealth they will increase in learning and politeness.

I give my consent to the clause in its principle, extent, and boldness; I give my consent to it as the most likely means of obtaining a victory over the prejudices of Catholics. and over our own: I give my consent to it, because I would not keep two millions of my fellow subjects in a state of slavery, and because, as the mover of the Declaration of Rights, I would be ashumed of giving freedom to but six hundred thousand of my countrymen, when I could extend it to two millions more.

The independence of the Irish Parliament was unanimously asserted on the 16th of April, 1782. Grattan's speech, on proposing an address to the royal message, in which the claims of England to legislate for Ireland are asserted, has the solema grandeur of a pæan:

"I am now to address a free people; ages have passed away, and this is the first moment in which you could be distinguished by that appellation.

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"I have spoken on the subject of your liberty so often, that I have nothing to add, and have only to admire by what heaven directed steps you have proceeded until the whole fearly of the nation is bound in to the set of her own defaculty of the nation is braced up to the act of her own de-

"I found Ireland on her knees; I watched over her with an eternal solicitude; I have traced her progress from injuries to arms, and from arms to liberty. Spirit of Swift; spirit of Molyneux! your genius has prevailed! Ireland is now a nation! in that new character I hail her! and bowing to her august presence, I say, Esto perpetua!

She is no longer a wretched colony, returning thanks to her governor for his rapine, and to her king for his oppres sion; nor is she now a squabbling, fretful sectory, perplexing her little wits, and firing her furious statutes with bigotry, sophistry, disabilities, and death, to transmit to posterity in significance and war.

"Look to the rest of Europe, and contemplate yourself, and be satisfied. Holland lives on the memory of past achievement; Sweden has lost her liberty; England has sullied her great name by an attempt to enslave her colonies. You are the only people—you, of the nations in Europe, are now the only people who excite admiration, and in your present conduct you not only exceed the present generation, but you equal the past. I am not afraid to turn back and look antiquity in the face; the revolution—that great event, whether you call it ancient or modern I know not, was tarnished with bigotry; the great deliverer (for such I must ever call the Prince of Nassau), was blemished with oppression; he assented to, he was forced to assent to acts which deprived the Catholics of religious, and all the Irish of civil and commencial relations. and commercial rights, though the Irish were the only subjects in these islands who had fought in his defence. But you have sought liberty on her own principle; see the Presbyterians of Bangor petition for the freedom of the Catholics of Munster. You, with difficulties innumerable, with dangers not a few, have done what your ancestors wished, but could not accomplish, and what your posterity may preserve but will never equal; you have moulded the jarring elements of your country into a nation, and have rivalled those great and ancient commonwealths, whom you were taught to admire, and among whom you are now to be recorded; in this proceeding you had not the advantages which were common to other great countries; no monuments, no trophies, none of those outward and visible signs of greatuess, such as inspire mankind and connect the ambition of the age which is die with the prophet, but survive him.

"I shall more you, 'That the King's most excellent any great act recorded among all your mistratures, are here.

you one public tomb to assemble the crowd, and speak to the hing the language of integrity and freedom.

Your historians did not supply the want of monuments; on the contrary, these marrators of your misfortunes, who should have felt for your wrongs, and have punished your oppressors with oppressions, natural scourges, the moral in dignation of history, compromised with public villany and trembled; they excited your violence, they suppressed your

provocation, and wrote in the chain which entrammelled their country. I am come to break that chain, and I con gratulate my country, who, without any of the advantages I speak of, going forth as it were with nothing but a stone and a sling, and what oppression could not take away, the lavour of beaven, accomplished her own redemption, and left

you nothing to add and everything to admire.

"You want no trophy now; the records of Parliament are the tyidence of your glory; I beg to observe, that the deli verance of Ireland has proceeded from her own right hand; I repoice at it, for had the great requisition of your freedom proceeded from the bounty of England, that great work would have been defective both in renown and security; it was necessary that the soul of the country should have been exalted be the act of her own redemption, and that England should withdraw her claim by operation of treaty, and not of mere grace and condescension; a gratuitous act of Parliament, however express, would have been revocable, but the repeal of her claim under operation of treaty is not; in that case, the legislature is put in covenant, and bound by the law of nations, the only law that can legally bind Parliament; never did this country stand so high; England and Ireland treat er equo. Ireland transmits to the King her claim of right, and requires of the Parliament of England the repeal of her claim of power, which repeal the English Parliament is to make under the force of a treaty which depends on the law of nations-a law which cannot be repealed by the Parlia-

"I rejoice that the people are a party to this trenty, because they are bound to preserve it. There is not a man of forty shillings freehold that is not associated in this our claim of right, and bound to die in its defence; cities, counties, associations, Protestants and Catholics; it seems as if the people had joined in one great national sacrament; a flame has descended from heaven on the intellect of Ireland, plays round her head, and encompasses her understanding

with a consecrated glory."

In the excitement of national gratitude, the sum of 50,000%, was voted to purchase an estate for Grattan; within three or four months he was an object of popular dislike and mistrust. The Volunteers were not satisfied with what had been achieved: they formed a military convention under the guidance of Flood, and resolved to frame a constitution which would secure the perpetual domination of the Orange party. A personal altereation of unequalled bitterness was the first consequence of these differences. We shall extract some specimens of this Irish invective without any comment; and we shall first give Flood's attack on Grattan:

"I am not afraid of the right hon, member; I will meet him any where, or upon any ground, by night or by day. would stand poorly in my own estimation and my country's opinion, if I did not stand far above him. I do not come here dressed in a rich wardrobe of words to delude the people. I am not one who has promised repeatedly to bring in a Bill of Rights, yet does not bring in that bill, or permit any other person to do it. I am not one who threatened to impeach the Chief Justice of the King's Bench, for acting under an English law, and afterwards shrunk from that business. I am not the author of the simple repeal. I am not one who would come at midnight, and attempt by a vote of this House to stifle the voice of the people, which my egregious folly has raised against me. I am not the gentleman who subsists upon your accounts. I am not the mendicant patriot who was bought by my country for a sum of money, and then was bought by my country for a sum of money, and then who in this House loudly complained of an infringement made by England, in including Ireland in a bill, and then sent a certificate to Dungamon that Ireland was not included. included. I never was bought by the people, nor ever sold them. The gentleman says he never apostatized; but I say I never changed my principles; let every man say the same, and let the people believe them if they can. But if it be so had a thing to take an office in the state, how comes that gentleman connected with persons in office? They, I hope, are men of virtue, or how came that gentleman so closely connected with Colonel Fitzpatrick? I object to no man for being in office; a patriot in office is the more a patriot for being there. There was a time when the glories of the great Dake of Marlborough shrunk and withered before those of the single patriot. the right honourable gentleman; when palaces, superior to Bienheim, were to be built for his reception, when pyramids and pillars were to be raised, and adorned with emblems and inscriptions sacred to his virtue. But the pillars and pyramids are now sunk, though then the great Earl of Chatham was held inferior to him. However, he is still so great, that the queen of France, I dare say, will have a song made on the name of Grattan.

Lord Hercourt practised economy; but what was the economy of the Duke of Portland ?-One hundred thousand bounds was voted to raise 20,000 seamen, though it was well known that one third of that number could not be raised; and what was the application of the money? It was applied

to the raising of the excorated Fencibles. It is said I supported Lord Harcourt's administration; it is true, but I never deserted my principles, but carried them into the cabinet with me. A gentleman who now hears me, knows that I proposed to the privy council an Irish Mutiny Bill, and that not with a view of any parliament of the private of tary grant. I supported an absence tax; and while I was in office, registered my principles in the books of Government. ment; and the moment I could not influence Government to the advantage of the nation, I coased to act with them. to the advantage of the nation, I coased to act with them. I acted for myself; I was the first that ever told them that an Irish Mutlay Bill must be granted. If this country is now satisfied, is it owing to that gentleman? No, the simple repeal, disapproved and scouted by all the lawyers in England and in Ireland, shows the contrary; and the only apology he can make is, that he is no lawyer at all. A man of warm imagination and brilliant fancy will sometimes be dazzled with his own ideas, and may for a moment fall into dazzled with his own ideas, and may for a moment fall into error; but a man of sound head could not make so egregious a mistake; and a man of an honest heart could not persist in k-after it was discovered. I have now done; and give me leave to say, if the generality enters often into this kind of colloquy with me, he will not have much to boast of at the end of the apssion."

We now come to Grattan's reply, but cannot insert it without protesting against the allusion to Flood's personal peculiarities, his sullow complexion, hourse voice, and deformed nose :

" I will suppose this man's honour equal to his oath. I will suppose him an insufferable egotist; I will stop him in his career, and say, -Sir, you are mistaken if you think your talents are as great as your life is infamous. We have seen you a violent opposer of Government, and afterwards on the most trying questions silent—silent for years, and silenced by money; we have seen you haunting this house like a guilty spirit, watching the moment when you should vanish from the question; or you might be descried hovering about this dome like an ill omened bird of night, with sepul chral note, cadaverous aspect, and a broken beak, watching to stoop and pounce upon your prey; or we have detected you hid behind that chair, to avoid a division, or feiguing infirmities to excuse your absence. Influenced by place, or sting by disappointed ambition, we have seen you pursue a course of most manifest duplicity. You can be trusted by no man - the people cannot trust you; the Minister cannot trust you; you have dealt out the most impartial treachery to both, and now you tell the nation she was ruined by others when she was sold by you. You fled from the Mutiny Bill -you fled from the Sugar Bill-you fled from the Six Month's Money Bill-I therefore tell you, in the face of your country, before all the world, and to your beard, you are not an hoxest man.

On this occasion, the great majority of the Volunteers joined with Flood. A plan of Parliamentary reform was prepared, and one of its leading features was the continued exclusion of the Catholics from the elective franchise. They chose for their head a mudman, the Earl of Bristol, who was then Bishop of Derry; and they obtained from Lord Kenmare a kind of unofficial declaration that the Catholics were willing to relinquish their claims to emancipation. Flood's measure of reform was opposed on the constitutional ground that it had originated in an armed convention. It was rejected, and for a few days it was doubted whether the Volunteers would not take such a course as might precipitate a civil war. Prudence finally prevailed over passion, the Convention was dissolved, and the Volunteers sunk into insignificance. Their fall was hastened by Flood's insisting on a denial of the right of Catholies to carry arms, and on the resolutions adopted by a large proportion of the independent companies not to admit Catholics into their ranks.

When we are called upon to admire the age of the Volunteers as the most brilliant period of Trish history, we feel ourselves compelled to make large abatements in their claims. Their Free Trade was a disguised monopoly; their free constitution an undisguised ascendancy; their great Convention at once a confederacy and conspiracy of a minority

against the rights of a majority.

In the debates on the commercial propositions, the legislatures of the two countries yied with each other in exhibiting the most perfect contempt for all sound principles of commercial economy; and we have no wish to disinter the masses of brilliant nonsense with which protections, prohibitions, and restrictions were advocated at both sides of the water; but this very circumstance so strongly showed the inconvenience of two imperial legislatures in one empire, that we have ever regarded the event as one of the strongest proofs of the necessity of a union. Custom-houses are strange links of union between the constituent parts of an empire.

We give Grattan the credit of having won for his country an independent legislature; but instead of regarding this legislature as a blessing, we look upon it as a nuisance which ought to have been abated. As an instrument of local government, it became such an engine of oppression, that Graftan himself seceded from it in despair. As an imperial legislature, the only time that it acted with freedom it showed that its existence was incompatible with the integrity of the empire. On the question of a regency in 1789, the English and Irish legislatures differed beyond all hope of reconciliation. Had not the king recovered, the two countries must have had different executives. The able biographer whom we are reviewing laments the occurrence, but does not seem to perceive that the very same difference of opinion might have arisen in the case of a disputed succession, and actually did arise in the war between William III. and James II. The worst result of this great calamity was the alienation of George III, and Mr. Pitt from the great body of the Irish nation; the Catholics were devoted to the party of the Prince of Wales, whose liaison with a lady of their religion was matter of notoriety. The king believed that it was intended to take advantage of his insanity to deprive him of his crown, and the attempt was never forgiven or forgotten. The majority of the Irish Parliament hastened to make terms with the king and his ministers; the terms were for their own aggrandisement, and they included the abandonment of the nation. On this point we adduce the evidence of Mr. Grattan himself:

"The people of this country suppose that England co-ceded to their liberties, and they were right; but the present Ministry has sent us the curse after that blessing; hear the curse! You have got rid of the British Parliament, but we will buy the Irish; you have shaken off our final judicature,

dated at the state of the state

but we will sell yours; you have got your Free Trade, but we will make your own Parliament suffer our monopolists in one quarter of the globe to exclude you, and you shall remain content with the right, destitute of the possession. Your corporate rights shall be attacked, and you shall not stir. The freedom of your press, and the personal freedom of the subject shall be outraged, and you shall not arraign. Your city shall be put under contribution to corrupt its magis-tracy, and pay a guard to neglect and insult her. The seats of justice shall be purchased by personal servitude, and the qualification of your judges shall be to have lorge their suffrage and testimony against the people. Taxes shall be drawn from the poor by various artifices to buy the ilch. Your bills, like your people shall be sold. You shall see the genius of your country neglected, her patriotism dismissed from commission, and the old enemies of your constitution made the ralers of the realm."

The treatment of the advocates of the Catholics in the Irish Parliament, and on a question in which that body was opposed to the English Parliament and Government, is thus described by the same authority:

"I could hardly obtain a hearing. As to Denis Browne (who always supported the Catholics), he could not be heard at all; they would not listen to him. I spoke against the sense, Browne against the noise of the house, and he was abused, insulted, and covered with reproaches."

In 1793, the year following this disgraceful exhibition, the Speech from the Throne recommended concessions to the Catholics; and the address on this occasion was seconded by Mr. Wellesley, the present Duke of Wellington, who expressed himself in favour of their claims. None were more conspicuous in their opposition than some of those who had been the chief lenders of the Volunteers. Pitt, at one time, seemed disposed to pursue the policy of conciliation, and sent over Earl Fitzwilliam as Lord Libutenant; but the powerful party of the ascendancy prevailed over the minister's better judgment, and Earl Fitzwilliam was recalled by Irish intrigues, and at the instigation of Irish factions. Let us now take Grattan's account of the treatment received by the Catholies from the Parliament of the Volum-

"They scolded the people from the bar of the House of Commons - they had kicked their prayers after them, they had instructed Grand Juries to punish denunciations against the Catholics they had then taken up the Catholics they had then resumed the Protestant ascendancy; again they had taken up the Catholies, and again they had let them downencouraging and maturing by alternate hope and apprehension, the zeal of the distinct sects—the blockhead's sense and the Court's deistical devotion, to unite under the crazy colours of religious war and carrage—they had in the progress of their defeat promised a change of ministers and measures 🛶 they get a great supply-recal the minister for making the promises under their own authority, and tell the Catholics, whom they had deceived, that they must for ever remain disqualified for scats in Parliament, and offices in the State, for the better securing the Crown and the connection the people petition - they then answered their grants by disappointment they had answered their petitions by Fencibles; the army they had withdrawn when the French had threatened the and they pour it in when the people petition the Crown. The leading Catholics who had assisted in planning the petition to his Majesty they had prosecuted, without colour or pretence, for high treason-the lower orders of the Cutholics they give up to an armed mob, to be exterminated with violence triumphant in a course of years, and put them out of the protection of the law; they do this, when by their misconduct abroad, they had reason to apprehend invasion at home, and when they had so reduced the army. that they had left his Majesty's Government no chance for its safety, but in what, I imagine, now must be its best security—the unanimity of his people. If ever this country is lost to England, depend on it this system will be the cause.

This country can only be sweet.

This country can only be saved by her own force, and her own force can only be procured by adopting the Catholics, and they can only be adopted by a total and entire change of maxims, measures, and manners, accompanied with a free and full participation of whatever privileges the constitution can boast, and what is infinitely more essential, whatever privileges the constitution intended. This is the force, the power, the charm, the staff of your Saint, that will banish from your isle all noxious animals; the wand that opens the sea to the English, and will wall it up against the French. Quick-very quick-you have not a moment to lose-you have given your fellow subjects a share of your taxes, your defeats, and depopulation, kindly, very kindly-give them now a share of your blessings, whatever your ministers have left you. Let us make no more sucrifices of our liberties-let us now sacrifico our prejudices-they will ascend in incense, the best use you can make of themand be a tiding to your God, that you are become a convert to your country.

On this part of our subject we are not disposed to dwell; but we must in justice quote the strong condemnation of the Irish Parliament, pronounced by Mr. Grattan himself; it is a painful comment on his high hopes and proud anticipations, in 1782:

"There are but two measures in the country-Roform, or force. We have offered you the former, you seem inclined to the latter. Let us consider it—'to subdue, to coerce, to establish unqualified submission.' An ardnous, a precarious undertaking-have you well weighed all its consequences? Is there not much of passion in your judgment? - have you not lost your temper a little in the contest? I am sure you have shown this night symptoms of irritation-a certain impatience of the complaints of the people. So it was in the American business. Nothing less in that contest than their unconditional submission-slas! what was the consequence? As far as you have tried your experiment here it has failed—the report shows you it has failed. It has increased the evil it would restrain—it has propagated the principles it would punish, but if repeated and invigorated, you think it will have more success-I apprehend not. Don't you perceive that instead of strengthening monarchy by constitutional principles, you are attempting to give it force by despotic ones?—that you are giving the new principle the advantage of success abroad, and of suffering at PORTRAIT OF RICHARD COBDEN, ESQ., M.P.,

Ingraved in the highest style of art by P.C. Lewis, E.g., sugraver to the Queen, is MOW READY. The Portrait has been produced under the patronage and anaetion of the Council of the Anti Cora Law League, and is the only affiltentic engraved portrait published. The likewas is a most characteristic one, and has received the unqualified appropriation of the Conden's personal french.

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Read and finished style. The following are now ready:

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ON AND AFTER THE FIRST OF JUNE,

THE DAILY NEWS,

LONDON MORNING NEWSPAPER,

TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

The Newspaper is the intellectual life of the Ninetee ath Century—the great agent of modern Civilisation. Not to speak of the moral and political safeguards which it affords, it places all, whatever their varieties of fortune and position, on a level us to information. By its means only, the small capitalist is enabled to contend successfully against his wealthy rival for a knowledge of those changes which affect supply and demand the small capitalist is enabled to contend successfully against his scattly rival for a knowledge of those changes which affect supply and demand and therefore prices. Without the daily Newspaper, a man and his family night be located as well in the back settlements of Canada as within ten miles of the great centre of European Civilisation. These facts are felt—the gain is understood—and the number and character of the Newspaper Press of any country are an admitted test of the enterprise and intelligence of the people. It is remarkable, then, that me re than a century since, there were Eighteen Papers published in London, daily or three times as week—while now there are only Fifteen! thou, is the population of to day bears a ratio to that of the period in question of more than 3 to 1, and, by means of the post and other facilities, the whole kingdom has been brought within the easy range, and under the direct influence, of the London Press. In the single city of New York, more daily papers are published than be all England, and Ireland, put together. The circulation of papers in Paris exceeds that of London twenty-fold. How is this? Of a fact so startling, where lies the explanation; what is the cause?—PRICE!

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That the public know the advantage of having a Daily Paper is manifest, from the thousands and tens of thousands who pay twopence for That the public know the advantage of having a Daily Paper is manifest, from the thousands and tens of thousands who pay twopence for an hour's reading, and threepence for a paper the day after publication. What, then, are the causes which maintain the high price? First, the unumer that it is not the most part unacquainted. Next, the various faient, knowledge, and experience which must combine to produce the important result. The number and greatness of the requirements have, in truth, occasioned something very like a monopoly—and monopoly always commands its own price. Thus, whilst energy, cuterprise, capital, and competition have been doing good service in all other things, including literature in various branches, nothing has been attempted, in the direction indicated, for the political, a cial, and intellectual wants of three great of one half of their old price has been made in the most distinguished journals, with the result of ingreased efficiency, power, and interest. Any such attempt in London does not seem to have been thought of.

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Sudly. To the reader who now pays l'ivepence for his paper, we offer the same thing at half the price ; and to the man who hires his paper, a paper of his own at about the cost of the hire. It, then, only remains for the public to justify the experiment; remembering that their interest in

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 139.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1846.

[3d. **

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

All Rubscribers of £1 and upwards to the LEAGUE FUND the entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their interription.

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

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

The Council of the League would also suggest to their flends in the country the importance of transmitting their espies of THE LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such justices (more especially furmers) as may be either hostile or trailed to the question of Free Trade.

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE PEERS AND THE PEOPLE. In the course of our long and exciting contro-

ersy, we may have been occasionally betrayed into atter expressions towards the landed aristocracy, ut we confidently appeal to the general tone of his organ of the League, extending over seven are, and to the speeches of its leading orators, as foof that we have not sought to convert our agitaon to democratic purposes. In the time of our sakness, when Whigs and Tories alike repudiated r principles, we resisted all offers of alliance from eadvocates of organic change, whether in the ise of Radicalism, Complete Suffragism or Charn. Ours has been a politico-economical struggle, d nothing more. We have not sought to pull wn, or remodel institutions, or to touch constitunal forms and privileges. Upon questions of urch and State we have observed as strict a neulity as if we had been an association of antiries or geologists. Nor have we advocated Trade as a class interest. What we have deaded for one portion of the community, we have red to all—freedom to buy in the cheapest and in the dearest market. We have laboured to acile the interests of every calling with the unial application of a just principle, without the esion of farmers, landlords, or any one member community. Although we have been occabrought into collision with individual and lords, who can charge us with having d ourselves against the institution of the Nay, where have rank and title been alldly welcomed than in the persons of the hree living peers who have joined the ranks League? Did Lords Radnor, Ducie, and and, ever have a more willing or enthusiastic was conventional precedence ever more dally offered them than in crowded meet-Leaguers in London, Manchester, Bristol, Gham, and Dundee?

most sincerely anxious that this state of similar continue—that our agitation should continue—that our agitation should receive a conflict of classes, nor become, similarly, a question of constitutional prince is, however, danger a-head. The class is no longer a question at the people, whose representatives have

closed the controversy by the majority of last week. No human power can reverse that verdict of the Commons. Henceforth, therefore, the struggle, if it be prolonged, will be between the people and the peers. "What will the Lords do with the Bill?" is now the question everywhere. The public mind is nervously and irritably sensitive. The funds will rise and fall, like the barometer, as every rumour, adverse or favourable, reaches the city; and trade will be paralysed until the problem be solvedwhat will the Lords do ?-Pass the Government measure gracefully and without mutilation, we would fain hope. It so, it is our conscientious opinion, that neither in a pecuniary sense, as touching their revenues, nor in a political or moral view as affecting their influence and privileges, will the Free Trade triumph involve the slightest sacrifice to our landed aristocracy. But we regret to find that there is a large number, perhaps a majority, of the peers bent upon a different course. The Bill, it is said, is to be mutilated in committee. Everything is to be risked for the sake of a wretched attempt to retain a tax of a few shillings a quarter upon corn! We say everything is to be risked; because it is well known that any alteration in a money bill in the Lords is tantamount to its entire rejection. By the constitutional practice of the legislature, all taxes must originate in the Commons, at the re-Queen, through her Minister recommends the removal of the tax on corn as unnecessary, impolitic, The Commons comply, and the Lords, we are told, are going to insist that the representatives of the people shall tax the food of the

We hardly like to anticipate so unwise a decision, but it may not beamiss to consider its consequences. The two houses will be brought into collision, and who shall yield? This might not be a question of very difficult solution if the matter rested solely in the hands of the statesmen and members of the two branches of the legislature; for we candidly confess we believe a majority of them might not be irreconcileably averse to a compromise. But the matter will be taken in hand by the public out of doors, and it will be settled there. The Free Trade agitation will instantly assume a new character. Instead of the proselytings and lecturings of the League, there will be a sharp agitation against the lords. It will, we repeat, become a struggle of the people against the Peers. Folks will ask why the bill has been rejected ?-why the Lords insisted upon having a tax upon bread? Was it for revenue? No, they have nothing to do with providing revenue. Besides, in this case, the Queen and her Prime Minister have declared they don't require a tax upon corn. Was it for protection? People will then analyse bluntly and coarsely the incidence of this tax for protection. They will say it is intended to keep up the price of corn. They will ask, who and what are the men who want to enhance the price of corn, and the answer will be, that they are not manufacturers, or merchants, or tenant farmers, or shopkeepers, or labourers, but, to a man, landlords, whose rents are regulated by the price of corn. All this, and a great deal more, will be said, in a very different tone and spirit, to the past speeches of the Leaguers.

We do not wish to say one syllable which can be construed into an attempt, to intimidete their lordships. They have a right to the credit of delivering

an unbiassed verdict; and should their decision be, as we trust it will be, in favour of Free Trade, no body can justly charge them with having yielded to coercion or menace. But they have also a right to know that if they resist the Government measureif they attempt to patch up a compromise of a small fixed duty, or to perpetuate Sir Robert Peel's diminished scale, the League will be no party to the measure. From the moment that the present bill is rejected or altered in the Lords, the League will fall back upon the country and renew the agitation for the full measure of justice; and thenceforth no minister will be entitled to a moment's confidence from the people who shall propose to Parliament any plan short of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Law. We write with the full concurrence of the leaders and the council of the League, whose forbearance and moderation during the last four months have confirmed the confidence of the Free Traders, and deserved the respect of their opponents; and in their name we announce once for all that there shall be no compromise with injustice—that the question at issue is whether there shall be any tax upon the necessary food of the people. Yes, or nothis question shall for ever be decided. Should the lords say "aye," we answer "nay;" and, in the confidence of a just and rightcous cause, we shall appeal from their decision to the highest human tribunal, —the public opinion of this great empire.

WHAT WILL SIR ROBERT PEEL DO, IF THE LORDS MUTILATE THE BILL?

"When the time comes, honorrable gentlemen will see whether her Majesty's Government are sincere or not. I can tell honourable gentlemen, that there is no proof or since sure with regard to this Bill, which shall not be given in the event of its failure, or alternation, in its progress through Parliament."—Bir Robert Prel, March 30.

We take this to be answer enough to the profoundly momentous question above indicated. The Premier has made it very easy to us all, to solve queries anticipatory of his course with respect to the great measure with whose doctrines he has charged himself. If the Lords mutilate the Bill, Sir Robert Peel will do his duty. Let his sincerity be tested by the event of the "failure or AL TERATION" of the Bill-and "THERE IS NO PROOF OF SINGERITY WHICH SHALL NOT BE GIVEN." There will be no resigning—no running away—no desertion of the glorious and most responsible post which the Queen, and the people, and the course of events, and the necessities of the time, and the intelligence of the age, have committed to his fidelity and courage. He will not be faithless to a great trust -he will not let slip a great opportunity-he will not throw away a great power. His colleagues may resign—ne will not resign. In such a business, a Prime Minister has no colleagues. The country does not want a cabinet, but a MAN. Any cabinet, or any pro tempore substitute for a cabinet, will do the work of the time, if only we have the head and heart, the resolute manly will, of a statesman cognisant of national wants, in sympathy with national ideas, and bent on giving effect to the national purpose. If the Lords mutilate the Bill, Sir Robert Peel will go TO THE COUNTRY, though he go alone.

Our full and unhesitating conviction of this, we risk not merely on the Premier's deliberate and explicit pledges, but on the palpable demands of the crisis, as these must have already interpreted themselves to his sagacious and prescient mind. An appeal to the people, in the event supposed, is exactly the consummation to which the whole Parliamentary history of his measures points. An appeal to the people will be Sir Robert Peel's answer to the monopolist taunt, that he has "treacherously"

and "perfidiously" used the pliancy of a once protectionist Parliament to break faith with protectionist constituencies. It will dispose of the question of the "moral competency" of the House of Commons. It will inform protectionist peers of that which they have professed so eager a solicitude to ascertain—the real opinion and will of the people. All along they have been saying, "Appeal to the country,"---with the implicit addition, "What the country says ought to be done, we will do." Thus far, Sir Robert Peel has, most wisely and justlyon grounds as strong in point of constitutional legality as of practical utility and necessity-declined taking a course which assumes the incompetency of the legislature to legislate, and which, had it been adopted, would have thrown the whole public business of the year into most disastrous confusion. Still, if they press him, he has nothing left for it but to take them at their word. If they must have it so, they shall have it so. If they appeal to Cusar, to Cusar shall they go.

For his character's sake-for the sake of that honourable name and fame in history which Sir Robert Peel has avowed to be a cherished object of his aspirations-he will keep the faith which he has plighted, and fulfil the just expectations which he has awakened. Not for an instant will be loose his hold of the great question with whose fortunes he has so manfully identified his own. At the very moment when history may be said to be already waiting, pen in hand, to inscribe his name on the noblest national enterprise of this age, Sir Robert Peel will not run away from his work, and take his chance of being called back to finish it another day. He will not leave the vacant niche to be filled by a rival. He will not risk losing the honour of a task, which, though he never did anything else afterwards - though, in the very hour of its completion, he retired from public life and became politically dead-he might contentedly show to after ages, as constituting his title to historic fame.

We repeat it, then—if the Lords mutilate the Bill, Sir Robert Peel will go to the country. He will bid the people—the real "Commons of England"—to judge between him and the faction that brand him "treacherous" for postponing a fletitious class interest to the most substantial and vital of national rights, and impudently use the people's name to consecrate a tax on the people's bread.

He will go to the country. Need we add—he will go to the country on an issue that the country can understand. In leaving the question to the people, he will take care to simplify it into a shape suited to the popular capacity. There will be an and, at once, and for ever, of the worse than nugatory concession of the three years' "interval of preparation." The offer which was made once, in the very vain hope of propitiating landlord prejudice, and disarming landlord hostility, will not be made ngain. Sir Robert Peel cannot repeat the sort of overture to compromise contained in the terms of his present bill. He has as good as told us that he cannot-and why he cannot. Since he made that overture he has seen what he did not see then, "During the debutes on the question, his opinions have undergone a change, and the change is thisthat restrictions which he at first believed to be impolitic, he now believes to be unjust." Ho did not perceive the injustice, when he first proposed the three years' reduced sliding scale-and these are those calling themselves Free Traders of long standing, who seem not to perceive it now. It was then a question of policy with him-to be dealt with, like other questions of mere policy, as one of degree—a little more or a little less. It is now a question of ethical obligation; it ranks among the moralities, and admits of no other answer than a plain downright YES or No. If the Lords compel him to begin his work again, he must start from the point of his present moral convictions. He will say, not that "Monopoly is impolitio and inconvoniout, and we must endeavour to get rid of it on the cheapest and easiest terms," but " Monopoly is wrong, and we will have none of it, on any terms.' We entertain the fullest confidence—we cannot

doubt—that if Sir Robert Peel must call in the people at last, to finish their own and his work, he will instantly unfurl the banner of Total and IMMEDIATE Repsal. In justice to the great principle which he has espoused, in justice to those by whom he has been so heartily and vigorously supported, in justice to himself and his own reputation as a statesman, he cannot do less than take that course which can alone ensure him the full, undivided, and enthusiastic support of the people.

We tell our friends everywhere to be of good cheer. Do any among them make themselves uneasy about the Parliamentary casualties which befall a Free Trade Government on those questions of second rate, or tenth rate, importance which have of late occupied so large a portion of the legislature's very abundant spare time? These are not worth a thought. They make no manner of difference in the position and power of the ministry. Government is, with all its defeats, a surpassingly strong Government-inconceivably stronger than in the palmiest days of the "working majority." Sir Robert Peel may be defeated once a day, in each House of Parliament—it does not signify, and he knows, and the wiser among the landlords know, that it does not signify. He is our FREE TRADE MINISTER—and that makes up for everything. He can afford to be in a minority, any number of times that it may please fortune and the protectionists. He is irresistibly strong on the Corn Bill-and the Corn Bill is his only business now. No Parliamentary mishaps, no party weakness, can harm the minister who is in the act of championing the rights of industry, and untaxing the bread of the millions.

The people's Minister is, in every ordinary political sense, at the head of a very "weak Government," and his enemies, open and secret, are many and unscrupulous. Yet, despite all the intrigues, negotiations, and private party arrangements now on foot, or said to be on foot—despite all the rumours, and reports of rumours, that clog and thicken the political atmosphere, and make breathing difficult in "political circles," the people's cause is SAFE—safe in the people's own strength, union, and determination. We have kept throughout to our first faith, and we are rewarded through all the difficulties and temptations of a seven years' struggle; our question has been kept intact of party-and we now reap the fruits of our fidelity to principle. We are ready for all contingencies; ready to meet in the field of constitutional warfare the rash men who dream of stemming with a lordly "noncontent" the tide of a nation's will-ready to obey, on the shortest notice, the summons of a patriotic Minister to work out our own enfranchisement and ready to rend to shreds those Lilliputian meshes in which an unprincipled faction of monopolists and quasi-monopolists would entangle the noblest of causes.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Eighteenth Week, ending Saturday, May 23.

With unfeigned satisfaction we anticipate an early termination of the duty of holding up a Free Trade Mirror of legislative proceedings. The two great bills are now in the House of Lords—the Corn Bill and the Customs' Duties 'Bill; and in spite of hostile rumours, and threats of mutilation, we have some reason to believe that they will both pass through the trying ordeal of the great House of Protection, and finally become the law of the land.

The closing debate on Friday on the third reading and passing of the Corn Bill in the House of Commons was long, but interesting. The House sat from 4 o'clock in the afternoon till half-past 4 o'clock on the following morning. The sun was up long before the house: and broad daylight streamed in upon the important division. Although we gave the result in last Saturday's LEAGUE, there are some of the speeches which deserve a passing notice.

The early portion of the debate was comparatively uninteresting, none of the speakers throwing out a single new say, not that "Monopoly is impolitio and inconvenient, and we must endeavour to get rid of it on the cheapest and easiest terms," but "Monopoly is wrong, and we will have none of it, on any terms."

We entertain the fullest confidence—we cannot deem it a case open to the intrusion of a rational

ling but most insolent personality. The early part of the speech was an elaborate attempt to show that though a Corn Law raised the price of food, it correspondingly increased the purchasing power of the community, and thereby augmented the commercial vitality of a country. Taking Fing. land as an agricultural as well as a commercial nation, he apprehended that the displacement of corn-growing labour by the competition of foreign-produced corn would injuriously affect our industrial energy. We were, relatively less a manufacturing people than we were a century ago. Formerly our manufacturers were diffused over the country, now they are concentrated in one or two counties; and the policy which preferred a particular county to the entire king dom was but a restoration of the heptarchy. The English agriculturist, comparing him with the corn growers of the rest of the world, wasted less and produced more than any other; and yet they were going to withdraw that protection from the English farmer under which our rural industry has been developed. Lincolnshire, in relation to agriculture, held a similar position as Lancashire did to manufactures: and its prosperity and productiveness were a striking testimony to the efficacy of protection. But for protection, Lincolnshire must have remained in its primitive condition, of wild wold, heathy fen, and plashy marsh. Nothing in the condition of the country-not even in that of Ireland-just fied so great a change as the one now proposed. The change he attributed to the efforts of the Anti-Corn Law Leaguethe cause of it must be traced to the energy and eloquence of a commercial confederation, which, however, was more remarkable for these qualities than for a knowledge of human nature, or of political science. This led him to slide into his attack on Sir Robert Peel. The agricultural party were not to be blamed for want of a combination similar to that evinced by the Anti-Corn-Law League: they confided in leaders who had deceived them. Nothing could be more complete than the success of Sir Robert Peel in deceiving his party. The first information of his intentions was furnished by a journal not in the habit of announcing facts except on the highest authority. Being abroad at the time, he knew that the highest potentates had sent to British ambassadors for an explanation, and British ambassadors had assured these high potentates that there was no truth in the ramour. After all the changes, the Minister who formed the omnipotent minority in the Cabinet met the house and his party as if they had deserted him, and not he them. But injustice had been done to Sir Robert Peel; for his success in converting the 112 who supported his measures against their own conviction, reminded him of that conversion of the Saxons by Charlemagne, when they were converted in battalions and baptised in platoons. Throughout his political life Sir R. Peel had traded on the intelligence of others; his career was a great appropriation clause; he was the burglar of other men's intellects; in our whole history there was no statesman who had committed so much petty larceny on so great a scale. True, the minister avowed that he was not humiliated by his change of policy. Humiliation was a matter of feeling, depending much on the idiosyncrasy of the animal; but if Sir Robert Peel did not feel humiliated, his country ought. He had bought his party on the cheapest, and had sold it on the dearest terms. But he felt confident that the country would not much longer submit to the huckstering tyranny of the Treasury bench. and though all confidence in public men was at present lost he believed that the national intelligence and spirit would once more revert to that which constituted the cause of the people, of the nation, of England. The whole speech was as great a failure in logic as it was successful in concentrated vituperation. Mr. D'Israeli was followed by

Lord John Russell, who thought that Mr. D'Israeli was much happier in invective than in argument; his speech had little relation to the bill before them. Trusting that he was addressing the house for the last time on the subject of the Corn Law, he entered into details, showing that the proposition of the 8s. fixed duty in 1841 was no suddenly adopted idea, either on his own part or on that of the other members of the then Whig Government. He still thought that if it were practicable, a fixed duty would have been the best settlement of this great question, as it would have rendered the transition from protection to Free Trade comparatively unfelt. But in the existing state of public opinion such s transition was impossible; the change to Free Trade was as imperative as its necessity was just. After arguing the gene ral principles of Free Trade, he expressed himself not dis pleased with the disruption in the Conservative perty. With all its activity and energy, it had no great public object for which to contend. The only thing on which it had been united was turning the Whig Government out of office. Sir Robert Peel was also undoubtedly to blame for his caudious reserve of opinion; but he had acted with Huskisson in the promotion of the Free Trade measures of that states man, and the discordant party which accepted him as its leader ought to have known his predilections. He believed that the bill before the house would raise England amongst the nations of the world. Already its influence was manifest in the United States, with which he hoped that we would long remain in amity, and that a satisfactory arrangement would be made of the Oregon dispute; and, trusting that the House of Lords will pass it by a large majority, he expressed his cordial concurrence in the measure.

The First Lord of the Treesury then followed, making what we trust has also been his last speech in the House of Commons on the Corn Laws. He commenced by an expression of his belief that it would be an insult to the house and the country if he were to dalay the final reasons of the Bill by handying personalities. He pressay that we hank.

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ing up of political ties, and much acrimonious attack, would he the consequence of the change in his policy; but the smallest of the penalties which he contemplated was the continuance of the venomous assaults of Mr. D'Israeli. He who now reviewed his whole political career, and charged him with continuous petty largenies, had been willing, in 1811 and 1812, to unite with him his political fortunes, and had given him the strongest proof of political confidence. He went over the reasons which had led to the change in his views and policy with respect to corn and trade. Though on the subject of protection to native agriculture he had changed, he gave a peremptory contradiction to the allegation that his present principles of commercial policy were at variance with the opinions of his whole political life, and concluded with an emphatic vindication of the motives which have actuated him as a Minister. "Deprive me," he said, "of power to-morrow, you cannot deprive me of the consciousness that I have exercised the power committed to me from no corrupt or selfish motive." These and other expressions were greeted with loud cheers.

Mr. D'Israeli assured the house that he had never applied to Sir Robert Peel for any favour whatever. A communicaion had been made to him in 1841, which he presumed came from the Government; and it was asserted that he had solicited a diplomatic appointment to Madrid. He denied it, and affirmed that his opposition to the Government proreeded not from personal disappointment, but conviction.

Sir Robert Peel said that, in 1841, he understood Mr. It is said was ready to afford that proof of political confidence which is implied by acceptance of office.

Lord George Bentinck spoke at great length, though, from the lateness of the hour (or rather, from the early hour), but little of it has been reported. The same reason operated against an adequate report of the speech of Mr. VII. thens, who most fitly closed this debate, which, we trust, crowns his long labours on the great question of the Corn

The house then divided, when the numbers were-For the third reading of the bill Against it Majority

The bill was then passed amid loud cheering, which, when subsided, Mr. Eliot Yorke, the brother of the Earl of Hardwicke, proposed, much after the fashion of a schoolboy, that the title of the bill should be "The Foreign Lands 1mprovement Bill," alias "The Ministerial Mutability Consolidation Bill." He was too late; the bill was passed; and members went home to bed or to breakfast.

On Monday, in the House of Commons, there was what we may literally term a sham debate on the order of the day for bringing up the report on the Customs' Duties Bill.

Lord George Bentinck, in a speech in which he urged that the reductions proposed in the tariff were all in favour of countries commercially hostile to us, while we did nothing in favour of such countries as China, which received our manufactures on favourable terms, and during wilch he crilicised in detail the commercial policy of the Government, especially with reference to our colonies, moved that the report he taken into consideration that day six months.

Mr. Lawson and Mr. Alderman Humphrey having addressed the House,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer vindicated the commercialpolicy of the Government, as conducive to the interests of the consumer, favourable to commerce and trade, and benesicial to every interest of the country.

Mr. Bankes reitorated the usual arguments, contending that the measures of the Government were wholly distasteful to the country.

Mr. Hawes asked, if that were so, why no one connected with manufactures had that night joined in opposition to measures which must as seriously affect them as others? The commerce and traile of the country were really serionly affected by the delay, and urged the importance of arc ning at a definite conclusion.

Mr. Peter Borthwick, Mr. Plumptre, Dr. Bowring, Col. Sibthorp, and Mr Henley, spoke for and against the mea. as did also Mr. Hudson, who gravely assured the house that he had listened most attentively to the debate,—a fact of which there was a good-natured doubt expressed by loud laughter and cheering.

Lord George Bentinck then withdrew his amendment, a little to the surprise of the house, and the report was rereived, and on Tuesday the Customs' Duties Bill was read a third time and passed, after a brief conversation on the subect of agricultural statistics, and the bill was straightway turied up to the House of Lords.

Turn we now to the House of Lords, where the future laterest of these great measures now centres. On Monday about five o'clock, the Corn Bill was carried up to the bar, with the usual announcement of "My lords, a message from the Commons." And shortly afterwards, F. M. the Dake of Wellington rose, and the crowded house became all. In his blunt and brief way he moved that what he brined the "Corn Law Repeal Bill" be read a first time.

The Duke of Richmond rose, and, with considerable em Mails and warmth, entered his protest against the measure and the Ministers by whom it had been introduced. He reprited to see the distinction which was drawn between Palic and private honour. Sir Rebert Peel was a man of wist honour; his private honour was unimpeachable; and a Timworth his word was his bond. But he did not conthe it to be consistent with his honour as a public man, be shandon all the principles he had ever professed, and to better to violate promises and pleases. The present,

Parliament, elected for the support of protection, had no right to abrogate it; and he trusted that the House of Lords would sustain their character with the country, and stop rash and dangerous legislation, full of peril both to great interests and public confidence. He, however, reserved his formal opposition till the second reading.

Lord Brougham thought that a conscientious change of opinions in a statesman was honourable, and reminded the Duke of Richmond that he was a member of the Government which, in 1831, never dreamed of advising a dissolution of Parliament until it had rejected the Reform

After an exchange of explanations from Lord Brougham and the Duke of Richmond,

The Manquess of Londonderry deprecated personal attacks upon Sir Robert Peel for a change of opinion, seeing the Duke of Richmond had himself frequently changed his position in that house.

The Duke of Richmond assured the house that he had only expressed himself on the present occasion, because, on the second reading of the bill, he intended altogether to abstain from personal considerations.

The Earl of Ripon was glad to hear this assurance, partly for his own sake (this raised great laughter, the noble early as Mr. Robinson, being the author of the Corn Bill of 1815), and partly on account of Sir Robert Peel. He was, howover, ready to meet any attacks which might be made upon him for his share in the awful responsibility of the present

" There is no terror, in thy threats, For I am armed so strong in honosty, That they pass by me as the idle wind, Which I respect not."

The bill was then ordered to be printed, and to be read a second time on Monday next.

On Tuesday, the Duke of Buccleugh moved the first read. ing of the Customs' Duties Bill, which had just been brought up from the House of Commons, where a few minutes previously it had been read a third time and passed.

The Duke of Richmond entered his protest against the measure, as an unauthorised abandonment of the great principle of protection to British industry, and leading consequently to the destruction of our colonial system, and an ultimate sweeping away of all customs' duties.

Lord Monteagle would not admit the principle thus laid down, for the doctrines of Free Trade recognised a clear distinction between protective and revenue duties.

A conversation, partly explanatory and partly contradictory, arose between the Duke of Riehmond, Lords Monteagle, Beaumont, and Brougham, when

Earl Grey rose, and declared that he could not accept the measures of the Government as a perfect scheme of Free Trade, but only as an instalment. He was still, as he had ever been, against all duties for protection; and he could answer for the great body of the manufacturers of this country, that they desired not a particle of protection for themselves when they asked for the removal of all protective and differential duties on every article of consumption.

Lord Ashburton said that it was important that they should have full information on the question respecting which new light had so suddenly dawned on the Government. Under this new system, of what future use were to be our colonies? All the manufacturing body were not in favour of Free Trade; and he felt it to be an unwarrantable assumption during the debates in the House of Commons, that the only interest which required compensation was land. During a storm, it might be some consolation that all were to founder together; but here, in a scheme of policy threatening general ruin, they were told that there was no interest likely to suffer, unless it were the agricultural. He protested against the shuffling logic which confounded revenue and protective duties together.

Lord Monteagle would not suffer any imputation to rest upon him of unfair argument.

Lord Ashburton meant nothing of a personal nature—he only spoke generally.

The Earl of Dalhousie pointed out the inconvenience of raising a debate on the first reading of a bill just brought up from the House of Commons. At the proper period the Government would be prepared to adduce good and sufficient reasons that it was for the general good of the community that the measures of the Government should be adopted.

The Duke of Richmond admitted that it was an unusual course to raise a debate on the first reading of such a bill, but then it was justified by the fact, that the Government had adopted the unusual course of suddenly abandoning all the former principles of protection to British industry, which only last year, they had strenuously advocated.

The Earl of Haddington reminded the house that the Government had not suddenly become advocates of Free Trade, for during several previous sessions they had heard, from the cross benches on which the Duke of Richmond sat, carnest declamations against the course which they were pursuing. The delay which had occurred in bringing up these measures had been owing to a protracted opposition, unexampled in the history of Parliamentary debate; and whether their lordships approved or rejected them, it was highly expedient that a termination should be put to the uncertainty in which the commerce and trade of the country were kept.

A conversation now arose as to the day on which the second reading of the Customs' Duties Bill should take

Lord Stapley rose, and suggested that it might be nomi-

nally fixed for Thursday, the 28th, with the understanding that if the debate on the Corn Bill was not then over, it should be fixed for a still future day.

The Duke of Richmond said that even if he disagreed with Lord Stanley, he would acquiesce in the arrangement proposed by him, because he looked upon him as their mainstay in the approaching debates. This remark provoked loud laughter.

The bill was then read a first time, and ordered to be

We give below the ontire speeches of Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel, on Friday night, on the third reading of the Corn Bill; and likewise a corrected copy of Mr. Villiers' speech at the close of this memorable debate. The speech of Mr. Villiers was very imperfectly reported in the morning papers, from the latoness of the hour when he rose.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S SPEECH. Lord J. Russkii.: In rising to address the house after the hon, gentleman who has just sat down, I should feel certainly considerable hesitation if I thought that the hon, gentleman had been equally successful in his commercial theories and in his agricultural views, as in his powerful invectives against the right hon, baronet the first Minister of the Crown, whom he accuses of having deserted his party (hear, hear). But the house cannot but have felt how great was the contrast, and that the hou, gentleman's talent lies in wrapping up and adorning in very powerful language his invectives against the Ministor, rather than in proving that the bill before the house is not a measure which should pass into a law (hear, heur); and, as it does happen that the business of to night is to determine whether this bill shall be read a third time, aid not whether we shall pass a censure upon the Minister of the Crown, I feel much comforted in addressing the house after the hon, gentleman (hear, hear). I acknowledge that the hon, member had a good opportunity,—for I am rather a spectator than a party concerned,—which has not been neglected by him, of dwelling upon the conduct of the hon, members appeals with reference to this subject. members opposite with reference to this subject. But to begin with the beginning, according to the old rule. The hon, member begins by an accusation of abandoned arguments. I do not think this need at all hang upon the minds of the hon, gentleman and his party; we have no right to complain, for they have not abandoned arguments which are not merely old, but have been repeated twenty, fifty, or a hundred times; arguments which we supposed had been disposed of and become obsolete. Indeed I do not know if the whole case of the protectionists could be more accurately stated than in the language of an old letter which a noble lord has referred to as having been written by an ancestor of his in the year 1/10. I think that letter does contain, in its antique language, the whole argument of the protectionists, and to this day they have not abandoned that argument. But I did suppose that some of these old arguments—projudices, I must call them —had been abandoned and become obsolete. The noble lord's ancestor said that, in the year 1610, the wicked bakers were always raising the price of bread. Even this argument is not abandoned, for an hon, momber to-night has told us that potatoes in Yorkshire are cheap, and may be had for 22 a-bushel, but that the wicked potato monopolists in London will not sell them so cheaply; and the simple Yorkshiremen (who I always thought were sufficiently alive to their own interest), though they have potatoes in abundance, do not send them to a market where they can get 10 times the price they obtain in the country; so that there is not any one of the arguments of the protectionists which has been abandoned by them. The hon, mamber said that I have abandoned the doctrine that protection is the bane of agriculture. I have not abandoned that doctrine, for I do consider that the agriculture of this country has been injured by pratection. I do not dony that under that system there has been high cultivation in soveral parts of the country; but in other parts of the country cultivation is still in a backward state; and in those parts where there is good agriculture it state; and in those parts where there is good agriculture of dates only from six, or eight, or ten years ago; and my opinion is, that if protection had not been kept up, the agriculture of this country would have been greatly improved ("No, no"). If it must be admitted that within a few years agriculture has made enormous advances in this country, they have not been equal to the impulse given to agriculture by the number of persons seeking to possess proporty and to cultivate furns and it is only since about ton years ago that these great advances have been made. But the noble lord who commenced this debate asked me whether protection was not the bane of manufacture, and I say it is. First, with respect to cotton and wool, the protection being insufficient, did no harm; but where the protection has been an effectual protection, trade and manufactures have been injured by that protection. But let me suppose instead of altering that system of protection no such system had ever existed, and we bought our wheat and bread and manufactures as cheaply as we could, and imposed taxes solely for the revenue; I should like to know what would be thought of a Miniater who should come down to Parliament and say, "I have a great plan to propose, in order to promote the domestic industry of the country; I propose that you should pay dearer for the articles you consume; that you should pay a high price for your bread, and high prices for your coffee and your sugar." Why, if that were the case, I believe that such a system, if proposed now for the first time, would be scouted at once; and not the authority of St. George himself, far less that of his nameaake, would succeed in persuading the house to adopt it. But this is not a new thing proposed for the first time; it is an old system, and the question is, how is it to be changed? And I must beg the permission of the house—and I trust I address the house for the last time on this subject (hear)—and I request their attention for a few minutes whilst I state what has been my course on the subject of the Corn Laws for a number of years past. When I gave my support to the principles of Mr. Huskisson, I considered him the soundest Minister in his views respecting corn and commerce the countries. try ever had, and I never voted against him. But when I perceived the working of the bill of 1828, and weighed the arguments and observations respecting that measure, as I thought that bill was working injuriously to the country, I stated, first to Mr. Bloardo, and afterwards to the house, that my opinion had been changing in favour of a fixed duty, and I thought that the content of the country is the content of the country of the c that my opinion had been changing in favour of a fixed duty, and I thought then that a moderate fixed duty was the best system that could be adopted, and a permanent fixed duty of 10s. a qr. was first mentioned by me to Mr. Ricardo. In the year 1840 that question was again brought before the house, and I again stated my opinion in favour of a fixed duty; but I wish to show further, that that was not a soil tary opinion, and that of the Government to which I is longed the greater portion had stated the same opinion.

1840 the question of the Corn Laws was brought before both houses, in the House of Lords by Lord Fitzwilliam, and on those two occasions II members of Lord Melbourne's Cabinet voted for a consideration of the Corn Laws-in the House of Lords for a resolution that it was expedient to reconsider them, and in this house for a committee, I declaring that either myself or my right hon, friend then the President of the Board of Trade would propose a fixed duty, if that committee were granted. I said at that time that I thought the settlement of the tithe question and the New Poor Law made a great difference as to the corn question, and that a greater competition with foreign corn and foreign produce might he adopted with safety to British agriculture. There were two or three members of the Cabinet who did not give any opinion on the subject, but of those who did, Lord Mel bourne, the Prime Minister, and one other member of the Cabinet, voted against any change. There was an opinion of Lord Melbourne's given on the occasion, which has been no often referred to that I beg to state what Lord Melbourne did say on the occasion (hear). Referring to Lord Fitzwilliam, he said, "The noble earl proposes that it is neither expedient nor necessary to maintain the present Corn Laws. Now, although I am distinctly of opinion that it is expedient, yet I wish to guard myself against being supposed to be determined always to maintain the existing laws. I never pledged myself to that, nor do I mean to do so. It is no stubborn question of principle, and I will not pledge myself that various considerations of policy might not arise which would justify, if not render necessary, a different course." Now, with that opinion so given by Lord Melbourne while he voted against the proposed change, and four members of the Cabinet in the other house, and all those who were in this house declaring for the change, that was going as far in favour of a change in the Corn Laws as Mr. Canning ever went at the end of his life on the Catholic question. Then I say, after those facts in 1839 and 1840, that the whole ministry as an united Cabinet should in 1841 propose a change in the Corn Laws was not surprising (hear). Sir, I feel justified in thus troubling the house with this detail, because I know that it has been over and over again said, for years, that the proposal of 1811 was a sudden thought produced by the difficulties of the Ministry. The fact was, that we had long, as individual members of the Government, been for a fixed duty, but then we for the first time proposed, as a Ministry, what we thought should be the amount of that fixed duty. I have already said that if the circumstances of 1811 could come over again, I should still be of opinion that a moderate fixed duty would be the best change from the law of 1828. I was of opinion that when the laws of protection had not only been imbedded in your statute book, but also incorporated in the habits of your people, these changes should be made gradually, and with a general assent. I believe that the manufacturing interest and the Anti-Corn-Law League would then have been prepared to accept an 8s. duty, although they would still have considered it a high duty (cries of "No. no"). I have authority, good authority, for making that statement (hear). Sir, from that time to the middle of last year I was still the advocate of a fixed duty, as being the best mode of changing the law. I considered, that after a fixed duty had lasted for a number of years, and a steady trade in corn had been the consequence, the change to Free Trade would be almost imperceptible, and that it would excite no panic or alarm. But, Sir, when those changes were obstinately resisted, when for soven years the association called the Anti-Corn-Law League had advocated this question in public, and had made the deepest impression on the public mind, the question bore no longer the same aspect. Having had the offer of a fixed duty rejected, there was not, from the days of the Sibyl down to the time when Mr. Canning threw over the securities on the Catholic question, any precedent for adhering to an offer that had been rejected (hear, hear, hear). Therefore I had to consider last year, and I think I have to consider it now, whether there was anything short of the settlement proposed by the right hon, baronet, resting on total repeal, which was likely to give satisfaction to the country, or to terminate the angry discussions on the question (hear, hear). Ilad I been able to carry a fixed duty with the general consent of both the manufacturing and agricultural interests, and with the concurrence of the great body of the people, I might have felt proud to accomplish that object. But to be placed in the situation of defending a duty which could scarcely be called a large protection, and yet which would be the constant source of irritation—to defend such a duty from year to year, and debate after debate, would have been a position which I confess I was not anxious to occupy. I am therefore of opinion, that as matters now stand, the question is between keeping up the present protection, which most gentlemen seem to think can scarcely be maintained, and the total abolition, after the lapse of a few years, which the right honourable baronet proposes of all the duties on corn. Do I say that it is the way in which I should at first have wished to have made the change? No; I agree with Adam Smith and Ricardo, and others, that such changes should be gradual, and so conducted as to inflict as little injury as possible on existing interests; but, as matters now stand, and as the question is now put before the country, believing that repeal of the Corn Laws is a right object, and that in itself it is the best system, I see no course between keeping up the system of protection as it exists, or to come to a total repeal almost immediately (hear, hear). Sir, I may as well tell the honourable gentleman who spoke last, that at the same time that he made an assertion he made an admission also. He admitted that the Corn Laws tend to enhance the price of corn, and that at the same time the power of the community to purchase was increased also ("hear, hear," from Mr. Roebuck). But, Sir, while what he admitted is capable of proof (and his admission strengthens that proof), he gave at the same time no proof of the other part of his proposition—that the power to purchase was also increased by this law. The hon- gentleman said, indeed, that the prices of corn would be rainously low-that new markets would be opened, immense supplies of corn introduced, and the English labourer displaced. But let us observe in the first instance that his argument destroys entirely what has been the main strength of the case for protectionthat we ought to be independent of foreign nations for our sapply of food. I could understand, if all our supplies of corn came from one or two countries, and they our rivals, that in time of war this country might run a danger of searcity from the supplies being intercepted. I have, however, gone over in my mind the case of Russia, Prussia, and America, and I find that during the last century, as regards the two former, and since 1783 as to the latter, it has been a very few years indeed during which we have been at war with either; and that there was no period at which we were at war with all. I was comforted by this reflection, because it showed that we need not regard with apprehension our de-

pendence on foreigners. But the hon, member went further and said we could receive a supply of corn from Hungary, Spain, and Egypt; in fact, that there was no place on the globs which would not send us supplies of corn. Then what becomes of his argument as to the fear of war? So long as we retain our maritime superiority, and are at peace with nine out of the ten of the nations of the globe, we shall have the supply the honourable gentleman has so kindly told us of (hear, hear). But now as to the very low prices the honourable gentleman told us of. He tells us of a number of places in Hungary, Sissek among the rest, from which corn would be brought at 18s. the quarter. I confess, Sir, it does appear to me that this is very like another Tamboff story. I rather think that this immense supply can scarcely be calculated upon from those places. I find that there were even very low prices after that, the averages having been from 40s. to 50s., and I at least am not much alarmed at such a rivalry with this country. It is, indeed, very much a question whether the prospect of having a great quantity of cheap corn is a prospect which ought to alarm the people of this country (hear, hear). I have heard the honourable gentleman, the member for Somersetshire (Mr. Miles) go on by the hour, showing how great would be the fall in the price of wheat, and at last we began quite to dread that a gentleman's butcher's bill would fall almost to nothing; and now the hon, gentleman, the member for Shrewsbury, gives us additional alarm about the butter, and has shown that our bread will be excessively cheap indeed (laughter). Why, my opinion is, that if you admit there will be a large quantity of bread, as an honourable gentleman said at the commencement of to-night's discussion, there will be a great many mouths to eat it—that there will be a much greater consumption of food by having a greater plenty, and thereby consuming many of the products of agriculture. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Disraeli) gave us a very vivid picture of the state of Lincolnshire, owing to the existence of protection; but is it not partly owing also to the flourishing state of manufactures, and the ready market for the agricultural produce, that produce being demanded and consumed by the persons who are dependent on the foreign trade of this country (hear, hear)? And much of that protection at the same time co-exists with an increased foreign trade in respect to corn. I do not feel those apprehensions which the hon. gentleman has expressed of an increased foreign trade in corn; I think that in some years great quantities of corn will come into this country in the expectation of prices which will not be realised; but that there will be a permanent depression of the market such as to cripple the agriculture of this country is not an apprehension that I think need be felt (hear, hear). The hon, gentleman has spoken of the great fluctuations in this market. I will not venture with him to compare the fluctuations which have occurred in the European and American markets; there may be causes for these fluctuations of which we are not aware. But with regard to the fluctuations in this market, they have been not only very considerable, but the prices have been exceedingly high. In January, 1838, corn was 52s, the quarter; in December, it was 78s. 4d.; and in January, 1839, it rose to 81s. 6d., falling again to 65s. in October. Is there not to be found in the fluctuations of these two years a very sufficient reason for the Government saying, "Let us have a greater admission of foreign corn; let us, if possible, have the people of this country better fed than they now are" (cheers) said just now that I think we have got accustomed to much higher prices of corn than our ancestors had any notion of. Looking to the prices which ruled in the last century, after there was an admission of foreign corn, in 1763, when this country ceased to be an exporting country, and there became a large import of corn, I find that Mr. Burke, in a pamphlet of his, says, with no sort of compassion for agriculture, that he thought the people had no great cause to complain of the high prices of bread, because, for many years, the prices of Baltic wheat ruled from 32s, to 40s. Taking the years from 1752 to 1784, the price per quarter for wheat was about 45s. That was a price which was not generally complained of; and so little complained of, that when in 1791 Mr. Pitt proposed that the duty should fall to sixpence, when the price rose from 50s. to 64s., Lord Liverpool in the House of Lords spoke of it as a great injury to the manufacturing We may believe that high prices in a time of war, and especially depression of the currency, altered our views and made us expect that there ought to be much higher prices of corn than were just-much higher prices than the producer was entitled to (hear, hear, hear). Look likewise to the question as it regards manufactures and corn (hear, licar). We find that while the prices of manufactures have fallen about 23 per cent., the prices of corn have risen about 20 per cent. (hear). Is not that a reason in some respects why we should not exclude foreign corn; is it not a reason why—as manufactures have fallen to so great a degree, as corn has thus risen in comparison to the last century—you should no longer retain a law which presents such obstacles to its import. The hon, gentleman has spoken of an important principle of which he has been the advocate; but, unless it was for maintaining the present Corn Law, I do not know what that important principle was. The hon, gentleman referred to our colonies, and asks, are we going to ruin them? Now I do not think we run any risk with respect to our colonies (hear, hear). I think that they have great advantages, setting apart those which they may enjoy from the differential duties. The law for the colonies, I think, ought to be proceeded with more gradually than they with than that with respect to the people of which we are the representatives, but being, as they are, united to this great empire, forming a part of this empire, they will not be sorry to see this restrictive system abolished (cheers). And as for Canada, I cannot find in the accounts from that colony any symptom of that alarm which has been spoken of (hear, hear). It does not appear either from the meetings of the house of the Legislative Assembly, or from the public meetings, that the people of Canada do entertain those fears, or those insuperable objections of which we have heard to the change (hear, hear). The hon, gentleman ended his speech by giving an account of the mode in which the right hon, gentleman opposite came into power, and of the manner in which he abandoned the principles he before professed. Now, upon this subject, I cannot agree in thinking that all the blame belongs exclusively to the in thinking that all the blame belongs exclusively to the right hon, gentleman and his celleagues. I think that some part of it must be shared by those who for so many years have been his followers (cheers). I think, indeed, that the right hon, gentleman, coming forward to declare that that system of protection, of which has long been the upholder, was unjust, having declared some four years ago that another bill of which he was a great opponent in opposition, was fraught with injustice and founded on injustice, shows a want of wisdom in his former opinions upon political mutters.

But when I consider what the party was which existed in 1841, I am not one of those who lament the disrup-tion which has taken place (cheers and laughter). will frankly confess that, in my opinion, there was one in will frankly coniess that, in my opinion, there was one in herent defect in that great Conservative party which came into power in 1841. Their discipline was admirable; their machinery for elections was exceedingly well organised; they had candidates for every hustings, being, I may say, "Benefact, being wester, and these nati, bene vestiti, mediocriter docti" (laughter); and these gentlemen had many party ories which they found of exceed. ing value at the elections, with little inventions of their own (hear, hear). There was the fable of the Lichfield own (hear, hear). There was the more of the Lichfield house compact; another fable of Mr. O'Connell governing the whole Whig party; and various other inventions which indicated a great deal of fancy on the part of those who used them, found exceedingly useful, and which diminished by degrees, but certainly to the very smallest possible amount, the majorities of the Whig Government. At the same time there were great orators and great leaders in both houses of Parliament: porsons, too, of every grade. There was, which was a great glory, the Duke of Wellington at the top, and at the bottom, with ready though smaller services, were the runners of the Carlton (laughter). Yet there was one thing which was wanting to this great Conservative party, and that was, some public object for which to contend (loud cheers). Mr. Burke says that a party means a "union of men for some great object of public welfare;" but such a union did not exist among that party (loud cheers). The opinions of many honourable gentlemen who have spoken in the course of this discussion against the measure of the Government were very decided, and in all cases, no doubt, very honest. I think, however, that often they were exceedingly narrow (hear, hear, hear). These opinions were that protection, that the whole system of protection to native industry, was bound up with the prosperity of this country (great cheering from the protectionists). They had also great fears of the Roman Catholics, and demanded that the Protestant ascendancy, the Protestant supremacy, or, as Lord Stanley called it, the Protestant constitution, should be maintained above all others. Among their leaders such were the views entertained, and, I do not doubt, honestly entertained, but they chose the right hon. gentleman, now First Minister of the Crown, who had sat with Mr. Huskisson, as a great promoter of Mr. Huskisson's measure, who had acted with caution in Mr. Huskisson's measures of Free Trade, but who was known, in principle, to be of those opinions of Mr. Huskisson, in favour of Free Trade, and against the system of protection (hear, hear). The right hon, gentleman, too, in regard to the Catholics, had been the person who moved the Relief Bill for the removal of the disabilities under which they laboured; and he repeatedly declared in general terms his persuasion that that Act ought not to be repealed, and that it should be observed in the spirit as well as the letter. Those opinions as to Free Trade and protection, relating to the measure of 1842, have led him in time to the measure of 1846. Those opinions as to the Roman Catholies led him to the Maynooth Bill, which met with such violent opposition last year. But then, I say, what was this great Conservative party? What but a union of men to turn out a Government they disliked? but being in office they had no bond of union, and no principle which they held in common (cheers). When that opposition was carried on entirely against particular measures of the Whig Government, when these measures were found fault with from day to day, and no general principle was stated as the ground of opposition, when the party was going on in its course with the prospect of final triumph, how came none of those gentlemen to k, with Sir Christopher Hatton, "What mean these mighty preparations?" And is their reply, that they could not till the play began, that till their party was in office they could not give an answer. In fairness they ought to have come to some understanding when in op position, as to the principle they were to carry out when in power (cheers, and cries of "hear);" and there fore I do not wonder that they are disappointed in this and other measures. I think the right hon, gentleman to blame. He ought not causelessly to have reserved his opinion (cheers from the protection benches); but he ought to have stated to them fully the principles on which he acted-principles in which I see little to find fault (cheers from the protection benches), however much they might be blamed by honourable gentlemen opposite. But to go on week after week and year after year in order to overturn Government, risking the peace and safety of Ireland (cheers),-risking the security and tranquillity of the empire, without having some settled views as to the way in which Ireland might be tranquillised, and the empire governed—that was a fatal defect in their Government; and I am not sorry that that defect should have led to their dissolution. I can admire the Cavaliers of 1084, who struggled on behalf of their sovereign against popular rights—I can admire the Jacobites of 1784, who fought for the Stuarts against what I believe the just cause of the house of Hanover; I can admire in both cases the chivalrous spirit, the determined loyalty, the firm adherence to settled opinions which led men to contend for those two unfortunate causes. But when I come to this triumphant cause of 1845, I find such an absence of all chivalry, such a want of all united principle, that in my opinion it were far better that men so disunited in principle should, as a party, be totally disconnected. Honourable gentlemen opposite have stated that they consider the measure before the house injurious to the country. They have done great credit to themselves, not only by the great talent, but by the spirit with which they have asserted their opinions. They conceive that the bill will tend to lower this country among the nations of the globe. I consider, on the contrary, that it will tend to raise this country among the nations of the globe. I think it will tend to foster peace and amity among them. Looking at one of the greatest nations of the globe, I am bappy to find there are symptoms of returning feelings of amity and good will. When I read the speeches of Webster Callouin and others. Webster, Calhoun, and others, I forget all the idle menace wasted from the other side of the Atlantic. I trust her Majesty's Government will be able to fix finally the limits which divide the dominions of her Majesty from those of the United States; and I trust the convention or treaty which shall settle that boundary will be but the prelude of a more intimate connection between us and that vast commonwealth of a free people; that we shall carry on together our manufactures and our agriculture, the same of the control will, to make our productions more and more persent, extraors, in the neutral markets of the model.

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athis bill, to which I trust the other House of Parliament. hould it pass by a great majority here, will give their assent, I shall give my hearty support to the motion for the third

reading (great cheering).
SIR R. PEEL'S SPEECH. Sir R. PEEL : Sir, I believe it is now nearly three months aince I first proposed, as the organ of her Majesty's Govern ment, the measure which I trust is about to receive this night the sanction of the House of Commons; and considering the lapse of time, considering the frequent discussions that have taken place, considering the anxiety of the people of this country that these debates should be brought to a close (cheers), I feel, Sir, that I should be offering an insult to this country, if I condescended to bandy personalities on such an occasion as this (loud cheers). Sir, I foresaw that the course which I had taken from a sense of public duty would expose me to serious sacrifices; I foresaw, as its in-evitable result, that I must forfeit friendships which I sincerely valued, that I must interrupt political relations in which I took a sincere pride; but the smallest of the penalties which I contemplated was the continued renomous attacks of the member for Shrewsbury (loud and vehement Opposition cheering). Sir, I will only say of that hon, gentleman, that if he, after reviewing the whole of my previous political life—a life of 80 years before my accession to office in 1841—if he then entertained the opinion of me which he now professes—if he thought I was guilty of those petty larcenies from Mr. Horner and others, of which he has spoken to-night, it is surprising that in 1841, after that long experience of my public career, he should have been prepared to give me his confidence (cheers); it is still more surprising that lie should have been ready, as I think he was, to unite his fortunes with mine in office (loud cheers)—thus implying the strongest proof which any public man can give of confidence in the honour and integrity of a Minister of the Crown (continued cheering). Sir, I have explained more than once what were the circumstances under which I felt it my duty to take this course. I did feel in November last that there was cause for apprehension of scarcity and famine in Ireland ("oh, oh," and cheers). 1 am stating what were my apprehensions at that time, and what were the motives under which I acted; and those apprehensions, if denied now, were at least shared by hon. gentlemen who sit below the gangway, because the member for Somerset did expressly state that at the period to which I refer, he was prepared to acquiesce in the suspension of the Corn Laws (loud cheers); and another hon, gentleman, a recent addition to this house, who spoke with great ability the other night, the member for Dorset, distinctly declared that he thought I should have abandoned my duty, if I had not advised that, considering the circumstances of Ireland the restrictions upon the import of foreign corn should be removed (cheers). I may have been wrong, but my impression was, first, that duty towards a country threatened with famine required that that which had been the ordinary remedy under all similar circumstances should be resorted to, namely, that there should be a free access to the food of man from whatever quarter it should arrive. Sir, I was prepared to give that best proof which public men can in general give of the sincerity of their opinions, by tendering my resignation of office, and devolving upon others the duty of proposing this measure. And, Sir, I felt this : that if these laws were once suspended, and there was an unlimited access to food, the produce of other countries, I, and those with whom I acted, felt the strongest conviction that it was not for the public interest—that it was not for the interest of the agricultural party, that an attempt should be made permamently to re-impose restrictions on the import of food (hear). I could not propose the re-establishment of the existing law with any guarantee for its performance. As the noble lord says, I had acted with Mr. Huskisson in the years 1824, 1825, 1826, in revising the commercial system, and applying to that revision the principles of Free Trade. In 1842, after my accession to office, I proposed the revision of the Corn Laws. Had anything taken place at the election of 1811 which precluded that revision? Was there a public assurance given to the people of this country at the election of 141 that the existing amount of protection to agriculture should be retained? ("Yes, yes.") There was? Then, if 60, you were as guilty as I was (Opposition cheers). If there was the assurance given that the amount of protection to agriculture that existed in 1840 and 1841 should be retained, opposition ought to have been made by you to the revision of that system (cheers). Why was the removal of the prohibition upon foreign meat and foreign cattle assented That removal must have been utterly at variance with any assurance that the protection to agriculture which existed in 1840 and 1841 should be continued (hear, hear). Yet that removal was voted by this house by large majorities (hear); and after the passing of the bill of 1842, was I not repeatedly asked this question—"Now you have passed this bill; now you have enacted a new Corn Law, will you give apublic assurance that to that law you will at all times adhere?" And did I not uniformly decline to give any such assurance ("hear," from the protectionists)? I said I had no intention of proposing an alteration of that law at the time the question was put to me ("Oh, oh!" from the protectionists); but I distinctly declared I would not fetter myself from the discussion of this question ("oh, oh!"—with cheers from the Opposition). These things are upon record. And then, it was impossible for me, consistently with my own convictions to propose the re-engagement of with my own convictions, to propose the re-enactment of the existing law, after the suspension of its operation, with any security of its continuance (loud ories of "hear, any security of its continuance (loud cries of "hear, hear, hear, hear"). I think the question that naturally arose was this,—shall we propose some diminished protection to agriculture in the state of sublic faciling that would again agriculture in the state of public feeling that would exist after the suspension of restriction, or shall we propose a permanent and ultimate settlement of this question (hear, hear)? And now, after all these debates, I am firmly convinced that it is better for the agricultural interest to contemplate the final settlement of this question, rather then to attempt the introduction of a law giving a diminished protection (loud cheers). My belief is, that a diminished protection would in no one respect conciliate agricultural feeling (hear, hear); to be of any angle of the greatly stated as well as greatly the greatly stated as well as greatly the greatly stated as well as greatly the greatly stated as greatly as gr to be of any avail, the amount of protection must be greatly diminished beyond that which at the present moment exists; I believe that it would have met as much opposition from the agricultural body as the attempt to procure a final settlement (hear, hear): and this I must say, nothing could be so disadvantageous as to give an ineffectual protection and yet incur all the odium of giving an adequate one (cheers). What have we been told during this discussion? With scarcely an exception, I have listened attentively to every speech that hear made on this side of the house; and speech that has been made on this side of the house; and, similing the talent that has been displayed, I confess they have in no respect altered the conviction upon which I have seted ("oh, oh," and murmurs from the protection benches).

You tell me it would have been possible, with such support as I should have received, to have continued the existing law; I believe it might have been done. As far as the gratification of any object of ambition is concerned (loud cries of "oh, oh," and laughter from a few protectionists)—I am perfectly ready to listen to any reply that may be made to my observations (bear, hear, and tremendous cheers), and I think it is hardly fair to attempt to interrupt me by such expressions (hear, hear, hear); but it has so fur succeeded. The right honourable baronet paused a few moments as if to recover the thread of his argument, and then continued. was told it would have been possible to have continued the existing law, after the suspension of it: for I assume the suspension of it as a necessity on account of the state of Ireland; but the difficulty of maintaining it would have been reatly increased, because it would have been shown after the lapse of three years, that although it had worked tolerably well during the continuance of abundant, or at least average harvests, yet the moment it was exposed to the severe trial of scarcity, then it ceased to effect the object for which it was enacted (hear, hear). And that, in addition to the state of public feeling with reference to restrictions on imports generally greatly increasing the difficulty of continuing the law, there would have been public proof of its inefficiency for one of the great objects for which it was enacted. And let me say, although it has not been brought prominently under consideration, that without any reference to the state of Ireland, the working of the law as far as Great Britain is concerned, during the present year, has not been satisfactory (hear, hear). You would have had to contend not merely with the difficulty arising from the suspension of the law on account of the Irish case; but it would have been shown that the rate of duty has been high on account of an apparent lowness in the price of corn, that lowness of price arising from deficient quality (hear). You would have been shown conclusively that there has been a greater disparity in point of price between corn of the highest quality and the lowest than existed at former periods; it would have been proved that there never was a greater demand than during the present year for wheat of a fine quality for the purpose of mixing with wheat of an inferior quality, the chief article that is brought for sale into the domestic markets of this kingdom (hear). It would have been shown that had there been freer access to wheat of a higher quality, the whole population of this country would, for the last four months, have been consuming bread of a better quality than they have done (hear). I say when after the suspension you came to propose the re-enactment of the existing law, my belief is you would have had to contend with greater difficulties than you now have to sustain. But you tell me you would have had a majority (hear, hear); think you would have had a majority (hear, hear); I think you would have maintained this law, notwithstanding these enormous difficulties, some short time longer. But I believe that continuance would have been but short; and that during that period of continuance there would have been a desperate struggle between different classes in this country (hear, hear). Your arguments in favour of the law would have been refuted, and had the cycle of unfavourable harvests returned,-and who could give an assurance that they would not-you might have had no alternative but to concede the alteration of this law under circumstances in finitely less favourable to a settlement of this question (loud cheers). The hon, member for Dorsetshire (Mr. Bankes) says, "We could have fought the League with its own wea pons" ("hear, hear," and cheers from the protectionists) That is to say, finding that you could not control by law those measures, the resorting to which I do not defend, which I for one sincerely reprobate,—the establishing in counties voters not being naturally electors in them-you could have fought the League by making fagget votes as well as they (hear, hear). And you say that the landed interest would have had greater facilities for making faggot votes than the League (cheers from the protectionists). But what a sad alternative is this (cheers)! What a sad conflict to be carrying on (hear, hear). It may have been no cessary; but I think if you could consistently with your ho nest convictions avert the necessity for such a conflict, one that was destroying the independence of the constituency of the country, it would be wise to consider whether the alternative may not be avoided (loud cries of "hear, hear") And believe me, you who are anxious for the maintenance of the aristocratic system, you who desire wisely, and justly desire, to discourage the infusion of too much of the democratic principle into the constitution of the country, although you might for a time have relied on the faggot votes you created in a moment of excitement, yet the interval would not be long before that weapon would break short in your hands (cheers). You would find that those addi-tional votes created for the purpose of combating the votes of the League, though when brought up at the first election, under the influence of an excitement connected with the Corn Laws, they might have been true to your side, yet after the lapse of a short time, some exciting question connected with democratic feelings would arise, and then your votes and the votes of the League, not being subjected to legitimate influence, would unite, and you would find you had entailed on the constitution permanent evils, for the purpose of providing a temporary remedy (cheers). I believe you were about to enter into a bitter and ultimately an unsuccessful struggle, and that has induced me to think that for the benefit of all classes, for the benefit of the agricultural class itself, it was desirable to come to a permanent settlement of this question. These are the motives on which I acted. I know the penalty to which I must be subject for having so acted; but I declare, even after the continuance of these debates, that I am only the more impressed with the conviction that the policy we advise is correct (hear, hear). An hon. gentleman, in the course of this evening, the hon. member for Sunderland (Mr. Hudson) informed us that he had heard that there was an excitement about the Corn Laws, but he undertook to give a peremptory contradiction to that report ("hear" and a laugh), for he never recollected any public question being proposed involving auch great in-terests which, on the whole, was received by all the classes concerned—by the manufacturing and by the agricultural classes—with less excitement and with a greater disposition to confide in the wisdom of the decision of Parliament. Well, if that be so-if this question is proposed at such a time-("No. no," from Mr Hudson, who was sitting at the time on the extreme benches near the doorway, but who immo-diately moved, amidst some laughter, to the sent usually occupied by him, more in the body of the house). I certainly understood the honourable member to make that state-

Mr. Hudson: I will explain after. Sir R. Pani: I may be mistaken, and of course I am, if the hon. member says so; but I understood him to say, that so far from there being any undue excitement, he thought that there was much loss than could have been expected, and that all parties were disposed to acquiesce in the decision of Parliament.

Mr. Hudson: What I stated I believe was this: that there was no excitement in favour of the bill-not that there was a deep feeling on the part of the agriculturiats against it, but that there was no public excitement in its favour. [This was what we understood the hon, niember to say, but from what afterwards occurred it would seem to have been his intention to say, " not but that there was a deep feeling on the part of the agriculturists against the

Sir R. PEEL: That varies very little from the expressions I used, and entirely justifies the inference which I drew (cries of "No, no"). If there be no excitement in favour of the bill, and no strong feeling on the part of the agricul-turists against it ("No, no," and some confusion), it appears to me that this is not an unfavourable moment for the dispassionate consideration by Parliament of a subject otherwise calculated to promote excitement on the part of one class, and to cause great apprehension on the part of another; and the hon, member's statement is a strong confirmation of my belief that it is wise to undertake the set-tlement of this question when there is such absence of excitement, rather than to wait until a period when unfavourable harvests and depressed manufactures may have brought about a state of things which may render it less easy for you to exercise a dispassionate judgment on the matter (hear, hear). I do not rest my support of this bill on such temporary ground as the scarcity in Ireland (cries of "Oh!" and cheers). I do not rest it on the ground of temporary scarcity. I believe that that scarcity left us no alternative but to undertake the consideration of this question, and that consideration being necessary, I think the ermanent adjustment of the question necessary (hear). But I repeat now that I have a firm belief that it is for the general interest, independent of all obligations from temporary pressure—it is for the general interest of the great body of the people that an arrangement should be made for the permanent removal of these restrictions (hear). I will assign my reasons for so saying, and I will take the facts from youwho are the strong opponents of this bill. I take the speech of the hon, member for Oxfordshire,—a speech distinguished by his usual ability and scuteness. I repeat, we will have no difference about facts. I take them from the opponents of the measure; and the only question is as to the inference to be drawn from them. The hon, gendeman made these observations:—he said that "he looked at the facts and figures produced for the last 30 years, and that he found that there had been a great increase of trade; that there had been a cheapening of commodities; but that there had been no intprovement in the social condition of the people," apprehend we all admit that the real question at issue is what is for the improvement of the social and moral condition of the masses? what will elevate in the gradations of society that great class which subsists by manual labour (hear)? The mere interests of the landlord or the occupying farmer, important as they are, are subordinate considerations, as is admitted on all hands, to this great questionwhat is calculated to increase the comfort to improve the condition, and to elevate the moral character of the millions who subsist by labour, whether agricultural or manufacturing (hear)? And what says the hon, member for Oxfordshire? I take his statements to be correct, and if they are, they suggest matter for deep consideration (hear). Hero is a country in which wealth has increased, trade increased, and commodities cheapened; but the hon, gentleman says that he takes every test by which he can determine whether the social condition of the people has improved, and he comes to the conclusion that it lind not. That is a formiduble statement (hear, hear). Increased wealth increased trade, and cheaper commodities give you no ground for contentment, if the hon, gentleman's statement be correct, that there has been no corresponding improvement in the social condition of those who form the great foundation and plat form of society (hear, hear). He says that he has looked at crime, and finds that increased; and that he looks to the great articles not of subsistence, but luxuries which, by use, have become necessaries, such as sugar, tea, &c., and he finds no corresponding increase in their consumption, and he says he founds this statement on the facts and figures of the last 30 years. Well, let us go back to the period when that 30 years commenced. That was 1815 (hear). Then began the system of protection to agriculture (cheers). The honourable gentleman says ho has carefully considered these things, and that, looking at the facts and figures for the last 30 years, he finds increased wealth, increased trade, but a deteriorated condition of the people. With what preceding period do you compare the condition of the people during these last 30 years? Take any period of the last century, excluding the period of war, which began in 1793, during which there were great dislocation of capital and great derangement of social interests. Compare, in this contury with their condition during a period of peace also in the last century (hear, hear, hear). Take what period you please-that period which clapsed from 1700 to 1791; and let us compare the state of the law when the people were in a more prosperous condition than during the last 30 years. For the first 60 years of the last century there was no impediment to the importation of corn in this country. For the first 66 years of the last century, this country was an exporting country; the price of corn was low here, and did not exceed 41s. What was the law passed in 1773? It admitted free import at a 6d. duty whonever corn was above 40s. Od., and under that law for six years after 1778, this country was an exporting country of corn. Did agriculture suffer? Why, during that period, when foreign corn might be brought here at a duty of Od. when the average price of corn exceeded 49s. 6d., there were, I think, not less than 1500 Enclosure Bills passed. Do you say, then, that during that period the condition of the people was better in point of morality, in point of command of comfort, in point of happiness, than it has been since 1810? Well, in 1815, the commencement of that period of 30 years, this law was passed, that foreign corn should not be imported into England until after the price had arrived at 80s.; there was a positive prohibition of import unless corn was above 80s. (hear, hear). Now that was the perfection of protection. Was that to continue? You relaxed it. In 1822 you premitted the import of foreign corn when the price exceeded 70s. In 1828 you altered this law again, which the honourable member for Nowcastle (Mr. Colquboun) ranks with principles and national institutions; and by the law of 1828 you subjected foreign wheat, when wheat was under 04s. a quarter, to a duty of 28s. 8d.; when it was 60s. a quarter you subjected it to 10s. 8d.; and that law remained till 1843

(bear, hear). Under the influence of these laws, only altered in 1842, as I have it on the admission of the honourable member for Oxfordshire, the social and moral condition of the people of this country was not improved (hear, hear) Now, what did we in 1815? We imposed these enormous duties upon imports from foreign countries (hear, hear)a positive probibition until the price exceeded 80s. that time the duty upon foreign butter and cheese was 2s. 0d. and ls. 6d. respectively; we raised it to 1/. and 10s. 6d. Therefore did we in 1815 alopt the principle of strict pro-tretion to spriculture, and the bon, gentleman says that he finds orime increased, and the command over comforts and the moderate luxuries which partake of the nature of neceswaries lessened. He says that is the result of the inspection of 30 years (hear, hear). So much, then, for the condition of the great body of the people, Now I come to the facts of the hon, member for the North Riding of Yorkshire (Mr. Cayley). I heard his speech; I was sorry to observe the indisposition under which he laboured-an indisposition which in no degree prevented the exercise of his intellectual facultios, or prevented him from speaking with his usual clearness and power (hear, hear). I sak you to take the facts of the hop, gentleman since 1815. I am quoting every expression; the account I am giving of agriculture since that persons to the hop that persons the same that persons the same that persons the same that the sa riod is not mine, but his. I followed him closely, and took slown his account of the position of agriculture under a state of almost perfect protection. In 1815 you had prohibition of foreign importation till corn exceeded 80s.; and these are the historical annals of the hon, gentleman, the advocate of agricultural protection. In 1816 and 1817, he says, you had severs distress. (Mr. Cayley: "In 1815 and 1816.") I think it was after 1815 and 1816-1 think it was in 1817 that a speech was made from the throne lamenting the state of soolety, the efforts that were made by designing men to take advantage of the distress of the country. It was in 1817 that the Habeas Corpus Act was suspended and the Seditions Meetings Bill was passed. In 1819, the hon. gentleman said, such was the severity of distress, the Six Acts passed into a law. In 1822, he said, agricultural distress was so intense that a committee was appointed for the purpose of devising a remedy. He said that at that time the price of wheat-of beautiful wheat-was 10s.; that a farmer stated, I think, that where there were 150 persons usually out of employ, there were then 300, and that he had the greatest difficulty, on account of the low price of wheat, in giving employment to the agricultural labourers. From 1822 the hon, gentleman advanced to 1830, and he said that in 1830, on account of the depressed state of agriculture, we had the "Swing" fires. In 1833 agriculture was again so depressed that it was necessary to appoint a committee to consider the state of that distress, and to attempt to devise a remedy. He said that there were 35 villages in the North of England with a population of 200,000 persons depending upon their flabour, and their wages did not exceed 3s. 81d. per week. In 1831, the honourable gentleman said, the Preston operatives presented a petition to this house, in which they complained of poverty, of ignorance, and of vice. The year 1835, he said, was as bad as the your 1822, and prices were so low that the ordinary employment of agriculture could not be afforded. 1836 and 1837. he said, were years of sudden prosperity, but that came to end in 1838, and there was prostration and suffering from 1889 to 1842. That is the account which the honourable member gives of the state of agriculture under that protection, which was terminated by the bill of 1842 (cheers) Now, observe what the hon, member also said; he said that there was a constant alternation of high prices and of low prices; and he said, differing from many who concur with him in their vote, that the low prices, though caused by favourable harvests, entailed the greatest suffering upon the agricultural classes, and that in 1823 and 1835 the farmer who had sold his wheat for less than 40s, complained, on account of the lowness of prices, that he could not give the usual employment. That lowness of price did not arise from competition with foreign corn; there was no foreign corn imported to reduce prices; that low price was caused by the suspension of the natural dealing in corn. There was a glut on account of productive harvests, there was no outlet for it, and there was prostration and suffering in consequence. That is the account which the hon, member gives of the result of high protection, not upon the manufacturing interest, but upon the agricultural; and when he had given that account-when he had detailed those sufferings on the part of the agriculturists, I was surprised to hear the hon. gentleman conclude with a quotation,

"Woodman, touch not that tree."

(Laughter.) I beg pardon, I am afraid I should have to ask the hon. member to supply me with the verse (a laugh), but the purport of it was that not a bough must be touched, that those whom it sheltered in youth ought to let it remain in their old age (hear, hear)—after that account of the consequences of this high protection upon the agricultural interest, I was surprised to hear that advice which the hon, gentleman gave us, not to touch a bough of that tree, under the shade of which agriculture had so long flourished (a laugh). If he had said:

"He et nefasto te posuit die

* "agro qui statuit meo Te, triste lignum, te caducum In domini caput immerentis."

I think it would have been a more appropriate quotation (laughter and cheers). But now, is there no exception to be made from this period of 30 years? Did nothing occur at the latter part of that period of 30 years to exempt it from the stigma which the hon, gentleman cast upon the preceding part? There have been three years—1843, 1844, and 1845—during which you have had, from some cause or other, the benefits of plenty and of cheapness. During the last three of these 30 years the average price of wheat a little exceeded 50s.; and let us see whether during that period that censure will apply which applies to the former period—let us see whether, during the last three years, there has been no increase of comfort, no improvement in morality, no abatement of seditious feeling or disaffection. I care not what may be the cause of the abundance which has prevailed during the last three years; you say the cause is not to be attributed to the tariff, but that good harvests have produced abundance. Be it so. But there has been comparative abundance. There has been a less outlay required for the purchase of articles of first necessity. You say there has been a demand for labour on railways. Why, that is an effect, and not a cause (hear, hear). It is on account of your prosperity that you are enabled to supply your eapital to internal improvements, causing this demand for labour and increasing wages; and do you believe if wheat had been at 70s. instead of 50s., there would have been the same stimulus to the application of capital (hear, hear)?

But grant that the tariff of 1842 had nothing to do with the sbatement of price in 1848, 1844, and 1845. I will concede it to you that it is attributable to the favour of Providence to good harvests. But let us see what has been the result of this abundance. I will take the tests of the hon, gentleman. He says, facts and figures show that there has been no increase of consumption. Now, I will show you that during the last three years trade has flourished, capital has accumulated; but that you cannot say of the last three years what you can say of the preceding 27 years—that there has been a deterioration in the social condition of the people. I will first take those articles which enter largely into consumption. I have here a statement of the quantities of the undermentioned articles entered for home consumption in the United Kingdom from 1839 to 1841, and from 1843 to 1846, showing the average quantity of each article in each of those periods. In the first three years, when the prices of provisions were high, the average consumption of sugar—for the three years ending in 1841—was 3,826,000 cwt. The average consumption for the last three years, ending the 1st of January, 1846, had increased from 3,820,000 cwt. to 4,340,000 cwt. (hear, hear hear.) The average consumption of ten in the first three years was 34,685,000 lbs. In the last three years it had increased to 42,000,000 lbs. The average consumption of coffee during the first three years of high price was 27,941,000 lbs. annually; the average consumption of the last three years was The consumption of cocoa in the first three years averaged 1,859,000 lbs. annually: in the last three years 2,575,(00) lbs. Take another article, which, though in a smaller degree, enters largely into the consumption of the poor, and which is not a bad test of their comfort. During the first three years the consumption of currants averaged 175,000 cwt.; in the last three years it had increased to 280,000 cwt. (cheers). I take then the tests of the hon. member for Oxfordshire-the consumption of articles necessary to the comfort of the people; and I show him that comparative plenty has produced this change in the command of the working classes over the smaller luxuries of life (cheers). I will next come to a more important point—the state of crime. You have now an official record, presented within a few days, of what has been the state of crime in this country during the last 30 years. Now, what was the state of crime during the first period of 27 years? From the first record in 1805 down to 1842, when the commitments attained the maximum number hitherto recorded, the increase in crime progressed from year to year, until it had extended to above (300) per cent. In 1843 a change commenced. In that year the number of commitments decreased. Within the last six years, three years of great increase of crime have been followed by three years, during which the decrease was so considerable that the number of commitments in 1845 has been reduced to what it was seven years ago (cheers). In the three years of high prices, this was the state of crime in each year:-The number of commitments in the first year was 27,187; in the second, 27,760; and in the third, 31,300. During the last three years the number of commitments has been—in the first year, 29,591; in the second, 26,542; and in the third, 24,303 (hear, hear, and cheers). Well, then, I take this other test of criminality and the extension of morality, and I ask whether we can resist the legitimate inference that the comparative cheapness and plenty which have existed during the last three years have had their effect in producing this diminished criminality (cries of "hear, hear, hear")? The gentleman who drew up this return says:—" The decrease of commitments in Eng-The gentleman who drew up land," for the last three years, "has therefore been general, continued, and extensive, to a degree of which there is no recorded example in this kingdom" (loud cheers). He says again: "In the 6th class, containing those offences which do not fall within the definitions of the foregoing classes" violence to the person, and offences against property-"there is a total absence of commitments for seditious riots or sedition." A total absence of commitments for these offences (hear)! Why, can you have a stronger proof of the improvement of a country, apart from the command of comforts, than the fact that there should have been this progressive diminution in commitments, and a total absence of any commitments for sedition or seditious riots (cheers)? I say, therefore, comparing the result of the three years when we have had diminished protection to agriculture and a reduced price of provisions with the 27 preceding years, the inference is-just that the diminution of crime is attributable to an increased command over those articles which constitute the food of the people (hear, hear). But you say, As this happy state of things has arisen during the existence of the present Corn Laws—as the present Corn Laws have been co-existent with cheapness and plenty, on what principle do you seek to disturb this happy arrangement? You have proved that, co-existent with the Corn Laws, there have been cheapness and happiness; why then do you now come forward to propose their alteration?" Why, if you can show me that those laws were the cause of this happiness and plenty, that would no doubt be a strong and powerful reason for their continuance (hear, hear). But this cannot be denied, that simultaneously with a reduced pro tection to agriculture, there has been not only no diminution in agricultural improvement, but diminished prices and increased comfort (hear, hear, hear). As you have proceeded downwards from 1815 to 1842, there has been a corresponding benefit from the abatement of protection. If we could anticipate that the law of 1842 would continue to produce all the advantages to which I have referred, that might be a conclusive reason for adhering to it (hear). But you assert that favourable harvests have occasioned these advantages (hear). Why, what guarantee have you for the continuance of favourable harvests? You have had comparatively favourable harvests for the last three years, and you say, "As a matter of necessity, therefore, continue the law. Continue the law, if the law has been the cause of these advantages. But if favourable harvests have been their real cause, that is no reason for the maintenance of the law. Those who have remarked the vicissitudes of seasons, have observed that there have been cycles of favourable and unfavourable seasons. You had three unfavourable seasons in 1830, 1840, and 1841. You then had great distress. You have had three favourable seasons since, and in them there has been comparative abundance. But, supposing a cycle of years as unfavourable as those which preceded the last three years should return, have we any security that the law of 1843 would guarantee an ample supply of food (hear, hear)? Supposing that, co-existently with these unfavourable seasons there should be a depression in manufactures, should we then be in a favourable position to consider an alteration of this law (hear, hear)? Remember how short a time has elapsed since the state of Paisley, of Sheffield, and of Stockport, was brought under your consideration. If such times should again return after this interval of comparative happi-

ness, when the contrast of misery would be heightened by the comfort which had previously prevalled, do you believe it would be possible to maintain in existence a law which levies a duty of 10s. a quarter when the price is 50s. You may say, "Disregard the progress of public opinion; dely the League; enter into a combination against it; determine to fight the battle of protection, and you will succeed." My firm belief is—without yielding to the dictation of the League or any other body (loud cries of "Oh, oh!" which interrupted the right honourable baronet for some moments. yes, subjecting myself to that imputation, I will not he sitate to say my firm belief is, that it is most consistent with prudence and good policy, most consistent with the real interest of the landed proprietors themselves (renewed cries of "hear, and oh, oh!" from the protectionists) most consistent with the maintenance of the influence of a terri torial aristocracy, seeing by how precarious a tenure-nandly, the vicissitudes of seasons, you hold your present comfort; that we should, at this time of comparative calin, anticipate discussions which might hereafter arise, and propose a find and just settlement of the question. But you may say, 'You are acting upon the experience of three years, and contrary to the principles you have avowed during your whole life." I admit that I have defended the continuance of the present Corn Laws; I admit that to the present period I have defended the Corn Laws, and refused to acqui esce in any change; but when I am told I am acting inconsistently with the principles of my whole life when I advocate Free Trade measures, I give the assertion a most peremptory denial. During the last three years I have subjected myself to many taunts. You say Lord Grey found out something. Why, did I not say that I thought the true policy to which we should conform, not hastily, not disturbing vested interests by rash legislation, but that the principle to which you should conform was that principle of political economy which suggested purchase in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market? Did I not say that there was nothing special in the case of agriculture that should exempt it from the application of those principles which had been applied to other articles? You may have a right to tanut me with a change of opinion with respect to the Corn Laws, but when you say that by adopting the principles of Free Trade I am acting in contradiction to the doctrines I have avowed during the whole of my preceding life, I say that charge, at least, is destitute of foundation (cheers). Sir, I will not enter at this late hour into the discussion of any other topic (cheers). Sir, I foresaw the consequences that have resulted from the measures which we have proposed. We were charged with the heavy responsibility of taking security against a great calamity in Ireland. We did not act lightly. We did not form our opinion upon merely local authorities likely to be influenced by an unduc alarm. Before I and those who agreed with me came to that conclusion, we had adopted every means—by local inquiry, and the transmission of perfectly disinterested authorities to Ireland-to form a just and correct opinion. Whether no were mistaken or not-I believe we were not mistaken-but. even if we were mistaken, a generous construction should be put upon the motives and conduct of those who are charged with the responsibility of protecting millions of the subjects of the Queen from the consequences of scarcity and famine (cheers). Sir, whatever may be the result of these discussions, I feel severely the loss of the confidence of those from almost all of whom I received such generous support. So far from expecting them, as some have said, to adopt my opinions, I perfectly recognise the sincerity with which they adhere to their own. I recognise their perfect right, on account of the admitted failure of my speculations, to withdraw from me their confidence. I honour their motives, but I claim, and I always will claim, while intrusted with such owers and subject to such responsibility as the minister of this great country is intrusted with, and is subject to,-1 always will assert the right to give that advice which I con scientiously believe to be conducive to the general well being (loud cheers). I was not considering, according to the language of the hon, member for Shrewsbury, what was the best bargain to make for a party. I was considering what were the best measures to avert a great calamity, and, as a secondary consideration, to relieve that interest which I was bound to protect from the odium of refusing to acquiesce in mea sures which I thought to be necessary for the purpose of averting that calamity (cheers). Sir, I cannot charge my self or my colleagues with having been unfaithful to the trust committed to us (cheers). I do not believe that the great institutions of this country have suffered during our administration of power (cheers). The noble lord (J. Russell) says he hopes that the discussions which have threat ened the maintenance of amicable relations with the United States will be brought to a fortunate close. Sir, I think I can appeal to the course which we have pursued, against some obloquy, some misconstruction, some insinuations, that we were abandoning the honour of this country—I [think I can appeal to the past experience of this Go vernment, that it has been our earnest desire, by every effort consistently with the national honour, to maintain friendly relations with every country on the face of the globe. This principle, so long as we are entrusted with the management of public affairs, will continue to influ ence us in respect to the settlement of our unfortunal differences with the United States (hear, and cheers). Sir, if I look to the prerogative of the crown—if I look to the position of the church—if I look to the influence of the aristocracy—I cannot charge myself with having taken any course inconsistent with Conservative principles, calculated to endanger the privileges of any branch of the legislature, or of any institution of the country (cheers). My earnest wish has been, during my tenure of power, to impress the people of this country with a belief that the legislature was animated by a sincere desire to frame its legislation upon the mynoiness of saudan and durates of the country with a sincere desire to the country with the country of the c principles of equity and justice (cheers). I have a strong belief that the greatest object which we or any other Government can contemplate should be to elevate the social condition of that class of the people with whom we are brought into no direct relationship by the exercise of the elective franchise (cheers). I wish to convince them that our object has been so to amount to the election that we shall our object has been so to apportion taxation, that we shall relieve industry and labour from any undue burden, and transfer it so far as is consistent with the public good to those who are batter enabled to have it. These to the arethose who are better enabled to bear it. I look to the present peace of this country; I look to the absence of all sediments of the second of this country. sent peace of this country; I look to the absence of all sedition—to the absence of any commitment for a sedition offence; I look to the calm that prevails in the public mind. I look to the absence of all disaffection; I look to the increased and growing public confidence on account of the course you have taken in relieving trade from restrictions, and industry from unjust burdens; where there was disaffection I see contaminant, where, there was turbulent I see peace; where there was disloyalty I see loyalty; I see

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the disposition to confide in you, and not to sgitate questions that are at the foundations of your institutions; deprive me of power to-morrow; you can be neither depriving me of the consciousness that I have exercised the powers committed to me from no corrupt or interested motives (loud cheers), nor for the gratification of ambition or any personal object (continued cheers). But I have laboured to maintain peace abroad consistently with national honour and dignity—to uphold every public right—to increase public confidence in the justice of your decisions, and, by the means of equal law, to dispense with all coercive powers, relying on the attachment and loyalty of the great body of the people (loud and protracted cheering).

and protracted cheering).
MR. VILLIERS'S SPEECH. Mr. VILLIERS said that the noble lord had commenced his speech by an assumption somewhat presumptuous—that he and his party had a higher regard for religion and honour than the rest of the house; in either respect he must dispute that title. The noble lord insinuated that when the Government referred the improvement of the people to the cheapness of food, they forgot that this cheapness was to be traced to the bounty of Providence, an influence which he said the ministers had been much disposed of late to forget. He Mr. Villiers) considered, on the contrary, that this disregard of the bounty of Providence was directly chargeable upon the noble lord and his party. It was the bounty of heaven, in this country and abroad, with which gentlemen opposite were always warring. The noble lord says, that he is glad when cheapness comes from abundance in this country, and admits the blessing it confers on the people. But the noble lord knows nothing of the history of his subject, or the objects of his party, if he believes that such was, or had ever been, their view of cheapness and plenty. The law was passed to prevent cheapness, and whenever it failed in its object, his party had never omitted to complain of it as an evil. Let the noble lord ask the honourable member for Somersetshire if he could deny this (hear, hear); he (the honourable member for Somersetshire) said that, but without reference to the cause of the cheapness, he had himself complained of the fact, though he never disputed the blessing it conferred upon the people. It was then of the bounty of Providence that they complained; and what was it that the noble lord had been doing himself for so many weeks past but complain of the abundance of other countries which, by Free Trade, might be made accessible to the people of this country? But was abundance abroad not canally the bounty of Providence as the abundance at home? and when the Ministers had proposed a measure giving the people access to it, and the noble lord tried to defeat that easure, were they or the noble lord with most justice chargeable with indifference to the gifts of Providence? It was precisely to enable the people to enjoy these blessings that we had been labouring so long; and when the hon.
member for Shrewsbury said that they had abandoned all their lending positions, one of which was to make the necesaries of life abundant, which he calls the cry of " bread," he (Mr. V.) told him that there was no foundation for such a statement; and it was satisfactory to reflect that, during the annual discussion which for nine years past had taken place on this question, there was no lact, no argument, no opinion that he had ever stated in its support that was not now recognised as true, or that he had reason to retract; they had been admitted to be sound by the measure itself before the house, and the arguments by which it had been supported; but above all, by their having, during the long and dreary debates of this session, received no answer or refutation from the gentlemen opposile. It had been shown how the law had failed in all its pretences of advantage, and how it had verified every prediction of mischief attending it. Gentlemen opposite could have no better proof of their failure than the fact that the more they had spoken, the more time they had wasted, the more they had alienated their partisans from them, and while there was no vestige of panic or alarm at the measure out of doors, there was as little interest taken in their proceedings against it from within. There was one circumstance elicited during this debate, that had shown the hollowness of all that had been said in favour of the law, and of the little reliance to be placed on it by its friends. He meant the admission that the whole House of Commons was willing, upon an apprelaw, and considered that the cure for scarcity was to abolish for the time all protection to agriculture. The law which was to produce plenty, and to save the country from scarcity? Yes! the whole house, it seems, deemed the remedy for a deficiency of food, was to abolish the Corn law. He thought this was a most instructive circumstance, and could not be repeated too often, to show the value of protection; for in the first place, he asked how this was to be justified to the farmers, who were promised protection against foreign competition? They were told that they could he protected consistently with the welfare of the community, and they relied upon its continuance. But how was it more Just to them to a they would have been less prepared for it in October last than at any other time; and if any suffering was to follow from it, it would have been the farmers alone, and no one else, at that time, that would have felt its effects. Again, if this was the proper remedy last year, who can say it would not be equally required this year? And if the farmer was to be constantly subject to this suspension of the law, where was the most attention to the worth of protection to him. But he asked attention to the fact that this was the remedy proposed when famine was expected. Now what was meant by famine?—it only meant, in making the second and in mality, that food would become comparatively scarce, and less accessible to a greater number of people than before; but for this difficulty in getting food, every party in the House of Commons considered in last October that the remedy was to suspend the Corn Law! There was no doubt then that this suspend the Corn Law! this would meet the evils of a soarcity of food, and prevent the prople from starving, or resorting to coarser food; but if people from starving, or resorting to counsel tools, more bis is the remedy for food being too dear for a few more people than usual, why, he asked, was it not the remedy for the millions who are the derived of good and wholesome the millions who are usually deprived of good and wholesome food on account of its dearness? It was apprehended from a arcity in England, that perhaps one or two million would and it difficult to get good food; but that is habitually the case in ireland. Why is not the remedy then so considered good for ineland. ingland to be deemed also good for Ireland, suffering as the does habitually from the same malady. When the dovernment, then, sees that we have to expect periodical scardly in this country, and as the people increase, that we have to expect we shall be obliged constantly to suspend the Come vice to each of the country. the Corn Law, what is it but wisdom and justice to all concerned, to remove altogether the barrier to a regular and design supply, and dissipate the delusion under which have who depend on its continuance have ever been placed. It was for this It was for this reason that he considered the ministerial mea-

sure an honest one, founded on all the evidence and experience which this country has had offered of its necessity, and one which promises nothing but advantage to the people. It was honestly intended; and ministers have therefore had the advantage of being able to argue and defond it honestly, which they have done. Had it been Had it been founded on the notion that a tax or toll of 10 or 20 per cent. upon the entry of an article into this country could be imposed, without raising its cost to the consumer, or had it given any sanction to the fancy that a fixed impediment to commerce would not limit the supply because that impediment was fixed, and not fluctuating,-or had it proceeded on the principle that food could be wisely taxed for revenue in this country, after the experience they had had that whatever raised the price of food impairs the other sources of revenue, it would have been deemed a fraudulent and delusive measure, and would have failed to obtain the requisite support for its success. The measure, has, however, wisely recognised the failure of the experiment of having a Corn Law at all in this country, and provided for its total abolition. The country was therefore under a deep obligation to the Government for the measure; and if there was anything that could enhance that obligation, it was the spirit, ability, and courage with which it had been supported; and now he asked those hon, gentlemen opposite to pause before they proclaimed themselves to the country, and transmitted their names to posterity, as having to the last endeavoured to withhold from the people the unquestionable right, the undoubted privilege and great advantage, of carry ing the fruits of their industry to the highest market, and of allowing them the freest access to the bounties which Providence, through the industry of other nations, had provided for them-let them reflect before they vote, that the law of which they are so tenacious has been discredited by all experience, denounced by every intelligent authority, and has, upon facts undisputed, because they are indisputable, been shown to have brought upon the poorest of our fellowcreatures as much misery, affliction, destitution, and crime as was ever produced by any pestilence or calamity that ever visited the country-let them pause then, he said, before they offer to the country and posterity no other or better testimony of their efforts in public life than that of endeavouring to withhold from it a great advantage, and to perpetuate on the poor an enormous injury and wrong.

RETALIATION OF SPAIN—THE SUGAR DUTIES.

(From the Morning Chronicle.) The Tariff Bill, on which so much opposition was threatened by the protectionists, passed the House of Commons last night without even a division, and was immediately carried up to the House of Lords, where, after another tirade from the Duke of Richmond, it was read a first time. We ave thus the pleasure of congratulating the country upon the whole of the commercial reforms which have been proposed to the House of Commons having passed that branch of the legislature unaltered and unmutilated. While the House of Lords is called upon to deliberate upon a bill providing for the ultimate freedom of the trade in corn, it cannot fail to be a matter of important consideration to their lordships that at the same time they have before them a bill, which has also received the sanction of the House of Commons, providing for an immediate repeal of all duty on the most important staple manufactures of the country. By this bill all duties on woollen, cotton, and linen manufactures are repealed. The manufacturers and artizans interested in these great branches of trade have unhesitatingly assented to the free competition of all the world. Their lordships are at one and the same time called upon to affirm Free Trade

in corn, and in the great leading articles of manufacture.

The only remaining part of the general plan of commercial reform contained in Sir Robert Peel's announcement at the commencement of the session, which has yet to be brought under the consideration of Parliament, is the proposed alteration of the sugar duties. We sincerely wish that Sir Robert Peel had displayed the same wise determination to abandon at once the flagrant and dangerous fallacies on which our recent legislation has been conducted in regard to sugar, as he has done in the case of corn. Unfortunately, however, the right honourable baronet adheres not only to the principle of a differential duty; but, what is of more serious and immediate consequence, he has announced the determination of the Government to persovere in that invidious distinction between free-labour and slave-labour sugar which has already led to an open rupture between this country and Brazil, and to the most scandalous disregard of national honour in our refusal to comply with the plain and unquestionable rights of Spain, under existing treaties. From the first, when the Duke of Sotomayor made a demand for the admission of the sugars of Cuba under those treaties, we have not failed to urge, not only the justice of the claim, but the interest of the British public, as sufficient grounds on which they should be admitted. We, moreover, showed the imminent danger which we incurred by relying upon any construction of those treaties which would justify their refusal. The treaties themselves, of which we last week gave extracts, bear the intention of the parties obviously on their face. Both countries had on all occasions, but more espe cially of late years, recognised these treaties, and the construction contended for by the Spanish Government, in their daily practice and frequent negociations affecting the commercial relations of this country. The fact, however, that the British Ambassador has not for many years been without complaints before the court of Madrid founded upon some breach of these treaties, and based on the construction contended for in support of the Spanish claims, shows how much more our interests are involved in the matter in dispute than those of the other contracting party. The complaints of our Minister have invariably received attention, and our rights, under those treaties, to all the advantages of the "most privileged nation," have slways been clearly and distinctly recognised. We foresaw that our refusal to admit the construction contended for by the Spanish Government must strike a blow at British trade, not only in Spain but in the Spanish colonies, and leave us at the mercy or captice of a power

smarting under a deep sense of wrong.

We regret that the apprehensions of danger which we so often pressed upon the Government last year, when this question was under discussion, have received a practical confirmation. The Spanish Government, finding after the discussion which took place in Parliament in the last session that there was no chance of obtaining an acknowledgement of their just claims—finding, in fact, that Mr. Gladstone, in his defence of the Government, really and practically threw overboard the existing treaties between the two countries, and treated them as so much waste paper; and knowing, at

the same time, that the abandonment of those treaties and the construction contended for would be a matter influitely more serious and inconvenient to Great Britain than to Spain, determined to abandon their application as hopeless, to take us at our word, and to deal with British commerce and British produce in that way only that might be best suited to their own views and interests. The accounts which we have received from Havannah furnish us with B detail of the first fruits of a retaliatory policy. Instructions had been received by the Governor from the Government in Madrid, and steps had been taken to carry them into effect, which must exterminate British trade in Cuba and Porto Rico. British ships are to be subjected to heavy additional charges. Differential duties are to be placed upon British manufactures, but especially upon our cotton goods, which constitute the great bulk of our trade. The differential duties are to be of three different and distinct classes, increasing in amount exactly as they will inflict most injury on British interests. A certain rate of differential duty is to be placed on British cottons imported from Spain in a Spanish ship; a second and a higher rate is to be placed on British cottons, imported from Areat Britain in Spanish ships; and a third, still higher rate, is to be placed on British cotton goods imported from Great Britain in British ships. In proportion as the transaction becomes more purely British is it to be prohibited, or at least rendered profitless,

We are free to admit that in pursuing such a policy the Spanish Government displays but a short sighted regard to its own interests. It is difficult to conceive how the disappointments of the Cuban sugar growers, in being deprived of this market for their produce, is to be compensated by thus inflicting upon the community of that island the nocessity of paying a higher price for their cotton goods. They could not, however, have selected any other article which would do us so much injury, and themselves so little. Cotton goods form the great bulk of our trade, and a practical prohibition of these goods will, therefore, affect us more than any other. But cotton goods are at the same time those with respect to which the Americans, the Swiss, and the Germans come nearest to us in competition. With respect to some classes of those goods, a differential duty of flow per cent. against us would effectually destroy our trade altogether. The Spanish Government, therefore, in selecting that class of goods in particular, have shown that they have discriminated in order to do us most mischief at least cost to themselves. But this is not altogether a question of pounds, shillings, and pence. It is a question of outraged feelings and broken faith. It is the only revenge which it weaker nation feels it can take for wrongs perpetrated by the more powerful.

A combination of events at the present moment tend to show in the strongest light the folly and impolicy of the course we pursued hast year with respect to Spain. Peel last year reduced the sugar duties, giving up between one and two millions of revenue, with the hope of encouraging an extensive consumption. But the right honour able baronet made no provision for a supply to make that consumption possible. The stocks of sugar have been gradually undergoing a reduction, until they are thirty percent. less than at the same period last year, and the price has been rising in proportion. To make matters worse, the crop in the West Indies is ascortained, at the lowest calculation, to be short of last year's quantity by twenty thousand tons. Free-labour sugar arrives in extremely small quantities, altogether inadequate to supply the increasing demand. The consequence is that the consumer gets little or no benefit from the reduction of the duty, while the revenue is scriously injured. There is now a difference between the price of Java sugar in Holland and in London of ten shillings the ewt.; but our navigation laws prevent the importation of colonial produce from any Continental port. Do what we will there is but one escape from our difficulties—one way by which the supply of sugar can be so increased as to meet at once the wants of the country and the interests of the revenue. If we will supply the country with cheap sugar, and rely upon a large consumption, we must take it from those countries, whence alone it can be supplied in large quantities; we must throw aside the policy which has exposed us to the ridicule and suspicion of other countries, and admit the sugars of Cuba and Brazil. There is no other way by which the consumer can now be saved from an exorbitant price, or the revenue from an enormous loss. An honourable course pursued towards Spain would have saved us from the whole difficulty.

SUNDERLAND Corporation.—On Wednesday, May 20th, at a general meeting of the council of this horough, the Mayor in the chair, it was moved by Mr. Thompson that a petition from the Corporation be sent to the House of Lords, praying their lordships to pass the bill sent up from the Commons, for repealing the Corn Laws without delay. The motion was seconded by Mr. R. French, shipowner; and Mr. Featherstonhaugh, an extensive manufacturer and local magistrate, thought it more especially necessary for the council to express the public feeling of the borough, in consequence of the unfortunate circumstance that a Conservative gentleman (Mr. Hudson) had been returned as one of its members (applause). He rejoiced in the opportunity of showing to the country that Sunderland is, as it ever had been, a liberal borough. He trusted that it would always be so, and that by their divisions they would never again be guilty of returning an anti-liberal member to misrepresent the opinions of the town (lond applause).—The petition was adopted unanimously. It was then resolved that Earl Crey be requested to present the petition to the House of Lords, and the Marquess of Londonderry (who has become a convert to Free Trade principles) to support it.

EFFECT OF FREE TRADE.—At one of the Dumfriesshire farms of James Oswald, Esq., of Auchineraive, now out of lease, twenty offers were received, and the farm has been let at a rise of 33 per cent. on the former rental.

A correspondent of the Times says, the disease in the new potate crop in Portugal is clearly detected. The disease has appeared in Madeira; and in many other places nearly one-half of the old crop is unfit for food,

The seven dealings of John Bull are—the shop, the stocks, the newspaper, religion, reast beef, prejudice, and port wine. As storm following storm, and wave succeeding wave, give additional hardness to the shell that encloses the pearl, so do the storms and waves of life add force to the character of man.

At sixteen we risk our lives for a joke, notwithstanding that life is then most delightful; and at sixty we take a thousand precautions to guard against death, although weighed down by infirmity. There is not much more to be said for our sense at sixty than at sixteen.—Paul de Kock.

BETATE WANTED.-Wanted to purchase, a small BUILDINGS. Apply, Mr. B., 146, Tottenham court-road, London.

LIGHARD COBDEN, ESQ., M.P.—J. STEPHENMON and Oblige to announce that the Exhibition of the Wholelength Portrait of RICHARD OBBEN, ESQ., M.P., will BHORTLY
GLOSE, and they respectfully invite these who have not yet seen this
National Portrait to avail themselves of an early inspection.

Art Union Repository, 16, King-street, May 23, 1615

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, May 20, 1810.

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

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, sub-scribers are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for GEORGE WILSON, League Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.

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TO GEORGE WILSON, ESQ., CHAIRMAN OF THE LEAGUE.

Eliot Vale, Blackheath, May 16, 1846.

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DEAR SIR,-The ensiest of roads to parliamentary distinction is to attack a man who it is at the same time Specific bet there to make reply.

beague should take too much to heart the in-tended might be drawn from the member for our long of triumph over me in the House of night of the vote of the third roading, allow possession of a reason for doubting their

It is quite within my recollection, that at the election for Maidstone in 1837 alluded to, on the day before the poll my decision was asked on a proposal, purporting to come from a hundred of the electors, who would vote for me for 61. a-head, and declared they should ask the Tory 81. They were refused, and so they voted against me: how far they put in execution the part of their intention which was not relating to myself, is what is not in any degree within my knowledge, or I would declare it. I am sorry I had not the opportunity of adding this circumstance to the graphic account of the election contained in the romance of Coningaby.

You see, sir, where the pinch lies. You see why it is, that an enemy, of talent in his way, shall go to Parliament to oppose your cause, and an ancient advocate, whom many consider as having as deeply attended to the subject as any body save some of the Queen's ministers, shall be made into a cushion to stuff out his greatness. And you must perceive the senselessness of the system, which settles that because a man refuses to break through the duties of an officer and a gentleman, he shall be proscribed from Parliament, and be personally triumphed over there by the indi vidual who had the benefit of his refusal. These things will be altered; but that is not exactly within your line.

To the objection urged against anything of mine, I could answer better if I knew more distinctly what it was. As far as my perception goes, there is nothing but an attempt to note the discrepancies among what has been said by different persons at different times and places; a sort of curry powder substitute for argument. What the Protectionists will never grapple with, whatever the triumphs the state of the representation may afford them, is the knowledge by this time pervading every Mechanics' Institute in the country, that whenever a trader of any kind attracts increased prices or employment to himself through what is called prote tion, every fraction of it is abstracted from industrious members of our own community in some other part, which makes a balance, and the difference of price stands out after it all, as a gratuitous loss to the consumer.

The public, now or at some time, will decide among all concerned. I only implore the member for Shrewsbury to pay marked attention to the fact, that however he may be pleased to place your opinions and mine in his "limbo," it is his opinions and not ours, that are in the limbo of a minority of 98 on the third reading in the House of Commons.

> I am, dear sir, your's, very sincerely, T. PERRONET THOMPSON.

LETTER FROM THE FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION OF MONTREAL TO THE COUNCIL OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

Montreal, Canada, Free Trade Association Office, 3, St. Sacrament street, April 28, 1816.

Str,-I am requested by the Montreal Free Trade Association to put myself in communication with you, in order that you may be made aware of the movement which is going on in this part of the British empire in favour of a system of unrestricted commerce. You will learn with satisfaction the existence of a Free Trade Association in a colony which has been hitherto so deeply bound up in the protective system; and that, far from despending at the prospect afforded, a large portion of the most influential of the mercantile class in Canada regard the approaching changes with hope and satisfaction. It is felt that, however kindly meant and gladly received, the protective system has operated as a dead weight upon the energies of the country, and prevented that development of its vast resources which would otherwise have taken place. The Montreal Free Trade Association have a most confident feeling that Canada can safely be left to herself in the management of her commerce, and that the time has arrived when this liberty cannot be denied her. They do not, however, conceal from themselves that, as the pioneers of the Free Trade movement on this question, they have a sturdy battle to fight. The great mass of the people of this colony has been so long used to look to the protective system as essential to the connection with Great Britain, and their own colonial existence, that they look with some suspicion on the new movement. The vicious course of the provincial government also, acting in imitation of the policy of the mother country, has encouraged these feelings, and made the agriculturist of the west almost as inveterate a protectionist as his yeoman brother at home. These feelings must, how ever, yield before a calm discussion of the questions at issue, and a knowledge of the capability of Canada to engross the large carrying trade of the western states of the neighbouring union-which fact it has been one of the objects of the Montreal Free Trade Association to show You will see from a copy of the Montreal Herald of the

I Ith inst., that a public meeting has been held in this city, and that resolutions in favour of Free Trade were carried. The result was very much more favourable than could have been anticipated, considering that it was the first attempt of the kind, and that the protective party had taken alarm, and assembled in considerable numbers. You will see by the report that they succeeded, through Mr. Gilmore, in carrying one resolution.

Since the meeting, the operations of the association have been directed to the dissemination of their opinions and views by the means of printed reports, and through the influence secured by members. They have taken charge of the petition adopted at the public meeting, and have obtained nearly 1000 signatures, including the names of many of the most influential residents, both commercial and professional. Another step they are now engaged in is the publication of a weekly Free Trade newspaper, the first number of which will appear on Saturday next. It is to be called the Economist, and will, I trust, be the means of enlightening the public mind on the subject of Free Trade, and its applicability to the colonies.

I have not thought it necessary to state in this letter what are the precise objects which the Montreal Free Trade Association propose to accomplish, as you will find them fully set forth in the speeches of the different speakers at the public meeting, and particularly in that of Mr. Elder.

will afford us such assistance as may be in your power, by furnishing us with your publications, and in any other war that you may consider consistent with your rules, and the interests of your association. On our parts, we will let you know from time to time what progress we are making, and know from time to time what progress we are making, and be always glid to attend to any suggestions emanating from your body

Trusting I have not wearied your patience, I have the honour to remain, W. H. Fleet, Sec. F. T. A. The Chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law Lengue.

OUR WEST INDIAN COLONIES.

My DEAR Sin,-While the selfishness of legislative enpidity has been obstructing, as far as it could, the admission pidity has been obstructing, as far as it could, the admission of food to relieve the wants of a starving population, it may be worth while to call attention to the following paragraph, which I find in the St. John's (New Brunswick) Morning which has just recolled any News of the 10th of last month which has just reached me:

"YANKEE NOTIONS.—The New York True Sun says—Up-wards of seven thousand of white gravel have been shipped from this city to London since the 15th of September last, It is taken from the beach of Long Island, and used to beautify the parks and gardens of London!!!"

Surely while the monopolists clamour so lustily for " Protection to British Industry," when food is the subject of discussion, they ought not to exclude from the henefits of that "PROTECTION" the gravel of our own shores, or the wages of the Dorsetshire slaves, who might find employment in raising it, and thus make some addition to the horsebeans and turniptops which constitute their normal diet.

I was glad to see Mr. Kitson's letter respecting the suc-for a further supply of labour. Upon referring to Mr. Kitson's letter, it will be seen that his maximum rate of wages does not exceed 8d. per day, or 4s. a week; which currency is not much above 2s sterling, or below even the Irish standard of 11d. per diem; and yet even for this pittance, a pow erful competition exists among the sable candidates for employment. Mr. Kitson says :

"I have 110 people on my pay list constantly engaged, and, instead of Arno's Vale being abandoned, I refused, in the pad month, the aid of NO LESS THAN TWELVE EFFECTIVE INBOURERS!!!"

What is true of Tobago, is no doubt true of all our islands; and yet in the teeth of this glut of labour, I find, from the West Indian papers, that the following provision has been made for the introduction of no fewer than 7903 unfortunate beings to swell the bloated tide of human misery, and rob the native of the soil of the fair remuneration for his labour:

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Jamaica, 7 vessels to carry 1787 Coolies. British Guiana, 16 ,, Trinidad, 8 ,, 2228

In all 31, to transport 7998 victims from India to toll and starve and die in our West Indian Islands, to aggravate the evil, and make the cup of iniquity overflow the brin. The fund from which the expenses of this immigration are defrayed, is raised from taxes imposed upon the very portion of the community whose means of living are to be lessened by their introduction. And what is the condition of the Coolies already imported? From the Anti-Slavery Reporter for the present month, we learn that :

"The Kingston papers of last week contained statements to the effect that great discontent prevailed amongst the Cooles, and that several in a state of nudity had been to Spanish Town to complain to the Agent-general of ill-treatment; but, owing to that gentleman's illness, and absence from town, their object could not be secured. On Thursday they returned in greater numbers, and wandered about the town in a state of takedness and misery. The police were compelled, for the sake of decency, to take them in charge. We are told that clothing was distributed among them, and that the people willingly supplied decency, to take them in charge. We are told that clothing was distributed among them, and that the people willingly supplied them with food. The cause of their discontent we have not learned, but, report says, it arose from the ill-treatment they received from their Sirdars. What the end of Coolie inmigration will be is pretty evident. Many lives will be sacrificed, much bad feeling engendered, large sums of money wasted, and then the whole scheme pronounced a failure. The editor of the Falmouth Post states, that a party of Coolies had come to town in a state of the greatest destitution and misory. He describes them as more walking skeletons, infected with disease, and inthem as more walking skeletoms, infected with disease, and in-dulges in sovere strictures on the inhumanity of bringing them from their own country, to die a wretched death in Jamaica.

And yet we learn from the same authority: "A correspondent at Lucca, writing to us on the 23d of February, says, 'The barque Mandarin, commanded by Captain John Cleland, arrived here yesterday, with 276 immigrants. Of this number 237 are Hill Coolies, and 39 are Africaus, the latter having been taken by British cruisers out of slave ships, and shipped on board the Mandarin, by order of the Governor of 8t. Helena. Captain Cleland reports that he made the passage from Calcutta to this place in 105 days, and that the Hydrabsh was to have left in a fortnight after he did, with another lot of Coolies for Savana-la-Mar. A third vessel would sail in a mouth after for some part on the north side, probably Falmouth."

Altogether it is expected that in the course of the year not fewer than 12,000 immigrants will be introduced into the three colonies of Jamaica, British Guiana, and Tripidad, in the course of the year at the expense of those unfortunate labourers who are natives of the soil, with whose labour they are intended to interfere, and whose remuneration they are designed to reduce. The principle is the same as that of the New Poor Law, as administered at home-to place the labourer in a state of hopeless, endless, dependence upon the tyrant landowner, and mock him with the name of independence upon the state of the sta dence while he is robbed of the reality. And this is what the protectionists call giving encouragement to native in-

Mr. Smith and Mr. Kitson prove the readiness of the negro to work for fair reward; but the object of the hypocritical predilection for free labour sugar is to compet him to accept what his employer will give, however below the just standard. It is this unfair and impolitic preference which perpetuates the horrors of slavery under another name, and furnishes the enemies of freedom with a plausible argument against the abolition of slavery.

Leaving you to use the extracts I have given, and the arguments I have used, in any manner your judgment suggests, I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours truly, WM. HAMILTON.

A. W. Paulton, Esq.

THE SCHOOLMASTER WANTED.—The following epistle was sent a short time since from a farmer in Devoushire to his friend.—"Der Jan,—The Oxen ar com to prese the Gods." Meaning to inform him that the auctioneer was One of my objects in writing to you is to solicit that you come to appraise the goods.

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PASSAGES FROM THE LIFE OF AN ENGLISH FARMER.

PARRAGE III: Giving some account of his landlord.

Mr. Hurst's farm contained 400 acres, including roads, bedgerows, ditches on each side of the hedgerows, banks mised on the side of the ditches; marshes containing willows and wild ducks—the willows for himself, the wild ducks for the young squire; copses for game; a covert of fuze (only in part on Berryhill farm) for foxes; and the ground on which stood the farm buildings and some cottages forming the outskirts of Berry village. On the Berry Park estate there were from fifty to sixty farms as large as this, and upwards of one hundred smaller. Altogether, including 3000 acres in Berry Park, and 750 acres of copse and fox covert and common, outside the park walls, the estate contained nearly 47,000 acres.

And there was not an estate of land on the beautiful face of Eugland more fair to look upon than that of Berry Park. There was not one less deceptive in its outward beauty; for below that beauty lay all the elements of excellent agriculture; and, as Mr. Hurst has since said, they only wanted money and men's strength, and two or three other advantages which the young squire could have added to money, and men's strength to have worked those elements into activity, to have made him a richer squire than his father was. And his father was rich enough to charge the estate only with 1000% of annuity to an elderly relation, and 2000% a-year to his widow, the young squire's mother. All his other children, daughters as well as sons, and the widow in part, were provided for out of his personal property.

No; there was not at that time a fairer inheritance of land in England than that which fell to this young squire by his father's death. Larger properties there are in England, and in Scotland too. It would not have measured with the acres of the noble Cavendish of Chatsworth, Grosvenor of Eaton Hall, Perey of Alawick Castle; nor with the acres of twenty or thirty other lords and commoners. Least of all with the regions of the grouse and the red deer of Athole or Argyle, or the sheep walks and the fields of oats and barley of Buccleuch. Yet it was a rich and a beautiful inheritance, large even amongst the lordly lands of England.

But fair and fruitful and exceeding lovely as were those 47,000 acres of woodland, rock, river, green mendow, and com field, they lay not on the face of England more pleasant to the beholder than stood the young owner of them, generons and beloved, among those who enjoyed his personal friendship and favour. To have said to him who never heard the alms seeker ask for a halfpenny without giving a shilling, who never had an act of duty or generous service done to him, so far as he knew it, without rewarding the duty with more than its payment, and the generous service with five-fold generosity; to have intimated to him that to sustain his dignity and provide himself with the pleasures which he was educated to desire and enjoy as necessaries of life, he would make poor men of men not then poor, that men of honesty and industry would be by him driven in old age to the workhouse-to have told him of this he would as soon have leaped from the tower of his college at Oxford headlong, and broken his bones, every one of them, as have believed it; nor believing it, could be have continued to ride his racers and steeple chasers across break and bar, ditch deep and hedge high, and drive his mail coach to Woodstock and Banbury and back again, loaded with young noblemen and the heir of a dukedom, in the uniform of a guard blowing the guard's bugle. No; such was the native generosity of his nature that he would not and could not have made the pleasures and pastimes to which these college exercises were but initiatory, the necessaries of his life, had he known to what they would lead. But if he had been told to what they would lead, or might lead; had he been told what as a certainty they would prevent him from doing, namely, his duty to himself and his country, as the owner of 47,(98) acres of land, he would not have believed those who so told him. His education led him to form different opinions on the duties of a rich landowner.

Had it been intimated to him by some friend who sat near his ear when he first went into Parliament, a young member and a young man, two years before his father's death, that instead of being a protector of agriculture, as he was sent to Parliament to be, and believed himself to be, he was its enemy, though its owner, he would have deemed that friend unfit for further confidence, kind and forbearing as he naturally was. Such had been the purport of every thought im planted in him by others; such the bent of every opinion which had grown within him of his own conception. For men's opinious, like a plant's leaves, grow to the light by which they are cherished.

We need not now take time to recount in detail all the elements of agricultural wealth which were then known to be on the Berry estate—butthough known, not applied to use; nor the greater store of unapplied resources on it, and not then known—not known by reason of the traditions of agriculture having been for centuries deemed superior to new discoveries; not then known, because it was left to the English manufacturers to take science by the hand and say, "Come work for us," while English farmers turned their backs on science, and would not let it even touch their dunghills, saying, "We have always done as we do; we will do well enough if let alone;" the farmers speaking thus, because landowners had no higher knowledge of their duties and their interests than our young squire had. We shall hat occupy time and fill space by putting into this narrative the details of the wasted wealth of the 47,000 acres of Berry Park, nor yet to put into form and shape palpable to the understanding that which is almost impalpable to human perception—the legal intricacies which are interwoven with all English tenures, and in such seemingly simple tenures as tenancies at will; and which, unhappily for English agriculture, ensance it and mar its progress at every need. At all events, we shall soon see in this little history what their effects are.

But at present leters proceed to say that the young Squire Thoracliffe — Francis Augustus de Aubrey Thoracliffe, at the age of 25, succeeded his father, Francis John De Aubrey Thoracliffe, who died at the age of 63. Let us proceed to review how the young rich man, now the possessor of property in land, the market value of which was about

1,500,000/. sterling, exclusive of timber, minerals, buildings, furniture, much valuable live stock, six church livings, the great tithes of several parishes, and the almost undisputed power to return two borough members to Parliament; let us proceed to review how he, already two years a legislator, pledged to support the interests of agriculture in Parliament, and honestly inclined so to do according to his best ability (his natural abilities were good)—and according to the political opinions which he had inherited with his high rank and great wealth; let us see what he did to advance that great interest which he believed to be beyond comparison paramount to all others in this country—the agricultural interest. And as we write and read in this paper for instruction, and not for mere amusement, let us put the actions of his early life in that point of view where they will be most instructive, though at the risk of being less entertaining. And let us touch upon some of those facts of occurrence and traits of character which have sober truth in them, though little remance.

Squire Thorncliffe was not a frequent speaker in Parliament. He had little time, and not much inclination, to attend the House of Commons. His two packs of hounds; his horse-races, steeple-chases, yeomanny cavalry, game preserves, and grand battues among the game; his coursing and breeding, and buying of hounds and horses for coursing and hunting and racing, his betting on all events and amusements, and paying of bets to geutlemen less wealthy, but sharper or more fortunate than himself; all these left him little time, and less inclination to spend his evenings in the House of Commons. Still he was often there when a vote was required for the party to which he was attached by inheritance and education, and always there when a vote was required to support, as he honestly believed it was to support, that interest which was his interest, and to which he was voluntarily pledged.

He had spoken in Parliament before succeeding to his estate in deprecation of some motion for Parliamentary reform, and, in doing so, founded his objection to reform on the ground that it would weaken the agricultural interest, and transfer its political strength to the manufacturing and commercial towns. He spoke then slightingly of the men called cotton lords; and even seriously warned the legislature of the national danger involved in the increasing magnitude of English manufactures; and he has at times, when opportunities served, spoken similarly since. And when he has not spoken, his votes have conveyed to the public the fact that he has not altered his opinions.

Now it so happened, that in the year of his accession to the Berry estate, there died, at about the distance of 200 miles from London, a gentleman who was both a manufacturer and a merchant, and who left one son, the sole inhoritor of his wealth; that wealth consisted of two coal pits, with steam-engines and all the gear in working order; two large ships trading to the United States, shares in seven ships trading to the United States, shares in seven ships trading to the West Indies and South America; one steam-ship going between Liverpool and Dublin; shares in steamers working as pilots and ferry-boats on the Mersey; shares in several of the Midland Counties canals; one canal and the whatves on it all his own; a warehouse in Liverpool, and shares in a Marine Insurance office in the same place; also a cotton-mill, steam engine, and machinery for spinning and weaving in the neighbourhood of Manchester; which last was let at an annual rental of several thousand pounds to a manufacturer. Indeed, the greater part of all the property enumerated was under the management of second parties, who hired it and paid rent, or freightage, or dividends, as the case might be.

This young man of wealth, though not so rich as Squire Thorncliffe, was richer than most of the squires and many of the lords in England; and he might have used his property for pleasure, and pleasure only, as they used theirs, if he had been so inclined. Where he was educated, and what the maxims of his education were, cannot be now told with certainty.

But he did not stop the engine of the coal-pits and the pump, and go down into the pits for sport, and be hauled up again and again let down for sport at break neck speed showing courage and spirit on his part, yet hindering the work of the coal-master, who rented the pits, and of the colliers, who worked the scams of coal.

He did not, when the ships were loaded with cutlery, and crockery, and plate, and calicoes, and silks, for Boston, New York, and Baltimore, and Charleston, go and fill them with vermin, for the pleasure of hunting the vermin, and killing some of it, and holding some of it by the tail, and cutting off the tail; overturning bales of goods upon the deck in the pursuit; breaking the cutlery and the crockery; defacing the plate, and treading the caticoes and the silks under foot; ordering the merchants, whose goods these were, and who had freighted the ships, to leave the ships, if they complained, with their goods instantly, before the voyage was made; he still taking freightage from them, by compulsion, because the goods were in his ships, and the law authorised him to take freightage, whether the voyage was completed or not; he did not do all, nor any of these things, to the merchants, his tenants.

He did not prevent those who held shares jointly with himself in the ships trading to the West Indies and South America from making the most of any new merchandise or new mercantile project, which the most sagacious of them deemed to be profitable.

He did not load his steam ship, going between Liverpool and Dublin, with idle passengers, who paid no fares, merely because those idle passengers were agreeable companions, well-dressed, and pleasant to be seen in a steam-packet, even though that packet was entirely his own, and he might have got a premium for making such a show.

He did not, for the sport of taking pleasure-trips every day

He did not, for the sport of taking pleasure-trips every day for nine months of the year in the ferry boats on the Mersey, binder the trade and the profit of those boats, and pay penalties to those who owned them jointly with himself; thus losing his own share of the profits, and making good their losses also.

He did not let the canal, which was all his own, flood the wharves and the warehouses, by defective drainage and broken flood-gates, nor keep that canal for the mere breeding of fish, with a force of armed men around it to preserve the fish, and keep away all fishers, and all boats and barges, and the navigators of them, who might attempt to use the canal for the common-sense uses of its construction.

He did not, when he let his spinning and weaving factory to the manufacturer, bind the latter to keep it all in repair, and yet allow him, the owner, to come into the mill with hot-headed associates, whose life was idleness, to get the steam up to a pressure which the safety-valve could not ease, that the machinery might be made to go at a rate which wheels, shafts, pulleys, cranks, spindles, and shuttles, never went at before—all to see which wheel could go fastest and

longest without breaking down. Nor did he bind this manufacturer to spin only certain kinds of cotton, certain numbers of thread, and weave certain breadths and lengths of pieces of cloth, under penalty of being fined triple, quadruple, and quintuple, the value of the threads and pieces of cloth made against rule. Nor did he depute the power of doing all or any of those things, in his name, to lawyers, who know nothing of ships and factories, and spinning and weaving, yet who like a job to do, and cannot live without a job to do.

He did not do all those things, and profess to be the especial friend, protector, and oncourager of ships, canals, factories, and of the occupiers and workers of ships, canals, and factories. He offered his tenant, the manufacturer, no protection, but security, that he would not interfere with him until the term of years for which the factory was leased had expired, save to draw the rent, and see that the machinery was not wilfully injured or destroyed. He gave the merchants who freighted his ships, and the captains and crows of the ships no promise of protection,—only liberty to sail with what tide they chose, and what wind, to whatever port they chose, with whatever cargo-wisely judging, that they knew better than he how to choose a cargo and take advantage of wind and tide. As for them seeking redress for his stocking of the ships with vermin, that he might hunt the vermin over the bales of goods, shouting and tallyhoing as he hunted, and hold the vermin up by the tail when it was caught, and cut off the tail, and each of the four nearest of his companions cut off a foot as a trophy; as for the merchants and the captains seeking redress for goods damaged, and time wasted thus, they never once thought of such a thing. In commerce, and also in the dealings of the manufacturers, such waste of property, and of the resources and energies

which produce property, are not known.

Not so in agriculture. The young Squire Thorneliffe believed that he did only what became a squire to do, and especially one so largely possessed of land as he was, in doing to his property and to those who hired it and paid rent for it, all those things which the young merchant did not do to his mercantile property.

And yet he continued to marvel why this adventurer in merchandise and manufactures became richer every year, and added to all his business that of a banker, and to all his ships and canals and shares in these more ships and shares in railways, and, before long, to all his wealth a landed estate; while he, the owner of land, born to it, and bred a landowner of the first class, advanced not in wealth, but sank into debt. And farther, he and many more of his Parliamentary party, continued to marvel why the manufacturer, who only rented the factory, should become so rich as to build a new one for himself, and extend his business far beyond its former limits, while those who were tenants in land became no richer, and could not extend their manufacture of corn and cattle and human food without loss or complaints of loss.

Yet did he continue to keep his two packs of hounds that he might hunt four days in the week, and also all the horses necessary for so much hunting, and many more than was required even for that. And his packs of hounds were the most complete in his county, and the hunts were the best attended. So was his mansion noted for its hospitality, as he was for generosity in all personal actions. Yet he was only a fair specimen of the richest of English landowners, and a specimen of what even the most moderately endowed of the squires attempted to be; for though they could not all spend thousands a year on the mere items of hounds and horses, they all hunted and spent as far as their had, and those who lend money on land, would let them spend.

They rade with Squire Thorncliffe, and were proud of the honour and the privilege of hunting with his hounds four days of the week. And a hundred of them, and sometimes half as many more, would scour at the gallop across the farm fields, a fox first, hounds next, and the fleetest of them at the tails of the hounds. Some would halt not at hedge, or ditch, or high wall, but clear these, or any other obstacles, at a bound, plunging into another field of October sown wheat, it might be, or fold of fattening sheep, or meadew with cows in calf, striking terror into the sheep and cows, and making them run and stand appalled, as nothing on earth can terrify them; others, and by far the greater number, did not clear at a bound every hedge, ditch, and high wall; they rode through gaps in the fences, if there were gaps; they pulled down palings to make gaps, if there were none, or they rode to the gates and forced a way through them, and rode on and left them broken and open. And even the richer of the tenant farmers rode over one another's land thus; and were proud of the permission to ride with their squire and the iffy other squires there. And they hallooed and tallyhooed like the best of the squires, and called that farmer a " muff" and a "knave," whoever he might be, that grumbled to have his fields of new wheat, and his fences, and cattle, and sheep thus ridden upon, broken, and terror struck.

And least of all was it admissible for a tenant farmer to

And least of all was it admissible for a tenant farmer to make deep drains, to draw the water from his fields to the great ditches, and cover in the drains and make conduits into which foxes could run for shelter in the hunt; nor was it pardonable to do anything, no matter what agricultural philosopher might recommend it, that would interfere with the pleasures of the chase, the breeding of foxes for the chase, and the preservation of game of all kinds for the dogs and guns, and great days of killing, wounding, and unwinging.

But in sooth there was little heard of the murnurs, if

But in sooth there was little heard of the murnurs, if there were murnurs. It was in the conditions of their occupation of the farms for the tenants to submit to all those things, and to many more. The four-footed game, and the winged birds of the woodland coverts, and of the weedy wastes by the penderous hedges and ditch banks, the farmers were bound not to injure, depredators though these were; but, on the contrary, to aid in preserving them until they were of numbers exceeding in multiplicity even the rooks, the sparrows, the mice, and the rats; yea, exceeding these, when added to all the fowls and chickens, ducks and ducklings, goese and goslings, hogs large and pigs little, on the broad estate.

Then when the harvest had been gathered in, and the game could get no more of that, and the wheat seed and the winter vetches had been sown, and had sprung up, and they could not eat more of either than they had eaten, and longer life would have led to leanness, the birds and the beasts, which ten armed gamekeepers and assistants, with sticks in their hands, and as many Acts of Parliament as there were gamekeepers and more magistrates than there were men with sticks—the birds and beasts which they had preserved to that time, by and with the assistance of the farmers on whose crops they were chiefly fed, were encompassed in the woodlands and in the weedy boundaries of the fields, and driven forth in the face of the squire and many lords and lesser squires.

And men, expert in loading guns with powder and shot, loaded them and put caps to the locks, and handed them to the noble lords and the squire, and even to the lesser squires, who all of them fired at the shricking birds as they rose above the copse one after another, and half dozens at a time, and brought them to the ground broken winged or killed outright, and never halted in their killing until they had brought many hundreds of pairs to the ground, and could tell of an excellent day's sport.

And then, when the shooting and hunting season was over, and birds were allowed to be at peace, and choose their mates, and hatch young birds for next year's battue, Squire Thorneliffe, and the other squires and lords, who sat in Parliament, repaired thither, and sat on their legislative eggs and hatched them into new Acts of Parliament, still more to protect agriculture and mesers game.

protect agriculture and preserve game.

And again was money lavished on London life, beyond the measure of income, on mere consumption without production. And again did the racing come round, and the betting and the cheating of those rich enough to be cheated. Again the hunting came, and the battures, and the steeple-chases, and again and again and again.

chuses, and again and again the Parliament.

At last Squire Thorneliffe had mortgaged Berry Park estate—even the whole of the 17,000 acres; and what with the bonds of the mortgagees added to all the other disabilities of the tenants as agriculturists, and the breeding and feeding of game, which was not now lossened, though the squire went abroad and let the sporting out for hire; and what with the inevitable consequence of augmented tents to pay the mortgagees their interest, and still allow the squire 10,000%, a year, agriculture was marred and buffetted, and put back, and compelled to lin er on the road a beggar for alms, while commerce and manufactures marched on, and gained strength and wealth and independence.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

AGRICULTURE.

"THEY HUG EACH DEAR DELUSION TO THE LAST."

"For repealed they are, though there be a respite of three years." Mark Lanc Espress, 18th May.

It is said that the monopolists indulge in the dream of a compromise; that they can, in the Lords, make some terms for their monopoly; that they may be able to retain some power over the supply of food; that the production of artificial scarcity is still to be a privilege of the Peers. Poor day dreamers! Suppose they should succeed in substituting some modified scale, or " a moderate fixed duty "-now the height of monopolist ambition-for the prospective Free Trade of Sir Robert Peel's Bill; suppose a dissolution of Parliament and the farmers cajoled, or frightened into the most active electoral exertions; and suppose some measure of compromise to be passed into an Act of Parliament, does any rational human being believe that such compromise would be a settlement? Why, the League would effectually prevent that.

In 1812, just four years ago, the existing Corn Law was passed by overwhelming majorities, and was to have been a final settlement of the Corn Law question. Farmers were to rely on the law; land agents were to value according to the promises of the law; monopolist landlords were to extract high rents from yearly tenants by means of the law; in a word, the substance of monopoly was to be retained in unimpaired integrity Nothing but the "superfluous odium" of the old law was to be abandoned. The inoperative extremes of the sliding scale were alone to be given up. The Standard pledged its character and veracity-pledges of no great value, we admit-to the assertion that the Corn Law question had been settled for 20 years. Yet, in less than four years, monopoly is in extremis. Every public man of reputation has abandoned it as untenuble. In the Commons, the monopolists have been compelled to seek for a leader in the elevated and intellectual region of the betting ring. Then, the protectionists had the countenance and counsel of Sir Robert Peol, and the practised band of public men who constitute his Government: now they must rely on the prudence of a Stanley, and the sagacity of a Richmond, to support their wrong against the aroused indignation of the British people.

And this indignation is no vague or momentary feeling, which may subside if opposed by a Stanley—Richmond—Bentinck Cabinet—It has its organised, disciplined, and tried interpreter. It is ombodied in the League. In 1842, the League told the farmors that the question would never be settled till the trade in corn was free—till all laws respecting the importation of grain should be totally abolished; and the League has gone so far to produce the fulfilment of its prediction, that its absolute accomplishment is inevitable. As the shrewd protectionist of the Mark Lane Express says, "the Corn Laws are repealed," though the final extinction of all restriction is respited.

And what was the state of the public mind in 1842, as compared with its present state? The League then declared that the New Corn Law would be, and should be, no settlement of the question; and it relied upon its power to instruct the public Has the League been idle in the interval? For every individual who then understood and admitted,-and to understand is to admit,-the economical truths on which the resistance to monopoly is founded, there are now fifty. The League fund of 50,000l, was then thought a grand effort-by some too great to be accomplished; yet it has been raised, and applied to the instruction of the people. Then a further fund of 100,000l. has been since raised, and applied in the same way; and now the creation of a third fund of a quarter of a million, for the same object, is suspended until it is sure whether the Peers will or not risk any real effort to uphold their monopoly. Now, too, the value of the 40s. franchise, as an instrument to break down the unrighteous power of monopoly, has become known. And, with these facts before them, do any rational persons believe that there can be any settlement of the Corn Law question by a com-

The very proposition is an absurdity. The League is pledged to the abolition of all restrictions on the import of grain; every statesman of the nation has also pledged himself to the same opinions; and can it be supposed that the mere brute force of landlordism—a force which has daily become weaker and weaker, as the people have become acquainted with its real character, can sustain monopoly even in a modified form?

We especially call the attention of farmers to these facts. We ask them to review the progress of the Anti-Corn-Law agitation. Let them start with the Free Trade meetings in the rural districts -pass on to the counter-agitation of the landlords by their "Protection Societies,"—an agitation which has indirectly done as much to spread Free Trade efforts amongst the farmers, as the direct efforts of the League itself,-then to the county franchise movement; and, finally, to the proposal by Government of a measure which ventually provides for the total abolition of the Corn Laws. After such a review, can they hug the delusion that "protection" in any form can be maintained? We venture to say they cannot. Yet there is a considerable section of landowning monopolists who still hug that delusion with a devotion amounting to fatuity. These are the men who dream of a compromise. The realisation of their dream is impossible. Nevertheless they may attempt to realise it; for, as politicians, they are not accountable beings. And the attempt will be made by the agency of the farmers they can control, and at the expense of the whole farming body.

That the League will defeat the attempt of any section of the landed oligarchy to uphold the Corn Laws is absolutely certain, and in all probability, if the contest be renewed, it will be of no very long duration

But what, in the mean time, becomes of the questions about which farmers are naturally so anxious, and which so directly and scriously affect their interests? Till the question of the Corn Laws has been settled-and nothing but total repeal will settle it—all hope of improved and secure tenures, of the arrangement of tenant rights, of rational leases, or abandonment of game preserves, must be suspended. Self delusion, and to delude their tonants, will be the aim of the monopolist landlords; while uncertainty, and possible miscalculation, will beset overy arrangement in his business which the farmer may attempt to make. For their own sakes, then, as well as in mercy to their infatuated leaders, let the farmers meet any efforts to impede the too tardy settlement of the Corn Law question, which the Government bill proposes to effect, by a distinct declaration that they have had enough of protection; that it is not worth the turmoil of its maintenance (even if it could be maintained), and that above all things, the farmers desire to have the question settled.

THE FOREIGN CATTLE TRADE.

If anything was now necessary to convince the farmers that the monopolist landowners, who have hitherto assumed to act in the name of the agricultural interest, have been actuated by motives which they have not

avowed, it would be found in their ridiculous exaggerations of the capacity of foreign husbandry. Take, for instance, their fables about foreign cattle. What farmer does not remember the outery about the tariff? How many of them sacrificed their stock under the influence of a sort of panic? Now, the most cursory inquiry would have satisfied the most timid stockholder that any scrious depreciation of the value of British cattle from foreign competition, was, and is, impossible. Not thing but the absurd premium offered by our Combaws to foreign feeding of stock could have made the tariff worth the farmer's consideration.

But although the cattle panic has passed away, the "farmers' friends" in Parliament are endeavouring to raise similar false alarms upon the subject of corn; and it will, therefore, be useful to farmers to learn upon what unsubstantial foundation their former tales about eattle were based.

We have, elsewhere, made some remarks upon the farmers' prospects, with an open market for corn; and we shall here give some passages from the letter of a correspondent of the *Times*, from "the Banks of the Elbe," on the importation of German cattle.

The information is derived from an English gentleman, who has for upwards of 20 years farmed his own estate in Northern Germany, and his remarks on the tariff are divided into two heads: 1st, its effect on the English grower of stock; 2d, on the grower of corn. On the first point he says:

"The English stock grower dreads being overwhelmed by such an importation of foreign cattle and sheep as will reduce prices to, if not below, the cost of production. My decided conviction is, that no quantity of stock which can now, or for many years to come, be spared from the home consumption of Germany, can in any degree lessen the profits of the English farmer, or produce any perceptible fall in the markets and I seemed by a specific production of the same tendence of kets; and I ground my assertion on the following data-lst. whilet the importation of foreign cattle into England during the last three and a half years has (with the exception of the panic period) caused no diminution whatever of English prices, the small number of 8000 head removed from our consumers has produced so sensible a rise in our markets that good meat now fetches in this country very nearly as much as in England. An attention to the following quota tions will at once show the relative positions of the two countries in this respect :- Prime beef is stated in The Times, of the 14th inst., to have brought Is. Id. per stone on the 13th of April. The best oxen which can now be pro cured in this country sell at 14 dollars per 100 lbs.; but they are fur from being what an English butcher would term prime; I question, indeed, if they would be esteemed equal to the second quality at Smithfield, and for this reason oxen of first quality are very rurely to be met with in this country, except in autumn, when the cattle fatted in the rich delta of the Elbe are brought to market; while, at this season, few beasts are offered for sale except draught exen, which, having been cast at the commencement of winter from the ploughing team on account of age or stiffness, and having been since fed on dry food or the refuse of potato distilleries, have not, it may easily be imagined, exchanged during such a process of stall-feeding the tough, string muscle induced by eight or nine years' hard work for flesh of a much more palatable or juicy nature. And when, in addition to these deteriorating circumstances, the inferior class of animals bred in these countries is taken into account, with their heavy heads and foreheads, their long legs, and their light hind quarters, it will, I think, be granted that such can never be classed higher than with second-rate beef in England. And yet even these coarse animals cannot, as I have said, be bought here at present for less than 14 dollars per 100 lbs., or about 3s. 8d. a stone. Now, as The Times of the 14th states second quality beef as selling at 4s. per sink. the speculator in foreign cattle here has, in return for risk. freight, commission, and profit, the tempting possibility of realising 1d. per stone!'

Nor is the risk of transporting cattle trifling. In October last no less than 18 oxen were thrown overboard from one Hamburgh steamer, during a storm; and the unprofitable nature of the 'trade has been shown by the fact that comparatively few cattle have been shipped from Hamburgh during the last four months, though the navigation has been quite open. But then it has been said that the rise of price abroad will give an impulse to the German stock farmers. But the well-informed correspondent says:

"It so happens, however, that serious, in some respects insurmountable, obstacles oppose themselves to this being done to any considerable extent. The first and most unconquerable difficulty is the climate, which necessitates the housing of all fatted animals during the whole winter (seven months on an average), if they shall retain the flesh they brought with them from the pastures; and it need hardly be remarked, that building is an expense which proprietors alone will undergo, and one which few would be likely to go to on speculation. Germany, it may be said, is a wide word, and that although the far north may deserve this description, it cannot apply to the more southern portions. I reply, meteorological tables prove a very remarkable similarity of temperature throughout the whole of Germany. Thus it is ascertained that the mean temperature of what is called the north west district (Hamburgh, Brunswick, &c.) is,—winter, 1 deg.; summer, 18 deg. 2 min.; while that of the valley of the Rhine, including Frankfort, Stutgard, Mannheim, and Wurzburg, is only,—winter, 1 deg. 10 min.; summer, 18 deg. 9 min.) of Reaumur)—much too small a variation to afford any just ground for calculating on a different mode of animal treatment, even were it not well known that the Warmest portions of Germany are not grazing countries. Again, it may and his been said, 'Admit cattle into England, and the vast plains of the Bannat and of Poland will sand us millions of cattle. But how are they to reach a sea port? How support or be supported through the arid lands of Prusia? And is what condition would they reach the English shore? But the

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pecesity of housing cattle is not the only obstacle which the German climate presents to any extensive increase of stock-breeding; the difficulty of producing and securing an adequate supply of food arising from the same cause is very great. Turnips, that foundation of English agricultural prosperity, and the hinging point of English agricultural which, to the eye of the traveller posting for amusement or business through Prussia, appears a second Noffolk, requiring only English skill to raise turnips, and English sheep to eat them off, in order to become the finest land in the world, is, in fact, wholly incapable of growing them at all from the moletureless aridity to which it is reduced in the summer months."

But that is not all:

Even where the soil is not unfavourable, the very short interval—usually four weeks—which can be reckoned on as intervening between the frosts of winter and the sudden heat and consequent rapid development of summer, now and then taried by a parching drought which bakes the ground into upon, leaves scanty time, with the aid of a comparatively mad agricultural population for getting in the grain and populatio crops, and renders the laying down of any considerable breadth of Swedes (the only turnip which is worth taking trouble with here) very nearly an impossibility."

But, suppose all the difficulties of want of hands, want of implements, and want of capital, in an unfavourable climate surmounted, the turnips sown, and escaped from the fly—"in that country a very Egyptian plague"—and suppose the plants cleaned and hoed, no cay matter, the troubles of the German breeder and feeder are not over:

"The frost, which generally sets in sharply the first days of November, even although it afterwards relaxes, may depive him of the fruit of all his labour, since it is no easy matter to get all the winter corn sown, the potatoes pitted, and every other esculent rescued from the frost. But even when taken up, the difficulty is not surmounted. If the weather becomes mild and moist, the turnips grow in the pit; if it be severe, they can scarcely be saved from freezing in any depth of covering in a climate which occasionally, and often most unexpectedly, freezes two feet deep in a couple of highs. Feeding off is, of course, wholly out of the question, and the trouble, expense, and uncertainty connected with turnip culture, as above depicted, are much greater than the mere renter of a farm will encounter, while the rich propictors know little of, and care less for, farming."

But the summer supply of food for stock is as limited as the winter. The writer says:

"Nor is it in winter only that the German cultivator suffers from climate. Green crops, too, are of very uncertain allainment. Last year, for example, was one singularly unpropitious to the stock farmer. Not only did the severe and late continued frost destroy nearly all the clover and ryegrass throughout the country, but the supervening long drought, and the alternations of extreme heat and cold withering winds which characterised the summer, prevented the deficiency being made good by vetches, or other fallow cops; the consequence was, a great dearth of fodder, to which was afterwards superadded the potato disease, thus cutting off the usual resource of the German farmer when lay is scarce. From all this it is plain the agriculturists here have little encouragement to breed cattle on speculation, and that whatever, in the usual routine course can be spared from home consumption for exportation must ever remain a mere drop in the bucket as to any influence it can have in depressing the English market, even were the Brihish population to remain stationary?

But if population is increasing here, it is increasing also in Germany:

"The rapid increase of population here, as elsewhere, in these peaceful times; the vastly-increased consumption of batchers meat since the cholora was affirmed to be fostered hy a vegetable and fruit diet; and the very high price it bears in Prussia and Saxony (both of them destitute of pashires), whither any surplus from their neighbouring lands will assuredly go so soon as the railroad communication now in a great state of forwardness, affords the means of rapid, cheap, and regular transport. Any considerable ex ponation of fat sheep from Germany to England is a chimera. There are three breeds kept in this country—the long legged, coarse-wooled, small-carcassed, indigenous heath sheep; the fine merino, kept for the sake of the fleece as long as it can eat, and which by no process of feeding can be made to lay up flesh on the forequarters; and the large mursh sheep, which affords a heavy, coarse, woollytasted mutton. peatedly imported, with the view of improving the native slicep, but have always proved a failure, as they can neither endure the heat and drought of summer, nor the being Loused for months in winter; and as mutton is very justly considered the worst meat Germany produces, home consumption would never repay the farmer for the loss on wool he must incur, should he, by crossing with English rams, obtain a better carcassed animal. On all these grounds, the English farmers need not waste a thought on any evil likely to accrue to them from the admission of foreign cattle into England free of all duty."

The German feeders, however, quite understand the value of our present Tariff and Corn Law to them, which, by excluding their cheaper grain and admitting their stock when fattened, offer a direct premium to the German graziers at the expense of the British stock-feeder; for the writer adds:

"But should the House of Peers be so obliging as to pertevere in opposing Sir R. Peel's measure in regard to corn, while they sanction its adoption in respect of cattle, we furners on this side of the water ought to drink their healths in champagne every day of our lives, for nothing could be a greater boon to us."

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.
In the House of Commons on Tuesday night, Mr. Stafford O'Brien inquired whether Government had framed any machinery to obtain agricultural statistics,

which, in 1844, had been suggested to, and undertaken by, the Government. He thought that though the furners might not at first readily furnish all the information that was desirable, yet they would become gradually familiarised with the subject, and in time furnish more complete and detailed information than could be expected at first.

Sir George Clerk, on the part of the Government, stated that they had tried the experiment in Hampshire, in the county of Edinburgh, and in Cavan, in Ireland. From Ireland and Scotland—in the latter the parochial schoolmasters having been employed to furnish the returns—they had obtained the required information:

"In the northern division of Hampshire, however, they had not succeeded so well. They had employed the officers of the Poor Law; but from some jealousy which had sprung up they had only received returns from a few places. He admitted the importance of the subject; and he trusted that in 2 short time the returns would be completed. When they were obtained and presented, then the house might consider the question whether the information obtained should be voluntary or compulsory. After the opinion expressed by his hon, friend he trusted that the agriculturists would afford all the information required of them."

And, from a fuller report than that from which we have quoted, it appears that the Hampshire farmers are unwilling to furnish the information required. We are not much surprised at this; because we know that amongst the great body of English farmers, who are yearly tenants, an opinion prevails that if they are known to have made any considerable improvements in the cultivation of their farms, advantage will be taken by the landlords of such information, in order to advance their rents. We regret to say, so many advantages have been taken of tenants, that it is impossible to deny that the apprehension has some foundation. We think, however, that farmers generally need not decline to give information of the statistics of their farms on that ground, because most farms are rented to the full as high as they ought to be, under yearly holdings, and the existing state of the relations of landlord and tenant. But, in every other respect, it is to the interest of the farmers to give full and accurate statements of the statistics of

Say, for instance, the acreage, the division into pasture and arable, the breadth of the various grain, root, and green crops, the number of labourers employed; the horses, the stock of cattle, sheep and pigs, kept, bred and fed; the quantities of artificial food and artificial manure purchased, the extent of damage done by game, the size of the enclosures, the prevalence of timber, the state of the hedge-rows the ditches and the drainage, the extent and condition of the homestead and farmbuildings, and so forth; so the return of each kind of grain, roots, and other produce per acre, would furnish a mass of information which would greatly clucidate the actual state of English husbandry.

We have no doubt that such a return would redound much more to the credit of the tenantry than the landlordism of the country. It would be found, that where the produce is large-where much stock is maintained, and many labourers employed-where land is well drained, and fences well kept, the tenant is exempted from some of the burdens of landlordism, and has practically a secure tenure, and complete possession of his farm; that he either has a lease, or holds under circumstances, which induce him to expend capital in cultivation with the full expectation of reaping where he has sown. On the other hand, it would almost invariably appear, that where the produce of the land is small, the stock scanty, labour stinted, and so forth, that the cold shade of landlordism has overspread the farm; that the tenant has no security of tenure; that he is oppressed by obsolete or injudicious regulations; that timber abounds; that his buildings are bad; that he is infested with the pest of game, or that other evils of the same nature exist.

Now it is better for the tenant that these things should be known, for that would be the first step to a remedy. With the exception of game-preserving landlords, who must be put out of the cafegory of civilized persons, as many proprietors mismanage their estates and oppress their tenants, from ignorance and bad advice as from design; and a large proportion of them would, ere long, on the evils being plainly shown to them, consent to apply a remedy. It is so clearly the interest of all persons connected with land, that accurate statistics should be accessible to all, that we hope some general and effective plan for collecting them may ere long be adopted.

GOOD ADVICE.—Never cut a piece out of a newspaper until you have looked on the other side, where, perhaps, you may find something more valuable than that which you intended to appropriate. Never burn your fingers, if you can help it; people burn their fingers every day, when they might have escaped it if they had been careful. Let no man ever quarrel with a woman; if you are troubled with her, retreat; if she abuse you, be silent; if she tear your eyes out, feel your way to the door, and fly—without a word!

MEETING OF THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Manchester, Thursday.—An unusually large and influential meeting of the Chamber of Commerce took place here to day to petition the Lords in favour of the Corn Bill, in consequence of reported danger to the measure in that branch of the legislature. The attendance included T. Bazley, jun., Esq., the president, James Kershaw, Esq., W. R. Callender, Esq., John Brooks, Esq., John Burd, Esq., H. Ashworth, Esq., E. Armitage, Esq., W. Bickham, Esq., Edward Shaweross, Esq., Lowis Williams, Esq., Wm. Mayson, Esq., James Hindle, Esq., John Leisler, Esq., Nicholas Heald, Esq., Jos. Simpson, Esq., and T. Nicholson, Esq.

The Chairman, in rising to open the proceedings, was loudly applanded. Having read the advertisement calling the meeting, he said:—Under ordinary circumstances our excellent secretary would have convened this meeting; but his absence from town compelled me to take the responsible lity of summoning you to meet on the present occasion—and probably on no occasion of greater importance could you be called together (hear, hear). Having been informed, upon good authority, that the Free Trade measures which are in progress in the legislature are threatened with serious obstructions, I thought it right to take the opinion of the members of this chamber upon the subject, with the view of placing that opinion upon record, as well as with the intention of giving support to the passing of the measures referred to, and which we desire to see consolidated (hear, hear, hear). The chamber, it will be in the recollection of the members, petitioned Parliament upon this question, as late as the month of February last, when the Board of Directors took the opportunity of saying to the House of Commons, "That your petitioners regret that the principle to which they refer is not so extensively applied as they could wish, nor made immediately operative; they believe that no moment could be selected at which the change could be made full and final with less disturbance to existing interests, or with greater effect upon the well-being and solid happiness of all classes of her Majesty's subjects than the present." These expressions were contained in the petition of the 9th of February. Since then, finding that in the House of Commons the commercial proposition of Sir Robert Peel was making very slow progress indeed, and that it was being impeded by the efforts of factions individuals, while the trade of this extensive district was suffering very greatly, and that that state of things was then every day being increased, the directors of the Chamber thought it right to petition the House of Commons for the purpose of urging on them the propriety and necessity of increasing, if possible, the speed with which they were deliberating upon the measure; and on the 25th of February, the Chamber petititioned the house to carry forward, and to pass the ministerial propositions with the least possible delay. We are aware that this chamber petitioned for the speedy passing of the measure, having for its object the prospective repeal of the Corn Laws. The Commercial Association, you are also aware, likewise petitioned for the passing of the measure. So intense has been the public feeling in the town of Manchester upon this subject, that the bankers, merchants manufacturers and other inhabitants, reductions chants, manufacturers, and other inhabitants, voluntarily and simultaneously came forward for the purpose of petitioning the legislature to pass the Free Trade measures now before it with as little delay as possible. And for the purpose of giving some little weight to such a general petition of the merchants, traders, and other inhabitants, it was considered proper, and acted upon, that a deputation from Manchester should proceed to London to place that petition in the hands of Sir Robert Peel. Accordingly the president of the Commercial Association, Mr. J. Aspinall Turner, myself, Mr. Edward Tootal, and Mr. Stewart, were appointed a deputation to carry the petition to Sir Robert Peel. We had a satisfactory interview with with the Premier (hear, hear). He said he required not to be urged to promote with as little delay as possible, and as far as was in his power, a proposition which he had bimself originated (hear, hear). We heard, gentlemen, while in London, that very serious danger was apprehended to the commercial measures of the Government, in consequence of the course which was likely to be pursued by Lord Stanley, when they reached the upper house. Under these circumstances the deputation thought it right to make an endeavour to obtain an interview with his lordship (hear, hear). And assisted by the efforts of some members of Parliament, who took great trouble with us, and showed us great courtesy (hear, hear), we attempted to see his lordship, but without effect I regret to say (hear, hear). His lordship said it would not be convenient for him to see us. But before leaving London we thought it right to put him in possession of the object we had in view in visiting London, and accordingly to write to him on the subject (hear, hear). The letter was dated the 24th March, 1840, and was signed by Mr. Aspinall Turner and myself. The following is a copy

of the letter:

"We think it proper that, connected as you are with the county of Lancaster, you should be informed of the deep interest which is folt, both in Liverpool and Manchester, in the speedy passing of the Castoms and Corn Importation Bill, introduced into the House of Commons by Sir Robert Peel. The desire felt that this bill should become the law of the land is almost universal among commercial men of all grades of political opinion in the above towns, as well as in the neighbouring boroughs; and this desire is equally felt by the working classes. A great anxiety, however, is beginning to manifest itself as to the delay and slow progress of the measure, and as to its ultimate success in the House of Lozis. We feel, therefore, most desirous of communicating to your lordship our conviction that serious consequences are likely to arise from such a fear extending among the moreantile houses and operatives whom they employ."

We duly reported to the petitioners of Manchester, the result of our mission to London. A committee of the petitioners, consisting of the bankers, merchants, manufacturers, and other inhabitants, thought it right that another application should be made to Lord Stanley, with the view of sending a more numerous deputation from this town to wait upon his lordship at Knowsley during the Easter recess (hear, hear). Mr. Gardner, as the chairman of that committee, wrote a letter to his lordship on the subject, with a copy of which letter Mr. Gardner has favoured me, and which I will read to the meeting:—

to the meeting:—

"My Lord—As chairman of a committee appointed at a large meeting of the bankers, morehants, and manufacturers of this district, to promote the speedy passing of the tariff measure now before Parliament, I am requested respectfully to solicit the favour of an interview with your lordship for a deputation consisting of goutlemen deeply interested in the subject. The deputation from the committee to London having been unable to see your lordship, in consequence of your lordship's being so fully occupied with Parliamentary duties, it is hoped that your lordship will now be able to grant the desired interview.—I am, my lord, your lordship's most obedient servant, (Signed) "ROBT. GARDNER,"

To that letter, three days afterwards, Mr. Gardner received the following reply:

"Bir—I have to acknowledge your note, requesting an interview with me on the part of a deputation from a committee appointed to promote the speedy passing of the tariff measures now before Parliament. Entertaining an opinion entirely at variance with that of the gentlemen whom your opresent, as to the policy of the measures in question, it is my intention to give them a decided opposition in the House of Lords, whenever they may reach that body; but I have no control whatever over their progress, or the delay of their progress, in the House of Commons; and this being the case, I trust you will excuse me if I decline giving the deputation the unnecessary trouble of calling here for the purpose of an interview, which can lead to nothing—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"R. Gardner, Esq." (Signed) "Sianley." " Knowsley, April 21, 1846.

R. Carduor, Esq. (Bigned) The propriety of our attempting to obtain interviews with Lord Stanley is, as I think, fairly established by recent events (hear, hear). We find that his lordship is now engaged in the leadership of a kind of forlorn hope against the commercial measures of the Government (hear, hear); and these measures, be it remembered, are eminently qualified to benefit the people, his fellow-subjects (hear, hear, hear). Knowing that Lord Stanley is a resident in this vast industrial county, we have, in deference to him and to his position, thought it right and dutiful to make a proper appeal to his lordship; and we had thought it possible he would be desirous of showing courtesy to parties among whom he is residing—parties who have increased vastly his personal importance (hear, hear); parties who have contributed immensely to the princely revenues of the house of berby (hear, hear). Now, gentlemen, was it courtesy, was it just, on the part of his lordship, to refuse an interview to gentlemen who merely wished to furnish him with such evidence as would enable him to form a sound and correct opinion on a subject which would be brought before his notice in the upper house (hear, hear). We find his lordship simply in the position of a hereditary legislator, willing to take the responsibility of legislation without at the same time being willing to receive the evidence of facts by which he should be ruled and governed in the exercise of his legi-lative functions (hear, hear). I wish to say nothing which may be considered either severe or disrespectful to Lord Stanley. But I hope he may be disposed to reconsider the position he has assumed, and that instead of putting himself in opposition to the wants, to the interests, and the comforts of the people of the United Kingdom, be will array bimself on their side (hear, hear); that he will desert the banners of functed protection and of monopoly (lond cries of "hear, hear, hear"), and that he will evince some community of feeling with the great mass of markind (applause). Hitherto employment has been continued to a great extent in this district, I believe, in the confident hope that the measure now before Parliament, if passed into law, will bring immediate and permanent relief to the trade of this country, and to the trade of Lancashire in particular (loud cheers). And I have some doubt that, to a very great extent, the labouring classes are being paid at the present time—more especially those in connection with the establishments having steam or other power to propel them -1 have some doubt, I that these labouring classes are being paid to a great extent out of capital (hear, hear) - neither out of movey received from ordinary sales, nor from the usual resources of business, but clearly out of the capital, which I few in many instances is rapidly diminishing (hear). amongst print houses of the first importance and respectability many of them have thought it right and prudent to suspend their operations altogether, and I believe that some most respectable and extensive shippers are standing almost totally still (hear, hear). We know, too, that the hand loom weavers are unemployed to a very great extent Chear, hear), and, consequently, distress of a serious character exists among that very depressed body-a body depressed by circumstances. And unless some step in the direction of right and justice be taken by the legislature, with the view of supplying the wants of those people, I see nothing almost but annihilation for them (hear, hear). And I cannot contemplate without great fear the results of any disappointment which may possibly arise from the commercial measures now before Parliament not becoming the law of the land (hear, hear, hear). The general indications from manufacture and commerce are, on the one hand, most depressing and discouraging, whilst, on the other hand, if the propositions of Government were realised, I believe the prospect would be exceedingly cheering (loud applause). Perhaps at no time has greater harmony existed than at the present meeting (hear, hear). The people were waiting with patience (hear, hear)—with extreme patience (hear, hear)—and I believe that a remedy for many of the evils under which they have long suffered has at length been proposed; and though the benefits it will confer are not to be immediately realised, it is yet prospectively before us (hear, hear); and if it can be attained I believe, accomplish all that which those who support it consider it capable of accomplishing (loud applause). We are relying on the legislature, under the ofreumstances upon which I have very briefly dilated, believing that no permanent benefit can arise to the circumstances of distress around us but such as the legislature has the power of giving. And I look forward to the time of the obtainment of something like Free Trade, when the people shall receive the practical advantage of those further moral improvements and changes which must eventually confer bonefit upon the labouring classes, and in fact upon the masses of our fellow countrymen (applause). And I believe that the people, instead of directing their attention to poli-tical subjects for relief, as they have been accustomed to do, will eventually direct their attention to the advance of social improvement, when they will endeavour to mise themselves in the scale of civilisation (hear). And they will succeed, for there is an elasticity in the human mind, and especially in the minds of Englishmen, that gives them sea room, and

they fear no danger (loud applause). Mr. LEWIS WILLIAMS moved the adoption of the

petition.

Mr. Alderman Callender said it was a new state of things, he was sure they would all say, that the Chamber of Commerce should send a petition to his Grace the Duke of Wollington to present on Free Trade (bear, hear); but it was one which he believed they all felt would be the best under the circumstances. In rising to second the motion he would only make a remark or two, and one remark was, since last September there had been no good business done in the general trade of this town (hear). There might have been particular trades which were an exception; but if they took the general trade, he would say, without the fear of contradiction, there had been very little indeed; and he thought their rulers ought to know the condition in which they were, and should be, unless steps were taken by them

to enable trade to right itself (cheers). He had conversed with several of the gentlemen who were doing the largest business in the country trade and with shipping houses that visited this market, and, one and all, they said they never had so bad a spring trade. For eight months and a half they might be said to have had no business, and were waiting in fond hopes that the passing of these measures by Government would liberate corn from the bonded warehouses, and afford the means of paying for goods, till which there could be no prospect of improvement (cheers). Indeed, unless something of that kind was done, he was persuaded that the fears of the chairman were within the mark, and they should have a degree of excitement that would tell upon they should have a degree of exchanged that would ten upon the House of Lords. Sorry should he be if they put them selves in the unenvisible position of first saying, "there is no excitement in the country," and thus compelling excitement, and then say, as they had done before, "we are not to be intimidated into a course by clamour out of doors" (hear lear). He hand a wicer course would be adopted hear, hear). He hoped a wiser course would be adopted on this occasion, and with these remarks he would second the adoption of the petition (cheers).

The President asked if any gentleman had any remarks to make on the subject before he put the motion?

Mr. HENRY ASHWORTH did not know how far in a false position they might be at the present moment, inasmuch as they were anticipating injury to the Government measure more from an alarm being sounded than from any specific information, or from any real position which had yet been taken up in the House of Lords by the opponents of the bill (hear, hear). In the present position of affairs it would be premature for them to array their strength against the opponents of the measure, and thus be said to become the aggressors. He thought they had great reason to complain of the want of courtesy of a nobleman intimately connected with this county (hear, hear). They could not shut their eyes to the fact that on Saturday last his lordship and sixty or seventy others met to consider what description of obstruction they could throw in the way of the passing of these measures (hear, hear). There was obviously something like good earnest in the course he was taking, and quite sufficient to warrant this body in considering what was the course they should adopt, if it were attempted to put into execution that which was thus threatened. When they came to look at the advantages likely to result from the passing of these measures, there was no party in this country—there was no part of the world—that was not intimately connected with the interests involved in them (applause). And if they were to judge of the propriety of their being adopted, they had only to refer to the state of public opinion on the subject. They might also refer to the fact that the representative portion of the Government had responded to the feeling out of doors, that they had not only the guarantee of public opinion, but that that opinion had been acted upon by one branch of the legislature. They had tolerated up to the present period a description of legislation which had been based permanently on the ownership of the soil, and they had tolerated it up to the time when toleration of it might become matter of consideration (hear, hear). He believed they were most of them willing to defer the political government of this country to the hands of those in whom it had been vested, so long as they might be willing to derive from the country a practical acquaintance with its opinions, and to be guided in legislating by the result of those practical opinions; but when those who opposed these measures refused to receive the opinion of practical men, when they met together to co operate against the interest of every class of society, it behoved them to consider in what way we should deal with such an obstructive body if they persevered in the course they had been taking (applause). It was not for him to consider what might be done under the guidance of mind such as had raised this country to its present commercial eminence, nor what should be done by the influence and power of a body with 200,000l. at their command. He believed they might safely leave any antagonism of class interests in the hands of those who had undertaken to conduct the opinion of the country in reference to this question-he meant the Anti-Corn Law League (cheers). With hea feeling of unwillingness to disturb an extensive and wellconsidered act of justice, the League had refrained for months past from parading before the public their opinions and the means they had of carrying out their ends: but it was not for him to consider how long forbearance on the part of that body would be allowable in reference to the obstruction of the opponents of this measure (hear, hear). He would rather leave the question of antagonism and class against class to be taken up by some other body, and on some other occasion, than enter upon it here; but he believed that if a conflict of opinion were to be undertaken, the event would be by no means favourable to the estimation of that house which was now placed beside the Thames (applause and laughter).

Mr. Alderman BROOKs humorously referred to the silencing of Lord Stanley by the Tamboff exhibition at Lancaster, cement with the various governments and parties with which he had acted, and likened him to what

in Lancashire is called a "self-acting mule." The motion was carried unanimously.

The Chamber then separated. The following is a copy of the petition:

The Chamber then separated.

The following is a copy of the petition:

"That your petitioners have seen with satisfaction that a bill to amend the laws relating to the importation of corn has been passed by the honourable the House of Commons, and is now under the consideration of your right honourable house.

"That in thus expressing their satisfaction, your petitioners respectfully avow that it is rather to the principle on which this, and the other commercial measures introduced into the legislature by her Majesty's Government, are founded, than to the manner in which that principle is carried out, that their approval extends; they would have preferred that the change from an unjust and unwise policy, to one which they regard as the harbinger of peace and blessings, not only to this country but to the whole human race, should have been full and immediate, and not partial and deferred; and your petitioners still regret that this course has not been pursued, inasmuch as this great and inevitable change could nover be made with less disturbance to existing interests than at the present time.

"That the progress the questions to which your petitioners refer have made in the minds of the reflective and intelligent of all classes, renders it unnecessary to recite at length the grounds on which the fixed opinions of your petitioners are based, but they feel themselves bound to state most energetically to your right honourable house that the tedious delay which has intervened between the introduction of the measures of her Majesty's Government and the present time, though useful in having afforded opportunities for discussions which have more firmly comented the determination of the people, has yet been attended by many evils: the transition even from an unwise to a wise course of legislation must necessarily be accompanied by a state of uncertainty in commercial transactions, so that the period of such transition should at all times be as a companied by a state of uncertainty in commercial transactions.

"In the present instance, a degree of embarrassment has

"In the present instance, a degree of embarrassment has been hitherto patiently endured by those who are engaged in the commerce and manufactures of this district, which caused he much longer supported, and which would long cre this base caused distress and loss of employment to our labouring classes, had not the certainty of a favourable change from the passing of the measure, now before your right honourable home cheered and sustained their employers.

"Approving, therefore, of the principle on which the great and beneficial measures of her Majesty's Government are founded, but retaining their regret at the application of the principle as not being made full and immediate, your petitioners humbly but firmly pray that your right hon, house would past the bill as sent up by the Commons in all its integrity, in order that an easy and wise settlement of this all-important question may relieve commerce and industry from an embarrassment, and the people from a suppressed excitement, not the lass real late because momentarily to be suppressed, and which if longer continued, threaton combinedly immediate and fourful capsed quences."

REPRESENTATION OF ORKNEY AND

The following requisition, bearing the signatures of the senior magistrate of Lerwick, and a large majority of all the electors who could be conveniently communicated with, has been addressed to Mr. Arthur Anderson, of London:

TO ARTHUR ANDERSON, ESQ., LONDON. TO ARTHUR ANDERSON, ESQ., LONDON.

SIR,—Believing that a dissolution of Parliament is an even not unlikely to occur soon, we take the earliest opportunity of soliciting that you will stand as a Parliamentary candidate for this county, convinced that both on public and private ground; no more eligible person could possibly be found to represent a interests in Parliament.

It is known to us, and we have no doubt to most of the inhibitants of these islands, that you are, and have always have

It is known to us, and we have no doubt to most of the in-habitants of these islands, that you are, and have always been a staunch and zealous supporter of liberal political epinions, and of the great principles of Free Trade. Those principles, long recognised by the ablest political economists and the most enlightened statesmen as just in themselves and essential to the prosperity of a commercial and maritimo state like Great Britain, have, at length, in spite of all opposition and oblegate forced themselves upon the conviction of the greatest and not influential public men of our time, without reference to nate influential public men of our time, without reference to party

Their ultimate triumph, therefore, we conceive to be certain.

Still the crisis is an important one; and unless men of liberty views and business habits be returned to Parliament, the species of the crisis is an important one; and unless men of the crisis is an important one; and unless men of the crisis is an important one; and unless men of the crisis is an important one. views and business habits no returned to Parliament, the successful issue of the struggle, and its consequent benefit, may be deferred at least for a time, to the great detriment of the trade of the country and danger of its peace. But, sir, in addition to these public motives, we confess we are actuated by more partial and local considerations. You are a native of the country and entertain towards it, as you have often already shown, those feedback of interest and greateful which it is natural forces. and entertain towards it, as you have often already shown, these feelings of interest and goodwill which it is natural for every man to hear to the land of his birth. Its resources and expabilities, as well as its wants, can be understood by none better than by yourself; and when we reflect that it is by your own energy and ability that you have been placed in the position which you now occupy, we feel satisfied that (without disparage, ment to any), no one has yet represented it more capable of developing the one or of supplying the other. With these sent veloping the one or of supplying the other. With these sent ments we, therefore, would now respectfully invite you, in the event of the contemplated dissolution of Parliament, to come forward as a candidate, when we pledge ourselves to support to

Lerwick, 29th April, 1846

In consequence of the above requisition, Mr. Anderson has issued the following Address to the constituency:

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF ORKNEY AND SHETLAND.

GENTLEMEN.—A requisition to become a candidate for the representation of your county in the next Parliament has been addressed to me by a numerous and respectable portion of your body; and I am informed that the sentiments and wish therein expressed are participated by a still larger proportion of the constituency, who had not an opportunity of appending their names to the requisition.

names to the requisition.

Feelings of personal respect towards your present representative would have prevented me from taking, of my own accord, any steps tending to interfere with his relations with you, in the event of his wishing to represent the county in another Parliament. But I feel that I should respond very unworthily to the spontaneous call which has been, in such gratifying terms, made on me, were I to permit considerations of a merely personal nature to deter me from affording to you the opportunity of selecting by whom you will be represented. merely personal nature to deter me from affording to you the opportunity of selecting by whom you will be represented. I therefore place my humble services at your disposal, and should it be your pleasure, when the time arrives, to confer upon me the honourable post of your representative, I will make it my endeavour to repay so great a mark of your confidence by devoting my best energies to the highly responsible duties which it involves, and by the most earnest and active efforts to promote your reportal lead and individual integers by covery legitimate. your general, local, and individual interests, by every legitimate

means in my power.

My political opinions are, I believe, not unknown to most of you. I have always been, and still continue to be, a zealous though humble advocate of the relief of commerce and industry from all injurious restrictions; and, especially, from such as tend to limit the supply and enhance the cost of the first neces saries of life. An important approximation to the giving effect to the great principles of commercial freedom is, I trust, on the eve of accomplishment in the measure now before Parliament. But much will still remain to be done in the reformation of our fiscal system requiring the exertions in the legislature of pac

I am decidedly opposed to the extension of state endowments

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to the Roman Catholic priesthood.

And in regard to other points of public polity, I may describe myself as a constitutional reformer .- that is, by a timely cor rection of such defects and abuses as are found to be practically injurious to the great body of the people. I would the more firmly consolidate and perpetuate our otherwise excellent con-

I am unfettered by any party ties, and will support good, and oppose bad measures, without regard to who may originate

For a guarantee of an active and vigilant attention to the local interests of the county, I trust, I need only appeal to my past and not unsuccessful exertions to improve its trade and industrial resources.

I hope to be able to take an opportunity ere long of personally ascertaining the general sentiments of the constituency as to my eligibility to become their Parliamentary representative.

And in the meantime, Gentlement, I remain, your faithful servant, countryman, and sincere well-wisher.

London, May, 1846.

ARTHUR ANDERSON.

RISE IN FARM RENTS.—Occasional notices have appeared of late of farms out of lease being re-let at an advance of rent; but we have now to announce perhaps the most remarkable instance of the late improvements in agriculture. and the expectations entertained of its continuance on the part of the tenantry, in the case of the large and fine Farm of Mains of Eleho. This Farm, which is the property of the Earl of Wemyss, is situated on the banks of the Tay, about four miles below Porth. The lease, which has just expired, was one of nineteen years' duration, and at an average of the flars prices for that period, the rent has been about 600% per annum. At the same average the new rent, which is to be partly money and partly grain, will reach nearly to 1000% and has been taken by no inexperienced and rash farmer but by one of the oldest and most successful agricultural families in the country.—Parth Courier.

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REVIEW.

The Life and Times of the Hon. Henry Gratten. By his Son, Henry Grattan, Esq., M.P. London, Colburn. (Second Notice.)

In our preceding notice, we mentioned the se-cession of Mr. Grattan and a body of his friends from the Irish Parliament, as evidence of their opinion that the Irish Legislature was inadequate to the task of governing the country. Of this fact every statesman must have been convinced who attended to the practical working of the Irish administration. A robellion was provoked by a series of atrocities, compared with which the conduct of the Russians in Poland, of the Turks in Greece, or even of the Spaniards in Peru, might be quoted as examples of leniency; and these measures were defended in the House of Commons by the ministerial measure as judicious means to make the insurrection prematurely explode. An undisciplined army, which Sir Rulph Abercrombie declared to be so demoralised as to be formidable to everybody but the enemy, was let loose at free quarters upon the peasantry; a bigoted yeomanry, taught that their ersonal and party ascendancy was at stake, was hounded on, not by the Government, but by the local magistracy, and all the excesses they committed were sanctioned by the local legislature. A schoolmaster, named Wright, was seized by Judkin Fitzgerald, the high sheriff of Tipperary. A letter of introduction from a French royalist was found in his pocket, but the sheriff, being ignorant of French, wisely concluded that everything written in that language must be treasonable, and ordered Wright to be flogged in order to extort a confession. The unfortunate man had received five hundred lashes, when an officer came up who could read French; to him Fitzgerald showed the note, and its innocent nature was explained. Wright brought an action against the sheriff, and recovered damages; but as other victims threatened to seek similar redress, the Irish Parliament passed an Act of Indemnity, and we shall extract a few specimens of the outrages thus solemnly sanctioned by a "native" legis-

The case of Matthew Scott, tried in 1799 before Mr. Justice Kelly, at Clonmel, is also illustrative of the character of the laws, and of the temper of those who administered them. Scott was a wealthy and respectable inhabitant of Clonmel—a man of large property, and high repute; he was imprisoned on a charge (totally false) of sending pikes in his boats that went laden with corn. Judkin Fitzgerald refused no less a sum than 100,000l. bail for him! and when applied to, swore ' By God he shall not be brought to trial!' However, after much intercession in his favour, he was let out of jail on giving bail in the amount of 20,000/.: an action was brought against Fitzgerald, who relied on the indemnity was brought against Fitzgerald, who refled on the indemnity act, protecting those who had acted since the 25th of October, 1708, for the suppression of the insurrection, and the preservation of the public peace. Captain Jephson, who commanded a corps of yeomanry in the county, was examined on the trial, and swore that the conduct of Fitzgerald was the most infimous he ever witnessed, and such as if persevered in would accurately win the country; that he here severed in would assuredly ruin the country: that he had persecuted in a most oppressive and cruel manner, a man of the name of Wells, who was perfectly innocent, and what luzgerald had stated was utterly false; the jury, however, found a verdict for Fitzgerald.

"Another case was that of Doyle, merchant and cloth manufacturer, of Carrick; it occurred in 1798, but the trial did not take place till 1801. Doyle had been arrested by füzgerald, tied up, and flogged; he could not endure the toture, and after 100 hashes he fainted. He was guilty of no offence, and accordingly brought an action. Fitzgerald defended himself, and in his energy displaced some of his defended himself; and in his speech disclosed some of his shomities, in which he seemed to glory. He stated, as a proof of his services, that he had arrested a Mr. O'Brien, whom he called colonel of the united party,) to have him flogged. O'Brien made an excuse to retire, as he wanted to shave himself, and pretending to do so, he cut his throat to avoid the horror and ignominy of the torture. This act Fugerald gravely advanced as a defence to the action! He then gave a catalogue of the tortures he had inflicted : he hta flogged many the 23rd he had flogged a Mr. Fox, whom he called a general; a Mr. Quinn, whom he called a colonel; a man of the name of Kearey, and a man of the name of Wells, a yeoman in 16th of May, at Nenagh; on (aptain Jephson's corps; that Capt. Jephson had threatened he would get his men to fire on him, but ' I defied him, and logged Wells and two more men, THOUGH THEY WERE ALL INVOCENT! —these were his words; and it was for this man that the Attorney-General Toler (afterwards Lord

horbury) got the indemnity bill passed. The reader must bear in mind that Lord Clare, Lord Camden, and Mr. Pitt, denied such acts of torture had been Lord Camden, in his speech in the English House of Lord Camden, in his specch in the English knows of Lords was express on this point, saying, 'nothing more than securary was resorted to;' but here appears the naked fact, proved by their friend and protégé, the man for whom was passed this very indomnity bill; here he comes forth, avorting and observe the first and adding this very remarkable

ing and glorying in the fact, and adding this very remarkable hole and comment, 'THAT HE PLOGGED THEM, THOUGH THEY WERE ALL INNOCENT!' But another circumstance appeared on this trial: a disclosure was made which brings the guilt nearer to head-quarters. In his defence, Fitzgerald protocol a letter, addressed to him, and signed by William Baguell, 'Brigade Major,' dated 6th June, 1708,—a military man, and then in the employment of Government: in this letter, Bagwell informed Fitzgerald, 'that if he found any good arize from fighting, he might go on with it, but let not reach my ears? Well might Lord Camden say be knew nothing of flogging. The evidence given on this trial also, by Captain Jephson, is too important to be omitted, and arrees to lift up the veil from the entire scene of these captainty Government orgies: he swears, 'I wrote to hole and comment, 'THAT HE PLOGGED THEM, THOUGH sections Government orgies: he swears, 'I wrote to Comment for troops, for two reasons; lst, because I beaght from Pitzgerald's conduct no loyal yeoman would be ares; this I leared from the despair manifested by the

inhabitants of the country on hearing of the flogging; 2ndly, I was affeld that not only the yeomen would not bear arms, but that the cruelty exercised in inflicting the torture would infuse a spirit of disloyalty into the most loyal, and con-sequently encourage the most disaffected. I am of opinion that Sheriff Fitzgerald's conduct was calculated to promote rebellion; for had it not been for my being possessed with superior information, the oath of allegiance I had taken, the property I had in the country, and my being a captain of a yeomanry corps, I would, on seeing such wanton cruelty, have joined the rebels!

"Lord Avonmore, in charging the jury said, 'Before the indemnity acts passed, no damages you could give would be too great, but if under these acts you believe the defendant was forced, through imperious necessity, to commit this abominable outrage against the plaintiff, (a man of acknowledged loyalty) you are bound to find for him: the information he acted on he has told you was that of a rile, perjured, and infamous informer, and this too not upon oath! To render a verdict for the plaintiff of any avail, you must find that the defoudant acted malletracks and the defoudant acted malletracks. that the defendant acted maliciously, and not with the intent of suppressing the Rebellion, or of serving the state; such or suppressing the Revenion, or of serving the state; such are the words of the Act, which places an insuperable bar between injury and redress, and sets all equity and justice at defiance!" at the same time he dashed the Act upon the cushion, and threw himself back on the bench. The Jury Acquitted Fitzgerald!! upon which he took legal proposed by the legal proposed and suppressed. ceedings against the man he had so flogged, and recovered damages against him to the amount of 1211., as by the law a verdict for defendant saddled the plaintiff with double

There were but two courses open to the English Government: they must either have delivered over the Irish people to the tender mercies of an Orange ascendancy, or procured for that people the protoction of the British Parliament by the Act of Union. In fact, the Orangemen were bitterly opposed to the Union, which they clearly foresaw would lead to the extinction of their exclusive privileges of misgovernment; and on the other hand, the Catholic hierarchy and a large portion of the laity materially assisted in accomplishing the measure. They subsequently became repealers, not because the Union was bad in itself, but because the promises made to them were violated by the obstinate resistance of George III. to the concessions proposed by his ministry. Mr. Grattan says:

"There can be no doubt that the Catholics were intentionally and basely deceived, and that Lord Cornwallis was the direct participator in the fraud appears from the following facts, which are here given as they were narrated by one of the participator in the transportion and who was dethe parties concerned in the transaction, and who was desirous that they should be known. Mr. Robert Johnson voted for the Union and was created judge; he favoured the Catholics, and thought they had been deceived at the Union Under these impressions he stated to the Author, in 1816, the following occurrence:—That he was one of twenty-five members in the Lower House who had agreed that they would oppose the Union if they found that the Roman Catholics were hostile to it, and that they would vote for the measure if the Roman Catholics were friendly to it; that, as the Catholics constituted the majority of the population, their wishes on a subject in which they were so deeply interested would guide them, and that their numbers (twenty five) were certain to turn the scale on a division. Lord Cornwallis sent for Johnson, and he went to the castle, accompanied by some of the twenty-five, and Lord Cornwallis declared that they were mistaken in their opinion as to the Catholic resistance; that 'they were betrayed by the Catholics," (such were the words) for that the Catholics would not hold out in cornection to the macanic that the Catholics would not hold out in cornection to the macanic that the Catholics would not hold out in cornection to the macanic that the Catholics would not hold out in cornection to the macanic that the Catholics would not hold out in cornection to the macanic that the Catholics would not hold out in cornection to the macanic that the castle out to the macanic that the castle out to the castle out the macanic that the castle out to the castle out the castle out to the castle out t not hold out in opposition to the measure. The party took the assurance of the Lord Lieuvenant, they believed his statement, and thus (said Johnson) we were dissolved.

It is an error to say that the Catholics were intentionally deceived. We learn from Lord Malmesbury's letters and diaries, that l'itt had no reason to anticipate the king's opposition, and that his Majesty's latent prejudices were only worked up to obstinacy by the intrigues of a section of the Cabinet at the head of which was the late Lord Auckland. Had emancipation accompanied the Union, that measure would have been complete; but so long as emancipation was delayed, the Union was imperfect; it existed only in name.

A stronger case for a Union could hardly have been made out than that which Grattan himself established in his reply to Mr. Cony, one of the most terrible pieces of invective existing in any language.

"The right honourable gentlemen says I fied from the country after exciting rebellion, and that I have returned to raise another. No such thing. The charge is false. The civil war had not commenced when I left the kingdom, and I could not have returned without taking a part. On the one side there was the camp of the rebel, on the other the camp of the minister, a greater traitor than that rebel. The stronghold of the constitution was nowhere to be found. I agree that the rebel who rises against the Government should have suffered; but I missed on the scaffold the right honourable gentleman. Two desperate parties were in arms against the constitution. The right honourable gentleman belonged to one of these parties, and deserved death. I could not join the rebel—I could not join the Government—I could not join torture—I could not join half-hanging—I could not join free quarter—I could take part with neither. I was therefore absent from a scene where I could not be active without self-reproach, nor indifferent with safety.

"Many honourable gentleman thought differently from me. I respect their opinions, but I keep my own; and I think now, as I thought then, that the treason of the Minister against the liberties of the people was infinitely worse than the rebellion of the people against the Minister.

"I have returned, not, as the right honourable member asid to raise another storm." I have returned to displayer.

said, to raise another storm; I have returned to discharge an honourable debt of gratitude to my country that conferred a great reward for past services, which, I am proud to say, was not greater than my desert. I have returned to protect that constitution, of which I was the parent and the founder, from the assassination of such men as the right honourable gentleman and his unworthy associates. They

are corrupt, they are aeditious, and they, at this very moment, are corrupt, they are seditious, and they, at this very moment, are in a conspiracy against their country. I have returned to refute a libel, as false as it is malicious, given to the public under the appellation of a Report of the Committee of the Lords. Here I stand, rendy for impeachment or trial, I dare accusation. I defy the honourable gentleman. I defy the Government. I defy their whole phalanx; let them come forth. I tell the Ministers I will neither give them come forth. I tell the Ministers I will neither give them quarter nor take it. I am here to lay the shattered remains of my constitution on the floor of this house in defence of the liberties of my country."

Now in the heat of debate it might be allowable to speak of " the treason of the Minister against the liberties of the people;" but in sobor truth, all the atrocities which Mr. Grattan enumerated were not merely sanctioned by the Irish Parliament, but in many cases extorted from the ministry by the majority of that Parliament. So far as the Government had free power of action, it interfered on the side of mercy; and it had to exert all its influence to provent an Orange Parliament from giving martial law a retrospective effect, and butchering at once all the State prisoners who had been taken into custody. Gratian then in effect declared that no true patriot could join either the Parliament or the people, and from this it clearly followed that the existing state of things must have terminated either in a peaceful union or a sanguinary revolution. In the last speech which Grattan made on the question he points to a defect in the terms of union, which has not yet been adequately remedied.

"The cry of the connection will not in the end avail against the principles of liberty. Connection is a wise and profound policy; but connection without an Irish Parliament is connection without its own principle, without analogy of condition, without the pride of honour that should attend it, is innovation, is peril, is subjugation—not connection.

"The cry of disaffection will not in the end avail against

the principle of liberty.

Identification is a solid and imperial maxim, necessary for the preservation of freedom-necessary for that of empire; but without union of hearts-with a separate Government and without a separate Parliament-identification is extinction, is dishonour, is conquest—not identification.

"Yet I do not give up the country; I see her in a swoon, but she is not dead. Though in her tomb she lies helpless and motionless, still there is on her lips a spirit of life, and

on her cheek a glow of beauty.

'Thou art not conquered; beauty's ensign yet

Is crimson on thy lips and in thy checks,

And death's pale flag is not advanced there.'

"While a plank of the vessel sticks together, I will not leave her. Let the courtier present his flimsy sail, and carry the light bark of his faith with every new breath of wind—I will remain anchored here, with fidelity to the fortunes of my country, faithful to her freedom—faithful to

The continuation of a separate Government in Ireland after the Parliaments had been united, was a palpable blunder; but it was to some extent rendered necessary by the long delay of Catholic Emancipation. The want of uniform legislation in the two countries, the excitement of religious differences when a cry was necessary to support the exigencies of parties, the appeals made to English and Protestant prejudices against "aliens in language, religion, and blood," and the limitations maintained on electoral and municipal rights in Ireland, are the real causes of the present popularity of the Repeal cry. The experiment of a real Union has never yet been tried, for there can be no identity of nations without an identity of legislation.

A curious instance of the malice which the agents in the misgovernment of Ireland manifested to the only Irish statesman who ventured to expose their malpractices, was exhibited by the notorious (liffard, (father of the Editor of the Standard) at

the Dublin election of 1802:

"When Mr. Grattan presented himself to vote for Sir Jonah Barrington, Mr. Giffard objected to his competency, as having been disfranchised by the Corporation of Dublin in 1708. The rival candidates disclaimed any wish to avail the made of such as Historial advantage. Mr. Grattan's an illiberal advantage. Mr. Grattan's competency was, however, established, masmuch as the act of disfranchisement was not recorded in the original hall, and his name still stood on the records of the town clerk's office. Before Mr. Grattan voted, he thus forcibly expressed bis feelings on Mr. Giffard's objection; to which no reply was attempted by the objector, or any of his Orange associates. 'The objection comes from the hired traducer of his country, the excommunicated of his fellow citizens, the unpunished rufflan, the bigoted agitator, the regal rebel. In the city a firebrand, in the courts a liar, in the streets a bully, and in the field a coward."

In the close of 1803, Mr. Grattan wrote a valuable letter to the Right Hon. C. J. Fox; it is a valuable state-paper, and clearly points out the means by which alone the Union could have been perfected.

"Stradbally, Dec. 12th, 1800.

"My dear Sir,—Your idea is reducible to two questions—whether a better system be not necessary to Ireland's permanent allegiance? whether the rejection of that system would not hazard our present repose? I incline to the affirmative of both propositions. The rejection of such a system, together with the acquiescence of our Parliament in torture, free quarter, and conflagration, produced the union with England. A similar proceeding at this instant in the British Parliament, accompanied with a justification of such violence, Parliament, accompanied with a justification or such violence, might lead to a union with France. The best way, perhaps, of showing immediate spirit is to bring forward the bad qualities of the enemy, but to keep in the background those of the Government. The question might be so greatly supported and the liberal sentiments so prevalent as to avoid my objection, but in that case the question would be substantially carried, and of such an event, so devoutly to be wished, I am no judge, not knowing the disposition or tone of the I am no judge, not knowing the disposition or tone of the

house; but if the question be lost and debated as in the Irish Parliament, or as the Martial Law Bill was in the last English Parliament, the discussion would do mischief; on that debate (I think it was in that debate) you and a few others had to stand against the representatives of England and against the representatives of Ireland-the latter giving false evidence against their country (they had before given corrupt votes), and the former making laws on that false evidence.

"As to the other question, namely, the change of system, I must entirely agree. The Union is not carried. The Parliament is destroyed, and that bond of union removed, but equality of conditions, civil or political, not even commenced.

All the subjects you mention—Catholic Emancipation (for such I must call it), payment of the Catholic clergy, tithe, and perhaps some little improvement regarding our church; and, above all, a faithful and cordial execution by the execu tive magistrate of the laws in favour of the Catholics; their appointment to a share in offices to which they are now qualified (I believe there are searcely any of them so advanced); the withdrawing from any intrigue to exclude them from the corporations, to which they are admissible, but ex-cluded by a faction; the imposing silence on any Government press who would wish to sustain a religious war; the withdrawing the countenance of Government from all such who are notoriously and inveterately foes to the Catholic body; the gracious reception of their persons (it was so in the time of Lord Fitzwilliam). These things, the manners of the court, as well as their measures, would be absolutely necessary for that security and unity which you desire. Legislative provisions are not enough; it is necessary that the Minister should love those provisions. Mr. Pitt lost the benefit of the Catholic Bill, because, after he had given the law to the Catholics, he gave the execution of the law and the Catholies to their enemies

"That bill had hardly appeared when the leading Minister of Ireland pronounced it an act of insanity, and formed an intrigue with the ascendancy party to exclude the Catholic from getting corporate freedom, to which, by this bill, he was qualified. The Irish Government press accompanied laws of reconciliation by volumes of abuse against the parties to be reconciled.

"Mr. Pitt had never been able to raise a rebellion by his measure if he had not been assisted by the gross manners of his partisans. Therefore what you say is extremely just. Legislative provisions alone won't do. The general spirit of the executive government must be looked to. It was against the hostility of that general spirit that the people, notwithstanding their legal acquisitions, revolted; a revolt very criminal, very senseless, but deriving its cause from the Government, which was guilty not only of its own crimes but the crimes of the people.

"I am more fully convinced that the system caused the rebellion, and that allegiance—permanent, active allegiance, -is only to be secured by its removal, when I consider the g and effects that have attended its abatement.

"Without any alteration in the legal condition of this country, and merely by a temperate exercise of the existing laws, the present chief governor of Ireland has more advanced the strength of Government and its credit, than could have been well conceived. A rebellion broke out in the capital: in a few days, without the TORTURE, he discovered, I believe; 2000 pikes; and in a very few weeks had more yeomen than Lord Camden in the whole of his government; and without a single act of violence put down, I think completely for the present, the insurrection; or rather, he set up the laws, and made them put down rebellion; withdrawing the credit of Government at the same time from religious and political controversy. From the manner in which this last rebellion was put down, I incline to think that if Lord Hardwicke had been Viceroy, and Lord Redesdale Chancellor, in '98, the former rebellion had never existed; but how far either have powers to effect that radical change, and to plant loyalty—permanent, unfeigned loyalty—in this country, I have great fears; rather, no hopes that I shall live to see that executive or legislative philanthropy that shall make the two countries act as one, not merely from the dread of France or the apprehension of plunder from their own populace, but from the love of one another. Should such an event take place, I shall feel much joy, and you will feel much comfort in the consciousness of being the principal cause."

In his first speech in the English Parliament, the completion of the Union, not its repeal, was the policy recommended by Grattan.

" The Parliament of Ireland -of that assembly I have a parental recollection. I sat by her cradle, I followed her hearse. In fourteen years she acquired for Ireland what you did not acquire for England in a century -freedom of trade, independency of the legislature, independency of the judges, restoration of the final judicature, repeal of a perpetual Mutiny Bill, Habeas Corpus Act, Nullum Tempus Act—a great work! You will exceed it, and I shall rejoice. I call my countrymen to witness, if in that business I compromised the claims of my country, or temporised with the power of England; but there was one thing which baffled the effort of the patriot, and defeated the wisdom of the senate, it was the folly of the theologian. When the Parliament of Ireland rejected the Catholic petition, and assented to the calumnies then nttered against the Catholic body, on that day she voted the Union: if you should adopt a similar conduct, on that day you will vote the separation : many good and pious reasons you may give; many good and pious reasons she gave, and she lies THERE with her many good and her pious reasons. That the Parliament of Ireland should have entertained prejudices, I am not astonished; but that you, that you who have, as individuals and as conquerors, visited a great part of the globe, and have seen men in all their modifications, and providence in all her ways; that you, now at this time of day, should throw up dykes against the Pope, and barriers against the Catholic, instead of uniting with that Catholic to throw up barriers against the French, this surprises me; and, in addiup barriers against the French, this surprises me; and, in adultion to this, that you should have set up the Popo in Italy, to tremble at him in Iroland; and further, that you should have professed to have placed yourself at the head of a Christian, not a Protestant League, to defend the civil and religious liberty of Europe, and should deprive of their civil liberty one fifth of ourselves, on account of their religion—this surprises me; and also that you should prefer to buy allies by subsidies, rather than follow subjects by privileges; and that you should now stand, drawn out, as it were, in battalion, 16,000,000 against 36,000,000, and should at the same time pacalyze a fifth of your own members, by excluding them from some of the principal benefits of your constitution, at the very time you say all your members are inadequate, unless juspired by those very privileges."

This was even more forcibly stated in 1812.

Without enquiring whether the repeal of Catholic disability was actually promised, it was the expectation of that measure which carried the Union, It is the price for the Union; and an essential part thereof; you will now pay the purchase of that measure. National honour is power; in trade it is capital; in the state it is force. The name of England has carried you through a host of difficulties; we conjure you by that name to accede to those petitions: should jure you by that name to accede to those petitions; should you finally refuse, you repeal the Union; you declare the Irish and the English to be a distinct people; you not only declare it, but you do it; you dissolve the incorporation; they were kept together by hope, and you divide them by despair; you make them two distinct nations, with opposite and with hostile interests; the one with civil privileges, the other without; the one in the act of disqualifying the other; the

oppressor and the oppressed.
"The idea of the Union is twofold; a union of Parliament, and a union of people. I see the union of Parliament; and in that I see the measure which makes the legislature more handy to the minister; but where are the people? where is the consolidation? where is the common interest? where is the heart that should animate the whole, and that combined giant that should put forth his hundred hands for the state? There is no such thing: the petitioners tell you so; they tell you, that it is impossible such a policy should last; a policy that takes away the Parliament of Ireland, and excludes the Catholic from the Parliament of England; a policy that the Union by the bone of education and your release. obtained the Union by the hope of admission, and now makes

the exclusion everlasting.
"The Catholics now come to you; they have brought their Protestant neighbours along with them, and they both call upon you for the civil capacities of the Catholics, and for the integrity of the empire.

"Thus, you perceive, it is no longer a question between the different sects of Ireland, no longer a question regarding the security of the Protestant property or the Protestant church. Fur from looking for that security in civil disqualifications, they deprecate those disqualifications as their principal danger, and they reduce the subject to a question between the people of Ireland, and the ministers of

the Crown.
"So it now stands. But should you wish to support the minister of the Crown against the people of Ireland retain the Union and perpetuate the disqualification; the consequence must be something more than alienation. When you finally decide against the Catholic question, you abandon the idea of governing Ireland by affection, and you adopt the idea of coercion in its place. National disqualification, national litigation, informations, attachments, an angry press, an angry prosecution, errors on both sides; men discharged for their virtuous sentiments in favour of the people; such was the case of Mr. Stanhope; domestic fend added to foreign war. Such must be the situation of Ireland; a situation which is nothing more nor less than preparation to render the Irish mind completely hostile to Great Britain. This misfortune will be very great to both of us. In what particular way it will break out I know not, but I know it will be ruin; when I say ruin, you must know I mean ultimate separation, separation either in fact, or separation in disposition,—either will undo us. Nature protests against it: France with all her powers, could not achieve it; civil disqualification may. We powers, could not achieve it; civil disqualification may. We shall first be destroyed, and your gorgeous empire will follow; you are ruined by the hostility of Ireland, you are ruined by her neutrality. You are therefore pronouncing the doom of England. You, opposed to the population of France, with all her appendages; you, with only sixteen millions of inhabitants, strike out of actual operation four. Never was an instance of human insensibility so fatally displayed. The mad Athenian, when he disqualified for a few bushels of corn, a part of his fellow citizens, was not so frantic. The mad part of his fellow citizens, was not so frantic. The mad Greek, who in the last moments of his existence refused the assistance of the West, damned the cardinal, and gave up his

empire, was not more frantic.
"A nation fighting for her existence, a wise nation, a civilized nation, striking out of operation one-fourth of her people, deliberately, in her senses, for no reason; the cucharist is no reason, the worship of the Virgin Mary is no reason; arguments of public scorn, if they were not the cause of public ruin; without any cause, except we suppose that the hand of death precipitates the empire; I say, you are pronouncing the doom of England. If you ask how the people of Ireland fee doom of ringham. It you ask now the people of freiand feel towards you, ask yourselves how you would feel towards us, if we disqualified three-fourths of the people of England for ever. The day you finally ascertain the disqualification of the Catholic, you pronounce the doom of Great Britain. It is just it should be so. The king who takes away the liberty of his subjects, loses his crown; the people who take away the liberty of their fellow-subjects lose their empire."

That Grattan would have preferred an Irish legislature to an Imperial Parliament we may well believe, because all the prejudices and affections of his life were connected with the legislature he had raised into independence. But he never sought the repeal of the Union. On the contrary, he insisted on Catholic Emancipation, chiefly because it was necessary to the completion and perfection of the measure. His son has made these volumes the medium for advocating the repeal of the Union, but he has not hesitated to expose the profligate character of the Irish Parliament during the period of its melancholy existence. He confesses that it was only "pushed forward to liberty by the bayonets of the volunteers," and that the liberty which it acquired was privilege for the minority and degradation for the great majority of the people. His case, therefore, is broken down under him; he would not, himself, prefer to the imperial legislature such a Parliament as that from which his father secoded in disgust and despair.

These volumes do not increase our admiration of the great Grattan, for his speeches long since published have won him an immortality of fame, from all who admire sublime elequence, - of affection from all who love earnest devotion to the cause of freedom. But they lead us to regret that the living Henry Grattan has not read aright the policy pursued by his father in the British Parliament; he advocated justice to Ireland as essential to British greatness. He laboured for Britain's greatness as essential to Ireland's prosperity. His carnest with

was to see the two countries united by the bonds of common liberties, common interests, and common affections.;—this is a great work which remains ich to be accomplished, and the glory of Grattun will be rivalled only by that of the Irish patriot, who will himself to the task with carnestness and devotion

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1. Electricity and Galvanism.

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CARLETON'S GREAT WORK -Now ready, Parts I., II., and III., pre-VALENTINE M'CLUTCHY the IRISH AGENT; or, Chronicles of the Castlectunber Property. By WILLIA CONTROL TON, Esq., Anthorof "Art Maguire," "Rody the Rover, "See, with Bustrations by "Phiz." This extraordinary work was formerly published at three volumes, post 8vo., price £ 11s. fid. It is now carefully corrected and improved by the author, and will be completed in 10 monthly number at is. each. Each number contains 40 pages 8vo., and two humourous flustrations by "Phiz."

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POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Friday Evening, May 22, 1846.

The present quietude of the country, in the midst of much privation and commercial suffering, arises entirely from the confident hope of speedy relief from the passing of the Ministerial measures. Beneath this tranquillity there is a stern and fixed determination that monopoly shall be at once and for ever abolished; and the very strength of this resolve is the cause of the apparent inaction. The nation is quiet in its self-reliance; it neither agitates nor blusters, because it is assured of success. Now that the principles of justice have been solemnly affirmed by the people's representatives, there is no obvious necessity for their enunciation by the people themselves, The Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham, mistaking the nature of the present tranquil lity, and supposing, or appearing to suppose, that the silence of conscious might is apathy or indiffer ence, have commenced an out-doors' agitation, for the perils of which they must be responsible. This worthy brace of hereditary statesmen have for some time laboured to get up a great protectionist demonstration, and missives have been sent to picked tenant farmers in all parts of the country. On Thursday last the monopolist convention met in Willis's Rooms, under the analysis of the two dukes aforesaid, supported by Lord amount, Lord George Bentinek, Sir Yohn and

Colonel Sibthorp, and Benjamin D'Israeli. It is

sufficiently obvious that this was a convention of

notorieties rather than of notables, since it included

less than a score of peers and about the same num-

The speeches delivered by the tenant farmers

were rather above the average of the effusions of

the agricultural members in the recent debates, for

the poor farmers exhibited the sincerity of men

frightened out of their wits by visions of imaginary

Tamboffs and Utopian prairies. They eried that the soil would be thrown out of cultivation-that

the sun would cease to shine and rains would no longer descend from hoavon to fertilize British

earth; they declared that Church and State would

fall with corn, and that Queen Victoria, like Sultan

Mahmoud, would only roign over ruined villages.

We cannot deal with the insane ravings of these

miscrable dupes; the task of refutation is impossible when there are no arguments to refute;

and as to the assertions, they have been so

often reiterated and so often exposed, that

we should be better employed commenting on

the effusions of Bedlam. But passing from the

dupes to the dupers, we find Lord George Ben-

tinck very plainly menacing armed resistance to

the Minister, and declaring himself ready to carry a musket instead of the marshal's baton which he

has been chosen to wield as a leader of the monopolists. Mr D'Israeli recommended the con-

tinuance of agitation, and the Duke of Richmond spoke of the necessity of agricultural demonstrations

to influence the House of Lords. If such vaunts

belong not to the well known arts to which bullies

have recourse, in order to frighten away fear, these

noble dukes are challenging a conflict in which much more will be risked than is at present endan-

gered. We know not how far this demonstra-

tion is approved by the other protectionists; it may be a miserable pretext for getting a sanction of something like public opinion to the rejection

of the ministerial measure; should this be the case,

they will find that the out-doors' agitation which has

been thus provoked will be one without a parallel

in the history of England, and, we believe, in the

history of Europe. Let it be borne in mind that

the League and the Free Traders are not the par-

ties who provoke the conflict; the nation has been

challenged to the contest by the Dukes of Richmond and of Buckingham; they have proclaimed

agitation as a principle and a duty. Should the majurity of the peers adopt a similar course, the nation

will accept the lesson, and it will go hard if it does

COMPOUNDING FOR POOR RATES,-THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE. (From the Morning Advertiser.) On Saturday was continued the public vestry of the inhabitants of the parishes of St. Margaret and St. John the Evangelist, Westminster. The meeting was for the purpose of making a poor rate, and was of importance, as "involving the question of the right of the occupiers of compounded houses to be on the rate book, and the legality of compound-

ing for the rate in parliamentary boroughs."

Mr. Forry was called to the chair. All persons except inhabitants being required to withdraw, the reporter sent by this journal was likewise excluded. Ratepayers only were

present. The following report is from a ratepayer:
The Vestry Clerk (Mr. Rogers) informed the meeting

that the overseers had received a requisition containing upwards of 300 names of occupiers of "compounded

houses," demanding to be placed on the rate in the occu-

piers' column, in accordance with the provision of the 6th and 7th Wm. IV., cap. 06 (the Parochial Assessment Act), and likewise giving notice that the rating of the owners, to the exclusion of the occupiers, was illegal in all "cities and

boroughs wherein the right of voting for members of Par-liament depends on the assessment of the occupier to the

not better the instruction.

ber of members of the House of Commons.

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poor rate," 59 Geo. 111., cap. 12. sec. 23. In consequence of these notices, the parish officers had submitted a case for the opinion of Messrs. Jervis and Bodkin, and which opinion was read to the meeting. They stated that they were of opinion that there was no power to rate or compound with

the owner, not being the occupier, in any parliamentary boroughs, and that a rate so constructed would be entirely illegal. The Vestry Clerk then announced that all the persons who had sent such notices had been placed in the

occupiers' column in the rate now in course of preparation. Inquiry was made whether the parochial officers intended

to extend this arrangement to occupiers of tenements generally, when the Vestry Clerk stated that the names of all "occupants" would be inserted before the completion of the

rate by the presence of the persons themselves, by a claim, or by the personal knowledge of an inhabitant present.

Much discussion then ensued, in which Mesers. Wood, Wilson, and others took part, the former of whom cast much nuon, and others took part, the miner of whom cast much elimination on the originators of the movement, and which was distinctly avowed to be for the purpose of sufranchising a class of persons, in these parishes, amounting to about too, who had hitherto been systematically excluded from their patients and also in redespress to the expe-dency of couldn't the long-continued gractics of compounding for the poor-rates in respect of small tenements; but the Vestry Clerk, as the legal adviser of the overseers, said, they could do no other than discontinue a practice now that they

had lad such opinion as to its illegality.

A motion was made by Mr. George Wilson, seconded by Mr. Huggett, which whilst requiring that all occupiers named should be inserted, also proposed that the convenient practice of compounding should be still continued; but the Chairman, by the advice of the Vestry Clerk, declined to entertain it, and the making of the rate was then proceeded with on the strict principle of "an equal rate or assessment," so that the practice of compounding is entirely given up in

these parishes.

Mr. Huggett handed in some names of occupiers to be included in the rate, but were objected to on the ground that he had no personal knowledge of the fact; and it was moved by Mr. Rogers, "That no name be inserted in the rate, except on written claim, or personal application, or on the knowledge of those present."

Mr. Wright moved an amoudment, seconded by Mr. Huggett—"That this Vestry do adjourn till Wednesday next, at 7 o'clock in the evening, for the purpose of allowing the collectors time to ascertain the names of the occupiers

of the property hitherto compounded for."

It was argued, that the l'arochial Assessment Act placed the onus of making up the rate according to the prescribed form given in the schedule of that Act, on the overseers, and that it was consequently incumbent on them to take all the necessary means, and that otherwise they could not conscientiously put their hands to the declaration at the foot of the rate, "that they had used their best endeavours to ascer-

tain the several particulars required by the schedule. The amendment was, however, lost by a small majority.

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MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

Monday, May 18.—We are not largely supplied with any kind of grain to this day's market, the trade generally is dull, not-withstanding the attendance of buyers being small. The inwithstanding the attendance of buyers being small. The inferior qualities of Wheat are difficult of disposal at 1s. to 2s. per quarter reduction from Monday last; but the finest samples were sold early at about the prices of that day. In Bonded there are few transactions at late rates. Barley is dull of sale, at rather lower prices. The buyers of Oats are as cautious as they have been for the last fortnight. Holders continue pretty firm, and no alteration can be quoted in the value of this article. Beans and Peas are in short supply, and the turn in favour of sellers.

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market for every description of corn. There is no new feature to remark in any branch of the trade, except a slightly improved inquiry for bonded Oats. Holders of such ask rather more money than of late; but buyers will not accede to the demand, and the business done is at former prices. The duty rose is, on Barley yesterday. S. H. Lucas.

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Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks. Wheat, 56s. 3d.; Barley, 20s. Itd.; Oats, 23s. 4d.; Ryo, 33s. 7d.; Beaus, 35s. 2d.; Peas, 31s. 3d.

Duty. Wheat, 16s. Od.; Barley, 9s. Od.; Oats, 5s. Od.; Ryo 9s. 6d.; Boans, 7s. 6d.; Peas, 8s. 6d.

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THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, MAY 15. BANKRUPTS.

W. B. Lemon, North-end, Croydon, ironmonger. (Messrs. Lepard and Co., Clonk-lane.
L. Whitby, Poultry, City, builder. (Mr. Burnell, Fenchurch-

R. Smith, Sussex-street, Tottenham-court road, cabinet maker. [Messys. Davies and Son, Warwick-street, T. Showell, Ludgate street, merchant. [Mr. Lindo, King's

Arms yard, Moorgate street.
W. Erick, Hacknoy road, baker. [Mr. Hillearys, Fenchurch

street.

11. Sex., Stoneculier street, Farringdon-street, job master.

[Messrs, Collins and Co., Crescent place, Blackfrians,
W. Aburrow, Liverpool, druggist. [Messrs, Gregory and Co.,

R. Mills and G. Puckle, Southwark, and Corn Exchange, hop

and corn factors. (Messrs, Parather and Fisher, Fenchurch street.
C. M. Williams, Bristol, ironmonger. | Messrs. White and Co.,

P. Vanghan, Brocon, scrivenor, [Messrs, Clark and Co.,

8. Hill, Holton-le Moors, beiler maker. [Mossrs. Johnson and Co., Temple.

J. Bridgwood, Forebridge, Staffordshire, butcher. [Mr.

Smith, Gray's Inn.

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a good night's rest, a clear head, and a contented infad. By an observance
of the insurations herein contained, the fee bie, the nervously delicate,
even to the most shattered constitution, may acquire the greatest amount
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HRUSHES-NEWINVENTIONS.

THE TRIPLE HAIR BRUSH. One stroke of this is equal to the effect of one penetrating, five small tooth combs, and one even cut brush; to be had in four sizes, No. 7, 0s. 0d. No. 8, 7s. 8d. No. 9, 9s. 6d. No. 10, 11s. 6d.

THE DOLLER DOLLER STREET STREE

No. 9, 9s. 6d. No. 10, 11s. 9d.

THE DOUBLE ANTI-PRESSURE NAIL BRUBH, which oces not divide the quick from the nail, no pressure being required, and thoroughly cleans and polishes the nails in a tenth part of the time of any other method. Price, in Bone, No. 1, 2a. No. 2, 2s. 6d. No. 8, 3s. 6d. No. 6, 5s., and ofall sizes and prices in Yvory.

. be., and of all sizes and prices in vory.

THE NEW TOOTH PICK BRUSH, which entirely onters stream the interstices of the stocost ceath; marks, full size brushes, No., bard. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling, 'No. 4, soft. The Narrower reserve, No. 5, hard. No. 6, less hard. No. 7, middling, 'No. 8, soft, at is. ach, or les, par dozen in Bone; and 2s. each; or 21s. per dozen in Ivory, the late warranted naver to come out.

THE MEDIUM SHAVING BRUSH, between the usual Bootch
Lrish
Foreign 11509 2061 11194
Flour, 5656 sacks; 21175 barrels.

FRIDAT, MAX 28.—With short supplies of grain we have a dult

Badger Rair and Bristle Brush, being a selection of the strongest Hair only from the Badger Rais, in a variety of size, both in Bone and Ivory.
The above stricted are the inventions of Roffs and BONA, 119 and 190, Bishonegate-street, London, and being protected, any one imitating them will be proceeded against.

HISTORICAL PICTURE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE.

The assomplishment of Free Trade will be one of the most remarkable events, not only in the history of the British Empire, but of the sivilised world. He movement so important, so effective, and so successful, has ever been before witnessed by mankind. Those to whose seal, integrity, prudence, and sivily this great triumph is due, will be recognised as the benefactors of mankind to remote generations. It is a duty, then, which we doe to the world and to posterity, to preserve some permanent memorial of the Council of the League—that deliberative and executive body, which has achieved more by morni lorce, than has been assomplished by associations that included physical strength and political power. For this purpose arrangements have been made with Mr. Herbert, R.A., to paint a littorical Picture of the Meeting of the Council of this League, including accurate portraits, not only of the principal leaders, but of those less prominent members, whose indefatigable labours during the whole course of the movement have entitled them to public gratitude. It is proposed that this shall be engraved by a first-rate artist, on a large scale (35 by 27 inches), and that the copies shall be sold at such a price as to place within the reach of persons of moderate inclume, a monument of the mighty movement by which monopoly was overthrown, and the cause of justice established, without any remembrance of outrage or violence to lessen the embry and the accomplish this great work of Art, on a seals and in a style worthy of the ambient it to desire the seal of the developement in peaceful

agitation.

In order to accomplish this great work of Art, on a seals and in a style worthy of the subject it is designed to commemorate, those who are interested in its production, are requested to communicate to Mr. AGNEW, Printseller and Publisher, Manchester, the Class of Engraving for which they wish to Subscribe.

There will be three Classes of Engravings from this great Historical Picture, at the following prices:

Pirst Class Proofs, Ten Guiness.

Third Class Prints, Pour Guiness.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN. M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS D'ETE,

(POR ONE MONTH ONLY).

M. JULLIEN has the henour to announce that emboldened by the success of his Winter Series of Concerts, and flattered by the kind and liberal patronage now for several years bestewed on his exertions, he has determined on organising also

AN ANNUAL SERIES OF CONCERTS DETE.

That portion of the year termed the London Season attracting as it does Artistof of the first eminance, from all parts of Europe to this Metrophilis, offers great facilities to an undertaking of this nature; while the congregation of VOCAL as well as INSTRUMENTAL talent will afford an opportunity of Offiness advantages it is M. JULIEN'S intention to avail bimself in every possible way, and to present his Patrons with a SHORT SERIES of CONCERTS, embracing both VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC of a First rate order, and at such a reasonable charge as to allow all classes to enjoy the Entertainments.

The Concerts will commence early in June, and in due course full particulars will be announced. Advantage will be taken of the Season to arrange a NEW FLORAL DECORATION, and every arrangement made which can add to the attractions of a Popular Amusement.

ON AND AFTER THE FIRST OF JUNE,

THE DAILY NEWS,

LONDON MORNING NEWSPAPER,

TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

The Newspaper is the intellectual life of the Ninetsenth Century—the great agent of modern Civilisation. Not to speak of the moral and political safeguards which it affords, it places all, whatever their varieties of fortune and position, on a level as to information. By its means only, the small capitalist is enabled to contend successfully against his wealthy rival for a knowledge of those changes which affect supply and domand—and therefore prices. Without the daily Newspaper, a man and his family might be located as well in the back actilements of Canada as within ten miles of the great-senire of Huropean Civilisation—These facts are felt—the gain is understood—and the number and character of the Newspaper Pross of any country are an admitted test of the enterpies and intelligence of the people. It is remarkable, then, that mere than a century since, there were Eighteen Papers published in London, daily or three times a week—while now there are only Fifteen! though the population of to-day bears a ratio to that of the period in question of more than 3 to 1; and, by means of the post and other facilities, the whole kingdom has been brought within the easy range, and under the direct influence, of the Lendon Press. In the single city of New York, more daily papers are published than is all Hugland, Sectiond, and Ireland, put together. The circulation of papers in Paris exceeds that of London twenty-fold. How is this? Of a fact so startling, where lies the explanation; what is the cause?—PRICE?

That the public know the advantage of having a Daily Paper is manifest, from the thousands and tens of thousands who pay twoponce for an hour's reading, and threepence for a paper the day after publication. What, then, are the causes which maintain the high price? First, the amount of capital required to be invested in a Newspaper speculation—with whose extent and proper application the man of business and the capitalist are for the most part unacquainted. Next, the various talent, knowledge, and experience which maint The Newspaper is the intellectual life of the Ninetsenth Contury—the great agent of modern Civilization. Not to speak of the moral and

manus us own price. In us, white energy, enterprise, capital, and competition have been using good service in an older things, including intera-ture in various branches, nothing has been attempted, in the direction indicated, for the political, social, and intellectual wants of three great nations; and a Daily Paper still remains a costly luxury, in which only the wealthy can indulge. In Paris within the last five years a reduction of one half of their old price has been made in the most distinguished journals, with the result of increased efficiency, power, and interest. Any such attempt in London does not seem to have been thought of.

The experiment is about to be tried of establishing a London Daily Newspaper, on the highest scale of completeness in all its departments, which shall look for support, not to comparatively few readers at a high price, but to many at a low price.

Its success depends upon the Public. In the first instance, however, it was necessary to prove that the projectors are capable of competing with the high-priced—that in energy and ability they are able to perform all that is required; and of this the Public have now had sufficient experience. THE DAILY NEWS appeared in January last, and no one has hinted a suspicion that it is inferior to its contemporaries in any respect. The time has now come when the proprietors are prepared to develope their plans; whatever has hitherto attracted public favour to their enterprise will be continued, and extended; and, working in the Spiritof the Age, they will publish

ON THE FIRST OF JUNE.

THE DAILY NEWS

TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

The Paper will be of the a journals were within priced daily journals are now; and, in every particular of interest, it will contain as much information as the most successful amongst its contemporaries. But it will be expansive; and double sheets will be given whonever an important Debate, a pressure of News, or Advertisements, seems to require it. even years; it will be larger than many of the high.

THE DAILY NEWS, THRREFORE, WILL CONTAIN EVERYTHING THAT IS TO DE FOUND IN OTHER JOURNALS; AND ALL ACCOUNTS OF MARKETS—ALL TRADE INFORMATION—WILL BE SO ARRANGED THAT THE MERCHANT AND MAN OF BUSINESS SHALL FIND WHAT HE WANTS ALWAYS, AS MEARLY AS POSSIBLE, IN THE SAME PLACE, AND IN THE PRWEST POSSIBLE WORDS. THE MODERN NEWSPAPER HAS NOT BEEN DEVISED AND PLANNED AS JUDGMENT MIGHT HAVE ORIGINALLY DIRECTED, BUT HAS GROWN UP UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH IT COULD NOT CONTROL; AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PAPER APPORDS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A REVISION, WHICH SHALL EFFECT A SAVING OF THE READER'S TIME, AND PRESENT THE INFORMATION WHICH HE SEEKS IN A MORE SYSTEMATIC

THE DAILY NEWS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN TIME FOR THE MORNING MAILS.

Let us repeat the marking features of our scheme:

let. We give to the reader, in what we hope will be an improved and more convenient form; all that he can find in the most approved of our competitors; enlarging always our surface to embrace whatever of unusual intercet the times may present. The difference between them and us will be only in that host of Advertisements, which we too will be happy to give in an additional sheet whenever the public shall supply us with

2mily. To the reader who now pays Pivepence for his paper, we offer the same thing at half the price; and to the man who hires his paper, a paper of his own at about the cost of the hire. It, then, only remains for the public to justify the experiment; remembering that their interest in the imue is no less than our own.

Let him who would support us in the seasonable attempt, subscribe at once. Where even the reduced price is beyond his means, let him at ones join with a friend or neighbour in the scanonaus attempt, superior at once. On the day of publication, at half price, the cost to each of the New Daily Paper, will be little more than One Halfpenny.

Every News Agent will, we hope, supply the paper at Twopence Halfpenny, where payment is made in advance; the same proportionate AVEY New Agent will, we hope, supply the paper at Twopence Haifpenny, where payment is mass in savance; the same proportional allowance as with other papers—something more than twenty-four percent.—being allowed by the proprietors to the trade. When credit is given, it is a matter of private arrangement, with which the proprietors have nothing to do. As, however, in an undertaking so hold and so novel, it is advisable to guard against possible inconvenience, the proprietors of THE DAILY NEWS will undertake to got all persons supplied who shall forward a post-office order payable to JOSEPH SMITH, DAILY NEWS OPPICE, Whitefriars, London.

FOR THREE MONTHS, 16s. 4d. Any longer period at the same rate.

Letall who are interested in the success of this undertaking—and who is not?—be active, and success is certain.

London - Tae folk lying sample is kage is recommended who was forward prove the healing their sual supply of TBAS. Of the color of the superior facellines of the goods. To sample and prove the superior facellines of the goods. To sample and prove the superior facellines of the goods. To sample and prove the superior facellines of the goods. The superior facellines of the goods of the goods. The superior facellines of the goods of the goods of the goods. The superior facellines of the goods of the goods of the goods of the goods. The good face of the goods of CHURCHYAND

Property & All goods afterwards ordered will be sent warranted equal to these

HIRD ANNUAL VISIT TO LONDON.—MR. HOWARTH, sen., Surgeon, from Rochdate, in Chronic Diseases as Mr. Hill's, lat. House. Surgeon to the Royal Prec Hospital, All terrace, Hyde Park-gardens, from 10 till 4, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Pridays. And at 26, Albion-place, Walworth-road.

Pridays. And at 26, Albion-place, Walworth-road.

CHOWER BATHS.—Novel Show.—Purchasers of any a description of BATH should visit WILLIAM S. BURTON's fast supering and Burton's bath show room, which contains, besides tolled by japanned in imitation of fancy woods, china, &c., in enormous variety, all the requisites for the season, so arranged in one room, devoted exchanged to articles of that character, that patterns, sizes, and sorts can be issuably selected, and at 30 per cent. under any other house where attention is being to the quality. Full-size portable shower bath, yeary strong and japansel, with curtains and copper valve, 10s. 6d. each. Pillar shower baths, who copper conducting tubes, bras- force pump and top, complete with entire the complete of the conducting tubes, bras- force pump and top, complete with entire and japanned, from 80s. Hand shower baths, japanned, 3s. 4d. The omin-directive bath. Detailed Catalogues, with engravings, as well as of every frommongery article, sont (per post) free.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) stock of general furnishing ironmongery and baths is literally the largest in the wind and as no language can be employed to give a cerrect idea of its variety extent, purchasers are invited to call and inspect it.—39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street). Established in Wells-street, 1990.

RIDDELL'S PATENT ECONOMICAL MICACEOUS LINING for the protection of Bonnets, Caps, and Hate from the injurious effects of the natural and artificial moisture of the hate. Ladies and gentlemen, before purchasing such articles, should see that the receptibility introduced into the most deficate bonnet or cap, thereby are provided with this elegant and inexpensive article, which may be imperceptibly introduced into the most deficate bonnet or cap, thereby are provided with this elegant and inexpensive article, which may be imperceptibly introduced into the most deficate by perspiration, oil, &c.; being a non-conductor of heat, it will be found invaluable in warm climates, especially in the East and Weat Indies, preventing the effects of a coap soleil or atroke of the sun, which has proved so fatal to Europeans especially. To be had of all respectable hatters, milliners, haberdashers, esc. W. Patterson, 10s, Wood-street, Chapelde, London, is licensed to supply wholesale houses only. Price One Shilling.

PATENT BRANDY, Exclusively used hospitals; and at the Manchester, Bristol, Brighton, and other informatics, may be procured in every locality at 3s. per bottle, protected by the patient metallic capendes, ombossed "Bette's Patent Brandy, 7, Smithfield Barn," or at the Distillery, their only establishment, at 16s. per Gallon, in bulk, or at 18s. In the capsuled bottles, in quantities not less than 2 gallons.

BEARD'S IMPROVED COLOURED PHOTOGRA-PHARD'S IMPROVED COLOURED PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITS so highly eulogised by all the leading jearnais, are taken daily, from Nine till Siz, at 34, Parliament-street, Wesminster, 85, King William street, City, and at the Royal Polytechnia isstitution, Regent-street. "The brilliancy and warmth of tone galase by
the patentee's new method of colouring add materially to the excellence of
the portrait."—"The portrait stands out in bold relief, clear, round, and
life-like." Licenses to exercise the invention in London or the province
granted by Mr. Heard (sole patentee of the Daguerrcotype), 26, King
William-street, City.

EORGE and JOHN DEANE, SADDLERS and HARNESS MAKERS, invite attention to their Gig. Tanden, and Carriage Harness, manufactured on their own premises, by working of much experience, and under the direction of foremen of superior ability and skill. Their leather is invariably dressed by first-rate London currist, the furniture is also of the best town manufacture, and G. and J. Deane warrant that the productions of their manufactory cannot be surpassed by beauty, strength, and cheapness, by any other house. Horse clothing make to order; canteens of best seasoned wood. Deane's London-make whips, and all articles for stable and travelling use in large variety.—No. 2, Arthur-street East, opening to the Monument, London-bridge.

OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the COLO-NES. Parties leaving England will find it to their advantage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.'S, 166, Fenchurch street, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hosiery, Gauss-Marine Under Shirts, &c., adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the voy-age, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far more reasonable than usually charged for the same articles.

Hedding, Military Accoutrements, Cabin and Camp Permiture of swary Hedding, Military Accounterments, Cabin and Camp Furniture of svery description. Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

OBSERVE —The Public are specially directed to notice that the Establishment of E. MOSES and SON will not be spend on Saturday Evening, May 3. nor Monday, June 1, but will re open for lastness as usual, on Tuesday Morning June 2.

THE SONG OF THE CITY.

Ruggested by a visit to the magnificent new Establishment of E

MOSES and RON, now open to the public for inspection or for the transaction of business.

What a wonderful City am I!

How widely my fing is unfuri'd!
All gaze with a wondering eye
On London—the pride of the world!
What City in all the wide earth
Such mighty achievements has won?
What City has e'er given birth
To tradeamen like MOSES and SON?

What City can boast of a Mart
Like MOSES commercial Exchange?
Behold the huge House! and you'll start
To see the magnifecent range!
I am proud of this warehouse of fame!
I am proud of the good it has done!
And I'm proud of the dresses which claim
Such credit for MOSES and SON!

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L.S. d Coats in every material adapted for the secson in Tweed Taglioni, from 0 7 6 Cashmerette Codringtons and Taglionis - 0 18 6 Bummer Coats in every description and make, in-cluding the Registered Coat - 1 1 0

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Vests - 0 2 3

Cashmere and Persian in Cashmere and Persian in endless variety - 0 4 6 Black and Pancy Satins - 0 6 0 Pancy Trousers - 0 4 6 Black ditto - 0 1 0 0 Press Coat - 1 0 0 Frock ditto - 1 1 8 0

adapted for the season in every variety of style and fash on to order, from Quilting Vests, & reaching to the construction of store Cashimere, in every variety of pattern
Satin, plain, or fancy
Cloth or casimere de
Bast single milled do
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Best sings Spring Trousers in we-pattern Single milled Albest av Victoria ditto Best or Black dress do Dress Coats best manufac Frock ditto

A new work, entitled "Past, Present, and Ferral directions for self-measurement, may be had on application poet free.

directions for self-measurement, may be had on application post free.

Mourning to any extent at 5 Minutes metter, Ossrive.—Any article purchased, or made to measure, of, will be immediately a rahameed, or the money returns of, will be immediately a rahameed, or the money returns of the control of the con

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

> By order of the Council, JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE QUESTION FOR THE LORDS.

"The next question was this—whether the Bill was called for by the people? * * * Their lordships' course was plain and easy. The Bill had been sent up to them by a majority of the House of Commons, but not by a clear majority. If the propte were to send up the same Bill by a new House of Commons, by a clear and clean majority, he did not say he would abandon his opinions or apprehensions with respect to the measure, but AS AN ENGLISH PEER HE SHOULD FEEL BOUND TO HOW TO THE UNDOUBTED AND INDISPUTABLE WILL OF A MAJOR COUNTRYMEN."—The Earl of Malmesbury, May 26.

This really simplifies the case very much. The Earl of Malmesbury has certainly a happy way of stating a plain question in plain terms. This announcement of the noble Earl's is, in every respect, creditable to him, and to the party whose sentiments it is well known to express. It is a manly avowal of that deference which, according to the spirit and the forms of the constitution, the hereditary and aristocratic branch of the legislature owes to the will of the House of Commons and the people, on all matters of taxation and trade. . By this declaration of the Earl of Malmesbury, which, as we need scarcely tell our renders, merely reitorates the repeated and uniform dictum of the entire protectionist party -and which was subsequently, on the same evening, confirmed by an interlocutory "hear, hear, hear," from the protectionists, in the course of the Earl of Haddington's speech-we are given to understand, that the protectionist peers are perfectly ready to pass the present or any future Bill for the total repeal of the Corn Law, if they can only be satisfied that such is the desire of the constituencies. Resistance to the popular will is not contemplated for a moment, and never was. The only question with them is, What is the popular will on the subject? Whatever may be their private opinion of the utility of a bread tax, they have not the remotest intention of keeping up any such tax, should it once clearly appear that the electors of the United Kingdom prefer eating untaxed bread. Nothing can be more fair and reasonable. We do not see what further the people could expect or desire, than this unreserved submission of the whole case to populararbitration.

The question is thus narrowed to one of fact. What is it that the people really wish to see done with the Corn Law? To ask, "What will the Lords do !" is the same thing as to ask, " What would the people have the Lords do !" We submit, however, to the best consideration of the Earl of Malmesbury and the party with which he acts, that there are two modes of ascertaining the will of the People. It may be learned directly, or indirectly-Epresely, or inferentially—by actual appeal to the

appeal to the people, for which ample arithmetical data, of indubitable authority, are afforded by a comparison of the division lists of the House of Commons with the registries. As the latter of these two modes is equally reliable with the former; as it must, one would think, be infinitely the more agreeable of the two to their lerdships' political amourpropre; and as, in the existing state of the trading and agricultural interests of the country, and of the public and private business of the legislature, it has the further recommendation of tending to save many weeks of most precious time; -- we would carnestly advise its adoption in the present instance. With all the respect due to the constitutional authority of the House of Lords, yet with the confidence justified by that thorough knowledge of the facts of the case which long and minute study has given us, we now beg the protectionist peers deliberately to entertain the question, in what position would they find themselves after a general election? That a general election, taken on the question of

the repeal of the Corn Law, would give the Free Trade Minister a " clear and clean" working majority; that no amount of protectionist successes which, according to the most sangumo calculations of agricultural arithmetic, can be regarded as coming within the bounds of possibility, could-we do not say, convert the Free Trade majority of 98 into a minority, but-reduce the majority below the point required for the convenient working of the Government;-this is a proposition on which we do not think it necessary to bestow one word of proof. It were needless to demonstrate what no one, so far as we are aware, affects to dispute. Our own impression, founded on a very careful study 🔊 the registries, goes, indeed, a good deal further than the above guarded and qualified statement-but we have no wish to add to the strength of a case which is superfluously strong already. We believe that the protectionists would literally gain nothing by the result of a general election—that their successes would be fully balanced by our successesthat the relative numbers of the two parties in the House of Commons would remain very much what they now are—and that Sir Robert Peel would open the new Parliament with a total-and-immediate-repeal majority of somewhere about one nundred. As this is only our opinion—though a very decided opinion, formed after thorough and minute exami nation of the registries-we leave the protectionists to accept or reject it as they think proper. But it is something more than a matter of opinion, that -ns Mr. Cobden told them in his speech of the 27th of last February, after an analysis of the constituencies which has never to this hour been contradicted—the Free Trade majority in the new Parliament would include the representatives of every town in England, having 20,000 inhabitants-the whole twenty representatives of the metropolis and the metropolitan county - the representatives of Edinburgh and Dublin, of Manchester, Glasgow, Liverpool, Leeds, Birmingham, and Bristol-the representatives of South Lancashire and the West Riding—the representatives of all the intelligence, industry, commercial wealth, and political activity <u>of the country. It would embody an amount of </u> moral, social, and political power, that would give overwhelming strength to any Minister who knew how to wield it.

Such would be the issue—the foreknown and foreseen issue—of that appeal to the people by which protectionist peers arow themselves ready to be bound;—a clear working majority of Corn Law repealers-of total and immediate Corn Law repealers—combining with its numerical preponderance all those elements of active power which would render even a numerical minority irresistibly strong. copie, or by that anticipation of the result of an I it is hardly necessary for the lords to tell us that

they would then repeal the Corn Law. Of course they would then repeal the Corn Law-with the fewest words. But why not anticipate? Why not deal with a proximate, as with a present certainty? Why make it appear, that their submission is not to the counsels of policy, nor to the demands of justice-but to "pressure from without," in its most palpable and obtrusive shape?

It is needless to say, that Sir Robert Peel knows exactly how this matter stands, and is prepared to act upon the knowledge. Our renders will have observed with satisfaction the explicit evidence given by the debate of this week, that the Premier takes that view of his duties and powers which we pointed out in our article of last Saturday. In the speech of his colleague, the Earl of Haddington, on Tuesday, we find the following highly significant passage-which, both as a manifeste of ministerial purpose, and as a piece of wise and friendly counsel to the Peers, is every way worthy of atten-

"He believed that by throwing out the Bill, their lordships would be entering into a hopeless contest for the main tenance of the Corn Law. He believed that on such a struggle they could not but be defented in the end. If they farew out the Bill now, THEY WOLLD HAVE THE BESTATE OF A GENERAL ELECTION THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE COUN TRY. His own impression was, that the return of a new Parliament would show an overwhelming unjority in favour of Free Trade, and that their lordships would, under that pressure, be in a manner compelled to pass the Bill. Indeed, most of their fordships who had spoken had stated that if the country really and deliberately decided in favour of Free Trade, the house would be compelled to accede to their request ('hear, hear, hear,' from the protectionists). Well, in the event of a general election, they would be directly and obviously yielding to pressure from without."

It is highly creditable to Sir Robert Peel's forbearance and moderation, that, with his knowledge of electoral statistics, he did not long ago take "the benefit of a general election." It would have made his work much easier and pleasanter to him. Both his interests as a politician, and his feelings as a man, would have been much better consulted by his taking the course which he has shown throughout so earnest a desire to avoid. By refusing to submit his new policy to the Parliament of 1811, and making his appeal at once to the people, he would have saved himself all the protectionist faunts of "treachery" and "perfidy," and would have secured a Parliamentary and popular ascendancy that would have immeasurably strengthened his tenure of office. The Premier has chosen the more patriotic and generous part. He has borne and forborne. He has declined making use of the enormous power which events had placed at his disposal. He has strained every nerve to accomplish a great national end in that particular mode which involved the minimum of celat, and the maximum of odium and unpleasantness for himself individually, and who-e only recommendation was that it seemed the most conducive to the public interests. He has eschewed the bold and brilliant $coup\ d'$ état that would at once have made him the most powerful people's Minister of this age, and has been contented to negociate, on terms extremely disadvantageous to his own political interest, the treaty which be might have authoritatively dictated. Nothing can be more thoughtlessly unjust than the protectionist denunciations of Sir Robert Peel for the course which he has taken on tids question. Should the party eventually decide on committing that fatal blunder into which rash men would hurry them, they will see at a glance the full extent of the self-denying forbearance which they have hitherto so miserably ill requited.

It now remains for the House of Lords to decide whether it would not be wise to do at first that which they have already made up their minds to do at last, on a certain condition-which condition is as sure of being fulfilled as to-morrow's sun is sure of shining. They are quite free to choose. There is no kind of competition in the case, other than

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that which foresight of consequences imposes on the wise man. "Intimidation" is a thing quite out of the question. Their lordships may throw out or mutilate the bill, with the most perfect safety, so far as the peace of the country is concerned. There will be no disturbance, no rioting, no brickbats and bludgeons, neither breaking of heads, nor breaking of windows. We will stake the whole of our political credit on the prophecy, that not even the establishments in No. 17, Old Bond Street, will have the slightest occasion for the services of the glazier. We shall have quite a quiet time of it. It will be a profoundly interesting, and even exciting, but by no means a noisy, election. There will be very few contests. No monopolist will deem it expedient to re-appear on the hustings of Liverpool, Bristol, Birmingham, Newcastle, Sunderland, South Lancashire, or the West Riding-and we dare say that it is not within the contemplation of the Free Traders to disturb the squirearchical ascendancy in the counties of Bucks and Dorset. Each party knows its own, and the business of distribution will be conducted in a perfectly business-like way. We are so well satisfied of this, that we have not the least desire for the peers to go counter to their own choice and judgment. Certainly we do not wish for a general election now; we should exceedingly regret the loss of so much valuable time. Defective as is the Ministerial Bill in some respects, we should be sincerely glad to see it pass without further delay. Yet we cannot shut our eyes to the obvious and important countervailing advantages that the country would reap from an uppeal to the electors. We should at once be rid of the nugatory and pernicious "three years." The clear and clean majority would pass a clear and clean bill. The time lost on the passing of the measure would be time gained as regards the practical effect of the measure. The date of the Royal assent would be retarded by some months-but the date of the total abolition of the Corn Laws would be hastened by upwards of two years. And not only would the settlement be more perfectly satisfactory in itself-but all parties would be more completely made aware that it really was a settlement. Still we do not desire to see it come to this. We had rather that the bill, as it stands, passed now, for our languishing commerce and straitened industry have need of it. On the whole, we leave the matter to their lordships, with no other wish than that they should act according to the dictates of their deliberate and unbiassed judgment of the right and expodient.

LORD STANLEY AND THE EARL OF CLARENDON.

The contrast, in matter and manner, between the speeches of the above-named peers—the only speeches which, up to the moment of our writing, have relieved the tedium of an otherwise insufferably dull discussion—is as wide as is that antagonism of principle of which the noble speakers respectively represent the two extreme terms. The difference between their lordships is the difference between the clever boy and the wise man. The fall of an expiring monopoly was graced by a dashing harangue, in which flimsiness of thought, and a certain free and easy way of dealing with facts, were helped out by all the force of diction, and imposing confidence of tone, characteristic of "the Rupert of debate;" and the advent of a new and juster policy was signalised by the calmly earnest eloquence, and the lucid, cogent argument of a statesman, whose generous sympathies and large intelligence renders him the fitting advocate of that cause with which his family name will be identified in dur future history.

Lord Stanley's extravagantly bepraised speech of Monday night is certainly not undeserving of some portion of that laudation of which protectionist critics have been so excusably lavish. It was well put together, and well spoken. It was a very telling speech. It could not be otherwise. Lord Stanley came to the question with great advantages. His oratorical talents had unusually free scope. Lord Stanley has kept himself singularly free from

those harassing and cramping restraints which an accurate knowledge of the facts of a case is apt to impose on a man's rhetoric. As, during the four years that he remained in the House of Commons after the Free Trade question had begun to assume its present prominence, he never could be induced to take sufficient interest in it to open his lips in debate; as he has taken excellent care of late to avoid the intrusion of that unwelcome description of useful knowledge with which the "school of Manchester" sought, the other day, to disturb his rural leisure; and as, of course, he never gave his private hours of study to the perusal of works illustrative of "the cold, and selfish, and calculating doctrines of political economy;" he was able to approach the subject with a happy exemption from the paralysing influences which exact information sometimes has on the orator's fancy. The inspirations of his imagination had free scope. He could come out, very strongly and effectively, with "the combined authority of all times and of all countries, in favour of protection to agriculture"—a burst which would have been completely spoiled had he been at all deep in "The Industrial History of Free Nations," or had he even read the article, "Amsterdam," in that most useful compendium of politico-economical information, Mr. M'Culloch's "Commercial Dictionary." His lordship's very brilliant and splendid exordium would have fallen dead on the ear, had he been obliged to qualify "all this weight of authority, both past and present, not only of the statesmen of this country, but of every other country," with such an exception as that of the statesmen of the most powerful and flourishing commercial country of Europe, during two brilliant centuries of its history. It was well for his eloquence that he had never heard of Holland, which grew no cornwhich was absolutely "dependent on foreigners" for food-and which, in virtue of that dependence, never knew scarcity, and was always ready to meet the demands of European famine from her overflowing granaries. Lord Stanley's rhetoric is under great obligations to his ignorance.

We trace, throughout his lordship's harangue the happy influence of this convenient and agreeable destitution of politico-economical knowledge. His very effective prediction of the five millions of quarters of best wheat annually coming pouring in upon us from Hungary and Ukraine at 40s. per quarter, would have been lost to the house and the world if Lord Stanley had been in possession of a little accurate information as to what it takes to grow and carry five millions of quarters of wheat-how much seed-how much labour-how much capital -how much science - what implements - what roads-what vehicles. His indignant invective against the prudent Premier, for declining to tell the landlords what their corn is likely to fetch on and from the 1st of February, 1849, could never have been uttered by a man cognizant of the elements that constitute price, and capable of understanding that experience of the last 30 years which so decisively demonstrates the impossibility of fixing the price of corn by Act of Parliament. Neither should we have had the old Tamboff story over again (with the venue changed to Hungary and the Ukraine), had Lord Stanley's mind been open to the corrective influence which argument and ridicule exercise on error and absurdity. Nor would it have been possible for a man in the slightest degree acquainted with what is going on in the publie mind, to venture on so felicitous a piece of rhetorical daring as that of deprecating the "pauperism" of the "landed aristocracy"-expatiating on the national peril of "reducing to a lower position in the social scale" those mon who "spend their money at least as fast as they get it"-and ploading for the sanctity and perpetuity of a "moral influence," created and sustained by a bread tax. Lord Stanley is fortunate in his ignorance. It is an immenso advantage to be able to come so fresh to a subject. This happy viridity of intellect gives his oratory that charm of a brilliant and dashing frankness, without which it were an intellectual nullity.

We do not know whether any, and what, effect, beyond a momentary admiration of a successful

rhotorical hit, was produced in the house by the display of the new protectionist leader. We should think, however, that the speech of the Earl of Ca. rendon, on the ensuing night, must have had great weight even with some of those in whose willing cars the Stanley declamation sounded like phase sophy. Both in argument and in hone, it was a speech well worthy of the occasion, and of the speaker, and will be abundantly satisfactory to those who had felt that they might naturally look to the brother of Mr Villiers for an earnest m.j able defence of the rights of industry. We reget that our limits do not permit us to do more than allude to the noble earl's demonstration, that no one class or section of the industrial communityneither the agricultural labourers, nor the tenant farmers, nor the great manufacturers and $_{\rm ther}$ chants, nor the little manufacturers and ${\rm trade_{\rm Sheh}}$ -can, by possibility, have a beneficial interest in the landlord's bread tax, and that "this is a land lord's question, and no one's else." The concluding portion of his speech, in which he adverted to the bearings of England's Free Trade policy on the commercial fellowship and political amity of nations, will be peculiarly welcome to that large class of our readers to whom Free Trade principles are especially endeared by their peace-preserving tendencies; and his lordship's sentiments on this weighty topic derive additional force and authority from his diplomatic experience:

"He need not repent what had often been said as to the failure of diplomacy and negotiation on subjects of trade. All such negotiations had proceeded upon the basis of an exchange of equivalents, which it was found impossible to ad just with satisfaction to the various parties. If a trenty were concluded, one of the contracting parties always thought a was over-reached, and becoming dissatisfied, either violated the engagement or evaded its stipulations, as in the case of the Brazils: or all negotiations were broken off, as in the case of France and Spain, and some other countries, leaving the contracting parties in a disposition for less friendly than they were before. The only safe course was, for each country to pursue the course best adapted to its own interests, without regard to that taken by any other rotion. We had to look only to our own interest, and whilst we were advancing in wealth, by adopting our own course, their lordships might rely upon it that we should be setting an example which the rest of the world not only would but which they must follow.

"As for ourselves, impelled as we were by a necessity to provide for increased demand by increased powers of production, we were about to adopt a policy which other nations must follow-pa policy by which we should extend the intercourse of nations, and carry into effect that law of God which ordained men to be mutually useful to each other—a policy by which we should give and receive perpetual guarantees for placing upon a solid foundation that greatest and most inestimable blessing of peace."

We regret that unavoidable and painful circumstances prevented Earl Ducie from taking a share in the debate on the second reading of the Corn Bill in the House of Lords.

THE SUGAR CROP.—The letters by the West Indian mail were received here on Wednesday, and contain a more favourable account from the sugar plantations in some of the colonies, where they had at length experienced a genial fall of rain. Its principal effect, however, will be felt by the ensuing crop, which had just been planted, and to which it was invaluable; the present can benefit but slightly by it. In Jamaica, Trinidad, and Porto Rico, they were still under the influence of the drought, although in the south-west part of the first-named island some of the plantations would exceed their shipments of last year. It is, however, the exception to the rule, as the aggregate deliciency of the present crop of sugar in Jamaica, as compared with the last, is estimated at fully one-fourth. Barbadoes will suffer the least of all the islands, as it is anticipated that her exports will be from 23,000 to 24,000 hhds. against from 24,003 to 25,000 hhds. for last year. The sugar market here has been quiescent under the effect of these advices.—

Liverpool Albion.

THE SUGAR TRADE.—During the recent influx of ship ping at the several llock establishments of the port of ondon, a large number of the vessels consisted of East Indiamen, and also ships from the Mauritius, and the quantities of sugar (in bags) brought to and housed in the docks. out of the vessels alluded to, have been very extensive. Some idea may be formed of the correctness of this remark, when we state that at the East India Docks alone, since the commoncement of the month of April ultimo, there have been landed and wurchoused between 60,000 and 70,000 lings of sugar, of the finer description and best quality The qualities imported into and housed at the other docks important. The mention of this is of interest and important. ance at the present time, when the rumoured or actual insufficiency of the crops, and the supply of sugar for consumption to the crops, and the supply of sugar for consumption to the crops, and the supply of sugar for consumption to the crops are constant. sumption in the country, is made matter of particular remark, and the general questions of the importation of and the duties levicine and the duties levice to the importation of the importation by duties leviable on sugar are on the eve of consideration by the legislature.

POTATORS.—We notice a great deal said pre and con about the scarcity of potatoes in other journals; but from all we can learn, they have in this district never been sold at half their present price. On Baturday last they brought, in Brecon market, the enormous price of 20s. per seek just five times the rate at which they have frequently keep the five times the rate at which they have frequently keep the was offered for sale.—Silarian.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE TREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Nineteenth Week, ending Saturday, May 30.

The hope which we expressed, last week, that the House of Lords will pass the Corn Bill, even against its own prementions, was confirmed in a striking manner on Monday. on the morning of that day it was announced that all those mahers of the peerage constituting the Whig party, and was usually act together, had assembled on Saturday last at Lenslowne House, and had formally agreed to resist all and gue amendment in the bill, which they also pledged themsches to support steadily through all its stages. This destroved the hope and the fear that the bill in committee would be mutilated, a circumstance which would ensure its election, as it is against the privileges of the Commons to gree to alterations by the Lords in a money bill. So far this is creditable to the Whig party in the House of Lords, as many of them have been long advocates of a fixed duty, which they now abandon with reluctance. Should the divi-Son take place on Friday morning, we will of course be en Pel to communicate the result before going to press.

The interest outside and within the House of Lords, on Monday, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, was very great. crowds of strangers were assembled round the passages, and Heled up the entrance to the gallery door, more armed with pers' orders than could possibly gain admission. The large was exceedingly full; and amongst the visitors were several of the foreign ambassadors, one of them being the count de St. Aulaire, the French Ambassador, who was in attendance on each night, and evinced great interest in the dilute. There were ladies also present, anxious to hear the debate, and to listen to their noble relatives; while great numbers of the members of the House of Commons, quitting ther own legislative assembly, in which, as if by consent, all is erest has been for the time suspended, listened to the first 1994 Free Trade discussion which has shaken the "dry bees" of monopoly in the House of Lords. The body of the house was filled with a greater throng of Peers than we tter remember to have seen assembled since the days of Cholic Emancipation and the Reform Bill. Altogether the scene was exceedingly animated, evincing the grave im-Perture of the measure, which is to effect one of the greatest

social changes of modern times. The Earl of Ripon moved the second reading of the bill. This, in itself, is an extraordinary fact. Frederick Robinson is now 61 years of age, and he introduced into the House of Commens the Corn Bill of 1815. This naked statement is in itself an illustration of the maxim that we are, or ought to le, "schoolhovs from the cradle to the grave." His speech will be read entire by every man who wishes to have some portion of "secret history," as well as some idea of an extranslinary system now disappearing before public opinion. The first portion of his speech was a vindication of himself. Though he had introduced the Corn Bill of 1815, he had, at the time, expressed to the Earl of Liverpool his reluctance to do so; and the only ground on which he had ever suppried a Corn Law was a conviction, sincerely entertained, that it was not desirable this country should be unduly de-I dent on foreign countries for the supplies of the chief price of subsistence. The tendency of population, according to Lord Ripon, is to outrun the productive powers of a remary; the question of the abrogation of the Corn Law with him was never other than one of time. That time has how arrived. This was something to hear from the intro-ducer of the measure in the House of Commons in the year 15b. Protection to native agriculture or native industry, in his idea, was never the system of England; there were a series of regulations in this direction, each of which grew out of some chance circumstance, as the duties tpon timber, upon wool, on butter, and on cheese, which were never intended to be of permanent enbrance—the country is now in a condition to set its face Proper these fortuitous enactments being allowed to harden the a system. Lord Ripon entered at length into the I story of the Corn Laws from 1791 down to 1812, and stated the the only ground upon which he had ever rested his supof any of them was independence of foreign supply, the in his opinion, regard being had to the increase of car of cultivation, and instanced the case of Lincoln Heath, Ger the approaching desolation of which, our readers will temember, Mr. D'Israeli so picturesquely bewalled himself in the House of Commons, and stated that a portion of that district, which, according to the protectionists, was to be thrown out of cultivation, was his own property, and that during the excitement of last autumn, when it was known that a fundamental change in the Corn. Laws was impondas certain parcels of land belonging to him fell out of home, which he immediately was able to re-let, not at a reduced, but at an increased rent. This shows pretty clearly what the opinion of practical farmers is upon this momentum head of the discussion. After the noble earl had given his clahorate history of the Corn Laws, contending the the opinional in fixed and not in constitutional conthey originated in fiscal and not in constitutional coniterations, he urged that we had now outgrown their necesgoing on more vigorously than ever.

The Earl of Ripon was followed by the Duke of Richmond, in a speech full of acrimonious feeling. His grace thought it necessary to play the old farce over again, with which we have been already nausented in the House of Commons, by reading pages of Hansard over to Lord Ripon, containing his immature opinions upon the Corn Law question. After citing and contrasting the past and present opinions of the Earl of Ripon, he contended that this great change of the Earl of Ripon, he contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon, he contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon, he contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended that the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is contended the great change of the Earl of Ripon is co change, which would rain thousands of tenant farmers, change, which would ruin thousands of tenaut farmers, was undertaken to serve and gratify a mere section of the Manchester cotton spinners. If the vote were taken by ballot a majority of their lordships would be found opposed to the measure. But noble lords were reluctant to oppose the Gomenment—they were determined to vote with their purty. But Sir R. Peel had abanded all his party, not the party Sir R. Peel had abanded his party, not the party Sir R. Peel. The Prime Minister had no mark chains of regiminal the confidence of the people of the quantry than he had of

occupying the throne. He believed that the adoption of this measure would shake the foundations of the throne, and sap the institutions of the country. The only thing in the shape of argument was his usual clap trap for the farmers. Do you hope to improve the condition of those who depend for their subsistence upon the soil, by lowering the price of agricultural produce? The question should rather run-100 you hope to improve their condition by impoverishing their markets? Does not a large portion of every shilling gained by the manufacturing and commercial classes go to enrich the agriculturists? What would the mere soll of England be worth minus her manufactures, minus her commerce! What would that soil be worth to its owners were these doubled in amount? Can these ever so double themselves under any other system than one of free imports? He concluded by moving, as an amendment, that the Bill be read a second time that day six months.

Earl Fitzwilliam expressed his determination to vote for the Bill, because he considered the settlement of the Corn Law question a matter of paramount consideration. But he vindicated his own views of commercial policy, especially with reference to a fixed duty, which he had advocated for many years, and considered the Government deserving of severe blame for the manner, time, and mode of introducing the Bill. Earl Fitzwilliam, however, implored the house not to reject the Bill, nor to prolong a contest for repeal which has been so mischievous to all classes of society, more especially to the agricultural. The noble lord wished certain changes to be made in our system of taxation, and was averse to the three years' delay.

The Duke of Cleveland, as might have been expected, vindicated the cause of protection, and affirmed that the Government were unworthily yielding to mere clamour, the effect of which would be visible, a few years hence, in the destruction of other and more important interests than the Corn I aws. If, said, his grace, such taxes as the poor rates and tithes were thrown equally on all the great sections of society, then the produce of the land would require no more protection than the produce of manufactures. An important admission

this from the Duke of Cleveland.

The Marquis of Londonderry, in a characteristic speech vindicated Sir Robert Peel, whose administration, foreign and domestic, had been pre-eminently beneficial for the country, and who now only yielded the question of the Corn Laws from a conscientious conviction of the necessity of the measure. He maintained that not only in the county of Durham, but throughout the whole of the north of England, the feeling of the farmer was in favour of the Government mea-The noble marquis saw no reason for withdrawing his confidence from her Majesty's ministers, considering how well they had carried the country through great difficulties He maintained that this was more a question of rent-roll and

profit than one of high principle. Lord Stanley must, however, be considered as having made the speech of the night, and a brilliant piece of declaration it was. In delivery and in force it was altogether the best speech on behalf of protection that has yet been delivered. Lord Stanley was quite conscious that he was keenly observed, and in order to avoid all imputation of being actuated by personal feeling, steered clear of personalities. He, in fact, took the tone, hitherto so grievously wanting in all protective speeches—something resembling statesmanship. He spoke for upwards of three hours; and during all that time sustained the attention of the house. The principle of protection to native industry, he argued, had been recognised by all our past legislation, and had received the sanction of our most distinguished statesmen-Chatham, Pitt, Huskisson, Liverpool, Canning, and Grey. All foreign countries also who had any interest in the cultivation of the soil, protected by special legislation their native industry. After complimenting the Duke of Wellington, whose character raised him above all suspicion, and also admitting that Sir Robert Peel really believed in the emergency which had led him to propose the present measure, he contended that the Government had mistaken the brawling torrent of agitation for the strong still current of public opinion. The Anti-Corn-Law League had triumphed over the ministers of the Crown, and these again had triumphed over their own political supporters, and even over the independence of Parliament. But when the Government were asked what would be the probable consequence of the present measure, they frankly declared that they did not know. They were about to try this great experiment, not in some remote corner of the globe, where an error was not irrevocable, but in the wealthiest, mightiest, and most artificially constructed country in the world. The noble lord then entered into personal details respecting the dissensions in the Cabinet during last autunn, intimating that though he disbelieved in the existence of a "famine," he had, nevertheless, been willing to join in a temporary suspension of the Corn Laws, provided tal, in his opinion, regard being had to the increase of that it were temporary. He urged that the Corn Law had spend it as his belief that land would not be thrown as well as rendering us independent of foreign supply, while the great progress in the annual value of our manufacturing industry showed that it had not been inconsistent with its welfare. These points he argued at great length, contending that our shipping, our commerce, and trade had all flourished under protection, while no increase in the exports of our manufactures could take place without a cheapening of the value of the articles, and inevitably a reduction in the wages of labour. He granted that we might, for a time, stimulate the production of manufactures, but a time of reaction must inevitably arrive; and when we had destroyed our great home market, and found our foreign one falling us, what was to become of the great industrial community of this country? The adoption of the cold, calculating doctrines of political economy involved the destruction of the yeomanry of England. All small farms must be broken up, for the sole question being reduced to one of profit and loss, all associations and old ties must be broken up, and the tenantry turned adrift. He did not think so hardly of the landlords of England as to suppose that, even under the pressure of Free Trade, they would be guilty of cruelty like this. But if this were to be the case in England, what were they to do with Ireland? There it must end in extermination. And what was to become of our great colonial system, based as it was on reciprocal and mutual advantages? There was no zone in either hemisphere in which our power and influence were not recognized; and we were now about to tell

the British emigrant that honceforth his interest was of no more concern to us than those of any foreigner. The St. Lawrence would no longer be the great highway of Canada;

by so leading a manufacturer and member of the Auti-Corn-Law League as Mr. Oreg. The House of Commons, which, a year ago, had rejected the repeal of the Corn Laws by a large majority, had now passed the present measure by a inajority of ninety-eight. Sudden conversions like these could not command the respect of the country. Organized agitation was never put down by concession, and he quoted a passage from a speech by Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, of Liverpool, in order to show that the advocates of Free Trade had ulterior objects. The noble lord concluded a speech of more than three hours in duration by an emphatic appeal to the House not to become the mere registrar of the edicts of a Minister, but to save the country from the consequences of rash and begardons legislation.

Lord Brougham followed in reply; and when he had concluded the debate was adjourned till Tuesday. There was not quite the same amount of excitement as on the previous day, nor was the attendance of peers quite so large, which was probably partly owing to the fact that It had been arranged that there should be another adjournment. Still the interest felt was great, and the eagerness of peers to spenk was occusionally the cause of a " scene" in the usually

calm and well ordered assembly.

The debate on Tuesday was opened by The Earl of Wilton, who stated his extreme regret at being obliged, from his sense of public duty, to oppose the Government in their present measure for repealing the law of 1842, which he considered had realised all the conditions desirable

in a Corn Law.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge then rose, along with other peers; but the cry of "Cambridge, Cambridge" from all parts of the house made those who were up give way. Some curiosity was felt to know the line which would be taken by the uncle of the Queen towards the Queen's Ministers. He had heard Sir Robert Peel in the House of Commons state his reasons for the introduction of the bill, and, notwithstanding his respect for the great ability of the right honourable baronet, he had failed to convince him of the necessity for the measure. But in accordance with the policy which he has pursued during the last 45 years he has been a member of the House of Lords, as he cannot vote with the Government, he will therefore not vote

The next speaker was a young peer,

Lord Granville, who addressed the house for the first time. and who delivered a neat and pointed speech, advocating the truth of Free Trade as a principle, and the necessity as well as the safety of its application in a countrylike this, with its accumulating capital and increasing population.

The Marquis of Normanby, though not participating in the exaggerated expectations of advantage to be derived from a repeal of the Corn Laws, supported the bill because he felt that the balance of the benefit was in its favour. At the same time be thought that the Government had not acted with reference to the repeal of the Corn Laws in a way calculated to sustain either the character of the executive," or the dignity of the legislature. It was obtained at an enormous waste of that confidence which ought to be reposed in publie men. After pointing out the necessity for ameliorating the moral and physical condition of our manufacturing classes, he urged their lordships not to encounter the responsibility of rejecting a measure which had been sent up to them by so large a majority of the House of Commons, inasmuch as it would expose them, however unjustly, to imputation of an interested nature, calculated to impair their le-

The Earl of Cardigan protested against that abandonment of the policy which has hitherto united the great Conservative party, and which he regarded as broken up by this mischievous and uncalled for measure.

The Earl of Winchelsen also, with great vehemence,--in fact, with oratorical violence, which sounded excessively Indicrons,-argued against the adoption of Free Trade as ruinous to our agriculture, which, since the passing of the Corn Bill of 1812, had been making rapid progress, through draining, artificial manures, and other scientific improvements. Our farmers would be unable to compete with the overwhelming produce of the United States, and our heavy clay soils must go out of cultivation. He implored them not to forfeit their credit with the country by registering the edicts of any Minister of the House of Commons, which had abandoned the principles on which it had been elected.

The next speech was indeed an able one, and was so folk by every one who listened to it, whatever his opinions might be. In manner, in style, and in argument, it was unique; and we observed that the bench of bishops paid it a marked

attention. It was delivered by The Earl of Chrendon (elder brother of Mr. Villiers), who reminded the house that the question was not one of party, but of time, fact, and experience. There was no question on which, during the last thirty years, so great a change of mon naa taken-place. Eyen those who, a few years ag had scornfully rejected a fixed duty, were understood to be now favourable to its adoption, and were ready thereby to abandon their principles of protection to agriculture for the sake of protection to the exchequer. No Minister, under a due sense of responsibility, could have acted otherwise than Sir Robert Peel had done, with such reports as were officially transmitted to him from Ireland in October last. He referred to the off-repeated declarations of Ministers within the last four years, that with cheapness and abundance were connected the diminution of turbulence, the abatement of crime, increased commerce, and improved morals; and that in periods of scarcity and dearness the contrary of all those results prevailed. From these assertions, the repeal of the Corn Law was the practical deduction. And even if any of their lordships were blind to the intentions of the First Lord of the Treasury, the country was not. It was impossible to apply the principles of Free Trade to colonial asses, prunes, and oils, and yet refuse to apply them to the staple food of our rapidly-increasing and always underfed population. The cry was formerly "Protection to agriculture." Something more comprehensive was required, and "protection to native industry" was substituted. But the industrial interests of the country did not ask for it. "British industry," said Lord Clarendon, " wants no protection—it repudiates alike your newborn sympathics, and your warn out legislation." He Clarendon, "wants no protection—it repudiates alike your newborn sympathies, and your worn-out legislation." He denied that the labouring agricultural classed were incressed in the maintenance of protection to additilitiars, for this simple reason, that when you looked at the side of wares which the labourers received, at the quantity and quality of food by which their lives were maintained, their helpisse life of unbroken toil, their sanatory condition, it was impossible that the labourers could sink lowering the spoint scale than the point at which they were at friend. Their condition might be made better by the change to dould not be made better by the change to dould not be made better by the change. To dould not be made better the special desires the sprioultural labourer; and then Lord Clarendon. Lawrence would no longer be the great highway of Canada; New York would supplent Quebec and Montreal; and the consequences of the removal of protection, involving, as it did, the welfare of our colonies, had been pointed out in a recent these from Lord Catheart. He conjured them not to saiding from Lord Catheart. He conjured them not to saiding from Lord Catheart in the conjured them not be saiding their holds and colonial introduced for saiding of realization, even

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great point and emphasis, ridiculed the wild fears entertained of some overwhelming importation of foreign grain, as if it were to be borne on the waves of the ocean, and delivered gratis at every man's door. The alleged pame was not manifested by farmers selling their stock, discharging their labourers, or throwing up their farms, while land still maintained its value. Looking at the progress of public opinion, no Ministry could maintain the protective system much longer. Passing to the subject of hostile tariffs, he showed that our exports to France had rapidly increased, as was in fact the case in Spain, Italy, and elsewhere, for the smuggler was always at hand to modify the prohibitory system. We had, therefore, only to pursue our own course, and look to our own advantage. At the same time it was impossible not to observe the effect which our example was impossible not to observe the effect which our example was already producing on public opinion in other countries. The noble earl concluded a most effective speech by depicting the probable results of a liberal commercial policy in harmonising the intercourse of nations, and placing the question of peace on a new and firmer basis.

The sense of pleasure and satisfaction which the speech of the Earl of Clarendon had excited, was completely smothered by the next peer who spoke. It was the Earl of Carnaryon, who, in a most tedious, drawling, sermonising way, was on his legs for two or three hours, repeating the same idea over and over again, till every body was sick of listening to him.

The Earl of Carnarvon, while admitting that the principles of Free Trade might be true in the abstract, urged that they were utterly inapplicable to the circumstances of such a country as this. Great as was the desolation which had been effected by the Currency Bill of 1819, the mischief which would be produced by the present bill amongst the small occupiers of the soil would be far greater. He traced the mode in which he considered it would operate, leading to gluts and ruinously low prices at one period, and unnaturally high prices at another, as injurious ultimately to manufacturing, as in the first instance it would be to agricultural industry. Sir Robert Peel had no right to abandon the principles which had secured him the following of a powerful party, without at least one more contest on the battle-field of the country, and enabling the constituencies to say whether or not they had changed their opinions with the Government. He expatiated on this point at great length, deploring the infatuated policy adopted in a time of profound prosperity at the bidding of unfounded clamour, and calling on the House of Lords, to vindicate its honour and character by refusing to abdicate its legislative functions, or submitting implicitly to adopt any measure dealing with great interests,

The Earl of Malmesbury, who has repeatedly visited the Hebrides, pointed out the destitution of the population consequent on the reduction of the duty on barilla, by which the manufacture of kelp had been destroyed. He considered this to be an example on a limited scale of what would be the result of the adoption of Free Trade, enforcing this view by several other illustrations.

The Earl of Haddington stated that his opinion on the question of protection had long been modifying, and he had frequently, of late years, expressed in private his conviction that no injury would arise from a repeal of the Corn Laws, were it not for the panic which he apprehended, would ensue. He then recounted the share he had in the circumstances which led to the breaking up of Sir Robert Peel's Cabinet, and its resumption of office. The Government of the country was at a stand; and seeing that the Corn Laws were doomed, he felt no shame, either in his change of opinion, or in his official connection with a Cabinet which undertook their repeal. But though anticipating much oppposition, he did not expect to hear so many prophecies of evil-anarchy, confusion, and ruin to Church and State—as the result of the adoption of this measure. So far from entertaining these fears, he believed that the great majority of the people of this country, including a considerable portion of the landed interest, were in favour of the bill. The sugacity of Sir Robert Peel was unquestioned; and it would have been madness in him to break up his party and weaken his power, did he not sincerely believe that the exigencies of the country demanded the change. For his part, he believed that, by effecting it, Sir Robert Peel had conferred on the country one of the greatest benefits any Minister ever had it in his power to bestow. After dwelling on the probable immaterial effect on prices which will be the result, he dechared his firm conviction that, if there were a general election on the Corn question, the new Parliament would exhibit a great majority in favour of the total repeal of the law, and uiged them no longer to delay the settlement of a question, which not merely the Anti Corn Law League, with its great power, but the tenant farmers themselves were anxious to

The Unit of Hardwicke said it was an aristocracy of wealth which was pushing on this question. With the mighty power of the steam engine, they were prepared to flood the world with their goods; and if they were able to do this, they cared not a straw for the rights of humanity or the interests of the poor. The rich landed proprietors would suffer least from the repeal of the Corn Laws-it was the smaller owners and occupiers, with the poor, on whom the greatest amount of injury would fall. Under a system of protection, agriculture had flourished, commerce had expanded, and the revenue had been clastic. The wages of skilled labour had did not vary with the price of food; but the unskilled labour of the agricultural districts did, and therefore the price of corn was an important element in the employment of the poor man. The temporary pretext for the repeal of the Corn Law (the famine in Ireland) had now been abandoned. The noble Earl dwelt on the great fall in price which must ensue from free importation, and urged that a reduction of one fourth in the incomes of their lordships would be most disastrous to the country generally, including the manufacturing interest. The policy of this country was to keep us independent of foreign nationshence the Sovereign must be a Protestant; but if we depeuded on foreigners for our supplies, we might find ourselves driven into a war to obtain our daily brend. It was the imperative duty of their lordships to let the question bo referred to the country for decision.

A lively conversation now arose about the adjournment of the debate. The House of Lords does not sit on the debate, the House of Lords additional circumstance, that the week was "Derby day" at the country to profer husiness to the the country, to prefer business to lordships preferred amusement to was adjourned till Thursday, with arl Grey should open it.

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viduals, of the City of London. praying that the measures of the Government may be speedily passed into law. He reminded the house that a similar petition from similar parties, in 1820 preceded those measures of commercial reform which we are only now in process of completing. Lord Ashburton, the Thomas Baring of former days, got up, and affirmed that a petition as numerously and respectably signed could be got up, in the City, praying that the measures should not be passed into law. "If so," said Lord Brougham, "why not get it up?" "Yes," added Lord Monteagle, "there is plenty of time yet for its presentation, before the measures are passed." The Duke of Richmond made rather an ingenious attempt at an escape. 'He asked how many of the merchants who signed that petition are owners of corn in bond? This raised great laughter. Earl Grey, at the close of his really able speech, adverted to this circumstance, and said if they rejected the bill it would set the country inquiring how many of their lordships were owners of land!

Earl Grey began the adjourned debate; and spoke at great length but with great power. In the House of Commons he delivered a number of remarkable speeches in favour of Free Trade, characterised by a straightforward boldness, lucid argument, and powerful appeal. He had, however, a tendency to be verbose, using an unnecessary number of words. On Thursday, he eschewed this habit, and delivered an animated speech, all the parts of which had strict relation to each other, forming a continuous pleading on behalf of Free Trade, not only overthrowing the whole of Lord Stanley's argument, but leaving nothing further to be said. It was as gratifying to the advocates of Free Trade, as gulling to monopolist lords, to hear him defend the Anti-Corn-Law League, and render homage to the genius and perseverance of Mr. Cobden and his colleagues.

Lord Ashburton followed; and spoke in a low, monotonous tone, humming and having over his words, repeating his ideas, his words, and his facts. It was positively a poor display.

The Marquis of Lansdowne and the Earl of Dalhousie both made admirable speeches-bold, spirited, full of facts and arguments, manly in tone, and unanswerable. As for the rest of the speakers, they were of the usual stamp on behalf of protection, with the exception of the Earl of Essex, who assigned very creditable reasons for his conversion to Free Trade views. The Duke of Wellington closed the debate, his speech being simply a defence of himself. The House of Lords sat from five o'clock on Thursday till half past four on Friday morning. Then came the division:

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We subjoin, at full length, some of the most prominent speeches delivered during the debute. We regret the impossibility of giving in full the excellent and able speech of Lord Landowne, as well as the masterly, high-toned, and most logically practical and statesmanlike speech of Lord Dalhousie. We shall, however, endeavour to give them without abridgement in our next number.

FORTY SEVEN.

SPEECH OF LORD STANLEY. Lord STANLEY then rose and addressed the house as follows:—I can assure your lordships that it is with the most unfeigned distrust of my own powers, but at the same time with the most unhesitating conviction of the truth and strength of the case which I have to support, that I venture to submit myself to your lordships' indulgence while I enter into a defence of that system and that law which has been designated by a noble earl on the other side of the house as absurd, and which has been most vehemently, but I can hardly say vigorously, assailed by those who have hitherto boldly and most strenuously defended it (cheers). I feel, my lords, how much need I have of your indulgence, because I find myself unhappily on this occasion opposed, imparcongressus, to all those who have been hitherto the leaders of both the great parties into which this house and the other house of Parliament have been divided. But, however much and however painfully I may feel the inequality of the contest in point of ability, I cannot admit that the weight of authority is in favour of those who propose the abolition of the Corn Laws (hear, hear). My lords, I will not appeal-it would be invidious to do so-to the authority and opinions of noble lords on either side of the house. I will not cite the opinions they may have formed or the expressions they may have made use of; but, my lords, I will venture to anpeal from the authority of the living to the authority of the dead (hear, hear)-I will venture to appeal from the authority of the statesmen of the present day, to all the great names among those who have been the most liberal commercial ministers of England in times not long gone past; I will appeal to the authority of Chatham, to the authority of Mr. Pitt, to the authority of Mr. Huskisson; and, my lords, while I mention their names, I will refer to those of others whose eloquence still rings in our cars—and would to God their wisdom and prudence were still directing our councils trusting I shall be forgiven by my noble friends who now occupy seats in this house, if I refer to those who first cast imperishable lustre on the names of Liverpool, of Canning, and of Grey (great cheering). But, I can appeal not only to statesmen of almost the present day; I can appeal against the statesmen of the present year (cheers),-to the authority of all those who have swayed the destinies of this country ever since it took a prominent place among the nations of the world. The noble earl (Ripon) says this question was not raised by former Governments on the principle of protection; and says that if you search the records of our history from the earliest times, you will find in the most distinct form, from the preambles of successive statutes in successive ages, that the principle which guided the minis-ters of this country was not the principle of encouraging the domestic industry, and protecting the agriculture of this country (cheers). As early as the time of Edward IV. I recollect a memorable preamble, one which might almost be applied to a statute of the present day: it recites, if I reember the words-"That whereas the labourers and occuresumed on Thursday, a signiresumed on Dalhousie, President on the great proprietors—but "the labourers and occupiers in husbandry"—not the great owners of land, observe, not the great proprietors—but "the labourers and occupiers in husbandry be daily grievously endamaged by the bringing ters, merchants, and influential indi-

if my noble friend's brilliant career and the prominent per sion of censure, the uniform singlemindedness of his chair mistaken sense of what is best for the public interest (cheers Nor, my lords, will I presume to doubt the sincerity of the conviction of my right hon. friend at the head of her Ma jesty's Government, that this measure was called for by a great exigency. A man of far less sagacity and experienthan my right hon, friend could not long have failed to fifsee that the inevitable consequence of this measure mistle the dislocation and disruption of all those party ties without which, in my humble judgment, the affairs of this great country can never be steadily carried on; he must have for seen the shock it would give to public confidence in public men, to the confidence of constituents in their representations. tives, to the confidence of the country in the House of Commons, and, forgive me for saying so, in your lordships hear also, if you should unhappily imitate the too facile count sion of that house (great cheering). He must have known the embarrassment, the painful conflict and struggle by tween personal attachment and public principle, to which it would expose his warmest and most devoted adherents bed. hear); he must have felt the injury he was doing to high public reputation, and the diminution he was causing to the means of his own future usefulness; I believe my right hes friend foresaw all these circumstances, and therefore leat not but think that he conscientiously believed the emergence of the case required this course to be pursued. But I this my right hon, friend fatally and unhappily mistook that he emergency, that he mistook the public judgment, that he mistook the public judgment, that he mistook the urgency of the position in which he was placed I think he committed the error the most fatal a statement can commit, I think he took the brawling torrent of an tation for the still, deep current of public opinion (cherr And it will not be the least unhappy consequence of the unhappy measure that this country and the world will be lieve,—truly or falsely, justly or unjustly, I will not set that a triumph has been gained by an organized and interested association. rested association over the Minister of the Crown (chers and that a still more futal triumph has been fully by the Minister of the Crown, acting under the influence that association, over his political supporters and the ink pendence of Parliament (loud cheering.) With the servations I dismiss all that is personal with regard to the question. I will not be tempted to enter into personal stotives even by that general panegyric of isconstitutives even by that general panegyric of isconstitutives (laughter) which has been pronounced by the noble marquit (the Marquia of Yandondama). But I service in smiller, or (the Marquis of Londonderry). But I must, is paining of press my regret that the noble marquis should have though press my regret that the noble marquis should have thought it becoming in him to cast a tannt upon those able, seeks, and conscientious men who, abandoned by those is whether formerly placed their confidence, have been they formerly placed their confidence, have been word in an unwonted stringth, and in the straight with the straight of the straight of the straight which the straight of the straight which is straight with the straight which the s

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price of corn within this realm is low," and the statute with that recital goes on to prohibit the importation of corn when the price here was 6s. 8d. per quarter. The same principle has guided the legislature of this country from that day to the present varied according to the circumstances of the country, varied according to the exigencies of the times, ta ried according to the state of husbandry, and the state of a relations with foreign powers. But through all, without a exception, there has been maintained this principle, and in order to secure the independency of this country of furi, n supplies for the food of its own people, it was the policy and wisdom of this great country to give encouragement and protection to the cultivation of its own soil (hear, hear, hear). But I will not be satisfied with appealing to hear authorities; there is not one nation in the world of the eminence that has ventured up to this hour upon the bold and rash experiment upon which your lordships are invited to enter, of leaving the provision of the food of its people unrestrained by legislation, unprotected by is cal regulation, and subject to mere chance, or worse than that to chance controllable and controlled by the caprice, it. enmity, or the inability to supply, of foreign countries (cheers). I will go through the principal nations of the earth. France and Holland have both not only a system of protection, but both have a sliding scale, and France bas a sliding scale infinitely more complicated and stringent than our own. Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, the Germanic Confederation, Prussia, Portugal, Spain, the Roman States, Austria, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, and the United States of America. Have I gone through all the principal nations of the world (hear, hear)? Not one of all three countries has ventured to leave its agriculture unprotected or to allow the provision of the food of its people to be the pendent on foreigners. And when I see all this, not only can I not admit that the weight of authority is with the opponents of the measure, but I venture to doubt the truth of that which has been put forward as an indisputable axionthat the prima facie inference is in favour of unrestrict! importation (hear, hear). On the contrary, I think the weight of authority, the authority of the past and the posent, of this and of all other countries, nations with even variety of soil and climate, with every variety of density and sparseness of population, under all varieties of civil institutions, from the most absolute monarchy to the most une stricted republicanism, the combined authority of all times and countries is in favour of the system of protone (cries of "hear, hear"). I dispute that which has beheld to be an indisputable axiom; I contend that the infe rence, the prima facie inference, is, that all statesment former times and countries were not wholly destitute of pa tical wisdom and political sagacity (cheers). I cannot be lieve that not a single beam enlightened and dispelled the universal darkness, till that which flashed simultaneous and with such wonderful and marvellous power of cour sion upon the statesmen of the present age, in the month? November last (great cheering). I hope I need not assure your lordships, and I am quite confident I need not assur the noble and gallant duke near me (the Duke of Welling ton), that however deeply I may deplore the course he is pursued as a Minister of the Crown, no words shall the from me in the course of the observations I shall have r offer in the slightest degree inconsistent with the deep per sonal respect I entertain both of his public and private dis racter, or to cast the shadow of a suspicion-which does reexist or find a place in my mind—upon the entire purity of the motives by which he has been actuated (cheers). Lim tion he occupies in this age and country, did not place him. -I will not say beyond criticism,—but above all apprehanter, his utter forgetfulness on all occasions of self, and his abhorrence of all that is low, mean, and selfish, would be a guarantee to your lordships and to the world, that whatever be the circumstances which have produced it, his decision has been formed upon a sincere, but, I respectfully think a

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them,—they had modestly kept those talents concealed from public view (cheers). I say I will not enter upon personal onsiderations. I will not expose myself to the sort of attack intimated by the noble marquis; I will not quote a single page of Hansard (hear, hear); I will not go back to one previous opinion or one previous speech; I do not desire to appeal to your lordships passions, but to your reason; I do not desire to aggravate the feelings of mortification, perhaps I might use a stronger word, with which you must regard those who have been, I think, at least misled; I wish to omit all personal considerations; if, indeed, I were to enter into the question of consistency, I think I should have to direct my observations with tolerable impartiality to both sides of the house (hear, hear). I cannot concur with the noble duke (Richmond), who thought that those on the other side of the house are entitled to say that on this quesnon they are pursuing a consistent course (hear, hear). I take leave, with great respect, to remind noble lords opposite that, up to 1841, there was little or no difference of opinion among them as to the necessity of maintaining the then exising Corn Laws. And though since that period there has been a difference between the two sides of the house, it has not related to the question whether agriculture is entitled to protection or not, but simply as to its extent and amount, and the most efficient and politic mode of applying and administering that protection (hear, hear). And such I believe was the case down to that memorable month of November, 1845-down to the day when the verbosa et grandis epidola renit (cheers and laughter); from that period, and that period alone, we can date the claim-if, indeed, there be a claim-to be considered the opponents of protection. It may be that some of your lordships who are about to vote for the second reading, desire to record your opinion against the principle of the sliding scale, to give effect to your own conscientious, and I believe I may say unaltered opinion in favour of a fixed duty (hear, hear). In that case I have nothing to say against your perfect consistency; but if you are about to join a Government for the purpose of abolishing all protection to agriculture, in whatever shape, you must not flatter yourselves that you are altogether free from the imputation of that inconsistency with which you are so ready to taunt her Majesty's Government (cheers). now, I turn from the personal part of the question, and from the discussion of those by whom the measure was proposed and supported, to the much more important matter, the argaments by which it is maintained. But, here I must say, ware met at the outset by a difficulty of rather a singular kind, When, in the other House of Parliament, we have asked the Minister of the Crown a question,—not, I think, an unfair or an unreasonable one,—what do you anticipate will be the result of this measure? the simple answer given was, that they must decline to prophesy; their prophecies failed in 1812, and they would not risk their reputation as prophets hereafter. If we ask what the effect of the measure will be, we are frankly told they cannot say (hear, hear). Now where is a you are about to try this experiment, of which the Mimster who brings it forward cannot tell what will be the possible or probable results? The old proverb says, flat experimentum in corpore vili; try your experiment on some small scale, in some insignificant corner of the globe, in some inartificial state of society; try it where a mistake would not be irrevocable; where an error in judgment would not lead to such formidable consequences. But you are going to try this experiment in the wealthiest and midulest empire of the world; you are trying it in this England of ours, the highest and mightiest among the mations of the world, that which is in the most artificial state of society—that in which the slightest derangement of the social scale, the slightest disturbance of the relations between the different classes of the community—may produce extensive, serious, and most irremediable mischief (cheers). And it is in this country, and supported by such arguments as you have heard from my noble friend to night, that you are invited to try this great experiment, the issue of which the Minister of the Crown tells you he cannot foresee! It may be very well for an irresponsible body, like the Anti-Corn Law League, engaged in an active and an interested parsuit of their own objects-I do not mean to say not beieving that their own personal interests are not inconsistent with the public interest-it may be very natural, if not very legitimate, for their agents, and those whom they employ, to hold different language to different classes of the community (cries of "hear, hear") to speak to the manufacturing classes of cheap bread, of bread at half the price and wages double the amount, to talk of a grinding anstorney, of the plunder of the poor, of robbery by the monopolists, of the heartless landloids, and all those claptrap phrases by which an ignorant multitude have been deeved and deluded (hear, hear), and then to turn round to the agriculturists of this country, and to tell them of the unitersal prosperity that will result from this measure, and to An, "Do not for a moment apprehend a fall in the pri e of your produce, the price will rise; far from losing you will only be shurers in tho nuivarent break is to be infinitely cheaper to the consumers-semehow or other you are to get a much better price for the corn you grow (hear, hear). But, my lords, if this conduct be natural or legitimate in the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League, it is neither natural nor legitimate in the First Minister of the Crown (cheers), wielding the authority of the Crown, speaking in the name of the Crown, exercising the influence of his high station, and his high character, and his high balling station, and his high character, and his high talents, to carry measures of deep and vital importance, of bazardous and doubtful policy. Your lordships and the other house of Parliament have a right to be told by the Minister under such circumstances what is the object at which he aims; and you have a right to canvass fully and distinctly first whether the chieft he in itself desirable, and distinctly, first whether the object be in itself desirable, and next whether the means which he proposes for effecting it are likely to attain that object if it be desirable (hear, hear). You have a right to know from the Minister what he calculates upon, as being the probable effect of this great measure. My lords, in the silence of the Government upon this point, we turn to the arguments which they have made use of; and although certainly one of them has been in a considerable degree abandoned by my noble friend this evening, yet in the course of the discussions that I have heard, this mensure has been rested mainly upon two arguments, hanely, the apprehended famine in Ireland, and the suc ceasful operation of the tariff in 1842 (hear, hear). But, my lords, this does not relieve my difficulty. These arguments may both be invalid, as I will endeavour to show by and-bye that they are; but valid they cannot both be, for they are mutually contradictory, the one of the other. If

low a price as to place it within the reach of the poorest and the most distressed of that starving population; but if I am not much mistaken in the boast which her Majosty's Government make of the successful operation of the tariff, it is this : that while it is materially extending commerce it has not diminished—on the contrary, it has rather tended to raise the price of the articles which have been subjected to its operation (hear, hear). Let me, however, examine these two questions: the famine, and the operation of the tariff; and if, in entering upon this topic, I am compelled to trouble your lordships at much greater length than I desire, and to onter upon some details which may be wearisome, but which are certainly not unimportant to the decision of this great question, I must pray your lordships' indulgence, on the consideration that in entering upon these dry details, I cheorfully and willingly sacrifice all advantage which I might derive in dwelling upon, more exciting because more popular topics (hear, hear). Now, with regard to the famine, I must beg to call your lordships' attention so far back as to the period of October and November last. The noble lord has told us that the famine was not the inducing cause of this alteration in the Corn Law being proposed. With all respect for my noble friend, I will venture to say-and I am confident that I shall not be contradicted by any single member of her Majesty's Government-that if it had not been for the apprehension of scarcity in Ireland, and the supposed failure of the crops, your lordships would never have been asked-in the course of this session at all events -to alter or repeal the Corn Law (hear, hear). When the Cabinet was called together in the close of October last, it was for the purpose of considering the state of Ireland. Papers were laid before us, representing the failure of the potato crop, the anxiety that was felt, the reports of certain loarned professors-which reports, by-the-bye, tended mainly to aggravate the difficulty, and with all respect for them, if their advice had been followed, I believe the evil would have been aggravated (hear, hear). We were called upon to consider what steps should be taken for the relief of Irish distress-and it was for the relief of Irish distress, and it was in consequence of the supposed failure of the potato crop that we were invited to open the ports by Order in Conneil, and thereby to suspend the operation of the Corn Law (hear, hear). My lords, I was of opinion then, and I continue of opinion now, that at the close of October, in the first place, the real state of the case with regard to the famine, or the apprehension of scarcity in Ireland, was wholly unknown to the Government or to any one else. Not above a third of the potatoes had at that time been examined. Further, I believed then, and I believe now, that there never was a season in the history of Ireland when, so far from there being either famine or scarcity, there was so large a supply in the country of all descriptions of food for the consumption of the people. We were also told that foreign countries were taking steps to prevent the export of their supplies, that crops upon the Continent were short, and that if our supply fuiled we should have no means of renewing it from abroad. I certainly thought that was an additional reason against taking such a step as oponing the ports, because the effect of this step under such circumstances would be to stimulate consumption at a time when, upon the hypothesis, it was desirable rather to discourage it, and that to stimulate consumption would be likely to aggravate the evil of distress, if indeed distress and scarcity existed (lond cries of 'hear, hear"). But I entreat your lordships to bear in mind the wide and manifest distinction that there is between scarcity or famine, and great local, and individual distress (hear). My lords, I speak of the famine as a vision, an utterly baseless vision—(hear, hear)—which haunted the imagination of the Government. I speak in very different terms, and with very different feelings, of that amount of destitution and distress, into which a large body of the small cottiers in Ireland have been thrown by the partial or total failure of their potato crop; but I conceive, that this is a kind of distress, this is a species of destitution, upon which your repeal of the Corn Law, whatever effect it produces upon the price of wheat, will produce no more effect, and can produce no more, than if you were to pass a law which should reduce the price of pine-apples (hear, hear). The evil to these people is not that corn is dear, or potatoes dear; corn never was dear; the price of corn, in spite of all that took place, never rose to any very high pitch. The state of distress and suffering to which these people are exposed, arises from this, that they are not, as the labourer in England is, dependent for their subsistence upon labour and steady wages, the produce of their gardens serving to eke out their wages with some additional comfort; but that they have invested their labour, invested their all, in the cultivation of some small plot of ground, for which they pay a large rent, and if the produce of that plot fails, they have no labour to look to, their stock of provisions is gone, and having no means of employment they have no prospect of obtaining money wherewith to purchase food to replace the potato crop which has failed. That is the cause of the distress of the imilier coulers of Ireland (hear). But now I pray you to mark another class, and it is not an unimportant one, a class which, including the families of those who compose it, comprises probably 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 of the people of Ireland, namely, the small farmers and occupiers of land in Ireland. In what state are they placed? Their subsistence is upon oats and potatoes; their potato crop had failed, or a great part of it was diseased; it was unfit for human food. It was not unfit for the food of animals, and many of them very wisely increased the number of their pigs, fattened them upon the diseased potatoes, and remised a very fair profit. But what was the compensation to those farmers? Why, the potato crop had failed, but his oats were superabundant. bringing a very fair price; and he had in his superabundant outs the means of sustaining bimself, and, in their price, of recovering in some degree the loss of his potatoes. And by way of relieving that man you propose, when he has lost his potatoes, to inflict a further injury upon him by reducing the price of his oats (hear, hear). Therefore, as applicable to the famine in Ircland—if famine there were—I took the liberty of recording my opinion against the proposed opening of the ports. At the same time, so strongly and so forcibly did I feel the importance of unanimity in the Cabinet,—so strongly was I convinced of the injury done by the breaking up of any Government, that without hesitation, doubting whether a suspension of the Corn Laws, and the opening of

a remedy commonsurate in duration with the expected evil, but to be made the groundwork of suspending, for the purpose of re-enacting, the Corn Law, I felt that I could not take that course consistently with my own feeling as an honourable man (cheers); and that to make such a proposition to Parliament was leading those who were disposed to support us, into a snare and a delusion (renewed choors). Your lordships are aware, that the discussions at the close of October terminated by an adjournment of the question; several of my colleagues being of opinion with me, that at all events we had not sufficient information to act upon (hear, When the Cabinet met again in November, I was one of those who cordially concurred in those measures for the relief of Irish distress adopted by the Government; the chief of those measures consisting in the appointment of a commission consisting of the heads of those departments of the Government who would have the best opportunity of furnishing the population in case of distress with employment as the means of subsistence, of communicating with the lords lieutenant of counties, establishing local committees in every district, compelling the landlords of Ireland te know the real state of the population and the provision which ought to be made for them, rendering assistance and cooperation through the medium of the commissariat, even entering upon the very delicate task of regulating the markets which settle the transmission of food from one part of the country to the other, to meet the consequences of extravagant speculation, giving employment where local funds were insufficient, and laying in a certain portion of provisions, in order to feed the destitute in the last extremity, when employment should not be found. I considered these measures applicable strictly to the case of Ireland. I considered that the abrogation of the Corn Law, unjustifiable in itself, could not be warranted upon that ground, and far from doing good would assuredly injure the people of Ireland (hear, hear). The question when the Cabinet met again was not different, but I confess it was with some surprise and no little disappointment that when the question was put to the Cabinet, not of an immediate issue of an order in council, but of an early summoning of Parliament for the purpose of proposing a gradual abrogation of the Corn Law, I found myself alone in my opposition. I felt deeply and painfully the prospect of separation from colleagues I esteemed. 1 felt most painfully the awful weight of responsibility which I found was about to devolve singly upon myself. am not ashumed to say that I asked for 48 hours to enable me to decide. My lords, it was no sacrifice to me to ebandon office; on the contrary, I had to examine most rigidty in my own mind whether I were unduly influenced to an obstinate perseverance by my anxious desire to escape from the responsibilities and labours of public life; I tried to school myself into the belief that, under certain circumstances, the interests of the country might require even a sacrifice of personal and public character. My lords, I could not bring myself to so humiliating a conclusion (cheers), and most reluctantly, but without difficulty or doubt, supported as I was by one of my col leagues, whom I am not at liberty to name, (but whom, if I could name, I am quite sure his position and his character would satisfy all your lordships, that in his subsequently rejoining the Government he could be actuated by none but the most honourable motives,) I was compelled to tender the resignation of my office. Upon that the Government of Sir R. Peel was broken up. Your lordships are all aware of the circumstances which followed. I owe an apology for now detaining you upon them (hear, hear). Then we are called upon to abandon the Corn Law of 1812. And why? In what respect has it deceived your expectations? How has it falsified your prophecies? Your prophecies have been realized to a wonderful degree of accuracy (hear, hear). In what respect has it fulled? The object of this and of every Corn Law, I take to be, to place this country in a state of virtual independence of foreign countries for its supply of food. I know that object may be scouted by some of the very enlightened politicians of the present day (a laugh); but it was not thought unworthy the considertion of great men, not long passed away (hear, hear). Your lordships will forgive me for referring to one passage in a letter of Mr. Huskisson's, which places this question in a very clear and forcible point of view; it was written immediately at the close of the war, when the consequence of our dependence upon foreign supplies, before 1815, had not been yet forgotten. (The noble lord here read the passage in which Mr. Huskisson urged the danger of leaving the food of the people dependent on foreign supply, even in peace, since the season when we might want a large import would frequently happen to be a bad harvest also with the foreign exporting country, which then would stop its export, and drive us, always partly dependent on it, to a state of famine in the year of scarcity. We had no scenrity against frequent scarcity approaching to starvation, but in our country becoming liabitually independent of foreign supply. Let the bread we cat be the produce of corn grown among ourselves, and the cheaper it was, so much the better. It was cheap then, owing to its sufficiency; but to ensure the continuance of that sufficiency and cheapness, our own growers must have that protection against foreign imports which produced these blessings. Cheapness produced by foreign import was the sure forerunner of scarcity.) You aim, then, by a Corn Law, at independence of foreign supply, accompanied and produced by such an encouragement to your home-grower, as shall guarantee him up to a certain point against foreign competition, and shall, beyond that point, protect the consumer against exorbitant and extravagantly high prices, protecting all parties against that which is most injurious to all—rapid and sudden fluctuations. Now, I say, that beyond any law which has ever been in force in this or any other country, this law of 1842 has accomplished these its great and main objects (hear, hear). First, with regard to the provision of a home supply, I find that from 1826 down to the present time (and I take a series of years, because any one year might be affected by that particular season), in the course of these last 20 years we have imported 21,432,000 quarters of wheat. The yearly average for the last 20 years amounts to 1,021,000 quarters; for the last three years, to 741,000 quarters; and in the course of the last year it was 308,000 quarters. Has this result, I would ask, been produced by any increased price of wheat at home? A great number of fallacies have been whether a suspension of the Corn Laws, and the opening of my lords, this does not relieve my difficulty. These arguments may both be invalid, as I will endeavour to show by and-bye that they are; but valid they cannot both be, for they are mutually contradictory, the one of the other. If the repeal of the Corn Laws, in any mode or by any possibility, be calculated to relieve the famine in Ireland, supposing always the famine to exist (hear, hear), it must be by bringing a large amount of corn laws, and the opening of the Corn Laws, and the opening of the not even be injurious, I intimated my entire readiness to yield my own opinion, and this Corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consent to a suspension of the Corn Law, provided a suspension of the Corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consumed use of the Corn Law was to sion only was proposed (hear, hear). But when I was told, not exactly in the language of the noble marquis, just now, who talked about a skilful general, and an able diplomatist, who talked about a skilful general, and an able diplomatist, making use of the best plea he could find (obsers), but a statements attributed to us, who defend the corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consumed use of, and statements attributed to us, who defend intimated my entire readiness to yield my own opinion, and this Corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consumed use of the corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consumed use of the corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consumed use of the corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consumed use of the corn Law, which we never uttored. We are consumed use of the corn Law, which we never uttored. The make use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of, and the use of the law use of the use, and the opening of the near use of the use, and the opening of the use of the use, and the opening of the use of

may be protected by a large fullux of foreign corn; and that when the price is below '14, the producer may be protected against any other competition than that which he can engage with upon equal terms—namely, competition with those who are exposed to the same vicisatudes, and who have the same advantages and disadvantages. What has been the result of the Corn Luw as far as the consumer is concerned? I find that the average price of wheat for the last 20 years has been 67s. 4d. a quarter, whilst the average price for the last three years, since the Corn Law passed, has only been 50s. 9d., and the price last year, which we have been told was a period of great scarcity, was 50s. 10d My right hou, friend stated his wish to keep the price between 518, and 58s, and since the pussing of the bill the average price has not riscu above 50s. 9d. or 50s. 10d. But a return hald before the House of Commons gives a more accurate test of the operation of the sliding scale, and of the manner in which it nets to check the tendency to a rise of price whenever that tendency is exhibited. The paper I allude to is a return of the weekly price of corn in every week tre, a Murch, 1811, to March, 1816; and with respect to those 101 weeks, the result was that the price has been between 54s, and 5 s. in no less than 43 of those weeks; the price has been below 54s, in 58 other weeks; the price has been above 58s. in seven weeks only, and the price has never risen in any one week above 503. (hear, hear). That is precisely the point where we desire to bring competition to bear, and the result lacebeen, that above that price there has been a large proportional increase in the importation of foreign corn. This is conclusive that the present law acts in the direction and manner in which it was anticipated to set (hear). Another great and important point re spects the Auctuation in the price of corn. Since this Corn Law passed, the fluctuation of price which has taken place between 4814 and 1815 is only from 58s. 1d. down to 15s. 2d. The whole difference between the highest week and the lowest week in those two years, is not a difference of 30 per cent. The greatest weekly fluctuation in the price, between any one week and the succeeding, is 19, 6d., and the greatest flectuation in any period for the whole four weeks of the conth is a fluctuation of 4s, and no more (hear, hear). When this Corn Bill was introduced in 1812, I recollect it being put forward as a matter of boast, that the Corn Laws as they then stood had produced only a fluctuation of 49 per cent, in any one year, while the existing Corn Law has produced no more than a fluctuation of 30 per cent. in two years. But let us look to the fluctuation of price in other countries, from the month of December, 1841, to December, 1845. Observe, that in two years the total amount of our fluctuation less been 30 per cent., while in that one year the fluctuation at Dontsie was 56 per cent.; at Hamburgh, 86; at Rostock, 78; at Stettin, 81; at Odessa, 50; and at Alexandria, 54 (hear, hear). Perhaps you may tell me, that this is the effect of our own sliding scale and of our Corn Law operating upon prices abroad. Then I will refer you to In 1842 my right hon, friend the Secretary for the Celonies moved for a return of the maximum fluctuation of prices in the markets of America, from 1834 to 1840, and according to that the greatest fluctuation in New York was 76 per cent.; in Philadelphia, 76; in Portsmouth, 72; and 'n New Norfolk, 62. The account of these fluctuations has been carried down to the present time, and between the years 1841 and 1846 (whilst our fluctuation never exceeded 30 per cent, between 1811 and 1845, and whilst on the market of Montreal, which ought, if the argument of the opponents of the Corn Laws is just, to have been affected by them, the fluctuation did not exceed 17 per cent, on the price of last year), in New York the fluctuation was 54 per cent.; in Philadelphia, 50; in Richmond, 76; and in Baltimore, 90. As far then as the experience of three years has gone, no law in this or any other country has produced so great a steadiness of price with cheapness as the law of 1842, which your lordships are now called on to abandon (hear, hear). If your lordships wish to refer to a period of the greatest fluctuation, refer to the period between 1792 and 1805, a period when there was the greatest dependence on the foreigner, and it appears from a pamphlet of Mr. Malthus, that during that period there were great fluctuations of price, corn having risen in that time from 12s, a quarter to nearly triple, namely, 118s., and having again fallen to 50s. If it were necessary to prolong the discussion on this point, I would ask your lordships to look to the fluctuations in other articles. You are told that the fluctuations in the price of corn are attributable to the sliding scale. Look to the fluctuations in the price of potatoes. There is no sliding scale as respects them; but there is free trade. They may be imported from anywhere, and they pay no duty. Yet I know that the price of potatoes varies from 100 to 150 per cent, in the course of a single year (hear, hear). again, look at the price of upland cotton. No sliding scale affects it, yet scarcely any fluctuations could compare with the fluctuation in the price of upland cotton. I trust that I shall be excused for adverting to another point of importance, namely, the supply which our Corn Laws procure for us, and keep on hand to meet possible emergencies. I will recall to your lordships' recollection what was the state of the different countries of Europe at the commencement of the present year. There existed a great apprehension of scarcity among all, and measures were taken for their own protection and security, and that I may not be supposed to misropresent in the slightest degree the facts of the case. I will read from a statement made by my right hon friend the First Lord of the Treasury. [The noble lord here read an extract from a speech delivered by Sir R. Peel, in which he stated that the Belgian government had prohibited the exportation of articles of consumption until next harvest, on account of anticipated scarcity; that the same precaution had been adopted by Egypt, Turkey, and Sweden, &c.] This shows that the moment a pressure takes place measures are taken by these parties to stop the exportation of food, and deprive us of the apportunity of obtaining it from them. We were also told to stop the export and encourage the import-to take off the duty and prohibit distillery. We took none of those steps. We trusted to the operation-the steady, quiet, certain operation of our existing Corn Law. believe that the best test of scarcity is to be found not in the report of learned professors (hear, and a laugh); but that there is a much better barometer as to that point, and that is the price of food in the market (cheers). The self-acting operation of the Corn Law did not come into effect, and hecause it did not, its authors said that it was a sliding scale that would not slide (hear, hear). Of course it would not, and for this good reason-because there was not a deficlency in the country to increase the price (cheers). By relying on the operation of the Corn Laws what was the result? What was the amount of corn in bond at the close of the year 1816, to meet the exigencies of our domand? I am not talking of the amount in bond now which has most

unfortunately accumulated in consequence of the introduction of this ineasure; and which may now come in with a ruinous effect on the market (hear, hear). I am speaking of the amount which your Corn Laws provided in bond at a time of universal scarcity. The average quantity in bond in December for the last 20 years has been 440,000 quarters; and the highest amount in bond in December in any previous year was 899,000 quarters. But in December last, in face of the difficulties in Europe, in face of the established prohibition of export, you had in bond in waiting for an exigency that did not come, 1,106,000 quarters (cheers). Will any man then tell me that the Com Law has failed in the essential points of keeping us, in the main, independent of foreign supply, in securing cheapness and steadiness of price, and in providing for us an abundant foreign supply in case we should require to make up any deficiency in this country (hear)? Will any man seriously contend that this great advantage resulting from the Corn Law has been purchased by the sacrifice of commercial interests? Is there any man who does not know the enormous and unparalleled strides which this country has made in commercial and manufacturing industry, I do not say on account of, but I will say notwithstanding, the operation of the Corn Laws? Since 1827, the exports of this country have increased from 36,000,000/, in value to 58,500,000/.; and in the course of those years the import of cotton alone had increased from 177,000,000 lbs. to 721,000,000 lbs. In the course of the period since 1814, while the value of landed property, as shown by the property tax paid in respect to schedule A, has increased from 39,300,000L to 45,750,000L, being an increase of about 16 per cent., the increase on schedule B, showing the profits of trade, manufactures, and professions, has increased from 35,800,000L, in 1814, to 01,311,000L, in 1812, being an increase of no less than 81 per cent., against 16 per cent increase in the value of land (hear, hear). Have, then, these Corn Laws been inconsistent with manufactur ing prosperity? and why are we now invited to enter upon this great experiment (hear, hear). It is for the purpose, I suppose, of still further expanding the manufacturing activity of the country. I belong to a manufacturing county, and no man is less inclined than myself to depreciate the great advantages derived from the manufactures of this country. the great increase they have caused in the wealth of the nation, and in many cases the addition they have given to the comfort of the labouring classes. But this system of manufacturing activity is not without its attendant drawbacks, and requires to be steadily and carefully watched rather than to be unduly pampered and fostered. Manufacturing industry is subject to constant, great, and rapid fluctuations. Its powers of production are always overtaking the powers of onsumption. A period of prosperity is invariably followed by the glutting of every market in the world, and by a cor-responding period of adversity. Do nothing, for God's sake, to check the prosperity of manufactures, but do not be led by unwise legislation to promote and pamper an unwholesome increase, which, when the bubble bursts, involves all in serious evils (hear, bear). But if it is certain that the increase and extension of manufactures are desirable, it is not clear to my mind that the repeal of the Corn Laws would have the effect of increasing manufacturing industry. If there be no great reduction in the price of corn in consequence of this measure, it needs no demonstration to show that there will be no largely increased consumption of corn; and if there should be no great increase in the consumption of corn the consequence is, that there will be a transfer to a certain extent of the consumers and customers in this country to the foreign grower, and that would be all. If the Government are to be believed, there is to be no great fall in the price of corn; as in like manner they say that the new tariff has increased the prices of articles. Of all the paradoxes which were ever palmed on the credulity of mankind, and passed under the authority of great names for sovereign and supreme wisdom, the boldest and most laughable is that increased competition tends to raise the prices of articles (hear, hear). Reason and facts are both against it. True, the reduction of the duty of a halfpenny on wool in the course of last year taking place at a thriving period of manufactures did not produce the effect of checking the consumption, but what happened in 1825, when Mr. Huskisson made a more considerable reduction of the duty on wool? From 1819 to 1824 the average price of wool was 1s. 4d. per pound, and for five years after the reduction of the duty the price was 10d. per lb., the depreciation being equivalent to the reduction of the duty. With respect to timber, it is true that Baltic timber has not fallen to the full extent of the reduction of the duty; but what has become the price of the article in this country with which it competes? What is the effect of the tariff on British timber in this country? I hold in my hand a return with respect to the price of timber, which shows that the mean price for 50 cubic feet of timber for the three years preceding the operation of the tariff was 103s., and since the operation of the tariff the price was 91s. 3d., and in the course of lust year the price fell to 80s. 8d. would ask the noble lo connec Forests whether, having intended a sale of bark and timher out of the Forest of Dean, he was not obliged to withdraw those articles from the sale in consequence of the Lord CANNING stated that they were sold, and not with

drawn (cheers from the Ministerial and Opposition benches). Lord STANLEY continued: I will not enter into the question about the rise in price on butcher's meat; which arose from the diminished supply afforded to the markets as compared with the supply of last year. I contend that, under this proposed abrogation of law, there will be a large reduction in the price of corn. But, before I leave the question of the tariff, I may be permitted to refer for a moment to the effect the tariff has had upon British shipping. Great stress has been laid on this point. Prices were to fall, but the tariff was to have the effect of immensely increasing our commercial activity in the employment of British shipping. A great deal has been said of the increase in the amount of our shipping employed between 1842 and 1845. But, my lords, how does this case stand? Why, unfortunately for the tariff—to which I was a consenting party, because I thought it would have a tendency to settle prices when there was a tendency to extravagant prices; and because I thought it would tend, moreover, to expose the home grower to such an amount of competition, and not more, as he could fairly and safely meet (hear, hear). The principle of the tariff was protection, and not prohibition (hear, hear). The principle of the tariff was competition; but my notion of competition is this-that you must have the competing parties placed upon an equality to start from, and that unless you have this equality to start from, and that unless you have this equality of circumstances in the competing parties, your principle of Free Trade may turn out to be the most rank and entire monopoly (hear, hear). Now what has been the

increase of British shipping employed under the new tar. The tonnage of vessels belonging to different ports of the British empire in 1842, was 8,010,000 tone; in 1844, it was 8,636,000 tons; showing, in two years, an increase of 17.01 tons. Now, since 1883 there has been a progressive amusi increase in the amount of your shipping tomage, each year, with one exception, surpassing the year preceding. total amount of that increase has been 985,000 tons, and he average biennial increase 197,000 tons. But the increase programme the increase of the two years since the adoption of the tariff has been 17. Is that all (hear, hear)? Now I will show you a branch of the shipping trade of this country in which there has bein a large increase, and which compensates for the very 1 1,1 deficiency which would otherwise have been presented in last two or three years—a branch certainly for which tariff can take no credit, and which depends and has o pended upon t o prosperity of agriculture thear, hear and the agricultural improvement encouraged by the system of protection. I refer to the number of ships engaged in ; guano trade in the years 1843 and 1845. You may back and think this an inconsiderable branch of trade; but $|\mathbf{b}|_{\mathcal{C}}$ has been the increase in the tonnage and number of each employed in it? That trade commenced in 1841. In 1 if the tennage of British ships engaged in the guano trade a 4050 tons, and it afforded employment to 20? seamen. In 1845, British shipping of the tonnage of 219,000 tons, at 11,431 British seamen were engaged in the trade oben hear). There was, therefore, an increase of above 2000 tons of shipping in the guano trade alone, to set against a increase in our whole commercial marine of 17,000 to. since the tariff was adopted (hear, hear). Now I contest that the fall in the price of corn, under the proposed la would not be equal to the reduction of the duty. I do think it is very difficult to estimate at what price we is expect to have a large quantity of foreign wheat been into this country under the bill now before us. I do he found my calculation on the prices at Dantzic or Rige, or We are now called upon to legislate on the caperience of the tariff. I find that, at a price of 5 is, we ist as was expected, a very large importation of foreign c_{-1} . Now, at 50s., the duty is 15s. We had then a large $|a_0|$ rtation of corn, realising to the importer something below to. a quarter. We may, therefore, fairly anticipate that, when the duty is taken off, we shall have a large importation of foreign corn at 40s, inundating our markets, and making 40s. a quarter pretty nearly the maximum price you can ever expect to realise (hear). I fear, my lords, I am troubling you at too great length (cheers). I am assumed to do so: but this is a great question (renewed cheers). I feel that I am arguing it very imperfectly and feebly, but I trust you lordships will bear with me for a few moments (cheers). I this morning received a letter from a gentleman, who describes himself to be the head of the oldest firm engaged in the corn trade in Liverpool. He writes to inform me that he now holds in bond two cargoes of fair red wheat are ported last year from a port on the Danube. It cost him 1:per qr., free on board, the freight to Livernool being !. per qr. [The noble lord proceeded to read an extract from the letter, the writer of which expressed his "deliberate opinion that if the measure now before your lordships a suffered to become law, we shall, at the expiration of air years, be annually in the receipt of 5,000,000 qrs. of forces wheat, provided the seasons be ordinarily favourable," and he added, that the prices would admit of the sale of the wheat at from 36s. to 40s., per gr., the duty in England being 1s. per qr.] In 1844 and 1845 there were impared above 120,000 quarters of wheat, when the price was ponse nently at 45s. and the duty 20s., and this coin realised to: importers from 25s. to 26s. a quarter. But I am not absurd enough to suppose that if the duty were taken off, and parties could import and sell corn at from 25s. to 16s, they really would do so (hear, hear). There are many districts of country on the Continent, larger, perhaps, than make of your lordships imagine, which might be devoted to be growth of corn. Look for example at the plains of Heat gary. There you have a very considerable district, admirally ualified for the growth of wheat; and there can be no denithat the application of skill and capital to the improved cultivation of that land, would give to the cultivator a fagreater amount of produce from the present area than it now yields. Your calumniated and ill-treated farmers can produce about 28 bushels to the acre; in hardly any other country is the produce more than 14 bushels to the acre (hear, hear). A large profit is derived by the importers from these countries. This tends to produce the applications. from these countries. cation of capital to the improvement of the soil. The continued application of capital and skill enables the columnter to produce his corn much more cheaply, and he will apply his capital to increase and facilitate the means of shipment My objections to this measure, therefore, are not lessend but rather aggravated by the fact, that you will not feel to injury it entails, all at once, but that, gradually and progressively, the importation of a larger and larger amount of foreign supply will be encouraged by your tegista will by degrees drive out of cultivation a larger and larger amount of corn land in this country (hear, hear). But it is said, that when the price of corn falls the manufacturers will obtain a great outlet for their goods, and will be alle to sell them at a much cheaper rate. But how are they to sell them more cheaply than at present? How is this cheapness to be effected? If it is to be effected at all, it will be effected by a reduction of wages (loud cries of "hear" I thought it was the favourite doctrine of the Anti Corn Law League—I know it is a view which has been taken by some members of her Majesty's Government; that the proof corn has nothing to do with the amount of wages. have said, it is anticipated by the repeal of the present Com Law that the manufacturers will be able to produce their goods more cheaply. I do not exactly understand how they can do this without paying their labourers lower wages (hear). Now I do not mean to say that either in the manufacturing or the agricultural districts the rate of wages exactly or regularly follows the price of corn; but certainly it does not follow all the fluctuations in the price of corn. I say that wages, like everything else, are regulated by the proportion between the demand and supply. In proportion to the demand for labour, the working classes were really to enter that a comparation of the demand that the supplement of the demand the supplement of the demand the supplement of the demand the supplement of the demand the supplement of the demand the supplement of the demand the supplement of the demand the supplement of the suppleme into competition for that labour, which would afford them the necessaries and comforts of life. But the amount of the necessaries and comforts of life must be ultimately measured by money; and consequently, the competition remaining the same, if a lower amount of money would procest the same amount of the necessaries and comforts of life, the price of labour must fall in proportion as the price of corn falls. I do not say, however, that it will follow all the factuations of the price of corn. This is a most important point. It is of vast importance to the labouring that the price of corn should be steady, by its high.

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low. The labourer, where prices are low, has not the prudence or foresight to economise his earnings, and when the pendulum swings the other way he is too often plunged into a state of distress. If, however, the labourer's wages are to be reduced, he ought, I think, to have fairly stated the balance of advantages and disadvantages to which he is about to be exposed under this system. Take the case of a man with a wife and family of three children in the manufacturing districts. I will make a large allowance, and suppose that they consume five quarters of wheat in the course of a year. I will assume that there is a permanent fall in the price of wheat. A diminution of is, per week from the wages of any member of that family (and you can hardly suppose that any diminution would be less than that) more that counterbalances all the advantages he and his family could derive from a reduction of 50s. in the price of the five quarters of corn they consume (hear, hear). We are led to believe that Russia, Prussia, and the United States do not take our manufactures because we refuse to receive their corn in exchange. There never was argument less founded on fact than that. The fact is, with regard to all those countries, that at the present moment our imports frem them largely preponderate over our exports to them, and the duties we impose upon their goods-aye, even upon corn and timber, are far lower than the average amount of duties which all those countries charge upon the principal articles of our manufacture which we export to them. Take the case of our trade with the United States. You may, perhaps, he surprised to learn that the value of the cotton alone which we take from the United States, in the course of a single year, far exceeds the value of all the goods put together which we export to the United States in the same period. For a period of five years the average value of our imports to the United States has been 5,700,000%, a year, For a period of 18 years it has averaged about 7,000,000% a year. is indeed a stationary trade. I may refer on this point to an authority which would not be disputed, that of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and I beg those noble lords, who advocate a system of reciprocity (a laugh, and cries of "hear, hear"), and who anticipate those great advantages which we are to derive from taking a larger quanmy of the produce of the United States, of Russia, and of Prussia, to bear with me while I quote from this report from the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to his Government, the fact that during the last six years the average value of the imports into the United States from British possessions Ind been 253,000,000 of dollars. The value of the exports from the United States to this country and to British possessions during the same period had been 354,000,000 of dollars, leaving a balance of 101,000,000 of dollars in favour of the United States. The noble lord then proceeded to read the report to which he referred. It stated that the imports and exports were entered at their nominal value merely, but that about 25 per cent, must be added to make up their real value. It also stated that there had been a balance upon the imports and exports in favour of the United States, during the last six years, with the exception of 1839, for the last nine It added, that any modification made in the Corn Law of Great Britain, permitting the introduction into England of American bread stuffs on reasonable terms, would tend materially to increase the export trade of the United States, and to afford an additional outlet for their produce The writer of this report then goes on to expatiate on the unfriendly relations and correspondence subsisting between the two powers (a laugh). He refers to the indissoluble links in which we are bound by commercial advantages, and he seems ready to congratulate us that the little cloud in the west seemed to have passed away (a laugh). But the secretary goes on to say that every improvement effected in their manufacturing establishments serves to afford a better supply for the home demand, and to obviate the necessities of foreign importations (hear, hear). This, then, is to be the result of a liberal measure for allowing the importation of bread stuffs from the United States. If you flatter yourselves that by such a measure you will gain any advantage for your manu facturers , undeceive yourselves; the Secretary to the Treasury of the United States tells you that they will soon be able to dispense with your assistance, and that they will not require your manufactures. Then with regard to Russia, Mr. M Gregor states, that in 1838, the total exports of that empire were valued at 11,096,000/., of which 6,977,000/. were imported to Great Britain. The average value of the exports from Great Britain to Russia is 1,633,000/., leaving a balance of 5,000,000l, in favour of Russia. The declared value of our imports from Prussia is 505,000%, and the estimated value of our exports was 31,000%. You talk about a duty of 25, 30, or ⁵⁰ per cent, upon timber as an extravagant and prohibitory duty. By the United States tariff the duty upon our wool lens and silks is 10 per cent., upon our cotton, ale, and porter, of per cent.; upon coals 60 per cent., and upon paper 75 ber cent.; and their duties upon various other articles of our manufacture, which are principally articles of export, range ana upon lass amount to 243 per cent. But the tariffs of Russia and Prussia are equally re-Strictive. Mr. M'Gregor says that Russia prohibits the im portation of every material which can be drawn by the labour of her serfs from her mines and forests, and indeed of every manufactured article. Those articles of your manufacture, the importation of which is not prohibited by Russia, are Subjected to an average duty of 65 per cent., ranging upon some articles, for instance glass, to 900 per cent. Prussia imposes a duty varying from 50 to 130 per cent. And yet the argument is boldly put forward, that our protective system, which imposes a duty of about 25 per cent. upon the importation of corn, prevents us from receiving the wheat of those countries which levy a duty of 60, 70, or 100 per cent. upon our manufactures. In 1839, Dr. Bowring, who was employed by the then Secretary of State in prosecuting some inquiries on this subject, held out expectations that the besides the content of the subject in Busine mould autortice. head of the customs' department in Russia would entertain a proposal for a general reduction upon our cottons, glass, and woollens, provided that we established a fixed duty upon wheat, instead of the fluctuating scale. But Dr. Bowring theu said that he did not find any of the authorities antici-pating the introduction of their corn into England duty free. Now what had been the effect of the reductions we have already made in the duty on timber with regard to our exports of cotton to Russia? Since the alteration in our tariff our imports of timber had increased from 351,000 loads to 012,000 louis. In 1848, we exported to Russia 2,200,000 yards of cotton; now we exported only 2,000,000. We then exported 1,200,000 yards of printed cottons; now we export only (OU,(M)) yards. Your imports of timber have nearly doubled but your exports to these people, who deluded Dr. Bowring, have fallen off nearly in the same proportion. I suppose, at all events, that your shipping trade has improved. I have been told that British merchants will not engage in the corn

trade because it is speculative. Speculation is the basis of all trade. Take off what duties you please, the corn trade must be eminently speculative, because it is dependent upon the seasons and the probable demand in this country. But it is said our moreliants are too wise to engage in these speculations (hear). It is said they are unsuited to the character of the British nation. It is said that hazardous speculations, leading possibly to greater risk, and possibly great gain, are so adverse to the character of the people of this country (loud laughter) that it is not likely any great number of persons would engage in them. And this is said of the year 1816! Well, but the timber trade is not a speculative trade. We have opened that trade. Our shipping, of course, have entered largely into that trade. Listen to a fact which is of great importance. In 1839 the Baltic trade employed 612 British ships against 506 foreign ships. In 1845 it employed 609 British ships against 1845 foreigners (hear, hear). In 1839 there were 115,000 tons British employed against a nearly equal amount of foreign tonnage; in 1845 there were only 133,000 tons British against 378,000 tons foreign (hear, hear). In 1830 there were 6016 British scamen employed, against 6300 foreign scamen; in 1845 there were 5375 British scamen employed against 17,169 foreigners (cheers). I admit that you might produce a large increase in your manufactures for a time under a system of Free Trade. It is true you might puff up your manufactures with a brief but extraordinary prosperity. But when that fails, as it will fail-when the day of difficulty and distress comes-when war intervenes-I think my right hon, friend the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs would feel much more easy, in the event of a war with the United States, if, instead of drawing fourfifths of our cotton from the United States, we drew fourfifths of it from our own territories-but, when war comes, these markets will be closed against you. You will have do stroyed the home market, and when you have destroyed the home-market, when the period of depression has arrived, the bitter sufferings of the manufacturers will cause a bitter feeling of reaction against those who are now deluding their unhappy dupes with the prospect of cheap wages and of cheap bread (cheers). Now, my lords, I have spoken of the home market. Don't let your lordships, and don't let the country, undervalue the importance of the home market. If you were to believe the cotton manufacturers-if you were to believe what has been put forward in another place -you would believe that two thirds of the whole quantity of cotton goods is exported, and that the consumption of cotton goods among the population of this country only amounts to 4s, per head. I doubt the accuracy of that statement, when I find that in 1840 the consumption of the West Indies was, not 1s. per head, but 11. 6s. per head of the population (hear, hear). I cannot believe, that when the West Indies consume 11. 6s. per head of your cotton goods, the population of this country consume only 4s. per head. Now, 1 don't hesitate to state my conviction that the home market of this country is to the foreign as 40 to 17. In the veni 1820 there were exported 248,000 yards of cotton made up into cotton goods. In the year 1814 there was an increase of fourfold in their total amount, while there was only an increase of one-fourth in their total value. In the year 1823 Mr. Huskisson estimated the value of cotton goods consumed in England at 32,000,000%, sterling, and at present 40,000,000%, is the lowest estimate I can form of the value of the cotton goods worked up for consumption in this country. If you take cotton, wool, silk, coals, culm, and other articles, the value of the exports of these amounts to 48,000,000/., while the total amount produced is 250,000,000/. (hear, hear), leaving 200,000,000L out of 250,000,000L for home consumption. That, my lords, is the market which you are about to endanger; that is the market you are about to sacrifice in your blind zeal for the importation of foreign corn. But I am told by the manufacturers, that if we reduce the price of corn, that will be followed by an increase in the consumption. That, my lords, is not so clear, but "cheap and "dear" are relative terms, and not absolute terms Wheat is cheaper in Ireland than it is in England—it is cheaper in Prussia than it is in England-but from the ability of the consumer in this country it is virtually cheaper because he has the money to pay for it, and it is therefore within his reach (hear, hear). But, my lords, it does not follow, because there is an increase in the amount of corn, that there will be an increased ability on the part of the consumer, or that the consumer will be able to command the same quantity as now. The question arises, on whom will this loss fall? I saw lately an article in a French newspaper on the probable effects of abolishing the Corn Laws in this country, in which the writer said, that although a quarter of our income would be taken away, yet that we should have some of the sweets of life left (a laugh). I shall not be satisfied with such an arrangement. Something has been said elsewhere (which I know has been misapprehended) about the difficulties of administering the govern ment of this country—of reconciling the government of a limited monarchy, of a proud aristocracy, with a reformed House of Commons. I put by the error in the interpretation of that, and I admit the difficulties. I go further, and I admit that you ought not to legislate for a class. I admit that we ought not to legislate for a class, if that legislation is against the interests of the people at large. But, my lords, I tell you that, if you make an alteration in the social relation of the different classes in this country—if you attempt to lower any one class at the expense of anotherthen that you will inflict not a private injury, but a public injury to society. And, whatever the difficulties may be of reconciling the action of our mixed constitution—of keeping the balance even between a proud aristocracy and a reformed liouse of Commons—depend upon it those difficulties will not be less if, instead of a proud aristocracy, you substitute a pauper aristocracy (cheers). If you do, you will break down the firmest breakwater and the strongest bulwark between the proud aristocracy and the democracy which is represented in the reformed House of Commons. I do not speak exclusively of those who are generally understood as the aristocracy—not even mainly of the body which I am now addressing. I speak, my lords, of the great body of the landed aristocracy of the country, not ennobled by rank, and many of them undistinguished by great wealth. But, my lords, they and their ancestors before them have been the centres of their respective localities; they conduct the business of their respective counties; they influence the opinions and feelings of their respective neighbourhoods; they exercise a modest and decent hospitality; they preside over tenantry who possess heroditary claims to their respect and affection. My lords, these are the true aristocracy of the country (cheers). Reduce these men in the scale of society, and you will inflict an irretrievable and irreparable injury on this country. God forbid I should say that our successful manufacturers and our princely merchants should

not take their place among our aristocracy; such an infusion adds vigour and strength to that class. But if you sweep away at once an aristocracy with so many associations in history, and substitute a new body of capitalists, who shall come among an unattached tenantry, with no associations connected with their name to exercise a moral influence, you will suffer an irretrievable loss. I am satisfied that never was there so great a delusion as that the loss caused by this measure will fall solely upon the aristocracy. A fall of 10s, per quarter on wheat is 40s, per acre on wheat land, and if that is accompanied by a corresponding reduction in the price of other articles, it will out up all the rent of the land. But the fact is, the loss will full—and they know it will fall on them, as they showed by their meeting the other day—the loss will full mainly on the tenant-farmers (cheers). And the first step they take will be to suspend improvement, to discharge their labourers, to reduce wages, and to force their population into the manufacturing districts, there to enter into hopeless competition with the population of those districts. They will carry their own wretch: edness and misery into the manufacturing towns, and will press down the wages as well of the manufacturing districts as the agricultural (cheers). I will assume the case of a landlord who is entirely unencumbered, and free from debt. I don't know whether there are any such cases (a laugh), but I will assume there is. He discharges a certain portion of his establishment, and turns upon the labourmarket those whom his fortune had formerly enabled him to employ. For it cannot be laid, I think, to the charge of the landed proprietors of this country, as a class, that they are given to accumulating and hoarding wealth. So far from that, I think they will be found to spend it at least as fast as they get it (a laugh). We are told how their losses are to be made up to them, if they will only adopt the real princi They are to discharge their useless and unprofitable hands; they are to employ no labourers beyond what are absolutely required to make a profit to themselves. They are to have no consideration for tenant farmers who have been on their estates for 50 years. They are told it is more profitable to have one large farm than several small ones; so they must pull down the houses of their present tenants and turn them adrift. Their tenants have no capital, they must let them go. There are 600,000 tenant farmers in the country under 200/. a year—at least, there were in 1814. Turn them adrift, bring their successors from a dis tanco-bring them from the Anti Corn Law League (hear) -encourage them to expend their capital, and then yon wilf be able to recover from all the effects of the injury you have sustained from a reduction in the price of corn. Perhaps you might, but the law imposes the burden upon you of maintaining all the poor of the manufacturing districts as well as your own. I have too good an opinion of the land lords to believe that they will take this advice. They will go on giving employment to the poor on their estates, for they have to deal not with stocks and stones, but with men luving the same affections, and attachments as themselves and I won't believe that they will adopt the cold, calculating, and selfish doctrines of political economy and Free Trade (cheers). But if you adopt these doctrines in England—if you venture to recommend them in England - will you dare also to put them in execution in Ireland? In Ireland the bulk of the population are small farmers—hardly what we should call farmers in England; the majority of the hold ings are from 1 to 15 acres. They have no capital, and very little skill. I admit they exhaust the land; they don't pa half the rent a larger farmer could. Carry your political economy into effect there, and see what would be the result. I think I have heard it advanced that the clearance system is at the root of half the evils of Ireland. But Free Trade requires it, and you must make more money. Turn them out, and when the existing generation are starved off, you may, perhaps, see your system in successful operation. My lords, he must be a bold minister who would advise such an experiment to be made, but he must be a bold as well as a hard man who would act upon it (cheers). And then to tell me that this measure has been brought in for the relief of Ireland (cheers)! England is an importing country; it may be for her benefit, but I doubt whether it is in the long run. But Ireland is an agricultural country—an exporting, and not an importing country-and if you reduce her exports by 1,500,000L or 2,000,000L, you do her the greatest injury. Lastly, my lords, and you will be glad to hear that, I will call your attention to one branch of the question, to important that it cannot be overlooked, and which, from the situation I lately held, I am entitled to bring under the notice of your lordships (cheers). That subject, my lords, is the effect that will be produced by the repeal of the Corn Laws and by Free Trade upon the colonies of this country. You have seen in your foreign trade how large is the amount of foreign shipping, and how small the amount of British shipping. I now call your attention to the fact that, by a return to the House of Commons, it appears that in the year 1845 there were 1,273,395 tons of British shipping entered inwards from the colonies, and not one ton foreign; while outwards there were 1,263,000 tons of British and 372,000 foreign. The colonial trade is, therefore, almost exclusively carried on by British shipping; it employs British seamen; and gives the profits of the trade on both sides to British subjects exclusively. In 1844 our exports to the colonies amounted to 14,270,000l. Destroy the principle of protection, and I tell you you destroy the whole basis on which your colonies rest (cheers). If you do not know the value of your colonies, Napoleon Buonaparte knew it well (hear, hear). It is by the colonial principle you have extended your arms,—I don't mean your military arms, but your commercial arms,—into every quarter of the globe. It is to your colonial system you owe it that there is no part of the world where your flag is not planted—that there is no quarter of the globe in which the English language is not heard—that there is no zone in which British subjects do not recognise the sovereignty of Britain. You are to say to them in their distant homes that they are no longer to be identified with your commercial intereststhat they shall not share your glories, or sympathise with you in your advances—that they shall not bear your burdens and that they shall no longer feel that they are within the arms of your vast empire, and members of your imperial Zollverein (cheers). I think it was Mr. Cobden who said it was a system of mutual robbery. I admit that it is a mutual system, where each sacrifices something peculiar to himself for the purpose of obtaining an advantage derived from the other. It is a mutual system where each sacrifices something of his trade for the purpose of obtaining reciprocity; and I am not sure but that you will find in the end that that desire of reciprocity and of profit on both sides-that security against foreign interference, against foreign hostility, and against foreign caprice, is like selling in the cheapest market and buying in the dearest, although that difference

may not be precisely explained in a money value; but the

additional price which you may pay for colonial produce and which they may pay you in consequence of taking British produce, is cheaply parchased by extending your power over the wide world; by establishing in every quarter friends and idlies; by having a certainty of employment everywhere, uninterfered with by foreign competition, for a vast amount of British shipping and British soamen, and thus extending and strengthening the power of this country; and I will concur with Mr. Cobden if he will substitute for a system of mutual robbery a system of mutual insurance (hear). I say then upon this system of protection is based the whole of your colonial empire; and that it rests upon far more than pecuniary grounds. I know that the political economists my, "Cast off the colonies, let them trade with you or with any other country, - give them the full advantage of Free Trade, let there be no protection." I do not doubt the loyalty of the colonies or their attachment to this country; but by this measure you do all in your power to weaken that loyalty and attachment. You grant them commercial independence, in site them to trade freely and liberally with all other nations, and you tell the emigrant who quits this country, - " From the time you leave the shores of England, though you are will in British security, you are no more to us than a Dutchman, or a Frenchman, or an American. Trade where you please, you are entitled to no farbur from us; we give you no protection; we do not impede your trade with any other country you may think fit, you are just as much connected with them, as with us." But, my lords, we are now upon the question of corn, and I will now apply that question to one of the most important of our colonies I refer to the case of Camela, and of the effect upon the trade of Canada which will be produced by the passing of this measure (cries of " hear, hear"). I have heard that it is looked forward to that this will be a great boon to the Australian colonies. I do not exactly see how, at the present moment, the Australian colonies are subject to a duty charged to the extent of 5s. a quarter upon their produce imported into this country; it cannot exceed as, a quarter. They have the exclusive admission to a protected british market. You are about to take that away, and the effect will be to prevent Australian corn coming into your market, for if the price of corn in this country falls more than is, a quarter, to that amount the colonial produce of Australia will be in a worse position than at present. But with regard to Canada, what have you done? You proposed that Canada should have admission for her produce into your protected market, and upon the faith of that she imposed a duty of 3s, upon corn and flour taken from America, you led her to improving the communication by the St. Lawrence; you lent her money for that purpose; you are now about to render that valueless (hear, hear). You are going to heak the promise you made to Canada (hear, hear). You are going to destroy the trade you fostered and uncouraged. Nay, you are going to do much more; you are going to destroy the improved communication of the St. Lawrence; you are going to make the port of New York the namel of commercial intercourse between this country and Upper Canada, by your own St. Lawrence. Those who know that colony know that I am speaking the truth, and nothing but that (hear, hear). It is a matter almost of indifference whether wheat grown in the western states of the union and in Upper Canada is extrict to New York or Montreal. The communication with New York is somewhat cheaper and easter. The market of Montreal regulates the pince of the markets of New York; but now the corn of the western ototes and Upper Canada comes down the St. Lawrence to Montreal, employing British shipping, and that in our own territory, because there is a differential duty in favour of its going to Montreal, and against its going to New York. But if this measure passes, that will be changed, and the corn will come, not by your own St. Lawrence, in ships navigated by your own countrymen, but through the United States; and I will tell your lordships what is the fact. There are merchants in Montreal who, in anticipation of this measure passing, are preparing to set up their establishments in New York (hear, hear). I may nothing of the effect you are producing upon the feelings of the people (hear, hear). I tay nothing of the shock you will give to the loyalty of the people; but I say this, you are doing your utmost to irritate them, to break off their commercial intercourse with you, and throw them into the scale, perhaps, of a hostile state. My lords, political independence may follow from commer cial independence (hear, hear). Are the United States blind to this fact? Do they not see the nature of your suicidal policy? Are your lordships aware of the bill passed by Congress one or two years ago? -- that a bill was passed, actually granting a drawback to the full amount, or almost so, of the import duty upon goods going into the scaports of the United States, provided those goods were carried through the United States, and re-shipped to Upper Canada; and that a bill is now pending in Congress for the purpose of extending the import of goods from Canada, to be re shipped to this country from the port of New York? Will that fact ted States open your lordships' eyes to the nature of the policy you are pursuing (hear, hear)? Again, your lordships have read, or if not, I hope before you come to a decision upon this measure you will read thear, hear) the dispatch of the Governor General of Canada. This 1. the disputch haid upon the table of the house by the Government from Lord Cetheart, who was recently sent out, forwarded to the Government here, not in his own name only, but in the name of the executive of the province of Canada. The noble ford then read the dispatch, which was to the effect that the province of Canada was so vitally interested in this question, that it became the duty of theex centive of the province of Canada to urge upon the consideration of her Magesty's ministers the necessity of a protected market for the produce of Canada, and the effect that would be produced if it were taken away; that upon the faith of the last measure expensive improvements had been under-Tiken, and that if that protection were removed, the ruin of the colony would follow. Thave stated the case of Canada and the Corn Laws, and, having shown the effect which this measure will have upon the individual province of Canada, I will not trespass upon your lordships attention by entering into details with respect to other colonies, or the effects which a similar come of may have upon them. But there is one other point 1 must refer to. When we are told it is essential for the advantage of the manufactures of this country that Free Trade should be established, and that no advantage should be derived by the colonies. I presume that if you deprive the colonies of all the protection they now enjoy, you strive to repeal that Act of Parliament which compels the colonies to impose a differential duty in favour of your produce (cries of "hear, hear"). You cannot be guilty of sevential duty in favour of your produce (cries of "hear, hear"). hear"). You cannot be guilty of such injustice as not to do so, feeling that protection is now mutual (hear); that one-third and more of our exports are taken by the colonies.

And now hear what a gentleman, Mr. Gregg, a member of the Auti-Corn Law League, says of the state to which Brifish markets are exposed in competition with neutral markets. [The noble lord here read a document, in which Mr. Gregg said that we were undersold in all the staple markets of British manufacture, that the cotton manufacturers of the Swiss, the outlery of Alsac, and the woollens of Saxony were driving us not only out of the foreign markets, but our own. That in hosiery, Saxony, with a duty of 25 per cent., sold 30 per cent. cheaper than the produce of the Leicester looms; that whilst the number of stockingers in Leicester was formerly 16,585, there were now only 1040; but in Saxony their number had increased from 1090 to 25,000. How far with cheaper food, no taxation upon the raw material, and no duty but for the sake of revenue, we might yet recover our lost superiority, is a matter of grave consideration. He did not believe that we could, either in woollens or hosiery, or even in cutlery, or the cotton trade. Under a free commercial system, the price of the raw material was nearly the same in all countries; but the advantage of labour was, in general, on the side of the foreigner, whilst machinery itself was sold in large quantities in foreign countries. The only item, then, in which manufactures were to be cheapened was the cost of production,-that was, the wages of labour. Foreign nations had reduced them, and by lowering them here and raising them abroad, the differ ence might be regulated; but he doubted whether our lost market could ever be entirely recovered. With better education, with more soher habits, more frugality, with cheaper food, the people might be enabled to live much better than at present upon smaller earnings, and that was the only way in which it could be done (hear, hear). That is the language of Mr. Gregg, a distinguished manufacturer, and a member of the League. The neutral markets have failed you, and he calls upon you to try that last and desperate re-medy, of cheapening food and lowering wages to recover them, and for that you are to throw open the markets which take one third of your whole foreign exports, your home ex ports, which are about five to two of your foreign exports (bear, hear). You are called upon by these sapient manu facturers to damage your home market and take away protection (hear, hear). I do not think the force of folly can go further. I trust your lordships will not be led away by these fallacies and delusions, and that you will not sacrifice the home produce and colonial market (hear, hear). I am sensible, my lords, though at great length, how feebly, how unsatisfactorily I have performed my task. I know I must have wearied your lordships. I know I have in a very indifferent manner discharged my duty. But I hope at least I shall have the credit of having kept closely to the subject of discussion, and I hope, further, I have redeemed the pledge I gave at the outset, that in no observations I made would I make one remark, if I was aware of it, that would be likely to wound the feelings of any one (hear, hear). But, before I sit down. I must be permitted to say a few words to those of your lordships, and I believe they are many, who, in their hearts, go along with me in the arguments I have submitted to you, and are dismayed and alarmed at this measure as much as I am, and yet from various grounds who mean to give your votes for the second reading of the Bill. I can conceive various motives operating upon the minds of high minded and honourable men. I know there may be those who plead the authority of the House of Commons. have a great respect for the authority of that house, of which I had the honour of being a member between 22 and 23 years. But where are we to collect the opinion of the House of Commons (hear, hear)? Are we to collect it from their collected votes? Then are we to take the votes of 1816, 1811, or 1812? When I find in 1812 a similar measure rejected by a majority of 213 (hear, hear), and again a similar incasure rejected the same year by a majority of 105; and another measure rejected by a majority of 114 (hear). when I find a similar measure rejected by a majority of 256 in 1813, and again by a majority of 209 in 1811, when I find a motion for the repeal of the Corn Laws rejected by a majority of 13? in June, 1845, and when I find that same measure of the repeal of the Corn Laws not ne gatived by 132, but affirmed by a majority of 98 (lond cheers) by the same men in the same house, I say this sudden conversion must tend to diminish the value I attach to the authority of the last vote of the House of Commons (lond cheers). I respect the judgment and decision of the House of Commons, but not because it is a decision of a majority of gentlemen more or less well educated and enlightened (hear). I respect their decision because it is the decision of the representatives of public opinion in this country; and if I am to take the decision of the House of Commons, I must, if I am to be bound by either decision, take that decision of the collected representation in 1842, as well as the collected representation in 1816, of the deliberate judgment and opinion of the people of this country (cheers), There are those who disapprove of this decision, but who, from a personal feeling of attachment to the Government, are prepared to vote with them. I sympathise with that feeling, but I cannot assent in justice to their course (hear, hear). There are two great interests at stake in this question, and compliment should not stand in the way out of deference to any minister (hear, hear). Depend upon it, the public interests can never be benefited by the sacrifice of your own deliberate judgment, by turning round upon your own principles for the purpose of saving an administration. My conviction is, that if you make the sacrifice it will be made in vain (cheers), for there never was a Government which permanently maintained its existence by the somewhat contemptuous support of its opponents, and by the ill disguised disgust and half ashamed support of its allies (cheers). There may be those, my lords, who hope, by giving their consent to this measure, to put an end to agitation, and to give satisfaction to the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League. When, my lords, was an organised agitation put down by concessions extorted from its opponents? Depend upon it, that when this body shall have once tasted the cup of political power, the draught will be teo sweet to induce them to relinquish it. I agree with my noble friend, that this is only one of the measures which one after the other will be the object of the Anti-Corn-Law League. Why, my lords, there is no secret made of it. I do not say that every member of the Anti-Corn-Law League enters fully into those opinions, for I believe that there are many excellent men who have joined that body with none but commercial objects, who sincerely believe that Free Trade will be a benefit to the country and to themselves, and who would withdraw if there were any attempt to carry those objects further; but recollect the origin of their complaints, and hear the language

speaker said, "They must have something more than a Free Trade in corn." He asked why were they levying taxes in this country pressing severely on the people, and whether it would not be better to put a tax upon property, to abolish the custom-house system, and to say, "lionest traders of the custom-house system, and to say, "lionest traders of all nations, you may lay your stuffs here, there are no taxes and no duties" (laughter). He said further, that he would not have the friends of Free Trade relax in their exertions; they must remember that the House of Lords yet lived; that this was the stronghold of the ana tocracy, where they would be struggling for something monthan a commercial policy. After the settlement of the Free Trade question the people would have more time to again for universal suffrage (hear, hear); and if it were good for commerce to be free, it was good for man to be free also; if it were good for cotton and corn to be free, it would be good for man likewise. And now I beg the attention of the right rev. bench to what follows:—"Could they have a Free Trade in commerce without a Free Trade in religion; or could the system of commercial despotism continue the blight of this country? The Catholics and the Dissenters would demand why the church of Christ should be under the trammels of the State; and he predicted that the freedom of religion, as shown by the separation of Church and State, would be one of the glorious results of Free Trade" (lost cheers). And lastly, my lords, there is another motive which is most likely to operate with high-minded men; it is so unworthy fear and suspicion that they are acting from interested or dishonourable motives. My lords, if I were speaking to an ordinary assembly, I might warn them of the danger of yielding to such fears; but, speaking to the as sembly which I have the honour to address, which cannot be unduly biassed by considerations of fear, I can assent that you do not act from your personal interests. You are the trustees for far more than your personal interests; you me the trustees for your country, you are the trustees for posterity, you are the trustees for the constitution of the empire (cheers). My lords, you, each and all of you, live amongst your neighbours, by whom you are looked up to as the guides for their political opinions; from you your neighbours take the colour of their opinions and their views; to you they look, to your opinions a respectful deference is paid, and it is you who have encouraged and promulgated the opinion that for the great interests of this country agricultural protection is essential. With what feeling, my lords, with what face, having voted for the destruction of all protection to agriculture, can you show yourselves in the midst of those neighbours, who have hitherto regarded you with respect, and whose principles and opinious you have heretofore influenced (cries of "hear, hear")? They will charge you, and charge you justly, as you now charge the Government, with having misled and betrayed those who have placed their confidence in you (loud cheers). Therefore, my lords, if against your own deliberate opinion. you consent to pass this measure, be prepared to abdicate the hitherto high place you have held in the constitution: if you sacrifice your own opinions to the intimidation of others, be prepared hereafter to be looked upon as a subordimate branch of the constitution, to be looked upon only as the registrars of the edicts of the House of Commons, and as the blind followers of the Minister of the day (cheers). My lords, if I know anything of the constitutional value of this house, it is to interpose a salutary obstacle to rish and in considerate legislation; it is to protect the people from the consequences of their own imprudence. It never has been the course of this house to resist a continued and deliber rately formed public opinion; your lordships always have, and always will, how to the expression of such an opinion; but it is yours to check hasty legislation, leading to imparable evils; and it is yours-though the constitution on hardly have been deemed to have provided for such a con tingency-to protect the people, not against their own basy judgments, but against the treachery of those whom they have chosen to be their leaders (loud cheers). My look, if, acting on your own deliberate and impartial opinion. scorning the degrading suspicion of being actuated by an worthy motives you follow the course which in your con sciences you believe to be for the good of the country, you may rest assured that neither your country nor your conscience will condemn you. You may be conquered: you may be overbalanced in numbers; but you will not be de graded. You may full in saving the people from the threat ened evil, but you will secure the approbation of your friends and the respect of your opponents (cheers). And if, by the blessing of God, your decision on this great question shall arrest the progress of this hasty and inconsiderate measure: if you shall thus give time for the intelligence of the country to act upon the public mind; if, happily, you shall succeed in going back to a wiser course, and in adopting the ten much despised wisdom of your ancestors, then you may well be proud of your position and of your conduct; then may you well be proud that you have discharged your duty con scientiously and fairly, that you have withstood the seductions of power, and that you have honestly and fearless'y proceeded to save your country from this great and hazardors speriment. The best reward, my lords, that you can have will be this approval of your own consciences in having done your duty; but there will be another reward in the appro batton and the thanks of a grateful and admiring people, who will then justly exclaim— Thank God we have a House of Lords!" (The noble lord resumed his seat anidst great cheering) SPEECH OF LORD BROUGHAM.

Lord BROUGHAM: I am quite aware, my lords, that I stand before you under some disadvantages ("Adjourn. adjourn"), and I certainly mean to take the sense of the house on the question of adjournment. We have just heard a speech of surpassing ability delivered at so late a period of the evening (renewed cries of "Adjourn.") My lords, can't go on without the opportunity, in the first place, of hearing my own voice, which is necessarily preparatory to making any one else hear. (Cries again for an adjourn ment). Among the many great advantages which my noble friend enjoys over me—which I need not stop to enumerate, because all who have heard his speech will acknowledge the merits which intrinsically belong to him, at all times and at all hours of the night—but certainly one of the advantages which he has upon the present occasion, purely by accident. but which is equal to all his other advantages put together, is, that he has made a most exciting and animatel, and, to a great portion of your lordships, a most successful speech, and also a very long speech—though I did not feel that it was long, or that it needed those apologies which be frequently addressed to us, yet nevertheless the clock shere Heyworth was in the chair, and which was held, I believe, in this town. After talking of the miracles which had been wrought by the conversion of Prime Ministers (cheers), the

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my lords, this circumstance teaches me to confine mysulf within the smallest limits possible, and to proceed without further preface to the duty before me ("Adjourn"). As I an about to address myself not to those who agree with, but those who differ from me in opinion, I must beg the fayour of some portion of their attention whilst I apply myself to answering the speech of the noble lord which has given them such satisfaction. I wave with my noble friend all personal allusions; he did well, and I am sure that other speakers will follow his example; but there is one subject of a personal nature which I cannot resist mentioning—the origin of the present bill (cries of "Adjourn"). If those noble lords who cry "Adjourn" have business to do else where, I think they ought to go, and leave me to get on. If they are desirous of tasting other enjoyments (loud laughter) in preference to listening to me, peradventure the house will not be the worse for their absence, and they themselves will greatly profit by the move which I have re commended (laughter). But I proceed to say a word, begging the attention of the noble lord in return for the undivided attention which I assure him I paid to his speech which I promise him shall not be one-third the length be exacted from mc. I say I proceed at once to the origin of the present measure. It is said to have been the pressure of the famine, or the supposed famine, in certain districts of Ireland. I doubt the fact of there being a general famine in Ireland; I have never heard it stated that there was a general famine there; but that a general pressure of misery and scarcity did exist in many large districts of Ireland is a fact as certain as that we are sitting debating here to-night (hear, But, says my noble friend, that is no reason-that famishes no sufficient ground, for doing away with protecnon, or even of opening the ports, as had been recommended. I deny the fact, as I am ready to show that it was a sufficient ground. But I beg, before proceeding further, to say that it promite immaterial to the merits of the bill what was its ongin. I might most consistently say that the Government were wrong in proceeding with the bill this year; I might consistently contend that there was no ground for the precinitancy with which it has been brought forward in 1816;-I might consistently argue that Sir Robert Peel did a rash, an indiscreet, and an imprudent act, by bringing in the measure this year; but that upon the merits of the measure, howsoever recommended, whensoever introduced, under whatever pressure, or under no pressure at all, if the measure is a sound one in itself, I am bound to give it, as an honest man, my cordial support (hear, hear). state this to guard myself from being mixed up with the extraneous and accidental circumstances connected with the measure—and as the real and substantial ground upon which I approve of it. But I am free to admit that I see nothing superfluous, nothing unnecessary, nothing rash, nothing indiscreet whatever in the choice of the lest autumn and the last winter for the first proposal of the repeal of the Corn Laws (hear, hear). For what is the real state of the case as regards the potato A vast number of people, my noble friend himself admits, found themselves reduced to distress by the failure of their crop. It was not merely that their potatees were bad, but they did not have wages to pay for their food, except the produce of their little plots of ground --the currency in which the Irish labourer is paid. Are your lordships aware what has happened since this question began? Is my noble friend ignorant of what happened since this measure was introduced into the other house? He omitted to refer to it, but he certainly must be aware that one part naturally belonging to the Corn Bill was transferred to the Customs Bill, by which foreign matize was allowed to be imported as if the Corn Bill were already passed, and we were now enjoying the benefit of it. How does this apply to answer the argument of my noble friend? Why, he says that the measure is numecessary—that the mischief has been remedied. But how has it been remedied? Why, in order to supply the wan's of the people; in order to remedy the fulme of the potato crop, maize was allowed to be introduced free of duty, and my learned friend might learn from the people that they have been taught by the evidence of expetience to be thankful for that food, not for their cattle merely, but for the inhabitant, for the poor peasant of the country (hear, hear). Then, says my noble friend-and there was no part of his able address which excited greater attention or louder applause, for it led away some of my frends in my own neighbourhood for a moment, but only for a moment,-1 say there was no part of his address which excited greater approbation than this. "What," says my roble friend, "do you do to the poor Irish peasant? Be cause his potatoes are useless, you take away protection from his corn, you make him sell his outs cheaper, you make the candle burn at both ends, you take away the means by which he purchases both food and positoes, by making him sell theaper oats." But my noble friend supplied an answer to his own argument, for he candidly admitted that he was effectly ready to open the ports for the purpose of letting in oatment, thereby of course lowering the value of the bish peasants onts (hear, hear). I only mention this to show that my noble friend has no right to charge others—as be has lavishly done to night both sides of the house-with inconsistency Is he not liable to the charge himself (hear, bear)? I admit it as a charge; but be charges all around him. He says that the Ministers are paragons of inconsis tency; but don't you, the Opposition, triumph, for you have as many inconsistencies to account for as they have. But hes my noble friend none to account for himself? I have this very speech. But is there nothing else? Has he forgot the Canada Bill? I highly approved of that bill; I supported it; I objected to all the attacks that were made upon it: I defended the constant of the content it; I defended the consistency of my right hon, friend, the author of the bill. Well, what did the bill do? It reduced the duty to 38, per quarter, and allowed the whole American bread stuffs to come through Canada over to England, where protection was in full vigour-where it was regarded as absolutely necessary for the landlord, the farmer, the peasant, the manufacturer, and for all our institutions, and yet this bill ellowed American corn to be introduced at this low duty, be the price here ever so cheap, and without reference to any sliding scale (hear). I mention this not to taunt my noble friend with inconsistency, but to show that nemo omnibus horis sapit—that no one is wise at all times; that no one who acts the part of a wise man will refuse to profit by reflective reason and further experience—and that no one on any side of the house, not even my noble friend, is totally free from the charge—if it be a charge—of having at different times advocated and proposed opposite measures (hear, hear) hear). But the argument of my noble friend in support of the former bill is equally applicable to the present bill. Think, says my noble friend, of the increase of the popula-

augment—think how every year 300,000 or 400,000 persons are added to the number of consumers of food in this country, and that unless you bring down food to the lowest possible price you cannot hope long to feed the increasing numbers, and you cannot discharge your duty to the people. The same argument applies to the Corn Law at all times; and it is upon the ground of its applicability to all times, and without reference to accidental and temporary circumstances, that I have uniformly advocated the repeal of the Corn Laws. This leads me to come at once to the point; that is, the probable effect of the repeal of the Corn Laws in reducing prices. I wish I could take the same view of it as my noble friend does. I wish I could believe in the possi-bility that one-fifth part of 20 per cent, of the price of grain would be taken off by the repeal of the Corn Laws. The noble lord calls upon the supporters of the measure to say what effect the repeal of the Corn Laws will have upon the state of the markets-he requires of us that we should tell him what increase or diminution that event may produce in the course of two, three, or four years. Now, I take upon myself to say that that is about one of the most difficult problems which any one could be called upon to solve When a change takes place in the nature and materials of our importations nothing can be more difficult than to tell beforehand what the effect of that will be. Suppose that corn be sold for 30s, at Dantzie at the time that our Corn Laws are repealed, who can undertake to say what the effect of that will be upon our corn market? Supposing it to be 30s. now, who can say how cheap it will be when the Corn Laws are repealed? To answer that question I must be able to tell the effect upon the English market, which will be produced by the knowledge in Dantzie that the English Corn Laws have been repealed. I must estimate the 5s. freight, the 2s. insurance, the 3s. other expenses, and having brought it up to 40s., I must then be able to tell what the effect of all this will be on the market at Dantzic. But though neither I, nor my noble friend, nor any one clse can answer these questions, my noble friend went on to tell us that new land would be brought into cultivation, and then my noble friend talked to us of the state of the land in the Ukraine, and of the land in Hungary; and whether he knew less of the land in the Ukraine and more of that in Hungary, or less of the latter and more of the former, does not very distinctly appear; but, nevertheless, he did not abstain from telling us that these lands, of which we know so little, would come suddenly into cultivation, that there would be an immediate clearance of the lands in Hungary, and yet 1 venture to assert, that if my noble friend will make inquiries of any Hungarian nobleman, who may now happen to be in London, he will find that he has been reckoning without his host. The probability is that it will take much time to effect any material increase in the productive powers of the land of Hungary—that acre after acre must be slowly and laborrously brought into cultivation - that there can be no sudden clear ing away of the impediments to tillage—that you cannot in one day go through all the operations of stubbing up trees, clearing roots, digging deep below the surface, sawing, burning, ploughing, and harrowing—that you cannot by a single effort divide fields, make fences, erect barns, granaries, and farm houses—that all this cannot be done by a mere exercise of volition—that a numerous peasantry must be called into existence for the excention of such works; and be it remembered that the population of the Ukraine and of Hungary do not increase at the rate of 1000 a day, as they do in this country. Besides, a vast amount of capital will be required for effecting such great objects upon so large a scale. know very well that in this country it requires a capital of 10% an acre to carry on the business of farming, but how much per acre does it require to clear a primitive farm, and bring it out of a state of nature into a state of cultivation! My noble friend, however, supports his argument upon the authority of his most respectable correspondent Mr. Sanders and upon the authority of that gentleman my noble friend told your lordships that the effect of this bill would be to cause the cultivation of 5,000,000 additional ---

Lord STANLEY: No; what I said, was that in the course of three years there would be an increase of 5,000,000,

Lord BROUGHAM: That "no" is in effect "yes" noble friend seems to say no, but really the effect of his answer is an affirmative, and the result is that I am right and he is wrong --three years! Surely in talking of the eternal interests of trade, three years are but an instant. When we are dealing with that which has endured since the time of Henry IV., anything that depends upon a period of three years may well be called sudden-it is most sudden. No doubt Mr Sanders is a respectable correspondent, but I wish he was a little more sensible. I do not require that he should be a man of powerful intellect or large views, because he is not giving any opinion; but I am entitled to require that he should be a rational man, seeing that he speaks to matters of fact. If I am called upon to be governed by his authority, I must be satisfied that he is trustworthy. I must have no reason to suspect any lack of judgment. I must be convinced that he is able to put two ideas together; and yet when I consider the correspondence of this Mr. Sanders, I cannot repress feelings of the atmost astonishment at the monstrous stories which he tells. I will give him the full benefit of the three years and three days-a year and a day as the lawyers are accustomed to grant. Three years and three days are only an instant for purposes of that kind; and can any one believe that in the short space of three years 6,000,000 can be added to the productions of the Continent-that within that short time our markets can be overwholmed-that we can be deluged with foreign corn, the production of the Ukraine and of Hungary. I believe nothing of the sort; I believe that the advance will be gradual; I believe that for years to come there will be no great application of capital, and therefore no considerable augmentation of supply; you must calculate not upon a great change, but upon a moderate decrease of prices, and upon a slowly augmenting supply. I by no means intend to argue that there will be a diminution of prices, though I perfectly recollect that a noble friend of mine, now no more-1 mean the late Lord Spencer-held that such a change in the Corn Laws as is now proposed, would not effect any diminution whatever in the price of provisions—that was his deliberate and serious opinion; and though I have always thought that that opinion was entitled to the highest respect, like every other opinion entertained by that noble lord, I still hold that there is in it something of exaggeration, and my expectation is that in the price of corn there will be a small and moderate reduction after the passing of this bill. In maintaining this opinion, and generally in the support of this bill, I may appeal to my noble friends on the cross benches. I may fearlessly appeal to them because I know Think, says my noble friend, of the increase of the popula-the tenant farmers. Now it does so happen that the tenant farmers are not so very apprehensive of the effects of this

measure as they are said to be. I should be glad to be onlightened upon this point; but as far an my information goes there is no great apprehension amongst the tenant farmers. If they are alarmed they adopt a most singular mode of showing it, for they are every day taking furms at increased rents, and upon long leases; and when a farm is out of lease is it let at a reduction in rent? No such thing; it is let at a higher rent. My noble friend has great reason to despise my experience on this point, he having many tenants and I few; but I can assure him that such is the fact, not alone in the part of the country with which I am connected, but in all parts of the country; for in all parts I have made inquiries, and I know of nothing but instances of farms being let at an increase of rent, and of no instance whatever of land being out of lease. Now, really, if these men entermin no alarm about the Corn Laws, I think it is a duty of supererogation for us to be so much alarmed for them. If my noble friends sny, "If rent shall fall, that is our look out," then they shift tho argument, but I conceive them, acting for the tenant farmers, and not for themselves. Some tenant farmers were lately asked by a connection of mine when farms were being let, if they were aware of what was going on about the Corn Laws? Oh," said they, " we have taken all that into account, we have calculated all that, we have no doubt whatever that the measure is going to pass." (I hope they'll be true prophets.) And of these farms one was let at a rent of 70%, and the other at 10% a year higher than before. That was in Durham. These are facts; there are many such facts; and these show that the ahrm does not pervade the tenant body of farmers generally. Then, as to the argument of prices, it is one of which no one on either side can undertake confidently to speak. I should form a very mean opinion of the good sense of any man who would take upon himself to say, and who with confidence would foretell, the effect of this measure on prices. I have no opinion of that sort. We ought to speak with becoming modesty, but above all with great moderation, as to our expectations of the effect of a change in a system so long upheld (hear). Nothing, in my opinion, but a clear view that these results would be advantageous, would justify us in countenancing it; but as to the precise amount I will not venture to calculate. Wheat, not immediately, but in time, will be cheaper to a certain degree, perhaps 3s. or 4s, a quarter; but in mentioning that small amount we need not pledge ourselves to a calculation. Anything more absurd, more conceited, if I may so say, than that person is who assumes the ability, on so difficult and complicated a subject, to give the precise amount which this change will have the effect of producing, cannot be imagined thear, hear). I am confident that the agriculturists will benefit much more by this great improvement in our has than they will lose by a diminution in the market value of their produce (hear, hear). I look forward to this measure as almost undonbtedly certain to extend our foreign trade incalenlably, and in a very short period of time (hear, hear). But before I come to that part of my noble friend's speech - and with regard to some portions of that speech they are puzzling, and require some explanations -1 will say a word or two on the main argument urged in favour of the protective system. My noble friend said, quoting great authorities in support of the assertion, that the use of protection is to make this country independent of a foreign supply, and among others be quoted the late Mr. Huskisson, who said, "The great object was for ourselves to grow the corn which makes the bread of the people." There is no question what-ever that the great interest of this country and of every other country, is to grow the bulk of the food of the people within the bounds of the country; and, except in one instance, I mean that of the United States' provinces, there is and can be no country under the sun in which, whatever the system of Corn Laws may be, and whether there exists protection or not, the people must not find it necessary to be fed by corn growing within the bounds of their own country. object of free importations must be to relieve you in years of scarcity or in the dearth of a bad year; this is a matter of absolute certainty. Why, in years of famine in this country there were never mything like 2,000,000 of quarters The whole importation in 1800 and 1801 was 1,100,000 quarters each year from the whole of Europe, and if you add 200,000 quarters of corn, you do not show a very large importation. In 1810 it was 1,500,000 quarters, and why, therefore, do you wish these restrictions? And why do you say that the people of this country ought to be independent of the people of other countries for the supply of food? Oh, it is said, foreign powers may change their law, and, at any moment, close their ports and starve you. I have an answer to that in one word; I point to 1810 (hear, hear), and I say that that argument survives not the mention of that year one single instant (cheers). When did you ever see the Continent under such a power as that to which it bowed in 1810? When ever again are you likely to see it enthralled by such an iron hand as that which then grasped the universal sceptre of Europe—I may say, of the Continental world (cheers)?—Do you remember what year that was? Talk to me of petty sovereigns now stopping exportation from Egypt, from Belgium, from Antwerp, hom the Hague; why then, Napoleon, in his iron grasp, held, as I said before, the sceptre, not of France only, but of all Continental Europe, and do you remember the degree to which he had enforced his despotism over these states? Why, from the very centre as it were-from the heart, the pulsations of which influenced all Europe-from Paris to the millions of the world, he could send forth an edict which would shut all Europe against us (hear, hear). From the Channel to the Gulf of Leghorn, from Paris, to the outermost parts of Poland, there was not one single person in authority, not a troop of horse, not a company of foot, not a custom house officer, not an exciseman, who did not tremble at his name, or refused to obey his mandate (cheers). Is that likely to happen again? Did that ever happen before? And yet, what was the result of it all? Was Napoleon bent upon any single thing so much as destroying the trade of England? Was he bent upon any one project so much, was anything so dear to his heart, as sealing up our own produce, and preventing any one bushel of corn ever reaching this country? And yet the result of it was that 1,250,000 quarters, and talking also of the corn, that 1,514,000 quarters were imported into England, during that same year-1810. And not from outports, observe, where his power might be supposed to be somewhat weakened; not from Odessa where he had little influence; not from Africa, where, it may be said, be had none at all; not from Nuples, where his strength was unimportant; not from Sicily, the olden granary of Rome-no: no such thing; but 90 parts in every 100 of those 1,514,000 quarters came from France itself-from thence imported into this country (cheers). The mention of that year, 1810, at once extinguished the argument. The noble lord said the protection system was supported by universal consent. He

quoted our own law to show how deep a root it had taken. But if we are to go back upon old statutes, I could furnish the noble lord with many examples of an Indicrous statutes, of an absurd provisions, as he could wish to see, which the wisdom of our uncestors, to which he so eloquently referred, fixed in the statute book, and carefully preserved for our edification and amusement, if not for our instruction. The laws against forestalling and regrating were once said to be the pillar of our commercial prosperity. These are things laughed at by universal consent. But it was no laughing matter when those laws were in force. It was an offence for people to forestall and regrate, and men were punished by imprisonment for committing that offence, could purchase corn for the purpose of selling it again at market (hear, hear). No man could purchase corn before it came to market (hear, hear, hear). There was to be no middleman. The object was that the good, worthy, honest, terant farmer should come to market that he might cell corn chem to the people. The law said, "You shau't lony standing corn;" and the same rate was applied in the cale of lops. But, said the noble ford, other countries have the same law. Are not these, he triumplantly asks, the great countries of the worll? and have they not laws for the protection of native industry? Another part of the noble lord's speech gave the answer to this argument, that not withstanding their protection laws, they all had found it necessary, when there was a pressure on the means of subto tence, to suspend that protection haw. The protection laws of Belgium, of Holland, of Ecopt, were all suspended in the autumn of P(P). It was no bad or useless commentary upon the inefficient nature of any vision of laws that those countries were obliged to get rid of them the moment the pinch came. My noble friend then argued that the trade of the country was not likely to be benefited by this great measure And here I/ may defend him against himself (cheers); because anything more harsh, more cruel, I should say more unchapitable may, I should almost say unchristian Charghter) /than his treatment of himself in his argument on the tariff, I never witnessed. I could not have believed that any one would have had so little howels of compassion es the noble lord showed to bimself. I pitted him, My noble friend is so great an artist that he drew himself in such colours that I pitied him. I was forced to separate the two individuals. There is one active and one passive There is one ective and one posive -the party punishing and the party punished-and it is one and the same person who punishes and is punished. I wish to say one word, if not in defence, at least in extenuation, to rescue him from the obliquy of the infliction with which be has been visiting himself. The tariff did not de serve all the vituperation which it received; and I wish to say one word in its favour before sentence is recorded. No rational man would say that increased competition among producers tends to increase prices. By increased competition among producers you reduce prices. But the object of the teriff was to enable you to obtain cheaper goods from abroad, and to enable you thereby to nd your own produce more advantageously to foreign The noble lord said the turiff offorded no precedent for the present measure. "See," he said, "with all your ta-tiff of 1842, to what it is come? What advantages do you expect from a repeal of the Corn Laws?" Very great advantage I should reply. I must refer to the argument as to the increase of semmen and the dominations of the tonnage of vessels. It is said, taking so many years before the tariff was adopted, your yes els in the Baltie trade were yo much; taking a smaller period since, they are so much less. The proportion was somewhere about 6400 to 5200. That was a very triving diminution; and if the means of transport were made up by foreign vessels, your trade was so far extended; these foreign vessels carried your good, and the difference before and after the tariff was made up with a vengence; for the number indicating the mercase of foreign shipping engaged in your trade after the fariff is 17,900. It is a most complete demonstration that our trade has increased. Then my noble friend colled on noble lords to attend to a report of the American Secretary of the Treasury; and as I may have found an ex-secretary wrong, so I may find an actual secretary equally wrong. The statement which the noble secretary equally wrone. The statement which the noble lord read does not prove that we take less from the United "states than the United States take from as. Did they get what was stated as imports for nothing? You must pay the balance in bullion, or in goods. Did we send two and a half millions of dollars to clear off the balance? No, we paid it in foreign produce. It is what is called a "roundbout" trade, and is almost as profitable as a direct trade. Then we are told the same thing occurs in Russia. About 11,000,000) were imported from Russin, 5,000,000 only were exported to Russia; there was a balance of 3,000,000. Are we to believe that, the American's having made as a present of three millions, the Russians will be unxious to vie with them in giving as three nullions of their goods for nething, as if the two hemispheres were emulating the one the other the West endervouring to prove to the world that she is able to excels all that has been told us of Eistern gor gousness." But we have received no such gifts from citter of them. If we have not sent them our own goods, we have given them the coffee and the sugars of Brazil (cheers). But, my lords, what is my expectation with regard to the Corn Law so far as relates to foreign I do not look forward to any sudden, rapid, intantaneous increase of our traffic with foreign countries; but one thing I confident's expect, that if we set the example, and remove the restrictions from our commercial code, other countries will follow the same line (cheers). We do not live in a period when any country, especially countries like France and Belgium, with constitutional governments, and Germany, which is likely soon to obtain a constitutional government - when the voice of the consumer is heard, and the opinious of the copitalist and manufacturer are consulicif care likely to remain, behind; these countries, you may be perfectly assured, if you withdraw your restrictions and your restrictive line of policy, will effect a corresponding clearse in theirs thear, hear). Of this also, I am certain, that you can do yourselves no kind of service by retaining your restrictions; even should the improvements of this system be postpoined by other countries, you will be none the worse for it; while if your example be followed by them it will be a most important and valuable circumstance for this country. I am not one of those who take the gloomy view of the subject that Mr. Gray, the correspondent of the noble lord, has done thear, hear). If ever I heard a statement on any occasion which appeared to be made under the influence of a pervadice bias on the mind of the in or who made it, it is Mr. Gray's statement made to your lordships this evening. According to him, we are plunged into an abyss of ruin; our capitalists make no profit; our manufacturers are working at a loss; and our labourers are receiving nothing like adequate wages, because they cannot

compete with the labourers of other countries. And yet my noble friend garnished another part of his speech with accounts of the great extent of our foreign commerce, and the exports of our manufactures (hear). As to the sliding scale, my noble friend spoke much in its favour, and asked, why adopt this new system when the sliding scale has operated so a lyantageously? My lords, that argument does not apply to me, who never approved of the sliding scale. My argument against it was always this, that the inevitable consequence of such a system was to cause a great accumulation in foreign ports, or in the bonded store, and that our market was sure to be flooded and drenched with it just at the time when the home grower could least bear up against it. Let me here remind you that the years which have passed since 1812 were such as could not by possibility test the utility of the sliding scale (hear, hear). The true test of the sliding scale is to be found in a time of scarcity; but we have had abundant harvests since 1812-even last year was in many respects abundant, though not of such good quality as some preceding years, and it is well known that 1811 was so very prolific that three-fourths of the produce of that year are still on hand. In these circumstances no one is entitled to say that the last few years have tested the sliding scale (hear). My lords, I am no party to the follies and exaggerations I have seen prevail out of doors; I am no party to the abuse I have seen heaped on the landowners of this country (hear). I value the landed interest of this country as the great, substantial, and most important of all the interests in the kingdom. I regard the advocates of that interest, even when I differ with them in their opinions, as performing a great and conscientionsly discharged duty to their country. Above all, I deny that the supporters of the handed interest in this country are only to be numbered by the landlords, and the tenants, and the yeomen, who are more immediately engaged in the cultivation of the soil (cheers). The great landed interest of this kingdom, my lords, is of power, and might, and influence enough to counterbulance all the other interests, if they were put in opposite scales the one to the other (hear). That has ever been my fixed and decided opinion. But they are not in opposite scales; for there is on the part of the landed interest, not perlimps the middling merchants or the petty tradesmen-though the tradesmen in your small towns will always be found ranged with them in all controversies in which they appear as a party,-but all the great traders, and great capitalists, and merchants and mercantile men in the country, all the important public bodies, the Bank, the East India Company, the insurance companies, the railway companies, the law. the church, the army, the navy, all these bodies forming the proligious mass of the whole power, and wealth, and influence of the kingdom, --all are found, for the most part, and in the main, and in the long run, to take part with the landed interest, as the great Conservative supporters of the institutions of the empire (loud cries of "hear, hear"). Therefore, when I have made up my mind to sup port this measure of Corn Lawrepeal, and to take away what they most fallaciously call their natural and necessary protection, it must not be thought that I wish to injure the landed interest; on the contrary, I believe I am adding to the safety and security of that great body (hear). I hold that any shilling of protection on the quarter of wheat, is a full tax of 1s, on every man in the kingdom, be he rich or poor. Though I do not think the landed interest or the institutions of the country require this protection, and that the sooner they get rid of it the better for those institutions it will be, yet I will tell the landed interest where they will find a protection for themselves and a bulwark for our institutions. I would say to them, "Si monumentum quaris, circumspice;" look at the talent they have exhibited in the present discussion, and then let those blush, if they are capable of that decorum, who have ever talked with contempt of the talents, accomplishments, and acquirements of the aristocracy of this country. Reflect on the splendid exhibition of talent there has been in another place during the whole discussion; in their own ability is their best protection. And though they have failed there, as I hope they will here, in attaining the object they strove for, yet they have gained a more effectual protection for themselves, and a far better security for the institutions of which they are the chosen guardians. They have displayed telents for affairs and powers of debate which their adversaries had given them little credit for, and which their country must ever after benefit by. I think I should be guilty of public ingratitude if I did not also express my deep sense of the public virtue, prodigious power of mind, and moral courage exhibited by my right hon, friend at the head of the Government in bringing forward this measure. He has cast away all selfish, private, and personal considerations—he has disregarded his own interest in every step and stage of the process. He has given up what to a minister is, of all positions, the most to be envied -- calm, unquestioned, undivided power and superiority; he has exposed himself to the most tempestuous and troubled sen the political world ever exhibited; he has given up what to an ambitious man is much—the security of his power; he has given up what to a calculating man is much his influence and authority with his party; he has given up what to an amiable man is much-private friendships and party connexions. All these he has sacrificed voluntarily and with his eyes open, for the discharge of what he deemed a great public duty. In these circumstances he can scorn the sordid attacks and ribaldry with which he has been out of doors assailed, because he knows he has entitled himself to the gratitude of his country, and left his name to an admiring posterity as one of the greatest ministers who ever ruled this country. SPEECH OF THE EARL OF CLARENDON.

The Earl of CLARENDON said that he did not find himself in the entegory of those who were so solemnly warned by the noble lord last night against giving upon this occasion a vote contrary to the opinions they had expressed in former years; for, since he had had a seat in their lordships' house, he had rarely missed an opportunity of stating what he conscientionally believed to be the evils of the protective system, and that the time was rapidly approaching when the Corn Laws must be abolished. But, as he trusted that this was nearly the last time when they would be called on to discuss this question, he could not avoid expressing the unfeigned satisfaction with which, in common with all those who desired to carry out the principles of Free Trade, he viewed a measure that would for ever, and he wished he could add at once, put an end to that system of protection, and which was brought in with all the weight and authority of a Conservative Administration. It appeared to him of little consequence what had induced the Government to propose this measure. The decision of the Cabinet was unanimous, with the important exception of the noble lord; and he

solve were not terminated in a manner that would have to tained to the country the great advantage of his acritical Whatever had influenced the Government in proposing p he rejoiced at the introduction of the measure, and almost as much in the wisdom and justice of the avowals and accements by which those who had been hitherto opposed to sayle a measure had supported it in the long ordeal it had undergone elsewhere. But he could never consider that this was a party question. It was one that appeared to be to rest more upon experience and fact than the considerations of party: for, of all questions, this was one with a spect to which opinion had undergone more modification. than any other during the last 30 years, as knowledge and science advanced and the number and wants of the peris increased. There was scarcely any one whose opinions and not during that time undergone some change with respect it. Could the protectionist party say they had been map. fluenced by certain circumstances? Would they take then themselves the responsibilities of an office—an event whole they knew from his hoble friend on the cross benching a speedily occur (hear, hear) - and maintain the present layor were they prepared to make any change them, he Would they say they would not now chally accept the day of 8s., which they scornfully rejected five years ugo, as like to lead to revolution and ruin (hear, hear). In free, wen they not threatened with some such amendment in rem mittee? But would they throw overboard their principles and advocate not protection for corn, but for the Exchequer He said then, that this was not a party question; and he is gretted that so much time had been wasted in discussing not the merits of the measure, for that would have been useful and legitimate employment, but in demonstrating that this was a party question. All the opposition had been raid. against the Minister more than against the measure; but 21 the invectives poured upon Sir R. Peel proved that he was influenced by higher views than those of party, and that if he forfeited the goodwill and support of his political fren; he did it for that which was of higher importance-hiscoratry's good (hear, hear). With famine making rapid students in Ireland (hear, hear)-it was very well to say "hear hear," but if those noble lords who now said so were onteministerial bench next October, and if they received from: Lord-Lieutenant and official servants in Ireland such counts as Sir R. Peel received last October, he defied them not to take some measures with respect to the Corn 1 s. (hear, hear). It was incumbent on the Government to take all human means to arrest the progress of starvation, and is attendant evils of disease and turbulence in Treland. The might have opened the Irish ports by an order in Con, σ^* . and heartily he wished they had; indeed, one of the procetionist gentlemen in the other house, who had distinguish 1 himself as much as any one, came forward in the Lite & bates and said that the mere apprehension of scarcity weal have justified such a course. That was admitting the insufficiency of the present laws in cases of emergency; in had the Irish ports been opened? There being at the ina duty of 17s. in the English ports, with trade f ce between the two countries, it required little argument to show when the effect would have been. But suppose the right horem able baronet had opened the ports of the United Kingdom and suspended the law for six months, could be law given any guarantee to restore, much less to maintar. the law at the expiration of that time (hear, hear)? In the present state of public opinion in this country-all there was none who could dare to disregard public opine a such a guarantee could not have been adhered to, 'Ceel: any Government precipitate a conflict which was the oil; description of civil war which the present manners and civilisation would admit of, and which was not the less to chievous on that account? The noble duke on the cass benches, and others, had declared that the measure to them and the whole party by surprise (hear, hear); let it they were blind to the intentions of Sir R. Peel the country were not, for they saw the direction in which he was storing for the last four years. For his own part, he must take occasion to say, that he never could comprehead here as statesman of acknowledged foresight and experience, ϕ how any political leaders who must have knewn that a speck return to power was theirs, could have maligned the motion and misrepresented the conduct of the late Governors. and could have denounced that policy of Free Trade wick they knew must be soon adopted. It had always been in comprehensible to him how any one could have done it's consistently with common sense and common honesty that cheers). Since, however, the present Government had here in office, they had had the power to do good, and they had an opposition without the will to thwart it. For the last feet years Sir R. Peel had spoken a language which was partech intelligible, and which could not have been mistaken it those not willing to deceive themselves ("hear, hear," fiers Earl Stanhope). He did not know that the noble early of during those four years expressed any confidence in the

Earl STANHOPE had certainly felt no confidence at a

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The Earl of CLARENDON: Then Sir Robert Ped 🖾 spoken a language which was perfectly intelligible to be noble lord, if not to others. Was it to be conceived that when he broached a broad commercial principle applicable to colonial asses (laughter), to drugs, to gums, and to fear; that it was not to include the food of a daily increasing and always underfed population (hear, hear)? Notwithstand: the important statements of Sir James Graham, who, form his official situation and from his remarkable industry, was so great a master of the statistics of this country, as to plenty and cheapness being the real foundation of our prosperit the agricultural party, with the exception of the noble land (laughter), doubted to the last moment, and then stood aghast, and raised the cry of "Protection to native industry. not, be it observed, of protection to agricultural industry another proof of the change of opinion, for he recelled when the noble duke stood up in that house, and declared that if the present Government dared to meddle with agrcultural protection, he and h's friends would reject them, as he had done their prodecessors: but now protection to aguculture was too exclusive, a more comprehensive cry was necessary, and the cry was raised of Protection to naive industry." But in that comprehensive sense native industry did not want that protection, and it ropudiated slike their new-born sympathy and their worn-out legislation (loud cheers). The manufacturers of linens and of cloths distort not require it; and though from hoots and hats and other articles all protection had been withdrawn, the manifeturers found that they had suffered no harm, and they had the mauliness to come forward and avow it. He said that there was not an instance in which they had withdrawn the protection asset to the said that there was not an instance in which they had withdrawn the protection asset to the said that there is not the said that the sai that those doubts which took the noble lord 48 hours to re-

the interests of all the different classes of society were identical; but, if those interests were to be identified with, or to be embodied in, protection, he denied their identity. He de fied any one to prove that the condition of the labourers had been improved by protection. The noble duke had drawn a pathetic picture of the air and scenery amid which the labourers performed their work, but he had not said a word about the wages paid in the south of England.
The Duke of CLEVELAND lived in the north, and not

in the south. The Earl of CLARENDON.—But be had not suid a word about the labourers' wages in the north; of the quality of their food, of their moral or social condition, of their hope has life of toil, or of the impossibility of their saving any thing. To know their state he need only to remind noble lords of the evidence given by medical witnesses before Parhament two years ago, that with few exceptions the large mass of the labourers of England were miserably underfed. and that this was the reason why they could not perform a good day's work. He thought it impossible to show that the labourer could sink lower in the social scale, and he therefore could have no interest in protection. The next person who was protected was the tenant; and he admitted that some, who had not skill, money, or education, and who took 200 acres or 300 acres of land, as they would do a public house, and who had no more reason for being farmers than for being jewellers, might want protection to save them from their own inempacity. The arguments used for protection were always to make progress wait upon ignorance, and were as valid against the competition of home grown corn as of foreign, and would be equally in fivour of the spade over the plough, and the distulf over the spinning jenny; but, with the good farmer, the man of intelligence, and capital, and industry, who did not obstinately adhere to the system and the implements of his forefathers-who considered the discoveries of science and reaped the profit of his own skill,-with such a man, he said, that competition would only do what it did in the case of all other articles -promote a healthy stimulus (hear). But it was supposed that they were to be inundated with a flood of foreign corn, and some imagined it would come on the waves of the ocean, and be delivered gratis at every man's door It seemed only necessary to picture a plain in some distant part of Hungary or Poland, and it was at once invested with the power of growing 25 quarters to the acre to be delivered in 24 hours for a mere trifle at our own homes, without any remembrance of the inveterate habits of bad farmers and antiquated instruments, or the badness of the roads, or the want of transport; but when they had the example of Ireland at our own doors, governed by our own laws, infimicly less burdened with taxation than ourselves, with every facility for becoming the storchouse and the granary of this country, and when they saw a large portion of that country still waste, and affording annually a less and less supply, he said, with such an example before them of the difficulty of changing the liabits of the people, they might have been spared a reference to the bugbear of inundation (cheers), But suppose that all at once there should be this inundation, the temants could not pay so much rent, there must be a reduction, and this, in his opinion, was what would come of this groundless and hypothetical notion of a reduction of prices. He did not impute any selfish interests or motives to any one, but his own conviction was, that this was a landlord's question, and no one's else. To their honest and conscientions alarm they owed all the opposition to this measure, and all these lamentations. Not a word had been heard in that house when the import duty on linen and cotton and wool, and hats and boots, was reduced, and when the export of machinery had been allowed, and those changes which had been in accordance with the policy of this country for the last 20 years were adopted. All Thew that the British lion was not then roused, and that the British sun did not then set for ever (loud laughter). only when corn and cattle, and hops and apples, were toucked that they had heard of men denounced for abandoning their duty, and told that it they had been in India they would have all run away. The reason why he said that those fears were groundless and hypothetical was, that in consequence of the improvements in the science and practo e of agriculture of late years, although the price of wheat had fallen 50 per cent., the rent had increased 16 or 17 per cent; so that the price of wheat was no test of the production of the land, or of the rent which would be paid to the landlord. Although he admitted that at first some of their lordships might be very great sufferers, yet there was no panic in the country. No stimulus had been wanting to create it, but all the efforts had fallen still-born, whether made in or out of Parliament, at meetings, in the press, or at that great focus of alarm, No. 17, Old Bond street (cheers), and notwithstanding the petition presented by the noble duke or the provincial assembly of very worthy men who were well paid for spending an agreeable day in London ("No, no"); but at least an assembly of such men who came to pass a day in London gratis, whether their expenses were paid or not be could not tell, did not constitute a panic They could not set off such a meeting against the four months discussion on the measure. There had been no proof of a panic from the farmers selling their stock or discharging their bibourers, or of the tenants stopping improvement, notwithstanding their complete ruin, which had been so studiously explained to them; they did not throw up their farms; on the contrary, they renewed them, and land, notwithstanding the certainty of its being turned into vaste, would most unaccountably fetch the accustomed price (loud cheers); may, if any of their lordships would publicly announce that he would sell his estates for two or three years less than the present market price, the difficulty would not be to find a purchaser, but to select from the competitors for the property by whom he would be pext week assailed (aries of "hear, hear"). Either the apprehensions were groundless, or there was good ground for them. If they were groundless, and if there was no reason to expect an inexhaustible supply of corn at a low price,—if it would be the same as in the Channel Islands, where with " power to select their own time for importation the average price was, in Jersey 50s., and in Guernsey 48s. to 50s., -if the British farmers were as a body the most skilled farmers in the world, and if we had as good a climate and fertile a soil as any other, for in no other country in the world was the same quantity of wheat produced (hear), -if we had a better breed of cattle, better roads, and better markets, and cheaper labour for the quantity of work done—and that had been proved by the English labourers employed abroad in the construction of railways, who received double the wages of foreign labourers, and yet the capitalists found that they did more than double work ;-if there were all these circum-

corn to full 10s., as his noble friend opposite calculated, what was this but saying that except for the existing law, the people would obtain their corn 10s. a quarter cheaper, and that they were laying a tax in that proportion on the consumer, not one farthing of which went into the Exchequer, or into the pockets of the landlords, but which was consumed in the increased cost of production, and was just as much wasted as if it were cast into the sea? He entertained a very strong persuasion that the working man would be very little grateful to those who made him lay out all the produce of his industry in the purchase of mero nes, and permitted him to expend nothing in the comforts, still less in the refinements which a civilised state of society furnished (hear). It seemed to be the great argument of the protectionists, that the producers of corn would derive great advantages from a continuance of the old system. Did any impartial and intelligent person suppose that an exclusion of foreign corn would have the effect of preventing a diminution in the value of land? It was notorious that hand did not offer a better investment than any other mode of employing capital. The rents of land and the profits of agriculture yielded a very insufficient return for the capital devoted to those pursuits, and yet the laws which were intended to regulate production and to protect industry were passed by and for the landed interest. Still that inte rest made but little progress. No class came so often before Parliament for relief as did those who were engaged in the cultivation of land; none made so many and such pitcous complaints; yet noble lords called upon Parliament to keep up a system which experience had shown to work so ill—a system of which no one could guarantee the continuance for three years. For such a system the aristocracy of the coun try placed themselves in a condition of great disadvantage, in lieu of occupying that position to which their wealth, character, and influence justly entitled them. For the sake of maintaining such a system they exposed the country to infinite uncertainty and confusion, while they exposed themselves to the hostility of those powerful associations which the wealth, the activity, and energy of the middle classes enabled them to form. It had been said, and he quite concurred in the opinion, that we ought to meet hostile tariffs with Free Trade. Sooner or late all negotiations with foreign countries upon such a subject must fail. Whenever treaties were entered into, it generally happened that in the long run one party or the other conceived that they were overreached. Whichever happened to yield to that persuasion immediately entertained an irresistible desire to break through the terms of the treaty; and that state of feeling led to never-ending disputes, and often to hostility; there fore he entertained a strong conviction that all nations would act prudently if they did that which was best for themselves, without too minutely inquiring whether other countries ob served the strict rules of reciprocity. If the Governments of other countries acted upon unsound or illiberal principles, that was no reason why the people of England should not buy in the cheapest, and, if they pleased, sell in the deares markets. If England did what was wise and prudent, other countries would soon follow her example. The recent history of our commercial intercourse with Germany appeared to him in a remarkable degree to illustrate and confirm the doctrines for which he had been contending. When the Zollverein commenced, in 1833, our exports to Germany fell to a very low point. In 1839, when our commercial policy underwent a change, our exports to Germany rose to 4,800,000/. ; and in the year 1811 those exports rose to between 6,000,000/, and 7,000,000%. He would remind them also of our intercourse with France. When the revolution of 1830 took place in that country, there was a proposition for revising the commercial relations of France and England. He was one of the commissioners appointed by the Government of that day to arrange the terms of the treaty then about to be formed, and he was bound to say that the French Ministry were quite as eager as the representatives of England could be to conclude a treaty upon the fairest terms; but the result was not satisfactory, and our exports to France did not amount to 500,000/. till an alteration in the tariff took place, and then they rose until at length they reached 2,600,000. The same principles, though in a different form, applied to Spain Their laws were absolutely prohibitory. md Portugal. yet British manufactures were to be found in those countries cheap and abundant. Prohibitions were vain, the smuggler always took care that wherever there was a large demand there should always be an abundant supply. In Switzerland, in Belgium, in the United States, the same rules were found uniformly to apply. The Emperor Napoleon, with all the means and appliances which he possessed, was not able to check the progress of the contrabund trade, and it was even thought that his attempts to do so contributed to his downfall. In this country, with all the power that the Government possessed, we were not able to prevent the operation of the contraband trade. Formerly we could not do it in the case of silk, and now it is found to be equally impossible in the case of tobacco. The only way to put it ender ti e trade of il and it was highly encouraging to those who carnestly desired to witness the triumph of Free Trade principles, that at the present moment there was a Free Trade League in Paris with a duke at its head. It was well known that in the American Congress it had been proposed that no duties should in future be imposed, except for the purposes of revenue; and it was quite evident that the tendency of all public opinion must be towards a free intercourse between all nations. Restrictions upon trade were rapidly crumbling away, and would soon be forgotten amongst other antiquated systems. To promote Free Trade was to carry into effect the law of God. Freedom of commercial intercourse was a policy which gave and received the best guarantees for the preservation of that most inestimable blessing, peace. The present measure appeared to have been brought forward, not only with reference to our foreign policy, but also with regard to our domestic position, at a most favourable moment. He conceived it to be a measure founded upon the true interests of all classes as well as upon a comprehensive view of the varying circumstances and complicated interests of this great country (hear, hear). SPEECH OF EARL GREY.

Earl GREY rose to resume the debate. He proceeded to say that the subject before the house had been both in and out of Parliament-in speeches and in pamphlets-so long and so fully discussed, that their lordships might be of opinion that no new argument could be now brought forward, and that they were anxious, therefore, to bring the debate to a close; and were it not that he had for many years taken a deep interest and an active part in the discus sion of the question, he would have stood aloof in this, probably the last, battle to be fought betwixt Free Trade and stances in our favour, how could the profits of agriculture or monopoly. One of the reasons, however, which influenced the rent of land materially fall? Or, suppose the price of him in rising was the feeling that a great impression had

been made on their lordships by the speech which they had listened to on the first night of the debate, from the noble lord the late Secretary for the Colonies, whose absence, from what he heard of the unfortunate cause of it, he very greatly lamented. He had listened to the speech in question with as much attention and delight as any of their lordships. His arguments were put with so much skill, and clothed in language of such extreme beauty, that for unwards of three hours he rivetted the attention of every noble lord who listened to him, and made listening to him--very different to what listening to many others was—not a labour, but a delight. He (Earl Grey) knew that some of the arguments in that speech had already been answered, especially by his noble friend who sat behind him. But it seemed to him that there were still portions of that speech to which it was requisite that their lordships attention should be particularly called. He was not vain or presumptuous enough to suppose that he was fitted to enter into the lists with his noble friend, but he had such confidence in the power of truth that he believed that even in his (Earl Grey's), feeble hands the cause which he advocated might be sufficiently recommended to their lordships, and that he should be able to show to the satisfaction of the house that in some most important points of his noble friend's speech his noble friend was mistaken. Through the whole course of the debates it had struck him very forcibly that noble lords opposite had avoided an explicit avowal of that which he took to be the main object and aim of the Corn Laws. He thought it was clear that the real aim of those laws, and the object really intended by them, was to secure what was called a remunerating price for corn, or, in other words, to raise the price of food for the people by artificially restricting the supply (hear, hear). If, as he ventured to submit to their lordships it was, this was the real object of all these laws, it was one which required strong arguments to prove its expediency. Unless some very cogent reasons could be advanced for it, it must naturally be concluded that it was not scarcity and dearth, but plenty and cheapness in the food of the people which was to be desired. But although the proof of the necessity of raising the price of corn lay, as he thought, at the root of the matter, he must say that throughout all the speeches which their lordships had heard in opposition to this bill it must have struck them that the opponents of the measure had to a great extent evaded this question. There had been an attempt made to show that upon other and different grounds protection was necessary, and in particular, most of the noble lords who opposed the bill had told the house that the great object of tho orn Laws was really to secure a certain supply, and to savo the empire from the great danger of depending on foreign nations for a supply of the most necessary article of national subsistence (hear). Without meaning any offence, he hoped he might be permitted to say that it was unfortunately out of his power to regard this as anything more than a colourable argument. Let him ask their fordships what they would say, supposing similar arguments under similar circum: stances were urged by others. Would those noble lords who now defended the Corn Lawsgive implicit credit to such arguments? He would suppose, for instance, that the cotton manufacturers of this country, instead of manufacturing for the whole world, manufactured for this country only. He would suppose, also, that foreign cotton manufactures were virtually excluded by high protecting duties. Now, if the cotton manufacturers of this country were to come to their fordships' house under such circumstances, and say, " Oh, do not repeal those duties, or in the event of a war the nonulation will be left without shirts and without gowns," he wanted to know whether their lordships would feel perfectly convinced that it was their disinterested alarm for the welfore of the consumers of cotton in this country which in duced them to clamour for a continuance of high protecting duties. Would their lordships consider that these representations were made out of a just regard to the interests of the consumer? He must say, therefore, that he was a little incredulous, whether that which had excited so much enthus siasm at the protectionist meetings, and had attracted such erowds to Willis's Roomy that the noble dukes on the cross benches had been obliged to divide their forces, was a mere apprehension that at some future time our supplies from abroad might fail, and that, as a convequence of that failure, prices might rise to an extravagant height. He could not help suspecting that it was rather an apprehension of having too much corn now, and too low prices at the present time, than of having at some future time too little corn, and that corn too dear. Taking the latter apprehension, however, to exist in the minds of those who advocated a Corn Law, the groundlessness of the fear had been completely established by his noble and learned friend (Lord Brougham). His noble and learned friend's reference to the undoubted fact that Sapoleon, in the height of his power, was not enabled to prevent the corn which was wanted in this country from coming into it, was conclusive on the subject. If they wanted further proof, he would refer their lordships to what had been noble friend the late His noble friend had contended, that it was one of the holdest and most laughable of paradoxes to maintain that competition did not fend to make articles cheaper. He (Earl Grey) on the other hand maintained that it was just such a paradox to assert that security for a certain and cheap supply of corn was not to be found in extending as widely as possible the sources from which supplies could be obtained, and by sweeping away artificial restrictions. Utterly rejecting then, as he did, the notion that this law was to be maintained, if it should be maintained, for any other purpose than restricting the supply and enhancing the price of corn, he would ask if this was a fair and legitimate object. His noble friend who sat behind him, had said that upon a bare calculation of the amount to which prices might be expected to fall when the Corn Laws were repealed, the existence of a Corn Law could not be considered as imposing a tax of less than 10,000,000%, sterling upon the people of this country (hear, hear). This charge was double the amount of the income-tax, and double that of the malt-tax, and it was imposed, as his noble friend justly observed, not for the purposes of the State, for not one farthing came into the Exchequer, but for the imaginary interests of a particular class. He said the imaginary interests of a class, because he really believed that the landholders themselves shared greatly in the evils which the existence of a Corn Law produced. Their lordships had been told, howover, that this statement was an unful representation of the fact, and that admitting that the price of corn was raised by a Corn Law, and admitting also that the pay-ment of a higher price for food would in itself be a burden to the working classes, still they were not really injured by the protection which was given to agriculture, because the effect of the existing law was to keep up the

wages of labour in the same proportion as it raised the price

of corn. This was the great argument used by his noble friend who spoke on Monday night. Now, it was clear that in the first instance, at all events, an increase in the price of food was a tax on the income of the working population, and therefore, before they determined to maintain the law on the ground that the labouring classes, were compensated for this tax by a corresponding rise in their wages, they ought to be very sure that this was the fact. This point however, which lay at the root of the matter, was very lightly passed over by his noble friend. His noble friend argued that if the prices of corn were reduced, weres also would be brought down, and the labouring population would be no gainers whatever by the reduction in the price of food. That vas certainly a very easy way of disposing of the question, but it was not satisfactory to hes (Earl Grey's) mind, and his noble friend had made an admission in the course of his speech which reemed to him (Eurl Grey) to lead to a directly opposite conclusion. His noble friend admitted that wages did not vary year by year with the price of corn. He said that in cheap years the labourer had no doubt a temporary advantage; and that as in dear years wages did not instantly rise in a corresponding ratio with the price of corn, he was for some time a considerable sufferer. The experience, however, which they had in the last few years was perfectly decisive on that question. He would compare the years 1833, 1831, and 1835, when corn was plentiful, with the years 1839, 1840, and 1841, when it was dear. In the first of these triennial periods trade was good, there was a great demand for labour, and waves were consequently high. In the years 1809, 1810, and 1811, trade was sinck, there was very little demand for labour, and wages were low. The condition of the country at that time was too recent, and made too great an impression, to require him to dwell upon it. There could be no doubt that the difficulties experienced in these ballyears could be easily accounted for. When corn rose to a very high price, every family throughout the kingdom was obliged to spend a larger portion of its income on food than was the case in other years. There was, therefore, less of available income for other purposes. There was less demand for clothing, less demand for tex and sugar, and less demand for manufactures. The trade of the manufacturers and the merchants fell off, and consequently there was a general diminution of their power of employing labour, and a general diminution in the power of produc tion. His noble friend admitted this to be the working of high prices for corn, and he (Earl Grey) wanted to know what ground there was for supposing that any difference would occur if high prices became permanent instead of temporary. He believed that if the price of food was permanently high the result would be the same as that produced by occasional high prices, namely, that less employment would be given, leading of course to low wages. On the contrary, if low prices prevailed, industry was better emploved there was a great demand for labour, and wages This was the conclusion which he thought they had a right to infer from simple reasoning; but the correctness of that recoming was borne out by the fact that when there lordships looked to other countries, where there was permanent plenty and a low price of food, unless there were some counteracting chemistances, wages were invariably high. A noble earl who had spoken on the other side had said that wages were not regulated by the price of food, because, although in America and Australia, where food was cheep, wages were high; yet in Poland, where food was also cheap, wages were low. Poland, however, was not a fair instance to cite, as that country was kept down by misgovernment, and the unhappy social condition of its population; but he would challenge the noble carl to mention any country in the world, beginning from Camida, to Australia, where there was a small population in propor tion to the extent of territory, and where food was cheap, and good order and good government prevailed, where wages were not also exceedingly high. This was an acknowle hed fact, and the reason why wages were to high was simply on account of the abundance of food, which obliged employers to compete for labour instead of finding that which took place in this country, where labour was compelled to compete for employment. The Corn Laws in this country indicted on each double disadvantage, for while they culnoced the price of food, they depressed the rate of wages. He observed that a noble marquis denied that conclusion, but he hoped that if there were any defect in the chain of reasoning by which he had arrived at that conclusion, it might be pointed out to him before the termination of the debate. If such, however, was really the operation of the Corn Law on the condition of the labourers, that fact in abolf ought to be conclusive. As a Christian legislature, if they we could satisfied of that fact, no other argument ought to be necessary to induce them to sweep away these restrictions altegether. When he booked at the constition of the Liboure sem this country when he say the frightful condition to which the agricultural labourer was reduced in Dorsetslane, Wilishire, and other counties - when he knew how low their remaneration was even in other more and when the Corn Law was at once to depress wages and to raise the price of food, it was of no farther use to argue the question. Taking what he assumed to be the case as true, it was of no use for noble lords to come down to the house and state at what very low praces large quantities of foreign corn might be introduced into this conney. Noble loads might excite panie and needless alarm by making such declarations; but supposing them to be right in their views upon this part of the case, though he believed them to be wrong and assuming that the price of corn would fall to the extent which they supposed, then the wrong done to the labourers was only so much the greater. While he stated this, however, he must n' the same tone say that he thought it a great evil that any such panic should be created. It was well known that, in 1812, those who were called "the farmers" friends" did the farmers very great injury by their predictions of what would take place. The farmers, many of them at least, were guiled by propheces of the great fall which would take place in the piece of meat, and they were indiced to rush to market, and get rid of their property for less than it was worth; and he believed that at this moment the country was still suffering from the effects of that pame clear, new, hear). He hoped, therefore, that no prine would be created, and he was happy to find from all the information watch had reached him, that it was not likely that any such panic would be excited. The found that hand was never better let, and never sold better than at the present moment thear, he will believed that the demand for drawing tiles was at this moment particularly active, and so great was the desire to use them that, when a kilu of draining tiles was known to be ready, there was quite a competition among the farmers of the neighbourhood to obtain them. He thought that in this the farmers and

occupiers of land showed much judgment. He believed that all the calculations which had been made of the price at which corn could be sold in this country, if protection were taken away, were made without proper data; and while upon this point he could not help adverting to a statement made by his noble friend (Lord Stauley) who spoke on Monday night, and which had been furnished to his noble friend a high practical authority. His noble friend told the house that there were two cargoes of wheat at Liverpool, which his correspondent had purchased at twenty three shillings and sixpence a qr. Now, as this statement seemed to him to be a specimen of those which had been made upon this part of the question, he would read a short extract from a letter which he had received from Liverpool:-It is perfectly true that Lord Stanley's correspondent holds two cargoes of wheat, imported from the Danube, which cost him the price named in his letter. The natural inference is, that wheat can be shipped from the Danube at 14s, per quarter, free on board. Nothing, however, could be more fallacious. The cargoes in question were ordered in 1811 from Ibrail by a house in Manchester, by whom they were sold at a loss of 10s, per quarter. The original cost was about 33s, per quarter, including freight; but (thanks to the glorious uncertainty of the sliding scale) they were too late to be released at the lowest point of duty in that year, and were sold to the said gentleman at 25s. 6d. Now, to adduce this as any evidence of the shipping prices of wheat is equally absurd and unfair. As well might railway shares, selling at 50 per cent, discount, be adduced to indicate cheapness of construction. As regards Hungary, and other countries contiguous to the Mediterranean, Lord Stanley's ideas of their capabilities of supply are a more chimera. Under 35s. per quarter, free on board, for middling qualities of wheat, I venture to say we small get no additional supply of any magnitude from that quarter. Freights thence, too, are nearly double, compared with freights from the Baltic. To return to Lord Stanley's correspondent, I may mention that he actually bought yesterday a cargo of red Wismar wheat, just arrived, at about tos, per quarter, which, allowing 10s, for duty, charges, and profit, would make it stand 55s, per quarter free. This, at all events, proves he has no great practical fears of the effects of the new measure, however potent his theoretical may Lord Stanley wished to make it appear that wheat could be imported from the Danube at 14s, per quarter; the present price is 25s., which may appear low enough; but it is wheat of the most inferior description, mixed with rye and black seeds, and not within 15s. per quarter of the value of good Dantzic wheat, besides which it often arrives so heated as to be unfit for bread" (hear, hear, hear). It appeared, therefore, that taking into consideration the risk of heating, and the quality of the corn, wheat could not be brought into this country and sold at a lower price than that which British wheat now bore in the market. He thought that the result of former predictions of the same kind ought to teach those who were interested in the hand how little reliance ought to be placed on such predictions. He would take, for instance, the case of wool. friend had said that wool was a strong case in point, and that as the price of that article was very much relied on by the Free Traders, he would show how the price had been affected by the reduction of the duty. His noble friend then took the prices of wool in the years immediately preceding the removal of the duty, and the prices of wool in the years immediately subsequent, and endeavoured in this way to show what had been the effect of a removal of protection. But what were the real facts of the case? The duty on wool was reduced just at the time of the panie in 1825. After that time the trade and commerce of the country declined considerably, and the price of wool went down like the price of other articles. For some years the price remained low, and he remembered that in 1828 there was a committee of that house moved for to consider this subject by his noble friend the noble duke (the Duke of Richmond) who sat on the cross benches. A great number of farmers were brought before that committee to show that wool was then at a ruinonsly low price. These parties proved, with great minute ness and detail, what advantages the foreign producer of wool had over the home grower, and they stated that the low prices which had already been experienced were nothing to what was coming, and that when there was Free Trade in wool, prices would fall to a ruinous extent. Parliament was wise enough to listen to those apprehensions, and what was the result of that wisdom? was that in one or two years after the alteration was carried into effect wool recovered, the price rose, the manufacture improved; and from that moment to the present wool was one of the greatest articles of agricultural production (hear, The noble duke (the Duke of Richmond), he perceived, shook his head at that statement; but he would remind the noble duke that although a good deal of wool was produced in Sussex, yet there was also a great deal of wool produced in Cumberland, so that he (Earl Grey) had an excellent opportunity of becoming acquainted facts of this case; and he could state that from 1808 up to this time wool had maintained a good price, and was higher than it had been before the removal of the duty (hear, hear). If, then, the predictions as to the loss which was to result from a free competition in the case of wool had not turned out to be true, were they not justified in supposing that the predictions as regarded the probable effects of the proposed change in the Corn Laws would be equally fullacions (hear, hear)? When the tariff was under consideration, the greatest possible apprehensions were entertained by some as to the effect which the permission to introduce foreign cattle was calculated to produce upon the price of corn. It was stated that if stock were allowed to come in from foreign countries free from duty, the effect of such an alteration would be virtually to repeal the Corn Laws, for the same agricultural produce which could be produced cheaply in foreign countries could be sent into this country in the more portable shape of fat stock. That argument would be very forcible and well founded if corn could in reality be produced so cheaply in foreign countries as those who relied on the argument presumed. If such were the case, cheap agricultural produce could indeed be introduced in the more port able shape of fat sheep and oxen. They all knew that the apprehension as to the effect of the reduction of duty on stock, as regarded agricultural produce, was quite fallacious, and had now altogether passed away. His poble friend (Lord Stanley), in his speech on Monday night, dwelt very forcibly upon the argument which had been used by some, that the present high price of cattle was owing to the tariff; and he (Earl Grey) must remark that notwithstanding the fears which were entertained, four years' experience of the tariff had altogether disproved the assertion that the introduction of foreign cattle would have the effect of lowering the price of cuttle the produce of our

own country. If it were capable of producing any such tendency, it might have produced it at the end of four year at least to some extent; and jet within the last year the supply of cattle from abroad was not sufficient to check the tendency to a rise in price which prevailed in our one markets, whilst the few thousand head of cattle expended from Germany had produced a sensible effect upon the markets of that country, so that in many of the German towns the price of the fut stock was within a small degree a. high as in this country. Similar apprehensions had been indulged in with respect to the reduction of the duty upon flax; and, in fact, of all the important articles of agricultural produce which were included in the tariff. But although thax was more valuable in proportion to its bulk than com yet subsequent experience had proved that the Brind growers of flax had no just cause of fear from foreign com petition. His noble friend (Lord Stanley) had asked those who were in favour of the removal of restriction on the unportation of corn, what advantage would come of it, if, as they stated, it would not considerably reduce the price of bread? His noble friend thought on that occasion that he had reduced the advocates of Free Trade in corn to a dilemma from which they could not escape. It seemed rather a probable argument in the beginning, but if they looked closely to it what became of it? It was quite fall. cions. For his part, he (Earl Grey) did not assert that there would be a great fall in the price of corn, and he was one of the advocates for the removal of restriction. He did not think it would cause as low a price as 30s, per quarte, which they all had witnessed in the last week of December, 1835, nor did be think it would produce as high a price as 81s. 6d., which corn had reached, as their lordships would recollect, in the week anding the 11th of January, 183 But this he expected, that whilst neither that high price or that low price would be the natural result of the alteration in the law, an average price would be produced by it, but not greatly lower than the average of the last twelve years and that the price of corn would invariably fluctuate within narrower limits than it does under the present system. The fact of its fluctuating less would be in itself a most important advantage, for it would be admitted on all hands that great benefit would arise from a more steady prise. One of the greatest advantages which a civilized comm could possess over barbarous countries was its power of preventing those great variations in supply which barbarous countries were apt to suffer from, the latter having at one time a superabundant supply of the necessaries of life, and suffering the utmost distress at another period from a deficient supply of food (hear, hear). Civilized countries, by the natural operations of commerce, enjoyed very great advantages as regarded the steadiness of supply. By those natural operations of commerce, mercantile men, for their own interest, would buy corn in cheap years for the purpose of selling it in dear years; and according to this beautiful system, if it were not interfered with by law, the prices would be to a great extent regulated, the alterations would be checked, and the suffering which must result from an insufficient supply would be removed without injury to any class (cherrs). The wholesome operation of this system we had prevented by our own interference, by the operation of an artificial law. It appeared from evidence before the agricultural committee of 1836, that at a former period, when a different state of the law rendered dealing in comless buzardous than it is at present, there was usually in this country a stock on hand of six months' consumption; but such had been the effect of the law of 1815, in rea dering the corn trade hazardous, that the usual stock on hand now at the same period of the year was a fortnight's consumption. What had caused that? It was caused by a law which rendered the trade in corn a sen of gambling transaction (hear, hear). His noble friend had stated that some of the agricultural distress which was complained of under the operation of a system of protection was to be referred to abundant crops in particular years, and the consequent effect upon prices. was it that farmers had exerted themselves to such an extent as to exceed the demand that would be It was because high prices had been artificially stimulated, and excess of consumption thus became a cause of agricultural distress. So long as the country depended on its own supply there must be a chance of agricultural ditress; but if the supply were more regular, if a steady trade were established in corn, then in cheap years the freight of corn from foreign ports would be much higher in compan son to the price of corn than it would be in dearer years, and therefore, there being less inducement to exportation from foreign ports in those years, there would be the greater in ducement in the home market to take our home produce in stead of foreign corn, so that under such a system the farmer would be compensated for the full in price by the greatersale of corn than usual; for he (Earl Grey) would not go the length of saying that corn would not be cheaper in years of abundance, even after this measure was carried (hear, hear). Another advantage, and one of, in fact, incalculable imporance, would be, that there would be an immense increase to the consumption of corn on the part of the people of this country; for no one would, he was sure, deny that a portion of our population consume at present much less corn than it was desirable that they should consume (hear, hear; Every one would admit that the labourers of Wiltshire and Dorsetshire, who at present consume more potatoes and less bread than it was desirable they should consume, would be benefited by being enabled to consume a greater quantity of food than they consume under the existing law (heathear). He knew that one gentleman, who advocated the Corn Laws, had stated that millions rejoiced in potatoes; but he (Earl Grey) believed that they would rejoice more in the substitution of a description of food mainly composed of corn (hear, hear). He (Earl Grey) was of opinion, notwithstand ing that statement, that those millions would rejoice far more in a food consisting more of bread and less of inferior articles of consumption, than that which they can under ex isting circumstances obtain. He had described some of the advantages which were to be expected from a Free Trade in corn. A steady trade, which it was calculated to produce. would secure constant employment to the manufacturer; and those engaged in manufactures would thus become greater consumers of corn and cattle than they are at present. And what would be the effect of that increased consumption of articles of agricultural produce? The effect would be, that an impulse would be given to the farmers to produce more cattle than they do now; and he need not tell their lordships that the foundation of every attempt to inprove agriculture was to enable the farmer to keep a larger amount of stock, and that if the farmer had encourage to keep more stock, he could produce corn cheaper than.
The direct effect, therefore, of this increased demand which he to cause against the stock of the stock o be to cause agricultural improvement, and he believed

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agriculture-which might now be regarded as almost in its infancy-would, under these improved and favourable circumstances, advance with a rapidity of which we had now but halle notion (cheers). This was one of the advantages which he anticipated from the proposed alteration in the law, and it was an advantage which, he was convinced. could be obtained without any sweeping away of tenantry, such as had been described by the noble duke (Richmond) on Monday (cries of "hear, hear"). He (Earl Grey) should be as sorry as the noble duke to witness any such sweeping change in the tenantry of the country as the noble duke anticipated from this measure, if carried into effect; but he felt that no such change would be required, for the farmers were disposed to improve the cultivation, and, as his noble friend had remarked, the effect of foreign competition could only be felt by degrees. The cultivation could therefore be improved and extended to meet that foreign competition. His noble friend had said that some time would clapse before the foreign competition could come into effect; but he (Earl Grey) thought it rather an advantage that the progress of the competition should be gradual, and that the increased cultivation abroad for this market should be accompanied by an increased cultivation at home-a cultivation which would have all the benefit of the skill and energy of our farmers (hear, hear). Amongst the causes which would operate to improve our agriculture, he would mention a change in the law to facilitate the conveyance of landed property as one that was calculated to do a great amount of good if carried into effect. Under those circumstances he was of opinion that the removal of protection would afford the strongest possible encouragement to improved farming, and increased production; and their lordships were all aware, from their acquaintance with the subject of the cultivation of land, that improved farming implied more employment to labour (hear, hear, hear)—that by higher farming the employment of more hands on the land, and their employment more continuously, were necessarily implied (hear, hear, hear). Part of the evidence before a committee moved for by a noble friend of his was to the effect that the farmers in the south of England were obliged, in order to keep down the poor rates, to employ more hands on their land than under other circumstances they would be inclined to do, but he (Earl Grey) would undertake to say that there was no farm in England on which every man now employed-aye, and more than were now employed-might not be employed with profit and advantage, with a better demand for agricultural produce (loud cheers). [A noble lord remarked that the increased em-ployment would require increased capital.] All that was required in order to make capital flow towards the improvement of the land was to remove the uncertainty caused by the present system of protection (cheers). It appeared to him that any one who soberly and deliberately considered the subject, would see that the effect of the measure now before them would not be to throw land in this country out of cultivation (hear, hear). He was so far from supposing the effect of the measure would be to throw land out of cultivation, that he thought they might date a new progress in the cultivation of land from the removal of protection (loud cheers). Another anticipation which had been indulged in as regarded the probable effects of the measure, was a fall of rent, and that too was an anticipation which he did not ex pect to see realised. What was it, he would ask, to which they owed the value of landed property in this country? There was infinitely better land than 50 out of every 100 portions of this country in the prairies and wilds of America. which might be bought at 2s. 6d. an acre; and what was it which made our land, that was so much less fertile, so much superior in value to that land in America (hear, hear, hear)? It was the existence in this country of a large, an industrious, and a rich population (hear, and cheecs). That and that only it was which gave value to the handed property in this country, and it was only consistent with common reason to suppose that anything which went to increase the national wealth, and develope the national industry, and increase the prosperity of the realm, would also increase the value of landed property (hear, hear, and cheers). His noble friend (Lord Stanley), in his speech on Monday night, adduced the case of Ireland, which being an exporting instead of an importing country, would necessarily suffer a great deal from the proposed measure. He (Earl Grey) could show their lordships that no part of the United Kingdom would gain so largely from the passing of this law as the sister kingdom; but he had already gone so largely into the question that he would not enter upon the subject of its probable effect upon Ireland at that stage of the bill, and he would now direct the attention of their lordships to another point, which had been dwelt upon very forcibly by his noble friend on Monday night. The noble lord produced a great impression on the house by describing the effect which this measure would be likely to create upon the condition of our colonies and upon our interests as connected with the maintenance of our colonial and he (Earl Grey) was so impressed with the high value which ought to be laid on the preservation of our colonial empire, that he believed if this law would shake the security eat importance. of that empire, or its connection with the mother country, it would deserve the gravest consideration before they agreed to repeal the present system of protection. He, however, entertained unhesitatingly the conviction that, so far from being a disadvantage to the colonies—so far from having a lendency to weaken the ties which unite them to us, the adoption, in the largest sense and in the most complete manner, of the principles of commercial freedom, was the policy of all others, which was best calculated to strengthen those ties (loud cheers). His noble friend had asked, that if the colonists were told that they were no more to this country than Frenchmen or Dutchmen, what inducement would they have to wish to be united to this country? To that he (Earl Grey) would answer, that his noble friend should recollect that by this measure it was not proposed to apply the principle of the removal of restriction to the colonies exclusively, but it was merely intended to apply to them a principle which we proposed to apply to ourselves (hear, hear). Would any one say that Cumberland and Yorkshire would be treated hadly by this measure because we did not leave them a protective duty (hear, hear)? If our own counties, then, were to be treated in the same manner by this bill as the colonies, then the colonies had no reason to complain. He could understand how some persons in the old country, where there was a great competition for employment, could be induced to take a narrow view of the subject, and thus he could see how it was that many persons had been induced to form the opinion that protection was an advantage, and that it was not wise to let in foreign goods to compete with our home market, but with respect to the colories there was no enord difficulty as that competition for employment (hear). On the contrary, in every one of

our own colonies, the great difficulty was to find sufficient labour to develope fully its natural resources; and if the effect of the proposed system should be to divert labour in the colonies to its natural and most productive channels, instend of to artificial and unproductive channels, there could be no doubt that it would be an advantage to our colonies (hear, hear). Could any one doubt that Caunda was poorer now than she would have been if there never had been a protective duty in favour of her timber (hear, hear)? If, instead of letting into our markets had timber, when we could have had good, we had never adopted that system, Canada would be better off; and the same principle would apply to all our colonies. The colonies had received no advantage from protecting duties, whilst in many cases those duties had been directly injurious to them. The West Indies had suffered from not having been allowed to get their necessaries in the cheapest market, or to send their supplies in the cheapest form to this country. They gained nothing by protection, and as regarded the effect of commercial dependence in strengthening the ties between the colonies and this country, he would put it to their lordships whether the system of commercial dependence had in reality strengthened the ties between the colonies and the mother country. Did they not all know that jealousy, arising from that commercial dependence, had produced that American war, which ended in the loss of those extensive colonies to the Crown of this country (hear, hear)? He would not say that in their present state of importance those states would have been kept in dependence on the British Crown; but they might have parted from us in a different manner, and without leaving any feeling of jealousy towards the mother country, if it had not been for commercial dependence (hear, hear, and laughter). He was rather surprised that his noble friend, in the course of his speech, touched on the colonies for an illustration; for he thought that the principle with respect to trade which he had adopted towards the colonies was not, to say the least of it, very fortunate. Under that policy the corn of Canada was allowed into this country at a nominal duty, whilst that advantage was not given to any other colony. That advantage had been given to Canada almost avowedly because it had been recently in a state of rebellion, but it was refused to those which had been always obedient and loyal (hear, hear, and cheers); and he (Earl Grey) thought that such a course of policy was calculated to excite a spirit of disaffection (hear, hear). His noble friend asked, if we were to have no advantage in the markets of the colonies, of what use were they to us? He would be permitted to say that such a mode of argument was rather defective. It was those who defended protection who were to prove that it was good; but how did they prove it? They said that if they did not keep up protection they would lose the colonies. They said they kept the colonies by a protective duty, and they then turned round and said, if they did not keep up protection, of what use were the colonies ! That was a specimen of what was called arguing in a circle. He believed that the connection between the colonies and the mother country was a mutual advantage, requiring no such support to maintain it. In our colonial empire we possessed friends and allies in every quarter of the globewe had thus a large population in various parts of the world, possessing great natural resources, united heart and soul with us, ready to take part with us in all our conflicts—and thus we maintained in each possession a garrison of the cheanest kind, whilst they gloried in the security of being an integral part of the greatest and most enlightened, and most civilised nation upon the face of the carth (hear, hear, and cheers). They gloried-and he knew that they felt it as a glory in calling themselves British subjects, and in having their interests and rights protected by the power of this country, which was ready to be called forth to maintain their interests when it was required (hear). He believed that if they pursued a liberal policy in other respects towards the colonies, by extending to them the dearest rights of Englishmen, the privilege of self-govern ment, and not needlessly interfering in their domestic concerns—that if they adopted a sound policy, politically as well as commercially, they would bind them with a chain which no power on earth could break. His noble friend told their lordships that this country had encouraged Canada to expend large sums of money in the improvement of their navigation, and that we had encouraged Canada to impose a duty on wheat from the United States; he said that this had been done on the faith of the Corn Law, and he asked would it not be unjust to the Canadians to alter that law on the faith of which they had acted? His noble friend described the route for commerce by Canada, and through the United States, and after detailing the effects which he anti puted from this measure, he asked what chance would the Canadians have to compete with the United States if this law were carried? The noble lord continued: Now I want to know what are the feelings of the Canadians themselves upon the subject, for surely that is an important point (hear, Mly noble triend says "hear, hear." Now hold in my hand a newspaper containing a report of the debates in the Canadian Assembly, which I will presently read. Her Majesty's Government, when they determined on repealing the existing Corn Laws, addressed the Canadian Legislature, saying that they were at liberty to repeal the duty of 3s. a quarter on American wheat, which at our instigntion they had imposed (cries of "hear, hear"). Accordingly a measure for the repeal of that duty was submitted to the Canadian senate, on which occasion it happened that a motion for reporting progress was carried, and that was assumed to be a declaration on the part of the Canadian Assembly that they were altogether hostile to the measures of the Government. What, however, was the fact? It seems that that amendment was carried, almost under a misapprehension, from the parties not exactly understanding the effect of the vote; for a few days afterwards, when the consideration of the subject was resumed, and a vote was to be taken, the result was very different. I have read the specches on the subject, and instead of finding them characterised by a tone of despondency—instead of crying out against the injustice of this country—instead of lamenting the ruin to which they were to be liable, the utter destruction of their great public works, and of their commercial interests, I am happy to say that, by the majority of that as-sembly, language far more manly and more creditable was held. They say, "As England will no longer give us pro-tection, let us see if we can't do without it; and as the first step, let us repeal this duty on American corn. We can grow corn cheaper than America" (hear, hear). One gentleman says that he has been over to Buffulo, and that he finds corn there always 3d. or 6d. per bushel dearer than he can afford to give in Upper Canada. Another says, "Our public works were never in a more promising state, and when they are completed we shall enter with great advantage into competition with America. The locks upon

the Eric canal are much more numerous and more expensive in working than those upon the St. Lawrence, We can then not only carry our own corn, but the corn of the western states through the St. Lawrence, cheaper than the Americans can carry it by the Erfe canal" (hear, hear, hear). When they came to divide upon the question, I find those who are in favour of repealing the duty, who have no fear in the success of Canadian energy and Canadian enterprise in opposition to American are in a majority of 45 to 27. The resolutions were carried by that majority, and the Canadian assembly determined on admitting American corn for passage through their country to England (hear, hear). But, my lords, my noble friend said something more. My noble friend said that this was treatment so unjust to the Canadas, that he thought it was calculated to shake their feeling of loyalty to the British Crown. I confess I heard that language with great regret; because I think he prophesied a diminution in the strength of those ties which now unite the people of Canada to ourselves in such a manner as almost to imply that they would be justified in disregarding our claims upon their loyalty (hear, hear). But, my lords, in the same week in which the 'amadian assembly had been discussing the effect which the change of our commercial policy would produce, a militia bill is brought under their consideration, and with your permission I will read to the house a passage from a Canadian newspaper, containing a summary of what passed on that occasion: - Dr. Tuche made an admirable speech—temperate, argumentative, and well timed. No appeal was made to party feeling, no attempt to enlist sectional prejudice. It was a speech which will raise the character of the honourable gentleman immeasurably in the opinion of all who heard him. It would be well for Canada if such addresses were more frequent—if measures of such importance were always taken up in the calm, deliberate manner that this has been, and with a disposition on both sides of the house in endeavouring to make a perfect measure. After stating the objections which he had to certain clauses. Dr. Tuche concluded by suggesting that the bill should be referred to a special committee,-Mr. Lafontaine followed and treated the question in the same admirable spirit; be agreed in the suggestion of Dr. Taché, and Loped it would be complied with; he assured the Attorney-General that every aid which could be given by that side of the house would be freely afforded to perfect a measure of such importance to the country. - Mr. Draper, after some remarks from other members, moved to refer the house to a select committee, which was carried unanimously. -Thus the bill, which has been looked upon as one over which the great battle of the session was to be fought, has virtually passed through the house without an angry word. We congratulate the country on the event of her evening; the members on the Opposition benches acted in a manner which did them honour, and entitles them to the thanks of the country. We feel convinced that the conduct of the Prench Canadian members has done very much to create a better feeling between them and their fellow colonists of British origin. No man who saw the demonstration of last evening could feel a doubt, that in case of need, they would be found shoulder to shoulder with the Anglo-Saxon in defence of our territory and the honour of the British crown." These are the effects of our commercial policy in weakening the ties between the two countries (hear, hear). The result then, my lords, of these considerations is in my mind sufficient to prove that the passing of the bill now before your lordships is imperatively required in justice to the great mass of the people of this country; whilst it also proves that by adopting that course we run no risk of inflicting the slightest injury or any interest, either colonial or domestic (hear, hear). believe that none of the great interests of the empire will be exposed to the slightest risk by passing this bill; but on the other hand. I believe that by rejecting it you will run scrious bazards, and incur great responsibilities. I would remind the noble duke (the Duke of Richmond) that at an early part of this evening, when the petition of the merchants of the city of London was presented by the noble earl, he asked a very significant question, "How many of the signers of that petition are holders of bonded corn?" Do you not think that we all know the innendo conveyed by the question Thear, hear)? But I wish to ask whether, if we reject this bill, my noble friend's example will not lead those who think themselves injured by this bill to ask how many of your lordships are owners of land. I do not believe that consciously any of your lordships are actuated by personal motives; but after what has been said by my noble friend, I believe that when you impute to others interested motives, interested motives will in their turn be imputed to you (hear, hear). And I believe though you are not yourselves conscious of it, yet that unconsciously you are influenced in your decisions by the effect which you believe this bill will have on the interests of the owners of hand; it is not in human nature that it should be otherwise And, though I admit that the moble duke was justified in putting the question which he did, yet I ask what effect will be produced on the public mind if we, an assembly of land-owners, reject this bill, the more especially after the manner in which it has come up to us from the lower house (hear, hear, hear). My lords, I trust before you take a course which seems to me so full of danger that you will reflect a little on what the practical consequences of this measure will be. As men of judgment and experience I am sure you will not act with the view of gratifying mere passion or temper; that you will not inquire into the changes of the Minister who has introduced it; but that you will consider before rejecting this bill, what practical advantages to yourselves and to the nation will result from your adopting such a course (hear, hear). What are those supposed advantages? Do you believe that you can maintain per-manently the existing Corn Law ? Tooking at the events of the last few years, I ask, will any one of the three noble dukes, now on the cross benches, say they believe it possible that by any combination of circumstances the existing Corn Law can be much longer maintained? [An affirmative "hear, hear" from the Duke of Richmond, the Duke of Cleveland, and the Duke of Buckingham, and general laughter.) I think my noble friends stand nearly alone in that opinion ("No, no," from several noble lords). I can only say that the noble earl who spoke on Tuesday with great animation, and at great length on this subject, stated that he for one did not look to the permanent defeat of the proposed measure. He expects that some olteration of the Corn Laws will be carried. All he looked for was what he called giving the country "breathing time" (hear). If by giving the country "breathing time" it is meant that we should allow an interval for reflection, that an appeal should be made to the county, I confess that that seems to me one of the greatest missortunes that dots! happen. A dissolution of Parliament at this exciting time—

town arrayed against county-the angry passions that will be excited -the suspension of industry and trade-the absolute paralysation of all the enterprise of the country that must exist during that mighty contest -are all these, the inevitable consequence of a dissolution, to be desired, if after all the result is still to be the passing of this bill (hear, hear)? The result, however, would not be precisely the same, for I believe the consequence would be the passing of a bill for the immediate and entire repeal of all duties. But we are not to look to maintain ing permanently the existing Corn Law; let me ask the noble lords whether they do really believe that by throwing out this bill they could obtain anything of a compromise, on the principle of a fixed duty for example, which I know has been thought of? My noble friend the other evening threw out many hints in order to catch the parties who are in favour of that measure, and my noble friend said it would be inconsistent for those who had before supported a fixed duty to vote for the pre ent bill. I disagree with my noble friend; I have myself support a fixed duty. In 1812 I thought that a fixed duty would, on the whole, be the best settlement of the question that could then be proposed, and I then urged its adoption; but not with a view to protection, for I have uniformly, and on every occasion, objected to the whole principle of what is called protection. At that time, however, I thought that a moderate fixed duty was advisable for one reason, because I thought it would produce a little perceptible effect on the price of corn, whilst it would afford a considerable revenue; but chiefly I thought it advisable because I regarded it as a reasonable compromise, because I believed that it would give us, some years sooner than we could hope to obtain it by other means, the practical advantages which I saw from Free Trade, and that it would avert the great and most injurious struggle which I foresaw. But, even at that time, when I was advocating a fixed duty, I took the liberty of warning those gentlemen who were then supporting the Government that they were supporting a measure which must necessarily lead at no very distant day to entire Free Trade. I told them that if they desired a fixed duty the days and hours when a fixed duty could be accepted were rapidly passing away that they must close with the offer as it was made, for that if that measure were not quickly conceded, such a settlement would in my opinion be impracticable (hear, hear). That articipation was correct. If you had passed a moderate fixed duty in 1812, it would have been accepted by the country; but I am firmly persuaded that if Parlia ment were to pass such a measure now, the country would not be satisfied. Agitation would still continue; and, as one deeply interested in land, there is nothing which I should so much deprecate as the legislature now sanctioning a meacure for a fixed duty. The consequence would be a continuntion for some years longer of the agitation which has of late been going on, and which, I believe, of all things is most deeply detrimental to the landed interest (hear, hear). But even if such a measure were likely to be accepted by the country, let me ask how is it to pass through Parliament? By what party can a measure for a fixed duty now be carriel? Certainly not by the existing Government, for we know that they pledged themselves within the last week or two to consent to nothing of the kind. The whole tone of their declaration has been that a fixed duty is perfectly out of the question sthat protection might be right, but that the alternative was between protection, as it then existed, and Free Trade - that to make corn the subject of mere taxation, to impose a duty on food for mere purposes of revenue, was a proposition to which they never would assent (hear, hear). Then the great party who is opposed to them, will they do it? My noble friend, who with such distinguished ability conducts that party in the other. House of Parliament has publicly declared that in December last he was prepared to form a Government on the principle of the immediate and complete repeal of the Corn Laws. Can be, then, and those connected with him, take up a measure, after that declaration, which has been rejected by the present Government as not going sufficiently far? We all know that my noble friend is the last man in the world to listen to such a suggestion (cheers). To expect him to come forward and propose a measure for a fixed duty now is altogether irrational and im-probable (hear, hear). Then there is a third party, as they call themselves at least. There is my noble friend who made so cloquent a speech on Monday night, and the noble duke on the cross bench sare they prepared to form a Government and to propose that measure? I should think, after the very severe language which they have held in the course of the last few weeks on the subject of inconsistency, deserting pledges, eating words, and so on, that they would be the last persons so to come forward; and but last year the most prominent members of that party declared that they never would consent to the that Free Trade itself even was a less abomination in their eves (cheers). Then there is nobody to propose it, and I really think that all idea of a fixed duty adopted at the proper time, and at the proper season, it would not have been a bal settlement of the question; but that time and that season having passed, you must decide between maintaining the law as it now stands, or the more compiete measure of reform which is opposed to it (hear, hear). My noble friend (Leid Stanley) on Monday night warned us against the dangers of concession, and referred to ulterior measures which a speaker had alluded to at a Lengue meeting.

Lord KINNAIRD: It was not a meeting of the League. Farl GRLY continued: I am reminded that it was not a meeting of the League: whether it was or not is quite immaterial. I believe no man will attempt to defend all the speeches which have been made by all the members of the Ann Corn Law Leagne. For my own part, I should cer tainly be very sorry to do so. I quite agree that the speech In question was a most absurd speech, and that the speaker referred to most vicious measures-to measures which, I trust, will never receive the sanction of Parliament (cheers) I am also prepared to admit that the existence of the Anti-Corn-Law I cague is a very great evil. I say it is a great evil —but let me not be misunderstood. Do not suppose that I mean to throw any blame on those individuals who are at the head of that body, for I have no hesitation in saying, however the declaration may be received in this house, that, in my opinion, this country owes a debt of gratitude to the leaders of that body, and more especially to Mr. Colden thear, hear). I say that to him, to his genius and to his indefatigable energy and perseverance -- not to Sir R. Peel, not to that party in Parliament with which I have the honour of being connected, but to my honourable friend, Mr. Cobden, are we indebted for the achievement of what I believe to be one of the most important measures with reference to the future welfare of the British people which ever questions in the other House of Parliament, in favour received the sanction of Parliament (hear, hear). To him of a very timid application of Free Trade principles,

we should feel indebted. He has achieved this triumph by means altogether unexceptionable. There has been no appeal to physical force, no threatening displays of great multitudes of persons collected together. (A noble lord: Because he couldn't get them.) The noble lord says "because he couldn't get them." I attribute it, however, to a different cause. I believe it was because Mr. Cobden thought, and thought justly, that the proper way of acting on the opinion of Parliament was through the opinion of the nation. All his efforts have hear called a lord of the nation. the nation. All his efforts have been addressed towards converting the opinion of the nation-towards teaching both farmers and manufacturers what the real interests of the community upon this subject were; and, my lords, considering the time in which this great change of opinion was attempted, I must say that his success appears to me almost miraculous (hear, hear). But still I say that the existence of the Anti Corn-Law League is an evil; and I believe if you were to ask Mr. Cobden himself, he would tell you that he was of the same opinion. It is an evil, because such a body never can exist unless it is created by a strong feeling amongst a large proportion of the people that wrong and injury are being inflicted on them (hear, hear). It is, I believe, only a monster grievance which could have created such a formidable organisation as the Anti-Corn-Law League. But I agree with my noble friend (Lord Stanley) that, once created, the redress of the grievances complained of will not destroy in all quarters the desire to maintain that organisation. The noble lord, with the happy language peculiar to himself, said that the cup of political power was too sweet when once tasted to be readily relinquished. That is perfectly true, and no doubt there will be a great anxiety amongst many members of that body to keep up their formidable organisation, and to apply their powers to the carrying of other measures. It is consistent with all past experience that such should be the case. But what, let me ask you, is the inference you ought to draw from that consideration? Is it that you should keep up the grievance which has created that formidable power until the present sense of wrong, aggravated by disappointment, forces concession from you? The inference which I draw, may lords, on the contrary, is, that you ought with the least possible delay to repeal this law; and I may observe, in passing, that one great objection which I entertain to a por tion of this bill is on account of the delay in adopting it and if in accordance with the forms of Parliament we had the power of amending bills of this nature, I should certainly have liked to have altered the three years' provision; for that "rag of protection," as it was aptly termed the other evening, is only calculated to afford an excuse for those who wish to keep up the Anti-Corn-Law Lengue—a power which, if kept up, it is not impossible we may see directed to other and more dangerous purposes (hear, hear, hear). My noble friend (Lord Stanley), in the course of his speech on Monday, went on to say, that if we consented to pass this measure, we must be content in future to be regarded as a subordinate part of the constitution-as the registrars of the edicts of the House of Commons. But my noble friend went on in the same breath to describe, in most beautiful and glowing language, the real purpose of this house. "My lords," he said, " if I know anything of the constitution and the value of this house, it is that it should interpose a wholesome and salutary obstacle to rash and inconsiderate legislation. It is to protect the people against the consequences of their own imprudence. It is not, my lords, it never has been, and never should be, to resist the expression of continued and deliberately formed public opinion—to that your lordships have always, and I trust always will, bow; but it is yours to check the progress of hasty and irreparable legislation." In those words my noble friend, with his In those words my noble friend, with his usual happiness of expression, detailed most accurately our proper place in the constitution of the country. As he told you, it is our office to check the progress of hasty and irreparable legislation, but not to oppose ourselves to continued and deliberately formed public opinion Chear). It is therefore of the deepest importance that we should discriminate between the cases. That we should distinguish accurately when the desire of the country for a change in the law does proceed from a hasty and inconsiderate passion for alteration, and when it rests on a continued and deliberately-formed opinion. It is of the deepest importance that we should accurately distinguish between these two cases, because if we make a mistake, if under the notion that we are opposing hasty legislation we do set ourselves against deliberately formed and rational opinion, it is perfectly clear we must give way, and that by so giving way we seriously stake and impair our proper authority and power in those cases in which they really may be exercised with advantage to the country and to the constitution. In this case, then, it is your duty to determine whether the desire of the people, as represented by the votes of the House of Commons, is founded on a deliberately formed opinion, or whether it is the cry of hasty and inconsiderate legislation. Let me ask you, what are the symptoms by which we are to judge? Let me remind you, in order that you may form an opinion on this point, which lies at the very bottom of the decision which you are this night to come to-let me remind you what are the symptoms which lead to the inference that the desire of the nation rests on a continued and deliberately-formed opinion. I will remind you, then, that the principles on which this bill was formed were first brought under the consideration of the public so long as eighty years ago, when the first edition of Dr. Adam Smith's immortal work was published, in which he laid down, with a force of reasoning which the experience of succeeding years has fully justified, that, it was wise and just to emancipate commerce from all artificial restrictions. It was not long in working conviction in the minds of all theoretical men; every political philosopher in every quarter of the globe was soon found adhering to that principle; but it was long before those engaged in the practical effurs of life would concede itbefore practical statesmen and manufacturers and farmers would consent to admit the validity of the doctrines of Adam Smith. But at length they did begin to yield-the autho rity of those maxims of commercial wisdom: which had long been received as infallible by philosophers in their closets, began also to be recognised in the councils of the nation; at first in a hesitating and timid manner, but still a silent and gradual advance was being made to their consummation. As discussion went on, as the good effects were experienced of the partial measures which had been founded on those principles, more and more converts came over (cheers). In Parliament and in the country, every succeeding year showed an increase of strength to that great cause of truth and of reason (hear). In my own recollection of political life how vast are the changes which I have seen on this subject! Nineteen years ago, when I first voted on these

I have voted in very small minorities; in minorities as small as 15, and never, I think, greatly exceeding of; whilst those who were for out and out protection, who tesisted the Corn Law of 1828 almost as strongly as the proposed measure is now resisted, doubled us and trebled us prothe divisions, so powerful was the extreme agricultural party in that day. We now see that year by year, from that fine to the present, the strength of the party in favour of the bolder and bolder application of the principles of Fire Trade has been gradually increasing; and in the last f w years, though we have still had large numerical majore. arrayed against us in divisions, yet no man who attended to the debates in the other House of Parliament, Eq. 163 1 who looked at the signs from which to judge of other menk feelings, could have failed to foresee symptoms of the rapid approach of that event which has now arrived. Our opponents spoke in the tone of men who felt conscious of defeat, like men who felt that their struggle could no longer be maintained; and last of all we see her Majesty Ministers themselves coming forward and imanfully grow. ing a complete change in their own opinions, a complete adherence to the doctrines of Free Trade (hear). Severely as they have been censured, I, my lords, give them crede for that avowal. I have no doubt it is is a sincere and an honest avowal (hear, hear). There is no reason why a should be otherwise. Their party interest and their per sonal feelings would have led them, consistently with their sense of public duty, to have maintained their former opinions; and when I find them unable to do so, it is, I say indeed a strong proof of the irresistible current of public opinion (hear, hear). You may say the reasons that they have assigned for the change are altogether inadequate, that the potato famine is a delusion, and that there is nothing in the state of affairs to justify such a measure. You may say the arguments which they use are precisely the same grounments which they themselves had so often combattad. $|V_{\rm til}|$ may say all this, but I do not think you will inquire what were the motives which led those gentlemen to hold other opinions on former debates. I do not wish to inquire when ther it was a want of foresight or a want of moral countries to avow opinions which, though unnopular, made them in 1839 and 1841 still the advocates of protection. Winterer opinions we may form upon this point, it is impossible and rational man can doubt that the change which they less now avowed is sincere (cheers)-and that they feel the repeal of the existing Corn Laws to be required by the best interests of the country (renewed cheers). And I say their adopting that opinion, their coming forward to advocate it, and their sacrifices for it, is a convincing and a striking proof of what is the state of public opinion or this question. Out of doors are precisely the same symptoms (hear, hear). Do we not remember that out of doors at one time the merchants and manufacturers of this coeftry were as strongly in favour of protection as the agricul turists are at this day? Were they not the main on ginators of the whole protective policy (hear, hear, hear; They, I believe, are perfectly willing to admit the fact. This great mistake in our national policy is far more attributable to the mercantile and manufacturing interests than the agricultural, and when I first came into public life this was the general state of public opinion. I remember Mr. Haskisson being regarded as a public enemy in the great sea port towns in the north of England, and the repeal of the discriminating duties on foreign shipping being considered as someting like treason to the best interests of the country. From those very towns, in the present session of Parliament, I have presented petitions praying your lordships not only to pass this bill, but to abolish all protective duties whatever (clicers). Such, my lords, are the symptoms of the desire of the nation for the repeal of the Corn Laws, and it is not a desire for rash and limity legislation, but it is the coni nued, the deliberately formed, and the rationally express d public judgment (cheers). These measures, I say, are the symptoms of it, and public opinion being so, it is not ac cording to my noble friend's own admission, wise in this house to disregard it (hear). My lords, that you will not disregard it, and that you will pass this bill by an overwhelming majority, is no less my firm and confident expectation than it is my fervent and carnest hope (cheers).

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER BY ELIHUBURART TO A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

Worcester, Mass., U. S., April 27, 1846. May heaven, and all who hope for heaven, bless you and Brotherton for lifting up your voice in the House of Commons against the upreaching blasphens of war, when the vote of thanks to the army of India was moved. There was more of true courage and heroism in that act than in all the deeds of violence that have reddened the plains of India this year. And a new heroic age has opened upon humanity, in very deed, when the spirit, not the sign, of the cross must create a new order of knighthood, which shall perform such deeds of Christian chivalry over the sepulchre of the gospel of peace, as to rescue it from the Saracen selfishness and sophistry which have sought to stain its love-breathing leaves with human blood, and put its message-trumpet into the iron lips of war. Is it too much to suppose that no songs sung on earth are such music to Satan's ear as the Te Deums performed in Christian churches for victories on the battle-field? It seems to me that he would delight to pitch the tune of such songs with his hellfork every day in the year; for his kingdom will prevail in the hearts of men so long as he can induce Christians to ascribe the glory and success of war to God, rather than to the devil. Had the devil been burnt in effigy at the end of every battle as the instigator of the butchery on both sides. and the throne of (fod left intact by the bloody-handed ablutions of professing Christians, that great deified cannibal, War, would have long ago been exterminated from the abodes of men. O, what a terrible libel on the God of lave and Father of mankind to ascribe the issue of these Indian battles, or any other waged on earth, to His presence and and spirit!

I long to see the day when the statesmen of your country and mine shall apprehend the destiny of the Anglo-Baxon race as indicated by Divine Providence; when they shall see clearly that that race is one people in the most social elements of unity; and that they are set apart from all other nations as God's peculiar people, in which all other tribes of men will not only be blessed, but absorbed; that they are to fill the whole earth with the light of Christianity and circlisation; to fuse mankind into one race and brotherhood, until all the inhabitants of the earth shall speak the Escalish language. When they shall fully perceive this, know that the consummation of this glorious defining pends upon their dwelling together in unity, his laborate

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together in unity, surely they will never let the idea of war enter their hearts. War between the two countries thus rehied to each other, to God, and humanity! As well, far better, might the Siamese Twins talk of going to war with each other, when the death of one would destroy the surafter! The ligament that binds us together is more vital than the one connecting that singular pair of human beings. The rest of the race would bleed out of its inmost heart, if cal two nations should lift up the sword against each other. Banished for ever be the thought of war between us, for we are latethren. There is room enough, and to spare, and to fill, for us all. The whole continent of lumanity must be Sarmised, and not an English or an American life can be swrifted for territory. When FREE TRADE shall be ashered in to sweep from the face of the earth the prountainous ranges of prejudice and nationality, which have made enemies of nations, there will be no questions of disputed territories to embitter them; no narrow-minded policy to feed international jealousy, or don the currents of fraternal and commercial intercourse. The smallest nation may then say, "the whole boundless cath is ours, where we may buy and sell, and trade in the commerce of good will, without any to make us afraid." ty Free Trade, England should lose Oregon, and even canada, she would gain in the United States what would be worth to her a dozen of these countries. For one, I regod Free Trade as the commercial harbinger of the Millennium which shall beat all swords into ploughshares, and spears into pruning hooks. Even in anticipation of the untial triumph of this gospel economy, in the opening of your ports to corn and other productions of our great West, the warlike people of that region are even now fulfilling that blessed prophecy in a degree. They are beating their swords into ploughshares, and driving those ploughshares seep into their Eden soil, inspired with the hope of feeding the British. I devoutly hope that the coming seedtime in in that vast region of unequalled fertility will be a seedtime of better feelings towards Great Britain. I cannot find words to express my sense of the importance, to humanity at large, of amexing that fat universe of land to your crowded shores, Is opening your ports to its produce. The moral influence of such a measure, on the labouring people of both countries cannot be meted out in words. There are thousands and thousands in that region of our country, living in the rudest state of civilisation, with regard to every article of furniture, do s, and the other comforts, and elegancies known to a caltivated society, while, at the same time, they are surcounded with breastworks of golden corn and wheat. On the other hand, are there not thousands and thousands of atted labourers in your country, pining amid fabrics that could whorn princes—articles of clothing and comfort, which, if exchanged for food, would fill our great West with the praise of comfortable homes, transformed from the floor is she cabins of Western wheat-growers! What an effect a would have on the morals of your manufacturing popula-I the fountains of American food should be broken up, to feed them from our granaries!

REFERENCIATION OF LANCASTER .- Mr. S. Gregson, jun., has amounced himself a candidate for the representation of tes berough, when a vacancy occurs. In his address, Mr. Gregson avows himself "an advocate for the abolition of the Corn and Provision Laws; for progressive reform, and to all those Liberal principles which promote universal edu-Cion and secure to all the enjoyment of civil, religious, and commercial freedom."—Leeds Mercury.

THE MILK TRADE WITH LONDON .- A striking illustrabear of the creative effect of railways upon the trading re somes of a district is manifesting itself along the course of the Eastern Counties line. The neighbourhoods of Romfed, Brentwood, &c., places the inhabitants of which would period by, not many years ago, have laughed at the idea of sending their milk to the metropolis, now carry on a very considerable and daily increasing trade in that article. Persons in traversing the line can hardly fail to have seen, at the stations referred to, a number of huge canister shaped the vessels, used for the purpose of transit; and these having at a specially appropriated to them, the milk reaches Lon-tian in prime condition. At Chelmsford, one extensive peazer at least is preparing to enter into the same trade; and we should not be at all surprised to find parties at Chester, and other towns upon the line, following the exand there is very little difference in the expense of con-Weather, as far as the railway is concerned, for long or short chances. This promises a complete revolution, not only in be price, but the composition and quality, of the above ex-serve esticle of consumption. When each railroad from the maxing districts into London shall have become "a nolly we; "there will no longer be the temptation, which at present exists, to resort to artificial ingredients; and people even milkmen, will be content to leave the manufacture of their commodity to the proper artificers—the

That Island OF LABUAN.—At a meeting of the directors the Manchester Commercial Association, held at their veck, the proposed cession of this island by the Sultan of Trace to the British Crown, free of all charges, was the sub cet of consideration; and it was unanimously agreed to to mori hise Sir R. Peel, as First Lord of the Treasury, ex-pressing their regret that her Majesty's Government had not mied themselves of so liberal an offer, and praying that to vernment would accept it, as a step highly important in connection with our commerce to China and the East. We leseve that a similar memorial has also been agreed to and I rearded from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. This land, though small, being not more than about six or when tailes across, is rich in vegetable and mineral products, would be of immense value as a coal station and a Lerisonr of refuse. It possesses rich beds of coal and iron, and immense quantities of growing timber, fit for the purhear the mouth of the Borneo river, and in the track of our Meamers between Singapore, Ceylon, and Hong kong, and tile other ports of China; and it would fill up the chain of our marine communications in the eastern archipelago. Those interested in the subject will find some particular of the interested in the subject will find some particular of the interest of the situation and productions, in puriculars of the island, its situation, and productions, in the recent work of Captain Keppel. We ought to add, that is is just off a district of Borneo, a considerable tract of which has been granted by the Sultan to an Englishman, named Brooks who now avereiges vice-regal powers over it. named Brooke, who now exercises vice-regal powers over it. Manchester Guardian.

In instructing others we improve ourselves; he who is engaged in the tuition of others acquires a proficiency in his stainment to the stainment of the stainmen mainments, of which he was not previously conscious. Chinese Baying.

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In consequence of the great length to which our report of the debates in the House of Lords has extended, we are obliged to defer our notice of Mr. Torrens McCullagh's Industrial History of Free Nations till next week.

We are compelled to omit the Subscription List until next week.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Friday Evening, May 29, 1846.

At five o'clock in the morning of Friday, May 29, 1846, a day which will ever be memorable, not only in English annals, but in the commercial his. tory of all civilised nations, the debate on the second reading of the Corn Bill in the House of Lords was brought to a close. The division insures the speedy triumph of truth and justice,

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TOTAL MAJORITY --- FORTY-SEVEN.

The most original in character, and the most profound in philosophy of all the speeches yet delivered on this great question was undoubtedly that of Earl Grey, His arguments for legislative change-were derived from the immutable laws of social existence; and in his analysis of these laws he exhibited the strict severity of science united to the graces of eloquent diction. His rhetoric was his logic; his instruction was his persuasion. There was no part of his address which at all approached declamation, save his

warm culogium of the League and Mr. Cobden. To the agricultural body he furnished not merely consolation, but hope; he pointed out the absurdity of their fears and the groundlessness of their alarms. The imaginary Tamboffs and visionary prairies, where harvests sprung without labour, and corn might be had for the asking, which Lord Stanley had shown to his honrers in a brilliant sories of dissolving views, melted away under his exposure, as the pictures of the magic lantern are efficed on the admission of the light of the sun. His examination of the true policy which ought to be adopted by a parent country towards its colonies, was conceived in the philosophic spirit of Bacon, and expounded in the lucid logic of Paley. It was indeed a speech, not to be heard, applanded, and forgotten, but to be "marked, learned, and inwordly digested." While it expounded the past, it illuminated the future. It was a chart which laid down the rocks and quicksands to be avoided, and at the same time pointed out

> Each beacon light For pilots to hold course aright.

Lord Ashburton's ucceeded in perplexing both himself, his hearers, and his readers. The Corn Law was originally as odious and strange to him as the cuckoo's egg is to the spurrow, when first discovered in the nest; but having failed in the first effort to throw it out, affection grew up during the process of incubation; and when the broad was Intelied. the attachment for the ugly intruder proved to be greater than the love for the natural offspring. Lord Ashburton went beyond the sparrow in affection for his suckoo; he even adopted its psculiarities, and gave the wearisome iteration of note, which is at first pleasing, soon scarcely tolerable, then yexa tious, and finally unendurable. In fact, without intending a pun, Lord Ashburton was " beyond Buring."

Lord Lanedowne spoke as a practical statesman, exhibiting more animation than he has recently evinced in debute. His exposure of Lord Ashburton's followers was triumphant, but rather too merciless. The delicate question of a fixed duty was only raised to be abandoned, with a little amiable regret for the hopelessness of its ever finding acceptance.

A tumultuous contention, not very usual in the House of Peers, ended in the Earl of Essex assigning his reasons for conversion, and Lord Beaumont professing his adhesion to perversion. Lord Dalhousie expounded the commercial and statistical reasoning on which the ministerial measures are founded, and the Duko of Wellington concluded the debate by simply, but sternly, stating the circumstances which had rendered the repeal of the Corn Laws a political ne-

We believe that this division and majority may be regarded as final. The Standard-Herald and Herald Standard join in a solo-duct of despair, and the Morning Post exhibits the graceful sorrow of a ludy-like gentleman. We, however, feel too much pleasure in witnessing the interment of the Corn Law to quarrel with the antics of the few mourners

PUBLIC MEETING AT HULL. A crowded meeting took place here on Monday last, called in pursuance of a requisition from merchants, shipowners, &c., to petition the Lords for the speedy passing of the measure now before them. We shall give a full report of it next week.

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PERMANENT MEMORIAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE; what deliberative and executive body, which has achieved more by normal force, thun has been accomplished by associations that included physical strength and political power. For this purpose arrangements have been made with Mr. HERBERT, R.A., to paint u

HISTORICAL PICTURE OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE,

including Accurate Portreits, not only of the Principal Leaders, but of those less prominent Members, whose indefatigable labours during the whole course of the movement have entitled them to public gratitude. It is principal that this shall be engraved by a first rate artist, on a large scale 31 by 23 inches, and that the copies shall be sold at such a price as to piace within the teach of persons of moderate fortune, a monument of the mighty movement by which monopoly was overtirrown, and the cruse of justice established, without any remembrance of outrage or violence to lessen the enjoyment of so glorious a victory. The principles of universal peace have been established by their own practical development in peaceful agitation.

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

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

THE CORN BILL IN COMMITTEE.

It has cost us upwards of seven years of incessant agitation to abolish the sliding scale. Had the Corn Law been in the shape of a fixed duty, one-half the time and labour would have repealed it. There is something subtle and plausible in the "scale," with its apparently humans fall of duty to meet the rise in the price of corn, which recommends it to weak minds; and then it assumes the character of "protection," so captivating to the ignorant! The clever monopolist who first christened the Corn Law with the name of protection, added several years to its life. One-half the labours of the League has been expended in proving to the consumers that the "scale" is really a bread tax. That once accomplished, half our work was done. The national conscience revolts at the idea of levying a tax upon the first necessary of existence. The instinct of justice calls out to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to try any and every other source of revenue-to tax easy arm-chairs, great-coats, operaglasses, or whatever he likes, so that he keeps his fiscal hand off the people's bread. The men who invented the "scale" understood this, and they enacted the last, and only Corn Law, which this country will ever tolerate. The protectionists were right in 1841 when they denounced a fixed duty as iudesensible, and repudiated it as the certain prelude to total abolition. "The fact is," said the Quarterly, in June, 1841, "that neither Lord John Russell, nor Mr. McCulloch, nor any one else, contemplates for a moment the maintenance of a fixed duty; and the proposition is therefore neither more nor less than a wicked and delusive fraud." We all remember the exclamation of Lord Winchelsea, in reference to the proposed 8s. fixed duty, "For God's sake don't tax the people's bread!" -a sentiment loudly cheered in the House of Lords, and re-echoed from many a hustings at the general election of 1841.

Well, after all, we are still told by parties from whom we should have hoped better things, that a ixed duty would have been the proper settlement of be question—that it was want of statesmanship hat prevented such an adjustment, which would ave been highly satisfactory to the leading mercanle interests, &c. &c. 'These pleaders for a fixed forget to give us the arguments by which it to be sustained,—a task which they kindly leave the Minister who is to form a bread tax administion. Sir Robert Peel, Lord John Russell, and James Graham, the three ablest statesmen of

the day, decline the undertaking. They know that in the present enlightened state of public opinion, and with the national interests concentrated upon the question, it would be impossible to defend in argument the proposition of a fixed duty. They know that the subject has been so discussed, sifted, and exposed in all its bearings, that it could not be evaded, or put upon any other than the broad issue of justice to the great mass of the people. They know that not only the intellectual conviction of the country, but its moral sentiment, and religious feelings, are against any tax upon bread; and, even if their own minds were not made up to the impolicy of a fixed duty, they would be unworthy of the name of statesmen if they attempted to enforce any fiscal arrangement of the kind against the will of the great majority of the people.

We know not whether a serious attempt will be made to perpetuate a duty on corn. If so, we should like to see the arguments of Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham, upon the working men's case, answered by the noble lords who support the amendment in committee. They must be prepared to disprove the proposition that the wages in the manufacturing districts vary, as a rule, inversely with the price of bread; that when corn is moderate in price, the demand for labour increases, and wages rise; and that when corn is excessively dear wages decline, owing to the falling off in the employment of labourers. They must also be able to disprove the Prime Minister's assertion, that the wages in the agricultural districts do not advance in the same proportion with the rise in the price of bread. They must likewise be ready to discuss minutely that vital question to the great mass of the working people, of the bearing upon their incomes of a tax upon bread, which forms so dispropor. tionate an item in their expenditure as compared with the easier classes of society-a question, by the way, most fearlessly analysed by Sir Robert Peel in one of his ablest speeches.

Let noble lords, before they commit thomselves to a fixed duty, be prepared to meet these arguments; for they may be assured that from the moment the "scale" is abandoned, and a permanent tax is substituted for it, the whole controversy will be narrowed to a very small compass, and that it will turn mainly upon the interests of the working millions. We should be very sorry, for many reasons, to see the question referred back to the country, by an adverse vote in committee; sorry for the lords themselvesfor the interests of commerce, which would be temporarily suspended, and for the inconvenience to the business before Parliament. But we should not dread the result, so far as the interests of Free Trade were concerned; for a more hopeless contest for our adversaries we could not desire than that in which would be arrayed on one side the landed aristocracy, on the other the great body of the people, and the question at issue to be, whether, in spite of the recommendation of the Crown, and the will of a majority of the House of Commons, a tax should be imposed, at the instance of a few proprietors of the soil, upon the food of an entire nation. We reiterate the opinion we expressed in our last, that a majority of the peers will see the impolicy and injustice of attempting any mutilation of the Government measure.

THE "TALENTED" GENTLEMEN BELOW THE GANGWAY.

Notwithstanding the prevailing sontiment of delighted satisfaction with which we view the triumph of last week, we must confess that certain incidents of that ever-memorable passage in our Parliamentary history have occasioned us considerable uneasiness. The Corn Law is as good as gone, despite

Lord Stanley's brilliant and vigorous advocacy of protection in its integrity, and Lord Brougham's neither brilliant nor vigorous championship of commercial freedom; but we cannot conceal from ourselves that other perils yet beset the state. We are afraid that both these noble lords have but too offectually contributed-wo must do them the justice to bolieve, without malice prepense—to burden the country with a new grievance, only second in oppressiveness and powers for mischief to the sliding scale itself. It is impossible to suppose that they really meant any harm by their high-flown panegyrics on the "talent" with which the flag of protection has been hoisted in a certain well-known quarter of the House of Commons. But they should have reflected on the responsibilities that attach to the lightest words of genius. They should have rememembered that irony is sometimes apt to be taken au serieux. For our own part, we much foar that the gentlemen below the gangway will swallow the compliment which these eminent critical authorities have so indiscreetly paid to their recently developed oratorical abilities, and that the stimulant thus administered may prove of disastrous potency in eliciting future exhibitions of that poculiar description of mental accomplishment. let it be imagined, that the juvenile statesmen, who have been " put up," or have put themselves up, during the dreary discussion of the past months, to gain time by their unconscionable length of dull speechification, are to regard themselves as regularly enrolled among the talking men of the House of Commons, and that a grateful and admiring public will no longer be satisfied to accept their silent services -- and all we can say is, Heaven holp the country, and the men who do the country's business!

As it really is not desirable that the sort of infliction which Parliament and the public have lately had to endure should be drawn into a precedent, and made a permanent accompaniment of British legislation, we are anxious to apply what corrective we can to the unthinking and ill-judged culogies passed by Lords Stanley and Brougham on an oratorical "talent," any further displays of which must be deprecated by every patriotic mind. We beg, therefore, to assure the gifted and "talented" gentlemen under the gangway, that the country, so far from being rapt in admiration of their Parliamentary and statesmanlike abilities, is, to this hour, in peaceful ignorance of the precise nature of those phenomena which have called forth the Stanley and Brougham panegyries. Their speeches remain, and are likely to remain to the end of time, unread. The world knows nothing of the protectionist oratory of the year 1846, except that it has abstracted a certain number of hours, days, and weeks from the working portion of the Parliamentary year. Even the Dryasdusts of other generations, who shall busy themselves with compiling English history out of Hansard, will take to skipping when they come to that volume. We may add, in general, that the description of talent for which the gentlemen in question have obtained so melancholy a notoriety, is decidedly at a discount. We are living just in those times in which the mere mechanical faculty of word-stringing, irrespectively of truth and soundness of principles, accuracy of facts, and cohesiveness of logic, is least respectable in the eyes of a busy and earnest people.

After all, this "talent" is a very sorry sort of thing. Whether we take the test of cost of production, or of exchangeable utility, nothing can well be cheaper. Any Harrow or Eton boy could talk prose by the hour, with as few offences against Lindley Murray as Mr. Newdegate is in the habit of committing. Any Newmarket man—only brain

him well-would make as good a show with his facts and figures, as the noble head of the protectionist Government that is to be-or that was to have been-and vindicate for himself a proud intellectual equality with the statesmen of stable mind, who

" Of bets, not taxes, learnedly debate, And guide, with equal reins, a steed or state."

And we can assure Mr. D'Israeli that it does not need his order of genius to make a bad logician and a bungling statistician. The comparison will, we fear, be disagreeeable to the accomplished author of "Coningsby," but truth compels us to say, that Mr. O. P. R. James-if we may judge from his superlatively silly displays before the Kentish equires-might qualify himself for all the duties of the philosopher in ordinary to the landlords, with no greater amount of mental labour than he is in the habit of expending on his familiar trimestrial task of writing an historical romance in three volumes post octavo.

The fact is, these men's "talent" is infinitely indebted to their destitution of all useful political knowledge. Their ignorance is a marvellous help to their loquacity. A certain vivacious garrulity is the privilege of political youth and inexperience. There are advantages in coming new to a subject. Our statesmen below the gangway have found talking easy, simply because they had not the remotest conception that the whole question had been settled long ago. It would have been a sad damper to their eloquenes to have known, that the controversy which they funcied was just beginning, was, in fact, just fluished. Most conveniently for themselves, they have commenced their political education too late in life to be aware, that what is new to them is old to all the rest of the world-that the sophisms which they think philosophy, are merely effete absurdities which people are tired even of laughing at -that Adam Smith, and the League, and public opinion, and thirty years' experience, have already brought the matter to a point at which nothing more remains to be done than to clothe a foregone conclusion in statutory form. When our elderly young gentlemen attain-if they ever do attain-to years of political discretion, they will look back with amazement on the exhibitions of pert and presumptuous nescionce which signalised their Parliamentary boyhood.

ONE GLANCE MORE AT THE DEBATE.

The transcendent importance of the event which we had last week the satisfaction of recording-presaging, as it does, the early and final consummation of our labours-will probably be felt to detract materially from the interest that would otherwise attach to the three nights' preliminary debate; and our readers perhaps may be little disposed to accompany us in any retrospect of Parliamentary speeches, however excellent and valuable in themselves, at a time when words are so soon to be exchanged for deeds, and all speeches and speaking are about to merge in one great fact. Still, we must pause for a moment on the two principal speeches of the closing night of the discussionthose of Earl Grey and Earl Dalhousie. Of their very remarkable ability we need not say much;that which especially strikes us is their happy practical adaptation to the very useful purpose of reconciling the minds of all classes of the community, and in particular of the agriculturists, to the approaching legislative change. The noble lords whom we have named stamp that change, by anticipation, with the characters of permanence and legittmacy. They show at once its inevitableness and its beneficence; and thus extinguish in the mind of every intelligent agriculturist not merely the hope, but even the desire, of that most desperate possibilities—the resuscitation, in some remote and unknown futurity, of a dead and buried COPP Daw.

Nothing could be more effective than Earl Grey's oxposition, towards the close of his speech, of the true pluracter of that public opinion to which the Opper House is about to give legislative sanction

and embodiment. The noble lord showed, with admirable force and clearness, that the present public opinion in favour of Free Trade possesses, in an almost unexampled degree, those attributes of fixity and deliberateness, in which even Lord Stanley recognises a moral authority, that statesmen and Parliaments must bow to. It has nothing hasty or passionate about it. It is rooted in science, and has grown with experience. It has grown slowly, too; yet with a steadiness that has been without reaction—almost without intermission. Eighty years ago, Adam Smith convinced the philosophers, and the philosophic statesmen, of the wisdom and justice of freeing commerce from artificial restrictions. After a while, convictions began to reach the practical statesmen, who, at first cautiously and timidly, yet with an ever-increasing clearness and confidence, announced the maxims of commercial wisdom, and applied them to the current exigencies of commerce and the state. From year to year the process went one-experiments provoking discussion, and discussion justifying and inviting experiment—the sphere of conversion gradually widening, and embracing new classes of the community. Of late, the work has advanced with immensely accelerated speed. National distress and fiscal impoverishment necessitated a more earnest, a more comprehensive, and a more thorough going investigation of the sources of the Wealth of Nations. Agitation popularised philosophy, and brought home to the many the convictions which individual research had imparted to the few; until, at length, disowned alike by official intelligence and by public opinion and morality, the vicious system of protection had nothing to stand on but the bare fact of possession, and the merest touch was sufficient to bring it to the ground. A public opinion that can give such an account of itself as this, is palpably irresistible and irreversible. It must have its way-and what it does is done once

Lord Dalhousie's argument takes us, by a somewhat different route, to the same practical conclu-This public opinion is irresistible, not merely in its force and universality, but in its truth. Free Trade ideas rest on "the authority of facts." They have on their side "the history of the commerce of this country"and, "more especially, the commercial history of the last thirty years -above all, that history since the adoption of the tariff of 1842." Never was a principle subjected to a greater number and variety of experimental tests, or verified by a more copious and demonstrative induction. Take the woollen trade, or the cotton trade, or the linen trade, or the silk trade, or the iron trade, or the shipping and timber trade-they all tell the same tale;-"not only have they not flourished by reason of the principle of protection, but they have flourished as that protection has been removed-nay, more, they have flourished still more in proportion as the protection has been withdrawn." We abstain from the superfluous task of following the noble lord through the details of fact and argument, with which he so amply elucidated this now familiar truth. His speech will already have been read far and wide through the country, and have produced its natural effect on those who conceive themselves more immediately interested in the great legislative act now on the verge of completion -convincing every agriculturist, who has a mind susceptible of conviction, that there is no sort of reason for a "panic;" that nothing is to be feared from any "inundation" that lies within the bounds of physical and commercial possibility; that agricultural industry must be prosperous in a country which commands the largest capital, the best labour, and the best market in the world; and that, of all delusions, the absurdest is that of fancying that land and its produce can lose their intrinsic value in a country that has added one hundred thousand to its population, during the four months that we have been discussing the safety and desirableness of letting in more food.

It is, on every ground, highly satisfactory, that

the moral effect of the division of last week has been sustained and enhanced by expositions so elear and decisive of the inevitableness and the beneficence of the legislative revolution now on the point of consummation. The agricul. turists are plainly given to understand, that it is not Sir Robert Peel, or Lord John Russell, or the House of Commons, or the House of Lords, that repeal the landlords' Corn Law-but the irresistible course of opinion, events, and national experience And they will, we doubt not, cheerfully accept a necessity which is as benign as it is irreversible and place themselves in intelligent harmouy with the new and improved conditions of their lot as a section of the great industrial community of Englishmen.

THE SUGAR DUTIES.

We are glad to perceive that Mr. Milner Gibson has given notice of a motion for the immediate abolition of all discriminating duties on sugar. Such a measure is the natural complement of the repeal of the Corn Laws; and the failure of the sugar crops in the British West Indian Islands renders the necessity for enlarging the field of supply so obvious, that we cannot guess by what arguments the proposal can be resisted, We prefer Mr. Gib. son's form of motion to that of Lord John Russell the latter proposes-first, to equalise the duty on slave and free labour sugar; and, if successful in that step, then to provide for the prospective abolition of the distinctive duties between foreign and colonial sugar. The noble member for London divides into two measures that which the honoraable member for Manchester proposes to effect by one; and he unnecessarily introduces an incidental discussion on slavery, not likely to prove interesting to the house or profitable to the nation. In fact the distinction between slave and free labour sugar is a piece of such patent hypocrisy that it is hardly necessary to attempt its exposure; but there is reason to fear that a sham battle on this point may divert attention, from the insidious attempt to continue protection to a petted branch of colonial produce for some time longer. Mr. Gibson fairly meets the real evil, Monopoly, for the overthrow of that will bring/down hypocrisy in its fall. He assails the key of the enemy's position, for when that is taken, all other points will be abandoned; while Lord John Russell wastes time and force in a strong demonstration against an untenable outpost.

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The West Indian interest, as it is called, has sought strange alliances in its decadence; it has even sought the favour of the great object of its former vituperation, the Anti-Slavery Society. But when everybody knows that the cry against the use of slave produce is the veriest sham that was ever used to delude a people, why should we assail the pretext rather than the principle which that pretext has been assumed to hide? Lord John Russell gives to this hollow pretence a factitious importance by making it the subject of a substantive motion; but it is merely extraneous matter which has erept into the discussion between Free Trade and protection to divert attention from the real issue. Mr. Gibson has acted with his usual manliness in passing over this hollow pretence altogether. and proposing a motion which will raise a debate on what alone is the true question to be decided. The League has taken the same position with regard to sugar which it originally took respecting corn; it never entered into a discussion of the relative merits of a sliding scale or a fixed duty, because it protested against all forms of protection; and it will not tolerate any discriminating duties on the import of sugar, whether the protection be complicated by a hypocritical distinction between free labour and slave produce, or whether the differential duties stand in the simple nakedness of protection.

A GREAT FACT.—On the 7th ult., at Furness, Derbyshire, a respectable farmer of that place summoned a few of his neighbours to witness the christening and turning out to grees of three heifers, to which he gave the sends of Cebelen, Bright, and Wilson, amid, the angleshe and Cebelen, Bright, and Wilson, amid, the angleshe and bation of his autrounding friends and services. We say to improve, a Marchester translation,

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Twentieth Week, ending Saturday, June 6.

While the news of the great victory achieved in the House of Lords, on Friday morning, on the second reading of the Corn Law Repeal Bill, was yet booming in the public ear, the Chancellor of the Exchequer was making a significant commentary on the Richmond-Bentinck predictions and affirmations. It is no part of our present business to inquire where Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Goulburn have found their diminution-of-duty principles. It may be that Sir Robert Peel would have reformed the tariff in 1842, if no such document had been in existence as Mr. Hume's Import Duties Committee Report, drawn up in 1840. And it may be that Mr. Goulburn would have made precisely the same financial statement he did on last Friday, drawn solely from the results of the reform of the tariff in 1842, even if the Anti-Corn-Law League had not been in existence, or a fixed duty had never been proposed. These things are at once possible and improbable—but we take no note of them. We have only to deal with facts; and the one great fact is before us, that Mr. Goulburn, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, and in the performance of the important annual duty of opening the Budget, did, on last Friday afternoon, make a most gratifying and cheering Free Trade speech; and yet the name of this same Mr. Goulburn has been, in by-past rears, associated with ideas of monopoly and exclusiveness. It is honourable to individuals to see them, in their old age, vielding to the demonstrations of fact and experience; and it must afford a thoughtful and a grateful pleasure to all thinking minds to see how strongly as well as steadily public opinion sweeps onwards.

The contents of the "Budget" had all been anticipated by Sir Robert Peel, when he developed his Corn and Customs scheme, at the commencement of the session. We knew, that, notwithstanding the reductions of duties which had token place last year, there was a large surplus of revenue over income. We also knew that in consequence of the great reductions proposed during the present year, as well as the contemplated increase in the army, navy, and so forth, any anticipated surplus for the ensuing year would be very small. So far there was but little novelty in the financial statement which Mr. Goulburn made. But his review of the results of the financial policy commenced in 1842 was exceedingly interesting; and though this led him into some laudation of the existing government, and, by consequence, into a depreciation, rather insinuated than asserted, of its predecessors, we pass all by, for the sake of the results. It has been supposed that, in thus bringing under review the whole commercial policy of the Government, Mr. Goulburn was acting on the premonitory intimation of "Give an account of thy stewardship, for thou mayest be no longer steward." That may be so, but the effect of the exposition has been to raise a strong feeling of regret in the commercial world, that such excellent "men of business," and first-rate financiers, should be under the necessity of contemplating retirement from the responsibilities of office.

It will be recollected that after the division on the second reading of the Corn Bill on Friday morning, the House of Lords adjourned for the Whitsuntide holidays. But the House of Commons met on Friday evening, the chief business being the fluancial statement. The house having gone into a Committee of Ways and Means,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made his annual financial statement. He was anxious to do so before the house separated for the holidays, in order that during the approaching leisure there might be time for considering the one general view he now presented. It would show how successful has been the financial policy of the Government, and dispel any apprehensions of difficulty which might remain and the successful has been the financial policy of the Government, main as to the effects of reduction of duties.

The first point was that of income and expenditure. Last year, a revenue of 49,762,000*l*. had been anticipated; the actual amount which had been received was 51,250,000*l*., independently of the content of the conte dependently of the China money. This great increase in the revenue of last year was a striking evidence of the bene-This great increase in feial effects of a reduction of duties. A great diminution had been accomplished during last year, yet the Customs, the Excise, the Stamps, and the Post-office all exhibited a large increase, beyond the anticipated receipts; and, notwithstanding the loss to the revenue from the reductions, there was a surplus of income over expenditure of no less than 2,350,000. This afforded a striking proof of the clasticity of the resources of the country; for the only important branch of the country. and branch of income which had declined was the property and income tax, the slight falling off in which had been

Notwithstanding the additional great reduction of duties proposed during the present year, the experience of the past cabled him with confidence to anticipate the future. The results of their than that he reality of their previous reductions taught him that he inght take the anticipated loss in the Customs at two-fifths of the duties to be repealed, and set down the amount to be received from that source at 19,300,000%. But as, notwith-standing the uncertainty caused by the delay of the Govern-ment measures, there was every indication of continued pros-perity, and the source at all the outpenty, and the reports from the revenue officers at all the outports were very satisfactory, he would advance his estimate, and set down his expected revenue from the Customs during the next control of the set of the the next year at 19,500,000%. It was to be borne in recollection that though the measures of the Government were not yet passed into law, the reduction of duties was in actual operation. passed into law, the reduction of duties was in actual opera-tion, under the Treasury order. In the Excise a very large reduction had also taken place during last year, yet the revenue from it fell short only by 100,000% from what it was when the assetion, place, and other duties were in full operation. He would take the carries at 13,400,000%; the passed 7,400,000%, which was a transfer of 100,000%; the passed of 100,000%, which was a transfer of 100,000%; the

of China money, will render the anticipated income for the ensuing year 51,050,000/. The expenditure, if taken at the same amount as last year, would be 49,100,000%, which would leave a surplus upon the year of 2,200,000/. - a sum nearly as large as the surplus of last year, notwithstanding the great reductions which have been made. But the expenditure for next year is considerably increased. Our public establishments were increased, which would nearly absorb the surplus. The army and navy are augmented, the specific additional charges for which he stated, which, with other extra expenses, will reduce the 2,200,000% to 776,000%, the main portion of which will be derived from the 700,000%. of China money.

The system which had brought about our present financial prosperity was begun in 1842, soon after the present Government entered on office. Previously there had been a great deficiency, which had been attempted to be supplied by increased taxation. This having failed, resort was had to a revision of our prohibitory and protective duties, and the result was striking. In 1842 the balances in the Exchequer were only three millions. In 1846 they amounted to eight millions, the specific increase during these four years being 4,798,0001. Then, during these four years, there had been a considerable diminution of the capital stock of the funded and unfunded debt. The total amount of these two descriptions of debt, the funded and unfunded, in 1842 was 792,209,000/. In 1846 it was only 785,115,000/., being a reduction in the capital of the debt of seven millions and a half sterling. The deficiency bills have also been reduced by 4,133,300%. In addition to these two sums, by which the capital of the debt has been reduced by eleven millions, the interest and charge for the debt had been abated by the annual sum of 800,000!., the amount in 1842 being 20,597,000!., and in 1846 28,129,000%, the amount in 1842 being 20,007,000%, and in 1846 28,129,000%; while another prospective reduction has been effected of 625,000%, which is to come into operation in 1854, making the total annual reduction thus amounting to 1,500,000%. Exclusive of the prospective reduction in 1854, the client the China manual leads that the China manual leads the china manual leads that the China manual leads the china manual leads that the China manual leads the china manual leads that the China manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manual leads the china manua duction, it might be alleged that the China money had mainly assisted them to accomplish these results. amount thus received had been 3,323,000l., from which had to be deducted the expense of the war, 2,050,000l., and the opium compensation, 1,270,000l., leaving only a sum of 8,000/. actually available from this source in aid of the Exchequer. But the benefit derived from reduction of taxation was not to be measured by the mere amount of the duties reduced. Since 1842 the present Government have imposed the Property and Income tax, which, with some small Excise duties, makes an annual amount of taxation imposed of 5,600,000%. But during the last four years Customs and Excise duties have been remitted to the extent of 8,200,000%. which leaves a balance of taxation reduced of no less than 2,582,000/. It might be said that good harvests had brought about the present favourable condition of the people. He did not undervalue the beneficial influence of good harvests. But to the commercial and financial policy pursued by the Government, he contended, ought to be mainly attributed the present aspect of the country. Reduction of duties and increased consumption, improved the revenue, diffused comfort and arranged trade the offents of which were displayed. fort, and extended trade, the effects of which were displayed in increased deposits in the savings banks, the diminution of crime, the diffusion of education and of religious instruction. Instead of building fifty churches during a century, we built fifty in a year. These results were obtained without any derangement of any great national interest, but by proceeding gradually. He hoped we would go on as we had begun, and cautiously and gradually diminish the burdens of the

Several speakers criticised the statements of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, especially Lord George Bentinck and Mr. Hudson, who vainly attempted to throw discredit upon them. But it was of no use—there the facts were, without gainsay or contradiction.

The House of Commons adjourned from Friday till Friday; but the House of Lords resumed its sittings on Thursday.

In the House of Lords, their sittings were resumed after the recess, on Thursday. Lord Stanley introduced the subject of the Canadian Address, which afforded Lord Dalhousie an opportunity of refuting the absurd calumny that he had knowingly misrepresented the sentiments of the Canadian legislature. Lord Stanley gave notice of his intention to direct the attention of the house to this address, which, however, it is probable that the next packet will show to be a matter wholly unimportant.

The second reading of the Customs' Duties Bill was then moved by the Earl of Dalhousie, who admitted that the as not a perfect scheme of Free Trade, but such an approximation towards it as considerations of revenue and of existing interests enabled them to make. At the same time, he said the Government were fully convinced of the unsoundness of the principle of protection. The present bill, as our readers may recollect, proposes the abolition, or the considerable reduction, of the duties on linen, cotton, woollen, silk, and metallic manufactures, on butter and cheese, on spirits and timber, and so forth.

The Duke of Richmond entered his usual protest, and made his usual amendment, but did not divide the house. Me is, however, going into committee on the bill, to raise the silk question, by moving that the Spitalfields' weavers be heard by counsel at the bar against the proposed bill for lowering the silk duties.

The Earl of Wicklow deplored the removal of protection from the linen manufacture of Ireland. Lord Ashburton traced our periods of stagnation to the Currency Bill of 1819, and said that trade and commerce could never be secure, so long as they were at the mercy of every new crotchet in the head of Sir Robert Peel. Earl Grey spoke a few sensible words for Free Trade, of which the bill was an instalment; and Lord Monteagle took a similar view, and refreshed the memory of Lord Ashhurton, by quoting from the celebrated petition of the city of London, in favour of Free Trade, which, in 1820, was presented by a Mr. T. Baring, who supported the petition with a speech! It was evident that Lord Ashburton did not relish the reminiscence.

The bill was read a second time, their lereships riving

DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING IN THE LORDS'.

We here present the reader with a full report of three speaches for which we could not flud room in our number of

SPEECH OF THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE.
The Marquis of LANSDOWNE and the Earl of EGLIN-The Marquis of LANSDOWNE and the Earl of EGLIN-TON rose together; but the calls for the former prevailing, the noble earl gave way, and the noble marquis proceeded to address the house. This debate having now arrived at its third night, which would also, most probably, be its last (loud ories of "No, no," from the cross-benches, and of "Yes yes," from other parts of the house. Yes, yes," from other parts of the house)—he would take the liberty of offering a few observations on the great question now under consideration; but their lerdships might rest assured that the length of his observations would not be such as to prevent them from coming to a decision that evening, if they had already determined on doing so. His noble friend who had just sat down (Lord Ashburton) need not be alarmed by the apprehension that he (the Marquis of Lansdowne) intended to trouble him or the house with any remarks having reference to that awful subject, political economy—a subject of which his noble friend appeared to have an especial horror (a laugh). It was not his noble friend, however, who first discussed its horrors. Lord John Russell, 26 years ago, when a young man, and before he had as yet hold office under the Crown, characterised it as "an awful subject" then, and after sitting for such a long series of years in Parliament, he had declared that he considered it of years in Parliament, he had declared that he considered it "an awful subject" now. On this formidable topic he would not, therefore, touch. He had risen, however, for the purpose of also assuring his noble friend, that following his precept rather than his example, he would studiously abstain from entering into that which his noble friend had promised not to touch upon, but which he had, notwithstanding largely dilated on—the question of the burdens on land. Ho (the Marquis of Lansdowne) would dismiss from his consistance. (the Marquis of Lansdowne) would dismiss from his consideration this subject, which was in itself au immonse and important one, but which, however, was not essentially connected with the present debate in any other sense than this, that whereas it was fit that justice should be done to the consuming classes in this country; it was also fit that at proper seasons justice should be done to the proprietors of hand (hear, hear). This was the opinion which he had always held upon this subject; and it would be in the recollection of his noble friend, that he (the Marquis of Lausdowne) had never asserted it more strongly than at the prosent moment, when he thought it possible that he might have some influence in directing or advising the proceedings of their lordships house. He would implore of their lordships, however, to dismiss from their minds the question of the burdens on land, and to fix their attention on the consideration, in its intrinsic merits, of what his noble friend (Lord Ashburton) had very properly described as one of the greatest questions, if not the very greatest that had ever been submitted to their notice (hear, hear, hear). That question which had for years engaged public public attention—which had for years been the subject of debate and discussion in Parliament and out of it—which had been canvassed for such a length of time in every town and village of the country—assumed a somewhat new aspect as it presented itself to their lordships' consideration, for now for the first time it came before them in the shape of a bill which had been taken under the special charge of her Majesty's Government, and which had been sanctioned by a majority of the other house. His noble friend who had just sat down, and the noble lord who addressed the house with such eloquence on Monday night—he meant the late Secretary for the Colonics—had said that against the decision of the House of Commons, recently come to and communicated to their lordships, he would set the decision of the House of Commons in 1842 (hear, hear). In fact, he said that he could set the House of Commons of 1842 against the House of Commons of 1846. But surely this was no fair mode whereby to dispose of such a question as the present. Unless it was to be supposed that the House of Commons became senile, infirm, and incapable of rational conduct in the fourth or fifth year of its existence, he could not understand on what ground the early decision of that house, arrived at in the days of its youth and inexperience, should be preferred to its maturer and more deliberate counsels (hear, hear). Another noble lord who addressed the house on Tuesday evening, and who had thought it necessary to apologise for doing so, though he had displayed a degree of talent which would entitle him to be heard with attention at any time—had been so rash as to say that the majority on this question in the House of Commons, though a clear one, was not a clean one; but he would take the liberty of inquiring of the noble lord whether he pretended (and if so, on what ground?) that the former decision of the Commons against the repeal of the Corn Laws was more clean than the more recent one in favour of that repeal (loud cheers)? decision be ever arrived at by either house of Parliament to which could be attached that degree of importance which the decisions of the legislature ought to command, if it were to be required that those decisions should in all cases be come to without the exercise of any authority or influence brought to bear on the great mass or body of the persons composing the deliberative assembly (hear, hear, hear)? It would be foolish and irrational to make any such requirement, for in all assemblies of men the leading minds must ever exercise great influence and authority (hear, hear, hear), It was not for their lordships to enter into an examination of the motives which had influenced the House of Commons, when, by a large majority, they sent up to them for their concurrence and approval this bill, intended to settle a most important and difficult question. The noble lords opposite had thought fit voluntarily to reveal the circumstances under which and the occasions on which of late years their private meditations had differed from their public vetes (hear, hear, and a laugh); but, although they had in the exercise of their private discretion thought proper to make these revolutions, he did not think he had any right to urge them to give information on such points. He protested against dragging formation on such points. He protested against dragging either them or their supporters to the confessional. It was enough for him that they had altered their minds. He wish to take the decision of the House of Commons as he found it, and he received it as the emphatic declaration of the psople through their representatives (hear, hear). Thus much an the subject of the majority. And now, hefore entains of ple through their representatives (hear, hear). Thus much on the subject of the majority. And now, before entering of the commercial view of this question, he wished to say a few words on two points, on both of which his noble friend pell touched, and which were to be regarded as separate, and the tight, and as preliminary to the general consideration of the distribution. The water was one to which the process for the colonies had attached meet, for the late Secretary for the Colonies had attached meet.

importance—this country's independence of foreign nations in the supply of food, and the political danger which he feared would arise from the admission and constant importation of foreign corn into this country. The noble and learned lord on his left (Lord Brougham) had most triumphantly exposed the fallacy and utter groundlessness of any apprehension of danger on this score, by referring to the great historical fact, which no one had ventured to impeach, namely, Napoleon's utter inability (notwithstanding all his gigantic influence was exerted towards that end) to prevent England from having a foreign supply of corn during the war (hear, hear). Despite of all his exertions, foreign grain poured in enormous quantities into this country during the war; and were it not that the fact was so, the price would have been 100s. a quarter instead of 105s. (hear, hear). As it was, there was great soarcity during the war, but had it not been for the foreign supply, there would have been absolute famine, so that a reference to our history in war times, so far from showing that it was unsafe or inexpedient to rely on a supply from foreign ports, proved the very opposite fact. The fact was that if, from political considerations, dependence on foreign countries was to be avoided, it could only be avoided at the expense of the farmer, who must be made to grow more corn than he could sell in one year, in order to secure a supply for another (hear, hear). This being obviously the fact, he was, he confessed, not a little surprised to find noble lords standing up to maintain that the sliding scale was the system which was best calculated to ensure security on this point. Why, if there ever was a law so contrived as to expose the country to the danger of political animosity, it was the law of the sliding scale (hear, hear) In the case of fixed duty or Free Trade, there would be al-ways a regular growth of corn in other lands especially designed for this country, and the home-growers could make their arrangements accordingly; but the sliding scale system was fraught with the most dangerous results; for when there was scarcity in England it proclaimed the fact all over the world, and that was the moment for foreign nations-supposing them to be animated with no very friendly feelings towards England—to step forward and say, "You are suffering from scarcity; now, we will stop your supplies, and reduce you to starvation" (hear, hear). So it was clear that if there was any system which left us more than another at the mercy of the foreigner, it was the sliding scale system (hear, hear). There was another point be would allude to. The opponents of the present measure appeared to be haunted by the apprehension that a considerable alteration in the social system of this country must ensue as the conecquence of the repeal of the Corn Laws (a laugh). Nor was this strange idea confined alone to the occupants of the cross benches, nor indeed exclusively to this country, for he hal it on high authority that an eminent personnge in a neighbouring country had pronounced a glowing eulogium on the right honourable baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government for having undertaken to cause a revolution in the social system of England (laughter). He thought it extremely doubtful whether the right honourable baronet would be inclined to regard this as a compliment, for most assuredly nothing could be more remote from his intention than any such purpose (hear, hear, hear). The only conattentional change that could by any possible contingency be involved would be the imputed diminution of respect and consideration to the landed proprietors, but even this apprehension was unfounded and absurd. Let the regulations of society as to commerce or manufactures be what they might, there would always attach to the possession of land an importance which would give to the landed proprietors not more power than they ought to have, but their just and legitimate position, and a preponderating influence in the affairs of government and legislation (lond cries of "hear, hear"). Many appeals to experience and testimony of the past had been made by the opponents of this measure; but it appeared to him that they entirely overrated, and indeed misunderstood their pretensions in this respect. He would not go so far as to say that he altogether approved of this measure in all its bearings (loud cries of "hear, hear," from the protectionist peers); but this he would say, that those who were friendly to the general principles on which this bill was based, and thought them wise and salutary, were the men who founded themselves on experience (hear, hear). Whatever may be urged on the score of political economy, this at all events was certain, that those who were friendly to the principle of this bill were emphatically the men who relied upon experience, and that it was those who maintained the protective system who were supporting theorists (hear, hear). Whatever restrictions on commerce had been introduced into the legislation of this country were so many experiments, and all these experiments had failed, and were ultimately abandoned without any attempt being subsequently made (vide the case of wool) to restore them, or call them into renewed existence (hear, hear). And he begged their lordships to consider, when this commercial policy was called the system of our ancestors, that there nover had been a fixed system at all. The barometer of commercial policy had always pointed to change, and if it was to be deemed a part of and bound up with our institutions and religion, our institutions and religion could not have been the same for these twenty years. Look to every change that had taken place in the course of the last thirty or forty years, and the effect of those changes in respect of wo l, of silk, and of hops (hear, hear). His noble friend who had quoted Mr. Huskisson would remember that one of the first and ablest efforts of that statesman in the way, not of maintaining, but of destroying protection, was the doing away with the duty on silk (hear, hear). And when that wise man made the attempt to do that, who had been his opponent? His noble friend (hear, hear), who had thought Mr. Huskisson a most hard-hearted man for not duly weighing the misery he was inflicting upon the large part of the population he was throwing out of employment. Mr. Huskisson said he might be called hard-hearted, but he would persevere, and persevere he did. What was the result? Instead of 2,000,000 lbs. of silk, 6,000,000 lbs. were manufactured (hear, hear). Did his noble friend find in this an instance of the value of the system of our forefathers? Did it appear that large bodies of labourers were dependent upon the system of protection, when the effect of this change was not only to preserve a large number of them, who could not otherwise have subsisted, but to call many into existence (hear, hear). The case was the same with respect to wool. He would not weary their lordships with the figures, but those who had paid attention to the subject knew that there had been an immense increase. As to our shipping, which had been dwelt upon as an instance of the misshief attending the removal or relaxation of our commercial system, what were the facts? His noble friend had surely read from the wrong paper when he drew the inferences he had with respect to shipping. In 1820, the ton-

nage in the ports of England was 2,648,503, and in 1832 the number of tons entered inwards—and the numbers entered outwards hore a proportionate increase—was 1,036,000. In 1845, the number of tons was 3,669,000. And this was called a diminution of tonnage in England under tariff relaxations. Could anything be more decisive as to the state of the shipping interest? and until other figures were brought to confute those he should assert that the shipping interest was never more prosperous. He cared not that the tonnage in other countries had increased also (hear, hear). God forbid the effect of any of our systems should be to diminish the trade of any country on the globe! On the contrary, he regarded it as an additional source of satisfaction, that if our tonnage had increased, that of other countries had increased even in a greater degree (hear, hear). He accepted it as a benefit, and he considered that both the one increase and the other was conducive to the wealth and prosperity of all (hear, hear). In 1785 Mr. Pitt introduced commercial propositions relative to our trade with Ireland, which were founded upon the principle of liberty of commerce. But then, as now, there had not been wanting persons who saw in the adoption of such resolutions nothing but ruin and destruction. At that time, Colonel Stunley, a near relative of his noble friend the late Secretary for the Colonies, came forward and presented a petition, which he enforced with a speech stating in common with the petitioners, who prayed to be heard by counsel at the bar in proof of their allegations, that what was about to be done would put the finishing stroke to the cotton manufacture in England. And what was this proposal which excited so much alarm? The admission of Irish fustians and cottons (hear, hear, hear). The petitioners declared, that if once those productions were ad mitted, there would be an end of the English cotton manufacture. The resolution, however, was carried into effect, and to this day Ireland, unfortunately, did not produce cotton manufactures for her own use, while the English cotton manufactures had doubled, may quadrupled, quintupled, which proved how little it was dependent upon protection (hear). The next year came on the commercial treaty with France, which was debated in their lordships house in a form he could have wished the present question to have before them -that of a resolution, by which Mr. Pitt afforded to their lordships an opportunity of alteration, of which they were now deprived. In that debate, an individual of high eminence, of great knowledge, and scientific attainments, whom he (the Marquis of Lansdowne) remembered in early youth, he meant Dr. Watson, Bishop of Llandaff, put forth this notion of protection, and told their lordships that they were overturning all the experience of their ancestors by this treaty of commerce, and like the late noble Secretary for the Colonies, the bishop read the preamble of an act of the reign of Charles the Second, which said- Whereas, it is universally known that the wealth of the country is disappearing, and ruin is advancing, from the money sent out of the country for the purchase of French wines" (hear, hear, and laughter). That was the experience of our ancestors, to which reference had been made, and revering as he did the experience of our aucestors upon the great principles of the constitution and government under which we lived, believing that our ancestors had laid that government upon the surest and most certain foundations, and had contributed thereby to the greatest happiness and prosperity of the country, he could not extend his respect to a principle such as that which they had thought fit to apply to our commercial policy. If his noble friend at the head of the Board of Trade would look through all the papers and memorials which, from time to time, had been presented to that board, he would find that the commerce of the country had encountered more dangers and hair breadth escapes than had ever fullen to the lot of any voyager-adventurer, not excepting Sindbad the sailor himself. Never had an alteration or improvement been adopted, but commerce had been represented as standing on the brink of a precipice, whence it would presently be hurled to the bottom. Nevertheless, after a few years, it had always been found placed on a higher eminence than before, and further out of the reach of danger and difficulty. He therefore confidently repeated his opinion that experience was against and not for protection and prohibition. Nothing could lead him to believe that the British farmer, with all the advantages of increased knowledge, and the easiest possible communication, with the certainty of a growing population around him, was dependent for his prosperity upon the sickly atmosphere of protection (cheers). His noble friend had quoted Mr. Huskisson for the purpose of gaining the sauction of his name to the maintenance of the prohibitory system for the production of the land; but it was to be wished when his noble friend told their lordships that he had not only quoted the opinions of that statesman in 1815, but in 1826, that his noble friend had not entirely suppressed his opinions of 1830. But as his noble friend had quoted Mr. Huskisson, he (the Marquis of Lansdowne) must be permitted to read a remarkable sentence or two contained in the last speech that statesman ever made (hear, nd then he would leave their lordships to decide whether his authority would be quoted in favour of a prohibitory policy:-"Our Corn Laws, however expedient to prevent other evils in the present state of the country, are in themselves a burden and a restraint upon its commercial and manufacturing industry. Whilst the products of that industry must descend to the level of the general market of the world, the producers, so far as food is concerned, are de-barred from that level. If the price of sustenance—that is, the price of those particular articles which we never export and are frequently compelled to import—be materially dearer here than anywhere else, that dearness cannot be shifted to the articles which we do export. It must fall in the way of deduction either upon the wages and comforts of the labourer, or upon the profits of those who afford him employment (cheers). After that quotation, from the last opinions of Mr. Huskisson, it would be most extraordinary to him to hear the authority of that statesman claimed for the maintenance of the Corn Law. The opinions of the farmers had been referred to, and whatever his noble friend might say of the farmers of the south, there were hardly any persons better informed, more long-sighted or more intent on acquiring the means of forming a correct judgment than the Scotch farmers (hear, hear). He held in his hand a list of lettings which had taken place last year in some of the most important places, at an advance varying from 10 to 25 and 30 per cent. (The noble marquis here read the list, but in so low a tone as to be inaudible in the gallery.) Again, they were told that the system of protection was good for other things, and therefore must be good for the cultivation of the soil. We had the experience of a now very important article—that of flax. That was formerly protected, but the protection was in a great degree removed in 1824, and was finally and entirely removed in 1842. At that time memorials to the Board of Trade, petitions to Par-

liament, deputations of members of Parliament to the Trea. sury abounded, to represent all the injury that would ensue from the withdrawal of protection. What had been the effect of the measure? The produce of Irish flax in 1841, before the withdrawal of the last protection, was 25,000 tons; two years after the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been withdrawn it was 36,000 tons; the protection had been the effect of the measure. tons (hear, hear), so that unprotected flax had extended it self with the most unaccountable rapidity, in spite of all the terrors and fears which the removal of the protection had inspired. He took from the evidence of Mr. Blake, a very intelligent witness, examined by Lord Devon's Commission in its inquiries in the north of Ireland, these questions as to flax: "What is the state of the country as regards the cultivation of flax?"—" The cultivation is daily becoming more prevalent." Mr. M'Culloch was afterwards asked whe. ther he considered flax a remunerative crop, and he said that of late years it had become a remunerative crop (hear, bear). Then we had the evidence both of figures and of person staying in the country, the best of all evidence, that the withdrawal of protection was immediately followed by the increase of cultivation in the case of flax. Perhaps some noble lord would tell bim that the increase was owing to the protection of the linen manufactures; but that would not do, for the protection was withdrawn from them in the same year, and our linen manufactures were left to compete with the foreigner. Then he said he concurred with Mr. Huskisson, not in those earlier opinions which his noble friend had quoted, but in his later opinions which he omitted to quote, that the Corn Laws, as declared in the last speech pro-nounced by him in 1830, were an impediment to the progress of commerce and manufactures, and ought to be repealed (hear, hear). He did maintain that the speculations of calamity founded on the removal of past restrictions had completely deceived those who entertained them, and that they had been succeeded by an immense increase in the prosperity of the country. Those persons who had entertained these apprehensions, and denounced those reforms as dire calamities, if permitted to revisit this country, would, with undoubted confidence in their own predictions, have rushed to scenes which they would have expected to see

reduced to desolation:
"Desertosque videre locos, littusque relictum," but would have found them the flourishing seats of industry and wealth. His noble friend, the late Secretary for the Colonies, had told them there was a danger of too great prosperity of manufactures; but how had the agricultural community reached the prosperity it now enjoyed, but through the agency of manufactures? They were told last night that too little was said of the importance of the home market to the manufactures, and that it was to that the manufacturers ought to look. He had recently read a historical account of the county with which his noble friend the late Secretary for the Colonies was immediately connected-that of Lancashire, which well illustrated this subject. He knew nothing peculiar in the circumstances of that county, which might not equally apply to the whole kingdom. In the course of the last 150 years, the property of the county, as a whole, had been advanced 6300 per cent., while the property of the agricultural parts had been advanced in the time 3500 per cent. Now, he would ask their lordships, had not the manufacturing parts advanced 6300 per cent., if it would have been possible for the agricultural parts to have advanced 3500 per cent. (hear, hear)? One was the effect of the other; the increase in the value of landed property in this country depended, and would depend on the greater increase in the manufacturing property of the country. He therefore said it was short-sighted indeed not to consider that the manufacturing interest was entitled to its part in the universal prosperity of the country (hear). Many seemed to consider manufacturing prosperity as a kind of unhealthy repletion, which the state physician was to keep down, and not to encourage by allowing it to obtain the cheapest food in the cheapest market. Others of their lordships entertained opinions favourable to a fixed duty, He (the Marquis of Lansdowne) had never dissembled his opinions as to a fixed duty; he had omitted no fit eccs sion to state his preference for a fixed duty as a mode of settling this question. He thought that this would have been preserable, first because he was unwilling to impair the revenue of the country; he was for it, because, if adopted on a moderate scale, it appeared to him consistent with a very large import of foreign corn, and furthermore with the freest intercourse with foreign nations (hear, hear). He was not ashamed to say that he was for it also, because wishing that in all great changes the sentiments and feelings, and even the prejudices of large bodies of men should be consulted, it had appeared to him that the adoption of such a duty would naturally conciliate such an amount of support from those who constituted what was called the landed interest, as would enable a settlement to be adopted which might be considered equally satisfactory to others as to them (hear, hear). These were his opinions, and if he had the settlement of this question in his hands at present these would still be his opinions (hear, hear). But the question he was now called upon to answer, and must answer to himself, was, whether, in voting in committee for any amendment calculated to have that effect, he should not be, in fact, nominally voting for such an amendment, but really voting against the settlement of this question (hear, hear). He could not disguise from himself that whether the forms of the two houses of Parliament were or were not what they ought to be, yet, after the sentiments expressed by the right honourable gentleman at the head of her Majesty's Government, possessing a great though diminished influence in the other house of Parliament—after the letter written in November last, but to which he (the Marquis of Lanedowne) was no party, by his noble friend the member for the city of London-after the general sentiments expressed in favour of the change in doors and out of doors he was obliged to conclude that the effect of such an amendment being to throw out this bill, it would be followed, not by a fixed duty, but by a bill of a totally different description (cries of "hear, hear"). Under these circumstances, looking, as he was bound to do, to the practice of the constitution, and finding the practical information and finding the practical information. tion, and finding the practical inference confirmed by the speech of his noble friend the late Secretary for the Colonies the other night, who directed the whole scope of his argument quite as much against a fixed duty as a sliding scale, and studiously took the high ground of protection, not of revonue, for the purpose of letting them understand how little they had to hope from him as to the enactment of a first duty under that influence; after these circumstances, and having deliberately auty under that influence; after these circumstances, and having deliberately reflected on the consequences that might be expected to follow a different line of consequences had finally determined, for the purpose of obtaining them the first country, to accept the bill all the hadren that the result of the bill of consequences to the result of the bill of consequences.

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rise of the price of provisions in this country, were neither up to the apprehensions entertained on the one side by the noble lords opposite, nor up to the equally exaggerated expectations entertained on the other as to the great increase of cheapness. He thought the way in which the bill would answer the objects of its framers, and be productive of great and lasting beneficial consequences to this country would be by a gradual and certain extension of commerce, placed on a solid foundation (hear, hear). The increase of the linen trade, and the much greater amount of flax grown, was an instance of the manner in which it might be expected to operate; extension of commerce would contribute to the wealth and prosperity both of the land and trade of this country, so that at the end of a few years, they would not be able to determine which benefited most. He had every confidence that the exertions of the British farmer would save him harmless from the effects resulting from any small decrease in the amount of the price of grain that might for a time ensue. He could not undoubtedly adopt the political economy of a man who was one of the greatest ornaments of this country, who, in one of his most beautiful poems had declared,

"That trade's proud empire hastes to swift decay, As ocean sweeps the laboured mole away. Though he was inclined to adopt the sentiment of the two following lines, and apply them to the farmers and the lauded interest of this country:

'A self-dependent power can time defy, As rocks resist the billows and the sky. In that confidence he felt himself bound to give his vote in favour of the measure proposed to them by her

Majesty's ministers (cheers). SPEECH OF LORD DALHOUSIE. The Earl of DALHOUSIE.—I am sure your lordships will do me the justice to believe that I am entirely sincere when I say, that in rising to submit to your lordships the reasons which induce me to give my vote in favour of the second reading of this bill, and to bear my share of the re sponsibility of proposing it, I do so under a deep and un feigned distrust of my own capacity to discharge the task which devolves upon me. I should labour under a feeling of still stronger discouragement, were it not that I venture even now to hope that I may receive at your lordships' hands a continuance of that kindness and indulgence which for many years your lordships have invariably shown me (hear, hear). I should not have contested with the noble baron the right to occupy the attention of the house, were it not that there was an understanding (the noble duke will bear me cut) that I should follow the noble lord who had [The Duke of Richmond.-" After the noble marquis spoke, it was right that a protectionist should answer him; your lordships have already heard, that though the noble earl was once a protectionist, he is not so now.] "I hope the house will not permit itself to lose its good hu-I can assure your lordships that nothing whatever shall fall from me calculated in the slightest degree to increase the feelings of impatience, and I hope the house will not be offended if I say of discontent, which it is too apparent prevail among your lordships. In the course of the debate here and elsewhere it has divided itself into two parts; one of these has reference to the merits of the measure itself, and the other to the conduct of those by whom it has been brought forward; and there have been said things which it is, no doubt, hard to listen to and galling to bear. I am not about, either on the part of myself or of my noble friends by my side, to offer any complaint upon that subject. We cannot help being conscious, that however strong are or own convictions of the expediency and the necessity of the course we have pursued, the introduction of the measure by as cannot but have created feelings of mortification in the minds of those with whom we have hitherto acted, and I at once admit that we have no right to be quickly sensitive to the natural expression of that feeling (hear, hear). I assure your lordships again that, if I can help it, not a word shall fall from my lips calculated to increase any animosity which may at present exist (hear). My noble friends, I am sure, will not be inclined to think that I misstate the case when I eay that a large proportion of that which has been stated by them was stated previously in the brilliant and comprehensive address delivered by the noble lord the late Secretary for the colonies. I am sure that they will not think it flows from any disrespect to them, if I direct myself chiefly to his speech, which was so comprehensive, as a whole, and which, in my opinion, placed the matter on those grounds on which alone I think it is expedient this question should be considered. The noble lord gave his opinion, not only on this bill but the considered. on this bill, but submitted to the house his views on the whole commercial policy of the country. He stated that he objected to this bill because he wished to sustain protection to native industry. Now, the bill which is submitted to your lordships, and in which is proposed a change of the law, is based on precisely the opposite principles, and it is in defence of that proposed change that I now address your lordships, for I feel bound to maintain the opinion I hold, that the principle of protection is altogether unsound (cheers). I believe that the principle of protective duties is unjust to the consumer, by raising the price of the article he purchases, and in the long run in no degree beneficial to the producer (hear, hear). I found that opinion, not merely on the teaching of political economists, for it has not been impressed on my mind with a fearful and irresistible wright by that which my noble friend (Lord Ashburton) lias referred to this evening, as that "awful thing" political economy (a laugh); but I have derived this opinion from an examination of the history of the commerce of this country—and the authority I shall to-night quote is the greatest of all authorities - I mean the authority of fact (hear, hear, hear). I maintain that the history of our commercial legislation,nore especially of the last 80 years, and, above and beyond all, the history and course of our commercial legislation, which the noble lord the late Secretary for the Colonics the other evening referred to so much in illustration of the tariff of 1842,—affords demonstration of the truth of the doctrine I have just Isid down (hear, hear). Permit me here to address to the house a few words personally relating to myself. In making the statement I do now with respec to the principle of protection, I say nothing at variance with the sentiments I have ever expressed in this house (cheers). During the three years I have conducted a portion of the public business of the country, not only has nothing been said by me adverse to the opinion I express now, but that opinion itself has always been held and expressed by me (hear). It has been my lot to express this opinion amid the deadest and dullest silence of noble lords on this side of the bouse, while it received the cheers of the noble marquis and the noble lords who usually street with him on the other side of the thouse (hear); when noble lords who usually street with him on the other side of the thouse (hear); when noble lords beauty him were saming their beauty and doubted which the put forth, while ing of sales of British timber.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE resumed by saying that the

noble lords opposite nodded acquiescence (hear). The noble lord proceeded to say, that upon occasions when he was called upon to bring forward any liberal measure in that house, the noble duke on the cross benches, if he supported the motion, did so not because he loved the sentiments of the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, but because he abjured and hated them in some degrees less than he did those of his noble friend's opposite (hear). During the 11 years he had been in public life he had not in any one case ex pressed an opinion adverse to that which he now held on this question. He had the honour of a seat in the other House of Parliament for an agricultural constituency, the county of East Lothian, and never to them on the hustings or elsewhere had he uttered a word adverse to his present principles. He never gave a vote on the Corn Laws but one, and that was for a diminution of duty, and a relaxation of protection (hear). He asked pardon for thus occupying their attention with matters personal to himself, but as that debate had turned so much on inconsistency, he thought it due to himself to say thus much (cheers). It would be unpardonable in him at that late hour of the night, and in the temper of the house, and after the fatigue it had endured, to proceed at any length to illustrate the views he held upon this question; but he did feel strongly the extreme importance of not permitting the speech of the noble lord (Lord Stanley) on the commercial policy pursued by her Majesty's Govern ment to go unanswered. He would not go into details, but would touch merely on two or three of the points urged by the noble lord. But he had stated to their lordships that he rested wholly on facts for the principles he entertained, and was prepared to go into the question and to deny that the commercial prosperity of this country had risen from the operation of protection, and in this he agreed with Lord Liverpool, who was not usually quoted by noble lords opposite on such a question as this, but who had said he thought it more than doubtful whether the prosperity of the various trades, woollen more particularly, had not existed in despite of, and not in consequence of protection (hear, hear). He was prepared to combat the statements of the noble lord, on the authority of Mr. Greg, and to assert that with respect to the woollen, cotton, linen, silk, iron, and, indeed, every branch of trade in the country, not only did they not flourish by reason of the principle of protection, but that they flourished just as that protection was removed. Nay, more, that they flourished all the better in proportion as that protection was removed (cheers). His noble friend had adverted to various points in the tariff of 1812, and he made certain statements as to the price of wool and timber, and ships in the Baltic trade, and guano ships, the whole tendency of which was to impugn the effect of that tariff, and to show that protection to native industry ought to be continued. The noble lord then went on to say that he remembered his noble friend had two years ago remarked on the great increase on the importation of butter, and he had stated the other night that that increase was owing to the duty having been lowered; but there were two reasons why that effect could not be traced to the reduction of duties. The first was, that the duty had not been lowered; the second was, that the importation had not increased (a laugh). He should endeavour to say nothing respecting the statement of his noble friend (Lord Stanley) which ought not to be said in his absence. One of his noble friend's statements was that his right bon, friend (Sir Robert Pecl) had made it his boast that the tariff of 1842 had had the effect of increasing the prices of articles, and that he argued that increased competition tended to raise the prices of articles. Now, his right hon, friend had made no such statement. His right hon, friend said that, notwithstanding the alarm that was expressed that the tariff would have the effect of lowering prices, those prices had not been lowered, and he distinctly stated that the result was not owing to the operation of the tariff, but that he mentioned it only to show that the appre hensions that were felt at that time had not been realised What had been the effect of protecting wool with reference to the price? In 1819, when the duty of 6d. a lb. was imposed, the price was 1s. 4d., which had fullen, under the operation of protection, to 10d. in 1826. He had by him a paper which had been laid on the table containing the prices and quantities of wool from 1818 to 18 5, and the return was made so extensive in order to comprise three different rates of duty. In 1818 the duty was \$d. a lb.; in 1819 it was \$d. a lb., which it continued till 1826, when the duty was lowered to 1d., andthat duty remained until 1841, when it was finally abolished. Now, when the duty of 6d. a pound was proposed, those who urged that a protective duty was necessary were distinctly told that it would have the effect of lowering the price, for that foreign wool was essentially necessary for combination with our own wools in the manufacture of cloth, and that the demand for home wool would diminish if foreign wool were rendered so much dearer, and that the price would accordingly fall. The price when that duty was imposed was 2s. 6d., the importation of foreign wool being about 17,000,000lb. During the continuance of the high duty the importation fell from 17,000,000lb. to 14,000,000lb, and the price of home grown wool fell to 1s. 4d. The consequence was that our woollens were entirely excluded from the markets of the Continent, and in fact from that hour to the present the woollen trade had never wholly recovered from the blow then inflicted upon it. His noble friend would have found, if he had looked a little more closely into the subject, that the price had begun to revive, upon taking off the high duty of 6d. a lb., and had coninposi taking on the nigh duty of on. a 10., and had continued to increase up to 1834, when it was 1s. 3d.; that was to say, the price was as high with an importation of 42,684,247lb., as when the importation was only 17,000,000lb. The price was now is. 4d. Whether, therefore, his noble friend had in the case of wool made out his position that on lowering the duty on importation the price fell, he would leave to their lordships to consider, the price having been 2s. 6d. under a low duty in 1818, and having fallen to 1s. 4d. under the operation of a high duty. Then his noble friend had said, "Look to the case of timber; you lowered the duty on foreign timber in 1842;" and then he put it to his noble friend at the head of the Woods and Forests to say whether the prices of Crown timber sold in England had not to a considerable extent fallon. Now, he (the Earl of Dalhousie) held in his hand a return, not of a single sale of timber, but of the contracts of the whole of the British navy. The price of oak timber from Tuscany in 1841 was 12/. 4s. 0d.; in 1846 it was 10/. 14s. 8d. Dantzie oak in 1841 was at 14/.; in 1846 it had fallen to 124. But the price of English oak in 1841 was 124. 14s. 6d.; in 1842, 124. 14s. 4d.; in 1843, 11/. 1s, 4d; in 1840 it was again 12/. 14s. 6d., showing that the operation of the reduction of duty had not been to lower prices. Those were the contract prices.

The Duke of RICHMOND: My noble friend was speak-

question was, what was the contract price? Now, the conditions and circumstances were precisely the same in the four years to which he had referred; and whatever had operated on the price in 1841 had had precisely the same effect in 1846. His noble friend (Lord Stanley) said, "See what you have done with the shipping interest: the number of British ships employed in the Baltic timber trade in 1839 was 612, whilst in 1845 it had fallen to 600; the number of foreigns ships was 506 in 1839, and in 1844 it was 1845." He (Lord Dalhousie) did not deny that there were more foreign than English ships employed in the timber trade; but their lordships should bear in mind that those ships were of small capacity, and unfit for any other purpose; they were kept affort by the cargo they carried. However, the whole amount of our shipping trade generally with the Baltic had not dimi-In 1842, which was the first year of the tariff. the British ships employed in the Baltic amounted to 3019, with a tounage of 613,000; and in 1844 the number of Bris tish ships was 4424 (being an increase of about a thousand), with a tonnage of 818,000, being an increase of 200,000 tonnage (hear, hear). So much as respected the trade with the Baltic. Perhaps their lordships would permit him to read an extract which must have greater authority than anything he could say, inasmuch as it consisted of observations stated at a business meeting, and related to affairs in which the interests of the parties present were concerned. At a late meeting of the dock companies at Liverpool, the chairman said that some surprise had been expressed at the increase of 100,000 tonnage talked of some time since; but he now had to deal with an increase, not of a hundred thousand, but of hundreds of thousands; the increase in six months, from June to the 31st of December last, having exceeded that of any previous period, inasmuch as it showed an increase of 600 vessels and 200,409 tonnage over the corresponding six months of the preceding year (hear, hear, hear). Now, what were the expectations of these parties under a relaxation of the protective laws? The chairman proceeded to say, that in proportion as they afforded accommodation, in the same proportion they would draw trade to the port of Liverpool: and supposing that at no distant period the rates of duty on other foreign productions, which were now virtually excluded, should be modified, it would not be in the power of any man to divine, whenever those duties should be reduced, what accommodation would be required at the port of Liverpool, which stood in the pre-eminent position of having 203 acres of dock with 15 miles of quay-way (hear, hear). After this would their lordships say that the tariff of 1842 had been injurious to the shipping interest (hear, hear)? respect to the number of ships employed, his noble friend (Lord Stanley) took a return on the table, and said that up to 1832 there had been a biennial increase of tonnage amounting to 180,000, whilst in the two years after the turiff the increase had only been 17,000 tonnage. That was true; but there was an explanation of the circumstance, which was this, that during the four years from 1839 onwards, there was an immense and inordinate speculation in shipping; and in consequence of that, application was made for a duty to be laid on colonial shipping, and a committee was appointed in the other house to inquire into the subject. That was the reason why the tonnage appeared to be so small in the two years referred to; but if they compared 1813 with 1845, instead of comparing 1842 with 1844, they would find that, instead of there being an increase of 17,000 tonnage only, the increase was 126,684 tonnage (hear, hear). He now came to the other branch of the subject to which his noble friend had adverted—protection to corn. His noble friend had stated to their lordships in the first place that he had high authority to adduce on this point, and he mentioned the names of Chatham, Pitt, and Huskisson. Now, he (Lord Dalhousie) entertained, quite as highly as any noble lord could do, reverance for the wisdom of our ancestors; but, with reference to Lord Chatham, for instance, it was atterly impossible that, unless he had possessed the faculty of omniscience, he could have expressed an opinion with respect to the fiscal and social relations of the present day (hear, hear). On questions relating to the immutable laws of the liberty of the subject Lord Chatham's opinions were unquestionably of paramount importance; but upon a question respecting the regulation of commerce, it was utterly impossible that Lord Chatham, or any other person could have foreseen or anticipated the state of things which now exists (hear, hear, hear). Then with respect to Mr. Pitt, it was impossible for anyone who adverted to the proceedings of Mr. Pitt in 1787, or who read his speeches, to doubt that if he had lived now he would have been the foremost to advocate the policy which had now been submitted to their lordships, and to bring the whole weight of his vast influence and his gigantic talents in carrying this policy into effect (hear). Mr. Huskisson lived at a later period, and did not therefore lie under the disability to which he had referred. But he (Lord Dalhousie) appealed to him -he called his voice from the grave the course now pursued by the Government in the circumstances of the present time, and in the present condition of the country, was exactly such as he, if he had lived, would himself have pursued. (Here the noble lord quoted the sentiments of Mr. Huskisson). He begged to adduce to their lordships, as another authority on this subject, a noble lord whose name he was sure would be received with the greatest respect, as that of a man of the deepest asgacity, of enlarged experience, and great and varied powers of mind— he meant the late Lord Lauderdale. That noble lord was as strong an advocate of the Corn Laws as anyhody; but he advocated them solely because he thought, that while protection was extended to other interests, it ought not to be withdrawn from agriculture; and he distinctly indicated his opinion, that as soon as protection was removed from other articles it should be removed from agriculture also (hear). A noble lord (Lord Ashburton) who sat beside him, repeating a statement which was made on the preceding night, said that they were going to do that which no country on earth ever thought of attempting to do—namely, establish a free trade in corn; and he asked them to solve the question what they were to do in cheap years, when the ports of this country were the only ports open to the importation of foreign corn. His noble friend (Lord Stanley) had cited all the countries of Europe, from Turkey round to Sweden, stating that each and all of them had a Corn Law; and that statement had been repeated to night. Now, it was quite true that each and all of them had a Corn Law; but what sort of Corn Laws were they? Were they anything like the Corn Law in this country? No, they were nothing like it (hear, hear). There was none of them imposed for the sake of protection, and none of them whatever excluded foreign corn in the years to which his noble friend had re-ferred (hear; hear). He (Lord Dalhousie) held in his transit-a statement of the various Corn Laws in Europe, which desi would read to their lordships. In Turkey there was a daily

unon corn of 5 per cent. ad valorem. In the Danubean prosees of Turkey (which he begged their lordships to bear in mind were the corn growing provinces), the duty was 8 per cent. ad valorem, and there was no point which the popu-Sation of those provinces held with greater tenseity than their right to have the duty at 3 instead of 5 per cent (hear, hear). How his noble friend could draw any argument in favour of protection from this source he declared he could not see. The Papal states of Italy admitted corn free when the price was 48s, per quarter. In Sardinia there was a duty of 6s, per quarter. In the smaller Italian states there was a duty of 3s, per quarter. In Tuesday the duty was a mere fraction. In Greece it was d. a quarter, and in Austria 3s. per quarter; and he begged their lordships to observe that Austria, possessing the rich provinces of Hungary, Transylvania, and Galicia, nevertheless in the ports of Venice, Flume, and Trieste granted admission for the importation of foreign corn free of all duty.

Lord ABHBURTON remarked that Trieste was a free Lord DALHOUSIE (incontinuation) replied that he was quite aware of that; but that the corn was imported into the interior free of duty. In Spain and Portugal there was a to tal prohibition; and here he wished simply to mention one fact as showing what was the advantage or disadvantage of this description of protective duty on corn. The fact rested on the authority of official papers before their lordships, and It was this, that from Portugal and Spain corn could be purchared in the port of New York at 4s. 0d. per quarter, and brought back for sale into Spain while wheat was to be had on the plains of Castile at is, 6d, per bushel, but which was entirely useless, because from the high cost of carriage it was impossible to bring it to a part where it could meet a profit-able sale; Belgium had a sliding scale, but free importation was allowed when wheat was 33s. a quarter. A similar regulation was adopted in Holland. In Mecklenburgh a duty of three per cent. was levied; in Hanover 6s. a quarter; and in Denmark 3s. a quarter. The duty levied in the places he had named ranged from three to five per cent. In Russia, a duty of 14s. a quarter was imposed on the importation of wheat. But were these countries in the habit of regulating their duties upon the system advocated in that house? No; and it was unnecessary to go further back than the present year to show the course they pursued. One of the earliest steps taken by the Government of Holland this year was altogether to suspend the Corn Laws (hear, hear). In Russia also - hermetically scaled Russia-the duties on the importation of corn were altogether removed; and in Belgium the Chambers were convoked in order to remit for a year the duties on corn. What analogy was there, then, in the course pursued by these countries in favour of a permanent protecting duty spon corn? What was the cause of their suspension of the importation duties? Did it arise from any great failure of the corn crops? No; but from the very same vause which had been treated with such distrust and discredit in that house-the failure of the potato crop (hear, hear). And yet some noble lords believed it would have been possible for her Majesty's ministers to have come down to Parliament and have asked the corn consumers of Great Britain to grant a sum of money to relieve the distress of the Irish people, while at the same time they maintained a duty of 14s. a quarter upon wheat (hear, hear). There was no alternative between that course and the suspension of the Corn Laws for a time; and he would ask whether, in the face of a suspension of the Corn Laws in other countries, if such a suspension had been adopted in this kingdom, it would not have been utterly impossible ever to attempt to restore the Corn Laws to their former position (hear, hear, and cheers;? It had been asserted that the main object of a Corn Law was to prevent a country from being dependent upon foreign supplies of corn; and the permanence of the law of 1842 had been advocated on the ground that, under the operation of that law, this object had been attained. It was said that the quantity of corn produced in this country was keeping pace with the demands of the population : and a noble friend of his stated that the importations of corn for the last 20 years had averaged 1,700,000 quarters per annum; while, during the last year, it had only been 305,000 quarters. From this circumstance the inference was drawn that of late years our dependence upon foreign supplies had been diminished; but they could not draw a correct inferonce from an average extending over so long a period as 21 years. The only way of arriving at a satisfactory result was to take an average, so far as they could, for equal periods. He held in his hand a return of the importations of corn into this country from 1791 to 1840, from which it appeared that in the first 10 years, from 1791 to 1800, the importations were 94,000 quarters; from 1801 to 1810, 555,000 quarters; from 1811 to 1820, 420,000 quarters; from 1821 to 1830, 534,000 quarters; and from 1831 to 1840, 908,000 quarters. Now, in the five years from 1840 to 1840, partly under the operation of the new Corn Law, the average importation had been 1,807,000 quarters annually, d been admitted for consumn tion. In 1843 the total entries for consumption were 990,000 gnarters; in 1844, 1,026,000 quarters; and in 1845, 805,000 quarters. It was, therefore, evident, upon the face of these returns, that the importation of foreign corn was increasing, and that the existing law did not render us independent of supplies from other countries (hear, hear) Now, he would ask their lordships to consider for a single moment this question of dependence upon foreign countries. What single trade, or art, or employment of life was there with respect to which they were not almost hopelessly and entirely dependent for supplies upon foreign countries (hear, hear)? Let them take the case of the woollen trade. There was not one of their lordships who was not dependent upon foreign supplies for the coat he wore (a laugh). Nay, there was not one of their lordships' footmen who, if they were to propose to become independent of foreign supplies of wool. would not give warning to-morrow (laughter). But were they less dependent upon foreign supplies with regard to the cotton manufacture? His noble friend had stated that the total annual imports of cotton wool into this country amounted to 721,000,000 lbs. Did not this fact show how entirely, and almost hopelessly, they were dependent upon foreigners for their supply? So it was with respect to silk. They could not even carry on a war or fire a shot without being dependent upon foreign supply for the articles used in war (hear, hear). This country was dependent upon her exports and imports for her revenue, and she was therefore dependent upon foreign nations for the maintenance of her crodit. From 1812 to 1814 they were at war with the United Brates, from which this country drew her supplies of cotton. Would it not have been death and destruction to them if the Oulted States had stopped the supply of cotton to this coun-sy." But that hid not been the case. The China war was another example, and our supplies of tea during the period of

the war were greater than in any year preceding. The same principle would govern other nations with respect to corn. If we were dependent upon them for our supplies, we could get what we wanted, notwithstanding they were at war with us, as had been the case during the war with Napoleon. But then his noble friend said "Look at the price!" Why, 10 years back the price was as high as in any of the years his noble friend had quoted. The price, too, had no effect upon the argument, which was, that if we were at war with other countries we could not obtain supplies of corn. During the course of the war in which we were engaged with the whole of Europe, large imports of corn came in every year. Even in 1810, we had importations from France itself, and he maintained that, if this country again required foreign supplies, those supplies would be got. The Government had been reproached for not stating what, in their opinion, the price of corn would be under the new system (hear, hear). He was not prepared to answer any demand so unreasonable—(cheers from the Opposition, and ironical cheers from the cross benches)—as to say what the actual and speoific price of corn would be. He would also respectfully ask their lordships whether they were quite entitled to demand that information from him? Would they have been prepared in any given year, under the present system, to say what the price would be in the year following? It had been stated that, during the last 21 years the average price of wheat was 570. But what consolation was it to the farmer to be told what was the average price during a series of years, if it had been racing up and down the scale during that period? In one year the price had been 58s., in the next it was 39s., in the next but one it was 01s., and in the next 57s. How could their lordships, when there had been such fluctuations under a system the boast of which was that it prevented fluctuation, ask him to name a specific price?
The Duke of RICHMOND.—Go to the last bill.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE said, that if he did not mistake, the noble duke had predicted precisely the same effects from the consequences of the bill of 1842 as he now prophesied from the operation of the present bill.

The Duke of RICHMOND said he never did anything of the sort. He did not vote for that bill, but he probably should have done so if he had happened to have been in the

The Earl of DALHOUSIE thought the noble duke had voted against that bill, but it was immaterial for the purposes of his argument. The present law had proved to demonstration that the whole system of averages was a fiction (cheers). The noble lord had boasted of the great fixedness and steadiness of price that had followed the law of 1842. The average price of the last year, 50s. 10d., had also been pointed to as a proof the abundance of corn in this country. He maintained that that price of 50s. was no index whatever to the actual price of corn; it was only an index to the inferiority of the quality. He held in his hand a return of the prices at the different market towns, not of the lowest prices, but of the highest average towns and the lowest. In the year 1815, which was an abundant year, the highest price in January was 55s. and the lowest 40s.; in the next month the difference was from 55s. to 40s.; in the next, from 55s. to 38s.; and in the next from 54s. to 30s. In November of the same year, the difference was from 68s. to 48s.; and in the week ending the 29th, from 69s. to 38s. In January, 1816, the difference in the first week was between 60s. and 41s., in the next 67s. to 40s., and in the next 71s, to 12s.; and during other periods of the same year, the difference, instead of ranging at near 15s., as in former periods, was as much as 25s., 26s., 20s., 30s., 31s., 32s., and so on, while on the 28th of March it was between 69s. to 32s., or a difference of 37s. In the face of these facts to talk of equalising prices by means of this law was a gross fallacy. He had also the further evidence of the contract price from the Victualling office for the years 1843, 1844, 1845, and 1846. In January, 1843, the price of red wheat was 21.9s. 3d.; in January, 1844, 2l. 17s. 10d.; in 1845, 21. 0s. 10d.; and in February, 1846, 31. 5s. 5d.; and in other kinds there was a price varying from 31. 7s. to 31. 11s., in the face of the professed object of the law, which was to produce an average price of 50s. He therefore altogether repudiated the idea of attempting to fix a price. He was disposed to agree with Earl Spencer in his opinion that everything as regarded price would remain as nearly as possible where it was, and that the advantage of the measure would consist in the steadiness of trade, and the encourage ment which the agriculture of the country would derive from the increased stimulus given by I'ree Trade to our manufactures. One false notion seemed to pervade all the arguments on this question,-it was that there should be an enormous importation of foreign grain under this measure. Whence was this supply to come? It seemed to be generally assumed that Germany, Denmark, Poland, Russia, some Austrian provinces, and the United States, were the countries from which the grain was to come. But noble lords who entertained those apprehensions never attempted to state in what quantities this grain would come, and where it was to come from. Mr. Jacobs, in 1828, visited the countries in the north of Europe, and reported that they could not send to this country a larger quantity than they then sent. In 1842, another gentleman was sent to the same countries to make the same enquiries; the result was embodied in the consulate returns, and it was there stated that the whole amount which those countries could send to this country was 2,200,000 quarters of grain.
There was nothing whatever to contradict, not the general assertion, but the facts stated by that gentleman to show that no great quantity could be imported into this country at all. He (the Earl of Dalhousie) perfectly credited the statement of the noble lord opposite as to the virgin soil and fertile plains that might be brought into cultivation in various countries in Europe. He did not dispute that there were millions on millions of acres on which corn might be raised: but what was their value if the corn was not attainable. As well might noble lords point to the plains of South America, where thousands upon thousands of cattle were roaming about. There was no doubt of the capacity of those countries which were so dreaded; there was no doubt of the abundance; but distance rendered the capacity and the abundance unavailable. He would not fatigue their lord-ships with calculations as to trade and carrying charges. With regard to the produce of Germany, and of Hungary, which found an exit northward, it went by rivers, which in winter were frozen and in summer were dried up. which found an exit southward was transported in bullockcarts a distance of 250 miles by a very tedious mode of conveyance, raising the charges to a very high amount. So that, though in those countries the produce was large it was totally useless. The same was the case with Spain; no country could be more fartile; but though corn could be not at a very moderate rate in Castille, yet before it could have

been brought to the market of South America, as mentioned in Mr Jacobe's report, the price it would have reached ren dered it unavailable for the purposes of supply. In the Con-tinental countries of which so much was said, cultivating was carried on by serfs; neither they nor their landlords had means for improving agriculture; their implements were of the rudest kind; and he did venture to think, that nothing had been stated by any noble lord to invalidate the testimony of the official documents to the fact that the quantines of corn introduced from those countries would be extremely limited, and that the price at which they could be brought was above anything that would yield such a return as to en courage importation. Their lordships had heard it stated the other evening, that 5,000,000 of quarters would, in three years, be brought into this country, purchased where the corn was produced at a price of 14s., and of excellent quality. He would not read letters to their lordships, but he would lay before them documents infinitely more authoritative, namely, actual bills of sale. He held three of these in his hand in reference to cargoes of grain imported from Galatz.

They were purchased in the abundant year, 1814. They were not detained in warehouse, yet on each transaction there was a loss to a very great extent. They were sold on account of Mr. R. Gardner, Manchester. The first was purchased on July 29, 1844, and the price paid was not 11s. but 23s. 9d. per quarter. They were sold in bond on Octo ber 26, and the balance of loss was 10s. per quarter. Another cargo purchased in June, 1842, for 23s. 9d., was sold on O tober 12, and the balance of loss was 14s. 11d. per quater. A third cargo purchased about the same time with the others for 18s. 9d. per quarter, was sold after a similar interval. when the balance of loss was 12s. 3d. per quarter. There were the invoices sent to him by a gentleman of high respectability, with whom he was, indeed, personally a quainted; but they bore evidence on their face of their value, for the agents in the transaction were Messrs. Baring Bro thers (hear, hear). But supposing there was a large impor tation, it was not an entire surplus. The population was increasing, and it was as much as they could do to find supplies. And abroad the same necessity would be felt. If they grew for themselves, they could not grow wheat to seed it here. In the course of 10 years the population of the different countries which were regarded with such apprehen sions had greatly increased. Such was the case in Russia. Norway, the German States, and all the others. The population of Prussia had increased from 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 In Austria it increased, between 1820 and 1840, from 81,000,000 to 37,000,000. But there was another consideration which had not been fully dwelt upon in this debate with the weight that ought to be attributed to it, and that nas, the increase of our own population (hear, hear, hear). There had been a total failure of proof to show that they con!! adopt fresh land to meet the wants of the increased population, or that they could increase the produce of that hand for the same purpose. (The noble carl then referred to a report of the Sanatory Commission to show that the addi tional extent of territory annually required to meet the wants of the increasing population would be much larger than the counties of Leicester, Nottingham, Hereford, or ('ambridge). In the last 30 years there has been an increase of 15 per cent. in the population, or of 300,000 a year. Did their lord ships realise the fact that, since this bill now under consider ration was introduced to Parliament, there were 100,000 souls and upwards more to feed? Was it in their power to increase the produce of the country in the same proportion (hear, hear)? No proof of that had ever been attempted (hear, hear). He did not believe that that immense increase of supply would take place; but if it did, would it meet the increase of population that was constantly going on thear, hear)? Before he left this part of the subject he would direct their lordships' attention to the question of supply from the United States. He knew that it was usual to treat the United States as an unbroken and inexhaustible source of food. Such, however, was not the experience of past years, nor was it the opinion in the United States themselves. The wheat-producing states were limited to certain districts of country, they were all in the extreme west, and consequently, whatever was produced there could not reach this country from their own ports except at a large charge Let them trace what had been the increase of supply in that country for a considerable number of years. He had the official tables of the states before him for the period from 1791 to 1840, and, although it appeared that the increase in produce had been enormous, as was admitted, yet the increase of population had been concurrent; and it appeared that new they had for export a smaller amount than they had 50 years ago. In 1790 the population was 3,800,000, and the wheat exported to foreign countries amounted to 4,700,000 bushels, being 28 per cent. of the whole produce. In 1820 the population had risen to 7,00,000, and the amount of wheat exported was 4,000,000 of bushels, being 14 per cent. of the whole produce. In 1840 the population had increased to 17,000,000, and the amount of wheat exported was only 124 per cent. of the whole produce, or only half what it was formerly. That was the amount of wheat exported by the United States; and yet they were not without markets, for the markets of Cuba, of the West Indies, and of South America were open to them. Their lordships would see. then, that with the increase of population that was going on in the United States, the increase of produce would be required there. But there would be nothing like the enermous exportation that was expected from them into this country. Again, the prices of New York ruled at about 40s. and in addition to that there would be the cost of carriage before it could reach this country; so that, the same as with respect to the Continent, the expectation of an enormous importation was most unreasonable. But then it was said, "Why try this experiment in this great country It had been tried here before, and had perfectly succeeded; for from 1770 to 1791 we had practically and entirely Free Trade in corn. No doubt taxation at that time was not so heavy as now (hear, hear), but it was distinctly stated by writers of that period that it did weigh heavily upon labour here as compared with labour on the Continent. At that time we could grow corn cheap enough to export it to foreign countries; but what was the case in those years? Was the agriculture of the country in a depressed condition? By no means. On the country in a depressed condition? By no means. On the contrary, large quantities of land were taken into cultivation. From 1766 to 1709, 800,000 acres were taken ip, afterwards other large quantities, and high prices for that time ruled extremely low, varying from 41s. to 00c. In like manner they had tried it in other ports near their nown doors. In Jacobsethan had had a Free Trade is their own doors. In Jersey they had tried it in other ports near their own doors. In Jersey they had had a Free Trade is corn, and the prices had ruled little, if at all, higher this prices here. He knew that noble lords would turn to and sak if they did not introduce the appropriate a diminustration of the same that a diminustration of the same trade and the same trade a

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it would reduce prices, but because it would give a stimulus to trade, and set in motion the industry of this country, and provide the fullest means for agricultural employment. The noble duke shook his head, but he remembered has year. when he received deputations with respect to the railways, that with respect to each of the railways in the centre, or from the sides of this country, noble lords set forth the advantages it would afford for an easy and rapid access to the manufacturing districts (hear, hear). In the districts of Derbyshire this benefit was to be the access to Munchester; in the districts of Lincolnshire or Goole (laughter) it was still the access to manufacturing population; in Argyll and Dumfries it was an easy access to Flectwood, and so to the manufacturing districts; and if in Ireland there was still the same burden of the song, the access was to be to some port whence they could reach Liverpool, and so the same manufacturing districts in England. Why was there this vearning after the manufacturing districts (hear, hear)? Because the manufacturing districts were the great markets for the agricultural. Every loom they stopped in Manchester stopped half a dozen ploughs in some agricultural part of the country (cheers). There could not be a closer connection between all these districts than was shown by the reports of committees and the statements of members of Parliament. Unless the manufacturing interests were in a state of prosperity, there was depression in the agricultural districts. Whatever promoted a demand in the manufacturing districts, acted as a stimulus in the agricultural districts also; and, therefore, in addition to the wish to impose no restriction on the free importation of the food of the people, the Government were convinced that this measure would be attended with none but good results to all classes, and would confer equal benefits on all districts, and hence it was that her Majesty's Government ventured to propose it to their lordships' attention (lond cheers). The noble baron near him (Lord Ashburton) had adverted to the colonial interests, and had asked whether they had anticipated the effect of this alteration of policy on the colonies, and he saked of what use were the colonies if they did not afford a protected market for our manufactures? He (the Earl of Dalhousie) ventured to think that the colonies would be of advantage to us if there were not a compulsory market. But the question raised by the noble lord was no longer open, the colonial system to which he referred had been broken long ago. In the West Indian colonies it was only in 1812 that under the presidency of his noble friend the late Secretary of the Colonies there was a free importation of many articles which previously came from Canada, and had since come from America, and in other colonies the maximum rate of differential duties on all articles, with few exceptions, such as tobacco, were only seven per cent.; which were nothing as compared with the rates which used to be in existence under the old colonial system. So fur from forcing upon the colonies these protective duties, the constant struggle of this country had been to prevent the colonies from imposing greater differential duties than this country approved, and no part of the duty of the Colonial Office gave more trouble than sending back these acts imposing the higher differential duties. Therefore, the colonial system, as it used to be called, existed no longer. What, then, was the state of facts as to the alteration they were about to make? He thought that if his poble friend the late Some He thought that if his noble friend the late Secretary for the Colonies were in his place, he would bear him out in saying that the only articles on which the change would act injuriously were timber and corn; and of corn there was the most grievous complaint. His noble friend said that they were about to ruin the political connection and the whole of the navigation interests of the colonies if this measure passed. But with respect to corn, what was the amount of the carrying trade? The loss would apply only to the corn of the United States, which, by being ground into flour in Canada, acquired the character of colonial produce, and was admitted at 1s. duty, and to the corn the produce of Canada herself (hear, hear). He held in his hand a return of the American corn thus brought through Canada; and from the 11th of October, 1843, to the 5th of January, 1844, the quantity was 618 quarters; from the 5th of January, 1844, to the 5th of January, 1845, it was 43,860 quarters; and for the year ending the 5th of January, 1846, it was only 24,400 quarters. Inasinucli as 24,000 quarters was the quantity imported by Canada, in the course of the year, it must be obvious, that anything affecting such an amount could produce no very serious result. But some stress had been laid upon the dispatch received from Lord Catheart, which was dated the 24th of January, 1846. Now that dispatch did not contain, by any means, the most recent intelligence received from that colony. Lord Catheart in writing that despatch, stated that he wished to lay before her Majesty's ministers the views entertained by the executive Government of Canada, and that he wrote in great haste in order to save the post. That statement surely showed very clearly that the opinions conveyed in that despatch had not been very deliberately formed. There had, however, since that time been a despatch patch received in this country from Canada, dated the 26th of March last; that was written after much deliberation, and after the House of Assembly had calmly discussed and considered the intended measure which was now before their lordships; and at the time to which he referred an address to the Crown was agreed to by the House of Assembly in Canada, the sum and substance of which was, that they wished the duty to which they were liable of is. on every quarter of grain, should be changed into ld.—that what was considered in this country a nominal duty of ls. should be changed into that which they really considered to be nominal duty namely, 1d. In their address they set forth that as one of the just claims of the province. Now he would ask their lordships if that could be said to bear any appearance of It was also not unimportant that he should call the attention of their lordships to the views entertained on this subject by the leaders of the two parties. Mr. Prince, the leader of the Ministerial party, stated that he had unbounded confidence in the loyalty of the inhabitants of the province; and he confessed that he did not view the proposition of her Majesty's Government with any feelings of alarm-he saw no cause whatever why they should despair; and that, for his part, he had always been a supporter of Free Trade, Mr. Baldwin, the leader of the Opposition party, said that he wanted no foreign interference; that he was proud of the connection which subsisted between Canada and the mother connection. country; and he believed that, though England had formerly treated Canada in the manner that a step-mother treats the treated Canada in the manner that a step-mother treats the family over which she is placed, yet now he rejoiced to say that Canada began to receive better treatment at the hands of the mother country, and that there exemed to exist in England se disposition to crivice has colonies. On these places, there were agreed. He hoped that the house would not the

mithim to mention two other colonies: he meant Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In the former of these, when a propo sition was made for improving the defences of the colony, the colonists at once proposed that their whole revenue should be taken for that purpose; and in New Brunswick it was proposed that, in addition to a sum of 12,000% which had been assigned for the purposes of defence that should not only be applied to those objects to its fullest extent, but that the whole ordinary revenue of the country should be taken for that purpose also, in order that their connection with the mother country should be maintained in its fullest and most perfect condition. Although he had never held any office in these colonies, yet he had long resided in them, and he possessed connections and means of information which enabled him to speak upon these points as it were from his own knowledge. He could confidently say, with respect to them, that there was no want of loyalty in these quarters. For their attachment was no want of loyalty in these quarters. ment to the mother country, he could safely pledge his head, if such a pledge were good for anything. He entertained not a shadow of doubt that they would now be as ready to stand by the mother country in matters of mere pecuniary interest, as they had formerly been to shed their blood as evidence of their attachment to England. He had touched briefly upon various points, and even in that brief way not upon as many as he should have wished to notice, feeling as they had devoted so many hours to the discussion of this question he ought not to take up much more of their time; but there was one point on which he did not wish to remain altogether silent, he referred to the charges of treachery which had been brought against the Government with refer cuce to their present measure. He would admit that it would have been infinitely better if the proposal of the measures now before them had come from another quarter; and he believed every one of his noble friends around him would echo him in saying that they had witnessed with sincere regret the unsuccessful attempt made by the noble lords opposite to form a Government. When, however, that attempt proved unsuccessful, when the servants of the Crown were called upon to give effect to their own convictions, the treachery would have been in taking any course different from that which they had taken (hear, hear). Their lord-ships might abuse her Majesty's servants with change of opinion—with vacillation; they might arraign them for those crimes before the bar of public opinion; but even when all this was granted, their lordships would not be justified in using the word "treachery" (hear, hear). No man rated higher than he did the necessity of governing such a country as this by party; he recognised as fully as could any man the obligations of party; but he recognised higher obliga-tions still. He had not the honour of a seat in the Cabinet at the time a decision on these measures was come to; but he was not on that account desirous of repudiating the responsibility of adopting them. He would not, he could not be called upon to state the course which, had he been of that Cabinet, he would have taken; but he ventured to think they could not find any proportionate degree of responsibility between the First Minister of the Crown, who originated a measure, and his colleagues in subordinate capacities by whom that measure has been approved of. He recognised no such distinction of responsibility; and if it were ever his fate to be placed as member of a Government, with the alternative such as that placed before his right hon friend before him, either of adhering to a party, or giving effect to a faithful and solemn conviction, he should pursue the course pursued by that Minister (hear, hear). He was bound to adhere to his party, he was also bound to do his duty. It were a thousand times better that one should walk the earth branded as a traitor to party than that one should live with the consciousness, which under such circumstances would be felt, of having, while adhering to party, been, if not in the eye of the law, at least in the court of conscience, a traitor to the sovereign he was bound to advise, and a traitor to the responsibility he had assumed (cheers). He would meet the obloquy, he would submit to the penalty, but he would give free counsel to the sovereign he served, and would not for the best interests committed to that sovereign's care; and when he had done that, he should bow to the indignation of his party, but he should also stand upright before a higher tribunal (cheers). One word he would add in reminding their lordships of the consequences of a rejection of this measure, and of the blessings which would arise from an instant adoption of it. He did not wish to be understood as appealing to their fears; he knew that would be the last human emotion which could affect the conduct of the House of Peers; but he did venture to appeal to their prudence and to their justice; he appealed to their prudence that they would not, without an earnest deliberation, reject a measure which came to them backed by the recommendation of a large majority of the representatives of the people (cries of "No" and cheers). And he appealed to their justice that they would not, as had been by some recommended, fixedly resolve on maintaining a fiscal policy, the effect of which was, and always must be, to inflict an injury upon the many for the benefit of the few (cheers). He adjured them to search closely their hearts before they decided; he adjured them to test closely the arguments offered for such a maintenance; he entreated them to dismiss prejudices, if any such there were, and to satisfy themselves that, when they acted, they acted solely and only for the public weal. Should they so act, he awaited confidently the result of their deliberations. He truly believed that if they adopted this measure they would, ere long, look back with marvelling, at the time when they doubted what would be its effects; and he was equally certain they would look back with satisfaction to the assent which they had given. They would look back with satisfaction, because they would then feel they had done all that in them lay to remove a reproach from this legislature one which added new bitterness to the bitter cup of adversity; that they had done all that In them lay to smooth poor poverty's rugged path, to mitigate the primeval curse; and that they had done all that in them lay to soften the hard fate of those whose lot it was to earn their bread in the sweat of their brow (great cheering).

SPEECH OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

The Duke of WELLINGTON: My lords, I cannot allow this question to be put, and your lordships to decide upon it, without addressing to you a few words upon the vote which you are about to give. My lords, I am aware that I address you under many disadvantages. I address you under the disadvantage of appearing here as a Minister of the Crown, to press this measure upon your adoption, knowing how disagreeable it is to many with whom I have been constantly in the habit of acting in political life, with whom I have been living in the utmost intimacy and friendship, with the restest satisfaction to myself, and upon whose good opinion have always retied; and I am heavy to say I have hitherto endoyed it in no small degree (heir, hear). I have already,

in this house, adverted to the circumstances which gave rise to this measure. In the month of December I considered myself bound in duty to my Sovereign not to withhold my assistance from the Government, and not to decline to resume my seat in her Majesty's Councils. I accordingly gave my assistance to the Government of my right han. friend the First Lord of the Treasury, knowing, as I did at the time, that he could do no otherwise than propose to Parliament & measure of this description; -nay, my lords, this very measure, for this is the very measure stated at the Cabinet previous to the period at which it resigned early that month. My lords, it is not necessary that I should say more on that subject. I am perfectly aware that I address your lordships at present with all your prejudices against me for having adopted that course—a course which, however little 1 may be able to justify it to you, I thought myself bound to take, and which, if it was to do again to morrow, I should take again (loud cheers). I am in her Majesty's service, bound to her Majesty and the Sovereign of this country by considerations of gratitude of which it is unnecessary for me to say more to your lordships (hear, hear). Possibly it may be true, and it is true, that in those circumstances I should have no relation to party, and probably party ought not to rely upon me. Do so, if your lordships think proper; but I have stated to you the motives on which I have acted. I am satisfied with them myself, and I should be exceedingly concerned if any dissatisfaction remained in the minds of any of your lordships. I am perfectly aware that I have never had any claim to the confidence which your lordships have placed in me for a considerable number of years. Dircumstances have given it to me, -in some cases the confidence of the Crown, in others the zeal with which I have endeavoured to serve your lordships—to promote your lordships views, and to facilitate the transaction of your business in this house. I will not omit, even on this night-possibly the last on which I shall ever venture to address to you any advice again-1 shall not omit giving you my counsel as to the vote which you should give upon this occasion. My noble friend (Lord Stanley), whose absence I lament, and who addressed you a few nights ago, urged you in the strongest manner to vote against this measure, and told you, in terms I certainly cannot imitate, that it was your duty to step in to protect the public from rash and inconsiderate measures passed by the other house of Parliament, and which in his opinion were inconsistent with the views and opinions of the public. My lords, there is no doubt whatever it is your duty to consider all the measures that are brought before you; and it is your right to vote upon them as you think proper, and most particularly to vote against those that you think rash and inconsiderate. But I beg leave to point out to your lordships, that it is your duty to consider well the consequences of any vote that you give upon this subject—to consider well the situation in which you place this house. Nay, it is the duty of each to place himself in the situation of the house before he determines to give his vote, and to consider what would be, under all the circumstances, the consequence if the house were to follow the course he may be about to do on this occasion. This is a line of conduct which has been followed before. I myself once prevailed upon the house to vote for a measure against which it had pronounced positive opinions by former votes. I pressed on them to take a course different from that which it had taken on previous occasions (hear, hear). I beg of your lordships to look a little to the measure upon which you are about to vote; and the consequences likely to follow from a rejection of that measure. I ask your lordships to look at the manner in which this measure has come before you, and consider what is likely to follow from your rejecting it. My lords, this measure was recommended by the speech from the throne; it has been passed by a majority of the House of Commons, consisting of more than half of the House of Commons. My noble friend has said in the course of this debate, this vote of the House of Commons is inconsistent with the original vote given by the same House of Commons on this same question, and Inconsistent with the supposed views of the constituents by whom they were elected. My lords, I do not think that is a subject which this house can take into its consideration; for, first, we can have no accurate knowledge of the fact; and, in the next place, whether it was a fact or not, this, my lords, we know, that it is the House of Commons that has passed this bill, we know that the measure has come up to us passed by a majority of the House of Commons. That we know by the votes of the House of Commons. We know, too, that the measure has been recommended by the Crown (murmurs), and we know that if we reject this bill, it is a bill which has been agreed to by the two other branches of the legislature, and that the House of Lords stand alone in rejecting this measure. I beg to remind you, my lords, that you ought not to take a position on which you cannot stand, on which you can do nothing. You have great influence on public opinion; men have great confidence in your judgment; but separately from the House of Commons, you can do nothing: and if you break your connection with the Urown and the House of Commons, you will then put an end to the func-tions of the House of Lords (laughter). My Lords, I sak you to reflect what must be the immediate consequence of your rejecting this bill. It appears to me very clear that whatever may be the result of this debate in this house, the object I had in view in resuming my sent in her Majesty's Councils will not be attained if your lordships reject the bill. I conclude that another Government would, in that case he formed; but, do noble lords suppose that this measure, or some other measure of the same kind, will not be proposed by the next Administration that can be formed? Do you mean to reject the measure a second time? you mean that the country should go on discussing this measure two or three months longer? But then it is the object of noble lords that Parliament should be dissolved (cheers from the protectionist benches), and the country have an opportunity of considering about returning other representatives, and seeing whether or not another House of Commons will agree to this measure. Now, really, my lords, If your lordships have so much confidence as you appear to have in the result of other elections and the exercise of publie opinion on this question, I think you may venture to rely on the elections which must occur in the course of little more than 12 months from this time, according to the common course of the law; and you might leave it to the Par-liament which will then be just elected to consider of the course which it would take upon the expiration of the bill now before you, if it become a law, which is to last till 1849; you might, I say, trust to Parliament to take it into consideration at that time, without interfering with the prerogative of the Crown, by advising the Crown to desolve Parliament as the immediate openenuence of rejecting the bill. New tay londs, by rejecting the bill, you have the option of historic timmediately another bill brought better you that you will

have to pass or reject again; or, by passing the bill you will have the election in a short period of time, and you may then again appeal to the new Parliament, if you think proper to do so, because the bill will expire in 1840.

CORN IMPORTATION BILL

	HOUSE OF	LORDSMAY 28. PRUSENT, 108.	
r	Dalhousie Aberdeen	Loveince Zetland	1

Auckland

l'xbridge Bruce

Ellouborough

VIRCOUNTS.

Ktrathallan

Torrington Sydney Ciliden

Hawarden

Canning Bishops.

Durhun

Chester

Ripon Ballabury

Norwich Hereford

Lichfield

1xford

Tuan

Ducro

Róllo

Camoys

Kinnaird

Montfort

Foley Carterot

Maynard

Strangford

Middleton

Donerallo St. Vincent

Midmonth

Exmouth

Beresford Combernero

Canterbury

ongomby

Winchester

Hangor

Llundaff

Exeter

Btunley De Ros

Hastings

Beaumont

Glengall

Yarharongh Oninsborough

VINCOUNTS.

De Vesci

TORDS

O'Noill

Arbuthnott

Willoughby do

PROXIES.

Gloneaster

BISHOPS.

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Lorton

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Rt. David's

LORDA

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Gardner

Rivers

Bandye

Churchill

Prudhou

Glenlyon Delamere

Forester.

Wharneliffo

Broughain

Dinorbea

Denman Caresy Glenelg

Hatherton Strafford

Cottenham

Langdalo

Portman De Manley

Wrottenley Budeley

Montenglo

Keano Campboll

Dunally

Erakino

Abercomby

Castlemaine Downer

Bexley Do Tabley

Plunket Heytenbury Talhot of Ma

Poltimore

Godolphia

Stuart do De-

Willoughby do

Methicy

Colbor<u>no</u>

Broke

St John

Saltonn

Sonder

Boston

Hawko

Grantley Berwick

Kenyon

Bayning

Northwick

Clonbrock

Redendate

Rayleigh

Colchester

Feversham

Tenderden

Wynford

Ashburton De Freyno

Abinger

Sinclair

Reav Dynevor

Farnham

Alvanley

Ravensworth

De Saumarez

UISHOPS

Skelmersdalo

Templemore

Bolton

Lifford

Sherborne

Braybrooke

arington

Walsingham

Southampton

Polwarth

Dumfermline

Lovat

Leigh

Largan

Crono

althorpo

	41171.717, 177
	MAJORITY.
IA. Chancellor	Dalhousin
DUKKS.	Aberdeen
Norfolk	Rosebery
St. Albana	Olungow
Baocleuch	Cowper
Roxburgh	Radnor
Loineter	Spencor
Wellington	Bulliurst
MARGUINES.	Clarendon
Windhentor	Talbot
Huntley	Fortescue
Lanedowne	Liverpool
Abercorn	Meath
Bligo Com Aco	Hoshorough
Camden	Mornington
Cholmondeley	Confront
Londonderry	Charlemont
Conyngham Ormondo	Clanwilliam
Clauricarde	Claro
Breadalbane	Leitrim
Westminster	Bandon
Normanby	Rosslyn Craven
HARLS.	Romney
Devon	Chiche-ter
Buffolk	Gonford
Denbigh	Grey
Westmoreland	Minto
Essex	Verulam
Shaftesbury	Bt. German's
Boarborough	Morley
Jornay	Howe
Erroti	Burlington
Home	Ripon
Haddington	Granville
Galloway	Ellingham
•	PROX
ARCHBISHOP.	Ailma

Oalloway	Ellingham	Saffield
	PROX	IES, 73.
ARCHBISHOP.	Ailma	Campentown
Canterbury	FARIN.	Lichtold
DI KER.	Pembroko	Ducie
Somernot	Lindsoy	VISCOUNTS.
Loods	Carlinle	Melbourne
Bedford	Albemarlo	Molvilla
Devouables	Stair	Bisnors.
Hamilton	Buckingham	London
Argyll	Fitzwilliam	Carlisto
Northumber-	Cornwallia	Peterborough
land	Mt Edgeumbo	Ely
Sutherland	Cork	Limerick
WARDINAM.	Fingall	LORDS.
Twooddale	Kingston	Stourton
Hertford	Softon	Petro
Bute	Catedon	
Donegall	Kentuaro	Baye and Belo
Hondfort	Rosso	Dormor
Northampton	Do Orey	Ward
Anglesey		Monson
Bristol	—Dunraven — Amberst	Wodehogse
D (1 h W) L		Clonemry
	, MINORITY -1	RESENT, 126.
DUREA.	amdarndarA	Renturly
Righmond	Warwick	VISCOUNTS.
Grafton	Guilford	Hereford

Waldegrave

Heheater

Shannon

Cushell

Donoughmore

Digby

Roden

Mayo Erno

DURES.	Ashburnhu
Richmond	Warnick
Grafton	Guilford
Boanfort	Hardwicko
Marlborough	Delwarr
Rutland	Manatickl
Montroso	Beverley
Manchester	Carnaryon
Newcastle	Cadogan
Buckingham	Malmostorry
Cleveland	Lymont
MARQUINES.	Longtoni
Salisbury	Emaskillen
Downsbire	Wicklow
Ely .	Lucan
Exctor	Wilton
Westmenth	Limerick .
KARLT.	Claucarty
Huntingdon	l'owis
Winchelsea	Netron
Chosterfield	Charleville
Mandwick	Manvers
Cardigan	Oxford
Ahingdon	olabracal
Eglinton	Harewood
Kinnoull	Browalow
Airlio Bolkirk	Bradford
	Sheffield
Orkney	Eldon
Oxford	Falmouth
Dartmouth	Somera
Aylesford Stanhope	Stradbroko
Hianhope	Cawdor
Pomfrei	Munater
	PRO

DUKE. Portland RABLS. Shrowsbury Poulett Morny Balcarres Scaffeld Ferrors Tankerville

Tunkerville Macclesfield	Onslow Boauchamp	Ereaby Vaux	St. Anaph Bath and Wall
Lord Belhav	en paired for the	bill, with the Eas	rl of Lauderdal
the whole pari leaving the c The rents wer	rs.—In Hunti sins 2770 acres, sh, died in the a state to be div e undoubtedly lo	The owner, atumn without ided amongst l w: in conscoue	who possesse, a male heir bis daughters mee, the trus

employed a surveyor, who was a stranger to the county. to make a new valuation, which raised one tenant 2001, per annum, another 701., another 1001, and so on, raising the whole rental from about 3000%, to 1000%, a year, in the very face of Corn Law repeal. The tenants complain, but consent to remain; they are respectable men in all the relations of life, but the evil genius of monopoly warped their otherwise good conduct; they could not enjoy the good fortune of their low rents, with charity to those tradesmen who refused to sign the protection petitions, and from whom they not only withdrew their own custom, but endcavoured to persuade others to do the same. Another farm at Bassmead, which for 16 years let for 41s. per acre, was lately re-let to a respectable tenant at 28s.

It has been officially noticed from Berlin that all further discarsion respecting the tailf of the Zollverein will be postpoued until the decision of the British Parliament on the repeal of the Corn Laws and the new commercial tariff

THE BUDGET.—COMMERCIAL FINANCE.

(From the Economist.)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward his budget last night. In doing so upon this occasion, it was divested of much of that intense interest which in the last four years has always attended the budget, in consequence of Sir Robert Peel having entered fully into an explanation of the reductions contemplated in the present year, in his speech at the commencement of the session. Mr. Goulburn, however, imparted considerable interest to his statement, by taking a general review of the financial changes of the last four years, dwelling upon the principles on which they had been made, and showing the general result which had at-

In the first place, . Goulburn compared the estimates made a year ago with the actual produce of the revenue, which have been as follows

Revonue ostima	Actually recei		
Customs	19,500,000		19,7(0),000
Excise	12,500,000		13,300,000
Stumps	7,280,000		7,700,000
Taxes	4,200,600	• • • •	4,200,000
Property tax	6 ,200 (0)0	• • • •	5,100,000
Post office	700,000		790,000
Crown lands	160,000		150,000
Miscellaneous	250,000		250,000
	49,700,000		51 040 ((1))
China	117,1110,000	• • • •	51,280,000
		• • • •	759,000
Total roc	eipt s		52,009,000

The expenditure has been altogether 49,659,000%, leaving an excess of income above expenditure of 2,350,000/. The next subject to which Mr. Goulburn went, was the estimated produce of the various branches of revenue in the current year, ending 5th of April, 1847. The produce of the customs in the past year was 19,765,000/. The duties on the articles reduced or repealed in the present session amount to a sum of 1,041,000l. Mr. Goulburn, however, has learned by experience, that in the event of a reduction of duties, the loss to the revenue does not exceed two-fifths of the sum given up; the remaining three fifths being made up by increased consumption of the articles reduced, and of other articles. But he has so much confidence in the prospects of the country, and in the consumption of the current year, that he only reduces the income of last year by a sum of 205,000l., instead of 1,011,000l., as the probable loss. In this he has been guided by the flattering accounts received within the last six weeks, since the reduced tariff came into operation, of the receipts at several of the outports, among which he mentioned Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Leith, Port Glasgow,

Mr. Goulburn's estimate of the income and expenditure for the current year is as follows

the carrier bear	to the rollo	ms:		
Income.		Expenditure.		
Customs Excise Stamps Taxes Property tax Post office Crown lands Miscellanoous	. 13,500,000 7,400,000 4,230,000 5,102,000 850,000 120,000	Permonent charges on dobt Army Navy. Ordnanca Miscellancous, in-	£ 30,600,000 6,607,000 7,521,000 2,613,000	
From China	49,952,000 700,000	Surplus	\$0,876 000 776,000	
Total	51.652.000	Total -	51.650.000	

Leaving a surplus of only 776,000%. With a similar apparent surplus last year, Mr. Goulburn stated that the result had so greatly exceeded the estimate that he entertained the greatest confidence he would be agreeably dissappointed, in finding at the end of the current year a much larger surplus than the estimate shows; and this confidence was based on the result which had been experienced by the policy pursued since 1812, in abolishing all duties which were prohibitory,

and reducing such as were protective.

Mr. Goulburn then passed to a general review, or summing up of the experience of the country on all the measures which had been introduced sinco 1842. In 1842, duties were reduced or repealed on five hundred and eighty-two articles; in 1843, on seven articles; in 1814, on four articles: and in 1815, twenty-one articles were reduced, and on four hundred and forty-eight articles the duties were repealed. In the present year, the measures which have already passed the House of Commons, reduce the duties on one hundred and fuelve articles; and repeal the duties on fifty four articles. In the whole period in question—in the five sessions beginning with 1842, and ending with the present—the duties on seven hundred and twenty-seven articles have been reduced, and those on five hundred and one articles have been entirely repealed-articles, too, which have nearly all, though some to a lesser and others to a greater degree, affected the condition of the great masses of the people, either in their food or clothing, or in the supply of those great staple articles of raw material which are so essential to the manufactures, and consequently to the industry of the country

Considering the great reductions thus made in the ons toms and excise duties, Mr. Goulburn was auxious to show that the experiments which the Government had made in this wise and enlightened course of financial legislation, by which commerce and industry had been so much benefited, had not in any degree impaired the general state of our finances, or added to the permanent debt of the country. On the contrary, the success of these Free Trade experiments had been so great, that notwithstanding the great reductions, every test which could be taken of the financial condition of the country showed that it had rather been improved tuan impaired.

The first test which Mr. Goulburn applied, was the amount of balance available, and at the command of the Government, on the first of January, 1842, and the first of January, 1846, which was as follows:

> Balance available, January 1st, 1842 3,850,000 Balance available, January 1st, 1846 8,460,000 Difference.... 4,800,000

Nor had the debt of the country been added to in order to increase the balance in hand, or to make up the deficioncy caused by the reductions which had taken place. In 1842, the whole debt of the country, funded and unfunded, was as

Jan	£			
Funded debt Exchequer bills	••	••	•••	772,591,00
T	otal de	bt,	••••	709,209,00

And at January 1st, 1846, it was 705,715,000 18,400,000 Funded debt •• Exchequer billa • • Total debt..... 785,115,000

Showing a reduction of about 7,000,000/. in these branches of the public debt due at this time. But, besides this, the average amount of deficiency bills, for money borrowed from the Bank, amounted in the four quarters of 1842, to 6,163,000%, while the same in the average of has year amounted only to 2,020,000%, showing a further reduction of the debt of the country to the extent of 4,133,000, making a total reduction of the whole debt, between 1812 and the present time, of more than eleven millions.

Not only had these reductions been made in the national debt, but a further reduction in the permanent annual charge of that debt, even in a greater proportionate degree, had also been effected. The charge for the debt in 1842 and in 1846, was thus compared by Mr. Goulburn :

Interest Terminable Aunuities Management Interest of Exchequer Bills	1842, £ 24,444,000 4,490,000 160,000 820,000	 1846, £ 23,020 000 4,490,000 93 000 426,000
	29,984,000	 99 490 (

Thus showing a sum of more than 1,500,0001. nirealy saved in the annual charge on the debt, besides a further sum of 625,000/, which is also secured in the reduction of interest; but which will not take effect until the year 184; the whole making a saving, effected in the annual expenditure on the debt, of 2,125,000l, besides a reduction on the capital itself of 11,000,000l. Mr. Goulburn stated that it might be supposed by some, that the large amount of money received from China had contributed to these improvements in our general finances. Such an idea would, however, be erroneous; for although the sum of 3,360,000%, lad been received from this source, yet of that 2,050,000t had been ex pended upon our establishments in that country, and 1,270,000% had been paid to the owners of the opium which had been seized, as compensation; so that nearly the whole of that sum had been exhausted in these ways.

Mr. Goulburn then made a comparison between the entire amounts of taxes imposed during the period in question, and those which had been repealed. The statement was as follows .

Taxes	Taxe	* repeale	
1842 to 1846 Balance	£ 5,621,000 2,563,000	1842 1 1843 1844 1845 4	reduced. £ ,599,000 411,000 407,000 ,749,000 ,040,000
	8,197,000	- R	102 000

Thus showing that taxes to the amount of 2,363,6864, but been repealed during the period in question, in excess of those which had been imposed.

The right hon, gentleman expressed the greatest satisfaction in being able thus to bear the testimony of his own experience to the extraordinary efficacy of the principles of commercial legislation which this country has adopted during the last five years; by which the springs of industry had been relieved, the commerce of the country set free, the people rendered prosperous and contented, and by which the finances of the country had improved in so remarkable a way. It will surely be impossible for any foreign Government or people to peruse this statement, and to see the extraordinary effects which our Free Trade policy has produced-to con sider, moreover, the numerous evidences of the improved condition, physical, social, and moral, of the population of the country, by which these changes have been accompanied, without feeling the strongest inducement to follow our ex ample. It will be by such means that the benefits of our policy will become known and adopted by other countries. These statements are well calculated to give the most ample assurance to the most timid and the most doubting of the safety of the Free Trade policy, in which, thank God, we are now safely embarked.

GREAT PUBLIC MEETING IN HULL TO PETITION THE HOUSE OF LORDS .- On Monday se'nnight a very nume rously attended meeting, convened by the Mayor, was held in the Town Hall, to petition the House of Lords to pass the Corn Bill. The meeting was called by his worship in pursuance of a numerously signed requisition from merchants, shipowners, tradesmen, and other inhabitants of Kingston-upon-Hull. On the platform were, besides the Mayor, Mr. Alderman Thompson, H. S. Bright, Esq., Mr. Alderman Atkinson, Mr. Alderman Brownlow, Henry Levett, Esq., John Hall, Esq., — Taylor, Esq., Mr. Alderman Cookman, Joseph Jones, Esq. (ex-Mayor), Messis, Town Councillors With Language Cooking Richardson. Councillors Wilkinson, Sissison, Dr. Gordon, Richardson, Ashton Cox, Mr. W. H. Holdsworth, Rev. E. Higginson, Rev. — Shannon, John Petchell, Esq., E. F. Collins, Esq., Mr. Hodgson, surgeon, &c. The Mayor was unanimously called upon to preside; and the meeting, which ultimately became crowded, was addressed by Mr. Alderman Thompson and several of the gentlemen whose names appear since. The resolutions were duly proposed and seconded amidst much cheering. A letter was rend by the Town clerk, from Sir Walter James, dated 11, Whitehall-place, and regretting his unavoidable absence, but expressing his entire concurrence in the object of the petition. Towards the close, the meeting was very ably and eloquently addressed by the Rev. James Aspinall, rector of Althorpe, Lincolnshire, who, on rising, was received with loud cheers, and who, in the course of his speech, expressed his satisfaction that the question of the Corn Laws was now beginning to be "especially and peculiarly regarded as the working-man's question." regret, that neither to this speech, nor to the proceedings generally, will the crowded state of our columns permit us to do justice. Mr. Wilkinson concluded the proceedings by moving the adoption of the petition, to be forwarded to the Earl of Dalhousie for presentation, which was agreed to. The Mayor, after receiving a vote of thanks, declared the proceedings closed.

A SCENE FOR THE DUKE OF RICHMOND.—When the news of the third reading of the Corn Bill arrived at Forfer on Monday, every face wore a smile of congratulation. The bells were rung; music gladdoued the streets; a quarters loaf marked price id., with a very nice-looking becon ham marked 2d. per lb., were paraded on the top of a pole, as specimens of what might be expected were the Corn and Provision Laws abolished. And we believe paraded in a panny per peck lower thin to the law which the whole in a panny per peck lower thin to the law which the whole where the law which the whole law where the law where the law where the law where the law where the law where the law where the law where the law where the law where law

1846.]		THE LEAGUE!		617
NEW NEWSPAPER, PRICE THREEPH THE PUBLIC are respectfully inform arrangements are in progress for the Establish NEW PAPER, Price THREEPENCE, to be called THE NEW ERA.	ned that	(Ward, Joseph Schofield, Charles Burton, John Cauldwell, John Honry, Thomas Waluwright, Joseph	. 0 10 0 to Wednesday, Ju . 0 2 6 *Eccles, Josh., Mill H: . 0 2 6 *Harding, John, Sulfort . 0 8 6 *Ewart, W., M.P., 6, Oc	ll, Blackburn 200 0 d d 50 0 d mbridge-square, London 20 0 d
Particulars will be given in future Advertisement To be published by J. Garsuv, Bouverie street, I London.	Tool-street, tid your same stood Same Stood	Wainwright, Joseph Barratt, Laurenco Harrison, Thomas Balderstone, Samuel Harter, Richard	. 0 2 6 Hoops, Christopher,	quare, Halliax 4 0 (Noodhouse Cliff, Locds 2 0 (Innehestor 2 0 (
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTE MILLION FUND.			. 0 2 6 Payne, Thomas, Castle . 0 2 6 Scrie, Dr., Bath . 0 2 6 Barrow, Jacob, 9, Bol . 0 2 6 Horton, Thomas, Sno . 0 2 6 Darboy, Thomas, jun.	street, Hinckley 1 0 C
Subscriptions received during the week Wednesday, May 27, 1846. N.B.—As the Subscription List is made Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions re	up from	Small Sums	Davies, Howell, Rutter.	. W., Cambrian place 1 0 6 Rev. Daniel, St. John-street . 1 0 6 George, Wind street . 0 10 6 loseph, Stramd . 0 7 6 Isaac, Castle-street . 0 7 6
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Walters, Wm., Heston-lano
Brooks, Henry, Hillgato
Ward, John do
Goodwin, Emily, Cale Green
Sharples, Elizabeth, Wellington-street
Lewis, Robert, King-street west
Lemas, Joseph, New Bridgo-lane
Jackson, John, Hillgath
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*I.aaf, Win., Old Chango

*Forstar and Smith. New City Chambers

*Gillett, George, 94, Watling street

*Dimmack, Thompson, and Firmstone, St, Poters

Chambers, Cornhill

*Thomas, W., and Brothers, 128, Cheapside

*Lawes, Thomas, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road

*Frost, John, and Co., Wood-street, Cheapside

*Lund, Christopher, 51, Newgate-atreet

*Balls, James, 20, Liverpool-terrane, Islington .. 1 10 ..100 0 .. 50 20 .. 10 *Lund, Christopher, 51, Newgate-street

*Balls, James, 20, Liverpool-terrace, Islington

*Burroughs, J., 18, Addle-street, City

Agnew, Alex., 21, King Edward-street, City

*Clare, Charles, 48, Blackmun-street, Borough

*Bass, J. O., Brighton-place, Brighton

*Lambert, E. P., brewer, Broadway, Deptford

*Cove, Henry, Tottenham

*Goodwin, Edwin, Hanley, Patteries 2 *Goodwin, Edwin, Hanley, Potterios Barnish, E. H., Wigan *Wright, Thomas, 39, Grosvenor-row, Pimlico

Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed sub-

PASSAGES FROM THE LIFE OF AN ENGLISH FARMER.

PARRAGE IV. - The Amended Poor Law, when it was new. It was a warm day in June, -one of the days on which maidens who have butter to make, make it in the morning and go out to wash it at the springs, with dew on their feet; a day when the mowers of the new hay rise with the birds, when birds are up before the sun; a day when June hastens before the day is done to the wheat that's green, and looks for young ears, and gives them dew to drink; and finds them again in the morning, and dries them and makes them strong enough for the hot sun, which, by God's command, must, for the cake of men and women and children hungry, be as hot as wheat can bear, to hasten on the harvest,-it was a day when June gives her freshest greenness and her coolest breezes to those who deserve them best,-the workers, who go soonest out in the morning; a day when the luxurious, idle, and indolent of all conditions, who lie late abed, come out to pant for breath, and to be broiled in a sun which is up high, and hot, in the performance of other duties than that of caring for their comfort and their skin; a day when, happy ordinance of Nature, even the mower in the fields is relieved by his violent exercise and his perspiration from the languor that afflicts the idle.

It was on such a day that Mr. Hurst said to his men that they would all be required in the afternoon and the evening to wash sheep; that they would begin sheep shearing next day; that all the flock would need washing, but those that grazed on the hill where the sand holes were would more particularly, as they had stained their wool by rubbing against the red sand. And he said two of the men and some of the boys must go at once and make a dam across the stream, stemming the water deep enough to take a man up to the middle, or nearly, but not deep enough to drown anybody standing on his feet.

It was on this same day that the venerable Adam, ten yours older than when we saw him first, and now past all work but to rock the cradle of the fourth future Adam of the fields-was sitting on the bench within the honeysuckle porch of his cottage, winking his aged cyos as if he slept, yet not asleep. He said to Mr. Hurst who was passing, and who stopped for a fow minutes to speak with him, "Ess, master; it he God that gives the weather; it be well for we that the hand of man does not hold the wind, and rain, and sunshine; it be well for we that we haint to go to the parish for the showers and the shining sun, master; now that they have made that new law. I have been trying to understand the grounds of it; but I be'nt able to see through it. I have tried it with Scripture ; but I can find no Scripture for it; no, all Scripture be right against it. I have even tried to forget that I am the poor man, and have put myself in the place of the rich man; yet I cannot see why this law should be as they have now made it. It be seven miles going and seven miles coming, and I have been twice, once this week and once the week before, at what they call the board of guardians; all that way, ill able to go; and I sat on the door steps four hours until they called me in; and then they said I must give up everything I am possessed of to them, and go into that great new house. Oh, master, what terrible things some of them as have been in and out again tell of that union house. They are put to work and to their victuals like soldiers to drill. The unions, they say, are to have all masters out of the army and from the mon-of-war ships as have been used to severity over other men; and they say we be all to be drilled and punished if we do not obey the word of command. And I do not doubt it; for him as they have got to this union came out and gave orders not to sit on the steps of the door, and orders for this one to come in, and that one to stand aside, just like as we then to hear the drill-sergeants

speak in the time of the local militia and the volun-It he a very hard case, master, for they as have worked a long life like I, and went, as you know, when I need not, for I was above age, and offered to be a volunteer at the time of all the fright about Boney. It he a hard thing when they would not drill me then because I was too old though I was young enough to have the spirit to defend my country, that thirty years after, when I am old in spirit and body both, they are going to put me into the hands of a severe man, chosen because he has been a breaker in of men in a barrack yard; to break me in now in my old days to what they call strict discipline; to learn me and poor old Sarah who have lived in this cottage, man and wife, nine-and-forty years come Michaelmas, and brought up a family in honesty and the fear of God-to sunder we whom God did join together, that we may live apart and meet death in our old age each alone, to deter, for they say that is it, to deter other poor creatures from coming on the parish. I never believed, Mr. Hurst, it could have been true. When they spoke about mending the old law, they never said a word about this, as I heard on, never a word."

"No, Adam; nor did I know what kind of new law it was to be when I complained like many other farmers of the old one. Here am I now leaving this farm where I and my fathers before me have been so long—obliged to leave it be cause I have not submitted quietly to imposition; here am I with my last crop in the ground, with men working to me, all brought up to work by me and my father, all of them good workmen"—

ADAM:—" Good masters get good men."

Mr. HURST:-"It may be so. At any rate I have good men here, and I do not expect to find as good where I am going. Now one of the worst, if not the very worst, parts of the old Poor Law is preserved in this new one, indeed the most mischievous part of the old law; I mean that which prevents me from taking the people who work for me now, or any of them, or even you yourself. Adam; with me to an other parish out of this union. This is a great hardship both to me as a farmer, and to you all as workmen. I must submit to employ such as I find in my new parish, be they good or bad, and leave my best hands here to my successor in this farm, be he a good master or a bad. This is one of the evils which I see the agriculture of England suffering under; and I must confess that since our young squire has run in debt as he has, and the management has got into the hands of the lawyers, I see many things more which I did not once think to be so detrimental to a farmer, as I do now. Since the squire has mortgaged Berry estate, the game has been let with the mansion and park, as you know. New sets of gamekeepers have been put over us, and that which was disagreeable before is now a pest. I have stood out against it, and here is the consequence;—at six months' notice I am obliged to leave Berryhill. I begin to think that both farmers and their farm men need some different kind of laws than any we have now, or else not so much law as we have now. I am grieved, more than I can tell, that I had ever signed a petition against the old Poor Law; but I had no thought of such a change being made as they have made. To deny an old worn out man and woman, like you and Sarah, relief, until you give up and part with all your old furniture, and that you must even then go into a place ruled as the House of Correction is ruled, to deter others, is indeed grievous. I hope we may yet prevent this. It is that cold hearted, new-fangled doctrine, called political economy, that has led to this new law."

As old Adam had perhaps never heard of political economy, or, like many others who use its name, knew nothing about it even if he had heard of it, he could not make any remark upon it in response to Mr. Hurst. We shall, however, take this opportunity to make a few remarks on this popular error, that of charging the oppressive clauses of the New Poor Law on the principles of political economy.

In the first place, nobody supported those provisions of the Poor Law which have severity in them, and which are intended to deter the poor from seeking relief, more zealously than the landed gentry and landed nobles, in Parliament, who make it their boast that political economy is neither believed in nor understood by them. They, as their ancestors, the feudal barons and knights of chivalry, who deemed it derogatory to acquire literary education of any kind, even the ability to write their names,—boast now, in the same spirit, that the merest elements of political economy are a mystery to them. The time will come when their boast of being ignorant of political economy, at the very time they are sitting as political legislators, will be looked upon as evidence of intellectual barbarism, as truly as the declaration of the Norman knights, that they were not dishonoured by not having learned to write their names.

by not having learned to write their names.

But even where persons professing to be political economists supported the cruel clauses of the Poor Law, it is no more a proof against those principles which they professed to believe in, than was the cruelty of the inquisition by one party of believers in religion, and the enactment of penal laws against that party by another, a proof that religion justified the inquisition of Rome or the penal laws of England.

The principles of political economy are as true and uncring as the principles of gravitation, attraction, or repulsion in natural bodies, if political economy is freed from political superstition. There never has been any legislation unmixed with what we may call political superstition. The present Free Trade measure is a step towards it, yet it is not more than a step upon the threshold.

present ree it mae measure is a spep towards it, yet it is not more than a step upon the threshold.

Passage IV. Continued.—The Sheep-washing.

Mr. Hurst said again, that he hoped some plan might be devised to prevent Adam from incurring the terrible calamity of breaking up his old home and going with his aged wife into the union house, to be separated worse than by death and the grave—to be separated in life in a grave, alive. And then he asked if Adam would take his staff in his hand and walk up the dell, and sit down on the knoll by the green birches, and see the sheep washing. He believed that Adam hall since the year he was born; and as this would be the last they would have in Berryhill while he was farmer, he would like to have it in all respects like the sheep washings

And Adam took his staff in his hand and went up the dell above the pool to the knoll where the bushes grew, and sat in the shade and looked down upon the sheep-washing, as did other old people, and all the young children not engaged below. It made the old people young again; every one of them declared that, and they even rebuked some of the more timid of the young ones for not going to help; they, when they were young, never stood looking on. See how the young tegs, that had never been washed before, were break-

At which all the youngsters—the very youngest that sould At wind att the youngsters—the voing sheep that were tunning away without being washed; the boys that were helping to swim the sheep along the pool to the men who stood in the deepest place got out and run; the dogs barked and ran; the young women who came to look on, and be very timid in going near the edge of the pool, though they knew well they would be, before the evening was over, pursued and caught, and brought back and soused in the pool according to the custom of sheepwashings-they ran to bring back the fugitive sheep; and the shepherd called to them all to keep back, his dog would do more than the whole But dogs, and children, and boys, and women, and sheep that would not be turned, wont out of sight up the dell, each making their own noise, the sheep and the shepherd's oldest dog being the only parties to the uproar really in curuest; the rest in part or wholly in fun.

Meantime the more sober three-year-old wethers were brought forward from the corner beneath a crag where they were awaiting their turn. The shepherd, who knew best how to lay hold of them, introduced them to the water. He did it thus:—He got a wether by the long wool of the neck, and by the shoulder and fore feet. He lifted his fore feet from the ground, and stood astride over him, and made him walk on his hind legs to the water's edge. The wether did not like it, and did not go willingly in; but when he really was in, and felt his hind part getting wet, he made a bold spring, such as would overturn a man that was not prepared for it, into the water. Here two men stationed for the pose caught him, and his only struggle was to get further into the pool, and further from the shepherd who put him in. But as soon as he was afloat and off his feet, he quietly resigned himself to be washed, which was done by a man standing beyond the two men, who held his head above water by the wool of the neck, and guiding him by the shoulders, which were below water, kept him thus on end for half a minute or more, rolling and plunging him to the left and to the right.

This man then, the shepherd having another ready, turned this wether over the water to another man who, like him, stood three and a half or four feet deep. This man held the sheep in the same way, and in his turn gave him to another man a yard or two farther in the pool. That man treated him in the same way, and gave him to a fourth, and perhaps a fifth, who at last pushed the drenched sheep to shore on the opposite side, where he climbed his way up the low bank dripping and in silence until he saw those that had gone before him dripping also. They greeted him and he greeted them, and then he turned round with them to watch the others, and salute them with the language and sympathy of sheep as they came out of the water in their turn.

Then the flock of tegs was brought back, and they were washed one by one the same way as the wethers. And here and bread and cheese, were handed across the water to the men who stood in the pool, for they declined to come out to get it. They said to stand in the water for a long while west not so bad as to come out and go in again; and the old people who now came down to the side of the pool said that was true; and some of the young ones said the best way to keep from cold was to be wet all over; and they had no sooner said so than one of them was pushed in, and laid hold of by the men who had washed the slicep, and dipped deeper even than the sheep. And the young women threw water from the bank over the men in the pool to wet them; and the men came out to catch the women, who in their turn ran, and screamed as they ran. And some of them were caught and carried back—the oldest matrons there, the grandmothers and great grandmothers of the village telling the young men that it was well done, only to be gently with it. And no onlooker thought wrong of it; save, perhaps, some very young child, whose eldest sister or num it was that struggled in arms which were too strong for her, and put her in the middle of the pool. And there was more cases than one where three women, or four or five, would pursue and get hold of one man, and carry him and throw him into the water, and some of them roll over on the top of him, where they might have been drowned but for the more grave of the old people, who drew them out again.

If anybody ever took cold at such a time the case was rare. Still rarer was it that such rough sport produced ill-humour. On this occasion so joyous was every one, they forgot even that this was Mr. Hurst's last sheep washing: and old Adam, after he had gone home and had his supper, and said family prayers, confessed that until he was on his knees beseeching heaven for grace and mercy to himself and all men, he had forgot even the union workhouse, and the barrack-yard drill-sergeant who was set to be master of it. But at the solemn hour of family prayer solemn thoughts came back upon him, and he prayed fervently that he and his might be delivered from that great oppression in their age of helplessness—the oppression of the men who were possessed of riches, strength, and injustice.

Happy morning was it in Berryhill next day, when Mr. Hurst mounted his horse and rode to the market town, six miles distant, to meet the agent of the estate and the solicitors of the mortgagees, who had written to him to meet them there, to see if they could not make a new arrangement to keep him as tenant of Berryhill. And when he returned and said the farm was again his, if he chose to take it at an advance of rent, the people were still happier, for Mr. Hurst had said often before that he would rather pay a higher rent than leave it, provided only the same was kept within bounds. He had been told that day that prices, which had lately risen, would rise farther and be maintained; that the Conservative party was gaining strength in Parliament; confidence would not be shaken again as it had been in 1835, and prices would not fall as the Whige had made prices fall. The only thing required now of the farmers was to support the efforts of the Tories to put down the Whigs.

Mr. Hurst was not clear upon this dontrine, either for or against it. But within a few days of giving in his new offer for Berryhill, news came that the King was dead, and a general election was pending, and Mr. Hurst was called upon by all that was valuable to a farmer and to the labourers of the farms, to the landed estates and to the nation at large, to assist those who were now contending to resone England and the young Queen from the counsels of "Whigs and destructives"

Mr. Hurst's sheep-shearing was not yet done; his ewes were still to shear when this political sheep-washing began—an immersion of one party by another far more uproarious and far from being so harmless as that at Mr. Hurst's pool in the dell.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

Dickens is preparing, with his wife and family, for a low Constantinopie.

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THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT; HIS TENANTS-AT-WILL, AND M.P.S-AT-WILL.

At Badminton, in Gloucestershire, the "stable talk" has been that the Duke of Beaufort may, before the year is out, mmove one of his huntsmen from the upper end of the servant's hall, and put one of the kennel boys in his place. At present, if we may believe the Monmouth correspondents of the London daily press, both the "stable talk" and the "table talk" is, that the duke will remove from the representation of Monmouthshire his brother, Lord Granville Somerset (a practical business member of the Commons, and supporter of the Free Trade Government), and put in his place his nephew, Captain Edward Somerset, a young military officer. In the "table talk" it is not doubted that the duke will try to do it, and will do it if he can; but it is doubted that he can. In the "stable talk" it is not doubted for a moment by any one that the duke can do it and will do it. Why should it be doubted? Does not Bob, who pumps water and sweeps the yard, order Bill, who is only a boy in the kennel, to do what he thinks kennel boys should do, namely, whatever pumpers may declare to be law for kennel boys? And do not the under grooms condemn Bob to obedience at the pump? And does not the upper groom send, or say he will send, the under ones far deeper down than where the pump water comes from, if they doubt the justice of his law, and power to give law and enforce its execution? And is there not the coachman and the huntsmen above the upper groom, and the master of the hounds shove them, who is yet only to the duke what the smallest moon of Jupiter is to the sun?

"Stable talk!" Such heresy never entered the head of man or boy in Badminton as to doubt that Lord Granville Somerset must submit to be removed, and have his place filled by Captain Somerset, if the duke wills that the places in his family establishment shall be so altered. Nor is the creed of the stables more exact then the creed of the farmwards. The faith of Badminton, in Gloucestershire, is the faith of Ragland, in Monmouthshire. The man who, at the Badminton stables, is as the seventh of Saturn's moons to the sun, has not all the horses, and dogs, and men, and boys in their several gradations at command, on pain of twitch upon nose, or whip upon flanks, or kick upon buttecks, more effectually for obedience than the man at Ragland, the Jupiter himself, has the command of the "independent electors" who inhabit the Rugland property

endent electors" who inhabit the Ragland property.

"Table talk," however, has it that the Ragland property, extensive as it is, may not overbalance the electors in other parts of the county who will support Lord Granville Somerset; and those who talk thus deny the right of the Duke of Beaufort to give to the county members of Parliament-at-will as he gives to his estate tenants at-will.

But the subject has, since these remarks were written, gone beyond the talk of either stables or tables. Public meetings have been held in Monmouthshire, and men to whom the public of that shire raises its head and opens its eyes and its ears have spoken. One of them, Mr. Dowling, has said:

"Time has shown Lord Granville Somerset the fallacy of what is called 'Protection: he has seen the delusion of the dogma that the rate of wages is regulated by the price of food. He is no doubt aware of the hollowness of the cuckoo cry of protection to native industry—a protection which renders the tillers of the soil a most tablect and suffering race, prostrate and faminesticken."

So say the speakers who are on the spot to see the tillers of the soil of Monmouth. But even at the distance of London we were not uninformed of the condition of the tillers, at least, of the soil of Ragland. As the following case will show, some of those who should be ashamed of the agriculture of Ragland, and of the subjugation of its agriculturists to a bondage disgraceful to Englishmen, have been at some pains to force themselves upon public notice; that is, so far as man's injustice to his fellow man is likely to engage public notice.

Sometime in December last, the correspondent of a London morning paper wrote, and his writing was published in the paper, that a tenant on the Duke of Beaufort's estate in Monmouthshire had, during several years, made improvements on his farm, until it had become noticeable amongst other farms for neatness, cleanness, and productiveness; but that the Duke's steward had increased the rent to a very considerable amount; that the tenant thus lost the profit of his improvements before he was paid for them; and that, in a county so badly cultivated as Monmouth, and so needful of better cultivation, this tenant had been made a terrible warning to others to remain as they were, and not attempt to produce more corn and feed more cattle.

The name of the tenant was not mentioned, nor even the locality of his farm pointed at. But it seems a Mr. Ford, was at once named as the man, by the duke's agent; and accordingly, Mr. Ford at once got notice to quit his farm. The agent also wrote angry letters to a Monmouth paper, explaining, or attempting to explain away the facts, as applicable to Mr. Ford; but in reality strengthening their applicability.

Meantime, Mr. Ford employed a Monmonth solicitor to prosecute the London paper, for damages sustained by him in being dismissed from his farm; and the London paper in turn took legal counsel, as to the extent of its responsibility for damage done,—as damage, and a grievous amount of it, had certainly been done to Mr. Ford, by the duke's agent.

lierein was involved a curious question of "protection to sgriculture;" and the more so, that Mr. Ford got his dismissal from the farm he had been improving at the very une the duke's son was at the hustings at Gloucester, in opposition to the Government supporter, Mr. Francis Charteris.

Not less singular was it that on that night when the Marquis of Worcester made his maiden speech in the House of Commons, in favour of protection to agriculture, and strongly condemnatory of all persons and parties who would not protect and cherish the farmers, the mail-lag from Monmouth was on its way to London, containing a letter which et forth in bitter terms the ruin which had come upon the writer's (Mr. Ford's) family, by his dismissal from the farm, and demanding redress from the London nawanator.

and demanding redress from the London newspaper.

Mr. Ford had denied emphatically that he had given the correspondent the information; which I have reason to believe is not only true, but that the correspondent had never seen Mr. Ford, and did not know his basine. Yet, though a seen of honour and integrity. Mr. Ford was not perfectly.

and though an agriculturist whom the duke and duke's agent, and duke's heir to boot, should have cherished and held in-his farm for the good of the estate, even if he wished to go away, he was dismissed as a scullion of the kitchen would be dismissed if dishonest, and without a character, or with a bad character—such as would prevent him from getting another farm.

Of the human insect whom the duke arms with such a sting to wound while it extracts honey, neither its own nor its master's, I say nothing. It is the public principle as affecting public property, the agriculture of the county, of which we have note to take. The Ragland estate in Monmouthshire, which is of very great extent (giving a rental of 50,0001. a year, though in a deplorable state of waste), has not the advantage of the duke's presence, as he usually lives at Badminton, in Gloucestershire, when not in London. But even in Gloucestershire, though the tenantry have the advantage of speaking to him personally to tell their wants and wishes, he is an obstructor of good agriculture, and not a promoter of it. It is in the region of his for class that the Whitefall example form region of his fox chase that the Whitefield example farm is situated. There, a poor dairy farm, fit only for fox-hunting, as most of Gloucestershire still is, bearing inferior grass, foul weeds, feeble crops of corn, employing two men, one boy, and two women to 232 acres at low wages; affording the farmer a bare living; paying with difficulty 2001, per annum of rent; being worked with a capital barely amounting to 7001.; there, on that same farm, the working capital is now above 40001.; the rent is double what it was before; the assessment to the poor rate triple what it was before; the wages paid six times what was paid before; the produce of the farm such, that all these increased charges are paid, and a handsome profit left to the farmer. Yet there, living in a country of pauperism, amid farmers always in distress, with this example farm before him, the Duke of Beaufort sees nothing in it worth notice from him, save that it impedes the fox-chase.

And yet his Grace of Beaufort meets his Grace of Richmond at the consultation of protectionist peers, and stands pledged, so the *Post* says, to oppose by vote and influence the measure which is to remove that thing called protection to agriculture—that agriculture which he himself does not protect who alone has the power. And now he is to remove the member at will as his tenant-at-will is removed, because the member believes that monopoly is not protection.

member believes that monopoly is not protection.

When recently at Whitefield farm, I expressed surprise at seeing so many cattle feeding at the stalls, Mr. Morton, who is now tenant of the farm, said "Yes, the number is great for the acreage of the farm, comparing it with what we see elsewhere; but we shall feed more cattle still, and extend all our operations when the Corn Law is repealed."

THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON NAMED IN

REUBEN.

FREE TRADE AUTHORITIES CONVERTED INTO ADVO-CATES OF MONOPOLY. Mr. Cayley, M. P. for East York shire, and tract-writer for the Central Agricultural Protection Society, had the hardihood in one of his publications to twist and torture Adam Smith, the great champion of Free Trade, into an advocate for protection. The stupidity or the fraud having been exposed, Mr. Cayley had the temporary grace to retract and apologize in a letter to the Morning Post; we say temporary, because the hon, gentleman has since repeated his fault in the House of Commons. In a like spirit Mr. D'Israeli has cited Mr. Mill as being an opponent of Free Trade, and the Morning Chronicle has set the question at rest by the following quotation from Mr. Mill's "Essays on some unsettled questions of Political Economy:"—"A prejudice appears to exist against the theory in question, on the supposition of its being opposed to one of the most valuable results of modern political philosophy, the doctrine of freedom of trade between nation and nation. The opinions now laid before the readers are presented as corollaries from the principles upon which trade itself rests. The writer has also been careful to point out that, from these opinions, no justification can be derived from any protecting duty, or other preference given to domestic over foreign industry. But in regard to those duties on foreign commodities which do not operate as protection, but are maintained solely for revenue, and which do not touch either the necessaries of life or the materials and instruments of production, it is his opinion that any relaxation of such duties, beyond what may be required by the interests of the revenue itself, should in general be made contingent upon the adoption of some corresponding degree of freedom of trade with this country by the nation from which the commodities are imported."—Linerpool Mercury.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Dr. Ryan has been

giving a most instructive and interesting lecture on the process of diving and submarine operations. The lecturer divided his subject into two departments; considering—first, the physical difficulties attending upon diving; and secondly, the means suggested by the ingenuity of man for the purpose of overcoming such difficulties. Under the first head, Dr. Ryan gave a most clear and concise view of the theory of respiration, which he aptly termed the most importheory of respiration, which he aptry termed the most impor-tant act of our existence. He remarked that respiration was so important, that in Holy Writ life and breath are synony-mous terms. Witness the expression, "And God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life." In Latin, the connection between life and breath is shown in the words spire and spiritus; and, in the Greek, the first and last act of a man's life is expressed by a word composed of Alpha and Omega, the first and last letters of the alphabet. The Doctor then proceeded to explain the action of the oxygen of the air in converting vinous into arterial blood, and also pointed out that the vinous blood could not circulate through the arterial system without becoming a most deadly poison. He described asphyxia resulting from suffication, and demonstrated that the cause of that condition was the prevention of the passage of oxygen into the lungs in order that the blood might be arterialised. Dr. Ryan then proceeded to show that man was formed merely for breathing a gaseous atmosphere, and that although water contained air, yet man could not separate it for respiratory purposes, as fishes do. He then gave some most interesting details, describing the diving dress, and proving that unless the head and chest of the man were protected by the protruding helmet, the weight of the water would prevent him using the muscles of respiration; for the Doctor stated that if the chest exposed half a square foot of surface at the depth of 10 feet, the weight on the chest would be 400 lbs. The learned Doctor concluded his admirable lecture amid loud applause from a most crowded audience.

A new umbrella has been manufactured in Connecticut, called the "lending umbrella." It is made of brewn paper and willow twigs, intended exclusively to accommodate. a. friend.

AGRICULTURE.

THE LATEST CONVERT.

It is a good sign of the times that the only real organ of the farmers, the Mark Lane Empress, has declared in favour of Free Trade. We wish it had been done earlier, for an unequivocal expression of opinion on the part of farmers would have prevented the retention of a modified protection for three years, which we foresce will be used in various ways against the weal of the farmer. The following passages in the leading article of the Express, on Monday, represent very closely the tone of opinion amongst the farmers, who very generally say the apprehensions which have been expressed are groundless. After referring to the debate and division in the House of Lords on the second reading of the Corn Law Bill, and stating that the result left scarcely an opening for doubt as to the success of the Government measure, the writer says:

"Having arrived at this stage of the proceedings, when we consider, in point of fact, that the Bill must become law, and when we contemplate the extraordinary change of opinion which has taken place upon the question of the Corn Laws, we are disposed to ask ourselves—and we think that all who regard the repeal of those laws as fraught with injury to British agriculture, should ask themselves the same question, 'Is it not possible that we may have been mistaken in our views?—may not our apprehensions be groundless? We must, for our own part, confess that circumstances are daily occurring, which leas us to doubt whether the results will be of such a serious nature as has been anticipated."

Referring to Lord Londonderry's frank avowal that his adherence to monopoly was simply an adherence to his party loaders, without having himself formed any defined or intelligible opinions on the subject, the writer remarks:

"Now the noble Marquis is no orator; but we very much doubt whether he has not assigned the true cause of the change which has taken place. 'Not able to form an opinion of their own,' noble lords and honourable gentlemen have taken the opinions of the Premier and the Tuke of Wellington. ('an we suppose that individuals placed in their high position have any other object than the general good of the country in view? ('an we imagine that they would adopt a course opposed to the opinions of a large and influential class of the community, without being well advised on all hands? And if so, seeing their position, their ability, their means of acquiring information, and capability of arriving at a sound conclusion, and further, the support they have acquired from the landed interest itself, have we not reason to ask ourselves, 'Is it not possible we may have been mistaken in our views?" A comparatively short space of time will furnish the answer."

Perhaps there is nothing which has more disgusted the manly and intelligent minds of the British middle classes with the monopolists than the anile scoldings and coarse abuse of Ministers by the monopolist leaders. Every man who thinks at all puts this question to himself, "What possible motive can Sir Robert Peel have but the general welfare?" And the answer does not exalt the Richmonds, the Bentineks, and D'Israelis in his estimation. We do not hesitate to say that there never was a party of public men towards whom the great body of the British community entertained so much contempt as towards the monopolist party in Parliament.

The course of the farmers is now plain. Let them treat the ravings of protectionist politicians as of about the same value as the promises of their exploded Corn Laws; let them rely upon their own exertions for success in farming, and quietly but resolutely demand from their landlords the security of long and rational leases.

It is not probable that any real attempt will be made in the next Parliament to alter the law now about to be enacted; but it is by no means unlikely that during the general election sundry monopolist lords and squires will talk largely upon the subject; and if the prices of grain happen to be low, they may divert farmers from considering what are the public questions in which they are really most in. terested. It does not matter that the promises of the squires refer to impossible things, inasmuch as landlords have been promising, and farmers be lieving in impossibilities for the last 30 years; these things will be attempted. There are many questions on which the squires, ambitious of representing the counties, would not like farmers to ponder and act according to their own convictions. We therefore caution the farmers beforehand against attributing prices, should prices be low, simply to the change in the law. That the effect of that change on the market has been anticipated is clean from the following account of the state of the corn market in the Mark Lane Espress review of Monday last:

" Whilst the weather continues suspicious for the growing but any circumstance tending to create a feeling of uneasi-ness respecting the result of the harvest would, in all probability, give an impetus to the trade. Such may at least be inferred from the generally firm tone sellers have maintained at the leading markets held during the week, under a combination of circumstances by no means calculated to impart confidence to wheat holders.

The range of prices during next year will depend upon the coming harvest. The prospect of that harvest is at present favourable. The great heat of the last few weeks will go far to recover the wheat plant, which previously was somewhat feeble; and should the summer prove a hot one, there will certainly be an abundant produce. Now, should that happen, let the farmers mark and distinguish how much of the reduction in price has been brought about by good crops, and how much by the alteration of the law; and let them form their own conclusions and act upon them without reference to the clamours of the protectionist landocracy.

FOREIGN COMPETITION.

"The agricultural community have been more frightened than hurt."-George Robins.

If farmers have not been frightened, it certainly has not been the fault of their "friends," who have stuck at nothing likely to produce the most extravagant alarm in the agricultural mind. But the fright of the farmers has for the last two or three years been a very shadowy affair, which none but the Parliamentary monopolists have been able to perceive. That there has been a very infinitesimal portion of four is, however, possible; and that the eloquent and practical George Robins may have been perfectly right, when, in describing "An Elizabethan Villa, a Manor, and five farms in Warwickshire," he said "the agricultural community have been more frightened than hurt."

On the other hand, the eloquent and impracticable Lord Stanley has been labouring with more zeal than success in trying to persuade the Lords and the farmers that they are not half enough frightened, and that they are about to be most seriously hurt. His lordship's, "Tamboff" story, has made all persons of average intelligence and information very careful in taking Lord Stanley's facts as real facts. His lordship's forte is not in that direction; his facts and figures are very like figures of fancy. And he seems to have met with a congenial mind in some Liverpool corn merchant, from whom he produceed a letter. On that letter Lord Stanley, in the House of Lords on Monday night, founded the following statement ·

"I received this morning a letter from a gentle acn, who described biniself as the bend of the oldest firm in Liverpool engaged in the corn trade, and he writes to inform me that he holds in bond two carroes of red wheat from Dantzie which cost 11s. a quarter The freight to Liverpool was 9s. 6d. This gentleman then gives us his deliberate opinion, that if the measure now before their Lordship's House passed, we shall, after the expiration of three years, be unually in the receipt of five millions of quarters of foreign ufheat, and probably more but that would depend upon the sensons and the demand here -at a price between 3ds, and 40s, the duty

If this wheat in bond has any real existence, all that can be said is, that Lord Stanley's correspondent ought to be thankful for a good bargain. If the story be real, it is impossible to say what peculiar circumstances, or combination of circumsta have induced that particular transaction; but to cito it as a specimen transaction is simply ridiculous. On turning to the review of the foreign corn trade published in the Mark Lane Express, on the samo Monday evening, we find that at Dantzie:

"The best samples of old high-mixed were then held at Als. to 53s, good qualities at 18s, to 19s, and other sorts at prices varying from 14s, to 47s, per qr. Vessels to load wheat for London might have been chartered at 3s. 9d. to 4n. 3d., and to Liverpool at 4s. 6d. to 5s. per qu'

And at Rostock and Stettin wheat would cost 45s, and 46s, a quarter, which in London, in bond, would not be worth more than 18s, and 47s, a qr. Such being the state of the Baltic markets, of what possible use, as a guide to form a general inference, is the Liverpool corn merchant's isolated bargain? Lord Stanley's present Tamboff, the country of his imagination, from which unlimited supplies of corn are hereafter to be obtained for next to nothing, is Hungary. "The plains of Hungary are, by the application of skill and money," to be the source of that "inundation " of corn the monopolists affect to apprehend. Now all this is lamentable trifling. Lord Brougham answered the monopolist admi-

rably upon this point. After reminding him that the opening our market would have the effect of advancing the price of wheat abroad, his lordship

"Now, would their lordships consider what was involved "Now, would their lordships consider what was involved in the operation of clearing the soil for the growth of corn? They must cut down the trees—they must grub up the reots—they must saw them in pieces—they must get rid of them in some way or other before they could convert the land into arable soil. They must farm the land; they must enclose it; and barns and granaries must be constructed. Now, he would stop here to ask if all this could be done without people-without workmen to carry these operations into effect? And did their lordships think that the population would increase just because we wanted them? Did they suppose that they increased at the rate they did in this coun try—at the rate of a thousand a day? But that was not all. Cupital also was required. Where was that capital to come from? It was estimated in this country that, properly to roin? It was estimated in this country that, properly to cultivate a farm, a tenant required to be possessed of capital at the rate of 10's, per acre. How much, then, would be required for the clearing of a farm? Why, less than 40's, or 50's, per acre would not do that. What could be expected, then, from the cultivators of the Ukraine, the Danube, or the interior of Poland?"

Now this is the practical view of the subject, which will at once satisfy farmers, and all who practically know aught of the cultivation of land, that any great increase of grain on the Continent of Europe can only be the result of many changes, occupying a long period of time. The only practical risk to the farmer arises from the three years' postponement of absolutely Free Trade. It is not impossible, indeed, it is not improbable, that at the cessation of the duty in 1819, a larger accumulation of grain may be thrown upon our market than it can absorb, and which will happen from over estimating its capacity. But that will be only a temporary, though perhaps a severe loss to farmers. That loss, however, be it what it may, must be placed to the account of the "farmer's friends,"

That the price of wheat, under Free Trade, will not be far from that which has been the average in the Channel Islands, 47s. a quarter, all evidence on the subject renders probable. The extravagant statements of the monopolists are absurd.

In order to dispel any unfounded alarm on this point, we recommend farmers to read Mr. T. F. Salter's "Rough Notes of a Farmer during an Agricultural Tour through Russia, Prussia, Den mark, and Sweden, in August, 1812." They will there find, upon the authority of a Norfolk farmer, that the power of Russia and Prussia to supply corn has been greatly overrated, and "that the inhabitants neither possess the skill, the knowledge, or the means, of injuring the British farmer."

We have no doubt that when the trade in corn becomes free, completely free, there will be a sufficient and constant importation to prevent the price rising to an exorbitant rate; but if the price be much reduced, it will be effected by the increased growth of wheat in this country, the result of the stimulus to husbandry given by Free Trade. The tale about the unlimited foreign supply is a mere buggaboo story, which nobody believes, not even thoso who tell it.

SHADOWS OF COMING EVENTS.

While the Richmonds and the Bentineks are bellowing forth prophecies of the ruin of farmers and the deterioration of husbandry, it is impossible to take up a periodical devoted to agricultural topics without perceiving that, whatever may be the other effects of coming free trade, one immediate and important one will be to stimulate the farmers to increased activity and more energetic pursuit of their business. Now we all know what is the result of such exertions. And it is from the incidental remarks of writers on rural topics that these conclusions are to be drawn, at least as much as from direct remark. A correspondent of the Mark Lane Express, writing upon the subject of "landlord and tenant arrangements," remarks that tenants can now properly call upon their landlords for new and more liberal arrangements, and adds:

"There can be no doubt now that a new Corn Bill will become the law of the land. Neither landlord nor tenant can honestly affect to believe that the existing Corn Laws can last three months longer.

He thinks no man must be surprised if the price of wheat for the next ten years shall rule below 40s. a quarter, and that the improved farming now so much recommended will do at least as much to keep down the price as importations from abroad. He, therefore, calls the attention of the farmers to the absolute necessity of securing leases He says :

" Taking it for granted, however, the tenants may live by

exertions? A yearly tenant at will has nothing to depend upon but the good opinion and just consideration of his land. lord. But that landlord may be a speculator—may get involved—may have nothing but those "good intentions" with the provider of the may be specified in a said to be proved or the may be seen to be seen which a certain place is said to be paved, or—he may die. How then? The heir, successor, or mortgagee, may with to make as much as he can of his newly acquired property. and this he may think he can best effect by turning the present toward out. What security has the latter that he will not? What inducement, therefore, has he to improve, en-

And no landlord can feel it to be any imputation on him, that a tenant, under the new state of things, should ask for a lease:

"You may believe—and you may tell him you believe that he will never disturb you while he lives; but life is proventially uncertain; and surely he will not wish you to be at the expense of insuring his life to the extent of the cepital you desire to invest in his land. Without such insurance, and sufficiently long lange every furthing you invest man. you desire to invest in his tand. Without such insurance, or a sufficiently long lease, every farthing you invest may be lost to you, though it will go to others. Parliament does not seem disposed to pass any law to protect or to compensate tenants. All the Corn Laws they have hitherto passed have been for the benefit of landlords, and used as excellent er cuses for demanding rents greatly beyond the prices they really promoted. Farmers, therefore, must individually protect themselves. Every tenant farmer can (surely without offence) in this altered state of things, ask for a lease. What honest reason can any landlord allege for not granting one."

The Corn Bill will probably be carried in a few weeks, and from thenceforth farmers must expect their prices to be only higher than the Continental prices by the cost of transport; that is the opinion of the writer whose remarks we have quoted; but does he, therefore, believe, as the Duke of Richmond says he believes, that farmers are, therefore, about to withdraw their capital from the soil? Quite the contrary. He says:

"How, then, when tenants are increasing their expenses by improvements, with the certainty of decreasing their rices by foreign competition, can any just and reasonable prices by foreign competition, can any just and reasonable landlord refuse to them a lease with covenants recognising and providing for their rights? In less than a week the Lords may be expected to give a conclusive indication of their concurrence with the Commons. Every tenant farmer at will should then look to his landlord for a lease, at terms, and with covenants. Given to the altered state of things. It and with covenants, fitted to the altered state of things. If they do not make the attempt now, they will find it much more difficult, and likely to be much less successful, next year than this. The three years' small duties are obviously carried on to prevent present abatement of rents; but if a tenant can get a lease for 7, 14, or 21 years, he can justly and strongly argue, that during the larger portion of his holding he will be altogether unprotected by the law, and ought, therefore, to be the better considered by his land-

We have repeatedly said that it is not so much reductions of rent the tenants require as secure tenures, and relief from landlord-imposed burthens. Now the remarks of the writer, a protectionist, show that the immediate effect of Free Trade will be to bring both landlords and tenants to the conclusion that it is no longer for the advantage of either party that the thriftless practice of yearly tenancies should continue. We have all heard a good deal of the superiority of Scotch over English farming; but from the following passages we extract from a letter addressed by a Scotch farmer travelling in England, to the editor of the Galloway Advertiser, it appears that the differences are chiefly those which arise from the difference of tenures:

"When you asked me to report on English farming, I believe both of us thought that my report must be all against English farming, particularly in this and other central counties, when compared with Scotch farming. We were both very much mistaken In pa-sing hurriedly through these central counties of England, as we have formerly done on our way to London, we see little of the details of farming, and form our opinion of the state of agriculture chiefly from the great clumsy waggons, the heavy and inefficient ploughs, and the expensive misapplication of horse-power, which meet our eyes on all sides, and which we hastily conclude must belong to an age of prejudice and general ignorance. But these are only the outside defects of the machinery; and a minute examination of the farms leads to a very different accordance on the farms leads to a very different accordance on the death of English Company. ferent conclusion as to the details of English farming. hesitate not to say, that the farming in many parts of Warwickshire is as good, or better, than in Wigtownshire or Ayrshire—though it is much in the same way as I would say a man is a good walker if he beats another on a road, at a great cost of physical power, although loaded with his great-grand father's boots, which happened to weigh each a hundred-weight,"

And he adds:

"I do not mean to say that an English farmer is able to pay more rent for his farm than a Scotch farmer would doquite the contrary; but he grows better crops on the same quality of land, feeds better, raises more manure, puts on more compost, keeps his land more clear from weeds, and his houses, farm roads, and fences, in better order; so that, in my opinion, the English farmer only requires to throw off his grandfather's great cumbersome implements to best us both in neat and profitable agriculture.

There is no doubt that the English farmer has great advantages of climate, and often of soil, over his brother farmer north of the Tweed; and the only advantage the Scotch farmer has—and it is an enormous onearises from his long and rational lease. The Scotch farmer says:

"The great bindrance to profitable English farming is the unwillingness of laudlerds to grant leases for a term of "Taking it for granted, however, the tenants may live by greater sacrifices and exertions, what security have they at present that they shall reap the benefit of these sacrifices and click improvement—to cause draining and other land.

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improvement to be either neglected or imperfectly executed; and no inducement is hold out to the great body of farmers to forake the clumsy implements and expensive system of working of their fathers, the effect of which would be to put all the profits of the change into the pockets of their landlords within a year or two after the improvement is adopted. A great part of their clay lands are undrained, and, on the very best managed farms, the draining is quite inefficient—the drains being perhaps 80 feet asunder, and only two feet deep, where they should have been placed at every 10 or 18 feet, and 2½ feet deep."

The wetness of the land from insufficient draining, forms an excuse for the misapplication of horse-power, both in ploughing, and in the use of heavy waggons instead of one-horse carts. So he threshes out his corn with great and unnecessary expense:

"The English farmer suffers a great loss, both in the cost and dispatch, in preparing his grain for the market, from the want of threshing machines; and thus evil is not reduced by orcasionally hiring a clumsy, ill constructed machine, which is done even on farms of a considerable extent. In Scotland, and even in the north of Ireland now, almost every farm of 1001, or even 801. rent, has its well constructed threshing machine, drawn by two horses, if water power is not at command, completed at an expense of 301, or 351, or, with winnowing-machine attached, a few pounds more. The English farmers must adopt this improvement; and they, or the labourers, need not fear that they will find every conomy to the farmer produces increased employment and benefit to the workman."

By increased accommodation for keeping cattle, and the use of much of the straw—with linseed, let us add—for feeding them, instead of using it all for litter, the English farmer would be much benefited.

The writer thus adverts to the coming abrogation of the Corn Laws:

"I blame the English farmer for unnecessary expense or extravagance in his management, and the Scotch farmer for unwise economy in many things, or niggardliness, and to cure our mutual faults may yet take some time; but there is a spirit abroad now which will, I have no doubt, tend to the improvement of both countries. An Englishman, for edd work, might bring neatness and order to our Scotch farms; and the alarm among English landlords on account of the proposed change in the Corn Laws will force them to grant leases, and tend to a more economical management on the part of the English farmers. If a Warwickshire farmer can work his farm with half the number of horses he now employs (as I am convinced he could do), here would be a source from which he could draw security for a very consider able fall in the price of grain. If such were to be the result of the change in the Corn Laws, the possession of a farm for alease of nineteen or twenty years would certainly lead to such safe means of realising profit. The great objection is the expense of purchasing new carts and ploughs, and the difficulty of getting workmen to go heartily into the change."

Now all this indicates anything but an intention, on the part of farmers, of giving up cultivation in despair at the prospect of foreign competition.

Again, a "salesman," writing to the Mark Lane Express upon the subject of complain's made by some farmers of the manner in which sales of stock are sometimes conducted in Smithfield says:

"I beg to recommend in future that the feeders of cattle and sheep will send their cattle or sheep by rail; for by sending a certain quantity, small in number, the feeder or owner of them is entitled to a ticket to come up to Smithfield and return again free of expense. By coming to Smithfield with their stock, they would then judge for themselves the salesmen who sell cattle that will bear selling twice on the same day, in the same market, at a profit; and they would then know the value of salesmen who are judges of the real value of the cattle they sell. If they did so, the best salesmen would find their value in Smithfield as well as the cattle; and it would not be as now is the case, that ignorance and assurance would be a sufficient capital to start a salesman—to please the casiest and most contented race of mankind who do not even think for themselves, but leave it to other people to think for them. Should Sir Robert Peel's measure be carried in the House of Lords, the feeders of cattle and sheep, to pay their rent, &c., must take out a licence to think, act, and speak for themselves, or they cannot keep pace with the times, and must make place for wiser and more thinking men."

Here the stimulating effects of Free Trade are distinctly recognised. That farmers are, as a body, quite equal to the emergency, we have always maintained; we wish we could say the same thing of the landlords. The great impediment to improved hushandry really lies in that quarter.

GAME VERSUS FARMING.

A correspondent of the Mark Lane Express observes that the game presents one of the greatest difficulties to a tatisfactory arrangement of the terms between land-lords and tenants; and we believe that when the Corn laws are abolished, game and the Game Laws will be the chief obstacle to good and profitable farming:

of all the features involved in the question of tenant night, there are few, if any, more difficult of general adjusting and than that of game-killing and game-preserving. Inferth ought all by comparison to be easy indeed of arrangeall increasing the profits, and, we may very naturally add, then. The game, we repeat, has no moral recommendation and the farmer that centains some good, and which considered in the farmer that centains some good, and which considered in the game, we repeat, has no moral recommendation shall be a simple farmer that centains some good, and which considered in the question of the same that centains some good, and which considered is an influence over the forest profits. The center of Ireland, they tell us, is the absence is and once do away with or sent the land-

owner's right to the game, and the curse of England might not improbably correspond with it."

The notion that game preserving is necessary to induce any landlord, whose presence is worth a rush to his neighbours, to reside in the country, is altogether preposterous; but that game does present a matter difficult of adjustment between landlord and tenant, is most true, and we fear it will continue to do so, until the force of public opinion shall have compelled the landowners to abandon game-preserving as a barbarous and demoralising practice.

The writer seems to imagine that there can be a moderate preservation of game, such as existed many years ago, when farming was in a rude state, and there was more wild land in the country than at present. He says:

"The English gentleman, on the one part, shall be content with finding game sufficient for himself and his friends, without supplying his poulterer; and the English farmer, on the other, shall provide for him as sportsman without condemning him as landlord. With moderation in the supply and the demand, the tenant may farm without loss, and the owner sport without complaint.

"Over or modern game preserving affects and injures the tenant farmer in two ways: it lowers his profit, and deadens his spirit. Even allowing that full compensation is given for the mischief occasioned—a fact granted, by the way, that we should think was not realised one time in twenty—even admitting this, the 'give and take' must surely pass in a most unsatisfactory manner."

We think this moderate supply is not what landowners who preserve game would care for. They want a large head of game for a battue; or they would rather give up the game to their tenants; and it is thus we hope that battue shooting, and the game preserving it induces, are evils which will ultimately cure themselves. At present game is an evil of great magnitude. If the squirearchy would preserve their influence with the farmers, they must give up the game:

"The great support of the gentlemen of this country has been the yeomanry, and never perhaps had they more need to depend on them than they have just at present. The benefit, however, cannot come all one way, but must rather be met and joined in step for step from either side. One of the first of these steps, we repeat, must be made with the fashion of preserving game; an amendment, we trust, that may once again cause a good landlord and a good sportsman to sound as much the same thing."

As farmers, we look forward to the day when game shall have ceased to exist in the cultivated districts.

BREAKING UP PREJUDICES AND PASTURES.

The most absurd prejudices are entertained by the landowners of England against breaking up pasture land. At least, one-half of our permanent grass lands would pay more to the tenant, as well as the landlord, when converted, if properly converted, into tillage. We are glad to see that farmers' clubs are discussing the subject:

"HARLESTON FARMERS' CLUB. - May 6th. - Subject, 'The breaking up of old pasture lands; its advantages and the best process.' Resolved:—That it is highly desirable to break up a large portion of the heavy land pastures in this district, thus adding to the sources of labour and increasing the produce of the soil. That thin paring and burning the flag is the best process of converting such lands into tilinge, spreading at least two-thirds of the ashes on the new soil, and carrying the remainder, if desirable, on to the old tilled lands. The club not only considers that the first should be a root crop, for which the ashes will be an excellent preparation, but recommends that the succeeding crop or crops should be roots also. Aware of the prejudice which most landlords entertain against the breaking up of old pasture land, it is believed that making it compulsory to crop new lands with roots for the first two or three years (for the growth of which they are so well calculated) will tend to diminish their objections, and be at the same time advantageous to the tenants, as the manure from the extra root crops will be more beneficial to the old lands than the manure from the extra straw crops would have been, and the whole farm will be thus improved instead of impoverished. Draining and claying in the interim will prepare the land for the corn crops at the expiration of the limit, and by breaking up annually a portion only of the pasture intended to be converted, the whole will come regularly into course with the old ploughed lands. It is believed that permission thus given to break up inferior pasture land will encourage good farming amongst the tenantry, by increasing the fattening of cattle and reducing the stock of cows, which it is well known, as they are generally kept, impoverish the land as much as cattle and sheep improve it.

Kissing.—Dow closed a sermon on kissing with the following quaint advice:—"I want you, my young sinners, to kiss and get married; and then devote your time to morality and money making. Then let your homes be well provided with such comforts and necessaries as piety, pickles, pots and kettles. brushes, brooms, benevolence, broad, charity, cheese, faith, flour, affection, cider, sincerity, vinegar, virtue, wine and wisdom. Have these always on hand, and happiness will be with you. Do not drink anything intoxicating—ent moderately—go about business after breakfast—lounge a little after dinner, chat after tea, and kiss after quarrelling; then all the joy, the peace, and the bliss the earth oan afford shall be yours, until the grave close over you, and your animis are horne to a brighter and a happier world."

shall be yours, until the grave close over you, and your spirits are borne to a brighter and a happier world."

The Parisian Punch, Le Charivari, has been, by superior order, prohibited from being read in Vienna; all copies destined for that capital being seized in the frontier post-

REVIEW.

The Industrial History of Free Nations. By W. T. McCullagh, Esq. London, Chapman and Hall.

The obvious disproportion between the title of these volumes and their contents,-the limitation of the Industrial History of Free Nations to a comment on the connection between the political state and economic conditions of the Greeks and the Dutch,—has led many to stigmatise the work, very harshly and very unjustly. They say that in the ancient world the Greeks had neither the monopoly of industry nor of freedom, The Tyrians, the Carthaginians, the Campanians, and others, have left at least traces of their existence in commercial history; while in modern times, the municipalities of Catalonia and Languedoc, the free States of Lombardy, the federated cities of the Rhine, the Hansentic League, to say nothing of Genoa, Florence, Venice, and other republics, had, as glorious an industrial history as Holland, and an equal claim to rank among free nations. The source of these mistaken objections is the title, which cortainly does not express the object of the book. The author includes nationality, independence, and solf-government in his notion of freedom; and his main object appears to be to prove that the most inclusive spirit of commerce is not inconsistent with the most crclusive spirit of nationality. It was perhaps for this reason that the author limited his attention to the Greeks and the Dutch, because of all industrial races they were the most signally remarkable for nationality and localisation of government.

It is to the exclusive nationalities arising from the multitude and small size of the States into which the Hellenes were divided, after they had established their supremacy over the Pelasgi, that our author ascribes the growth of the industrial arts in Greece. The theory is eloquently stated, but sufficient care has not been taken to distinguish mere

Greece. The theory is eloquently stated, but sufficient care has not been taken to distinguish mero concomitancy from causation.

"As the lava of conquest began to cool, and to split into unconnected masses, between each rift the indigenous popular industry sprang up, and gradually sheathed many of the rugged forms into which the Itellenic flood had congosled with a Pelasgic verdure. Thus in Samos, where from an age exceedingly remote many descriptions of useful labour had been carried on, the ancient spirit of inventive toil revived. There, we are told, did Rhueus and Theodorus, in the seventh century n.c., perform the curious feat of moulding shapes in clay; which Debutades, an artifleer of Sicyon, having improved upon, found that he could render applicable in the way of ornaments for the roofs of houses, and even for embellishing the summits of temples. These figures were sometimes stained with various dyes—madder being particularly mentioned among the substitute of inventions described in the various dyes—madder being particularly mentioned among the substitute of inventions described in the various dyes—madder being particularly mentioned among the substitute of inventions described in the various dyes—madder being particularly mentioned among the substitute of inventions described in the various dyes—madder being particularly mentioned.

larly mentioned among the colouring stuffs employed. It was discovered also, by experiment, that certain kinds of clay were suitable to particular purposes; and the valuable art being once applied to ordinary uses, it gradually became to the Samiotes a permanent and extensive source of profitable occupation : vast quantities of carthenware being annually exported to distant countries, as well as to the other states of Greece. They had several rivals among their neighbours, more especially at Corinth, whence we are told that Eucheir and Eugrammus, two skilful potters, emigrated to Etruria, and so introduced the knowledge of their art among that tasteful people. In the isle of Cos, likewise, a description of porcelain, exceedingly thin and fair, was manufactured; exquisite vessels, shaped on the wheel, were fabricated at Erythrae; and Sieyon claimed the pre-eminence in works of alabaster. All these emulously laboured to maintain each their own repute for some peculiar excellence of composition or design; and the proof that no monopolising discouragement ever fell upon their free and honourable competition is unconsciously afforded by Pliny, when he states that in his late time each of their productions was so highly valued, that it paid the merchants to import them into Italy, and even to more distant countries, where the same manufacture was carried on, but in somewhat less perfection. Can any one in the least degree conversant with the history of such inventions entertain a doubt that to this free competition of successive ages was attributable the perfection of skill and fertility of design which, even in the fragments that have escaped the wreck of classic civilisation fill us with delight and admiration? Imbued with the traditionary taste and skill on which success in any art, but more peculiarly in that of design, necessarily depends, the Samiotes applied themselves, moreover, to manufactures of gold and silver. In these they soon attained celebrity. Traffic with Asia, if it had not as yet rendered the precious metals very abundant, supplied at least sufficient materials to those who made vessels of ornament, or for sacred uses. Among the articles most highly prized in the palace of the Persian king was a cup wrought by the Samian Theodorus; and numerous shrines in Greece contained specimens of his highly valued workmanship."

The policy of the Corinthians receives its full meed of praise, but their connection between public festivals and commercial exchanges was no Greek invention. From the remotest ages, trade in the East was connected with religious observances, and the greatest national temple was the most frequented of national marts.

"Whatever the faults of their colonial system may have been, the domestic policy of the Corinthians was, in most things, pro-eminently wise. They seem to have very early understood their position, and how it might be turned to most advantage. Though the traffic overland between the Poloponnesians and the Continental Greeks could not at first have been very extensive, it was every year increasing, and all of it necessarily passed their gates. Of the importance of rendering this intercourse safe, they seem to have been fully conscious, as well as of the best means, of encouraging it. Instead of exacting oppressive tells, which from their weaker neighbours they were strong enough to do.

and of which we should infallibly have heard abundant complaints, had they thought fit to attempt it, they sedulously plants, had they thought by to sevempt it, they according strove to augment them by more legitimate expedients. They greatly extended, if indeed they did not actually found, one of these national festivals or games, the influence of which on the manners and habits of the Greeks it is, perhaps, impossible adequately to estimate. (If these there afterwards were many originating in various circumstances and commemorative of different events. All of them partook, more or less, of the character of religious celebra-tions—all presented splendid and emobling spectacles to the popular sight—all tended, in a high degree, to the political fusion and nationalisation of the heterogeneous tribes who were thus periodically induced to come together; and, finally, by all of them were inestimable benefits con ferred on every species of inventive industry. They were femilials; but they were likewise fairs. They were termed Public Games-panegyres-as expressing that they were the common opportunity for worship and relaxation to all who were privileged to take part in them; and even the fury of war was suspended during the period of their celebration, and the truce, which permitted enemies of yesterday to meet in safety at the lathmus, was religiously observed. They afforded places of resort for business men-halls of exposition for ingenious men-thentres of trial for simbitious men.

"To attribute to the originators of any of these festal reunions political or commercial foresight sufficient to anticipate all the important uses which they served, would be, no doubt, an error. But it is one thing to plant a tree near your dwelling in the belief that it may one day help to shelter its isolation, and another to foresee that its destined growth will eventually overshadow your home with its luxuriant foliage, and eminently contribute to make it an object of envy and admiration. Those who explain great events or influences by postliminous prefaces full of deep designs which their authors (never) had in view, perplex and mar the best lessons history is capable of teaching; but we may err in the opposite extreme; in the life of nations one naturally leans to the belief that what appears to have been done systematically, was done with continuous, though perhaps inflected purpose; and when we find early, though comparatively scanty, fruit upon the branches, it is hard to think that the planting and primary culture were without

"An idea certainly prevailed among the ancients that several of the most celebrated panegyres were deliberately instituted for the united purposes of festivity and trade. Iphitus is said to have "founded the games and fair of Olympia" in a certain year which is named. The precise year may be doubtful, but there is no doubt whatever of the mingled character of these memorable festivals; and the mational importance attached to them is sufficiently indicated by the well-known fact of their justitution being recognised as the Grecian era, and their periodical recurrence as the universal measure of Grecian time."

Parts of Solon's legislation appear to us extravagantly overrated. We are surprised to find so enlightened a writer vindicating the exclusion of resident aliens from the rights of citizenship. The experiment of separating freedom of trade from the experiment of separating freedom of trade from the exercise of municipal and constitutional rights was long tried in Ireland; it was indeed the favourite policy of the Orange ascendancy. A similar course has been recommended in the United States by what is called the "Native American party," but we did not expect to find it advocated by a Free Trader. To us, the cry of "Athens for the Athenians," as of "Ireland for the Irish," does not appear one whit more rational than the cry of the "Oregon for the O'Regans."

"To this end was the fundamental principle laid down. that all men, of whatever race or clime, were free to trade at Athens; and so long as they obeyed the laws and complied with the easy supulations amexed to their condition as rouldent aliens, they might compete with the native-born citizens of the state in every branch of trade. The enlightened policy which thus boldly sought to attract and attach foreign enterprise and skill as an inexhaustible stimulant to native industry, appears no way inconsistent with the political reserve which guarded the public offices and municipal privileges from foreign intrusion. A broad distinction lay between the rights of citizenship and those of resident The freedom of trade demanded the one, a young and self distrustful nationality insisted upon the other. The time came when civic rights also were made accessible to foreigners by easy forms of naturalisation; but at no period does the policy of encouraging the competition of foreign skill appear to have been doubted."

Hitherto we have found a little to censure as well as much to praise; but we can quote the account given of the Athenian Corn Laws with unqualified approbation:

Popular tradition said, that during a season of scarcity Cecrops had imported corn into Attica from Sicily and Lydia; and the practice was certainly a very ancient one. As population increased the supplies of foreign grain became every year more indispensable; and at no period of which written history has cognisance were the Athenian people independent of foreign corn.

The physical circumstances of the country in fact rendered this inevitable. The total area of the Athenian territory, including the adjacent isless of Salamis and Helens, which early came to be considered integral portions of the realm, is estimated at about 874 square miles; and the average population in prosperous times may be taken at 500,000 persons of all ages and conditions. Of these about 200,000 dwelt within the walls, in the city properly so called, or in the suburban quarter, near Pirceus and Munychia. For the annual wants of this population 3,000,000 measures of corn are calculated to have been requisite; and the produce of their own fields seldom exceeded, and often fell short of, two-thirds of this quantity. From one-third to one-half the daily bread of the Athenians, therefore, of necessity came from abroad.

"Nor was this the consequence of any disfavour shown to agriculture, of of its practical neglect. Solon took infinite pains to better the condition of the industrious classes among the laudowners. He gave a legal remedy for injuries done by trespass; he secured a right of use to all who dwelt within a certain distance of fresh springs,—no trivial benefit is a land where supplies of water were exceedingly precarious; and his celebrated enactments for the relief of estates from

incumbrances, though questioned on other grounds, possessed at least the merit of stimulating and securing the improvement of the soil. By every means he sought to increase agricultural produce, not with the vain hope of rendering the domestic supply of corn equivalent to the demand, but because he perceived in native agriculture a natural and certain source of national health and mercantile prosperity. Far from desiring or designing, by artificial means, to keep down the demands of population to the native supplies of food, or deprecating commercial progress when it outstripped the tortoise pace of agricultural improvement, Solon proposed a variety of measures, the avowed scope of which was inseparably connected with a more rapid increase of population. He believed that the more skilled, industrious, and intelligent hands the city contained the better. If the country could feed them all, well; if not, they could provide themselves with subsistence elsewhere. Egypt, Sicily, and the inexhaustible realms washed by the Euxine, would be only too glad to supply the domestic deficiency; and they were capable of doing so had the demand been a hundredfold greater.

"But the policy of Athens, Solon clearly saw, was to give every possible facility to the introduction of foreign corn. He went even farther, and rendered it compulsory on all ships that entered Pirmus laden with corn to discharge two-thirds of their cargoes there—so great was his auxiety that the cost of the necessaries of life should, under all possible contingencies, be kept down by an abundant supply. It is easy to condemn such a restriction on commerce;—at least it must be admitted to have been intended in favorem vita.

"Let us now glance briefly at some of the results of the system. Agriculture steadily improved. The estates, liberated from the palsying grasp of usurious mortgage, became better distributed in course of time, and small properties cultivated by their owners multiplied. The national importance of this was well understood by the statesman of after years. It rendered invasion more terrible: but it rendered its success hopeless.

"As for the apprehension that population would outstrip production, or production over-supply the wants of the po pulation, or production over-supply the wants of the po-pulation, we are happily spared, in Grecian history, all dis-sertations upon that score. If any fewrs of the kind ever arose, they were speedily dissipated. The impetus given by trade to population reacted upon industry by a constant aug mentation of demand. Instead of trying to make corn grow upon light soil never intended by nature for the purpose, the science of the Greeks was applied to discovering to what better uses it might be turned. Nor was it unsuccessful. Improvements, which no wheat crop would repay, apparently became common. Every species of gardening, hoth for ornament and use, was popular. Planting of every kind was carefully attended to. Vineyards and olive-yards were formed wherever it was practicable. The richer lands still yielded wheat and barley remuneratively, nor does it appear that the total quantity grown at home diminished. But the general demand kept far ahead of the domestic supply; in Demosthenes' time, there was no state in Greece which consumed annually so much corn; for the great object of securing always a plentiful supply of provisions at a moderate price was gained. Periods of scarcity sometimes recurred, but they were rare, and almost without exception the result of longprotracted war,—a cause, we know, sufficient to create them in exclusively agricultural, as well as in commercial countries. There is no proof, however, that corn was ever so scarce at Athens as it was in Rome during Hannibal's occupation of Campania. So long as Athens was at peace the price of food could never rise exorbitantly; and, except on one or two occasions of utter and unforeseen discomfiture in war, her people knew nothing of the privations which are caused by inadequate supplies of food.

"With regard to exports, the policy of Solon was different from that pursued regarding importation in a few remarkable points; although, upon the whole, their practical weight is hardly appreciable when set against the general freedom of Athenian industry. In the paramount anxiety to secure cheap provisions and to render their price more equable, Solon departed from his own principles of free sale; and lest provisions should at any time become too dear, declared that their exportation might lawfully be restrained. It comes easy to us to call this a blunder; but let us remember that at least it was no selfish one—that its intention was humane that in nine years out of ten it was wholly inoperative, inasmuch as the importations of corn were immense; and that when it did come into force, its operation could only have been to prevent the agriculturists from turning a period of general dearth to unusual and exorbitant gain

We can also recommend the able account given of the commercial treaty between the Etrurians and the Carthaginians.

The nature of the contest and of the subsequent alliance between the aristocracy of property and the aristocracy of wealth is thus described:

Wealth, which had been recognised as an alternative qualification for rule, admitting of infinite degrees, those who were upon a social level with their neighbours, and who yet fell short of the arbitrary wealth mark of worth, naturally resented an exclusion which was much less venerable, and, perhaps, less intelligible at the time than that of the original genocracy. It seemed a deeply rooted instinct of the Greeks to resist the exclusiveness, whether social or political, that was based on the more possession of money, far more inveterately than that of a dominant race. They had submitted instance where the distinctions of caste were broken down and a narrow pecuniary limit substituted instead, that discontent and further changes did not ensue. The exclusion that was absolute and insuperable was less mortifying to popular self love than the barrier it had seen overpassed by a few, and which it was unwilling to confess beyond its own capacity to surmount. Where no hope is, there is no ambition—no social clambering—no political chagrin. It is the bitterness and envy of secret discontent that undermine proud systems and corrode the sanctions of authority, which may more safely rob a hundred than affront one: for mortified vanity is a more implacable rebel than the keenest sense of rainly is a more implacable recei than the keenest sense of injury or haired of oppression. Popular theories arise to give disaffection form and plan; but it is not the speculation of the wise or the plot of the ambitious rulers have most need to fear. Social heart burnings are the true seeds of revolution; and the popular leader can do little more than

watch their ripening.

"Meanwhile the increase of city states, by stimulating invention and trade of every kind, had undermined exclusive power. The conquering race had hitherto enjoyed almost a monopoly of land, the only species of property once existing. Industry created various new descriptions of property, trade

found ways of bartering them; and art, lending her inventor aid, devised means of transferring still more rapidly and easily the largest or the smallest portions of them. To the establishment of the towns, more particularly of the colonies, and to the regular intercourse kept up between them, but been attributed the introduction of coined money among the Greeks."

Here we must pause, at least for the present. But we cannot conclude without protesting against the spirit of exclusive nationality which it is the main purpose of these volumes to recommend. Green teaches the very opposite lesson to that which on author has deduced from its history. The exclusive nationality of the republics may have acted as a stimulus when commerce and trade were in theirin fancy. But this very emulation had a tendency to degenerate, and did degenerate, into commercia jealousy and a grasping spirit of monopoly. What Greece wanted was centralisation, some point of unity where the separate interests of the petty states might be co-ordinated to the common good Municipal Governments are bad imperial governments; they are always directed in a narrow and corporate spirit. We have only to look at the Parliamentary reports to be convinced that small corporations have been infinitely more corrupt than larger bodies. It is a mistake to suppose that a controlling central power interferes unnecessarily with local government; on the contrary, it gives strength to municipal institutions by preventing the evil of mutual interference. There is a sickly sentimentality of patriotism which serves as an excuse for selfish policy; we regret that it has appeared to receive some countenance from an author whom we respect, for the spirit which it inspires is not national, but provincial; the exclusiveness it cherishes is less productive of love than of hatred.

JOSEPH HUME AND COLONEL THOMPSON.
On the 19th May, 1829, Mr. Hume moved in the Honse of Commons that in lieu of the then sliding scale thereshould be imposed a fixed duty of 15s, per quarter on wheat, 12s, on barley, and 8s. on oats, and to diminish this duty is per annum until it wholly ceased. He showed the great increase in employment which would arise if this alteration took place:

"In this country there are now one million of persons who at the present moment, are ready to produce whitever mighte sold to those who would purchase it; and yet this million of persons, consisting of men, women, and children—who, I may remark, by the by, are frequently brought too soon to labour, and kept too long on it— these men, women, and children are a want of employment; why should they not have it, when we could, at any hour of the day, send out the produce of their palour and exchange it for food."

He denied that the Corn Law was of any benefit to the farmers, for whose advantage it was professed to be passed.

"Ho denied that the landed interest was benefited by the restriction. Certainly, if there was an average crop, the landed interest, by its monopoly, might be able to raise the price of corn a few shillings; but if the crop were bad, the foreign extraould rush into the market, and destroy the farmer by the flat tuations which it would cause in price; and if, on the contary, the country were blessed with a plentiful harvest, for two of three years successively, it would be an actual misfortune to the farmer, because for a time the price had been kept, by artifications, above the average price of Europe. This being the existing that the had a right to contend that the advantages of the farmer did not equal his losses. The fact was, that the activate of the farmer was perfectly distinct from that of the landlord (hear, hear)—and it was the landlord only that could be benefited, because it was his interest to keep up high renu (hear, hear). The only drawback upon the farmer would be in the event of his having a long lease; but he nevertheless held, that by the alteration proposed no material change in the price would take place; and that at present the agricultural interest was actually starving the population of the country without benefiting itself."

Mr. Huskisson and Lord Althorp were amongst the 154 members who opposed the motion, and there were only 12 who voted for it. Had it been carried there would have been a gradual and not very rapid diminution of the duty, but only would have come in free in 1837, barley in 1841, and wheat in 1844. This ought to be recollected to the credit of Mr. Hume. At that time we recommended that the people should be instructed, and we pointed out a NEW TEACHER.

"Mr. V. Pitzgerald, in reply, accused Mr. Hume of having described the Corn Laws as nothing, less than a tax imposed for the sake of the agricultural interest upon the industry of the country, and repelled the charge with as much indignation as he could have shown had he really believed it to be unfounded. The equability of prices since the passing of the last act was, with the Honourable President of the Board of Trade, abundant proof of the excellence of the present Corn Laws, and of the impolicy of any alteration; and as only twelve members were found with Mr. Hume, and one hundred and fifty-four with ministers, no hope can be entertained of any amelioration of this part of the starvation code during the present session. The continued distress of the manufacturing districts, for we anticipate no immediate improvement, and its certain extension to the agricultural districts will, however, force the subject upon the attention of Parliament next session. In the meantime let there be a wholesome agristion throughout the country. Let every man who knows anything of the mischievous operation of those laws, endeavour to en lighten his neighbours, and let all who wish to be informed in out sixpence on the 'Catechism of the Corn Laws,' which meets every fullney which has been adduced in favour of their continuance."

In a short time subsequent to Mr. Hume's defeat, the TEACHER was effectively set to work in this vicinity. We printed 4000 copies of the "Catechism," and presented them to our readers; and no doubt to that distribution much of the superior knowledge of the Corn Law question which, from that period until now, has been manifested in this district, may be attributed. Ten years afterwards the League gave national utterance to Colonel Thompson's terse argument; and, under Cobden's leadership, we have now the prospect before us of a release from an oppression of a third of a century's duration.—Manchester Times.

The people of Coventry and the neighbourhood have been completely swindled out of sheir money by a party of webbonds, who announced a concert under rayal attackets os. each, and just before the commencement with the receipts.

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Sidney Smith, Bsq.,
Charles Swaisland, Esq., Crayford.

FREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION. Bamuel Harrison, Beq., Dr. James Carlisie, Jehn Ghaby, Beq., H. Hull, Med., Uxbridge. Richard Burnet, Ess., J. Matson, Esq., ., Orayford.

Dr. Thomas Price, 7, Highbury-terrace, Islington. George Thompson, Eq., 6, Waterloo place. Captain Cogan, Upper Mill, Hammersmith.

BANKERA.

Commercial Bank.

Josh. Ivimey, Esq., 25, Chancery-lane. Mr. Frederick Farrand, Priory Villa, Peukham.

Mr. Affred Lench Saul.

Mr. Alfred Lench Saul.

Prospectuses may be obtained, gratis, on application at the Society's Offices, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriars street, Fluct-street. The Rules (6d. each) are now ready, and may be had as above.

Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application immediately.

TREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION. The Second Sale of Shares will take place on Turaday next, the 9th of Jone Parties can obtain advances in the Free Trade Investment Association without any delay.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Friday Evening, June 5, 1846. THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND THE SILK WEAVERS. Among the most amusing incidents in the last

struggle of monopoly is the new-born zeal of the Duke of Richmond for the silk-weavers of Spitalfields. His affection for them is so excessive, that he devised their grievance before he proclaimed their wrong. No sooner was the Agricultural Trades' Union formed at 17, Old Bond-street, than its titled leaders, like the Jacobin Club of Paris, sought to fraternise with some of the lower Trades' Unions in the metropolis; and for this purpose they sought the acquaintance of the fag end of the Chartists in the classic regions of Bethnal-green Sticks and strikes have not been of late very profitable; Chartist clubs have become niggardly to their secretaries, and suspicious of their treasurers the potentates of Lubberland found that supplies began to flow in scantily from their dupes, but when streams of beer and clouds of tobacco were opened to their vision by the protectionists, they eagerly accepted a treat to be purchased on the easy terms of grumbling and discontent. The sun of aristocratic patronage shed its radiance on the Parliament of the pot-house, and produced a growth of speeches and petitions redolent of the soil in which they had their birth. The pewter and the pipe became powerful patrons of protection; muddy alo prepared the way for muddle-headed argument, and pulls of smoke appropriately typified the evanescent nature of the oratory they accompanied. Glorious was the alliance between dukes and dustmen, Buckingham and Billingsgate, Stanley and Shoreditch, Richmond and Rag Fair. Even the delicate Morning Post was infected with the new passion; Jenkins deserted the opera for the beer-house, and preferred the oratory of Sherrard to the notes of Grisi. Grave reports were given of these meetings; they were honoured with the same dignity of lead which had been previously reserved for aristocratic outpourings at agricultural dinners, and it must be confessed that they were equally worthy of such weighty reward. Mrs. Harris protested that the titled monopolists of Old Bondstreet were recognised as the only true friends of manufacture by the unionists of the Cat and Bagpipes: Mrs. Gamp declared that the voice of the operatives of England was heard only through the medium of delegates assembled at the Pig and Whistle. The farce was amusing, for it deceived nobody; not even the managers and the actors themselves. Speeches and signatures were no unpleasant accompaniments to smoking and drinking; and the union at Old Bond-street paid the tavern bills, in the hope of thus cheaply averting the payment of the more formidable bill presented by the

It never was worth while to expose so shallow a delusion; the Chartists themselves only pretended to be dupes for the sake of the liquor, and they often whispered their surprise at the credulity of those who supplied the treat. They were well aware that no real sympathy existed for their condition in the halls of Stowe or Goodwood, and that nothing but the desporation of a bad and beaten cause could have led to a recognition of their existence at the Conservative Club. But they found it profitable to Practice on the easy faith of the protectionists, whose belief was the slave of their desire, and they

soon discovered that they might give any account they pleased of their domonstrations in the remote east, without the slightest chance of detection in the western halls of Bond Street. The agitation which only made itself heard by the clatter of the pint pots was represented to the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham as a popular movement second only to that which carried the Reform Bill; and the pipes of tobacco were said to inspire as much legislative wisdom as the smoking of the calumet was supposed to confer on an Indian Sachom. Surely such a development of power and intellect was cheaply purchased by a few ounces of short cut and a few gallons of

THE LEAGUE.

Patent and palpable as such a delusion is, the Duke of Richmond entertains such extravagant notions of the gullibility of his order as to propose that the petitioners of the pot house should be heard by counsel at the bar of the House of Lords.

" What cannot craft effect in ducal minds,

When flattery sooths, and when ambition blinds?"

The Duke of Richmand, however, has as good a claim to be a manufacturing oracle as those whom he supports to pass themselves off as representatives of any manufacturing interest. Thirsty Chartists and turbulent Unionists do not représent the artisans of the metropolis, much less the industrial classes of England. Their modest demand to be heard by counsel savours strongly of the inspiration of old beer and Old Bondstreet. It would be worth something to discover the original author of so bright a suggestion. The only difficulty in the matter is, to discover who would be the counsel's clients. But on this subject the duke himself could best enlighten us, for both counsel and clients would find that their ex istence dated from 17 Old Bond Street.

We know not on what day the Duke of Richmond will vouchsafe us the rich treat of fun which the presentation of this modest petition will afford. The Customs Bill has been read a second time without a division, which may be taken as proof that no further attempt will be made to offer active resistance to the ministerial measures; and it may be that his grace will abandon the cause of the petitioners, to prevent any inquiry into the origin of their petition.

GREAT HISTORICAL PICTURE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE.—It was an admirable idea of Mr. Agnew, to project an historical picture of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, including portraits, not only of the principal leaders, but of the less prominent members, whose indefatigable labours have contributed, in no small degree, to the success of the cause. As the League Council is too large a body to represent even a tithe of its members, we understand the plan is to be to select the more distinguished mem-bers of the Council resident in Manchester and the immediate neighbourhood, and then to invite each large town to nominate, as its great local champion in the cause of Free Trade, some individual whom his fellow-townsmen and Free Traders deem worthy of this distinction. Arrangements, have been made with Mr. Herbert, R.A., the artist who painted the picture of the "Independents asserting Liberty of Conscience, in the Westminster Assembly of Divines," to paint a large picture representing the Council of the League in conclave, in the Council Room of the League, Newall's Buildings. We understand that Mr. Herbert is now in Manchester, for the purpose of collecting materials for this picture. He will take drawings of the room, and during his stay here, we believe, will take several portraits of the more s of the council resident in Manchester Yesterday, Mr. Cobden gave him a sitting, and from what we know of the perseverence, energy, and enthusiasm of Mr. Herbert—himself a zealous Free Trader—we doubt not that he will produce a picture of great historical interest, including portraits of many of the men who have done so much to maintain the bloodless struggle, and to achieve the peaceful triumph of the principles of Free Trade in Great Britain, in this our nineteenth century. - Manch. Guardian.

THE FUNDS.

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MARKETS.

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Monday, June 1.—The weather, for the last three weeks, has been uninterruptedly brilliant, and nothing could be more promising than the present appearance of all the crops on the ground. The supply of English Wheat this morning is abort, and a fair proportion of it was taken off early at last week's prices; but later in the day the inquiry lingged, and the market closed rather in favour of buyers; but, quotations are not altered. Bonded Wheat is not inquired for. Barley, Beans, and Poss all in short supply, and the prices are unaflored. Oats also come sparingly to hand; and the trade is very dull, though we do not quote lower prices.

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Irish Foreign..... 11208 580 5679 Flour, 6665 sacks; 10 barrols. FRIDAY, JUNE 5.—We have very limited arrivals of Wheat, Barley, and Oats since Monday. There is no new feature whatever in the trade except that the show of Oat samples is more sounty than of late. In quotations there is no alterations to no tice. The duties remain as last week, except for Wheat, on which it has risen ly.

8. II. Lucan.

Scotch

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 29th of May to the 5th of June, both inclusive.

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Flour, 2540 anoks. LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending June 2, 1846. Qts. Price. 255 33s. 5d.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES, Works ending IMPERIAL AVERAGES, Works ending Wheat, Barloy, Oats, Rye, Beans, Peas, a. d. s Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks. Wheat, 55a. 9d.; Barley, 29a. 4d.; Oats, 23a. 8d.; Rye, 33a. 3d.; Boans, 55a. 6d.; Poas, 34a. 4d.

Duty. Whoat, 17s. 0d.; Barley, 0s. 0d.; Oats, 5s. 0d.; Rye 9s. 6d.; Beans, 7s. 6d.; Peas, 8s. 6d. Stock of Corn in Bond, April 5, 1846.

Wheat. Barley, Oats. Rye. Beans, Peas. Flour In London, 523524 19258 80903 Unit. King. 1930955 92572 127473 20123 R325 53803 18347 1119427 MEAT MARKET. The warm weather had considerable influence: but the sup-

plies being so limited had the effect of keeping prices firm for tresh firticles. PER STONE OF Sibs. BY THE CARCASE.

Prime Beef. 3s 10d to 3s 8d Middl.Mutton 3s 8d to 3s 6d Middling do. 3s 0d to 3s 4d Veal, from ... 5s 0d to 4s 0d Plain, or infe-Plain, or infe-rior Beef... 3s Od to 2s 10d Large, or infe-Prime Mutton 4s Od to 9s Od To Pork .. 3s 4d to 3s Od

We are informed that the ludies of Leeds have procured 3000 signatures to a memorial addressed to her Majesty, praying for the enactment of vigorous laws with a view to the suppression of infamous houses, and the removal of a system of profligacy by which thousands of young females, are annually sacrificed.—Leeds Times.

COAL.—The produce of coal in Europe amounts annually, on a rough calculation, to 120,000,000 floring, or 12,000,000. sterling.—Lloyd's Austrian Gazette.

ANCIBET ROME.—Professor Hoeck estimates the population of Rome in the time of Augustus at 2,265,000, of

whom 580,000 were slaves. Dr. Johnson compared plaintiff and defendant, in an action-at-law, to two men ducking their heads in a bucket, and daring each other to remain longest under water. By the ancient laws of Hungary, a man convicted of bigsimy was condemned to live with both wives in the bilities house; the orime was, in consequence, extremely rare. BRITISH CONSUL'S OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA. MKnow all Persons to whom these presents shall come, that I, GILBERT ROBERTSON, Esq., his Britannic Majesty's Consul, do hereby certify, that R. WARTON, Esq. (who attests to the em-

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 142.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 1846./

[3d.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND.

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

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

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

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

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

IF SIR ROBERT PEEL BE OUT-VOTED, WHAT THEN?

The atmosphere of the "political circles" is still thick and heavy with rumours, and "reports of rumours." The spirit of party intrigue and negociation is still busy, with an activity that makes it as necessary as ever that the country be wakeful and alert. To this hour, there are men who talk darkly of "adjustment." And circumstances, to which we need not more particularly allude, give them a sort of encouragement. Questions are now before Parliament, in which it is highly probable that the Government may be placed in a minority; and it is very possible that this may happen before the Corn Bill passes the House of Lords. It is superfluous to add, that the mere surmise of Ministers being defeated, and of such defeat being followed by its usual consequence—a resignation and a crisis -tends to embolden the protectionists to delay, mutilate, and destroy the Free Trade measure.

It becomes, then, a question of capital importance—a question on which the Premier and the country must be ready with an instant and decisive answer—If Sir Robert Peel be outvoted, WHAT THEN?

We say, without a moment's hesitation or reserve, Sir Robert Peel will keep his faith with the Queen and the people. "When the time comes," he will be prepared with practical evidence of that "sincerity" of which he has so emphatically dared the proof. He will not run away, and leave his work broken off in the middle. There will be no resigning. SIR ROBERT PEEL STAYS IN OFFICE, COME WHAT WILL, UNTIL HIS CORN BILL SHALL HAVE BE-COME THE LAW OF THE LAND. Ho stays in office, though he were "defeated," as they call it, every night in the week. Nothing can happen between now and the passing of the Corn Bill that can in the slightest degree impair his powers, or relax his responsibilities with reference to that Bill. Under any circumstances, or combination of circumstances that may arise, Sir Robert Peel is and remains the Free Trade Minister of the empire until Free Trade reach the statute-book. In any event, he will be TRUE-true to the people, who, during five weary and anxious months, have given him so earnest a support, and so quiet and assured a confidence—true to the great public rights and interests with which he has so manfully identihimself—and true to his own name and fame Ma public man. Come what will, Sir Robert Will Is Prime Minister of Great Britain until the

bill for the total abolition of the bread tax receives the Royal assent. The "political circles" may set this down as a fixed thing.

A position, however, so novel and peculiar as that in which the Premier would be placed by a defeat in the House of Commons, pending the progress of the Corn Bill in the Lords, would need to be reinforced by the strongest, loudest, and most unequivocal expressions of the national will. Sir Robert Peel must not be left to fight our battle alone. The people will have their duty to do, as he has his. In the event which we have indicated as not unlikely to arise-not unlikely to arise before we next address the public—it will be incumbent on the country, without one hour's loss of time, to stir itself from one end to the other, and, by public meetings, and memorials from every town in the United Kingdom, to show him that there is intelligence enough, heart enough, and energy enough in the people of Great Britain, to stand by the Minister who stands by them.

We shall be very glad if it turns out to be needless. Very possibly, when we next address our readers, it may be to congratulate them that the bill is fairly passed, and that all is over. But there is no knowing. We only say, let the country be neady—ready to speak and act on the instant—ready so to speak and act as to put the "political circles" in prompt and full possession of the great fact, that Sir Robert Peel is and remains First Minister of the Crown until the day and hour of her Majesty's assent to the Bill for the Total Repeal of the Corn Laws.

MR. THOMAS DUNCOMBE AND THE LEAGUE.

"It was well known to the country, and it was well known to Ministers, that Free Trade in the abstract was not popular with the great operative classes in this country (cheers from the protection benches), who looked upon this contest between the agricultural and manufacturing districts with perfect spathy and indifference; they considered it a sort of 'pull baker, pull devil' conflict, though he must at the same time say that the baker was rather most of a favourite (laughter). Why were they so indifferent to what he believed would ultimately tend to their benefit? Because they had not believed, and they did not believe, that the great capitalists of this country really were favourable to them, or took a deep interest in their welfare (hear). "—Mr. Thomas Duncombe's Speech, June 5th.

" Defend us from our friends," says the old proverb, and well may the operatives of this country utter the sentiment when they read the above. We are on the very eve of the abolition of the greatest legislative wrong ever inflicted by the powerful few upon the suffering millions. A long, arduous, and glorious struggle is about to be crowned with victory. A proud triumph awaits the peaceful victors and Mr. Duncombe asserts that the working class shall have no part in the honour! He says the operatives have been opposed to their own industrial emancipation—that they have looked on with indifference, whilst others have fought and paid for liberty to them to eat and live. this true? If so, what willing self-abased slaves must they be! Is this so? Then what amount of wrong and injustice may not, with impunity, be inflicted upon the operatives of this country? If it be true that the middle class has, alone, and without the aid of the operatives, wrested the bread tax from a dominant party in the state, then what need has that class to care for the co-operation of the operatives in any future struggle? If it were true, is it wise in Mr. Duncombe thus to stamp the working class with the brand of slavery, and to give the middle class the sceptre of absolute power? But it is not true. We know not how often we may yet have to intrude upon our readers, for our work is nearly done; but we will not let this opportunity pass of putting on record our protest against the libel which the above extract contains against the

working-men of this country, who have not been opposed as a class to the Free Trade movement. All the clear-headed and sound-hearted portion of the operatives have been favourable to our cause. They have signed our petitions, and formed the great proportion of our public meetings. Mr. Cobden has often said, that, in, his open air meetings, held three years ago in almost every county, he always reckened upon the hand of every man in a fustion jacket or round-freek being held up in his favour.

True, the League has, from its very birth, been bitterly opposed by a fanatical party of Chartists, headed by Mr. Fergus O'Connor out of doors, and represented, as they tell us, by Mr. Duncombe in Parliament. The organ of this party, the Northern Star, has fought the battle of the bread taxers more zealously than the Morning Post itself. Truly did Mr. Bright, with manly straightforwardness, observe that:

"He would tell the hon, member this, that however oppressive to the operatives the Corn Laws might have been, they would never have been repealed either by him (Mr. T. Duncombe) or his associates out of the house, who had been all of them the greatest enemies of repeal. He told the hon, member that those parties with whom he was found at public meetings out of doors had been the greatest enemies of the repeal of the Corn Laws (cries of 'Name'). Let the hon, member read the public reports of those meetings, and they would find out the names. He (Mr. Bright) stated the fact, and he meant to maintain it. He would only add, that the hon, member did not represent the opinions of the working classes when he said that they were apathetic on this question, and though he might have succeeded in inflaming the bad passions of the working classes within his sphere, he (Mr. Bright) would warn him not to call himself the representative in that house of the working classes in Lancashire and Yorkshire."

In answer to the cries of "Name," we will mention a few only of the most prominent and active of these tools of despotism: -- O'Connor, Leach, McDowall, Pitkeithly, Nightingale, Binns, Mars. den, Bairstow, Cooper, Harney—some of whom, to our knowledge, and as we are ready to prove, were well paid for their opposition to the Free Traders. Nor would it be difficult to show where the money came from, Let one fact suffice. In June, 1841, on the occasion of a great open air Anti-Corn Law meeting being held in Stevensonsquare, Manchester (in answer to the faunt of the Duke of Richmond that no public meeting could be held against the Corn Law), the monopolists made a great effort to upset the meeting. Every Chartist leader of any notoriety was brought to Manchester, from places as distant as Leicester and Sunderland. The most prominent leader and fugleman of the opposition was Mr. Charles Wilkins: Doctor Sleigh and he moving and seconding the amendment to the Free Trade resolution. On that very morning Mr. Wilkins cashed a chocque for 1501., drawn by the Duke of Buckingham, at Jones and Loyd's bank. At that meeting of ten thousand working men, the Chartists were driven off the ground. Blows being exchanged, and blood spilt in the fray, the aim of the Chartist party to create confusion was so far gained: and the moral effect of the demonstration was effectually marred. For more than three years, in the beginning of our agitation, every public meeting called by the Free Traders was subjected to outrages of a similar kind by the followers of O'Connor; and, yet, Mr. Duncombo indulges in the following taunt in his reply to Mr. Bright:

"He had had invitations to attend League meetings, but he had always set his face against what were called 'tloket meetings' (hear, hear). He had invariably stated that he would attend any meeting in favour of a repeal of the Corn Laws, provided it was an open and public meeting; but he had always declined to assist in any of those repeated attempts at genteel comedy on the boards of Covent garden, or to join in tumbling with certain gentlemen, at Sadler's Wells (cheers from the protection benches). An attempt was accordingly made by the League in Finsbury to call him (Mr. Duncombe) to account for not going and tumbling with them at Sadler's Wells; but he explained his remon satisfactorily. He had no objection to meet the working classes on any public occasion, but those gentlemen of the League would not submit to public opinion ('hear, hear) from the protectionist benches)."

Nobody knows better than Mr. Duncombe that, at the time to which he alludes, his friend Mr. O'Connor had issued his fiat that every Anti-Corn-Law meeting should be "upset," and that there was then a gang of his funatical followers always ready, at all hazards, to do his bidding. Mr. Duncombe knows that an open air Free Trade meeting then would have begun with an amendment for the Charter, to be followed with a row, and ended probably in a fight, which would have been very pleasing to the monopolists, but not so gratifying to the League. The Free Traders took refuge in teaparties and ticket meetings from the violence and tyranny of the Chartists, Influential men, ladies, and dissenting ministers frequented those meetings, and gave to them a moral force which compensated for the want of numbers. And we now thank heaven that it was so! Our labours have been somewhat prolonged, but the triumph of truth has been more complete. The fortitude of the men who had charge of that truth has been tested, and proved not unworthy of the cause in which they were engaged. Above all, we are thankful for the obstacles thrown in the way of multitudinous demonstrations, because it compelled us to rely solely upon appeals to the reason and feelings of our countrymen, and to discard for ever all dependence upon even the semblance of physical force. We do not grudge the time and labour which it has required to win the minds and consciences of the people to our cause. The process has been slow, but sure. Had we carried the question of Free Trade by a coup de main in 1839, we should have wanted that guarantee which we now possess for the permanent triumph of our principles.

We have been tempted to refer to our past trials and exertions, solely with a view to the vindication of the great body of intelligent working men from the injurious stigme cast upon them by the member for Finsbury. We have never confounded the few Chartist leaders, and their noisy and fanatical followers, with the operatives as a class. In the days of their greatest strength, we knew that the partisans of O'Connor were a contemptible faction; and, from the moment that they hoisted the colours of the monopolists, we predicted that every working man of honour and intelligence would abandon their ranks. And so it has since proved, in the utter disruption of their party, and the infamy which clings to the character of its leaders. But whilst we thus put on record our honest vindication of the operatives as a body, let us add a word of advice. They must learn to repudiate the men who flatter only to betray them . and to suspect the motives of those who insult them with fulsome praise, and array them against the rest of society. We tell the working class that they are powerless to effect any legislative or constitutional changes in opposition to the will of the middle class. We tell them that the electors of this kingdom can carry every just and necessary reform, in spite of any opposition which interested or dishonest men may array against them. The constituencies can and will repeal the Corn Law. It is possible that Free Trade may yet be referred to the test of a general election. It is quite possible that the protectionist cheers which greeted Mr. Duncombe in the house, and were re-echoed in the monopolist press, when he asserted that the working men are opposed to the repeal of the Corn Law, may encourage the Lords to mutilate the Government Bill and compel a dissolution. We know not what the object of the member for Finsbury was in making the declaration, but it was calculated to embolden the flagging courage of the peers, and produce an adverse vote. If so, let the toiling millions be prepared, by cheering on the electors to their willing duty at the hustings, to prove that they are not the willing slaves described by Mr. Duncombe, but SPAPEdut they, like their fathers in 1815, are conscious of the foul injustice inflicted upon them and their Liplies by the Corn Law, and no less determined han then to aid in the omancipation of their Quin honest industry.

Observe, too, the false and humiliating position in which this insulting theory of Mr. Duncombe's Who and what was the first great apostle of the Ten Hours' question? Why, Mr. Sadler, the consistent

the country. He makes them out to be absolute cyphers—as insignificant as they are stupid. They have none of the honour of the repeal of the Corn Law. It is not, in any respect, or to any extent, their doing. They owe it all to other people. They got their rights, by way of boon, from Sir Robert Peel and the aristocracy. One of the greatest questions of the age-a working man's question, too-has been settled without the working men. In one of the grandest legislative revolutions of modern history, the working men of England have had no part—they have only looked on, folded their hands, and sulked. The whole thing has been done, not by them, but for them. The middle classes, the upper classes, the manufacturers, the merchants, the squires, the farmers, the shopkeepers, the dukes-all have had their opinion and their say, one way or the other-all have made themselves heard, seen, and felt-all have done something to forward, or to retard, this mighty national act-only not the working men. They have neither helped nor hindered. Their moral, social, and political influence has been nil. And this from a man who puts himself forward as the champion of the working men's right and title to govern the empire! It must be confessed that Mr. Duncombe well earned his "cheers from the protection benches," and amply merited the gratifying and creditable distinction of being "honourably friended" by Lord George Bentinck.

THE TEN HOURS' AGITATORS AND THE LEAGUE.

Having in the previous article balanced accounts with Mr. Thomas Duncombeand his Chartist allies, we may as well proceed to settle a somewhat similar score with the "short time" party. In the course of the late discussion on the Ten Hours' Bill, it was stated by Mr. Cobden, that the men who agitated in favour of that measure had always been opposed to Free Trade, and had frequently interrupted the League meetings, The delegates who were in London, watching the proceedings in Parliament, most of whom are new names to us, assuming that the charge was levelled exclusively at them, held a meeting, and protested that they had not interfered with the meetings of the Free Traders. One of the speakers declared with great $naivet\ell$, unconscious of the two-edged argument he was using, that he had incurred great obloquy with his friends for having supported the Free Trade agitation. They passed a resolution, at the same time, censuring the conduct of Mr. Cobden, and declaring that he had promised them that if they would support the Free Trade agitation, he would agitate for a Ten Hours' Bill. The censure must be borne; the latter assertion is of course a pure fiction, as everybody who\knows how resolutely Mr. Cobden has repudiated, as a fundamental principle of the League, every kind of alliance, compact, or understanding, with any other association, must readily believe. We have his authority for saying, if a more specific denial be necessary, that there is not a shadow of foundation for the statement. The delegates were equally at fault when they took to themselves a charge which must be borne by other shoulders besides theirs, and extended over a period long antecedent to the present victorious ora of the League.

Mr. Cobden's argument was simply this: that the advocates of the Ton Hours' Bill acted upon a principle totally at variance with the views of the Free Traders; that they did not look to extended markets for increasing the demand for labour and raising wages, or to the removal of monopolies for diminishing the cost of the necessaries of life; that they seemed to believe that Parliament had the power to maintain wages and profits by merely restric ting the amount of production; that acting upon this principle, the leading advocates of the Ten Hours' Bill had always, honestly as he believed, opposed Free Trade, and the operatives engaged in that agitation had opposed and interrupted the League meetings. Now the simple question between the delegates and ourselves is, Can they refute one of these statements? Who and what was the first great apostle of the Ten

and stronuous upholder of the Corn Law, and every other restriction on trade. To a famous speech of his, at Whitby, in 1829, in favour of commercial monopolies, we are indebted for the first production in defence of Free Trade by the author of the Catechism on the Corn Laws. Had it not been for Michael Thomas Sadler's advocacy of "protection," the world might never have been edified and charmed by the pen of Perronet Thompson. Mr. Sadler's disciple and successor is Mr. Oastler, the self-styled "factory king." We are spared the trouble of going back to his early speeches, or the "Fleet Papers," for his opinions, for within the last month he has published a stout defence of the Corn Laws in the columns of the Morning Post. Lord Ashley supported the Corn Laws until the League, in spite of his hostile votes, had decreed their "destiny;" and the most ardent champions of the Ten Hours' Bill in the present House of Commons are, Mr. Bankes, Mr. Colquhoun, Mr. Forrand, Lord George Bentinck, and the rest of the "gentlemen below the gangway." Amongst the manufacturing capitalists. we do not know one advocate of the Ten Hours' Bill who has not been a supporter of the Corn Law. $Mr_{\rm c}$ Fielden, it is true, has voted for Free Trade, but in public and private he has spoken against it.

Turn we now to the operatives engaged in the agitation. We don't mean the delegates during the last debate, mostly new men, who found a majority of Free Traders in the house. But what has been the course pursued by the party during the long struggle of the League? Almost to a man, the leaders have laboured to perpetuate the Corn Law. At the general election in 1841, they ranged themselves under the banners of the monopolists; and in Yorkshire they contributed their quota to the defeat of Lords Morpeth and Milton. In almost every manufacturing town of Yorkshire and Lancashire they were the dissentients at the Free Trade meetings; and Bradford, Huddersfield, and other places can bear testimony to the violence with which their opposition was characterised. Everybody remembers the celebrated interview between the short-time delegates and the newly-installed Ministers in 1841, when a long address, penned we believe by Mr. Oastler, was presented to the members of the then protectionist Government, the main object of which appeared to be to dispurage the principles of Free Trade. We have forborne to mention names. The individuals to whom we refer may have acted from honest motives. Mr. Cobden says he believes them to have been in carnest; and we have no proof, as in the case of certain Chartist leaders, that they were bribed by the monopolists. Besides, we were willing to "let bygones be bygones;" and have only been driven to recur, in this and the preceding article, to the proceedings of either Chartists, or Ten Hours' advocates, by the indiscreet attacks made by Mr. Thomas Duncombe and the delegates upon the League and its leaders.

If, after our labours are ended, an impartial writer should give a history of the League, he will do us the justice to applaud our rigid devotion to the one object in view, to the exclusion of every extraneous topic. We have avoided every controversy but our own-even those questions, which, partaking of an economical character, might have been without much violence brought within the range of our discussions. We have carefully eschewed all allusions to strikes, turn outs, and short-time bills. If it be true, as Mr. Thomas Duncombo is fond of alleging that we represent only the manufacturing capitalists, they have not at all events instructed us to use our pages in opposition to the pretensions of the operatives. In this hour of our strength, when every word we utter is invested with a moral weight, derived from long, arduous, and consistent efforts in a great and just cause, we shall preserve the same strict neutrality upon the agitation for the Ten Hours' Bill. We offer no opinion upon the agitation, but concede to others the right which we claim for ourselves, to unite together for the promotion of any legal object. We cannot, however, shut our eyes to the fact—the protectionist papers and the speeches of the protectionists will not permit us.—that we, the Free Traders, and cused of being the advocates of twelve house of

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work, while the supporters of the Corn Law assume to be the friends of ten hours. We maintain, on the contrary, that the Free Traders are the real promoters of short hours of toil.

Why do men work at all? Simply to possess the necessaries and comforts of life. What is "protection?" A law to raise the price of bread, sugar, coffee, butter, cheese, do. Again, mon work for money wages. Wide markets increase the demand for labour, and raise money wages. But what is "protection?" Restricted markets. Here is "protection" at work with a double-thonged whip, to compel the operative to work longer hours than necessary,-first, to make up for diminished money wages, caused by the restricted demand for his labour; and secondly, to pay the increased price for his bread, sugar, &c. Is there any fallacy in our argument? We protest, before heaven, we believe it to be as demonstrably true as that two and two make four. And, so believing, we, as Free Traders say to "the gentlemen below the gangway," remove your burden of " protection," and let us see whether the working man, when free to choose, will work longer hours than are necessary to procure him those necessaries and comforts which he deems essential to his healthful existence. But, instead of this, what is the proposition of the "protectionists?" Why, to add another thong to the whip, by cutting off two hours a day of the working man's labour, or one sixth of his earnings. We protest that we connot, with all our charity, regard the men as wholly rational, if sincere, who propound such a scheme. There is no other way of dealing with it but by borrowing a phrase from a letter addressed by Colonel Thompson to the working class upon the subject: "Feel every man," says he, "for his tail, who, after shutting up your markets, and raising the price of your provisions, offers you as a compensation a Ten Hours' Bill."

The time will come, and it will not be long in coming, when the operatives will regard the Free Traders as the only pioneers in the path which is to conduct them to lighter hours of labour.

THE STABLE SCHOOL OF STATESMANSHIP.

As a high authority has warned us against the folly of expecting to gather "grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles," we scarcely feel entitled to complain of the sporting lord's violations of Parliamentary decency. Tattersall's is not generally accounted a good school of the proprieties; the morals and manners of the turf have never stood high in public estimation; and men whose ideas, tastes, and whole cast of thought and sentiment, have been formed by familiar association with horse-jockies will, naturally enough, give indications of a thoroughly stable mind. We have no right to wonder that Lord George Bentinck's Parliamentary exhibitions evince a mean, malignant, and vulgar nature. We cannot affect to be surprised that the hero of Newmarket and Epsom addresses the House of Commons in "language soldom heard in that hou language which it would be better for the character of that house, should not be heard-language which is better suited to some other arena." Such flowers of rhetoric as " baseness and dishonesty," "treachery," "treason," "guilt," " janissaries," " renegades," and " kicking out her Majesty's Ministers," come with a sort of propriety from a person who has put himself through that very peculiar description of intellectual and moral training which has formed this man's mind and manners.

What we do wonder at is, that in an assembly which is generally understood to be composed of gentlemen, this kind of language should find admirers. It is not Lord George Bentinck's speech of Monday night that surprises us, but the "oheers," the "loud cheers," the "immense cheering," the "vociferous cheering," the "vehement cheering," and the "most vehement cheering, that lasted for several misules," with which, according to the newspaper reporters, this piece of coarse and stupid raving was received by that not very inconsiderable section of the "gentlemen of England," known to the world as "protectionists." We beg to tell those who made themselves parties to this most pittful from rolland.

and disgraceful exhibition, that the unmannerly trash which they are spiteful enough, or silly enough, to admire, can hurt none but those who utter it, those who approve and encourage it, and those who show a disposition to profit by it. If any party in the House of Commons feel itself aggrieved by anything in Sir Robert Peel's conduct, it would be but common prudence to find some other way of showing it. Breaches of the decencies and proprieties of legislative discussion only damage those who commit them. The protectionists may rost assured that Sir Robert Peel loses nothing in the respect and regard of the country by being made the victim of outrages that revolt the public sense of decorum. The great inquest of public opinion will be slow to entertain an indictment which has all the appearance of having been framed by a maniac.

If the protectionists are really of opinion that Sir Robert Peel has "lost the confidence of every honest man, in the house and out of it," there is a simple way of testing and verifying that opinion. Nothing is easier than to move a vote of "want of confidence" in Sir Robert Peel. Until that be done, all the rest is mere brawling, which produces no other impression on the public mind than disgust and contempt, coupled with a lively gratitude to the Minister who has boldly delivered himself and us from the dominance of such a faction. In the meanwhile, nobody cares about what is said or done by men who, as they are without responsibility, are beneath criticism. Of course, neither Sir Robert Peel, nor Sir James Graham, nor any other man occupying the position of a Cabinet Minister, will condescend to meet attacks so utterly devoid of every ingredient of moral weight and dignity. It might not, however, he amiss were there some among Sir Robert Peel's "base and renegade" supporters who would give themselves the trouble to mark the contempt in which they hold men imbeeile enough to impute "baseness" to those who have become "renegades" from error to truth, and from wrong to right.

THE 20TH JULY .- The advocates of political and commercial progression are requested to notice, that to be enabled to exercise the elective franchise at the next election, the Reform Act requires the payment of the assessed taxes and the poor rates on or before the 20th July. This compliance with the Act of Parliament is of paramount importance, it being within the range of possibility that an attempt may be made to restore commercial restriction, and to resus-

THE SUGAR DUTIES -We understand that the amendment on the ministerial sugar resolutions which Lord John Russell submitted to his friends on Saturday, proposes that the distinction between free-grown and slave-grown sugar shall forthwith cease, and that the protecting duty imposed on foreign sugar shall be gradually diminished, so that in five years all sugars shall be admitted on equal terms.

PROTECTIONIST REVENUE On Wednesday last, the annual meeting of the Bedford Level was held at the Shire Hall, Ely, under the presidency of the Earl of Hardwicke. After the usual routine business had been transacted, the meeting proceeded to elect the officers of the corporation for the ensuing year; and the protectionist party attempted to oppose the re election of the Duke of Bedford as governor, ut without success, as it was carried by a majority of 24 to 12. They were, however, subsequently more successful in their oppposition to Earl Fitzwilliam, who was rejected as a conservator by a majority of 22 to 14. It was publicly declared by Lord Hardwicke and others, that the recent votes of the Duke of Bedford and Earl Fitzwilliam on the second reading of the Corn Bill were the sole cause of the invidious course pursued towards them.

THE PROTECTIONISTS.—We understand that there was a strong muster of peers, members of Parliament, and others of the protectionist party, at their rooms in Bond-street on Tuesday morning, when it was fully resolved to oppose to the uttermost the Corn Law Abrogation in the Lords' Committee; and hence, we presume, the alteration in the notice of the Duke of Buckingham, which, on Monday last, was to move in committee to omit in the first clause the words until January 1, 1819," the effect of which would have been, if carried, to perpetuate the reduced sliding scale; whereas the noble duke now proposes to omit all the words in the first clause, after the words, "in the soliedule to this act annexed," which, we need hardly say, would have the offect of doing away with the measure altogether.

COBN LAW REPEAL. On Monday the upper portions of the town were thickly studded with flags, expressive of the approbation of the inhabitants on the second reading of the Corn Law Repeal Bill in the House of Lords. It was intended to have perambulated the town in the evening with music and banners, but that idea was ultimately abandoned for another, which contemplates a demonstration at the final settlement of the measure more worthy of the important change which it is intended to commemorate. hear that delegates from the more extensive workshops and different manufacturing establishments are already making arrangements for the contemplated manifestation—Perth

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Twenty-first Week, ending Saturday, June 13.

Although the legislative proceedings of the past week have been of some importance, they had no connection with our own great question until Thursday night, when the debate on the Corn Bill was revived in the House of Lords. It is true, that the Poor Removal Bill has been attempted to be made one having the appearance of punishing the manufacturing districts for the crime of having given employment to the superfluous and starving portion of the rural population, whom neither landlords nor Corn Laws could supply with sufficient work or food. But we cannot take any part in a discussion turning on whether or not a question of humanity and social policy is to be degraded into a party one, or rather into one of the most miserable faction. For what can be more miserable than the spirit displayed by Mr. Bankes and Mr. Thomas Duncombe in this matter concerning the removal of the poor?

The Poor Removal Bill, it will be recollected, is one of Sir Robert Peel's subsidiary measures. It gives to individuals who have had an industrial residence of five years in a town the option of obtaining relief twhen they become chargeable) in the locality where they reside, instead of compelling them to return to their own parish, wherever that may be, in which they have a claim of settlement. Mr. Evelyn Denison moved and carried an instruction that the bill shall provide for a change from parochial to union set. flements. Sir James Graham supported the proposition, remarking that there were 14,500 parishes, and only 820 unions, so that the change from parochial to union settlements would be a great benefit to the working man, by en larging the sphere for his labour. The bill is accordingly to be altered, in order to effect this object.

On Saturday there was a meeting of the friends and suppowers of Lord John Russell, at his house, at which a resolution was agreed to, of opposition to the Irish Correion Bill. The bill came on for second reading on Monday night, when an amendment was moved for the purpose of throwing it out. The debute went on, with very little of novelty, unless divers unsuccessful attempts to "co.int out" be so considered. Late in the evening, Lord George Boy tinck rose. For violence and vulgar brutchity we never heard his speech surpassed--not even by Ferrand, in his wildest "devil-dust" days. But his violence and his vulgarity were surpassed by his nublushing avowals. A short time ago, Lord George Bentinck declared that lds principles of protection did not lead him to protect the "midnight murderer and the broad-day assassin," and charged those who delayed the measure as being responsible for all the blood that might be shed in Ireland. To gratify the party, and satisfy his own notions of propriety, Sir Robert Peel proceeded with the first reading of the Coercion Bill, to the chagein of the Free Traders, who saw the Corn and Customs Bills delayed, and possibly imperilled. Now comes this lord, with the odour of the stables, the manners of the turf, and the language of the ring, accuses Sir Robert Peel of delay, and says he will join with anybody, on any question, in order to "kick out" the bill and Ministers together.

We are glad that the Whig party feel the awkwardness of defeating Sir Robert Peel by the aid of Lord George Bentinck and his kind. The division on the Cocreion Bill, on which it is expected that Ministers will be placed in a minority, has been postponed, in order to allow the Corn Bill to be somewhat more advanced in the House of Lords. Then, we suppose. Sir Robert Peel will be defeated, as he and the Duke of Wellington were defeated at the close of 1830, by a combination of furious Tories with calculating Liberals.

Times, however, are now changed. Then, the Wellington-Peel administration was qusted for resistance to the demands of the people; and the leaders of the Whig party stood high in the confidence of the country, and came into office in order to develope a great scheme of policy. Now, the crime of Sir Robert Peel is yielding to popular necessity, and popular will; and it is generally believed that the Whigs have no policy to develope.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, there was an amusing discussion on the presentation of a petition from Cheshire, in the course of which the Marquis of Londonderry was accused of having permitted Mr. BRIGHT to be returned as Member for Durham. The noble marquis denied the charge, but declared that at Durham Mr. Bright had made the very best speech ever heard in favour of a repeal of the Corn Laws. "But," he added, "I am not responsible for that !"

The stage at which the Corn Bill stood was that of going

Upon this motion being made, the Earl of STANHOPE rose to oppose it, and to move that the bill be committed that day six months. He regarded this measure as more important than the Reform Bill, considering the magnitude of the interests involved in it, and the serious consequences which would inevitably result from it. The noble earl maintained that no proposition was ever submitted to the legislature which had been so feebly and miserably defended, and he proceeded to show the false assumptions upon which it was in his opinion founded, especially the pretence of an imminent danger of famine in Iroland, which could be averted by no other means. After noticing the inconsistency of Lord no other means. After noticing the inconsistency of Lora Ripon's conduct upon the question, the noble earl passed to that of Sir Robert Peel, taking for the text of his commentary the eulogy bestowed upon him by Lord Brougham; and asked what man, after past experience, could repuse any considered in the political integrity, of Sir Robert Peel? Yak, they were expected—upon his additiority—upon the fpre

dizi of one of the rashest Ministers that ever governed a country—to reverse a system which had subsisted for cen-turies, and under which this country had acquired unpa ralieled prosperity. Why was this principle of Free Trade applied to corn alone at the end of three years; why was it not applied generally to all manufactures? Let us have either the fullest protection for every branch of British industry, or no protection at all Chear, hear, hear). This bill might bring ruin upon millions, especially those who had no other resource but their industry; and yet those who introduced it had not even formed to themselves any definite ideas upon two of the most important elements of the question—first, what was a remu-nerating price to the British grower; secondly, the probuble price of foreign corn. After exposing the fallacy lark ing in the promise of a "large loaf" held out by the advocateof a measure, the avowed object of which was to reduce the wages of the labourer, and insisting upon the heavy losses which this experiment would inflict upon the owners and occupiers of hand, Lord Stanhope showed that rent was no element in the question, for if all rent were abolished, the price of the four pound loaf would not be diminished [d. The argument of the Prime Minister, that, because we had a large amount of debt and a high texation, commodities should be cheap, was irrational, abound, and contradicted by the experience of all ages, which showed that where wages, and profits, and prices were low, the most oppressive and despotic monarch could not raise a large amount of taxa tion. His lordship contended that the tenant farmers, whom he vindicated from the imputation of deficiency of skill, would be unable to continue upon their farms if this bill passed, and must be driven into destitution and despair; and he reminded their lordships of the popular commotions of 1830 and 1812. If this measure were really inevitable, it had become so from the base, sordid, and posillanimous conduct of those who had supported a measure which in their conscience they condemned; and the effect of this unwise concession would be to render the conflict between the agriculturists and the manufacturers fiercer than ever, for to talk of this being the end of agitation was absurd; it was the commencement of a long train of evils. It had been suggested that their fordships must pass this bill, because it had been proposed by the Ministers, and agreed to by the House of Commons. Such an unconstitutional doctrine had never before been proclaimed in that House; if it were true, the independence of that house was at an end; its legislative functions were useless, may, injurious; and there would be a general cry throughout the country for its abolition. It was the duty of their lordships to reject this bill if they wished to preserve their political existence, and unless they desired to dismember the British empire, disorganize the whole country, and surrender all its institutions to immediate destruction.

The Earl of ESSEX, with some warmth, complained of the imputation of "base and sordid motives" to those who had supported this measure, which called forth a short ex

planation from Lord STANHOPE.

The Earl of RADNOR said that he hoped to produce such arguments as would induce the house to pass this bill with out alteration. As to the apprehensions of the noble earl. he did not lay such stress upon them as he would have done if he had not heard the noble earlin former years make simifar prophecies, which had not been fulfilled. For himselfhe had nothing to explain, for he had uniformly supported simifor measures; but he could find other motives than baseness and servility for those who had altered their opinions. Neither was it his duty to say anything in support of Sir R. Peel, who had friends enough in that house to defend him; but the insimuations against the right hon, baronet were unfounded, for what motive could be have had in proposing this measure, and making great sacrifices for it, except the most honourable (hear, hear)? But when a charge was made against an hon, friend of his (Mr. Bright) for what he might have said at Covent Garden, he thought that, with the provocation given, persons might have used expressions which could not in cooler moments be justified. As an example of the abuse used against his friends, he might refer to a report in the Times of a meeting in Dorsetshire, in which it was said that Mr. Cobdon " was properly called the Devil, for he was the father of lies." And the expression of his hon, friend as to putting an end to the domination of the hereditary peerage, and overwhelming in it the dust, alluded only to the domination with which the aristocracy was standing up for the Corn Law, which he (the Earl of Radnor) maintained was most unjust. But then it was said that agitation would continue; he must say this was not the first time agitation had prevailed; it had prevailed on other occasions, but none would prevail unless the good sense of the people went along with the object. That was the case with respect to Catholic Emancipation, and that was the case with respect to this bill; and, if the League should continue agitation for an improper purpose, it would no more prevail than agitation now prevailed for the repeal of the union (hear, hear). Next, it was said that the bill was founded on theory, and in practice could not be successful; but theory was only tested by practice, and if practice did not prove it to be good the theory was bad; theory was only the rationale of practice; but those who supported the protectionists were the wildest theorists. For 30 years they had in theory promised to benefit the farmers, and yet in practice they had never done so. The practice had proved that their theory was bod: they had been carried away by the word protection, and nothing else. In fact, the sliding scale men were the wildest theorists that had ever been seen in England; while the principles of Free Trade wherever they had been tried had been found perfectly successful in practice. The noble duke and dwelt upon the effect of this measure on the small temantry, and he had told the house that he had on one of his estates tenants of that class whose families had been on the land for the years, and he had asked why he should be obliged to turn them off the hand; but it struck him (the Earl of Radnor) that these small tennats, whose ancestors were serfs to the ancestors of the noble duke, had not thriven much under a system of protection, for they were probably at present little better off than the serfs, their ancestors. Then he did not see why the noble duke should turn them off the land in consequence of this measure. If the country generally was benefited by it, these persons would be sharers in the common good. At any rate the noble dake had no right to wish to be charitable to them at the expense of the people of England (cries of "hear, hear" It was said that we could not contend, if this bill passed, with the low wages and low food of the Poles; but if so, how was it that we had competed successfully against the low wages and low living of Ireland? He had never heard that question answered, or any explanation how it was that we could not compete with a country 13 days' sail from us, when we competed successfully with a country 13 hours' sail Irish peer who had hitherto offered himself to their lordships.

from us, in precisely similar circumstances of fertility, cheapness of labour, and lowness of food. Appeals had been made to the antiquity of the Corn Laws, and their lordships had been warned to adhere to the wisdom of their ancestors with respect to them. Now it was true that this country had had Corn Laws since the reign of King John; but every one of those laws, with the exception of one, the 3d Edward IV., cap. 2, which the noble lord (Stanley) referred to in the late debate, up to the period when the landed interest obtained greater power in Parliament, had been laws, not for protection, but for providing food for the people. That act, the 3d Edward IV., cap. 2, prohibited the importa-tion of corn up to a certain price; but if the noble lord had looked a little further, he would have found that chapter 1, of the same year, also prohibited the importation of all articles of manufacture whatever from abroad. This country was to have no communication with foreign countries for the supply of its wants; it was to be self-dependent; was the noble lord prepared to go that length? The noble carl then quoted, from the Paston Letters some expressions in a letter written about the same period) of Dame Margaret Pastonto her son Sir John, stating that malt was very dear, and wheat was 88, 8d, a quarter, and that the king had prohibited the exportation of wheat, and ending with the remark, "I fear we shall have a right strange world," for the purpose of showing that exportation was forbidden as well as importation, and then went through the titles of various statutes up to the reign of Charles H., to show that all the legislation up to that period on this subject had been, not for protection, but with a view of providing food for the people. When the banded interest got the upper hand in Parliament a new system was introduced, and the idea of protection began to be acted on. An act was passed in the 12th year of the reign of Charles II., imposing duties on the importation of corn, and another in the 15th year, by which those duties were increased. At that time it was confessed without scruple that the object of these acts was to keep up the rent of land. This was not so openly confessed at present; but there could be little doubt that protection was desired for that purpose. Then came the system of bounties upon exportation in the reign of William and Mary, by which the gross injustice was perpetrated that not only was the price of food raised, but a tax was laid upon the people for the advantage of the owners of land. Under this system exportation, of course, took place to a large extent. Between six and seven millions of money was paid in the shape of bounties, and upwards of 2,000,000 quarters of wheat imported. Owing, he presumed, to the increase in the population, in 1750 exportation began to decrease, and from that period it went on constantly diminishing until we became an importing country, and as such we had gone gradually increasing up to the present time. One would imagine, to hear the arguments on the other side of the house, that the natural state was a state of restriction, and that commercial freedom was a mere experiment, whereas it was just the very reverse of this. The Corn Laws were an experiment, and the natural state was a state of freedom. It was Paine, he believed, who in one of his publications speaking of the plan of a sinking fund for paying the national debt, said it was like a man with a wooden leg running after a hare, the faster he can the wider they were apart (a laugh). And so it was with protection-the more they increased protection the further were they from benefiting agriculture (hear). It was said the present measure would benefit merely the manufacturing interest. He denied this, and thought it would benefit both the agricultural and manufacturing interest; but maintained, that even if it were true that the manufacturing interest alone would be benefited by it, the landed interest ought to give it their best support. In the first place, he would remark that it was said on the other side that the landed interest was by far the largest and most important in the country. He denied that it was so, and appealed to the population returns in proof of his assertion.

The Duke of RICHMOND remarked that the population

returns were not true. The Earl of RADNOR replied, that the returns were pre-

pared with great care, and that he had no doubt of their per-

The Duke of RICHMOND said that what he meant was that in the last population returns every man was calculated as a manufacturer who belonged to any trade or handicraft, though supported by the agriculturists; for instance, every tradesman in a country village was put down as a manu-

facturer (hear, hear) The Earl of RADNOR repeated his belief in the perfect accuracy of the returns, and proceeded to say that in 1811 it appeared that the agriculturists amounted to 35 per cent. of the population; in 1821 they were only 33 per cent.; in 1831 they were reduced to 28 per cent.; and 1841 they were still further diminished to 22 per cent. (hear). Had the agricultural population in 1841 borne the same proportion to the other classes of the population as they did in 1811, ould have consisted of 2,145,500 more persons than at present. The consequence would have been, that the agricultural interest would have had so many more persons to support; and, as these would generally have been of the poorer sort of persons, an additional poor-rate of nearly ,000,000% would have been thrown on the agriculturists. From this additional payment, however, they had been relieved by the diminution of the agricultural population (hear). The noble earl also entered into calculations to show, that from the same cause the agricultural interest had been relieved of 6,500,000%, of other taxes, which would have fallen upon them had they continued to bear the same proportion to the other classes of the population in 1841 as they did in 1811. He said, therefore, that even if there was no reason in the justice of the case why the Corn Laws ought to be taken off the landed interest, they ought to do anything rather than injure the manufacturer. But he maintained, that on the ground of justice alone, the measure ought to be supported. When the Canada Corn Bill was before that house he (the Earl of Radnor) opposed it, because it was a departure from the principles of Free Trade; and he felt, what had since come to pass, that it would create interests which at a future time would be against the principle of Free Trade. Wherever Free Trade had been really carried out it had been successful-more particularly in the case of the shipping interest, woollens, and silks. The noble lord (Lord Stanley) had argued that there had been a falling off in the Baltic timber trade; but that had been amply made up by the greater increase in the general shipping trade. From 1812 to 1845 the increase had been from 563,000 tons to 1,114,000 tons. The same results had followed with regard to the articles of the tariff, on which reductions had been made. Upon the whole, he was prepared to support the measure.

He avowed that he entertained sentiments upon this subject different from both parties. He conceded that protection was not necessary to British industry, because by means of protection our manufactures had been brought to their present state of perfection. He opposed this bill, not on the ground of protection, but because it did not carry out the principle of Free Trade justly, equally, and fairly. If our furners were compelled to compete with the slaves of Am rica and the serfs of Poland, they ought to be placed upon an equality in other respects. Why should our furners pay high prices for their coffee and sugar? There should be reciprocity between us and other nations to justify this mea sure, or we gave a benefit to other nations at the expense of our own pockets: the people of England would, in fact, pay an income tax to support the revenue of other countries. The noble earl then animadverted upon the conduct of the Government in the origin of this measure, and contended that they had been outwitted in respect to the potato disease. His alarm was not so great with reference to this country as to our colonies. In what manner were our colonies to be of use to the mother country, if we exercised neither of the privileges which Mr. Burke has said constitute the only value of colonies—that of taxation or that of monopoly? On the other hand, what was to bind the colonies to the mother country? He believed, if this bill passed, Canada would not five years hence be a part of this empire. He trusted that their Lordships would weigh well the matter before they passed this bill in its present state. This measure was in a different position from the Catholic Emancipation and the Reform Bills. This was the first time that so important a measure had been brought forward here, and he hoped their Lordships would not be led away from their duty to the comtry by the activity and the noise of Free Traders and Ann-

Corn Law Lenguers Lord LYTTELTON, representing the colonial department in that house, was anxious to say a few words. On the subject generally he was satisfied with the argument that, in a matter of this kind, the colonies must needs follow in the wake of the mother country, and partake of the system adopted by her; indeed, unless by a bounty on colonial produce, which would find but few supporters, the colonies could not be exempt from the operation of this law, if adopted here. But there need be no apprehension entertained by our colonies interested in this question, namely, Canada and some of the Australian colonies; he said "some," because the leading one, New South Wales, imported wheat for its own consumption, and while it was a country of very great and rapidly-increasing prosperity, it was one in which the capital and industry of the people were more and more taking the direction of pastoral occupation; it would be found a better market than this country for the produce of its neighbours (hear, hear.) reference to Van Diemen's Land and South Australia, the average price of wheat in 1843 and 1814 was 26s. a quarter in the one, and 28s, in the other; the freight thance to this country was never much above 20s. a quarter, bringing the price at which they could sell their corn here to 46s, or 48s, besides which they had a natural protection, which would be put exceedingly low if stated at 10s. a quarter, in the incomparable quality of their produce; Australian wheat wa the finest grown in the world (hear, hear). But by far the most prominent feature in these discussions was the Camdian question. Now, first, all that had been alleged on that head by the opponents of this bill had been alleged by every interest that had been affected by alterations in customs' duties of late years; in 1812 there was hardly an interest affected by the reductions in the tariff of that year, the representatives of which did not visit the Board of Trade, in many instances with a case apparently irrefragable upon paper, showing the inevitable ruin which would befal them; but a pamphlet was published last year by Mr. Gladstone explaining how all these apprehensions and anticipations had been fulsified, and the trade affected remained as it was, or improved. Were the Canadian interests backward in that car to make such representations (hear)? Far from it. Those interested in the Canadian timber trade, asserted that the diminution in the differential duty in favour of Canadian timber would bring total destruction upon that trade, and, as

was now said, weaken the connection with that colony. The house had heard on a former night from the President of the Board of Trade (the Earl of Dalhousie) what was the present state of that trade. The price of Canadian timber, which for two or three years after that alteration had been lower, giving the consumer the whole benefit of the reduction, had of late, in consequence of the increase in the demand, entirely recovered its former amount. That a similar result would attend this measure as respected Canada he had every confidence. As to the feeling which prevailed in that colony on the subject, he did not wish to deny that he was pow ar guing the question at a disadvantage in consequence of the receipt of the address from the Canadian Legislature to which so much allusion had been made. But he laboured under another disadvantage in consequence of the non-receipt of the last mail, which he felt confident would bring intelligence favourable to the policy of the Government. The whole tone and purport of the address was entirely incousis tent with what had taken place in the Canadian Legislature. That address, it was understood, was passed by the Legislative Assembly unexpectedly; and, if any of their lordships lind referred to the reports of the debate or no debate, for there was really none, they would have seen that what was carried—and it was carried the very night before the mail went out—was simply a motion made by a gentleman named Holmes for a select committee to consider the address; and in the newspapers nothing was stated beyond the appointment of the select committee. It might be said that this proceeding showed the unanimity of the Legislative Assembly upon the subject. But if their lordships had read the debates on the previous resolutions, they would have participated in the surprise with which her Majerty's Government received the news that the address was adopted. The resolutions did not go to any definite approval of the policy of her Majesty's Government; but the bare idea of any diminution of the spiritof loyalty in Canada was as wild and absurd as could possibly enter into any man's imagination. So far as an opinion had been expressed in Canada on the subject of the Minis terial measure, it had not taken a line of disapproval, but

somewhat of alarm, unless the measure were accompanied by certain others. Mr. Merritt, a member of the Canadian

Legislature, in a speech characterised by great ability, while so far he disapproved of the measure, concluded, after proposing a great number of measures which be conceived it was within the power of the Canadian Legislature to adopt of itself, by asking,—" With these resources at command, why should we not avail ourselves of the estimated and natural advantages we measure and processing the

dental and natural advantages we possess, and pro-low this great movement; which, happily, has be duced under the sanction of the most emines?

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the greatest nation of the present day?" He might also refer to the proceedings at the great public meeting held in Though he admitted the resolution proposed at that meeting, to express entire approval of the Ministerial measure, was defeated by a very small majority, yet he should call the attention of their lordships to the fact, that the reso lation which was carried embodied an expression of opinion in favour of the ultimate establishment of Free Trade in Canada. The resolution was—"That, whilst this meeting has in view the ultimate establishment of Free Trade in this colony, it nevertheless, if hereafter found necessary, will use as influence to insure the continuance of such protective duties on our produce going into the markets of Great Britain and Ircland as the Imperial Parliament, in its wisdom and justice, may now or hereafter see fit to enact for the welfare and prosperity of this country. In the meantime, however, this meeting is of opinion that the dangers apprehended from the change of system may only be met by a wise and timely adjustment of depending interests to suit the altered circumstances of her relations with the mother country. Much stress had been laid upon the first despatch of the Governor-General of Canada on this subject. That despatch, it was obvious, was not intended to convey his own views, but to state the representations made to him in his official capacity. The Governor-General, in common with the Legislature of Canada, desiderated other measures to accompany the Corn Bill. So far with regard to the feeling which prevailed in Canada on the subject. He should endeavour to show from the facts of the case that the people of Canada need not be under any apprehensions as to the result of the Ministerial measure. Mr. Cayley, the Inspector-General, that was the Finance Minister of Canada, entered into the question how far Canada might be able to bear a share in the general trade of the world with England as regards corn, excluding any reference to the special competition with the United States. He stated the charges on grein imported from Quebec, and deduced from his calculations that it might be landed in Liverpool at or about 40s. One or two items in Mr. Cayley's calculations were too low; but he (Lord Lyttleton) had received a calculation from a Canadian merchant, the greatest indeed in this country (Mr. Gillespie), who stated that Canadian corn could be landed in this country at or about 46s. But the chief apprehensions which were entertained as to the effect of the Ministerial measure related to the presumed competition with the United States. He was at a loss to understand on what ground it was that it had been so strongly asserted that it was out of the question for the Canadians to compete with the Americans with respect to the corn trade in the English market. Why could not the people of Upper Canada compete with the Americans of the western states? Their soil was about the same, the wages of labour were about the same, and the quality of the best Canadian wheat was equal to the best grain in England. He believed that the difference of freight etween New York and Pingland, as contrasted with the freight between Quebec and England, was considerably in favour of the Americans, but that advantage was counter-balanced by other considerations; and could, it might be safely said, be overcome by the enterprise and energy of the Canadians. It had been stated in 1812, before the improvements in Canada had arrived at the maturity which they had now reached, that with respect to the export of wheat from the corn-growing districts of Canada, and the western states of America, the Canadians ought to be on an equality with the Americans. The report of a special committee of the Legislative Assembly of Canada on the subject of a Free Trade with Great Britain in the agricultural productions of British North America, and of a protection to those produc tions from the competition of foreigners in the colonial home markets, alluded to "the relative and nearly-balanced advantages possessed by the two rival communications with the Atlantic, the St. Lawrence, and the Hudson Rivers." It is also stated, "After the enlargement of the Eric Canal shall have been completed, which is our most formidable rival, notwithstanding the reduction heretofore mentioned by the St. Lawrence, the cost of transportation through the two channels will be nearly equal." He had seen a calculation in figures, with which he would not now trouble their lordships, in reference to the two routes,—one from Buffalo to New York by the Eric Canal and Hudson river, and the other from the entrance of Welland canal on Lake Eric to Montreal-in reference to transhipment, &c.; and in every one respect except the length of canal, the advantage was in favour of the Canadians. He would read to their lordships the following extract from a despatch of his right hon, friend (Mr. Gladstone) to Lord Catheart, dated the 3d of March, 1816, in reference to the advantages possessed by Canada:-"Among them," stated the despatch, "I reckon her light taxation; the assistance she has received from her British credit and funds, in the construction and improvement of her internal communications; her more regular and steady course of trade with this country; her low tariff, so fuvourable to importation, and, on that account, powerfully t ing to encourage her reciprocal commerce outwards; some olvantages in the point of proximity, as compared with the most westerly states of the Union, which are also her most formidable rivals in cheapness of production; and lastly, the means of carriage without transhipments by the St. Lawrence, which cannot be had by way of the Eric Canal. She will likewise have this in her favour, that her corn trade will have become a settled one of some standing, with all its arrangements made and in full operation, while any regular commerce in that article from the United States must be a new creation, and must go 'through the processes attending its self-adjustment to circumstances as yet untried; and if it be true that New York offers some advantages as compared with Montreal, particularly in regard to the rate of insurance, on the other hand I consider that the shipping of British North America has many advantages over that of the United States in the competition for freights, as it is constructed at far less expense, and is, I must as rume, navigated with equal vigour and equal economy." He was not aware in what particular any part of that statement could be controverted. could be controverted. And what argument in opposition was brought forward in this Canadian address which was now so much talked of? Only one, and that was, that the route by the St. the route by the St. Lawrence was frozen up six months in the year. But the same was nearly the case with the Eric Canal, which was the great route for American produce. He therefore thought that there was no doubt that with reasonable efforts on the part of the Canadiana they could compare apparently with of the Canadians, they could compete successfully with the Americans, especially as great improvements had rethe Americans, especially as great improvements had re-cently taken place in Canadian agriculture by the applica-tion of increased capital and in other respects. Having said thus much, he was not willing, if he were able, to follow noble lords at any length into a general disquisition of what was called the colonial system. He did not believe in the

advantage or benefit of that system. He would not adopt any of the violent language of the Anti Corn Law League and sall it mutual robbery, but it was mutual privation and mutual impediment. These restrictions were either injurious or superfluous; injurious, if the protected produce could be more conveniently obtained from other places, superfluous if it could not. Then they were asked,—" What are the use of colonies, unless this system is maintained? Now, he donied that this system was of any use, either to the mother country or to the colonies. It was not in such a pecuniary way that the use of colonies to the mother country was to be estimated. He had always considered the advantage of colonies to consist in providing an outlet for the teeming population of this country, and in forming the foundation of great communities, where our laws, our liabits, and our religion might prevail. This he had always considered to be the use of colonies, and the way to preserve their attachment was by imparting to them the same freedom as we enjoyed and not by an adherence to a scanty remnant of a perishing system. This vaunted colonial system could hardly be said to exist but in name: it was against the interest of the mother country, and only nomically in favour of the colonies. They had heard of the antiquity of this system; yet, however ancient it might be, it was not coeval with our carly settlements. Our early charters with Virginia gave the inhabitants the power of Free Trade with all the world; and with respect to parts of this system—the system of timber duties, for instance—there was hardly one of their lordships within whose lifetime that system had not begun. It commenced in 1808. Was there no actual example to prove the truth of what he was now stating? His right hon, friend (Mr. Gladstone) had in his last despatch referred to the Australian colonies. With respect to those great communities, which owing to the incredible rapidity of their advance, were calculated to add to the glory of the English name, this system was hardly anything but nominal; and in regard to their most important and most abundant produce, that of wool, within the last few years the trade had been entirely thrown open, and the opening of the trade had been followed by an enormous increase in it, and had tended to the general prosperity of those colonies (hear, hear).

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM said the question before their Lordships was very simple, namely, whether they could carry Free Trade into this country under the circumstances in which it was placed. It was all very weil in theory, but in practice it was another thing. It was not right, proper, or just that Free Trade should be introduced into a country so burdened with taxation. His Grace then argued that this bill would throw land out of cultivation, reduce the wages of labourers, which ought to be increased, and compel the elergy to submit to a reduction of 25 per cent, in their incomes. So far from settling this question, as some supposed it would keep up agitation, and the noble duke believed that if he lived a few years hence, the Minister of the day would come down to Parliament and ask again for protection for the land. He looked upon this measure with the greatest possible alarm; it would affect all classes, and the manufacturers would be the first to suffer. No bill ever came to their lordships' house more generally disliked; it was the offspring of party feeling, and a desire to retain office, from which the present Ministers, if they could not maintain the principles upon which they assumed the Government, ought to

Lord COLCHESTER spoke against the bill, supporting the amendment. With reference to the remark of Lord Lyttleton, that colonies were useful to the mother country in carrying off our surplus population, his lordship observed that there were two other important uses of colonies-one, the taking off our manufactures; another, the affording stations for our navy; and he showed the extent of the colonial demand for the products of home industry.

Lord HOWDEN was merely anxious to state a few cir cumstances which he believed to be not foreign to the ques tion now before their lordships, and which he hoped would not be considered inapplicable to the discussion in which they were engaged; and he trusted, that in bringing these considerations under the notice of the house, he should be enabled, by the brevity of his observations, in some degree to repay the indulgence of their lordships. He should at once relieve their minds from the fear, and himself from the imputation of arrogance, which might arise if he entered at any length into the facts, or even a small portion of the reasonings, which in the course of the discussion that took place upon the present measure had been brought under the notice of Parliament. If he wished to reproduce arguments already threadbare, he might, without the least difficulty, occupy a great deal of their lordships' time, but it was his intention, on the contrary, to confine himself to a few short observations, and he should proceed to submit them to the house without further preface. The first vote which he had an giving in that house was on a subject con nected with the Corn Laws; but it was quite a milk-andwater proposition as compared with the present measure. Upon that occasion, which occurred six or seven years ago, he was left in a very small minority, for it was strenuously opposed by the noble viscount then at the head of her Majesty's Government, and as might have been expected, it also was stronuously opposed by every member of the Cabinet excepting one noble earl; but the recollection of that should not tempt him into any digression; he said it should not tempt him into any of those personalities which for some weeks, nay, for some months, had been so prevalent, and which often induced him to imagine that there must be something very agreeable in saying disagreeable things (hear, hear). The flash of that sort of talent showed him the way in which he should not tread, rather than lighted blin on the way which he ought to pursue. Some of his earlier years had been spent in a country the institutions of which were in great favour with noble lords who sat on the cross-benches; there existed in that country the prestest possibly antipathy to change of any description. Every individual in that land concurred in the wisdom of his ancestors. Now, it so happened, that in the year 1810 or 1820, he forgot which, two of the southern provinces of Spain were in a very peculiar position; one of those provinces lost its harvest wholly; whilst the other enjoyed the advantage of an harvest more than sufficiently abundant. Now, circumstances precisely analogous to those were reproduced on a larger scale in different countries. In the year 1810 between France and England there was a similar state of things, and it might fairly be thought that the existence of such relations demanded free commercial intercourse upon a large scale. Of that, however, he should now say no more. Returning to the state of Spain, he should merely remind their lordships that the legislation of that country contemplated no freedom of trade, and that oven the inter- | those countries.

course between those provinces was restricted by Custonihouse regulations; regulations which actually applied to wheat. The noble lord then proceeded to show the application of this case to the intercourse between different coun. tiles. But how could they prevent that increase in our manufactures? With our increasing population it was imposstill, with their hands unemployed. It was, then, policy and justice to feed the population as cheaply as they could. In the exigencies under which they were legislating, theories were useless; for hard realities derided the economics of the schools. It had been said that protection had always been the principle of the statesmen of this country; and had pervaded our commercial regulations; and a noble lord near him had referred to an old Act of Parliament in support of that opinion. But he (Lord Howden) night he permitted to surmise, that that which was necessary in the I (th century was not necessary in the 19th. He might, indeed, remind their lordships of the advice given by a cylchrated character of Cervanies, who, like Shakspeare, was said to know everything. Sancho Panza, in giving advice to some person in authority, said, "Take care and provide an abundance of catables and drinkables for the people, for nothing sooner alienates their minds from their rulers than any deficiency in those things" (hear, hear). He had no fear of what foreign nations would do; but he did fear that there were circumstances in this country which would deprive this measure of much of its benefit and all of its grace. He would not use the language which the other house had been compelled to hear from the accredited organ of a party, but he asked their lordships who opposed the ln.", what was to be expected from the present state of affairs? The noble carl opposite had withdrawn his support from the Minister.

Earl STANHOPE said he had never given him his s."P- #

port (cheers).

Lord HOWDEN.-Well, then, the Opposition world make him, who had sacrificed the hope of place to the strength of his convictions, cease to rule the destinies of this country (protectionist cheers); but he (Lord Howden) was sure he was the true expositor of their lordships' feelings, where he said that the noble earl and those noble lords had no hope or expectation of succeeding to the inheritance (cheers). They were only rendering impossible a Government with reference to which they had one feeling of dissent and a thousand in common, whilst they were paying a way for and making a macadamized road (great laughter) for a party for which they had not one sympathy, and with which they had not a single tie (cheers). He had no hereditary or personal reasons for attaching himself to either of the great parties of the country, but their lordships had ancient rank, vast possessions, and extended influence, and they were throwing into the scale the weight of their authority in favour of a party from the great majority of whose opinions they differed. He had heard the word "treachery" used (protectionist cheers); an ungracious word—treacher by the Minister to his adherents; dut as an lumble individual, sincerely attached to true Conservative principles, he hoped from the bottom of his soul that their lordships would never be found to be traitors to themselves (hear, hear). And here be must allude to what, in modern phrase, and in epigrammatic language, was called the pressure from without. Their lordships were sensible, as they ought to be, of the well expressed opinion of the nation, though they would scout what was, in the invidious sense, to be taken as the pressure from without. But there were such things as worthless fears, and there were prophecies which worked their own accomplishment. So long as their lordships did their duty to themselves and the country he cared not in what unboly aspirations the members of the League indulged, but fears heedlessly expressed might verify their own sinister forebodings, and those who really thought they were approaching the end of their senaterial existence might, in his opinion, adopt more dignity in their preparations for their decease ("Oh!" and cheers). He, on the contrary, bad every confidence in the good sense of the country—if it were not attended with moderation it would not be good sense, and he did not dread what the noble carl called accumulated agitation, unsatisfied encroachments, subjects not yet broached, and theories not yet hatched (hear, hear); but he asked what must be the immediate disposition and expectation of the millions upon a question on which there was no longer any speculation, which was not in embryo, and which had passed triumphantly through the other branch of the Legislature, and which was now waiting on the threshold of their lordships house for a final judgment to be pronounced (bear, hear)?

On the motion of the Marquis of EXETER the debate

was adjourned till next day, Friday.

The glad tidings of the reading a second time in the House of Lords of the Ministerial Corn Bill diffused unmingled joy throughout our community on Monday morning. The ringing of the steeple bells, at eight o'clock, communicated the gratifying intelligence to the inhabitants; and since the measure is now perfectly safe, we feel confident that, on the occasion of the anniversary of her Majesty's birth-Tuesday next--the citizens will be proud to testify publicly their devotion and gratitude to our beloved Sovereign, to whose wise, firm, and benevolent resolve is traceable, it seems, the triumphant success of the Bill .- Montrose Review.

AN APOLOGY .- At an agricultural dinner there was recently given the toast-" The Duke of Richmond and the protectionists." It was followed by the song—" A man's a man for a' that." -Punch.

FOREIGN FRUIT.-The General Steam Navigation Company's packet, James Watt, which has arrived at the Bt. Katharine's steam-packet wharf, from Havre, in addition to the usually large cargo of French productions and manufactures, has brought the very large number of 990 packages of fresh fruit, the produce of France. The importation of fruit having commenced thus largely, may be looked for from the present time with certainty and regularity from the principal orchards and gardens in the neighbourhood and suburbs of Rouen, the usually extensive supplies from which luxurious place on a former season were unhappily despoiled by the rayages of a terrific storm, which will not be forgotten, and which caused very great and serious destruction to the crops of every description, at the time when they were fast arriving to profuse abundance and maturity. The same company's vessel Giraffe, from Rotterdam, has brought 20 packages of cherries, the produce of Holland. Altogether it may reasonably and with justice be remarked that both France and Holland are of the utmost importance to us with regard to the extensive supplies of fruits of the earth, cattle, and provisions of the most exteemed descriptions furnished to us by

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND'S LOVE FOR THE LABOURERS.

(From the Times.)
The Inbourer is still the theme of eloquence at agricul tural meetings, where his importance is energetically urged, and his condition spoken of with affectionate interest. hear the speccies of protectionists at their dinners, where the labourer is never omitted as a toust, and is sometimes tolerated as a guest, one would imagine that the humble cultivator of the soil must be better provided for than the members of any other class of industry. Goodwood on Tuesday last was the scene of one of those annual meetings which me lield in muny parts of the country for the purpose of giving the worthy labourer his reward, in the shape of ten shifting prizes for the twelvemonth's stock of virtue he may have exhibited. The Duke of Richmond was in the chair, Supported by a Bishop, an Archdeacon, an Honourable and Reverend, and an M.P., besides a number of clergy and landowners of the district; while, to do honour to the humble hero of the day, the Duchess of Euchmond and the Ludies Lennox were present in a side gallery. There is something very beautiful in the idea of the master sitting down to the same meal with his men, and the presence of a golaxy of podlin see is highly appropriate to such a truly Christian act os the feasting of the employed by the employer at his own table. The churm, however, of the proceeding is speedily dissipated when we find that at such a very early singe of the business as the first tonst after, the health of the Royal family having been drunk, the labourers had entirely executed the cullowance of beer, and were compelled to le ep up their enthusiasm as well as they could with empty maps to the end of the entertainment. When the Bishop of Catchester was toosted, the gentlemen present pledged him in a bumper; but the labourers were forced to about and gesticulate with nothing to drink, like the "happy pencantry' that we see on the stage tossing off copious draughts of more atmosphere to the long life of The whole of the proceedings, however, were of the same false, unsubstantial, and dramatic character as the plantom blations of the humbler portion of the guests. The Dake of Rehmond's speech was crammed with claptraps, which would have told admirably on the audience at s minor thate, but which could not for a moment stand the test of rober criticism. He talked glowingly of the value of the "honest, meritorious, and industrious labourer," and added that " one man who felt a deep interest in the welfor of his employer is worth a hundred of those who only ▼orked for the sordid consideration of their daily pay."

There is something absolutely comical in the idea of faunt. mp a poor wretch who gets perhaps eight shillings a week with "the sordel consideration of his daily pay." Archdeacon Manning adopted the same truly comic conceit, and resterated the noble chairman's sentiment, that "one man who worked from affection was worth a hundred who worked merely for lucre." This high disdain for filthy dross ought not, we think, to be exacted from inhourers at eight shillings This high disdain for filthy dross ought a week, who certainly, if they are actuated by the sordid love of facte imputed to them by their employers, have very little to grantly their avaricious appetites Well may the working man entreat to be saved from his friends, when those who assume that character call upon him to work from affection, and to show an atter contempt for pay. Surely he already accepts the minimum of wages on which it is possible to exist. We have heard of things being so dear that they are not to be had for love or money. The toil of the labourer is an article that has hitherto been paid for by a little of both, but it would seem that his friends the protectionists would like to obtain his services purely for love, without having to expend any money at all. Simple as the labourer is, we do not think he will be persuaded into a belief that such a proposition can be for his benefit. We wonder if it has ever occurred to the Duke of Richmond to pay a hundred times as much wages to a man who works with a regard to his employer's interests," as his Grace would pay to a mere every day labourer working for lucreor, in other words, toiling for his own and his family's support. Surely the employers ought to be satisfied with the labour, such as it is and it surely is cheap enough at its present unserable price - without grumbling that the article is not given in a spirit of the purest disinterestedness. One might as well taunt a servant with a love of lucre for wanting his wages, or a tradesman with sordid considerations for sending in his bill. The agricultural labourers cannot afford to put money entirely out of the question, though their employers, by reducing wages to the lowest possible point, take care not to encourage sordidness too far, or, at all events, not to give avance too much to feed upon. It is quite clear that the motive for giving what are by courtesy termed prizes to the agricultural labourers, is that they may become more valuable in a pecuniary point of view to their pretended friends. This was avowed at the West Sussex Agricultural Association, and the purpose is, perhaps, legitimate, or even neral rule, workmen, in becoming more valuable to their musters, must be happier in themselves.

We fear, however, that there is too much hollowness in the words of encouragement addressed to them, and that the premiums offered are too nominal and contemptible to have much influence in producing the desired effect. The distri-bution of a few Bibles and Prayerbooks, and a few prizes, varying from 10s, to 1l, will not compensate for a year's privation, caused by a rate of wages so miserable as to be wholly inadequate for comfort, and frequently insufficient for sup-That such is the doom of the labourer almost every day's experience affords some proof, and we need go no further back than our paper of yesterday for a strong case in point. Under the title of The Poor Law in a Rural District will be found the report of some proceedings taken by the parochial authorities to force upon a married labourer, earning only St. a week, the maintenance of his mother, whom he declared himself unable to support. The energy with which the overseer went to work to prove the man capable of bearing the burden, affords an amusing illustration of the difference of treatment the labourer experiences as the here of after dinner elequence at protectionist meetings and in the board room of his own parish, to which he is summoned that another weight may be thrown upon him it addition to those he is already struggling to bear. In the case to which we allude every inquisitorial measure seems to have been adopted for the purpose of proving that the labourer earning eight shillings a week, and having to keep a wife, ought to spare the parish funds by taking also the support of his mother wholly upon himself. First he was taxed with having " four pigs and six stocks of bees," as if a man could keep his mother all her life on honey and pork, and could afford to expend these luxuries upon her. It turned out, however, that half the bees were dead, and the pigs were still unpaid for. So that before his mother could be fed from these sources there was a mortgage to be paid

off, and the magistrate, acting, probably, on this view of the question, refused to make the order for which the parish authorities had applied. We should be glad to know whether this poor man, if he were to enter the Duke of Richmond's service, full of affection for the nobleman who has expressed so deep a concern for the welfare of the labourer, and who, actuated by this affection, would be worth a hundred ordinary labourers—we wonder, we repeat, if he would obtain from the Duke of Richmond a hundred times, or even ten times, or twice the amount of wages usually paid. If masters were to be found to appreciate such zeal as it deserves, it is most likely that the poor man whose case we have referred to, and many others in similar circumstances, would not have to appear before boards of guardians to resist orders for the support of their aged parents. The labourer, however, can be much more cheaply cared for in an after-dinner speech than by giving him a fair remuneration for his services. "Civility costs nothing;" but unfortunately it is intrinsically worth nothing to the party on whom it is be-

DISSOLUTION OF OLD PARTIES.

(From the Times.)
The debute—if debute so disorderly a scene deserves to be called -of Monday night, is strangely and even gloomily ominous of that troublous pass which the nation seems now in carcless haste to essay. A picture is presented to us of a legislature in which all things are out of order, out of place, ont of proportion, out of season, out of keeping, out of all political and decent rule. On one hand a Government, which by singular energy and address, though not by its own resources, is in the very act of sealing a great victory, falls itself under the weight of its spoils, and by the mysterious law of the weapons it has thought fit to employ. On the other, an ancient rival, wasting under the wounds of repeated and confirmed defeat, is able at this critical moment to avenge his wrong, and perhaps even to repair his disappointment. In another part of the scene an army of mercenaries, smarting under the breach of impossible engagements, having neither share in the victory, nor hope of redress, seeks a last consolation in the sweetness of revenge. If it is a reality we are beholding, how near akin is it to falsehood! If it is a drama, what chance or caprice has had the casting of the The golden apple of this conflict lies on the ground. The victorious possessor is apparently devoting himself to another object, which he seeks only that he may fall in the enterprise, and thereby gain a remediable loss. The deserted auxiliaries, after long fighting for order, think to find their account in a general confusion. This bout has failed them, so a fresh start is their object. The representatives of territorial rights, and a heaven-sent aristocracy, think to write antiquity again on the carte blanche they will obtain. by permitting an interval of democratic usurpation. The guardians of "property," the protectors of land, are recording their decision against a measure whose chief aim is the security of these objects.

There is also in the scene that mixture of feverishness and listlessness which give us the least security for discretion, and the greatest chance of extravagance. Private reasons, or rather private fancies, are uppermost. The house is with difficulty assembled for the debate which professes so serious an object, and is actually pregnant with such weighty consequences. False stimulants must be applied. Vehemence of attack, petulance of interruption, reproaches, remonstrances, discursive allusions, reckless predictions, old standing arrears of rankling grievances, and bitter recollections, are the substitute for a legislative debate. Something, meanwhile, either chastens the spirit or ties the tongue of the party that has to endure this sharp warfare. Could one judge of its tone, it expects its doom. It is impossible not to recognize the eve of great changes, not to say great convulsions, when the chief powers of the political world have so departed from their wont. It is not growth, but dissolution, we are beholding. It is a house divided against a house, and it cannot but fall. The extempore ringleader of the disaffected may be set aside as far as concerns his power upon the present question, but he is effectually destroying that social framework on which we must rest our hopes for the future. The edifice that cost the labours of patient years even before its foundations were seen above the ground, after being first betrayed by its author, now crumbles to pieces by blows from within, exchanged by familiar and once friendly hands.

The attacks of enemies may be forgiven, and even for-They may be accounted for on a theory. opponent renounces his opinions, and thereby retracts his invectives. The bitterest philippies are often little more than political conventionalities, which proceed on certain assumptions, and are forgotten when the assumptions are no longer received. It is so with the indignation of friends and allies. Their angry words are the seeds of enduring hostility. Their allusions are too familiar to miss their mark, too pointed not to sink deep, too envenomed not to rankle. The mutual recriminations of the divided host will live for years in the disruption and annihilation of party. Our comfort for the solicitudes that must naturally throng upon each peaceful mind at the prospect of the coming coufusion, is that really the present distribution of parties has lasted too long, if not for moral truth, at least for moral clearness, and for moral emphasis. There is no existing section of the political world which is not hampered with pledges and alliances that entail an irreconcileable struggle with the ripening necessities of the age, and with its growing convictions. The work of the next generation must be done if by parties, at least by new ones. At present the signs of decomposition predominate. The House of Commons shows rather the fusion, than the reconstruction of systems. The old forms of opinion are passing away, but the new organisation scarcely begins to appear.

How much change, again, must we expect in the adminis. trative and legislative element before we shall have a Government and a Parliament really able and willing to address thomselves to the wants of the times! For example, is there the least prospect, with our present Ministers and present legislators, of that great subject, the religious, moral, and sanatory condition of our towns being fairly taken in hand? What statesman have we who so much as dreams of such a thing as a sound and comprehensive municipal system? Who is there that we can trust with the simplification of our laws, the reform of our courts, and the protection of our charities and other foundations? Who has heart, or nerve, or sinew, to grapple with the Irish landlord? Who has the skill to plead the cause of the poor, and establish their claims, so as to steer clear of a decayed and alusive antiquity, on the one hand, and the iron invention of political economy, on the other? The great problems of this age are everywhere discussed, and receive every other than a Parlia-

mentary solution. The present legislature cannot even mentary solution. The prosent legislature cannot even master the business actually brought before it. Perplexing, painful, and disastrous, therefore, as may be the approaching pansage of our public destiny,—even though we have to pass passage of our public destiny,—even though we have to pass through the flery furnace of social reconstruction,—even though the hames of Whig and Tory, Conservative and Radical, agricultural and manufacturing, country and town, may pass away, and become as mere matters of history as the white and red rose, the Guelph and the Ghibbelline, we still trust that the good sense and good heart of this nation will, under Providence, raise out of this chaos a legislatur and a Government better able to apprehend and to grasp the real wants of the people, under no slavish thraidom to parties or classes, and not driven to the continual alternatives of disloyalty to the commonwealth, or treason to their partisans,

THE ONLY PLAN FOR A FINAL SETTLE. MENT OF THE SUGAR DUTIES.

(From the Economist.) The time has arrived when the final adjustment of the sugar duties can no longer be postponed. The removal of protection to the cultivator of the soil at home renders the maintenance of that principle in favour of the planter, in the colonies, no longer possible. Every argument which has been so successfully employed to show that protection has been a delusion—a false and deceptive prop—at home is equally applicable to the colonies. We are bound, how ever, to admit, that in some respects an important difference has existed between the owner of the soil at home and the planter in the colonies. It is true that protection has been claimed for the farmer, at home, on the assumed existence of special burthens imposed upon him by the state, for the public good, but the existence of which, so far, it has been impossible to discover. On the contrary, he has been exempted from the charge of every assessed tax, which would otherwise have borne upon him in his capacity as a farmer, even down to that upon a shepherd's dog. If say doubt could have existed of the utter absence of any claim on this score, on the part of the home farmer, before the recent inquiry by a committee of the House of Lords, Lord Monteagle's report of that inquiry must have effectually dis. pelled such doubt, and have proved to any candid inquirer, that, instead of special public burthens, the home agriculturist enjoys many special exemptions from taxation. But such, we are free to admit, is not the case with the colonial planter. We readily admit that restrictions have been, and still are, imposed upon him, of which he has a right to com plain, and from which he has a right to demand relief. At the same time, nothing will be more evident than the fact, that these restrictions or disabilities to which the planter may be thus exposed, can form no compensation to the consumers at home for the extra price which they are obliged

to pay for their sugar. Admitting, however, as we do, the existence of restnetions and impositions, to which the colonial planter is exposed, we propose now to examine what they are, as alleged by the West Indians themselves, and in what war relief should be given. The grievances of the West in dians may be thus stated. First, they aver that the effect of emancipation has been to withdraw a large portion of labour from sugar cultivation, and materially to miss the rate of wages, as compared with that paid by other sugar producing countries; and that the restrictions imposed upon immigration have precluded them from obtaining such additional supplies of free labourers as would have enabled them to cultivate their estates with profit. Secondly, they com plain that they are restricted as to the sources from which they can supply themselves with those articles which they require to import for the consumption of the islands Thirdly, they complain that there are restrictions placed upon the sale and use of their produce. And, fourthly, they complain that a portion of their produce is, to a great extent, practically prohibited from consumption at home, in conse quence of the high differential duty to which it is subjected. in order to protect the manufacture of British spirits. With respect to the whole of these complaints, we freely admit there is some foundation, and that the West Indians have right to seek the same advantages from the principles of Free Trade, by the removal of those restrictions, as we have with respect to the introduction of their produce into the home market. This is a right which we have never denied. but for which, on the contrary, we have often, on principle. contended. But the great error hitherto made by West Indians has been, an inference, that restrictions imposed upon their trade, were to be regarded by the consumer at home as a compensation for the high differential duties imposed in favour of their sugar in this market. They may all be just grounds of complaint against our colonial policy, but cer tainly they are no satisfaction to the home community for the high price of sugar to which would be difficult to show in what way restrictions placed upon the imports into the colonies, or restrictions imposed upon the sale of their produce, or a high duty upon West Indian rum, could be regarded as any compensation to the great muss of the community at home, for the high price of sugar towhich they have been subjected for so many years. Moreover, the community have had more reason to complain against the course pursued by the West Indians, inasmuch as no gratefurts have ever been used to obtain direct redress of these grievances, with some exceptions in regard to immigration. while every effort has been used to maintain protective duties against the home consumer. On the part of the home consumer, too, it cannot be denied that we have to regard the sum given for emancipation as a large payment. It may be denied by the West Indians that it amounted to full compensation. But whether or not is not now a practical question to be settled; for it is certain that very much of the West Indian property has changed hands since that time, and has been either inherited or purchased, subject to the existing state of circumstances. Moreover, the extra price already noted by the contraction paid by the country for colonial sugar since the termination of the apprenticeship cannot amount to a smaller sum than the twenty millions paid as a direct compensation. For the five years ending in 1844, Mr. Gladstone, in the pamphiet entitled, "The Ministry and the Sugar Duties," calculated that additional sum at sixteen millions stering; or at the tast of 8 200 000? rate of 8,200,000l, per annum; to which, if we add the two years which have since passed, we make a total sam of more than twenty-two millions sterling, as paid by the county, is addition to the county. addition to the original sum of twenty millions for compan-sation. It would appear, therefore, that the engir colonies have cost the country, in direct payment, and in the stage of a higher cost of sugar, more than forty two ling, during the last 10 or 12 years. The time arrived, when this siditional expectation to the shortly cease, and when all restrictions or

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as they are imposed by the legislature, on the colonies, must cease also. We propose, therefore, to offer some observa-

First, then, with respect to immigration to free labourers. We confess that we can see no good defence for the jealousy with which the Government have regarded the subject of immigration into our sugar colonies, from the time when the entire abolition of slavery took place. The reasons which were so commonly given, viz., that of the fear that immigration might relapse into a revival of the slave trade, and that specific contracts for labour might assume the character of slavery, appear to us to be wholly unworthy of a great country, having an executive sufficiently powerful to enforce the observance of its laws throughout the whole of its empire. Whether the immigra-tion of labourers from the East Indies and from Africa would be an economical application of capital, is altogether another question, with respect to which we would probably differ from the great bulk of the West Indians themselves. But we cannot deny the political and civil right which the West Indians have to employ capital in the importation of free labour, as much as the land companies of Canada or Australia, always of course subject to the same regulations as are considered in the latter cases needful for the protection of the immigrants, and any other which the peculiar circumstances attendant on African immigration may render necessary. As a right we have not an objection to urge against it. As an economical application of capital, we feel that the safest course is to leave those on whom the responsibility rests, to decide that point. We cannot suppose that West Indian proprietors would continue to lay out their own capital, or burthen their estates with the payment of taxes to satisfy the interest of a loan, for the purposes of immigration. if found to be unprofitable, and, especially, considering the legal obligations which they take upon themselves to send their immigrants back at the end of five years. As far as we are concerned, in the mother country, we may safely rely upon the owners of West India estates, and upon the colonial assemblies not committing themselves to any very injurious extent by such an outlay, if it proved by experience a less profitable means of applying capital than others open to them. For our own parts, nothing can persuade us, while yet there is so much to be done, by the application of capital, to economise and render productive the existing amount of labour in the colonies, that it can prove a very desirable means of investment to import Hill Coolies from India at the enormous cost which is required. But that, we repeat, appears to us a proper question for the West Indians themselves to entertain, but no ground for our denying them the full right, if their interests dictate the course.

On the ground of humanity, we contend that all the argument is in favour of immigration, and especially from Africa; and we only wish we could persuade ourselves that economically it is desirable to as large an extent as immigrants could be obtained. There can be no question that every negro removed from Africa to the British West Indies, really changes the condition of the most abject and degraded slavery for the benefits of a comparatively highly civilised life. In the case of the free immigrant too, the horrors of the middle passage, against which our feelings have been so justly excited, are entirely removed. The removal of Africaus to the British West Indies, can only be regarded as a process of emancipation from the most degraded and brutal condition in which the human race can be found, to one of great moral and physical advantages; from the tyranny and cruelty of brutal slave-masters in Africa, to the protection and se curity of the most advanced and enlightened government. We know that there are those, who see a great danger of promoting internal wars in Africa for the mere purpose of procuring slaves to carry to the coast, as long as there is a demand for them. A demand it is said on the coast will promote cruelty in the interior in order to supply it. This no doubt is so in the case of slavers who give high prices for slaves. But with respect to the free immigrants, who are not purchased, for whom no money is given, excepting in the shape of a free passage, and of which no part would go to enrich the Africa slave dealer, this can not be urged as an objection. On the contrary, the more abundant free labour becomes in our colonies the less will he the temptation or the ability of slave-owning states to pay the price for slaves on the coast of Africa, which leads to the internal African slave trade. While, therefore, we may doubt the prudence of a large investment of capital, in the introduction of immigrations into the West Indies, at a great cost, and with onerous future obligations, we cannot deny to the West Indans the right so to employ their capital under proper regulations if they think fit. To prevent abuse which might arise therefrom, the executive is bound to rely

on its own powers.

Secondly,—the West Indians complain that they are restricted in the sources from which they can supply their wants, or, at least, that the imposition of duties on commodities, the produce of other countries, from which those of Great Britain and our other colonies are exempted, raises the price to their disadvantage. It cannot be denied that, in principle, this protection to the produce and manufactures of England and the North American colonies, against the West Indian consumer, is an evil of which he has a right to complain, and which ought to be removed. Till a very recent period, the prohibitions and protective duties imposed upon foreign commodities were extremely prejudicial to the West Indies; a great step was, however, taken in 1842, to abolish the prohibitions, and to modify the protective duties. In that year the Act 5th and 0th Victoria, c. 40, repealed the former duties, and established a new and modified tariff; but which is still open to the objection that considerable duties are imposed on goods from foreign countries, while our own are admitted free. On foreign wheat flour we impose an import duty of 2s. per harrel; on foreign-taken fish 2s. per cwt.; on foreign salted or cured meat 3s. the cwt.; on foreign butter 8s. the cwt.; on foreign spirits and cordials la. per gallon; on glass and silk goods of foreign manufacture, fifteen per cent. ad valorem; on cotton, linen, woollen, leather, and paper manufactures, hardware, soap, and candles, from foreign countries we impose a duty of seven per cent.; and on all foreign goods not enumerated a duty of four per cent. from all of which British products and those of our other colonies are free. It is quite clear that when we call upon the West Indies to relinquish protection in the home market, we must also be prepared to relinquish it in their market.

Do not let us be inisunderstood. The duties which we have quoted are not the Taland duties extend by the colonies.

have quoted are not the Island duties raised by the colonies for the local revenue, but are imposed by the Imperial Parliament. It may be urged, and no doubt with great truth, that these duties in most instances are nominal and inoperative. With respect to most articles of British manufacture, the motorive duties in the colonies are no more operative than they are at home; nor would their removal make any

difference to the cost of those goods, because there is no other market where they can be bought so cheap. But if so, there can be no reason why even an imaginary grievance should be allowed to remain among our laws. But though this is the case with respect to British manufactures gene-rally, it is not so with respect to flour, fish, ment, butter, cheese, and probably some kinds of glass and silk goods, With respect to provisions these duties clearly raise the price, and are a ground of just complaint. These protective duties are, therefore, either useless, if inoperative, or unjust to the West Indies if operative, and in either case should be repealed. They cannot be retained a day longer than the equalisation of the augar duties is provided for.

Thirdly, the West Indians complain that they have been subjected to restrictions on the manufacture, and still are in the uses to which their produce can be applied. The restriction which so long existed against the produce of the colonies being shipped to other countries, cannot be said ever to have led to any real disadvantage, as England has always been the best market. The practical prohibition against refining sugar in the colonies has already been removed, but still the restriction against the use of sugar and molasses in distilleries at home continues. It is much to be doubted whether this restriction is any real disadvantage or not; nevertheless, its maintenance is impossible on the principles by which we now wisely seek to govern the material interests of the country. If not advantageous, it would not be done, and if more profitable to the importer than the present uses to which his produce is put, it ought to be left open to The true interests of the country can only be consulted by the most economical use of every product which it possesses, and which perfect freedom alone can determine.

Fourthly, the West Indians complain that, in bringing their rum into the British market, they are subjected to a duty, which acts to a great extent as a practical prohibition, in order to protect the home distiller. This, no doubt, is true, and cannot be justified. The duty charged on colonial rum is 0s. 4d. the gallon, while on British spirits in England it is 7s. 10d., in Scotland 3s. 8d., and in Ireland 2s. 8d. the gallon. The effect of the high duty on rum has been to banish its use altogether from Scotland and I land, or nearly so, and materially to reduce the whole consumption of the country. In 1802, the consumption of rum was fifty per cent. greater than in 1844, while in the latter year the consumption of British spirits was 100 per cent, more than in 1802. The following table shows the comparison of rum and British spirits taken for consumption at the two periods in question, with the duties chargeable thereon:

Rum taken for Home Consumption. Year 1802.* Duty. Year 18 England......2,204,897 ... 9 03 ... 2,143,865 Duty. 8. d. 9 4

 Bootland
 408,163

 Ireland
 637,005
 5 6}

 42,092 12,635 United Kingdom 3,310,005 2,018,593 Duty 8,234,440 .. 7 10 6,451,140 20,608,500 9,339,500

The present price of proof rum being 2s. ld. per gallon, the dif-Inc present price of proof value being 28. Id. per gallon, the forence of duty amounts in

England, 18 fil per gallon is 72 per cent. ad valorem.

Scotland, 58 8d — is 272 —

Ircland, 58 8d — is 320

* Porter's Progress of Nations. Vol. III., p. 50.

* Porter's Progress of Nations.

Porter's Tables. Section A., part XIV Parliamentary Paper, 8th May, 1845 .- "Spirits"-Sessional

It is impossible on Free Trade principles to defend any differential duty against the rum of the West Indies. But the West Indies must, on the same principle, be prepared for the admission of foreign rum, brandy, and other spirits at the same rate of duty.

As far as we have been able to collect, these are the whole of the grievances of the West Indians, and which, we are perfectly free to admit, require, upon every principle of fairness, to be redressed; and which may be easily done, with great advantage to the revenue and to all parties concerned. We are glad to observe that Mr. Hume has given notice of a motion which will bring all those questions under discussion, and we trust they will before long be all disposed of in a general scheme for the entire equalisation of the sugar duties. No other settlement of this question is now pos sible; and the best interests of all parties will be consulted as well as that of the revenue, by that settlement being made with as little delay as possible. We may take an early opportunity of working out the probable effects upon the revenue of such a comprehensive scheme, involving the entire removal of all these restrictions and the equalisation of the sugar duties, by the time the Corn Bill is finally operative in 1849. To conclude, we are bound to say that many of the parties most influentially and extensively interested in West Indian property have expressed their entire concurrence in such a settlement of the question, which appears to us in every way fair and just; and we therefore have great plea sure in congratulating the country upon the probability of an early and satisfactory settlement of this important question; the constant and necessary changes in respect to which, during the last few years, have done more to unsettle commerce and puzzle merchants than all other causes put together.

THE BRITISH UNICORN. (From Punch.)

MR. Puncu.-" You have made my companion, the British Lion, very popular; can you do nothing for me? Understand, I shall be well content with half the notoricty you have bestowed upon my leonine friend; for, certainly, since you have signalised him by your notice—since you have drawn him from the obscurity of the National Arms, and discussed the length of his mane and tail, the sharpness of his teeth and claws, and the various modulations of his roar -the poor beast has been worked and belaboured more than any costermonger's donkey. "I will not surprise me, soon, to see the British Lion advertised as peculiarly fitted for the most timid lady." Certainly, timid gentlemen, who might pass for ladies, have of late ridden him hard enough. I much question whether the Culling Smills, the Sibthorpus, and the Plumptres, are not—for their sharp taskwork inflicted on the British Lion—obnoxious to an information for cruelty to animals. However, to me any core. cruelty to animals. However, to my own case.
"I am a modest brute; so modest, that I have suffered all

sorts of scholars and philosophers—men who take the universe to bits and put it together again, like a child's puzzle to question even my existence. By some I have been

called the Indian ass; by others the rhinoceres; and all these presumptions nice have flatly denied my right to the graceful form made familiar by the Royal Arms to every trueborn Briton. Dut, sir, patience bas its limits. Trodden worms will turn; and t will be found-outraged unicorns

will gore. "Nevertheless, for myself, I could still endure the contempt and slander of the world with perfect indifference. Yes, sir: I could hear my companion, the British Lion, praised for his courage, his magnanimity, and every other after-dinner virtue (though between ourselves I have known him guilty of certain requeries and fooleries more worthy of the British fox and the British goose; only lions, by virtue of their claws, are privileged as occasional knates and simpletons) - I say, I could, unmoved, listen to his praisesunmoved as one opera singer hears the applauding fame of another (my frequent position over the proscenium has familiarised me with all play-house virtues), were I alone concerned. But, sir, consider; if I am called a fabulous beast, a fictitious noneutity, a thing that never had a place in the ark, what a rebellious ment is thereby cast upon the Royal Escutcheon! The Lion is a terrible verity says the world, and with his truthful strength, his awfol looks, supports and watches the Royal Shield; but the Unicorn is a nondescript nincompaop: a fib upon four legs: at the very best a horned flam? Now, I ask it, is not this opinion treasonous? Does it not make the Royal Arms lopsided? On the right they are supported by leonine power; on the left by a worse than nothing—by a fiction! Now, str, will you urge Lord George Bentinck to move for a committee to inquire into the truth of the existence of the British Unicorn? I suggest Lord George, because as I am more than half equine, the inquiry could be best carried out by his stable mind. Did I really feel myself the ass that some na-. turalists have written me down, I could name other honourable members of the bonourable house as being peculiarly flued for the investigation.

"And in the meantime, Mr. Punch, do think of me. Let me not suffer for my long endurance. Folks must tire of the roar of the British Lion; therefore, do now and then say something about the honour of the British Unicorn. For I put it to you, whether it is not too bud that I should bear half the weight of the Royal Shield, and the Lion monepolise all the glory? Besides, the British Lion, for a time, at least, has had his day; therefore, do justice to his longsiles, and long suffering companion.
"The Bairtsa Unicona."

POTATO CROP IN DEVON, -- Last year, through the month of June, it was observed that the potato crops in my locality had never previously been seen in a more healthy, vigorous, and evenly state of growth. The tubers, too, of the sarly kinds, in the month of July, were not only numerous, bus large; any quantity could be purchased at fourpence per score pounds. But this spring they have been selling as high as twenty pence per score pounds. It is now the last week in May, and the early crops of potatoes are equal in strength and evenness with what they were a month later last year, and the tubers are equally fine and numerous, more particularly all the autumn planted varieties; those which were protected through bad weather with dry dust, fern, and other refuse, have actually now about finished their growth—the foliage is capping up as if ripening; other crops also appear in most luxuriant health, when viewed at a distance; but I am sorry to state that the detestable enemy has again made its appearance, in its too generally known forms of rustiness, black spotted inkey blotchings on the foliage, cankery, gangrenous, sore looking spots on the stems or stalks and ribs of the foliage. Whether the cold rains which we have Mad—the remarkably cold north winds we have experienced for the most part of the first twenty days of this monthhave in any way accelerated the disease or not I cannot say: but I am sorry to again observe its appearance even on some of the young tubers. We cut and pick off all the diseased stalks and leaves as we discover them, and burn them, although by this means I do not expect wholly to stay or provent its rayages; but the trouble is little, and it puts out of sight an eye sore. I never had crops so prosperous in appearance, when viewed at a distance; and this has led many to suppose that all was right. It would, however, be strange indeed were not some of us to produce good crops and clear from disease this senson; for no doubt can be entertained that many have been careful in the preservation, selection, and planting of this year's crop, and the after-management will, no doubt, be performed with more than usual care, and this useful vegetable may yet possibly be an average crop. I am happy to say, too, that at present wo have here some pieces of potatoes in which no disease has been observed; still I am doubtful as to the future.—Correspandent of the Gardener's Chronicle.

TION IN THE SHETLAND communication, dated Lerwick, 25th May, in the John O'Groat Journal of Friday last, it appears that famine is spreading rapidly among the Shetlanders. We sincerely trust that public sympathy will be extended towards the sufferers without loss of time. The following is part of the communication alluded to:-" Want and misery are now written on many a face, where, till now, such had not been seen, and, if not promptly relieved in some way or other, there is great reason to fear that, during the summer, and before the crops can come on so far as to be made available, even in a half-ripe state, for the pressing wants of the population, cases of death, from actual starvation, will be neither few nor rare. During the years 1837-38-39-well named the ' bad years'-the want of food through these islands was not greater than it is at the present time. At this moment individuals are known to the writer of this, who have not tasted bread for a whole week, and others who have neither tasted bread nor meal in any shape for periods varying from ten to fifteen days, who, when they had scraped together the sum necessary, had to take their bags under their arms, and to travel distances of from six to eighteen miles-Zotland miles, too-before they could procure the small quantity of meal which they were able to purchase, and that, too, at a most exorbitant price. The breakfast of shell-fish has to be gathered in the morning, at the sea-side, among the rocks, before the cravings of hunger can be satisfied; then the next meal, consisting of fish, with, perhaps, a few potatoes; and if they have a little meal, fish, and bread, or else fish and potatoes again, before going to bed, comprises all that they can afford, fish and potatoes being the chief, almost the only articles of diet, and bread being used more like a haury than as the staple article [of food. These are not cases of rare occurrence.

Accounts from Lecuwarden, in Holland, state that the potatoes in that district appear to be infected with the same disease as last year.

NOW MANAPAPER, PRICE THREEPINGE. THE PUBLIC are respectfully informed that become to a property of a superior of a NEW PAPER, P. of HIRLEPENCE, to be called,

Particular will be poven in future Advertisoments.
To be published by J. Gaussir, Bouverio-street, Floot-street,

CHR. J. D. E.S. BUILDING SOCIETY, MAN-charts are related it to apply to Mr. Schlor, Lengue Office, Newall's building, Manched

A few copies of No. 93 of the Anti-Bread-Tax Cir-CULAR, B. d of Nov. 60, 75, 21, 23, 24, 95, 99, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 117,

119, 122, of "THE LESSON E," are particularly wanted. A liberal price will be part for them on their being forwarded to Mr. Whittome, 67, Fleet Street, London.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE QUARTER OF A MILLION FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, June 10, 1816.

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

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, subscribers are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for George Wilson, League Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.

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The Strike is the Belliona Trades.-This illa lying I state of the men still " slowly drugs its weary length al. (2) All the linkleyers have resumed work, and the greate t activity prevails in that trade, and the joiners and empenders me gendually resuming work on the musters term ; and this refers not only to strangers, but to the old hards who have been unionists, but who are tired of the sway of "the central committee." In one establishment, 8-x men commenced work on Monday morning last, including three of the old bands, who were unionists, but have consed to be so. The conference of the National Association of United Trades, which commenced its proceedings on Whit-Monday, and the transactions of which we noticed in our last, terminated on Friday afternoon, but on that day no business of importance was done. At present we are informed there are 40d workmen on the strike in Manchester and Salford, but it is expected that twenty or thirty will go in to day (Wednesday) to Mr. Birch's, near Faulkner street, who, it is stated, has acceded to the terms of the union. In Liverpool, as here, the stike has ceased to be a general one; the masons being still out we believe, Manthester Guardien,

LETTERS FROM KENT.

LETTER 1.

At no time perhaps since Kent got its name from Canute the Dane, did its rich corn crops look richer than now; certainly in the best of the summers within living memory they never looked better, seldom so well. It may turn out that fruit will be an exception. But of wheat, and beans, and peas-the green peas of the market gardens for millionmouthed London, never had Kent such a lapful of plenty. Nor is the promise of abundance confined to Kent. Surrey is the same, and also Sussex; at least, such parts of it as I have just seen. And by analogy and common report, all agricultural lowland is the same. Let me tell of what I have

First, of wheat. It was well grown in May; but in most parts of Surrey and Kent, a rusty-coloured fungus settled on it. This fungus was very minute in its particles, but so universally spread, that the fields looked for several weeks as if scorched with red fire. In walking only for a few yards through the wheat thus affected, the feet were covered with red dust, as if one had walked in the rubbish of a brickyard. The fungus was generally attributed to atmospheric causes, and some good reasons were given to show that it was related in its origin to the disease which last year affected the potato plants, and that both proceeded from humidity and low temperature. Other plants had this rusty fungus on them besides wheat; gooseherry bushes, the natural grasses by ditch banks, the hawthorns, and even the more early grown potato plants. But now, with a high temperature and dry atmosphere, the fungus has disappeared. Plants affected by it are not only convalescent, but in the enjoyment of a robust health equal to anything ever known. One would almost think the field crops are rejoicing as they grow in havin been purified of internal diseases by that which was external.

Taking a glance at the thinly sown wheat, near Croydon, where Mr. Davis has been for several years laudably, and I am told, successfully engaged in practically reforming the seed sowing of wheat, we cannot help believing what our cars hear, that half the usual quantity of wheat sown per acre, is better for the ensuing crop than the usual amount of

Yet again, as we go on, the old system is seen; and assuredly at the present time, it is more than judgment can determine to say which promises most profit, the thin sowing or the thick, the new system or the old.

One thing is clear, clear as fine weather-that so far as the national welfare depends on abundant crops; abundant comforts of clothing and furniture depending on abundance of food; full employment, and full wages depending on the ability of the millions to spare for clothing and furniture the money not required for food; the buoyancy of mercantile enterprise reciprocating with all these, producing them and being produced, until we reach nationally that condition which is called prosperity, -1 say, that so far as all these happy circumstances arrive from good harvests, plenty and cheapness, there never was a brighter prospect before England than there is in this blessed month of June, 1846.

In the preparation of green crops, such as turnips and wurzel for the feeding of stock, rain is prayed for; but the farmer's prayer for rain in one parish is put up at the same time that his brother farmer in another prays for dry weather to continue; one has his turnips to get sown as the chief dependence for his live stock in winter; the other has his hay to get in as the chief dependence for his stock. The weather at present is good for all of them. The turnip sower in Kent is getting his land prepared in the best manner, and all the weeds destroyed, (so far as a Kent farmer troubles himself about destroying weeds,) and the haymaker is going on most gloriously making his hay while the sun shines. Then there is the Corn Bill about to become law, and admit maize, and beans, and peas, and outs, and barley, to help to feed eattle and slicep with their green crops. Already has mustard feeding been tried, and the green mustard, which grows up four or five times in an ordinary summer, a product of the soil far more abundant and profitable than any other succulent, only wants to have an admixture of grain or pulse (some dry mealy food) to qualify it to become the favourite of the farmers for the summer supply of the markets with mutton, and the pockets with eash, and the soil with fertility,

Then again there is the flax seed, which will doubtless soon become a home product on every farm when the coarser grains and pulse can be obtained freely and moderately priced, to mingle with it and with roots for cattle food in winter (thanks once again Mr. Warnes, of Norfolk, for his indefatigable exertions in the cause of flax seed and cattle feeding, and thanks to the Free Trade which is to supply him with material and consume his beef!)

All these things are pointing to the coming circumstances of agriculture; namely, that the best of all manures shall be produced at home, not purchased at an expense of five or six millions sterling per annum as now; that less land shall be sown with wheat, yet not less wheat shall grow; that the cultivation of wheat shall consequently cost less per acre; that more labour shall be employed per acre in producing beef and mutton, which will render a scientific system of feeding, like that of Mr. Warners, return the farmer's capital at least three times a year, with a profit each time, instead of once a year, as upon corn, with occasionally (from the

or once a year, as upon corn, with occasionary thom the expense of fertilising) no profit at all.

These thoughts arise in the mind while in Kent more readily than anywhere else. We already see the two millions of mouths in London agape for more food, for more, more, more; they get mutton, and they must have turnips; and they must have greens, cauliflowers, broccoli, carrots, &c., not forgetting potatoes; potatoes and greens, and they must have beef to them or bacon; lamb, they must have green peas; green peas, they must have lamb, or ducks, or a young goose; a dinner of meat and vegetables, they must have puddings, tarts, custards, and fruit after these. If they do not all live thus why is it? only because they cannot all afford it. And what is Kent doing? Growing more; growing year after year, erop after crop, even in the same year, to feed London that has its two millions of mouths always open. And Kent finds (so do all the metropolitan counties) that the more food she supplies regularly to the metropolis the greater becomes the demand for it. Who are they that do not eat the best of everything? Those who cannot afford it; none else. Who, then, shall set bounds to the consump-

tion of all England, and Scotland, and Ireland; even to be land, when her people at home shall do as her people removed to London do, ent beef and mitton with their pole toes? Up, farmers, and to work, and open the nation's gare to commerce—and get commerce to help you to feed caule and slicep in thousands where you have only now bundred. thousands of people are ready to eat them as and as they can get them, where hundreds only cut them now. Up, merchants, and abroad upon the world, and get callfor the farmers; help them to be manufacturers of human food, and make every farm a factory of the first necessaries of life. Up, manufacturers, and craftsmen, every one who cover and lodge and adorn the human body, make one another and all able, as nature has made you all willing and ready, to be the customers of the food manufacturers on the farms! Shall all this not be ? Aye, shall it; and England shall be one broad market garden, as truly as the fields of Surrey and Kent nearest London are so now.

LETTER II. But omitting anticipations of the future, let us reven to the present, as indicated at the beginning of the previous letter. Let the reader take a few minutes of his spare union and follow me; I will take him quicker through Kent even than the locomotives on the rails, so he need not fer his loss of time. I will let him see what the cutings and tunnels and speed of the trains permits him not to reso he need not fear that his journey will be mere locomotion and noise and bustle.

Once more I say, when did wheat look better than this year's wheat? See, some of the farmers have old ricks an hand yet. They had better thresh out and sell. See, how their farm buildings stand unhelpful of one another on the farm; a stable and a vard here; a shed for cattle 400 yards from the stable and the yard; a barn half a-mile, on this large farm, from either; another barn in another field; a rick half-way between the barys! No order, no economy of labour. Kent is lovely. No eye that was formed to look upon and admire the beauty of wooded hill and watered talley, of luxuriant green and profuse blossom, can look upon Kent and be unkind and ill contented in its looks. Still Kent might be all as lovely, and have her barns more conveniently assembled for the work of each farm.

Look here! We are between Maidstone and Tunbridge. Has the world, any part of it beyond these two towns, any thing like those ten miles of country lying between the towns? This has been asked by other travellers; and Cobbett, long ago, said, the world has nothing else like this. W. who see this for the first time, in June, 1816, say the same Not but there are rich alluvial valleys in the world, with hills rising on the outsides of them, and even a betterriver than the Medway in the centre; but what country in the world brews beer like England? Where is the hop culture for the beer brewing carried to such perfection? Where is the plant that equals the hop in beauty, when seen as we now see it, over miles of country. When seen even naked of the hop and of all adornment, it is still lovely,

Let us glauce at these hop-grounds; the poles are all up in clusters of four, six, or seven, or eight, and perhaps more, according to the size of the stool of the plant and num ber of its shoots. Three or four feet apart, those clusters of poles stand in rows. The men are "shimming." We see a kind of plough, drawn by horses, a man holding it, and a boy leading the horses. It turns out the weeds and lossess the earth; that is what they call "shimming."

The women are "tying," and some of them "horseing." They, as we see, tie the bines to the poles; and when the bine grows near the top of the pole, the tyer gets a folding ladder, called a horse, and mounts to tie them. This is called "horseing." A woman takes for the season from one to two and a half acres to tie and horse, according to her ability, or her freedom from family cares, They will earn, the best of them, about 1s. 6d. a day at the work.

The women we see weeding and working in the fields with the hoe, are paid about 10d. or 1s. a day. The havmakers get from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.; the hours of work being longer and the work harder. But they are mostly all hirel by the men who take the "job of haymaking" from the farmer by contract.

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Whatever may be said in favour of Scotch farming in general over English forming, the Scotch haymaking is for behind English haymaking; and in the metropolitan counties the making of hav has attained to an excellence matchless anywhere else. At any age to which hay is kept, it is found here to be as sweet and fragrant as at first. It never withers; from the hour it is cut it is worked with the rakes and forks until it is finally built into a rick. The sun and the enamoured atmosphere would luxuriate with it, and rob it of its sweetness, if it lay unguarded on the open field; but they are not suffered to make waste of it; and it yields the atmosphere all the more fragrance that it is never out of the hands of those who have the care of it.

Breathe it in this odorous air! Would you not say that the favourite meeting place of heaven and earth must be among the new hay? Yet in Kent you would even doubt this if you saw the forests and fields of fruit trees in blossom when they are in their prime.

But the blossom is over now. Some of it was hit by frost this year because it came too soon out, and was caught by lingering winter while it looked for early summer. Some say there is a enterpillar, too, and many other insects more than enough. Perhaps there are more than usual; but who shall say they are not performing the useful office of counteracting, in their existence, some disease inherent in regestion, which in their absence would appear in another and a worse form?

We proceed on. We have left Canterbury, and our journey is north. Can we say so much of vegetation, and say nothing of the people? Here is Blean Wood; there is Boughton; and again, here is the ozier bed. Has the world forgot what happened here in hot weather just like this eight years ago;

Perhaps the world has; and so perhaps has Canterbary and all its priesthood. Not so those tillers of the fields. Despite their proximity to the head quarters of that church which in England has taken Christianity under its special care, they (not a few of them) believe as religiously in the sauctity of Mad Thom, who with their brothers and fathers was whin here, as ever pilgrims believed in Thomas A'Beckett. In short, there is still a dismal lingering faith among the aulettered peasantry of this part of Kent that the monomaniae Thom, alias Sir William Courtensy, Knight of Malta and Jerusalem, was what in his wildest moments be said he was—the second incarnation of divinity upon earth.

A disposition to believe in superstitious marvels is con mon in other parts of Kent as well as here. Mr. Vonting, in his "Report on the Employment of Women and dren in Agriculture," says, "I was informed creations." red.

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very substantial farmer in the north east of Kent, who within a very few years used to arrange hisseythes in a particular order around his stables to secure his horses from

And, again, Mr. Vaughan says: "Superstition (the result here, at least, of ignorance) still lurks among the labouring classes in these counties; the belief in charms for the healing of bodily hurts is not uncommon; faith in the same means of fertilising the ground and trees is said to exist."

Mr. Vaughan might have spoken more positively. Faith in fertilising the soil by charms and incantations, does exist, as certainly as Acts of Parliament for the maintenance of high prices exist. The gypsies, who are so plentiful in Kent, and the political jugglers, who are hardly so excusable as the gypsies, keep up both delusions.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

AMERICAN PRODUCE.

The importations of provisions from the United States, into the ports of London and Liverpool, have continued to be of an extensive nature, and are of importance as showing the extent to which the supply of such articles from that quarter is carried. The following are the principal arrivals of the kind, since our last notice of the subject some days since:-The Margaret Evans arrived at this port from New York, having 5050 barrels of flour, 400 packages of oil cake, 50 of clover seed, 40 of lard, 104 of arrow root, and 1600 staves for coopers' use on board, in addition to an extensive cargo, comprising rosin, turpentine, and other articles; and the Paoli, from Baltimore, brought 3501 packages of flour, 102 of pork, 10 packages of cyder, and other articles; and the Diamond, from Alexandria, United States, 8634 packages of flour, and other produce. The ship Swan, which arrived at the port of Liverpool, from New Or leans, had on board 2753 packages of flour, 408 of pork, 50 of tongues, 111 packages of oil cake for feeding cattle, and 5000 staves for coopering purposes, in addition to an extensive cargo of cotton, hemp, hides, &c. The ship Henry, subsequently arrived at this port from New Orleans, brought 1284 packages of beef, 459 of lard; 147 tierces, and 586,758lb. loose of oil cake, and 1500 staves for coopering purposes; and the Oceana, also from New Orleans, a very large quantity of oil cake, seeds, staves, &c. The North Star, from Philadelphia, at the port of Liverpool, brought 2535 packages of flour, a quantity of clover seed, &c.; the Action, from New Orleans, 204 bags of Indian corn, 279 of beef, and 2400 staves; the Eleanor, also from New Orleans a large quantity of cotton, 1200 staves, and a quantity of heading for making casks; the United States, from New Orleans, a quantity of cotton, 6000 oak staves, 200 packages of pork, 813 of flour, 132 of fard, 60 of bacon, and 746 packages of beef. The Charlemagne, arrived from New Orleans, brought 5000 bales of cotton, 2000 speks of Indian corn, 4000 of flour and other articles; and the Athele, from Montreal, Quebec, and St. George's Bay. Newfoundland, 1797 packages of flour, 910 quarters of wheat, 340 of butter, 100 barrels of herrings, and a large quantity of coopers staves, of Canadian produce. The T. H. Perkins, subscquently arrived at the port of Liverpool, from New Orleans, brought 1930 packages of flour, 471 of lard, 754 of beef, 1900 sacks of Indian corn, and 30,000 tree-nails for ship building purposes; the Siddons, from New York, 4316 packages of flour, 60 of bread, 70 of beef, &c.; the Astrocau, also from New York, 1996 packages of beef, 500 of flour, and 3400 stayes; the Corin, from New Orleans, 1773 packages of beef, 928 of flour, and 10,000 stayes; the Rammohim Roy, from Philadelphia, 3712 packages of flour, 60 of beef, &c.; and the Susquehamuch, from the same place, 4420 barrels, and 43 half barrels of flour and other articles the Grent Western brought 1000 bags of corn meal, a large quantity of clover seed, and other articles; the Ward Chipman, from New Orleans, 1666 packages of flour, and 86 of grease, 19 of pork, 260 quarters of wheat, 153 of beans and 260 of corn, 1070 packages of lard, 168 of beef, 19,200 staves, and other articles; and finally, the ship Barbara, from Halifax, brought among other articles 573 packages of flour, 10 of pork, 120 of herrings, 13,260 steves, 55, 000 laths for the peculiar purposes to which they are especially applied, and a large quantity of hardwood, timber, planks, buttens, and other wood goods peculiar to North America. The numerous vessels mentioned have contained, in addition to the articles named, extensive enroces of the usual description of articles known as being produced in the United States, and brought thence to this country; but we have generally confined ourselves to the articles of food and general provisions which have arrived, it being our intention to show the extent to which the production of such articles in the States is carried, and to how great a degree we avail ourselves, in the matter, both of which will be evident from a cursory glance at the list of importations which we have enumerated, and which are of interest and importance. From the extens and general provisions which appear to be constantly brought here from North America, coupled with the extenhive importations from almost every State in Europe, Holland, France, and Germany especially, not to speak of the amezing supplies of every description from the sister country, all of which appear in our columns at full length, and in round figures, so plainly as to afford no chance of a mis take about the matter, it will, we think, appear conclusive that although the supplies of our own country are immense, and the soil most productive of all that its inhabitants can require or desire, we are in no trifling measure indebted to extraneous sources for the further supply of food; or if it be willed so, we avail ourselves of the means offorded by foreign and distant countries, which would argue that such supply re eminently necessary and advantageous, otherwise it would not be the case.—Times.

NOVEL ASPECT OF CONSURVATISM .-- As soon as the Lords had given their assent to the second reading of the Corn Bill, the Morning Herald and Standard commenced a most furious atteck on the house, denounced the absurdity of an hereditary peerage, and accorded a preference to the nobility for life of I rance, or the elective senate of the United States. Not content with attacking this branch of the legislature, if has since turned against the Crown, declaring that "all her Majesty's maternal relations, as well as the relations of her royal consort, have a deep, personal, and pecuniary interest adverse to the interests of British agriculture." Surely this is Conservatism with a vengeance. Did any Corn Law repealer ever advocate such destructive

Dr. Lardner is engaged in preparing a philosophical work to be called " Five Years in America."

AGRICULTURE.

AN EMPTY THREAT.

The political monopolists are strange people. They live in a little dreamy world of their own. Possessed of land, to which an enormous value has been given by the labour and industry of the rest of the community, without thought or effort of their own, they are angry that the people won't submit any longer to be taxed, in order to give monopolist landowners' land an artificial value. In their despair at having their hands taken out of other people's pockets, they utter all kinds of nonsensical prophecies, and indulge in most ridiculous threats-"Wheat will be to be had for next to nothing, while nobody will have anything to buy any, when the trade in grain shall be free, is, in brief," the burthen of monopolist prediction. But perhaps the most serious threat, if it had been serious, is that which we lately met with in the leading columns of the monopolists' organ, the Morning Post. After commenting on a pamphlet, by the elder Mr. Gladstone, who stoutly writes in support of that mischievous monopoly his son has aided to break down, and says the price of wheat will be 40s, a quarter when the corn trade is free, the editor of the Post proceeds

"The consequence anticipated to the English landowner is that he must ahandon his present position in society—that he must cultivate his own land according to the Continental custom. But he cannot convert his tenants into servants. They cannot descend to the position of labourers, because there are already enough of labourers without them. What, then, it is asked, is to become of the tenants?"

Now, speaking as a tenant farmer, bound by a long lease at a high rent on land naturally poor, we have no sort of apprehension, and we believe there is no good farmer in Great Britain who does entertain any serious apprehension of ruin, or even loss, should the price of wheat become 40s, a quarter. The occasion for putting the Post's threat in execution is, therefore, not likely to arise. But if there was any chance of the landowners taking to cultivate their own lands-where they are to find the lowest amount of capital even now regarded as necessary for farming, we are at a loss to guesswe must admit that it would prove a very serious affair for the community. Then, indeed, there would be danger of scarcity; then we should probably have prices high enough to content the most stony monopolist heart. The landowners of this country, however, are utterly incapable of growing on their own land, taking the country through, one-half of the produce which is now grown by tenant farmers. Yet it is allowed on all hands that full one-third more of produce-we speak within the mark-might be grown by the tenants, but for the injudicious regulations and mis. management of the landowners.

It is very well for the oracle of the servants' hall, and, of late, of the monopolist lords and squires themselves, after imagining a long concatenation of impossible contingencies, to ask, "What is to become of the tenunts?" but there is a previous question to be considered by the landowners before they will have to become occupiers of their own land, namely, "What is to become of the rents?"

Now the slightest reflection on the part of those least acquainted with agriculture, would convince them that all threats of landlords occupying their own land, and turning their tenants upon the world, are the most silly imaginable. Lord Stanley tells the peers, boastingly, that the landowners are not a saving class-that they spend all their incomes as soon as they get them, if not a little before—and we have no doubt the house, fully assented to the statement. Moreover, there is searcely a landowner of any extent whose estates are not mortgaged, and charged with annuities to a greater or less extent; and nearly all are merely tenants for life under settlements, who could only raise money to begin farming with by way of annuity, or by changing their life interests, and insuring their lives to secure repayment of the principal money borrowed. But let us suppose all these difficulties got over, and that by hook or by crook the landlord lins scraped together enough ready money to take to his farms. In the first place, he must trust the management to a steward or bailiff having none of the knowledge or liabits of business necessary to farm even moderately well. Let this difficulty,

owner of 10, 20, or 40,000 acres his own tenant, and himself his only tenant. Let the crops be well got in, let the season be propitious, let all be supposed to happen to the man of little knowledge and no industry, which could under the most favourable circumstances be produced by enterprise, skill, and activity in husbandry, and what is the tenant-landlord's position? Why, for one year certain, he has no income; in fact, for two years, the farmer commencing business can scarcely bo said to derive any income from his farm.

But for our illustration the absence of one year's income is amply sufficient. How, during that year, is the interest on mortgages and incumbrances to be kept down? The tenant-landlord would find that by his first harvest some Chancery suit to foreclose his mortgages would be pressing him sharply. Then there would be the interest on the money borrowed to farm with, and, in the case of a tenant for life, the premium on life assurances whereby that money was secured. Imagine the position of a lordly or squirearchical bousehold under such circumstances. What is to become of my lady's pinmoney? How are the wine-merchants' and the coachmakers' bills, the opera-box, and the cost of the racing and hunting stables to be paid? How will the portly butler, the burley porter, the fat conchiman, the train of spruce footmen, the housekeeper, the ladies' maids, and the long muster roll of an aristocratic establishment be provided for?

Need we go on? Is there a monopolist in either House of Parliament to whom this view of his position is not convincing, if not satisfactory?

The circumstance that some landlords farm, and so far as produce goes, farm well, tells nothing; for they merely conduct their farming as an amusoment, without regard to profit or loss. As a wealthy and highly educated landlord once observed to us, "the plough is a very expensive plaything."

But, after all, even these threats of the Post go for nothing. They probably echo only the second. hand objurgations of monopolists' servants' hall, for the monopolist landlords are taking just the opposite line to that indicated by the Post. They are improving, or promoting, or compelling improvoments on their estates. The money-loving Marquis of Salisbury is converting cold and poor woodlands into farming land as a good speculation; while the moncyless Duke of Buckingham is making his tenants do the same kind of thing, at their own cost, and charging them full rents for the land when improved by their own capital. This does not look like English husbandry going back to the primitive condition of that of Germany.

FOREIGN COMPETITION FALLACIES.

The following passage from the letter of an English farmer resident on the banks of the Elbe, shows very sufficient reasons why the British fatmer has nothing to fear, at all events, from German competition:

"The English fermer's dread of any change in the Corn Laws (says my informant) is founded on four chief particulurs, in which he supposes himself likely to be placed at a disadvantage compared with the Continental corn grower; and these are, the great surplus grown abroad beyond the requirements of the inhabitants, the vasily increased quantity of land which the stimulus of a certain market will bring under the plough, the low rate of Continental labour, and the absence of all public burdens on the land. But a more competent knowledge of the position of those German states whose competition is most generally dreaded would entirely remove those fears, by showing the atter groundlessness of some of them, and the immensely more than counterbalancing advantages which the British cultivator possesses in regard to climate and command of labour, the first of which his Continental competitor can never, and the second not probably before the lapse of centuries, hope to equal, not to touch (at present) on his mealculable superiority in agricultural implements and breeds of farm stock. The first supposed ground for alarm, viz., the great grain surplus grown on the Continent, may be got rid of by a single sentence—we have no stock. For three successive years droughts in some parts and tropical rains in other, causing the most devastating inundations, have literally swept away the hopes of the former before his eyes. This has especially been the case in Opper Silesia, where even recently tremendous rains have damaged the winter and limited the sowing of spring grain, and Poland, whence large supplies of the finest wheat used to be shipped at Dantsic, Elbing, and other Prussian ports, in consequence of which the inhabitants of those once fruitful, but, for years to come, greatly deteriorated districts, so far from having snything to spare, have had a scanty supply for themselves. Russia, too, has suffered from more than one had harvest, and such was last year the famished state of some of her provinces, that it was esteemed a Providential interference that the almost unprecedented circumstances of the Bultie remaining open till January permitted the uninterrupted transport of grain to the starving population of Livonia and Esthonia. Stores of starving population of Livonia and Esthonia. Stores of grain, therefore, do not now exist here, with which to inunhowever, be also surmounted, and we behold the date the English market; neither is there a prospect of any

redundance from the ensuing harvest, since the inundated banks of the Vistula and Elbe will produce comparatively little, while the high price of grain last autumn naturally restricted the sowing to what was considered unavoidably requisite. Furthermore, the yearly increasing population of these countries calling here as elsewhere for increase of food, there is little likelihood that the land now under cultivation can produce, even in favourable seasons, so large a surplus as to make an essential impression on English prices, setting aside the self evident consideration that the German corn-grower hopes, and assuredly will atrive to obtain, by a rise in his price, a share of that profit which English importation, under the sliding scale, has hitherto poured into the pockets of the corn merchants only, without benefitting either the English consumer or furmer; for a short crop being generally an ill saved one, the consequent low average and high duty, though they grind the face of the poor buyer, do not enrich the English grower, who cannot obtain for his ill conditioned corn more than it is worth, however large the price given to the importer of sound

Then the repetition of five and six grain crops, followed by a four or five years' rest in half-and-half pasture, being the common German rotation, is of itself sufficient to calm the alarm of the most sensitive agriculturists. Again the land in Germany is all under culture of some kind or other, and the character of the people is such that they are not easily induced to become im-

RURAL ECONOMY.

We are convinced that one of the consequences of an carnest, business-like attention to the details of farming, which will result from the abandonment of the delusions of "protection" will be, the more economical feeding of our stock. Can any one have seen cattle turned into abundant pasture without remarking what a large proportion they soil, waste, and destroy unprofitably?

We know from our own experiments that by keeping cattle in the houses and sheds, and cutting grass for soiling them, they can be kept for less than half the cost they occasion when turned out. By having a paddock into which they can be turned a few hours daily, all the advantage of exercise is attained, and a greatly increased quantity of manure during the time they remain in the stalls. The following is another mode recommended to economise food:

A HINT FOR DAINY FYRMERS. - Last week we took an opportunity of visiting a form occupied by Mr. Dumbrell, who has adopted the system of tethering his cows upon a somewhat new and profitable system. The land is of a light and shravy soil, and through the judicious management of the tenant, by the economical use of liquid manure, and by judicious depasturing, he has brought the land into a high state of cultivation. The Alpha and the Omega of his system is, perhaps, that of root culture, which has cambled him to keep a much greater number of cows upon the land to the acreage than is to be met with in the neighbourhood. The great difficulty which most dairy farmers meet with in keeping cows profitably during the two months preceding the hay horvest has been overcome by Mr. Dumbrell, who by tethering the cows is enabled to make the meadows, of comparatively smaller dimensions than is customary, yield food in sufficient abundance for his dairy. The usual way of tother ing is to allow a cow the range of a circle to the extent of the chain; and when it has enten down its food within its area, it is removed to another spot. Instead of doing this, Mr. Dumbrell tethers his cow with a chain of 12 to 15 feet, and begins at the side of the field; and when it has consumed the grass within its reach, the pin is removed onwards a foot or a foot and a half; the cow then eats this quantity, and is again allowed another late of the same extent. This plan prevents the animal from treading on the food which it connumes while quite fresh, and the chain assists in distributing the droppings. The field is thus fed over evenly, and all is consumed and none trodden upon. Mr. Dumbrell professes to realise good profits from his system, and with a degree of liberality highly creditable to his character, reserves no information from his visitors."-Surrey Standard.

TENURES AND TENANT RIGHTS.

It is surprising how rapidly agricultural opinion is forming definite and sound conclusions on these topics; and conclusions which are directly opposed to all the prejudices and semi-feudal notions of the landowners.

We scarcely take up an agricultural paper without meeting some such notices as the following:

O'TRNANT RIGHT. -- NORTH AND SOUTH WILTS FARMERS Cr.un .- At the first meeting of this Tenant Carmers' Club held in August last, the subject of 'tenant right' was brought under discussion, and so fully persuaded were the members of establishing the principle for the mutual advantage of landlord and tenant by improved covenants, it was resolved: That a committee be formed, to frame a model lease.

Again, at Monmouth, Mr. George, apparently a landowner, seems to hesitate about granting 21 years' leases, the shortest term a farmer ought to accept, but

" My opinion is, that any lease for a less term than ten years is a disadvantage to a tenant, as many landlords who grant leases, say seven years, consider they have a moral right to make a fresh bargain at the expiration of the term; and if the farmer has ventured to irvest his capital in the improvement of the land, he will run the risk of paying in terest upon such capital in the shape of increased rent; and probably the same landlords would not on any account give a yearly tenant notice to quit, unless they had good reasons, such as great arrears of rent, or negligent farming.

The truth is, that a seven or even a ton years' lease is nothing but a trap for farmers; they may get their land into good condition in that time, but it will be for

he landlords' benefit, not their own. Every man whot means to farm well ought to require a 21 years' lease. There are many cases in which it would be reasonable on the part of the landlord to stipulate for an agreed advance of rent at the end of each period of seven years; and if farmers would accede to some such plan, we think many landowners would abandon their objections to long leases.

Mr. George made the following remarks on the prudence of not taking too much land, which the farmer of every grade would do well to bear in mind :

Before I conclude, allow me to call your attention to a rock upon which many an industrious farmer has been wrecked, and just at the time that he has considered himself in smooth water. I mean the too great eagerness to get into a larger farm. I would caution every farmer, before he much increases his farm, to calculate his increased liabilities, and clearly ascertain that he will provide for such increase, not only in fair weather but in foul. Depend upon it that a farmer, in a moderate sized farm, with a few pounds at his banker's to meet his half year's rent, is much better off than he would be in a larger farm with all his capital invested in his stock. In the former case it is true he has small interest, but it is certain: in the latter case, he may probably be compelled to sell, just at the time that he ought to hold; and these forced sales, by depressing the markets, not only injure the farmer himself, but his brother agriculturists."

The following account of tenant-right in Madeira shows that everywhere secure tenure is the indispensable preliminary to high cultivation:

"TENANT RIGHT.-In Madeira there is very little change respecting tenants, and every inducement is given for encouraging the tenant, which is not in vain, as generally the island may be said to be tilled on the most approved plan for producing the greatest quantity. In every district there are valuers appointed, who, in case of removal, value what the incoming tenant has to pay, and they proceed on a twofold plan. If the landlord takes possession, then the valuers give the outgoing tenant what they consider the full value for all improvements in buildings and land; but should the tenant be followed by another tenant, then two-thirds only of the value is paid by the incoming tenunt. Then, again, while the tenant is allowed to make all improvement he pleases, yet it guards the landlord by not allowing him to give up the land without providing another tenant; and the outgoing tenant is obliged to find a third, unless the land-lord accepts either of the two first; but if he refuses them he is bound to accept the third, otherwise a tenant might lay out a very great sum in building and other improvements (as be might call them), and make his landlord pay the full value; this plan is well adapted to protect both landlord and tenant."

MONOPOLIST EVIDENCE FOR FREE TRADE.

The Duke of Buckingham, like his fellow monopolist, the Marquis of Salisbury, is giving the best practical contradiction to his own votes and the speeches of his faction in the House of Lords. Land must go out of cultivation, say the Parliamentary monopolists. Farmers must be ruined, belloweth Bentinck of the stable mind. There will be no work for the agricultural labourer, whineth the Duke of Richmond; and all these dire forebodings are to be realised on the passing of the Government measure.

Now we have always said that the political monopolists have no faith in their own nostrum. Their marked characteristic is that of political profligacy; for what can be more base than to delude the more ignorant farmers with these fabulous tales of prospective injury? However, so far as the Duke of Buckingham is concerned, we are content to set his acts against his votes and his speeches, and to ask the farmers whether they believe in the duke's sincerity. Here is the contradiction of his speeches by his own act.

" The Duke of Buckingham is causing land to be brought into tillage on his Wotton estate. Twenty acres of rush leds, wood, in the parish of Brill, is now being cleared by his graces orders, and is forthwith to be laid to two neigh bouring farms, the tenants of which are, we understand, to pay the same rent for it as they do for the other land in their occupation, and are to 'grub it' at their own expense. The timber is chiefly oak, and a great portion of it very fine, and the underwood is all cut down. The duke has had The duke has had from 50 to 60 men at work in felling and barking."-Bucks Gazette.

THE FREE TRADE CURRENT.

Though farmers, and amphibious squires in the fens, may be used, or stimulated to cause the rejection of liberal noblemen as conservators of the fens, on account of their votes on the Corn Law Bill, the quiet undercurrent of agricultural opinion, when undisturbed by the presence of monopolist lords or squires, is setting strongly and steadily towards Free Trade. Even those who still doubt desire a settlement, an immediate settlement, of the question, and they know that whilst a remnant of "restriction" exists there can be no settlement. Thus we find that at the South West Middlesex Agricultural Society, which was a quiet gathering of farmers, such sentiments were more than once expressed. For instance, Mr. May, alluding to the Metropolitan Sewerage Manure Company, whose Secretary had explained the objects and plan of the society, said :

"If they should be enabled to accomplish what they in their prospectus set forth, but of which he professed he had their prospectus set forth, but of which he professed he had ver coinage, namely, three panny pieces.

his doubts, then he thought he might with justice say that they would be far greater friends to the agriculturist than their pretended friend Sir Robert; and although he much disapproved of the present plan, still he thought the time had arrived when it was necessary that a settlement should take place, and that agriculturists would then know the worst, for that would be far preferable to the doubt and uncertainty that had lately prevailed; for now every one knew what they had to expect: formerly they had only to make up their minds to meet the difficulty in the best manner they could. Although he had expressed a doubt of the practicability of the plan proposed by Mr. Moore, it should be borne in mind that the agriculturist had nothing to lose by its failure; but, on the contrary, if it succeeded, he felt no hesitation in saying the agriculturist would be glad to become their customer, and that led him to repeat that the Metropolitan Sewerage Company would indeed be the true friend of the agriculturist if they succeeded."

And we may suggest to Mr. May that the same line of argument might be made more widely applicable w the condition of the farmers.

Mr. Moore, the company's secretary, truly said that the farmers are not the parties who are backward to improve. But they cannot improve, with safety to them. selves and their families, as yearly tenants. He said :

"Even the subject to which he solicited their attention, to many appeared a strange one; and notwithstanding the two often expressed opinion of gentlemen in the metropolis, that the farmers were so bigoted to their old modes of manage. ment, they could not be induced to alter their system, however advantageous it would be to their interest,' he was happy to be able to state, that he had not come in contact with a single farmer in the country but was desirous of embracing every real improvement, and all of them were una nimous in their desire to obtain the liquid manure on the terms proposed by the company; and he had frequently to stand up in defence of the agriculturists in that respect; but he had to admit that they manifested a degree of caution in receiving merely theoretical projects introduced by persons having a smattering of chemical science without agricultural experience. The occupiers of land in that neighbourhood had many advantages, in climate, soil, manure, and market for their produce; the application of the liquid manure would be a very great addition to those advantages, and would enable them to sustain their position."

SIGNS OF AN ELECTION.

When certain birds or beasts fly or lie in particular ways, the observant naturalist predicts certain changes in the weather or peculiarities of seasons. Now geen, especially wild geese, are supposed by their flight and acts to indicate coming meteorological events. So do the deeds of some members of Parliament-we would not be supposed for a moment to liken any of these personages to geese-tell pretty distinctly when an election may be expected.

Perhaps a reader here and there may remember that a certain loquacious Squire Finch has been returned for some midland county in the room of a member who, on recovering his reason, found himself pledged chin-deep to monopoly, and consequently, obliged to give up his seat. Well, Squire Finch finds Parliament so much to his taste, that he wants to be elected again; and accordingly he sensibly enough seeks to propitiate the farmers. Behold the mode of propitiation :

"Mr. Finch, M.P., has informed his tenantry in Rutland shire that he shall not in future preserve the game on his estates, and that they have his permission to shoot on their respective farms."

This is a move in the right direction, and one which will naturally incline the Rutland farmers to look with favour on Mr. Finch at the next election. But letthem carry their recollection a little further back, and they will find that they are indebted to the Free Traders and the leaders of the League for the exposure of Game Law evils which the Squire Finchs of the day would have fostered and concealed. This Game Law question is one of such vital importance to the farmers that we should strongly recommend them never to vote for any candidate who preserves or reserves game. Whatever else he may be, he is not a farmer's friend.

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EARLY WHEAT.—On Thursday there were exhibited in the Exchange News-rooms specimens of wheat in full car. from the farm of Harrold Littledale, Esq., at Egremont. The stalks were full four feet high; the heads were strong and healthy. There is one peculiarity about this crop; the seed came last year from Australia, was the crop of 1811, and was taken from the ship's side to the three acre field. where it was sown in December. The wheat sown in Octo her from the best English seed, in an adjoining field, though looking well, is not yet in ear. If a general conclusion may be drawn from this experiment, it is desirable to import seed from southern into northern climates; and it demonstrates the erroneousness of the prevalent opinion respecting the unfitness of seed intensely dried, while it shows, at the same time, the capacity of Australia as a wheat-producing country. In general, it is considered sufficient for the farmers prospects if wheat gets into ear by the 20th of June, and we were about to take for granted that this early specimen owing to the seed being Australian, when we learned that a whole field, from English seed, at the farm of R. E. Harvey Fee. at W. H. E. Harvey Fee. vey, Esq., at Walton, was also in ear on Thursday. Still, at the Australian seed has anticipated the English seed on Mr. Littledale's farm, the inference is inevitable that Australian wheat is an activity the second of the control wheat is an early harvest under like circumstance. Mr. Harvey's mode of cultivation ought to be noted, for early harvests would be, generally, a blessing in this climate. Liverpool Journal.

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LORD MOUNT-EDGCUMBE AND LORD STANLEY.

My LORD,—Had the state of my health rendered it possible for me to attend the House of Lords, I should certainly have attempted there to have defended the vote which, by proxy, I have given in favour of the Government Corn Bill. and I cannot conceive that the motives which would have justified me in so doing will not equally justify the method I now adopt for making known my opinions. I can think of no more convenient form for the purpose than that of a letter to you, who have consented to lead that party with which it is now my misfortune, for the first time, to differ.

Although admitting that I still think much danger attends the great experiment which Ministers are attempting, and that my mind is not yet satisfied of the necessity of its introduction in a manner so destructive of confidence between the different classes in the commonwealth, I never yet gave any vote with more thorough confidence that it was in entire

accordance with my duty.

11 will be asked, What! vote for so important a measure of which you do not entirely approve? But, in return, let me ask, whether, in the existing complicated state of society, an fiolated view can, or ought to, be taken of any subject; whether with it should not be taken into consideration concurrent circumstances from which it is impossible to separate it; and whether it is not a legislator's duty then to adopt that course which, after such a general view, his judgment and his conscience indicate? My principle is to do what is most expedient, looking to the future, for the general good, and to that I will be consistent; and let those who exclaim against expediency say upon what other grounds taxing food can be defended, in a country beavily taxed to maintain millions of paupers.

Were it possible to conceive that protection could for any number of years be continued, or that any Government could be found capable of currying on the affairs of the State who would consent to maintain it, I might hesitate; but as my mind cannot entertain the smallest doubt upon either point, it is unable to conceive that any good could arise from the rejection of the measure, while the evils which must be produced by such a step are manifest and manifold. Let us consider what would be its immediate results.

First, Government might not dissolve. The consequences, then, would only be a miserable delay, a prolongation of that state of uncertainty which I believe no one denies that all trades and all classes are now suffering from, and a renewal of hatred-stirring excitement and clamour. Tell me not it is cowardice to listen to such clamour. I would never advocate attention to any such unsupported in Parliament; but to turn a deaf ear to one so violent and mischievous supported by a majority of the Commons, and at least 10 out of 20 of the men who, by their talents and acquirements, have raised themselves one jot above their fellows, I hold not to be courage, but (I can use no milder term) r.ck-

Secondly, Ministers may dissolve, and possibly a majority in favour of this measure may be returned. But here I must observe, that I hold that such an appeal, upon any specific point, to the constituency is an act to be avoided as most democratic in principle. It is evidently the desire of many of the constituent body to become legislators themselves, instead of the electors of legislators; and any call upon them to send men not to consult, but merely to enforce an already formed determination, can but sanction and encourage that desire. Too much care, on the contrary, cannot be taken to maintain the independence, so much threatened, of the members of Parliament. But to return. Suppose a majority in favour of the measure be elected, what will then be gained to compensate for the evils which must arise from the bitterest class contest that was ever yet inflicted upon this country, and the putting into action that threatened system of employing manufacturing capital to overbear, by fagot votes, the local interest in the counties?

Thirdly, suppose that a small majority against, which is all, I imagine, that the most sanguine could expect, were returned—can it be believed that if, upon such principles, a Government could be formed, it could maintain itself against an opposition so formidable in numbers, yet infinitely more formidable in talent, ranged against them? and, if the attempt were made and failed, what then would be the consequences? I think the country would, from their recent lesson, have little desire of another dissolution; and that impority would be placed in the alternative of arresting all Government, or of passing the measure they were actually, in that case, sent as delegates to resist-they being the men, too, who had most violently denounced the change of opinions in others. I am unable to foresee any other possible contingencies, or aught but mischief to flow from either of

But it has been said, that it is derogatory to the honour of the Lords to yield their known opinion to that of the other powers of the State. Their right to maintain it, they, trust, will never yield; but it is not for those who were parties to the Reform Bill to blame a cautious exercise of that right. They were implored to consider what would be the effect of removing that unseen influence, evidently granted for the purpose of guarding against the danger of collisions. . I wish not here to discuss, or give an opinion as to the propriety of the resistance to that appeal; but it is clear that since then that danger has been admitted and acknowledged. The evil apprehended has not yet occurred—but what has, on more than one occasion, protected us from it? What alone but the beneficent influence of the Duke of Wellington, controlling, by his wisdom and character, the feelings of the large party outraged by that measure, and still more by the means employed to pass it; and manifold and eminent as have been the services rendered to the State by the noble duke, for none ought the friends of the Constitution to feel More deeply grateful than for his conduct and success upon those occasions.

But is the danger over? Would that I could think so! On the contrary, it is but too probable that many years may not pass before a demagogue-elected Parliament may send up measures which it will be our imperious duty not only to oppose, but steadfastly, permanently to resist. In such a contest I am sure you, my lord, would take a prominent and leading part, and I think that I should not be found shrinking from the performance, to the utmost of my power, of mine, however humble; I will, however, not join in any such struggle, unless I know that there are competent statesmen ready to carry on the Government on the principles we combat for, or in which we can be supposed to en-Rage, uninfluenced by personal, still less pecuniary considerafluenced by base motives than British peers. Yet he is a bold man, be he who he may, who will assert that he is aware of each hidden motive that may act upon his judgment; and he exacts much, who requires the public to believe him totally free from that weakness of human nature upon the supposed general existence of which is founded the law, that no man shall be a judge in his own case. Our consciences must not only be clear, but our character and motives must be exposed to no imputations that cannot more decidedly be met; let those who charge us with timidity, say what we have to dread but injury to the state—and is that a fear of which any man need be ashamed?

My conviction is, that, yielding this point, we shall, by confirming general confidence in our honour and disinterested patriotism, strongthen the grounds upon which alone our power rests.

Another important question still remains,-This measure passed, is the political horizon clear? Although the consequences of the conduct adopted by the ultra-Protestant party, after the Catholic Relief Bill, were such as emphatically to demonstrate that it is one which every man who pretends to be a friend to the constitution, or an enemy to hange, ought most carefully to avoid, yet it is said it will be followed. Yes, underiable though it be, that it is the duty of a party not strong enough to form a Government itself, to support, or at least not factiously to thwart, the one least likely to act in opposition to the principles they themselves avow.

Danger may be apprehended from a Minister on whose firmness and consistency reliance cannot be placed, but evil is certain to flow from a Government so weak that it must pander to extreme parties for existence; and deep is the responsibility of those who render it impossible for any to be carried on except by such means.

Tis hard to think that men of indisputably high character will let any sense of wrong from individuals, or desire for what they consider retributive justice, blind them to such considerations; fortunately, impossible to believe that you, my lord, would encourage them in such a course. Their op position to Ministers who have given them such grounds for offence may be in accordance with Instice and consistency. Justice is to be admired, but not political justice so blind that, in aiming at individuals, it wounds the State. Inconsistency is to be deprecated, but let all who fear violent changes dread and defend us from the honest indignation of reckless consistency!

I have the honour to be, with unfeigned respect for your talents and character,

Your Lordship's most faithful servant, MOUNT-EDGCUMBE.

Bath, June 8. P.S. Since the above was in print, I have heard of the meeting at Lord John Russell's, and seen the report of Lord George Bentinck's speech. Not doubting, that from a Government they did not wish to thwart, the Irish measure would have been accepted by both, I am only confirmed in my belief that the suggestions I have ventured to make are well worthy of attention, come from what source they may. If Lord George Bentinck intends to take office with Lord John Russell, or, with his cheerers, to form a fellow joint to Mr. O'Connell's in his lordship's tail-although nothing, in my opinion, can justify the violence of his language—his conduct may be in accordance with his public duty. The formation of a Government by his party alone is held, by all I have ever met with, as a chimera only calculated to raise a smile. The talent to vituperate and destroy a minister does not prove the ability to be one; and the determination to impede all government—aid none, though the expression of it may excite party cheers, will not gain the nation's confidence. The opinion that it is for the public good that the Queen should have an efficient Government is not enter-tained by the Duke of Wellington alone.

When the Irish Church is prostrate, social changes now too violent to be more than vaguely hinted at, embodied in Ministerial measures, and another phalanx of ultra-Liberals coronetted to enforce them, consistency may even by him he deemed a virtue that may be pushed too far. My consolation under such national misfortunes will be, that I have not permitted the fear of being deemed presumptuous to prevent me from making this feeble effort to awaken men's minds to consequences, the probability of which none, I think, whose judgment anger does not blind can dispute or

CANADA AND THE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.

The following is a copy of the address to her Majesty from the Legislative Assembly of Canada, respecting the admission of foreign corn into the British markets, which was so frequently alluded to in the last debate upon the subject: "TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"Most Gracious Sovereign, "We, your Majesty's dutiful and loval subjects, the Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled, respectfully beg leave to address your Majesty on a subject of the highest im-

portance to the inhabitants of this province. "We assure your Majesty, that while we have seen with unmingled satisfaction the happiness and prosperity of the people of this colony advancing in steady and successful progression under that moderate system of protection of her staple productions, grain, and timber, which your Ma-jesty and your Imperial Parliament have hitherto graciously secured to them, we feel that we should be wanting in our duty, as well to your Majesty as to our constituents, did we fail earnestly to represent to your Majesty that we view with serious apprehension and alarm, as detrimental to the best interests of this colony, the adoption of the proposed principle of commercial intercourse now under the consideration of the Imperial Parliament.

We cannot but fear that the abandonment of this protective principle, the very basis of the colonial commercial system, is not only calculated materially to retard the agricultural improvement of the country, and check its hitherto rising prosperity, but seriously to impair our ability to purchase the manufactured goods of Great Britain; a result alike prejudicial to this colony and the parent state.

"We feel truly grateful to your Majesty for enabling us, by guaranteeing the payment of 1,500,000L, to undertake many valuable public improvements, which are now anproaching to completion, and which under the existing laws would ultimately prove productive. But should the duties on foreign and colonial produce entering the United Kingdom be assimilated, as at present proposed by your Majesty's Imperial Government, it is much to be apprehended that the agriculturiate of this province will be deprived of a fair and remunerative price for their surplus produce; and that, consequently, the increase of our staple products, which was reasonably anticipated, will be shocked to such an extent as materially to lessen the prospect of our canals and other

public works proving as productive as we had reason to

expect.
"We respectfully represent to your Majesty, that, situated as Canada is, and with a climate so severe as to leave barely one-half of the year open for intercourse by the St. Lawrence with the mother country, the cost of transporting her products to market is much greater than is paid by the inhabitants of the United States; and that without a measure of protection, or some equivalent advantage, we cannot

successfully compete with that country.
"It therefore becomes our duty, as faithful subjects of your Majesty, to point out what we sincerely believe must be the result of measures which have for their object the repeal of the laws affording protection to the Canadian export trade. First, it will discourage those at present engaged in agricultural pursuits from extending their operations; secondly, it will prevent the influx of respectable emigrants from the mother country, who have for many years past settled in large numbers on the waste lands of the province, and who, by their industry and capital, have materially contributed to that rapid advancement of the country which we have before noticed; and, lastly, it is much to be feared that, should the inhabitants of Canada, from the withdrawal of all protection to their staple products, find that they cannot successfully compete with their neighbours of the United States in the only market open to them, they will naturally and of necessity begin to doubt whether remaining a portion of the British empire will be of that paramount advantage which they have hitherto found it to be. These, we humbly submit, are considerations of grave importance both to your Majesty and the people of this province; and we trust we need not assure your Majesty that any changes which would tend in the remotest degree to weaken the ties that have for so many years, and under trying circumstances, bound the people of Canada to that land which they are proud to call their mother country, would be viewed as the greatest misfortune which could bofull them.

We would further remind your Majesty that while, in compliance with the recommendation of the Imperial Government, we have passed a law repealing all duty on American produce coming through our country for exportation, no similar advantage is accorded by the American Government to the people of this province, but that duties, amounting in most cases to prohibition, are rigorously maintained by that Government on every article of ours entering within their ports. The disadvantage we must labour under in this respect is so apparent that we respectfully request your Majesty will be pleased to cause the necessary steps to be taken for opening a negociation with the Government of the United States for the admission of our products into their ports on the same terms that theirs are admitted into those of Great

Britain and this colony.

" We also humbly request that your Majesty will favourably consider the justice of admitting the products of this province generally into the imperial ports free of duty, as the expense of transportation is in itself all the protection which our fellow-subjects in the United Kingdom can reasonably expect as respects the imports from a colony situated at such a distance from the mother country, and with ports closed to commerce for so large a portion of the year. And we the more confidently appeal to your Majesty's justice upon this point as the relief we seek in this particular is in strict accordance with the very principles upon which the charges that we deprecate are based, as well as to the assurance received through your Majesty's Secretary of State, that it is the desire of your Majesty's Government that the trade of Canada should in all respects approach as nearly to perfect freedom as the wishes of the inhabitants and the exigencies of the public revenue may permit.

"While the subject that we have thus brought under the notice of your Majesty embraces other points requiring tho gravest deliberation, and calling for the most favourable consideration on the part of the imperial authorities, your Majesty's faithful Commons have felt it to be their duty to your Majesty, to the Imperial Parliament and the mother country, and to their own constituents, to lose no time in at once approaching your Majesty with the declaration of their views upon that part of it embraced in their present address, and to which, renewing their assurance of devoted attachment to your Majesty's person and Government, they earnestly entrent your Majesty's most gracions and favourable conside-"Attested. ration.

"W. B. LINDSAY, Clerk of Assembly.

"Legislative Assembly, Tuesday, May 12, 1846." The following is Mr. Gladstone's reply:

C Downing-street, June 3. " My Lord,-I have to acknowledge the receipt of your lordship's despatch, No. 54, of the 13th of May, transmitting to me, for presentation to her Majesty, an address which has been voted by her Majesty's loyal subjects the Commons of Canada. In this address it is set forth that the Assembly of Canada regard the adoption of the principle of commercial intercourse now under the consideration of the Imperial Parliament with serious apprehension and alarm, and various grounds are stated for entertaining such impressions. Her Majesty has been pleased to receive this address with the fullest confidence in the loyalty and intelligence of her faithful Commons of Canada; but it is with sincere concern that her Majesty has learned the existence, in such a quarter, of

anticipations of such a character. "I have it in command from her Majesty to address to your lordship the following observations in regard to the matter of the address, which have been submitted by her Majesty's advisers for her gracious approval, and to which

she has been pleased to give her sanction.

"Her Majesty's Government conceive that the protection principle cannot with justice be described as the universal basis, either of the general connection between the United Kingdom and its colonies, or even of their commercial connection. There is a large and important group of the colonies of this country, having a very extended commerce, and one of a peculiarly British character, in relation to which the protective system has at no time exercised a powerful influence, and in relation to which at present it has little more than a nominal existence. I speak of the Australian colonies. And it cannot fail to be remarked that while these are the most distant, and therefore, according to the supposition of many, the most in need of commercial preference, they have also made the most rapid progress, and have thus most effectually belied that necessity. It is true, indeed, that a part of their material prosperity may be ascribable to the supply of penal labour; but this is far from affording an explanation of the case, since perhaps the most remarkable instances of vigorous and rapid growth among the Australian possessions of her Majesty have been instances in which penal labour has been altogether unknown. The energy of the colonists has, without doubt, under Divine Providence, been the main cause of their singular advancement; stimulated, but not overborne, by distance, and aided, not repressed, by the enjoyment of commercial freedom. The name energies, with less disadvantage of distance to contend against, will, it may be confidently predicted, have a similar effect in developing the resources of British North America, and not with less, but rather with the more signal success when capital, industry, and skid shall be left to take their own spontaneous direction, and to turn to account, as individual prudence shall success, the shandaut materials and instruments of wealth which the bounty of heaven has bestowed.

"Her Majesty's Government have been gird to find that the Assembly has viewed with an unmingled satisfaction the prosperity of Canada under the moderate system of protection which has hitherto prevailed; but the Assembly cannot fail to recollect that all the progressive relaxations of that system, which for a sense of years past have been introduced into the law, have been met and resisted by predictions of the rain that was honestly but erroneously conceived would follow them, and that those predictions have with a remarkable uniformity been disappointed. Experience cannot but suggest that a similar insecurity attaches to the renewal of the same expectations founded on the same arguments.

It is not for the sake of controversial or purely argumentative advantage that her Majesty's Government refer 1) former apprehensions, and to the manner in which they have been dissipated by the event. A retrospect of this kind is calculated to throw clear and abundant light upon the real merits of the question. The fears which are now entertained have reference to the circumstance that it is proposed to remove all differential duty between Canadian and foreign corn. Is it, then, to be shown that the Canadian corn trade has prospered heretofore in proportion to the amount of such differential duty? Far otherwise. The law of 1828 diminished the difference in favour of Canada; the law of 1812 further and greatly diminished the difference in favour of Canada; the law of 1843, which reduced the duty on Canadian wheat to In per quarter, still left a much smaller difference in its favour, as against foreign wheat, than existed under either of the former Corn Laws; and yet the corn trade of Canada has grown and prospered; and its extension has, doubtless, con tributed in no small degree to the happiness and prosperity of the people of the colony, which the Assembly, sharing in the unmingled satisfaction of her Majesty and the British Parliament, has seen advancing in steady and successful pro gression. But this extension has taken place, not noder protection secured from change, nor under protection fortified by successive increments, but contemporaricously with a series of changes involving its great diminution.

"It appears to be the impression of the Assembly that some great revolution of prices is likely to occur, as the consequence of the pending changes in the law, which will do prive the Canadian farmer of all hope of remuneration for his surplus produce. But the Canadian farmer is advancing from year to year in capital and in seignee; and, to say nothing of the great advantages he cannot ful to derive from improved communications, it would surely be rash to assert, nor probably do the Assembly in their address intento imply, that his industry must be paralysed unless he shall continue to receive the precise amount of average payment for his grain that he has Litherto received for it. Doubtless the alarm which has been excited has reference to the idea of some sudden, great, and permanent reduction of price, to follow the repeal of the British Corn Law. Without pretend ing to estimate too nicely the momentury or the occasional effects of that measure, her Majesty's Government cannot but while that they could better appreciate at least certain presumptive, though for from demonstrative, grounds for the abarm of the Canadher agriculturist in regard to the future fortunes of the colony if they shared in such an auticipation. To some reduction of average and usual price, from the removal of artificial restraints, they are disposed to look forward, but when they consider the stendy and rapid growth of population in the corn-producing countries of the globe, they cannot but be persuaded that it would be unwise, whother in the friends or the opponents of commercial relaxation, to recommend or dissuade it on the ground of any great revolution in permanent prices to be operated by it; and their expectations of advantage, sanguing as these anticipations are, have reference in a greater degree to the in creased steadiness of the market, and to the vigour which general trade will derive from the removal of restraints upon the exchange of commodities, and agriculture, from the ces sation of all artificial influence disturbing the balance of its several pursuits, and from the wholesome stimulus that competition, which in farming pursuits can scarcely become overwrought, rarely fails to impart to industry.

I am unwilling to repeat at length the arguments which I have addressed to your for Iship in my despatch, No. 66, of the 18th of May, with respect to the other great subject of the nlarm of the Assembly - namely, the trade in timber. When, however, we revert to the year 1812, it cannot but be acknowledged that this was the case of a frade peculiarly artificial as it stood under the former law. The reduction though graduated, was decisive; perhaps in no case has it been more so; and certainly in no case have more uniform, confident, or sincere prophecies of rum been hazarded by the opponents of the change. The result is, that the export of timber from British North America to this country attained during the last year to a height which it had never reached under the more protective law. I do not mean that the withdrawal of protection was either the exclusive, or even the principal direct cause of this prosperity; although there cannot be a doubt that many trades leave to refer their vigour to the fact, that the absence of artificial support less in their case given free operation to the stimulus necessary for the development of natural and permanent resources, Increased demand in the United Kinedom has without doubt been the main and the immediate cause of the increased export of wood from British North America; but it is the convection of her Maiesty's Government that such in creased demand was itself referable in no small degree to the relaxations of our commercial law; and therefore, in its due proportion, the growth of the timber trade is truly and justly, even if circuitously, to be ascribed to that very diminution of protection from which its rain had been anticipated. We are now to look forward with hope to a further increase of the consuming power of this country; a further encouragement to the use of timber as compared with competing atticles capable of being upplied to the same purposes; a further encouragement to the use of Canadian timber, in combinution with the wood of the Baltie, for those objects in regard to which the consumption of the one directly stimulates the consumption of the other. Is it too much to hope that causes so similar may produce like effects; and that the caution with which Purliament has proceeded in the gradual

reduction of the timber duties to a moderate standard may be again rewarded by the satisfaction with which it will witness a further growth in the wood trade of Canada?

ness a further growth in the wood trade of Canada?

"Her Majosty's Government therefore cannot, on the part of the Imperial Exchequer, share in the fear that increased freedom of trade will have the effect of crippling the revenues of those important public works which are designed to facilitate the transit of the produce of Canada by the St. Lawrence to the sea. They can by no means subscribe to the opinion, that the comparative dearness of this route is an established fact; and they likewise feel that if they did subscribe to that opinion, although it might corroborate the propriety of the course they have pursued in suggesting to Parliament the interposition of an interval before entire freedom shall be given to the corn trade, it could do no more; it could not induce them to ask, nor Parliament to grant, nor, they are certain, could it induce the people of Canada to desire, that the market of their farm produce should be maintained by means of a perpetual tax upon the people of England. In referring to the unchecked competition which, so far as British law is concerned, will be established between colonial and foreign corn by the repeal of the Corn Law, it perhaps may not have occurred to the Assembly that British law alone cannot suffice to establish this competition. The price which the foreign and colonial exporters of corn respectively will obtain for their grain in Great Britain must always be materially affected by the comparative degrees of facility which may be afforded in the country of the one and of the other for the introduction of those British goods by which payment for the corn must substantially be made. British goods are admitted into Canada at very low, into the American Union at very high, import duties. The effect of this is not merely to give to the British exporter a better position in the Canadian market than in that of the United States, but to enable him to give a better price for the commodity he purchases in return, and therefore to give to the corn trade of Canada a corresponding advantage, so long as the present tariffs continue, over that of the United States.

a With respect to that portion of the address which prays her Majesty to invite the Government of the United States to establish an equality of trade between the dominions of the republic, and the British North American colonies, I am commanded to instruct your lordship to assure the Assembly that her Majesty will readily cause directions to be given to her Minister at Washington to avail himself of the carliest suitable opportunity to press this important subject on the notice of that Government, and that it will afford her Majesty the most sincere satisfaction if any communication which may bereafter be held for this purpose shall have the effect which is desired by her faithful Commons of Canada.

"Her Majesty's Government have, as may be known to the Assembly, on several occasions endeavoured to make arrangements with foreign powers for the mutual relaxation of tariffs; and similar attempts have taken place among foreign powers, one with the other, but almost uniformly with ill success. Whatever arguments may be used to show the great increase of benefit that would accrue on both sides if states could have been induced to act simultaneously for this purpose, experience has sufficiently shown the difficulty of effecting those combined operations upon matters which are properly of domestic concern, and has suggested the wisdom of securing the incomplete advantage which depends upon our own free agency alone, rather than of foregoing it, in the vain endeavour to realise benefits larger indeed, but not within our reach. Should the Government of the United States continue to maintain the scale of import duties now in force upon its frontier, her Majesty's Government will view with regret a policy injurious to Canada; but they will reflect with satisfaction on the prevalence of laws more favourable to commerce on the Canadian side, and will anticipate from those laws both a direct benefit to the people and trade of the province, and the further advantage which a consistent example given by this country and by its colonies will, as they believe, not fail to realise in disposing foreign states towards the removal of restrictions on frade.

"With respect to that part of the address which relates to the duty of 1s, per quarter, which it is proposed to charge on all wheat imported into England after the repeal of the Corn Law. I am to refer your lordship to my despatch, No. 59, of the 18th April, on the same subject. From the purport of that despatch it would of course be even more difficult to recede at a period when the bill introduced into the House of Commons by the advisers of the Crown has passed through all its stages in that house, and has been affirmed, as to its principle, on the second reading by the House of Lords.

"It is necessary for me here to offer an explanation with regard to an expression of mine, which appears to have given rise to misapprehension. I have stated to your lordship, in a previous despatch, that her Majesty's Government desire that the teade of Canada should, in all respects, approach as near to perfect freedom as the dispositions of its inhabitants and the exigencies of the public revenue there may permit; and from this it is inferred, that the amount of 1s. per quarter, which has been adopted for a long period in this country as the standard of a nominal duty upon corn, ought to be removed. But the language which I employed had reference to the trade of Canada as effected by laws applicable in her own markets and on her own waters. Indeed, if the allusion had been to a rigid and perfect equality of trade in the ports and markets of this country, its first and most important bearing would, I apprehend, have been, not upon the nominal duty of Is, which it is proposed to retain upon colonial in common with foreign corn, but rather upon the very considerable duties of 15s, and 18s, respectively, which, as against nominal duties of 1s, and 2s, on Canadian timber and deals, it is proposed to continue to charge on the corresponding foreign articles.

"Her Majesty's Government, in the discharge of their duty to the Crown and to the people of this country, and likewise to the empire at large, have not felt themselves to be at liberty to advise her Majesty to pass by the address of her Canadian Assembly with a brief or merely formal answer, although the advanced stage at which the deliberations of Parliament have now arrived might have afforded at least a technical justification for such a course. They have thought a more frank and full exposition of their views of this great question in its bearings upon Canada was due to the important hody from which the address proceeds, and from which they are well assured may be auticipated the most caudid consideration even of arguments opposed to their own. It is due especially on account of the importance of that body and of the province of Canada; but, even in the case of the smallest portion of her subjects, I have it in command to say that it would equally have been the desire of her Majenty that such a frank exposition of the policy of her Government should be made. Her Majesty does not recognise the distiuction between her nearer and her more remote subjects with reference to a matter so nearly touching her relation towards them, and the duties and the sentiments of consideration and affection which it involves. Nor can she recognise in this view any distinction between the more and the less powerful, particularly at a time when her Parliament is engaged in the discussion of measures which are recommended to its notice, especially upon the ground that they tend to improve the condition of the most numerous and the least opulent classes of her people.

"It would indeed be a source of the greatest pain to her Majesty's Government if they could share in the impression that the connection between this country and Canada dented its vitality from no other source than from the exchange of commercial preferences. If it were so, it might appear to be a relation consisting in the exchange, not of benefits, but of burdens; if it were so, it would suggest the idea that the connection itself had reached, or was about to reach, the legitimate terms of its existence. But her Majesty's Government still augur for it a longer duration, founded upon a larger and firmer basis—npon protection rendered from the one side, and allegiance freely and loyally returned from the other-upon common traditions of the past, and hopes of the future—upon resemblances in origin, in laws, and m manners-in what inwardly binds men and communities of men together, as well as in the close association of those material interests which, as her Majesty's Government are convinced, are destined not to recede but to advance, not to be severed, but to be more closely and healthfully conbined under the quickening influences of increased commercial freedom.

"I linve, &c., W. E. GLADSTONE."

GOATACRE. (From the Wiltshire Independent.)

The labourers of Goataere and the adjoining villages have again met; but under circumstances which afforded a striking contrast to their former meeting. Then they assembled to detail their distress and to petition Parliament for relief. Their cry went through the breadth and length of the lud, and reached the ear of the legislative assemblies of the empire. It has not been unheeded, for the very measure of relief which they so earnestly desired, is now almost in the certain road of becoming the law of the land. At this juncture of affairs, it was deemed desirable that a meeting should be held for the purpose of expressing the grateful feelings of

certain road of becoming the law of the land. At this june, ture of affairs, it was deemed desirable that a meeting should be held for the purpose of expressing the grateful feelings of the labourers towards the Government who have introduced this measure. This took place yesterday. Previously to the public meeting, the labourers with their wives and children, to the number of about 150, drank tea in the garden in front of Mr. Read's house.

At seven o'clock, Mr. W. White, of Rushall, was called to the chair, and said that the meeting was called for a three-fold purpose: 1st, to explain the principles of the Gontacre and Korth Wilts Building Society—a society which, be believed, would have a tendency to develope the principles of civil and religious liberty, and to raise the labourer in the social scale; 2dly, to acknowledge the kindness of those friends who had so generously responded to the call made upon their sympathics by the former meeting, and so kindly contributed to relieve the necessities of the sufferers; 3dly, to congratulate her Majesty's Ministers, and the friends of Free Trade who had so manfully advocated the cause in the

House of Commons, on the success which had attended their WM, EDWARDS then explained to the meeting the principles of the New Benefit and Building Society. He showed the evils of the old "club system," remarking that in North Wilts alone upwards of 28281, was known to have been spent at the season of Whitsuntide in drinking. They saw this evil, and their object was to do away with the system of meeting at public houses, and to apply all the funds for the benefit of the members. The building society was separate from the benefit society, and the principle on which they acted was this :- Every year the members would receive a dividend from the funds, which, instead of being pail over to them, should be transferred into the Building Society, in the name of trustees, on behalf of the members, and at the end of 13 years each member would receive his dividend in the shape of real property. Trustees would be appointed for every certain number of members, and the following agreement would be signed by all the members :- " We, the undersigned, members of the Goatacre and North Wilts Benefit Society, do mutually agree to transfer our dividends into the Gontacre and North Wilts Building Society, in the name of three trustees on our behalf. Such trustees shall take as many shares in the said Building Society as the directors of the Benefit Society shall instruct them to do, and shall take the shares jointly in the names of we the undersigned. The property so purchased shall be the property of us the undersigned members at the end of 13 years. Each member shall then receive his share of the property purchased dividend with interest thereon." It was proposed that " when sufficient shares were paid up in the Building Society, the Trustees shall purchase freehold or leasehold property to the amount of the sum paid up; that a ballot shall take place among the members of the Benefit Society holding the scrip of the said dividends, and the successful member shall have the property leased to him for his own life and that of his wife, at a rental of 4} per cent." The Benellt Society was established on the same footing as many recently formed in London; each member under 26 years of age paying 2s. entrance fee, and so on according to The payments were made once in six weeks, and were as follows:-ls. 6d. for the six weeks, which secured 7s. a week in illness for the first three months and was then reduced to 3s. 6d.; Is. 8d. securing 8s. a week for the first three months and 4s, a week after; and 1s, 10d, securing Ha; per week for the same period and 4s. dd. a week offer-Should any man die before the 2d of March next he would receive 51, for his funeral expenses, to be raised by equal subscriptions amongst the members; or his wife 2l. 10a, to be mised in the same way. After that time an increased rate would probably be adopted. One benefit connected with the society was that a man did not pay his money, and then see it no more, but he would have scrip every year for his dividends, which in case of extreme distress he might always sell for its full value. Another article had been introduced into their rules which enabled men above the ago for entering, and women, profitably to invest their money. Thus they might take either a shure, or a half, a quarter, or an eighth of a share in the Building Society. The value or an eighth of a share in the Building Society. The value of a whole share was 60l. The rates of payment for a full share would be is. 9d. a week, for a half share 10dd., quarter, 6dd., half 2dd. The payments had been regulated seconding to the receipts, and there was no doubt there was no doubt there was no doubt the receipts. always be sufficient money coming in to supply the

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goings. It was likewise agreed (on the principle of some Loudon Societies) that when the number ill, and on full pay, exceeded 4 in 100, a reduction should be made in the amount paid; but this was a circumstance which it was very unlikely would ever occur. The Society would hold their meetings overy six weeks, after which, instead of resorting to the public house, certain subjects would be introduced calcolated to give instruction and information on important and popular matters. Until the people were better educated and instructed they would not be able to cope with their encmies. He trusted that when the articles were completed. which would be very shortly, every man would obtain one and read, examine, and join the Society. Mr. Edwards then defended the legality of the proposed Society, and the correctness of its principles; and concluded by carnestly begging the meeting to take the subject into their earnest con-

MARY FERRIS then moved the thanks of the meeting to those gentlemen who had so kindly stepped forward to relieve the necessities of the poor in this neighbourhood. I hope, said the poor woman, the press will make known to those kind gentlemen our gratitude for what we have re-ceived, for if we had not had this relief our distress must have been great indeed. My poor children would have been almost starving, and without a bit of clothes. I hope the Lord will never send them a bit the less for what they have spored for us. I thank God for the kindness of those gentlemen, whom I never saw, and who neversaw me, for if God had not put it into their hearts they never would have done it. I received more from those gentlemen than ever I received out of Bremhill parish in bringing up eight children. We received the money through Mr. Edwards, and we hope the Lord will reward them all for sending it.

LUCY SIMPKINS said, I have come to return thanks to those gentlemen who sent relief to us from Liverpool through Mr. Edwards; and also for the present we received through Mr. Read. I wish to say that what I said at Bremhill was quite true, although they said I had spoken falsely (cries of "It was true"). I did, when confined with my eleventh child, pass one whole day and part of the next without a mouthful of victuals. I am thankful to those members of Parliament through whom we are likely to have Free Trade, and hope when it comes about, we shall be able to get a bellyful of victuals.

The resolution was then carried unanimously with loud

MR. READ remarked, that they had held several interesting meetings in Gontacre, and now their efforts were crowned with success. Their voice had been echoed through the length and breadth of the land; it had entered the House of Commons, and he hesitated not to say that he firmly believed the meetings held in Gontacre, and other parts of North Wilts, had had great influence with the Prime Minister; and now they were drawing near the period when they believed monopoly would full (cheers). One object of the meeting was to return thanks to those gentlemen who had so kindly assisted the poor people in their distress thear). As he had taken an active part in this matter he would make a few remarks. After the great Goatacre meeting he received a letter, the writer of which wished to know to whom he could send a little money to be distributed to the most necessitons and deserving characters. He (Mr. Read) answered that he had resided in the parish nearly twenty years, that he knew most of the speakers, and believed their accounts to be strictly true; and that he would gladly undertake the proper distribution of any donation which might be sent. In a few days he received a sum of money. He immediately called the directors together, stated the circumstances of the case, read the names mentioned in the letter, all of whom received the exact sums the donor wished ("That's correct.") "The rest I leave to your own judgment," was the instruction given in the letter. I accordingly made enquiry, and distributed the money in the best possible manner (hear, hear). Of course every one was not satisfied, that was too much to expect; but he acted to the best of his knowledge. Money, beds, blankets, and petticoats, had been distributed in this way. The beds were given to large families where they were much wanted, and one poor woman who received one, told him that she cried for joy all night, so that she could get no sleep upon her new bed. There were, however, still more families to whom the gift of a bed would be most serviceable. Upwards of 200 persons had been relieved to a greater or less extent, besides children; and only last night a kind lady in Bath had sent several packs of child-bed linen, to be lent out to the poor women in Goatnere who needed it (cheers). More than 40 smockfrocks had been given to the boys at the two schools, and the same number of frocks to the girls. He hoped that it was understood that these presents did not come from him; he only had the trouble-nay, the pleasure, of distributing them, for indeed it was the greatest pleasure he had ever enjoyed. Mr. Read then spoke of the great assistance which the sums expended in seed potatoes had been to the poor men who had received them; and said that he had still reserved a small sum of money in case of any emergency.

WILLIAM COLE, of Caine, then moved that the thanks of the meeting be given to her Majesty's Ministers for the introduction of, and their successful efforts in carrying through the house, a measure for the repeal of the Corn Laws. Mr. Cole delivered a very sensible address, urging on the people the importance of educating themselves, and showing that they were not unworthy of the kindness and attention which had been showed them.

WILLIAM EDWARDS seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation.

Several women then addressed the meeting, showing that their condition must yet be greatly improved before they can deserve the epithet by which they are so often described—

"A bold peasantry, their country's pride."

Mr. White begins made a few concluding remarks, the

Mr. WHITE having made a few concluding remarks, the meeting quietly separated, first giving three hearty cheers for Free Trade.

EXTRAORDINARY MUSHROON.—On Saturday last, James Stubb, of Buglawton, near Congleton, was somewhat surprised that one of the flags just within the threshold of his door had been so far displaced by some invisible agency, that it had become almost impossible to open or shut the door. To discover the hidden cause of this strange effect the flag was removed, and underneath it was found a fine mushrodm, measuring nearly half a yard in circumference. The
flag which was thus pushed from its place by the upstart fungus, was two feet long by eighteen inches wide, and two inches thick!—Macclesfield Courier.

Lord Morpeth has consented to take the chair at the next said of the Manchester Atheneum, in October.

REVIEW.

A Letter of Remonstrance to his Grace the Duke of Richmond on the Repetil of the Corn Laws, By the Hon, and Rev. Sir Erasmus Williams, Bart. London: Longman and Co.

Those who have been engaged in the whale fishery inform us that the greatest danger to which they are exposed is when the monster of the deep feels sensibly his exhaustion and musters up his last energies for one great struggle of dying despair. "Beware of the creature in his flurry," is the earnest recommendation of the experienced harpooner. Monopoly, the giant monster of the political deep, has been harpooned; and the judicious captain of the fishers has allowed an unusual length of line for the run and play of the animal; but now that the final struggle approaches, it behaves us to beware of the monster in his flurry. He may endanger not only the boat in which the Ministers are embarked, but the vessel which carries the fortunes of the State. The signs of flurry cannot be mistaken; the vindictive vehomence of Lord George Bentinck, the menacing threats of his Grace of Buckingham, and the more gentle anger of the self-complacent Earl of Wicklow, are signs of a danger not very far a-head. Sir Erasmus Williams is anxious to point out to the Duke of Richmond the hazard at which these demonstrations of impotent and fruitless rage will be made. The measures are safe, whatever may become of the Ministry. The fate of monopoly is scaled, whoever may be the sacrificial priest fore-doomed to offer up the victim on the altar of justice. Like the harpooned whale, the monster of monopoly may overset the boat from which the weapon was launched;

" Hæret lateri lethalis arundo."

Or, in plain English:

" The deadly weapon quivers in his side."

Yes; monopoly is harpooned; it has run out every inch of line which the Ministerial boat can spare, and now comes the final tug of war. It is the object of Sir Erasmus Williams to show that the protectionists are adopting a course which they have neither the power nor the wisdom to pursuo with even a moderate chance of success. justly says:

" Peel has triumphed; the success of his grand, comprehensive, and benevolent measure is as certain as any thing political can be certain. England has pronounced the doom of protectionism; 'noy, but that's past praying for.' The House of Commons has responded by significant majorities to the wishes of the Sovereign, and to the prayers of her people. The House of Commons has decreed that the odious, unjust, oppressive Corn Law shall be blotted out of her Statute Book."

As a clergyman, Sir E. Williams is anxious to exonerate the episcopal bench from any share in the iniquitous maintenance of a system of artificial famine, and he dwells with great complacency on the absence of the prelates from the protectionist meeting at the Clarendon:

"There is, however, a circumstance respecting the meeting of too high import to be overlooked; namely, the absence of every Archbishop and Bishop from it. Not one Spiritual Peer could be found to lend his sanction to your views. The advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual has been happily refused; and it may thence be fairly inferred that the object of your meeting does not meet with their approbation, and that, consequently, their approbation, will be also withheld when the matter comes before them for discussion in the proper place. God forbid that 'a man of God' should be found to raise his voice for starving the poor! What more violent improbability can be propounded !--what more atrocious and bitter calumny against the entire Bench of Bishops can be spit forth even by those ungodly ones, whose delight it is always to befoul, if possible, God's High Priests, than the bare supposition that a Bishop of the pure and reformed Church of Christ established in these kingdoms would uphold or sanction a system which practically abnegates the doctrines of the Holy Bible, defeats the gracious intentions of the Blessed Author and Giver of all good things for Christ's sake to man, and generates in the breasts of those, who are doomed in the sweat of their brow to eat their bread, any thing but love and good-will towards their more fortunate brethren? So far from receiving the concurrence of a Spiritual Peer, you may, perhaps, be reminded by some of them of what the Scriptures speak on this matter. They may, perhaps, refer you to the man after God's own heart, who says, Blessed is he that considereth the poor. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing; thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness. They may, perhaps, remind you of a proverb uttered some three thousand years ago by another king, reputed to be the wiscat of men, 'He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him, but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it. It is possible that they may desire you to see in your own mirror the resemblance of the noble Roman, complaining of his country-

They said they were an hungry, sighid forth proverbs
That hunger broke stone walls, that dogs must ent,
That meat was made for mouths, that the gods sent not
Corn for the rich men only: with these shrods
They vented their complainings;

and they may, with the freedom becoming a minister of heaven, inquire whether it is becoming in the great ones of the earth to ransack the world for means and drinks to gratify their paintes—for purple and fine linen to adorn their persons—while Larazus shall not be permitted to satisfy his hungry soul with a grain of foreign bread."

It is much to be regretted that some of the prelates neglected the precepts of the Gospel and the example of their Divine Master in the late division in the House of Lords. They voted for starving the sheep of the Christian fold instead of feeding them; they showed an anxiety to reverse the miracles of the loaves and fishes; instead of multiplying the means of sustenance, they declared themselves anxious to stint and abridge the existing supply of food. We have got in our land a vahubble Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; it would be no bad preparation for its missionaries if, before going to distant lands, they would endeavour to convert the right reverend patrons of monopoly to Christianity.

Sir Ecasmus Williams deals summarily with the Duke of Richmond's course vituperation of the

" Do not buoy yourself up with the idea, that because the country is silent it is therefore indifferent; it is silent, because it considers the measure to be sate; it is silent, because it believes that the House of Lords, 'a very small body' of 'a very small body,' the receivers of rent, have the 'grace' to regard, the 'wisdom' to perceive, and the 'understanding' to bow to public opinion. Your Grace may be disposed to risk the danger of a contest with the people, but the House of Lords will not sympathise with you; they will admire your bravery, but will not applaud your judgment; you may, like others have done, vituperate Sir Robert Peck for carrying on this important measure without an appeal to the people, because you think he ought. But Sir Robert Peel is responsible for the right government and peace of the country, and not your Grace; and he fortunately, has thought otherwise. Why should be appeal to the people against a Parliament which approves his measures? Why should be dismiss a Parliament honest enough in its character, as the representatives of the people, to carry his

righteous measure for the benefit of the people?

But you will say, Sir Robert Peel has changed his opinions.
Well, what then? He tells you he has changed them. Has your Grace never changed your opinion? Are you the same reformer you were when a member of the noble Earl Grey's Cabinet? I am not going to impute to you any unworthy ground for your change; on the contrary, I give you all the credit due to an English Peer, and to any man of henour -the credit for having changed only on conscientions conviction; (bestow the same charity on Sir Robert Peel!) and I am sure that if your Grace is desirons of serving your country, you will never do it so effectually as by changing your opinions once again, and by withdrawing from the rightcons measure now submitted to your consideration your threatened opposition, which will bring no honour to you, nor to the

nonparcil order to which you belong.

"But your Grace provokingly complains, that if Sir Robert Peel had chosen to change (perhaps be could not help himself-he might not require to be trepanned in order to be convinced), he should not have converted others. What higher compliment could you have paid the noble statesman who sits at the helm, than this unintentional one? What can be more grateful to him-what more grateful to us, the people - than to find that his brilliant talents, his persuasive cloquence, should have been so eminently successful? and what a blessing it is to the community that your grace is not possessed of the same alchymical powers?

The division on the second reading in the House of Lords indisputably proved that the peers possessing the largest landed properties and the most unencumbered estates are the leading supporters of the Ministerial measure; while in the list of the minority we find titled purpors, men whose estates are exten up with mortgage, and some who are as bankrupt in reputation as they are in fortune. With such forces, it seems wonderful how even the practised hardihood of Richmond could venture on a conflict.

> "Protect us mighty Providence, What would these madmen have?-First they would bribe us without pence, Deceive us without common sense, And without power enslaye?"

In noticing the attacks on Sir Robert Peel's character, Sir Erasmus Williams seems inclined to expand Pope's maxim:

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

We could wish that he had given us a full and complete eketch of the zoology of protection; it would have been a worthy companion to Old Collier's pamphlet on the "Unclean Beasts in the Ark;" but we trust that the hint will not be lost on Punch, and in the mean time we quote the description of some recent scenes in the House of Commons, graphically given by our author:

"I have watched with anxious feeling the progress of this noble measure. I hailed its announcement by Sir Robert Peel with unmixed satisfaction, for I saw in it the future weal of my country. I have seen its noble author rise in the majesty of conscious integrity, and declare that his country's good compelled a change of his political opinions. I have searched in vain among all the tirades of his bitter and some rather unserupnious opponents for something like proof of corrupt motive for the change. I have seen him challenge them to establish any motive but his country's welfare. I have seen him give up his high office, to which even dukes must sometimes condescend to pay homage, rather than yield his honest convictions. I have seen him return to office, fight his country's battle, spurn with indignant scorn the odious accusation of treachery (of which more by and by), and, God be thanked, triumph over his unrelenting foes, beating them to powder, yea even the bitterest of the bitter—the hero of invective, who appears to have considered Sir Robert Peel only as a Shrove-Tuesday cock, placed to be pelted at. Bishop Warburton, addressing one of his adversaries, observes—'Though your teeth are short, what you want in teeth you have in venom, and know, as all other creatures do, where your strength lies.'

There is perhaps too strong a dash of bitterness mixed up with the defence of Peel against the charge of treachery so vehemently urged by the Duke of Richmond:

"It is the fashion of the protectionists, your Grace among the number, to accuse Bir Robert Peel of treachery, - in other words, of insubmission to their dictation. Call me traitor?" may be startlingly say: "I who collected your disjecta membra; I who formed you into a compact body I who nourished and cherished you through ten long years; I who marshalled you in battle array, and led you to victory over your enemies! Alone I did it! and call me Tfaitor! Have you forgotten who made you what you are? Have you forgotten the loaves and fishes I distributed so mispa ringly among you? Have you not betrayed me into the hands of my (fortunately generous) opponents, because I will not obey your rebellious call? Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things; prophesy deceits, and call me traitor. Ungrateful, ungenerous souls!" But the question is, not whether Sir Robert Peel has changed or whether he is or is not a proper object for vituperation and invective, whether he is the truitor or the betrayed,the simple question for your grave consideration is this, Is the measure good or bad? The House of Commons, by astounding majorities, has pronounced it to be good; and nine tenths of the people accord with this judgment. What good can possibly arise from your opposition? Do you hope to terrify Sir Robert Peel out of his propriety? He does not fear you. Will you, in your distress, imprecate the nine days wonder? Punch, last week, settled the matter. Punch weighed him; but, though well in figure, his deficiency was awful. Will you venture on Lord Stanley? He is a congenial soul with your Grace; Areades ambo! both Reformers both Conservatives! and what now? You had better be content with Sir Robert Peel. It is manifest he can do without you, and equally manifest that you cannot do without him; but if, in disgust with the ungrateful, ungenerous, malignant treatment from those from whom better things might have been expected, he should retire from the office be fills with so much honour to his sovereign and so much benefit to his country, you will have for a Premier one who fears you as little as Sir Robert Peel, and whose honesty of purpose and determination of spirit you may not perhaps relish, but you must admire."

In conclution, Sir Erasmus Williams very forcibly states the case of the labourer;

"Your Grace considers yourself better acquainted with the feelings of the farmers of England than any one else is. Be it so. I pretend to know something of the labourer, A few months ago one of this class was brought before me for punishment. He was 27 years of age, and 'a better ploughman I should not wish to see in my field, and he was sent to prison, for running away from Four SHILLINGS a week! I venture to assure your Grace, that 99 out of every 100 labourers of any parish in the kingdom exultingly rejoice at the decease of their arch enemy -the Corn Law. They submit with pions resignation in their suffering, whenever it may please a gracious Providence, whether as a pu nishment for our sins, or in order to 'humble and to prove us, to know what is in our hearts, whether we will keep his commandments or no,' he refuses to give his usual abundance of the kindly fruits of the earth; but they will never patiently submit that the decrees of God shall be overthrown by the decrees of man; that their country-'a land wherein thou shalt cat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it, a hand whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills then mayest dig brass, -that this garden of the Lord's planting shall be turned into 'a desert' by the selfish act of man. The whole labouring population of the land demand the repeal of the odious Corn Law. Delenda est. The Queen, God bless her! is with them, public opinion is with them, the Houses of Lords and Commons are with them; and let not any mistaken zeal for the supposed interests of the farmers of England deter your Grace, and your Claren don II stel confrices from joining in the joy of emancipated Lugland, nor induce you to withold a blessing from the man who has opened your fatherland to receive the homage of

"This Letter has extended to a length far beyond what I Intended: I shall now, therefore, conclude with another quotation from Sir James Graham's admirable brochure (page 75), which I recommend to your serious consideration.

The paramount duty of every government is attention

to the interests of the community, of which the labourers must form the great majority. The right of property is instituted for the good, not of the few who possess wealth and honours, but of the many who have them not. If the majornty be deeply injured, the public peace is in danger. If the majority want food, private property becomes a

We have extracted largely from this remonstrance, because it expresses the feelings of a very large portion of the Conservative party, who believe that their interests as a party have been seriously perilled by being conjoined with the infamy and the selfishprotection. But we differ from the rev. writer when he hopes that this remonstrance will produce any effect on the conduct of the Duke of Richmond and his followers. We have too much respect for these hereditary legislators to attribute their blind hostility either to obliquity of intellect or hardness of heart; but the course they have taken in the present debates show that they have not any materials in their mental composition on which reason and argument can be brought tooperate, and that, therefore, all human means must full to convince them of their error, or turn them from the evil of their proceedings.

A New Croux Country, - It appears that the region acquired by Fugland beyond the Sutley is remarkable for its fertility, and one district more especially, the vicinity of the city of Jellinder, abounds in orchards and fruit trees - a second Herefordshire, in fact. With all the advantages of cli-mate, and with the improvements in agriculture which will doubtless take place under the peaceful away of the British Government, it is by no means improbable that this portion of the Punjaub will become an exporting country, and particularly if Ibrahim Pacha or his father should consent to the construction of a railway from Cairo to the lathmus of

A RARE PLEASURE.—The last person Joseph Ady wrote to was Lord Stanley, for he made sure that his lordship would send him twenty shillings if only for the novelty of hearing something to his advantage."—Punch.

MISCELLANEOUS.

COPENHAGEN, JUNE 1 .- It can hardly be denied that the late modification in the Sound and canal tolls are chiefly to the advantage of Russian commerce, with which England and Sweden are contending. The reductions were considerable in comparison with the late tariff. For instance: on cotton, from 18 to 10 stivers; on brandy, from 4 to 3; and on raw sugars, from 5 to 4.—Hamburgh Borsenhalle,

A disease has recently attacked a large plantation of young fir trees near Cirencester. It is due to a plant, a fungus, which spreads by seed with great rapidity.

The West Indian steamer Tweed, which arrived at South-

ampton on Sunday, brought 9000 pine apples, 61 barrels of

potatoes, and a quantity of turtle.

Mr. Watson stated in the House of Commons a few days since that though Lord Denman's salary is 10,000%, a year, he has never taken more than 8000%.

The great chess match of two games, by correspondence between the Paris and Pesth clubs, commenced in 1842, terminuted in favour of the Hungarians.

In the county of Kerry, since the survey of it in 1842-3, there have been reclaimed 8,373 acres; and there are alto gether 351,876 acres at present under cultivation, and 362,113 still unreclaimed.

The state of the growing crops in Lower Austria is said to be most satisfactory. In Hungary, however, the greater part of the growing corn, grass, &c., has been destroyed by the various rivers.

ANCIENT IMPORTATION INTO HULL -About 1505, we find entered in the household book of the Cliffords, a sum of 114. "for six cabbages and some caret roots bought at Hull." These were then imported from Flanders, whence even Queen Catherine, in the reign of Henry VIII., had her salads. Potatoes and turnips were not generally known, even to the gardener, until the reign of Elizabeth.—Hull

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.-We are able to state on unquestionable authority, that a treaty for the international protection of copyright has just been signed at Berlin between Prussia and England; in which it is confidently expected that, before the ratification, Saxony will join. The consequence will be a reduction of the duty to 15s. per cwt. on at least half the German books imported into England.-

Counts II Silk .- The thirteenth annual report of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society states, that, at the annual exhibition, scarves were shown which had been manufactured in Spitalfields from the produce of between 700 and 800 worms, kept in an attic room in Truro. In size and weight, the worms rather surpassed those of Italy; the cocoons were larger; the quality of the silk, when recled, was fully equal to the best imported, and the quantity exceeded the Italian average; and this in a season not remark. ably propitions.

News from the hop-growing districts now becomes interesting, and so far as the reports up to the present time are concerned, that interest is not untinetured by anxiety. The fly appears to be most abundant; neither Kent, Sussex, nor Worcester being exempt from the destructive visitation.

Mr. Francis Egerton, son of Lord Francis Egerton, is appointed a lieutement in the royal mavy.

New Hay .- Mr. Thomas Webster, of Bootle, brought the first lond of new hay to Liverpool market on Friday. This is twenty five days earlier than last year.

RISE IN AGRICULTURAL WAGES,-At the feeing fairs of Bathgate, Stirling, Elgin, and Forres, which have been held during the past week, farm servants and labourers in husbandry have been in great demand, and wages have generally advanced. At the Whitsuntide hiring fairs held at Carlisle, Brampton, Penrith, Keswick, Cockersmouth, Gosforth, Appleby, Kendal, Ulverstone, &c. farm servants were much sought after, and higher wages were paid than for many years past.

GAME CASE. At the petty sessions at Bicester, held a few days since, Andrews, one of the Earl of Jersey's game-keepers, charged Thomas Izzard, aged 11, with an offence against the Game Laws. To prove his case he called Hitch-cock, a looker out, who said he saw Izzard go into Ardley wood, and set a snare which was lying on the ground, and which he (Hitchcock) was watching. The had said he went through a gap in the hedge into the wood to look after bird's nests; that he saw the saure lying down and just touched it, but did not set it or take it up. The constable gave the lad a good character, and the keepers said that they never caught him at anything before. The father said he worked for Mr. Jackman; he knew he had been in the habit of getting birds' eggs for his master's son, and that he did believo he had never seen a soure before. He was ordered to pay a fine of is, and its, 6d, cost, and in default to be imprisoned in the House of Correction for fourteen days. His father said he had a large family; the lad carned 3s. per week, and asked for time to pay it in. Al-

AMERICA AND THE TIMBER DUTIES, - " I heard frequent discussions on the present state of the timber duties, both here (Nova Scotia), and in Canada, and great was my surprise to find the majority of the small proprietors, or that class in whose prosperity and success the strength of a new colony consists, regretting that the mother country had legislated so much in their favour. They said that a few large capitalists and shipowners amassed considerable fortunes (some of them, however, losing them again by over speculation), and that the political influence of a few such merchants was naturally greater than that of a host of small farmers, who could never so effectively plead their cause to the Government. But, on the other hand, the labourers engaged during the severe winter, at high pay, to fell and transport the timber to the coast became invariably a drunken and improvident set. Another serious mischief accrued to the colony from this traffic; as often as the new settlers reached the tracts from which the wood had been removed, they found, instead of a cleared region, ready for cultivation, a dense copsewood or vigorous undergrowth of young trees, far more expensive to deal with than the original forest, and, what was worse, all the best kinds of timber, fit for farm buildings and other uses, had been taken away, having been carefully selected for exportation to Great Britain. So that, while the English are submitting to pay an enhanced price for timber, inferior in quality to that of Norway, the majority of the colonists, for whom the sacrifices are made, feel no gratitude for the boon. On the contrary, they complain of a monopoly that enriches a few timber merchants, at the expense of the more regular and steady process of agriculture."—Lyell's Travels in North America, vol. 2. p. 225.

FREE TRADE INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION

A. W. Paulton, Esq...

Kishard Potter, Esq...

Kishard Potter, Esq...

Kishard Potter, Esq...

Kishard Potter, Esq...

Kishard Potter, Esq...

William Leavers, Esq...

William Wilson, Esq...

It G. Welford, Esq...

Richard Burnet, Esq...

Lichard Burnet, Esq...

Richard Burnet, Esq...

Lichard Burnet, Esq...

Tat sizes.

Dr. Thomas Price, T. Highbury torrace, Islington.

George Thompson, Esq., 6, Waterloo place.

Captain Cogan, Upper Mill, Hammorsmith.

Sankers.

Commercial Bank.

Solieros.

Josh. Ivimey, Esq., 26, Chancery-lane.

Sankers.

Mr. Frederick Parrand, Priory Villa, Peckham.

Ser aprasy.

Mr. Alfred Lench Saul.

Prespectuses may be obtained, gratis, on application at the Society offices, Enat Lemple Chambers, Whitefriers streat, Fixed street. The Rule (Ed. cach: are now ready, and may be had as above.

Persons desirous to Join the Society are requested to make application immediately.

T HEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, —
M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS D'ETE—For one mouth only .

PROGRAMME FOR MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1246.

PART I.

Overture, "William Tell," PART I.

Quadrille, "The Marble Malden," first time Song, "My hearts on the Rhine," Herr PISCHEK, Spinghony, Pastorale, "The Laughing Pairies," The Misses WILLIAMS, d. L. Hatton Harmonic Timbril, "first time, performed on the New Harmonic Timbril, by Mastra Scotell.

Duet, Madame and M. GOLDBERG.
Quadrille, "The Crusaders," Julies Quadrine,

Opera, "I Puritani," Selection
Song, "Der Schmerz,"
First time
Song, "Die Vanenwecht." The Standard Bearer.)

(First time, Ken.g. Limboniter Ken.

Valse, "The Hyacinth" (First time.) Lindpender Tarenteila, "De Belphegor." Julian The Refreshments consist of Ices, Sherbet, Carrara Water, &c., and as under the direction of Mr. G. Pajne.

Places and Private Boxes may be see used on application to Mr Refro, at the Box-office of the Theatre, which is open from bettle 5, also et al. Mitchell, Mr Sans, Mr. Ollivier, and at the principal Libraries and Mosc Sellers, &c.; and at M. Jullien's Musical Establishment, 214, Regenesteet

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Friday Evening, June 12, 1846.

"Drowning men grasp at straws," but even a straw possesses more firmness and stability than the incident on which the protectionists in the Lords have based their new policy of obstruction. Lord George Bentinck's declaration of his determination to oppose the second reading of the Irish Coercion Bill renders it very probable that the Ministers may be left in a minority on that measure. Hence arises a second contingency that Sir Robert Peel may resign before his Free Trade measures are carried; and from both these chances is inferred a third probability, that in the confusion incident to a change of Ministry the Corn Bill may be defeated, and the existence of monopoly protracted a little longer. It would puzzle an acute calculator to determine the value of these contingencies from the doctrine of chances. They are apt illustrations of the theory of vanishing fractions. Yet on these infinitesimal quantities the resistance to going into Committee on the Bill is founded. Earl Stanhope led the van. He is the Calchas of his party, and has been the "prophet of evil," but without the inspiration of the seer, as long as the memory of the present generation exists. If England has not been ruined some hundred times over, his lordship is not to blame, for he has some hundred times informed as that the sun of our prosperity was set, and the day of our glory departed. Peel's Currency Bill was declared by his lordship to be our national dose of Prussic acid, and he must in all consistency regard our present vitality as the galvanised animation given to a corpse. Hence he assumed the boding and sepulchral tone of the raven hovering around the chambers of death, but forgetting that unbelievers in omens only laugh at the croak of the melancholy bird. Superstitious old women could alone be terrified by such ill-boding notes; they have been heard too often and too long to inspire further terror; they belong to those visionary fears which haunt the night of ignorance, but which are at once dissipated by the first dawn of intelligence and light.

Lord Radnor vindicated the policy advocated by the League, and exposed the last of Lord Stanley's fullucies and misrepresentations which remained undetected. The over-rated speech of the heir of the house of Derby reminds us indeed of the fable of the daw in borrowed plumage. When first presented to the house, it was decorated with declamation, plausibilities, and positive statements, so that the peacock itself was hardly more brilliant; but Lord Brougham pulled some feathers from the tail, Earl Grey tore the crest from the head, Lord Clarendon laid bare the body, Lord Dalhousis plucked the wings, and Lord Radnor finished by leaving it as bare as the cock which Dipole ornelly stripped of its feathers, as a practical research

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tion of Plato's definition of man, a "featherless biped."

The Earl of Wicklow disappointed.us; he has of late shown some indications of a wish to become acquainted with the elements of economic science, and we regret that his progress in this part of a legislator's education has not been a little accelerated. The only point which he attempted to make out was the value of protection to our colonies, and his arguments on this head were so effectually demolished by Lord Lyttleton, that they require no further notice.

The only other speech on which we intend to offer a comment is that of the Duke of Buckingham, the self-named descendant and representative of the Plantagenets. His grace referred to the burthens on land in this country; and as he is probably very familiar with the subject, we are surprised to find that he misstated its nature. Mortgages, not taxes, are the burthens under which the land groams; but if landlords choose to be improvident, they must bear the consequences themselves, and not endeavour to throw them upon the industrial classes. In order to obtain political influence, certain noblemen have purchased more land than they had money to pay for, and have been thus compelled to borrow at a very high rate of interest. But they have found that what Johnson said of States is equally true of estates:

"Extended empire, like expanded gold, Exchanges solid strength for feeble splendour."

To such men the repeal of the Corn Laws will eventually prove the greatest of blessings. It will compel them to co-ordinate their affairs, and to proportion their extent of possession to their ability of management. They have at present little better than provisional proprietorship of their estates; and they would be greatly served if they were compelled, though in spite of themselves, to accept even a limited certainty in exchange for precarious pauperism. To them the Corn Laws have been like the corks which recently caused the death of the boys who went to bathe at Boulogne during the ebb of the tide; their heads have been artificially kept above water, but the receding waves have carried them away from the shore, and led them to neglect the line that limited the depth to which their efforts should have been confined.

We regret that the Lords at this stage of the measure should have resumed the obstructive policy which they virtually agreed to abandon. They cannot defeat the measure; its ultimate success does not depend on any possible combination of parties; no man can be Minister whose first measure will not be an immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. Delay may be obtained, but it will be very dearly purchased; the experiment on the public patience has already continued too long; an interlude of party playing at cross-purposes would damage the reputation of all the actors; it might indeed perplex or even overthrow the present Ministers, but it would create a complication of difficulties around their successors, whoever they may be, which, in all human probability, would be insurmountable.

T OF FREE TRADE IN GLASS,—An example will serve to show how the supply of an article may indefimoly increase without meeting the demand, and how the profit of the maker and the wages of the artisan may be found compatible with an indefinite reduction of prices. is a comparison of the plate-glass trade in 1827 and 1846. It must be premised that, in 1827, a ton of coals cost at the works 30s. -now only 13s. The difference in the price of bearlastics is almost as great. The chief difference, however, is the great improvement in the methods of manufacture, in the use of larger furnaces, melting pots, steam engines, grinding and polishing benches. The result is, that whereas large plates were then made with great difficulty, they are now made with perfect facility; the manufacturers then kept a large supply on hand,—now they can only supply their customers from hand to mouth, and that with difficulty. Wages were then comparatively low; now, though of course not so much per foot, they are high. The prosperity of the trade has been progressive. In 1827, glass sold for about lts. per foot, to the extent of about 5000 feet per week. In 1836, for 8s. or 9s. to the amount of 7000 per week. In 1844, for 6s. or 7s. to about 23,000 feet per week. In 1846, for in. or is, to about 40,000 feet per week, exclusive of foreign glass. There can be no doubt, then, in a few years the demand will increase, and the price fall, till every small tradesman has plate glass, not only in his shop, but also in his parlour, or even in his bedroom, with a great increase of his comfort, and without much extravagance. Even at the present prices, at Os. or 6s. per foot, builders are recommending the use of plate glass, by the argument that, in a few years, the want of it will be remarkable.—Times.

Ilay Harvest in Westmoneland.—Mr. Richard Saul, of Minthorpe, commenced cutting a field of seed grass upon Milithorpe Marsh, being the first we have heard of in this adalactic.

mighbourhood for the present season.—Kendal Mercury.

THE FUNDS.

	8ат. Јине б	Mon. June 8	Tune 9	WRD. June10	THUR. Junell	FRI, Junel2
Bank Stock 3 per Ct. Red. Ann. 3 per Ct. Red. Ann. 3 per Ct. Rod. Ann. Long. An. Ex. 1840 Cons. for Acet. Exc. Bille, pm. Ind. Bds. un. 1000/, Venezuela 2 per Ct. Do. deferred. Belgian 44 per Ct. Brazilian 5 per Ct. Cnilian Columb. ex. Venez. Danish Dutch 24 per Cent. Dutch 4 per Cont. Mexican Peruvian Peruvian Portug. 4 per Cent.		954 954 974 104 21-17 	June 0 2004 953 Shuta 974 10 3-16 21-16 28 834 29	2004 954 954 850 974 10 3 16 21 15 42 964 	June11 95 Shut. 97 10] 42 124	954 Shut. 974 954 984 89 92
Russian 5 per Cent Spanish 5 per Ct. Do, 3 per Ct.	373	110] ::	1094 19 37	37}	401	48 91 36 ₈

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

MONDAY, June 8.—Samples of every description of Corn have fallen off during the last few week4, and to day the market is bure of samples generally. English Wheat sells steadily at last week's prices. Foreign Wheat is not inquired for. In Barley, Beans, and Peas there is no alteration to notice; the two latter exhibit rather a downward tendency, but lower prices are not generally taken. Oats, of which the show is extreinely scanty, are 6d, better than this day week; and middling qualities of frish fetch 1s, more money.

Brighter Destruction

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	Biralsund			
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A	account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of 1	t anda		أ

c., arrived in the Port of London, from June 1 to June 6, 1846, both days inclusi

Wheat. English	Barley. 1331	Outn. 2703	Bouns. 568	Pone. 137
Irish			}	••
Foreign 4348	::	1914 4 72	4400	•••
Flour	. 3953 anni	a how	ala	• • •

FRIDAY, JUNE 12.-With very short arrivals of Grain since without any alteration in price. There is a little inquiry for low qualities of Mediterranean Wheat in bond for export to Holland and Belgium, at 38s, to 40s. Barley, Beans, and Peas continue as on Monday. Oats, both free and in bond, are is, dearer than Monday, with only a limited trade for the former. There was no alteration in the duties yesterday.

8. H. Lucas.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 8th of June to the 12th of June, both inclusive. English. lrish. Foreign. Barley 910

	470 ancks.	1,
LONDON AVERAGES for	the Wock endin	ng June 9, 1846.
Wheat Qrs. Price. 4161 55s. 2d. Barley 1241 28s. 2d. Oats 12568 23s. 11d.	D-a	Qra. Price.

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Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks. Wheat, 55s. 3d.; Barley, 25s. 11d.; Oats, 23s. 8d.; Rys, 33s. 2d.; Boans, 35s. 8d.; Peas, 34s. 6d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, JUNE 5.
BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED. Edward Few, caldinet insker. Manchester. Stephen Knowles, brewer, Exeter. BANKRUPPS

E. Clark, builder, Mortimer-road, Mingsland. [Mr. Wickings, Finabury-terrace, City-road, C. G. M. J. Hopkins, tailor, Portman-square. [Mr. Mood,

W. Mitchell, furniture dealer, Finsbury place south. [Mr. Kinsey, Bloomsbury. W. M. Smithson, printer, Cantorbury. | Mr. Lewis, Warwick-

court, Gray's inn. J. Boddington, corn dealer, Manchester. (Messrs, Russell and Co., High street.

R. Sheel, grover, Wilsted street, Somers-town. [Mesars, Hill and Co., St. Mary-ave. J. D. Paine, publisher, Hatcham, Surrey. (Mr. Richardson,

Coleman street.
P. Shawson and T. B. Young, druggists, Louth. [Messrs. Humphreys and Co., Chancery lane.
H. Stelling, woolcomber, Well, Yorkshire. [Messrs. Williamson and Co., Gray's inn.
W. Norteliffe, dyer and stover, Milk street, Manchester. [Messrs. Jaques and Co., Elf place.
J. Bootham, gumnaker, Richmond, Yorkshire. [Mr. Kirk, Symond seinn.

J. Conlen, woollen draper, Cheltenham. | Mr. Dowling,

J. Solomon, outfitter, Exeter. [Mr. Jones, Size-lane, SCOTCH SEQUESTIGATIONS,

R. Walker, wavelouseman, Glasgow, A. Flockhurt, fanner, Kinross,

N. Macdonald, plumber, Glasgow, G. Nicol, corn morehant, Newburgh,

TUESDAY, JUNE 9,
BANKRUPTS,
J. Wright, Oxford street, druggest. (Messrs, Tilson and

J. Wright, Oxford street, druggest. [Messrs, Tilson and Squarce, Coleman-street.]
J. Gisborne, Coleman street, City, merchant. [Mossrs, Marten and Co., Mineing lane.
J. Smith, Willington str. et, Newington-causeway, chaese-monger. [Mr. Pullen, Basinghall street.
E. Weeks, King's road, Chelsea, hothouse builder. [Mr. Letts, Bartlett's buildings.
J. R. Miskin, Chatham, Kent, teadcaler. [Mr. Butler, Tooley-street.

F. F. Phillips, Bristol, coachmaker. [Mr. Blaggs, Bristol, J. Child, Wakefield, grocer. [Mesors, Fiddey and Co., Wake-

J. Scott, Sheffield, flour dealer. [Mr. Tattershall, Gt. James-F. Sly, Truro, currier. [Messes, Bourdillon and Sons, Great

Winehester street.
C. Gallimore, Birmingham, pearl button maker. [Mr.

C. Gallimore, Birmingham, pears outton Wright, Birmingham. SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS, J. R. and T. Nicoll, Dundee, iron merchants, H. and W. Brown, Glasgow, stockbrokers.

THE GAME LAWS:-The abominable Game Laws were a source of as bitter and as numerous complaints, a hundred years ago, as they are now. "We have lately (says the Munchester Mercury, of August 25, 1752) received letters from farmers in different parts of the country, expressing strong apprehensions that, as soon as the harvest is over, their hedges and ditches and fences are like to suffer greater damage than usual from the more than ordinary care taken of late to preserve the game, which care they would allow to be very landable, provided the labour and property of the honest husbandman were at the same time duly considered. They likewise think it very hard to be denied the privilege of walking about their own grounds with a dog and gun, since the game live all the year at their cost, and, when fit to be killed, might as reasonably fall occasionally to the share of the feeders as their betters." Above 90 years have passed over since the above was written, and yet patient Englishmen still submit to the same wrongs, and content themselves with ineffectual grumbling. The counsel which follows the above extract is, however, somewhat different to that which would be given by a newspaper in the present day, and shows the cautions tone which the journals were obliged to adopt: "In answer to these and other cavils, which we don't think fit to crowd in our paper, the best advice we can give them is to be patient; and if they are not endowed with this virtue, let them pray for {it; or, if they don't like this counsel, let them at least wait till a new el-t-n, and then pursue such measures as they think may best mend the matter."

(TEORGE and JOHN DEANE, SADDLERS and AMERISS MAKERS, Invite attention to their Gig. Tandem, and Carrière Harness, manufactured on their own premises, by workmen of much experience, and under the direction of foremen of superior ability and skill. Their leather is invariably diessed by first rate London curricus, the farmiture is aboof the best town manufacture, and G. and J. Deane warrant that the productions of their manufactory cannot be surpassed for heavity, strength, and chenpiess, by any other home. House folding made to order, canteens of best sensoned wood. Deane's London made whips, and all articles for stable and travelling use in large variety.—No. 2, Arthur street East, opening to the Monument, London bridge.

THE POCKET APERITIVE FOUNTAIN is an THE POCKET APERITIVE FOUNTAIN is an agreeable substitute for physic, which releases persons from swal lowing purgatives, by containing them to procure an evacuation of the bowels, merely with a little water. The fountain having be enconstituted by Dr. Scott, for the self use of invalids and ladies, is commodious to every individual, and is strongly recommended to families in general, especially to those who are subject to continues, bile. Ac. To be procured only of Mr. Lieweltin, surgeon, 300, strand the third house from Exeter Hally, where may also be obtained the SOSITERS, by which may dead person may produce whatever effect is necessary to smarr a complete restoration of hearing. Descriptions sent free on receipt of two post stumps.

CHILDREN'S HAIR. - The balsamic properties of CHILDREN'S HAIR.—The balsamic properties of EOW LAND'S MACASSAR OIL nomish the Han in its embryo state, accelerate its growth, sostain it in maturity, and continue the possession of healthy vigour, silky softness, as d luxurious redondancy, to the latest period of human life. Genial and purifying, it dispels all scurf and impurity, and renders the use of the fine comb ouncessary.

Jeff Heware of Spurious Initiations!:1-The genuine article has the words "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL," on the Wrapper.

Price 3a 6d., 7a., Family Bottles (equal to 4 small), 10a. 6d., and double that size, 21s per Bottle.

**Rold at 20, Hatton Garden, London, and by Chemistsand Perfumers.

BRUNIES- NEWINVENTIONS.

THE TRIPLE HAIR BRUSH. One stroke of this is equal to the effect of one penetrating, five small tooth combs, and one even cut brush; to be had in four sizes, No. 7, 5s. 5d. No. 8, 7s. 8d No. 9, 9s. 6d. No. 10, 11s. 5d.

No. 9, 9s. 6d. No. 10, 11s. 6d.

THE DOUBLE ANTI-PRESSURE NAIL BRUSH, which coes not divide the quick from the nail, no pressure being required, and thoroughly cleans and polishes the nails in a tenth part of the time of any other method. Price, in Bone, No. 1, 2s. No. 2, 2s. 6d. No. 3, 3s. 6d. No. 4, 6s., and ofall sizes and prices in Ivory.

Apprent Average of the Six Weeks. Wheat, 55s. 3d.; Barley, 23s. 11d.; Oats, 23s. 8d.; Rye, 33s. 2d.; Beans, 35s. 8d.; Peas, 34s. 6d.

Duty. Wheat, 17s. 0d.; Barley, 0s. 0d.; Oats, 5s. 0d.; Rye, 9s. 6d.; Peas, 8s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, May 5, 1846.

Wheat. Barley. Oats. Ryo. Beans. Poas.

The NEW TOOTH-PICK BRUSH, which entirely enters between the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 3, hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are in the interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 4, soft. The Narrowers are interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 3, soft. The Narrowers are interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 1, hurd. No. 2, less hard. No. 3, middling. No. 3, soft. The Narrowers are interstices of the closest teeth; marks, full size brushes, No. 5, hard. No. 6, soft. The Narrowers are interst

THE DAILY NEWS,

NEW LONDON MORNING NEWSPAPER,

PRICE TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.

PUBLISHED IN TIME FOR THE MORNING MAILS.

Whiteerians, June 11th.

The Proprietors of the Dater News regret to learn that the Paper has not always reached the Subscribers so early or so all expectation, that it was not possible to produce the required numbers, even with the most powerful machinery, in time for the Morning Expresses and Mails; and the number of Post-office Orders which poured in made it difficult, and some days impossible, to distribute them amongst the Trade of that delays in executing such orders were unavoidable. They trust, however, that their arrangements are now so complete us to insure the Subscribers against all chance of delay; vot, as all the respectable Nows Agents have given to the Dater News an active support, and many have amounteed by advortisement their willingness to supply the paper for loc. 41 per quarter—payment being made in advonce—the Proprietors recommend that new Subscribers should Joseph Smith, Dater News Office, Whitefriars, London.

GREAT HISTORICAL PICTURE

COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE.

The accomplishment of Prec Trale will be one of the most remarkable events, not only in the history of the British Empire, but of the civilised 1. No movement so important, we charter, and so successful, havever been before writnessed by mankind. Those to whose zeal, integrity, prusual bility this greet triu uphic due, will be recognised as the benefactors of mankind to remote generations.

It is a duty, then, which we owe to the world and to posterity, to preserve some

PERMANENT MEMORIAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE; that deliberative and assequive losty, which has achieved more by moral force, than has been accomplished by associations that included physical strength and political power. For this purpose arrangements have been made with Mr. HERBERT, R.A., to paint a

HISTORICAL PICTURE OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE,

Including Accurate Portraits, not only of the Principal Leaders, but of those less prominent Members, whose indefatigable labours during the whole course of the movement have entitled them to public gratitude. It is proposed that this shall be engrived by a first rate artist, on a large scale (33 by 72 inches), and that the copies shall be sold at such a price as to place within the reach of persons of moderate fortune, a monument of the the relayment of so glorious a victory. The principles of universal peace have been established by their own practical development in peaceful

agitation
In order to accomplish this great work of Art, on a scale and in a style worthy of the subject it is designed to commemorate, those who are interested in its production, are requested to communicate to Mr. AGNEW, Printseller and Publisher, Manchester, the Class of Engraving for which they work to Manchester.

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Yes, yes! we might apply the phrase,
Indeed, indeed we might!
In all that MOSES' house displays,
We read the words "All right."
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And not one garb disposes
The purchaser to wait awhile
Before he goes to MOSES.
Not over-short—not over long—
Not over-loose nor tight— Not over loose nor tight -MOSES and SON have nothing wrong, And hence they say, "All right."

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 143.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1846.

[8d.

COUNTY REGISTRATION.

Between the 20th of June and the 20th July, a valid claim can be made, which should be in the following form : To the overseers of the parish of -

I hereby give you notice, that I claim to be inserted in the list of voters for the county [riding or division] -, and that the particulars of my place of abode and qualification are stated in the columns below. day of Dated the , in the year

(Signed)

Christian unne and surname of the claimant at full length.	Nature of Qualifica- tion.	Street, lane, or other like place in this parish for township], and number of house [if any] where the property is situate, or name of the property, or name of the occupying tenant, or if the qualification consist of a rent-charge, then the names of the owners of the property out of which such rent is issuing, or some of them, and the situation of the property.

Taking care to sign their Christian names (if more than one) and surname in full, their true place of abode. nature of qualification, and locality, conformable with the heading of the notice, so that it may be identified. In the third column state, if the qualification is freehold, say "Freehold house," or "land," or "rent-charge" (if for life, only £10 value is required), giving the name of the owner and the situation of the property.

If copyhold, say " Copyhold house," or "land," as the ase may be.

If leasehold, say " Original lease of twenty years," or

"sixty years of house," or " land," as the case may be. If a sub-lease, then "Sub-lease of sixty" or "twenty years," as the case may be.

If tenancy qualification, say " House" or " land occupied at a rental of £50 per annum."

QUALIFIED FREEHOLDERS

Are those possessed of an estate of inheritance of the yearly value of 40s., or an estate for life or lives of the yearly value of £10, or an estate possessed prior to June 7,1832, or since. If by marriage, or will, or promotion to office, or if the freeholder is himself the actual occupier, 40s. value will be sufficient.

Parish clerks, sextons, schoolmasters, Dissenting ministers, and holders of office, if entitled to emoluments of 40s. out of land, but the appointment must be for life, or during good behaviour. Six months' possession prior to the 31st of July will entitle the freeholder to be registered.

QUALIFIED COPYHOLDERS

Are those possessed of copyhold " houses or land of £10 The period of possession the same as for free-

QUALIFIED LEASEHOLDERS

Are those who possess an original lease or a sub-lease (if in occupation), originally created for sixty years, of the clear yearly value of £10, over and above all rents and charges, or for twenty years of the clear yearly value of £50, over and above all rents and charges, and in possession thereof twelve months previous to the 31st of

QUALIFIED OCCUPYING TENANTS

Are those who occupy as tenant any lands or tenements for which they are bona fide liable to a yearly rental of £50, and the period of occupation must be the same as the leascholder.

Many electors during last year's revision lost their right of voting for twelve months, owing to their mistaking the tenancy qualification and leasehold qualification; but the reader will see they are totally different, and those who were struck off should reclaim.

The holding of a lease at a rental of £50 will not confer a leasehold qualification. The lease must be worth annually £50, over and above the rent, &c., and persons holding as described, when in occupation, should claim as occupying tenants at £50 rental. The claim, then, can be maintained, and costs demanded, if frivolously and varatiously objected to. The notice, when filled up in deplicate, may be served on the overseer of the parish where the qualifying property is situate, by taking it to the post-office, where money orders are paid and rectived, and, on the payment of 3d., the postmaster will the duplicate and forward it by post, or the notice the residence of the overseer or office for the 4 of the purochial business. It is to be observed a redeemed land-tax of 40s., if purchased and

entered under Schedule D, will confer a county vote; but neither freehold in occupation of owner, or a copyhold of £10 value, or a leasehold on which a tenement is built, will confer a county vote, if the property is situate in a city or borough. It has to be observed, however, that two or more copyhold or leasthold houses of less clear annual value than £10 each, but more together, will confer a county vote, even although situated in a parliamentary borough.

THE "AMENDMENTS."

"The smallest trifle thankfully received." (From The Beoden, a farce, lately performed by several persons of quality.)

We certainly ought to have known the faction well by this time; yet, we confess, even a seven years' intimacy had scarcely prepared us for that unblushing exhibition of sordid, spiritless, and crest-fallen mendicancy which disgusted the country on last Monday and Tuesday nights. Never was anything so "cruel small" as this last scramble for odds and ends. The wholesale plunder being over, they come, these aristocratic tradesmen, with beggars' wallet and beggars' whine, and ask for broken victuals and bones to pick. They are not nice. They will take a boon at the very hands of treachery and perfidy" itself, and say, "thank you kindly, good gentleman." Anything. new slide, with its 10s. maximum-or, in default of better, a very moderate and low fixed duty. "Some remnant of protection to the agricultural interest," cries the agonised lord of Stowe-"some fragment" -some "shadow"-something, if it were only to show and talk about. "Some small protection," whines that baron bold, De Mauley-something that shall "act as a sort of compromise," and at least "show a kindly feeling." But no! The House Steward is a hard man, and has no bewels of compassion. You have had your answer, and had better "move on there!" Cruel Peel! To think of being so short with "noble lords!"

These men are, in truth, to use the familiar phrase of eleemosynary commiscration, "real objects;"-objects of most real and heartfelt pity to those whose regret at witnessing so humbling displays of mean and hungry importunity on the part of members of a "proud aristocracy" overpowers the indignant scorn called forth by the exhibition of lordly legislators suing for leave to tax poor men's bread, and take toll of poor men's appetites. They are likewise, we must in fairness add, real objects of that charity which makes merciful allowance for the blindness and perverting influence of class privileges-which discriminates between individual character, and the class character induced by a vicious system of legislative favouritism - and which never forgets, that the very men whom the world knows only as the reckless supporters of a fabric of political extortion and injustice, may be, in every relation of private and social life, patterns of all the virtues. We freely give these noble lords all the benefit of the wide moral tolerance due to those misdoings which come under the category of "sins of igno-

The truth is, they are punished enough. They have done ample, though unconscious, justice on their own delinquencies. They have spoken-and reporters have written down-and printers have printed—and the too faithful Hansard will transmit their lightest, hastiest, and most fugitive utterances to other generations that may feel curious to learn how English protectionist peers, in the year 1846, comported themselves at the last crisis of their political fortunes. It was an awful slip. If they could but have kept quiet one week more! Posterity would have let them off for all the rest. Posterity would never have brought up in judgment against them the rant and nonsense of seven years. Even the "flag of protection," and the "British lion" posterity would have literally "forgiven and for-

gotten" it all, if they could but have been silent at the last. But the closing scenes of the protectionist drama will be profoundly interesting, and each trivial incident will borrow an adventitious attraction from its near vicinity to the denouement. We of the League have always been averse to everything savouring of "intimidation;" yet we cannot refrain from warning those noble lords who meditate saying a few more last words for protection, on the occasion of the third reading, that they will do wisely to have the fear of history before their eyes. Every syllable of the last of the Corn Law debates will be read, as long as English history is read. As the whole thing will so soon be over, would it not be judicious to avoid gratuitous self-exposures?

THE TIMES ON A FIXED DUTY.

We believe we may now, for the first time, indulge ourselves in the confident hope, that THE BILL IS SAFE. With every wish to abstain from premature rejoicing, it would be a sort of affectation to hold any longer the language of uncertainty. After the decisive majorities by which, on Monday and Tuesday nights, the committee of their lordships' house rejected the two great protectionist amondments, it is impossible to entertain any serious doubts, that the Government Bill will, in a very few days, become the law of the land. We expect to be enabled, when we next address the public, to announce that the principle of the total abolition of monopoly is definitively placed on the statute book of the United Kingdom,

It is a pity that the general unanimity of national sentiment and conviction which marks the legislative consummation of this great and beneficent measure should be broken by the dissent of any voice entitled to be heard. We regret to perecive that so powerful an organ of opinion as the Times places itself, to a certain limited extent, among the minority of objectors and non-contents, and enters a kind of half-retrospective, half-prospective protest on behalf of the principle of a "moderate," or "low," "fixed duty" for the purpose of revenue. As our contemporary treats the matter in a very temperate and argumentative tone, and as we have a little leisure on our hands just now, we willingly take the opportunity to advert once more to a question which henceforth can have no other than a purely speculative interest.

The Times complains, with a seriousness and emphasis that almost rise into pathos, that the scheme of a fixed duty has scarcely had fair play in this great national settlement; that it has been "swamped" in a "strange juggle of parties just at the time when it might have been introduced with great advantage to the country at large;" that it has suffered from the "heats of faction" and the "struggle of rival leaders," and has succumbed to what is no better than "a moral prejudice," a "sentiment," and a "cant." Our contemporary sees no more harm in a tax on foreign corn (if levied exclusively for revenue) than in a tax on any other foreign commodity ranking among the necessaries, or quasi-necessaries of life. There is "no abstract reason why men should not pay a tax on bread as well as on anything else entered for consumption. There is no good à priori reason why they should not pay it on bread as well as on tea, or any article of food." And he views accordingly with natural uneasiness the ascendancy of a doctrine which, according to his theory, puts in jeopardy the entire customs' revenue of the empire. He fears that, some day or other, the tea tax and the sugar tax may go the way of the bread tax, and " an agitation which has prevailed over one branch of the customs' duties may triumph over the rest." Or rather, as it would elsewhere seem,

our contemporary, having a strong fulth in the good sense of the British people, and in the ultimate triumph of truth, does not fear this, but looks forward to an eventual "revulsion, at some not distant day"—when the "struggle with a stinted exchequer" shall necessitate new fiscal experiments, and, perhaps, "another Parliament may, at the desire of the people, undo in part what this has already done."

There must be few, if any, among the habitual readers of THE LEAGUE, who will not see at a glance the fullacy of all this. The objection which we Free Traders take to the "low-fixed duty" is not exactly that it is a tax on bread; the objections to any tax on bread rest on grounds valid in themselves, but perfectly distinct from the principle of our movement. We object to the "low fixed duty" on foreign corn, that it is a protective duty; that, although imposed in the name of revenue, it would also act in the way of protection; that, by restricting supply, it would raise price-the price of all the broad eaten in the country; and that of this enhancement of price the state would receive only that part paid on the corn imported—the rest would go into the pockets of the landlords. The "low fixed duty" would, in fact, be a differential duty in favour of the home grower, at the cost of the consumer. It would be making the public pay what the Queen's and people's exchequer would not receive. In what precise proportion it would raise prices-whether by the exact amount of the duty, or by some less or greater amount—is a question which there is no occasion to decide. It is clear that it would raise prices, more or less, for it would narrow the field of supply. It would keep out some corn-namely, that corn which could not afford to pay the duty; and the statutory diminution of supply would be a statutory enhancement of price, of which, not the state, but the landlord, would have the benefit.

The Times' analogies full altogether. Customs' duties on commodities that are exclusively of foreign growth - or customs' duties balanced by an equivalent excise on the same commodity when produced at home-may, or may not, be objectionable, in nature or in amount, on other grounds; but they are not objectionable on that ground on which the British people and legislature now object to the low fixed duty on foreign corn. They are free from the vicious ingredients of protection. There is no artificial enhancement of price for the gain of a class, What the consumer pays, the exchequer receives, The tax on tea is, in its principle, a fair revenue tax, for Great Britain does not grow tea-there is no British ten interest to make a profit by the fiscal enhancement of price. Sugar, the same-for we have a countervailing excise on home-manufactured sugar. Tobacco, the same -- for we prohibit ats home-growth, to save the cost and trouble of keeping the army of excisemen that would be wanted to protect the revenue from fraud, were its cultivation allowed. And a bread tax would be a fair revenue tax, so far as the special principle of the League is concerned, were it levied in the shape of an excise at the mill, on all the broad eaten in the country. It would be a burden on all classesnot on all classes except one, for the benefit of that one. It would be a very bad and oppressive tax; but it would be bad and oppressive on grounds perfeetly distinct from those on which the Parliament of the United Kingdom is now legislating.

Our contemporary may make himself quite easy. Free Traders mean no harm to her Majesty's treasury, which, indeed, they are only too happy to defend against the invasions of the great interests" that impertinently employ her Majesty's revenue officers to levy private taxes for their own dear protected selves. The League leave the whole question of the relative merits of direct and indirect taxation exactly where they found it. Their work terminates with the emphatic and practical legislative recognition of the principle, that all taxes paid by the people shall go to the people's receiver-general, her Majesty the Queen. As we have none but the very kindest feelings towards our contemporary, we warn him,

as he values his peace of mind, to get this "low fixed duty" out of his head with all convenient speed. He will never live to see it. The "revulsion" will never come. What is done now, in this year 1846, is done on principles that will stand every conceivable test of reason and experienco—even the test of a "struggle with a stinted exchequer;" and will never be undone—not even "in part"—while England is England.

THE CHRISTIAN BISHOPS.

We only perform an act of justice, which is as grateful to our own feelings as it is due to the eminent and truly "right reverend" persons above designated, when we record our high sense of the services rendered to the cause of commercial and industrial freedom, by the Bishops of St. David's and Oxford. To those prelates who have simply given their silent votes in favour of the enfranchise ment of industry, we tender our thankful acknowledgments; but an ampler and more special tribute is due to those occupants of the episcopal bench who, on the night of Friday, the 12th instant, so luminously expounded, so persuasively recommended, and so energetically enforced, the great principle of the working man's right to carn and eat his bread.

Our Bishops, it will be seen, put the question on its broadest and highest ground. Doctors Thirlwall and Wilberforce understand that it is a working man's question—a people's question—a question of work, wages, food, physical comfort, domestic happiness, intellectual and moral improvement, affecting the great mass of the community; and they refuse-indignantly and scornfully refuse -to narrow and debase it into a question of special class-interest. They resent, as an insult to the church, the appeal which protectionist advocates make to the episcopal order, to stand forward in defence of dear bread and a high scale of tithe rent-charge. The landlords profess superiority to sordid class interest, and our Free Trade prelates decia themselves and their order insulted by an argument that assumes class interest to be the rule of clerical action. The interests of the clergy " either coincide with those of the great mass of the community, or are distinct and separate from them;"---if coincident, there is no need of talking of the clergy at all in the matter-if distinct and separate, the great mass of the community must be considered before the elergy. The representatives of the clerical order will not allow the church to be placed in the odious position of living on a public

" There is only one way" in which the Bishop of St. David's " can consent to look upon this question, and that is, the effect it is likely to have ON THE COMFORT, AND WELL-BEING, AND PROSPERITY OF THE GREAT MASS OF THE COMMUNITY." And his right reverend brother of Oxford repels with scorn " appeals to the episcopal bench on the miserable sys-TEM OF THINKING WHAT WOULD BE THE BEST FOR THE TERGY, AND NOT WHAT WOULD BE BEST FOR THE COUNTRY." As regards the question of fact, both prelates are sufficiently well versed in the laws of economical science, to know that any nominal diminution in the amount of the tithe rent-charge, resulting from a lowered average price of wheat, will be amply made up to the clergy in the "compensations" arising from increased cheapness of living, and from the general prosperity of the country.

It is not wonderful that the Bishop of Oxford, in particular, spoke with an emphatic and almost vehement, earnestness, that gave offence to sensitive protectionist nerves. Doctor Wilberforce remembers 1815—when his father's house was garrisoned by a military force, to defend the supporter of a bread tax from the vindictive fury of a maddened population. He was then but a lad of ten years old—yet thirty years' had not effaced the impression which the spectacle of violence and outrage made on the mind of a generous-hearted and quick-sighted boy. All the landlord sophisms are thrown away on him. The memories of that year are conclusive. The Bishop of Oxford

needs nobody to tell him the inherent viciousness of a food law that had to be thrust down the throats of the people at the point of the bayonet. In ge. neral, our Bishop's moral perceptions are of a fire. ness and promptitude to the last degree inconve. nient and embarrassing to the advocates of a public wrong. He has a keen eye for a fraud. He see, through a lie at a glance. He made himself particularly disagreeable to their protectionist lordships by some very plain speaking about "the nominal owners of heavily-mortgaged property;" and the unpardonable allusion to labourers who, " on a day of false festivity, drink from empty glasses a welcome to their landlords," provoked, naturally enough, the coarse and insolent sarcasm of that lord of sale mon who never opens his lips, but something comes out characteristic of the mean and vulgar nature of

From our hearts we thank these Christian bishops. They well merit all that they have won—the rude contumelies of titled bread taxers, and the gratitude and honour of the working and bread-eating millions of the British people. This time, at all events, Christianity has "lifted a mitred front in courts of Parliament," to good purpose. The Church of England may set a white mark in her calendar opposite to the day on which, by the lips of two of her most distinguished prelates, she protested, on behalf of "THE ECONOMY OF THE GOD OF NATURE," against the "MOST UNNATURAL PRINCIPLE OF PROHIBITING THE POOR MAN FROM BUYING HIS BREAD ON THE CHEAPEST TERMS."

THE TEN HOURS AGITATORS.

The leaders of the agitation for a ten hours' bill are doing their best to justify the charge we brought against them in our last of having been from the commencement of our labours in collusion with the monopolists. They have held a gathering in Manchester, at which the most virulent abuse has been heaped upon Messrs. Cobden and Bright. We do not know how many persons attended the meeting. or what really passed, beyond the information af forded by the Morning Post, to which journal a special report of the proceedings appears to have been given, whilst the reporters for the local press. who might have furnished a faithful account, were either excluded, or did not deem the affair worthy of notice. One of the speakers reiterated a charge. made in London, that Mr. Cobden had attended meetings of the "trades" in Manchester, to induce them to support the League, by holding out hopes that the Free Traders would assist the ten hours' agitation. In yesterday's Post appears a letter from "our correspondent at Manchester," reiterating the charge more specifically:

" Mr. Cobden having abstained from voting against the bill in 1814, was selected as the most likely person to complete the fraud the League were about to perpetrate on the fetory operatives and the country. Immediate steps were taken to ascertain the places of meeting of the different branches of factory workers, and the whole having been carefully arranged, Mr. Cobden commenced his tour through the various public-houses where those meetings were held. eranyes who constitute such meetings are, as it well known to Mr. Cobden, to a man, zealous supporters of the Ten Hours' Bill, and do not care a rush about the repeal of the Corn Laws. To secure their support it was of course necessary to promise largely respecting the Factory Bill; but these promises were so well managed and so voguely made, that Mr. Colden may have got out of the difficulty b referring to the actual words used at such meetings, which are of no jesuition a character as to be capable of bearing a different construction. The fact, however, is, that the men unanimously believed that the Free Traders would help them to get the Ten Hours' Bill if they (the operatives) would join them for the repeal of the Corn Laws. The bat, in some cases, succeeded, and now, the working classes find they were deceived. Several meetings of them have been held recently on the subject, at which the double dealing of Cobden has been explained to the workmen. Reports of the proceedings have been published, with which Mr. Cobden has been furnished. nished, but up to this time he has never dared to reply to the charges made against him. In 1836, Mr. O'Connell, as it was alleged and that Me. was alleged, sold the factory children for 1000k, but Mr. Cobden—so the rumour goes—has demanded a higher prict. He has stipulated, it is said, for an estate worth 100,000k, at least, and subscriptions are now collecting for that testimonial. It is added here, that the millowness are the priacipal subscribers. Surely such deceptions as these will open the eyes of the working classes of this district, and stimulate the eyes of the working classes of this district, and stimulate the protectionists in all parts of the country to expose these doners in fraud. The fact is, the working classes of this part of the country do eyes. part of the country do not care sixpence about the repeal of part of the country do not care sixpence about the repeat the Corn Laws, and they only want an exportant of the pressing their attachment to the principles, of prospers, and the principles of prospers, and the principles of the

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statement of certain facts, easily proved if true, and we are going to offer a sufficient temptation to bring out the proof. Mr. Cobden was absent from the division on the factory bill in 1844, because he was engaged in the contest for South Lancashire. It is alleged that he has subsequently lent himself to a scheme for bringing over the factory workers to the League by attending their meetings at public houses, and holding out vague promises, &c. Now we hereby offer 100l. reward to any man who will prove that Mr. Cobden has from that time to the present day attended a meeting of factory operatives of any kind whatever. As for the statements made by these worthics of what passed between the delegates and certain members in London, including Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Cobden, we believe them to be as destitute of all foundation as the above; nay, they are so utterly absurd as to be unworthy of contradiction. There is but one way of avoiding the spread of similar falsehoods in future. We advise the Free Trade members of Parliament to confine themselves in their intercourse with these self-styled factory delegates to written communications; or, if they trust themselves in an interview with them, to take the precaution of having a short-hand writer present.

THE CORN BILL AND THE SUGAR DUTIES.

(From the Economist.)

Nothing has transpired to indicate with any certainty the course which will be pursued with regard to the sugar duties. It has even been a matter of doubt whether the present Government will remain in office to deal with the question, or whether it will fall to another Minister to do so. Sir Robert Peel gave notice a fortnight since that he would bring forward the sugar duties on the 12th of June (last night), provided the second reading of the Irish Coercion Bill was disposed of. In the meantime it has been arranged, among the opponents of that bill, that the debate shall be continued, and that a division shall not take place until the Corn Bill has passed the House of Lords, on the ground, that it is expected the Government will be placed in a minority on that bill, and which, it is thought necessary to abstain from doing until the Corn Bill is passed. The Corn Bill will not go into Committee in the House of Lords before Monday next, and it is now very unlikely that it will be finally passed before Monday, the 22nd. If, therefore, the division on the Irish Coercion Bill is to depend upon the time when the Corn Bill is passed, and the introduction of the Sugar Duties Bill is again to depend upon the division on the second reading of the Irish Coercion Bill, it will be the 25th before the sugar duties can be proposed. But as the present bill expires on the 5th of July, it is obvious that there would not be sufficient time left for the discussions which must arise on that bill and all the amendments, of which notices have been given. It is, therefore, more than likely that Sir Robert Peel will take an early day in the ensuing week for the sugar duties, without waiting for the disposal of the Coercion Bill; and even in that case it is difficult to see how sufficient time will remain for the discussions which must arise on those duties, considering the multiplicity of other business before the house. Under any circumstances, therefore, it appears not unlikely that a short bill will be passed to continue the present duties at least for atime, unless, indeed, Sir Robert Peel should be prepared with such a measure (which is by no means unlikely), as should at once secure the approval of a great majority of Parliament. As it is at present, the whole question remains in the greatest uncertainty and doubt, not only as to what will be proposed, but as to who will propose it. All that is positively known is, that Sir Robert Peel expressed an intention at the beginning of the session, of making no further change than that of reducing the present duty upon foreign free labour sugar, to 19s. 10d. the cwt. from 23s. 4d.

lee labour sugar, to 19s. 10d. the cwt. from 23s. 4d.
Lord John Russell has indicated his policy with respect to the sugar duties, not only in the notice which he has given of an amendment upon the proposed plan of the diovernment, but also (according to the published report), at the meeting of his supporters held at Chesham place, on Saturday last. The noble lord proposes at once to equalise the duty on all foreign sugars, to the rate intended by the Government to be placed on foreign free labour, to take effect immediately, and, further, to provide for the extinction, by equal annual instalments, of the differential duty in five years. According to this plan the duties would be as follows:

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By this plan the practice, which in many respects has proved exceedingly inconvenient, but which inconvenience would be greatly modified, if not entirely removed, if the sugar duties were placed on a permanent basis, would be abandoned of making these duties an annual bill. As a principle, a deferred reduction of duties has been shown by experience to be highly objectionable. We must, however, aimit, with respect to the case before us, that there are reasons which render any other principle so difficult to adopt, that we should not feel disposed to urge any objection to it, except that the time is somewhat too long. After an arrangement based on this principle has been acted upon in settling the question of protection at home, it could not with any fairness be denied to the colonies. Moreover, sugar being an article on which we rely for a large revanue, it is doubtful if a more sudden reduction of duties would not be only an addition to the protection at to the importer, and not it is doubtful if a more sudden reduction of duties would not be reduction to the consumer, from the want of a subject to the indicate.

lower price would create. And again, so small a reduction annually as one or two shillings per cwt, will not be sufficient to impede the progress of trade or interfere with usual transactions. Being fixed before hand, calculations can be made in reference to each change, and supplies will be as uniform as if no change had to take place. The only difference will be, that for a month prior to the time of reduction in each year, some dealers will circumscribe their purchases to immediate wants, but the difference will again be made up in the following month; and even this effect will be partial, as it will be doubtful if the dullness of the market before the change, will not enable the dealers to buy as well, as the brisk market will, immediately after. The difference proposed at any one time will not exceed 24 per cent. on the price.

As far as revenue is concerned, there can be no doubt this plan would lead to a very important increase from the first, while the immediate reduction of price to the consumers could not be estimated at less than 6s. to 6s. per cwt. So far we know the views of Lord John Russell; but the doubt still remains, whether, in the event of any circumstance immediately placing the noble lord in power, he could carry them into effect, unless it shall turn out that Sir R. Peel and his colleagues have changed their views since the beginning of the session, and have determined to abandon the distinction between free labour and slave labour.

As to what really are the present views of Sir Robert Peel with regard to the sugar duties, nothing is accurately known. It may, however, be taken for granted that the right houbaronet has relinquished the principle of protection. To allude to all the rumours which have been circulated during the session of the views of the Minister, of his differences with some of his colleagues on this subject, and finally, of the Cabinet having at length consented to some extensive plan, advocated by Sir Robert Peel, would only be to entangle the subject more than it is. We may, however, allude to some circumstances which point less or more to the course which Government have had in view in relation to these duties, to be acted upon sooner or later.

The Spanish claim for the admission of Cuba sugar at the low duty was at last entirely disposed of and put at rest, by the Duke of Sotamayor, on the part of his Government, accepting the construction put upon the treaties by our Government. But a letter was addressed from Lord Aberdeen to the Spanish Ambassador, dated the 5th of December last, by which it appears that our Minister at Madrid, "was already furnished with instructions, based on a principle of strict reciprocity, and therefore in accordance with the engagements taken in 1783 and in 1809, for a renewal of negociations" for a new treaty. It may therefore not unfairly be hoped that these negociations shall have proceeded far enough to enable the present Government, if they do deal with the sugar duties, to relinquish the distinction between free and slave labour, without which, for the present year at least, no other arrangements could meet the wants of the country.

A rumour has been circulated, with some appearance of authority, that it is intended to propose three rates of duty,—one of fourteen shillings on Colonial, one of twenty shillings on foreign free labour, and one of twenty-five shillings on foreign slave labour. We do not give any credit to this rumour. It would be an unjustifiable departure from all principle to reduce slave labour sugar to such a duty as would serve to admit it for consumption, but in such a way as to raise the price of all other sugars to the English consumer. At the present relative prices, the sugars of Brazil could freely pay a duty of twenty-five shillings; but once departing from the principle of practical exclusion, how could a high duty be justified, which only tended to keep the price of sugar at a high rate, to the advantage of the producers in the colonies and in Java? On no pretence could two rates of duty be justified the moment the principle of admitting slave sugar to consumption is acted upon.

Another mode of escaping the present difficulty has been suggested, viz., to suspend the navigation laws, and admit Java sugars from Holland, where the stock is at this moment twenty thousand tons more than last year. Here, again, we meet with the difficulty that those sugars have not the need ful certificates of growth, though their origin is easily ascertained. For our own part, we do not think it likely that Sir Robert Peel will adopt any of these temporary expedients. We are rather disposed to think that he will either be prepared with some large and comprehensive scheme with a view to a final settlement of the sugar duties, based, perhaps, on the result of recent negotiations with foreign countries for the purpose of more effectually suppressing the slave trade, or, if not, that he will simply propose the duties announced at the beginning of the session.

Nothing, however, can be so desirable on every account as that a final arrangement should be niade with regard to these duties; and no parties are, probably, more interested in such a final settlement than the colonists themselves. As long as the question is suspended in doubt and uncertainty, we are satisfied nothing really will be done to meet the new competition to which the colonies must sooner or later be exposed, with that earnestness which is required. But a final settlement of the sugarduties must provide for a much lower duty than any as yet contemplated in the various proposed plans. On an article of such universal consumption, and capable of so much extension in its use,—an article, more-over, which must ever be one of the most important objects of exchange for the manufactures of this country in all tropical countries, a high duty cannot be maintained. We are apt to think that fourteen shillings per out or three half pence the lb., is a low duty, and so it is, compared with what we bave been accustomed to ;—but, when we consider that that is about seventy-five per cent on the first price of sugar, we are satisfied it is too high either for the permanent interests of the consumer, or for those of commerce, and, ultimately, for the revenue itself.

In order to give a very great stimulus to the consumption of sugar it should be retailed to the public at fourpence per lb.; and such an arrangement of duties is quite possible at this moment to secure that object within four years, without any sacrifice of revenue in the meantime, and with an ultimate and permanent increase after that period. In order to accomplish this great object, we would propose, first to pass resolutions which should bind Parliament to take measures with as little delay as possible to remove all the restrictions to which the colonies are now subjected, and then to pass a sugar bill, establishing a duty of fourteen shillings the cwt, or lid. per lb., on colonial sugar, and one of eighteen shillings and eightpence per cwt, or twopence the lb. on all foreign sugars, the former to be reduced at the rate of one shillings and twopence, and the latter at the rate of two shillings and fourpeace per cwt, each year, until they become equal at pine shillings and fourpeace per cwt, each year, until they become equal at pine shillings and fourpeace, per cwt, each year, until they become equal at pine shillings and fourpeace, per cwt, each year, until they become

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Such a reduction of duties we believe would give a stimulus to the production of sugar both in our colonies and in foreign countries, far beyond any calculation that the most sanguine dare now make. But taking merely the experience of the present time, let us see what the effect would be on supply, price, and revenue in 1856, the first year of the lowest duty which would be the most trying one. Last year we consumed 4,880,006 cwt., at an average wholesale price of about 508.— which therefore cost the dountry 12,201,500%. Then take the price of all sugar in bond in 1850 even at 258,8d, percent, to which add the duty of 98, 1d., we should have a price of 358, the cwt., or of 35d, per lb, to the dealer. Then suppose each individual expending only the same sum which he does at present on sugar, will give a quantity of 6,972,294 cwts., and if to that we add a quantity in proportion to the increase of population, we shall have a consumption of 7,490,265 cwt., which at 98, 1d., would give a revenue of 3,500,000%, which is, as nearly as may be, the present amount. But our own belief is, that with such a reduction of duty the consumption would be much greater at the low rate of fourpence the lb., at which good sugar would be sold.

The most important consideration is, whether a sufficient quantity could be obtained to supply such a demand. Last year, we imported of all kinds 5,811,281 cwt., or 290,000 tons. What we should require for the contemplated consumption would be 374,000 tons, or 84,000 tons more than the supply of last year. When we consider that the production of the world, available for European and American consumption, is estimated at 905,000 tons, or about 53,000 tons in excess of that of last year—when we look to the rapid increase of production in Java and in the Southern States of North America, by which the latter will soon be rendered more independent of the supplies of other countries—and, chiefly, when we consider the means now being used both in the East and West Indies, to increase the cultivation of sugar, an additional supply of 84,000 tons at the low duty of 9s. 4d. per cwt. in 1850, is a matter on which any statesman may calculate with the greatest certainty.

One word as to the finent effects of this plan. It will be said that an increase of the present revenue may be obtained by a higher scale of duties. We think it probable such might be the case; but it would be at the sacrifice of commerce, and the ultimate perfect success of the scheme. The plan proposed would lead to an additional import trade, amounting at the first price of the sugar, to 2,000,000/. annually, and would lead to an export of our manufacture. to a similar amount, the profits and wages secured in the production of which would be a much greater boon to the country than any relief from taxation which the revenue derived from a higher scale of duties could afford, besides securing to all classes a plentiful supply of this article of universal consumption at a low price. We are satisfied, before ten years have passed, the revenue derived from such a duty would be greater than from any higher one which may now be imposed; and that without involving any sacrifice in the meantime. With the colonial planters, moreover, such a measure would meet with great approval; -- in short, we can hardly imagine any party who could object to the plan, except those who are in favour of resorting more to indirect, and relinquishing direct taxation, who are now few of number. It is the most essential consideration in all fiscal ar rangements that we should consider how we can best in crease the ability in the community to bear the necessary burthens of the state. They may be lightened by a greater prosperity of trade, but cannot be by a mere shifting from one source to another.

DEATH OF THE REY, DR. HEUGH, OF GLASGOW,—We have to announce with the deepest regret, the deach of the Rey, Hugh Heugh, D.D., of Glasgow, which took place on the 10th of June, at his residence in Montrose-street, in the 64th year of his age. Dr. Heugh has, from the commencement of our movement, been an able, zealous, and uncompromising advocate of Free Trade.

Sudden Death of Mr. John Dyson Pernelly. At is with extreme regret we have to announce, the awfully sadden death of Mr. John Dyson Ferneley, of Greek treet. Mr. Ferneley died, at his residence, about vix o'clock on Sunday evening, in consequence of an attack of an apoplexy. We believe he was in the enjoyment of his customary state of health on Saturday, but on Sunday morning felt some what indisposed. He availed himself of some simple aperient medicine, and did not attend chapel in the forenoon. At two o'clock in the afternoon he was attacked by the malady already mentioned; and although Dr. Turner, Mr. Georgo Downs, and Mr. John Blackshaw, surgeons, were incessant in their attentions, he died at six o'clock in the evening. In all the relations of life, Mr. Ferneley's conduct was exemplary, and his loss will be very severely felt by a wide circle of relatives and friends; while his death will occasion a decided blank in the general society of the horough. He was a distinguished member of the Wesleyan Methodist body, and deeply interested himself in all their concerns. Iffs plety was conspicuous and decided, though without a shadow of estentation. In politics, he was moderately Conservative, without party spirit, and an ardent advocate of Free Trade, and of every measure calculated to promote the general welfare of the people. The enlightening, liberalising spirit of the present times, had its influence upon him, and induced him to devote his talents and energy to the advancement of the cause of commercial reform. To any one at all acquainted with the physical or constitutional peculiarities of individuals, it would at once be obvious, that in Mr. Fernolcy there was a natural predisposition to the malady of which he has died. This, acted on probably, by the present oppressively hot weather, has brought about the result which is now so deeply and universally himented, by a his fellow townsmen.

In the city and county of Philadelphia, comprising a population of 100,000 persons, nearly 1800 annually winterwalls, in themselves of their debts by the process of insolvency.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE PREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Twenty-second Week, ending Saturday, June 20.

Passengers, after a long sea voyage, when they draw near to their desired haven, brighten up, look after their effects, adjust their persons, and anticipate, with hilarious excitement, the pleasure of walking on terra firma. A similar pleasure has animated the friends of Free Trade-meaning thereby the friends of national prosperity, of the improvement and elevation of the working classes, of universal peace, and of our common humanity-in watching the last stages of the Corn Law debate, and waiting on what is now an assured victory. The Corn Bill has not, at the time we write, passed quite through the dreaded ordeal of a committee of the House of Lords. But the red-hot, bars, and the boiling water, have been administered in vam; a steady majority of TRIRTY-THREE, on Monday and on Tuesday nights, have rejected the attempt of the Duke of Buckingham to perpetuate the minimised sliding scale, and of the Earl of Wicklow to impose a fixed duty; and though there remains an amendment of the Duke of Richmond, it is exceedingly probable that on Friday (last night, though we go to press before the fact is known) the bill will be passed through committee, and then, on an early day, the concluding stage, that of third reading, will terminate the triumphal procession.

On Friday night week the exhansted debate received novelty and interest, from the fact that three hishops took part in the debate. Hitherto, the episcopal bench had abstained from all expression of opinion; the votes of the prelates were silent ones, though a majority undoubtedly voted in favour of the bill. But on Friday week the silence was broken, and broken in a way which, to a thoughtful observer, proclaims the wonderful power, the majestic influence, of that PUBLIC OPINION which the ANTI-CORNLAW ERAGUE has evoked, and which has now achieved a peaceable and a bloodless victory, that, a few years ago, might only have been obtained under the lurid glare of Bristol burnings, and the coercion of a revolutionary excitement, more destructive than the outpourings of lava from a volcano.

On Friday week, the adjourned debate was resumed by the Marquis of Exeter, who, throughout his speech, spoke in a tone inaudible except to those in his immediate neighbourhood. He was understood to advocate protection as a system, and consequently to deprecate the measures of the Government.

The Earl Delawarr, who has lately resigned the office of Lord Chamberlain, referred to the kindness with which he had been treated in a distinguished quarter, to which he dare not farther allude, but which called forth his deepest gratitude. His allusion, of course, was to her Majesty, whose zeal for the repeal of the Corn Laws is well known, and who has vainly endeavoured to retain this Corn Law lord in his official situation. But as an honest man he could not support the measures of the Government, in favour of which he denied that public opinion was enlisted.

Dr. Connop Thirlwall, who, in 1810, was created Bishop of St. David's, and whose name is a familiar one in the life-rary world, then rose, and immediate attention was directed to the significant circumstance of the first member rising on episcopal benches.

The Bishop of ST. DAVID'S said, if he was anxious to be allowed to say a few words before the debate came to a close, he could assure their lordships that it was not because he had any intention to trouble them with a discussion of the general merits of the great question now under consideration, but simply to state the grounds of the vote he had given and meant again to give on that question. This was a subject so alien to his ordinary studies and pursuits, that it was one on which he could have no claim whatever to their lordships attention. He was conscious he possessed wo authority whatever on it that could give the slightest areight to his opinion, and that he was not able to adduce any facts or arguments with which their lordships were not Samiliar, even to weariness and satiety. It was a very differnouve, and one of a very special kind, that had induced him to depart from his original intention, and break the silence he intended to preserve, in order to solicit their lordships attention. It was a motive that compelled him in a manner to speak in his own defence; for their lordships would not have forgotten that in the course of the recent ctiscussions very numerous appeals -most pointed, emplatio, pressing, and carnest appeals—were made by a great number of noble lords—he did think in a very unusual manner-to those who occupied a place in that part of their tordships' house where he was stunted (hear, hear). And Aleir lordships must be aware—as was every one-to whom chose appeals were addressed—that they were of such a masure as to involve very serious charges against those members of their lordships' house in that place who held the opinions he had, who had given a vote conformable to that which he had given on this question—charges involving a neglect of duty which they (the bishops) ought to hold auost sucred, and an indifference to interests which cught to be most dear to them. Under these circumstances it was perfectly natural and proper that one of those to whom such remarks had applied should for a short time solicit their lordships attention to meet these appeals. At the same time, he was speaking simply in his own name; he had not she presumption to pretend to stand forward as the represensative of others, many of whom would be much betterable so discharge the duty, and to whom he should most gladly diane resigned it, if he had seen any manifestation however, he believed that in the most part he should, in what he was about to say, be speaking the sentiments of the whole of that (the episcopal) bench (hear, hear, hear).

There was one thing in the appeals made to the episcopal bench which he was acknowledge afforded him some satisfaction; namely, that those appeals came exclusively from faction; namely, that those appeals came exclusively from

one quarter, and one part of the house-from noble lords adverse to the measure. The case might have been far otherwise, considering the arguments used on other occusions; and he could not help expressing surprise that those noble lords should not consider that in these appeals they were using a weapon which might be employed Just as effectually by their opponents, and turned against themselves. For it would not have been surprising, it that bench had been appealed to ou principles, not merely of public policy, but of justice, of humanity, may, of religion itself, and if even texts of Scripture had been adduced to prove that it was their bounder duty not to lend their countenance to any measures which had for their visible object that of thwarting the benevolent designs of Providence, by restricting the supply of food to the population of the country (cheers). It would have been quite as specious a kind of appeal. Not that he attuched the slightest value to such arguments, he consi dered them as gross fallacies; but at the same time he ad mired the moderation of noble lords favourable to this bill, in refinining from those popular and specious topics (hear). He held them to be fallacies, because it was quite clear that they took for granted the question at issue; that they supposed, not only that one view of the subject was the only right one, but that it was known and felt to be so by those who opposed it (hear). Another circumstance connected with these appeals deserved attention; and he really looked upon them as a very curious, and remarkable feature in this discussion. The noble lords who made them seemed a little inconsistent with their own professed principles. They appealed to the episcopal bench, in their quality of representatives of the rights and interests of the clergy, to give their votes against a measure which threatened to be injurious to those interests; but what was the language, and what were the professions of the same noble lords in other parts of their speeches? Had not every one of them most indignantly repudiated the idea of treating this as a landlord's question, or a question affecting the peculiar interests of a class (hear, hear, hear)? They all stood forward as the advocates of the interests of the great mass of the community, the friends of the labouring man; they cast away all considerations of private interest all considerations affecting their own order. But must not the clergy stand in that position also (hear, hear)? If the interests of the clergy were identical with those of the great mass of the community, then what occasion was there to bring the episcopal bench into particular notice, and appeal to them as the representatives of those particular interests? When their lordships considered the line of argument taken by those noble lords -- how they had represented the measure as pregnant with rain to the institutions of the country, as well as to the labouring population, did at not border upon the ridiculous, that there should be placed in juxtaposition with those mighty interests anything so comparatively diminutive and insignificant as the effect the measure was to have upon the interests of the clergy? Were they (the hishops) to be told in the same breath to resist this bill, because it tended to the overthrow and rain of the empire, and also because it would produce a considerable reduction of tithe (hear, hear)? There appeared to him to be indications of something which those noble lords were willing to conceal, not only from the house but themselves. All must recollect the vehement language of one noble lord, who held out some vague indefinite threat of retributive consequences, which were to fall upon the members of that (the episcopal) bench, if, as he said, they deserted-what? Not the interests of their country, or of the labouring population, or any interests which might be expected to be dear and sacred to them in the character which they sustained in that house; but, said the noble lord, if they (the hishops) should desert "us." It was evident what was ungernout in the noble It was evident what was uppermost in the noble lord's mind. Why, he felt, although he might not be distinetly conscious of it, that this was not the question of the labouring classes, not the question even of the tenant farmers, but that it was a landlord's question (hear, hear, hear). But there was another circumstance still more remarkable about these appeals; noble lords who expressed such a sympathy for the interests of the clergy appeared to understand their wishes and feelings better than the clergy themselves. For not only had the elergy as a body abstained from expressing any opinion on the subject publicly or by petitions; but they had never in private, as far as ho (the Bishop of St. David's) knew, signified to the members of the e; is copal bench any desire as to the course of conduct they should pursue on this subject (hear, hear). He conceived that in so acting the elergy had acted most wisely, and had carned the approbation and respect of their countrymen (cheers); but what could be the purport of the appeals made by noble lords to that (the episcopal) bouch, except that they should, by their voluntary, officious interference, place the elergy in that very invidious position which they themselves had declined to stand in thear, hear;? What must those noble lords have thought, if there had been in that sense a perfect unanimity among the members of that bench, but il house at least had been swaved, not by their dispassionate and deliberate convictions, but by a sense of the interests of their own class (hear)? He rejoiced that it was otherwise, proving that they (the bishops) as a body had followed their own convictions; and he might appeal here to the fact, that two of that body, united not only by their office but by ties of blood, took opposite sides of this question (hear, hear). A noble duke (the Duke of Buckingham) had spoken of the effect of this measure upon the interests of the clergy, and had calculated it so precisely as to be able to say that their incomes would be diminshed by one-fourth; he (the Bishop of St. David's) did not pretend to be able to follow that calculation, but he conceived that the noble duke had overlooked everything in the shape of compensation which the clergy might receive to make up for this deficiency in consequence of the effects of this measure, and which, being anti-cipated by its advocates, could not fullly be left out of the account. Moreover, whatever the bad effects of the bill on the interests of the clergy, they could not properly be laid upon this measure, but resulted from one passed long since, for it was by this measure in connection with that for the commutation of tithes, that the interests of the clergy were placed on a different footing from those of other classes interested in land. But, "if so, although it was possible that the clergy might sustain loss, they could not say they suffered any injury, for that measure was undoubtedly passed with the concurrence of those who represented their interests

rests of the clergy would be affected in such case, but he cause the repeal would operate as a grievance and a had-ship to the owners of land ("Oh!" from the frost cross-hench). The noble duke who cried "oh!" would find that the fact was so. However, he (the Bishop of 8). David's) would only say here, that the clergy did not enter. tain the slightest desire that their (the bishops') votes on this question should be in the least degree influenced by their view of its operation upon the particular interest of the clergy; and if he were to say to them, " I think I have merited your approbation, for although, according to my own convictions, the measure was one likely to promote the general interests of the community, still, because I understood and believed that it was likely to operate injuriously to you, I complied with the exhortations I received from some of your best friends by voting against it;"-if he were capable of such folly and such dishonesty, he was quite sure he should be as far from earning the good will and thanks of any part of the clergy, as from deserving the good opinion of any man in the country (hear, hear). He could not consent to place such a momentous question as this upon any such narrow, paltry, and miserable ground, as its effect upon any particular class, however closely be was connected with it. He could consent to look at it only in the view of in probable effect upon the comfort, prosperity, and well-being of the great mass of the community (hear, hear). Now looking at it in that point of view, he would wish to ask those noble lords to whom he had been referring, whether he rightly understood them, that the state of the great mass of the labouring population of this country was, upon the whole, so satisfactory, that it did not stand in need of any great change (hear, hear)? He thought that expression which fell upon his ear pointed strongly to such a notion; and yet, when he reflected on all that he heard and saw, it appeared so monstrous a paradox, that he scrupled to aunbute it to the good sense and good feeling of any of their lordships (hear). It was impossible to doubt that, if this measure were a great and a fearful experiment, as was suid, at all events it was not a gratuitous and wanton one. Gratuitous and unnecessary it might be with reference to the case of those noble lords, and the class immediately below them, the occupiers of their land, who might have no desire for any uncertain or perilous change; but with regard to the interests those noble lords most particularly professed to advocate, he must contend that this was far from a gratuitous experiment, that it was one forced upon Parliament by the emergencies and necessities of the case, and that the question was one of life or death to the people of this country. To his own mind it was the great recommendation of the measure, that at all events it held out that which was the sweetener of all human adversity and misery-hope (" hear, hear," and a laugh), the hope of an improvement in the condition of the people. If their lordships rejected this experiment, and declared their determination to abide by the system advocated by the noble lords to whom he had referred, what had they to hold out in exchange? What prospect of improvement did they present (hear)? It was a natural and inevitable consequence of their principles, that they should more or less directly, openly, or covertly deny the existence of the need of such improvement (hear, hear). The house had been reminded in this discussion of the consequences likely to ensue from the rejection of this measure-reminded of what he believed to be an unquestionable fact, that such a step would be likely to produce a very great degree of disappoint ment, and discontent, and irritation, in the country. That was a topic on which he should be most unwilling to touch for the purpose of influencing their lordships' determination, but there was one thing deserving their most serious attention,—the reason why the rejection of this measure was likely to produce such discontent and irritation. Was it not simply this, that the country at large, the labouring population, felt that if their lordships rejected this measure, they were excluding them from the only hope which they had at present to look to of a favourable change in their combition (hear, hear)? He (the Bishop of St. David's) did not mean to say, that although he looked at this measure with hopeful expectation, he anticipated any very great advantages from it (laughter, and ironical cheers from the crossbenches). He was glad to have afforded some transient gratification to any of their lordships (a laugh). If the Government had represented the measure in the light in which it had been placed by many popular declaimers, as the beginning of a new epoch of unbounded prosperity in the country, he should have viewed it with the greatest distrust; he felt his confidence in it very much strengthened by the sobriety and caution of the language in which they expressed their expectation, contenting themselves with declaring their belief that it will produce an increased steadiness in the market, more constant and regular employment for the labouring man, give a certain and very active stimulus to trade, and a considerable and healthy stimulus to agriculture itself (hear, hear). With all this, he was suite agreed to the state of the stat he was quite aware that it would be upreasonable to en it to promote the great interests of the manufucturers, and at the same time produce very considerable advantage or addition to the comforts and enjoyments of the labouring man. But he still anticipated some such results; and he would remind their lordships that, however small individually those results might be in adding to the means of existence enjoyed by the labouring men, it became a matter of great importance when the vast surface over which the benefit was to be spread came to be considered. He was not sure that noble lords were all fully aware of the importance of the addition made to the comfort, happiness, and well-being of the labouring population by a very minute addition to their means. It was frequently the case that the poor were unable to take advantage of the means of education and in attriction agrees that the poor were unable to take advantage of the means of education and in struction accessible to them, in consequence of the misery of their physical condition. In a parish where there might be an excellent school, and a place of worship shoring abundant room for the population, there might be seen swarms of ragged children playing about throughout the whole of the Sundays and other days, and contracting habits of idleness. Why was this the case? In nine cased out of ten it would be found, that it occurred because those children had not decent clothing to any an about had not decent clothing to appear in at church or at school. Now, if it happened that the parents had a little surplus lowever small, out of the share they received of the productions of the share they received of the productions of the share they received of the productions of the share they received of the productions of the share they received of the productions of the share they received of the productions of the share they received of the productions of the share they received of the productions of the share they received the share they tions of the soil which they cultivated, and which surplus they might send to Manchester in exchange for decent miles of electrics.

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who had to bear the whole responsibility of introducing it, it was no argument against the measure which ought to operate on their lordships' minds; because, if this measure were to leave the country in the precise state in which it was at present, still he contended that by rejecting the measure their lordships were incurring imminent danger of altering their position in the most injurious manner. It would be no contemptible gain if their lordships relieved themselves from the obloquy and suspicion of having rejected such a measure from selfish and interested motives (hear, hear). Their lordships might feel conscious of the purity of their intentions; but, as a strong feeling with respect to this mea-sure was entertained out of doors, their lordships conduct might be subjected to a different construction. A noble lord who spoke last night observed, that it would be remarkable that a measure of this importance should be passed through the House of Lords on the very first time when it was brought forward in that house, and had reminded their lordships how differently they had dealt with another great ques non, on which they had first differed from the other house, but to which they ultimately acceded—viz., the Roman Catholic Relief Bill. He would remind that noble lord that there was a wide difference between the two cases. respect to the question of the Roman Catholic Relief Bill, it was possible that for rejecting it their lordships might be charged with short-sighted prejudices, but there could be no suspicion that they were biassed by motives of personal interest. Could there be a more glaring contrast than that which existed between the two cases? Though he had said that he did not entertain any exaggerated expectation of henefit to be derived from the passing of this measure, still he had a very decided belief that the alarm of disastrous conse quences to be expected from it had been very greatly exag gersted. There were several reasons for believing that those consequences were not of a nature which ought to excite any reasonable apprehension. In the first place, those who threatened these disastrous consequences had, throughout their whole arguments, entirely overlooked all the compensations which might arise from the nature of things for any of the evils which they unticipated even if those evils were realised. It had been assumed that if the legislature passed this measure. it would thereby divest itself for ever of the power of interposing at any future period for the purpose of redressing and correcting any inequality, injury, or inconvenience, which experience might show to be the result of it. Now, he took it to be quite certain that Parliament did not, by passing this measure, abrogate any such power, and did not preclude itself from receiving lessons from experience, or of adopting any legislative enactment applicable to the state of things which might result. He placed unbounded confidence in the wisdom and justice of Parliament, and he hoped and believed that, if it should appear that the result of this measure was unfair and injurious to the people or oppressive to any particular class of men, it would be found not beyond the reach of the wisdom and justice of Parliament to provide a remedy. Therefore he felt on every ground that he had not in the vote he had given, and which he was about to repeat, betrayed any of those interests which ought to be dear and secred to him, while at the same time he had consulted, to the best of his poor ability and judgment, the interests of the community (hear, hear). It was, at all events, a great consolation for him to reflect that with respect to the vote he had given he found himself coinciding with men who had bestowed the most anxious and careful study on this question, and with the great majority of all the parties between which the legislature had hitherto been divided (hear, hear). He could not believe, in coming to the same conclusion with them, that he had fallen into any very great, serious, or fatal error; and with respect to those interests to which he had more particularly adverted, it would be a great consolation to him to feel that, whatever might be the result of the present measure, the conduct of the clergy with respect to it had increased for them the respect, the good-will, and the confidence of the mass of the people (cheers).

The Bishop of Exeter agreed with the Bishop of St. David's as to the disinterested conduct of the clergy, but siffered wholly from him as to the probable effects of the measure. It might not be a main argument, but it was an important subsidiary one, that the temporal interests of the clergy would be affected by the bill, and to these they could not be indifferent. The worthy bishop disclaimed all knowledge of the thing called "POLITICAL ECONOMY;" and in that ignorance, declared that good wages and good food were far better for the poor than mere cheap bread, and he be lieved that the effect of the bill will be to place the labouring classes on the footing of the Polish serfs, while its most ardent promoters would be completely disappointed. He hoped that their lordships, discarding all other considerations, would act as in their judicial capacity, and, laying their hands on their hearts, say "Content," or "Non-

Several Peers having risen to address the house, and a great turnult having been raised as to who should have precedence, a short conversation on the subject of precedence arose, Lord Brougham thinking that speakers should follow each other for and against, and the Duke of Richmond suggesting that in that case they should measure time by the clock. At last the Earl of Warwick was allowed to proceed in a speech in which he strongly censured the proceedings of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and condemned the Government measures.

The next speech was a striking one. Dr. Wilberforce, the son of the Wilherforce, is still a young man, somewhere shout 40 years of age. His rise in the church has been repid. A short time ago, he was Archdencon of Surrey. He was promoted to be Dean of Westminster; and about the commencement of the present year was made Bishop of Oxford. This is understood to be owing to the favour of her Majesty, whose admiration of the talents and the chatacter of Dr. Wilberforce is very great. But the Bishop of Oxford (the youngest bishop who has attained the episcopal beneh for many years past) is a remarkable man. His style of speaking is very showy; but then it is based on solid acpurements, accompanied by a boldness of spirit, and a freshipsu of heart, absolutely, gratifying. Several times dwing his seperals, on Friday work, the Protectionist peers, writing appealishments geolesections, accompted to just Mail down by amflesy languter, "saretteric embers," and even grouns. But nothing daunted him. Every interruption only inspirited him; and his rebuken were delivered with a calm diguity which gave them force and power.

The Bishop of ONFORD said: After what has fallen from my right rev friends, and from many noble lords, in the course of this debate, I feel it necessary, holding the opinions entertain, and being prepared to record a similar vote to that which I have before given on that question, to trouble your lordships with a very few plain remarks, explaining the reasons which guide me in giving my vote. My right rev. friend on my left (the Bishop of Exeter) expressed great gratification at the appeals which have been made to himself and to other right nev. prelates on this occasion; and he gave a version of those appeals marked, I may venture to say, with singular skill and subtlety. He said, "We occupy these benches under peculiar circumstances; we are, as it were, authorities upon morals and religion; and, therefore, noble lords, auxious to be right upon matters of morality and religion, naturally appeal to us and ask for our opinion upon those questions." To all the appeals made to the bench upon which I have the honour to sit I have been a diffident and attentive auditor; but I cannot admit that such has been the character of the appeals made to us. I appeal to your lordships to give a verdict upon this point. What was the appeal of the noble marquis who began the debate ; He said we had been devising schemes to increase the in comes of the clergy, and that now we were going by the present measure to diminish them. Was this the appeal becoming our position as authorities upon moral and reli gious matters in this house? One noble earl allowed him self to use language of this character. He began with the erroneous assumption of a fact. He said that the incomes of the bishops had been commuted into a fixed money payment (hear, hear). That is a view entirely followings. He then said to us, - Your incomes are separate and distinct from those of the working clergy, and whereas this bill will lower their incomes, it will, inasmuch as it raises the value of money, improve your fixed incomes." The noble earl said to us that we should mend our incomes by diminishing those of the working clergy. My lords, these appeals are not only improper, they are utterly unconstitutional. We do not sit here to represent a particular class, and it is destructive of all sound constitutional principle to say so The House of Lords is constituted by drawing members from every profession and rank in society, and is composed of those who by hereditary descent, and those who by the favour of the Sovereign, sit here to represent, not the interests of the class in which they were born, but the interests of all chases of the community (hear). If it were not so our mouths would be scaled upon all subjects except those of feeting the interests of the elecical class. I cannot therefore welcome an appeal addressed to us as it we sat here to consi der what is best for the elergy, instead of what is best for the country (cheers). I do not say that we neglect the interests of the clergy in taking that course, because I believe that their interests are intimately bound up with the interests of the country. The noble earl opposite on a former night addressed us on the principle, that we were going to do something fatal to the country, and that we ought not to do so. But something was wanting in the noble carl's argument, and that was the shade of a reason why what we are going to do should be fatal to the country. That argument, therefore, so far as I am concerned, is entirely beside the mark. I shall not follow the example of the right rev. pre-Late in disclaiming all knowledge of political economy, because some slight knowledge of it is necessary for the consideration of this subject, and if the right rev. prelate says he has none, be puts himself out of the condition of the argument (hear, hear). I would rather suppose that he said this out of modesty, because the right rev, prelate is a very judge and master in all other matters which come hefore him in his legislative capacity, and this is a matter which lies in the alphabet of political economy. On the surcet principles of political economy, so 'ar | w | 1 | have been able to understand them. I approve of this measure. It is, I admit, an experiment; but when was a great measure any thing else but an experiment?—All legislation is but a series of experiments. You meet a certain ceil by a remedy embracing the greatest probable amount of good," I look at this question, my lords, chiefly as affecting the position, and habits of the working class. Noble leads, who have opposed this bill have been but too happy to appear as the labourers advocates; but I carnot allow there to occupy that position. The present law, with regard to the importation of corn, must be admitted to be an unnatural state of things (cries of "No, no," from the cress benches). Do noble lords who cry "No, no." know the meaning of the term In the providence of God and by the order of nature, wheat grows in the field; it is fed by the dew and ripened by the sun, God working through certain known laws. But does any one believe that for to have bread on the cheapest terms is not a part of the coo nomy of the God of Nature (cheers)? I say a Corn Law is unmatural. Legislation is for the most part, I admit, an interference with nature, but that legislation which as little as possible interferes with the order of nature is the best. The labourer is now prevented from being that important clement in society in this country which he will be in the natural working of your altered law. The effect of repealing the present law is that it will produce competition.

The Duke of RICHMOND: Competition with foreign labour!

The Bishop of OXFORD: I thankfully accept the agree ment which I crave (a lough). What is it that makes any man more valuable in a life of labour? It is the amount of competition he has to strive against. Be he farmer or be he Inhouser, what is it that makes him important and valuable to those above him? It is competition; and, unless the foreign labourer competes with our own, he will never reise his present position. The noble dake smiles. It is agreeable to see a person in a matter affecting his own personal feelings smile rather than be engry (a laugh); but I do not forget that I am met by a smile instead of an argument, - by a laugh instead of an answer, and I shall go on through the chain of reasoning I was about to enter upon, although the noble duke's laugh should increase to the highest degree of cachinnation (laughter). My lords, in the woollen manufacture, as long as there was no room for competition with foreigners, there was no room for skill, but when competition come in it became worth the while of the manufacturers to create a better class of labourers. So it will be found that competition generally both requires and makes it worth while to employ a better class of labourers. As long as the growth of our fields is protected, the grossest form of unskilled labour will be sufficient to enable the labourer to earn his bread, and the farmer to pay his rent. But when you admit foreign corn, the result will be that the owners and holders and tillers of the soft will all suffer if they make no change in their mode of cultivation. Self-interest here steps in, and when they cannot look to the legislature to protect them, they are compelled to protect themselves, by using the advantages which they possess. The farmers of this country must make an acre of land produce corn in greater quantity (an ironical cheer from the Duke of Richmond). The principle of protection has so completely eaten into the heart of the noble duke, that he cheers as if it were untrue that the English agriculturist could grow any large." Quantity of produce from his land.

The Duke of RICHMOND said that the whole course of his life contradicted this opinion. He had always urged the English farmer to increase his produce as much as pos-

sible,

The Bishop of ONFORD:- I was not speaking of the whole course of the noble duke's life, but of the sound of his voice, which I admit was of an marticulate, and doubtful, and easily mistaken mature (a laugh). Will the noble duke. will any one say, that the introduction of a better sort of agricultural husbandry will not bring in an increase of catthe feeding, and that it will not be attended by a greater demand for labour (hear)? Let noble lords remember that we have a measure proposed to us, not by a bare authority, but proposed by the only two great parties who, as parties, cen conduct the government of the country. I am not voting for this measure to keep the right honourable baronet in power. There is an essential difference between supporting a Government, and supporting the present Government. The one is a lawful, and the other an unlawful and treachcrous motive. But, noble lords impute to us who support this measure motives of a contradictory and Irreconcilable character. They say we do not give a free vote on a great constitutional question, because we are biassed by a desire to keep the right honourable baronet in power, and yet they say we do not believe it will have the effect of keeping him in power. Then, it is said, that her Majesty's Government have brought forward this measure on account of certain agitation and clamour, and the noble duke cheers me. will say, perhaps, that this agitation and chanour have been caused by the League. But has the noble duke read so little of constitutional lustory and of the proceedings of this house, as to tell me that the League, though they may have raised a large sum of money, ought to be spoken of as a body which the House of Lords must dread. The great consideration which gives them power and influence is, that the great mass of the thinking men in this country are with the I : ague. In the depth of their hearts, and in the centre of their convictions, noble lords must know that the opinions of the people accord with this agitation, and they know that then and not otherwise such an agitation becomes fearful. Would the machinery of the League terrify this house, if their objects did not come home to the sympathics of the people. If the League had double their actual funds and proposed the repeal for instance of the Reform Bill, that agitation would not be dreaded by your lordships, because there Is nothing in the great mass of the English people to answer to such an appeal. The secret, my lords, is, that in the thinking mind of England and the feeling heart of England, the opinions of the League are sympathised with, and this is why noble lords are roused by what they call agitation and clameur. There is this feeling risen and rising. The minds of men have undergone a change, and they are ready to support a Government which proposes a measure in conformity with that change. The condition of the working clergy has been referred to, as it will be affected by this bill. My lords, I know no class of persons who encounter more handships and make sacrifices more cheerfully than the working clergy. I believe that in many cases a reduction in their incomes will be a reduction not merely in their luxuries, but in many cases in the essential necessuries of life (hear, hear, hear). But it is a striking circumstance that the clergy have not ruised their voices anywhere in support of the Corn Laws. This has not been from want of invitation, for they have been invited to throw themselves into the buttle, and they would be covered by the cupacious shields of their defenders. But they would not respond to the invitation; not because they fear to oppose the Government, for the table of this house has been covered with petitions against a bill supposed to be advocated by the most leading mind of the Government; because when they did indeed believe that a great national principle was at stake they were the first and most numerous in coming forward with their addresses to your lordships; but in this other case, because they suspected that they themselves must be injured for I admit so much, -- because they considered that they had no grounds of justice upon which to withstand this measure, they have been altogether silent (hear, hear). I say grounds of justice, because I very much desire that your lordships should distinctly see that injustice to theminjustice to the parochial clergy was committed by the Tithe Commutation Act, and not by the alteration in the Corn Laws. Before the Tithe Commutation Act it was urged that the clergy had a great interest in the agriculture of the country; but it was judged needful, I will not say whether it was wise or not, that they should lose that interest; and take in future an annual sum out of the income of the concern, instead or being, as they had been, sleeping partners in it; and why were they asked to do that? Because it was said that agriculture would be greatly improved if other persons who would come forward and advance the money were to have the whole interest of that money, instead of the elergy taking any part of it. What, then, is this Corn Law repeal, my lords, but the simple carrying out of that same object? making it worth while for capitalists, if necessary, to lay out money in improving agriculture, in order that we may compete with the foreign grower; and therefore the injury done to the English clergy, when you take from him an increasing share in an increasing concern, and not allowing him any share in the increasing profits of that concern, is but in accordance with your former Act; and therefore the clergy, feeling that they have no ground of justice on which to resist this measure, have held a noble, dignified, self denying silence, have refused to join in the clamour which they might most injuriously have swelled (hear, hear), and have set to all classes in the community an example such as it is rarely the habit or in the power of any one class to set, by showing that they knew there were in-terests beyond the interests of money, and a reward for themselves greater than the reward of their annual income (hear, hear). And when I say this, I admit that I think it probable that, to a certain amount, the income of the English elergy will be injured by this bill, and I do not see how that can be met except in one way, they will be mude partakers in that compensation which this bill will produce in the cheapness of articles of consumption? This will be direct; but there will be another upon which Pwill will say one word (hear, hear). But, before I do so, I while

there is one class which will also be injured by this bill. thought right and fair in augustions to admit that. It by a here who may possibly have some representatives in this house. I mean the nominal owners of great property mortpaget to their erelitors thear, hear); and I will say of them that may appear to me to be in precisely the same position as the Lordish carry, and they may do well to copy in this respect their example (hear, hear). I think they will be thought by this bill, because, as I said, the foreign grower is only to be met by improved agriculture in England—by bringing corn into the markets of a better quality and in Mean'r quantity, with the advantage which greater security of price will give to increasing such agriculture-of having better market, and freedom from the liabilities of change, to which they are now subject. Now, in the case of noble fords who have capital, where money will be laid out, the capital will come from the possession of those noble lords. But I grant you, and it is my bounden duty in argument to do so, that when the estates of a noble lord are mainly and wholly another's, when they are mortgaged to his creditors, when he has no money to improve his land, then does arise the deep and solemn question which the noble earl put with that plainness of language upon which I could hardly have Nent ared, but which I may adopt, when he said, in a tone of sepulched demand-"and where is the money to come from " (haughter)? Now it does appear to me an undeniable fact, that with regard to those mortgaged estates, the effect of your legi-lation must be that many of those lands must change hands (hear, hear), because we know that the temantry of a poor proprietor are generally poor themselves; I know, from their cottages, that the labouring workmen of a poor proprietor are lamentably poor. It happened to me, the other day, to inquire into the moral condition of a certain pariso, and I was told by the clergyman that it was in the worst state of immorality; and when I asked how it came, he said from the miserable dwellings of the poor making everything like decency of life absolutely insrescible. I followed up my question by asking, have you not told the proprietor of the estate that he must, upon the higher claims of duty and upon the lower grounds of expediency, lay out some of his money in building latter cottages." The answer I received was, "I have already done so, the case has been looked into, but he says he has no money to build cottages with." And this, my lords, is the ense with many who, in the common parlance of coucty, ore the owners of yest tracts of land, and who conabor it necessary to their territorial greatness, but who are only nonemally folds of the land, for others really possess them, and displace all the influence of the proprietor, who alone can feel the responsibility with reference to the poor on their estates. He alone can feel that responsibility; but if does, he is uimble to acknowledge it in any degree, because nestead of having a small property really his own which he could improve, he has nominally a great property all sycther beyond his means, and so he is, in fact, reduced to the condition which I fear some of your lordships are too familiar with, of the furmer with a larger farm than he has the capital to work, and which is altogether neglected, whilst the same man with a small farm equal to his capital, would be a good and successful farmer. And therefore, my lords, elthanele I admit fairly that there must be much evil in such a change of property, I say that, looking forward to that as one of the possible contingencies of the working of this bill, yet it appears to me to be no reason why your lordships hould not adopt it; because, in fact, it will be only one means of bringing the whole of property into a healthier and better condition a condition in which it will be more easy to improve the fund and more natural to acknowledge the responsibility which waits upon the possessor of it. This, my lords, seemed to me to be a most important view of this question, which it was the duty of a person in my situation, even at the risk of offending rone of your lordships, to present to your potice. My lords, it is because I think that the condition of the poor is such as to require some such measure as this that I am an advocate in its behalf. But, my lords, I and there was another reason for the silence of the clergy. I believe that many of them, many who are acquainted with this state of society, are looking forward to this measure because, from the effects it will produce, they will minister to a happier, more contented, better provided, clevated peacantry (hear, hear). I know that they who live amongst that class, who do not see them only upon the days of forced festivity, drinking out of empty glasses "health to their landloid, and prosperity to agriculture" (hear, hear, and laughter), they who see them amongst their homes and tonds, who visit them when they lie on the bed of fever and of death I know that those men, for I myself was 15 or 10 years one of them, are continually grieved in their hearts at sights of wretchedness which they cannot alleviate, and wants to which they can only administer by spiritual consolation. I believe, my lords, that the other side of the bypothesis of Lord Bacon is made good in England. I believe, my lords, that the absolute necessity of this measure can be proved. I know that the clergy of this country can be proved. I know that the energy of this country believe that the state of the great mass of the labouring population and the peasantry of England is such that they cannot desire it long to continue as it is (hear, hear). They see other months to provide for, and no work likely to be found to furnish them with food; they see these things are transfer a small backing round for a remode they heliove it practically, and looking round for a remedy, they believe it will be found in anything that increases the general prosperity of the country (hear, hear). But, some noble lords say, that this measure will not increase the prosperity of the country; that our best markets for our manufactures, our home markets, will be injured, and that we shall suffer more than any body else (hear, hear). The noble lord cheers that, and I will join in it, because if it be so what becomes of the argument brought forward with the usual cloquence and power of the noble earl who at the beginning of this debate told us to calculate on the step we were taking, for it is irremediable for us and our posterity. Why? Because you give way to some strong necessity and admit to a share of power persons heretofore excluded, there is no retracing of your steps, because the persons to whom you give this power will be strong enough to keep it. But the noble lord says you are altogether in mistake about this measure. It will be ruin to the manufacturers and agriculturists. Then I ask, my lords, who is the third party to maintain this measure (hear)? Why is it to be irremediable? If it is found that the home markets will be ruined by this measure, will any one of those who claimed this concession stand up in the House of Comnons and ask that it might be continued? If the manufacturers are on the brink of ruin, if agricultures is on the verge of destruction, they will forget their past dissensions and ask that this measure shall not continue. They will have found the ovil of this experiment, and the utmost harm will be that you will have to retrace your steps and re-enact the former law (hear, hear). Therefore, this argu-

ment, my lords, is clearly most destructive to the other argument from which the opposite side of the house draw their conclusions. The two cannot be held together by any Therefore, with the utmost deference to those who differ from me, but with a full determination not to act upon the judgment of others, but to the best of my poor ability to judge for myself upon the subject under discussion, I am prepared, for one, to risk the dangers, and as I hope to partake of the benefits of the experiment you are now invited to make. It would ill become me, my lords, and it is most alien to my feelings to suppose that your lordships were influenced by any motive of lear upon this measure. If any strong motive be brought to bias your decision, there is but one motive of fear which your lordships have any danger of falling into-and that is the fear of being thought afraid (hear, hear, hear). I believe that this is the fear your lordships should, more than any other, guard against—that you should not, for fear of being thought, out of fear, to have changed your purpose, refuse to show that the time is come when that which might once be useful has become noxious; for let me remind your lordships of one of the arguments mentioned in this debate from an agricultural quarter, but in a manner which seemed to me not to savour of any great agricultural faith. The argument was this :-"Protection is the course you pursue with regard to everything else. You nurse carefully and protect the tender fruits of the earth; and you ought to do the same with this tender plant, the agriculture of England." I do not think that our agriculture is so tender an exotic; and I have no doubt that, free from the shackles of protection, it will assert its own indigenous strength and power (hear). But my lords, I am a protector of native industry (ironical cheers from the cross-benches); and, in spite of the cheer of the noble duke, of which I am as little afraid as of his arguments (a laugh), I again assert the same thing (hear), and I say that we, on this side of the question, are the true protectors of native industry; for what is that true protection? Simply to bring it into the field, and enable it to maintain a wholesome competition with the foreigner. Such was the course with respect to the great manufactures of this country. In the commencement of those manufactures they were sheltered with protection, even as you would place a glass upon a tender seedling (hear, hear); but as soon as they had asserted their native strength, and had based themselves upon the habits and minds of the people, that protection was found to be an impediment to their growth, and was withdrawn. When Mr. Burke said he would raise the woollen manufactures of England until they supplied the markets of the world, by raising foreign competition, he was met by clamour, to which even in this house we have not been altogether strangers this evening (laughter). He was told he was going to exterminate our manufactures. But the truth of his prophecy was proved, because it was based upon the eternal truths that govern all human conduct and human things (loud cries of "hear, hear"). You must provide for human necersities by human exertions—by human skill. You must teach men that they must depend upon their own right arm, their own moral habits, their own genius, and the ever favouring providence of God. You must teach them to compete with the world, and not, by your system of protection, to destroy that object. Make it worth while for that native industry to meet that of the world, and you will be the true protectors of that native industry (hear, hear, hear). You will make it as sure as it ever can be now, for who can depend upon any legislation, when any rash Minister (as we are told), at the sacrifice of place—of everything which a party man esteems of the highest value, but fulfilling that which his conscience tells him he ought to fulfil, in order to provide the necessaries of life for a great nation, which Providence has placed under his government, may abandon it at any moment? In spite, then, of those derisive cheers, I venture to say that I and the noble lords who think with me are, and at one day will be acknowledged to be the true protectors of the native industry of the English people; and, believing this, I would most carnestly beseech you not to be led away by that taking declamation which has tickled our ears (a laugh). I hope your lordships will not be misled by the splendid declamation with which we have been fayoured. What is declamation? Is it not painting in the most glowing colours certain propositions, which, when they come to be tried and examined, prove to be rottenness and delusion (cries of "hear, hear"); telling you that you are about to do that which the most parricidal Englishman could not have admitted into his brain, and then proving them by saying that wheat was sold in the Liverpool market at 15s. per quarter, and then, when the fact comes to be examined, it crumbles away, and you find that 15s, was 25s, on the spot in a distant port, to which was to be added the expense of freight, the outlay of capital, and that the wheat was also of inferior quality (hear, hear, and a laugh). I entreat your lordships not to be led away by any such declamation, delightful to hear, but not matter upon which Englishmen and English statesmen should draw their conclusions. I do believe, my lords, that there is in the minds of the people of this country a deep seated conviction, a firm persuasion, that your lordships will in this, as in other matters, gravely, soberly, and wisely consult, not for your own interests, but for the best interests of the whole nation. own interests, but for the best interests of the whole nation. Here, my lords, is your strength, and I do beseech you not to shake its foundations. Her Majesty's Government has been said to be mainly culpable in that it did not send back to the electoral classes this question for decision before calling upon Parliament to settle it. My lords, such a course I believe would have been alike unworthy of English statesmen acting on an enlightened view of their duties, and contrary to the assence of the constitution. I believe the very trary to the essence of the constitution. I believe the very principle of representation as settled by the constitution of this country, to be that the electoral body, when they elect, should leave to the judgment and discretion of their representatives for a limited time the decision of those questions which may arise and call for decision during that period, and I think, therefore, with respect to any separate question, of such a nature as that it can easily be made matter of divers representations addressed to and acting mainly on the feelings of those who have to decide in elections, that such a question is one which would be reserved by the theory of the constitution, not for the decision of the electoral body, but would be left to the decision of the elected. It had been stated to their lordships that this question was mixed up with a multitude of questions of political economy; but if so, how alien was such a question from the habits that could alone lead to a proper decision of it on the part of the people? How surely, at an election, would it be carried by appealing to the feelings and passions, and not by the sober exercise of cool, calm judgment; how certainly would it be decided by appeals from one side and the other to those particular prejudices, feelings, and passions, by which, of all others, it was most undesirable, for the welfare

of the nation, that such a question should be settled. Therefore, my lords, I think it would have been unworthy of a great statesman to have taken this course, and have finehed from calling upon Parliament for a decision upon this question—file the from a regard for himself, and then from a regard for your lordships. I think it would have been unworthy of a great statesman, after having satisfled himself by cogent arguments and reasons, to have said I dare not rest on them; I must risk a dangerous convulsion, which will reach to every county and borough in Eng land, in order to set the question at rest." What would that have been-what else could it necessarily have beenbut to set class against class in a struggle of a doubtful issue; what but to tell the manufacturer, "Now is the moment for you to try all your strength;" and to tell the agriculturist, "Now is the time come for you to raise your loud shout for protection to agriculture?" My lords, it cannot be doubted that the effect would have been to cause this question to be decided as a great party question instead of deciding it by the dictates of the wisdom of the best informed minds, if the Government had gone to the country instead of coming to Parliament for the settlement of it. Sit on this question then, my lords, I beseech you, divested of party feeling; sit on it judicially, not as the representa-tives of one interest or another, not as owners of rems (bear, hear), not as owners of land, not as owners of unap propriate tithes who are about to suffer by the change; but as the natural heads of the great English people, in whose welfare your whole welfare is necessarily bound up-in whose success you must succeed, and in whose prosperity you must prosper (hear, hear, hear). Remember, I beseech you, that the labouring classes of this country look to you, in the patient endurance of long-continued suffering-suffer ing which, I am sure, no other class of men but the English peasantry could be found to endure with patience-but with the anxious hope that you are about to do something to as suage that hard and consuming suffering. Do not disappoint the expectations that they have built upon your known ustice. Do not, above all, mistake the greatness of that suffering for apathy to that which is passing around them Do not read the signs of the times so. Never was there in this country, a time in which there was less outbreaking dissatisfaction, but that is not because the labouring classes are apathetic with respect to their condition, but the resson is, because they believe that those who have the power have also the inclination to do something for the improvement of their situation. Beware, my lords, of disappointing those expectations. Show the people of this country that your decision of this question is based on the broad and grand principle of justice to all, not on the narrow one of advantage to a few. In coming to this decision on those broad grounds, you will set on the firmest and broadest foundations the authority of this assembly. In this assembly, I believe, is laid the main ground of British liberty. Show that you are ready to make any sacrifice—if sacrifice there be—of that which has been only given to classes for the benefit of the people around. Your power is indeed great; but there are some things which it cannot effect. It cannot stand, my lords, against the rising tide of a great nation's conviction. Do not think, therefore, that even you can set your curule chairs on the edge of the rising waters, and think that you can hid then, on a principle of hereditary prescription, recede and full back from your feet. Do not, my lords, set this house in a position in which it shall seem to represent the hereditary wealth, and not the hereditary justice, wisdom, and virtue of this mighty people (cheers).

Lord Ashburton, with reference to the allusion of the Bishop of Oxford to mortgaged estates, reminded the house of one of the heroes of the French revolution, who said. "I have great respect for the rights of property, but we must change the proprietors." A one-sided Free Trade would not change the policy of other nations, and could only ruin our selves. It was evident, also, from the recent desputch of Lord Cathcart, that he entertained great apprehensions as to the result of the measure on the social and commercial interests of Canada.

Lord Monteagle adduced from the population returns evidence that the non-agricultural portions of the community were rapidly accumulating, as compared with the agricul tural; and this result, on the principles of political economy. was the condition of every prosperous country in which land was increasing in value and productiveness. But protective legislation retarded the natural development of this prosperity, as he showed by tracing the effects of the successive Corn Acts which have been passed since 1815, and which he contended have worked injuriously to all interests, agricul-

tural as well as commercial.

The remainder of the evening was occupied by speeches from Lord Stanley, who predicted ruin; from Earl Grey, who ably grappled with Lord Stanley's allegations and ar guments; from Lord Brougham, who performed a similar operation; and from the Duke of Richmond, who attacked the Bishop of Oxford. At the close of all, Earl Stanhope's motion was either withdrawn or negatived, without a volv; and it was agreed that the house should go into committee on the following Monday.

On Monday night, in the House of Lords, before their

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lordships went to the order of the day,

Lord Stanley presented a petition, signed by the chairmin of Lloyd's, the chairmen of the London and East India Dock Companies, six Bank directors, a large number of bankers, merchants, shipowners, and traders of the city of London, including all engaged in the Canada and Australian trades, expressing doubt whether the petition which had been presented by Lord Dalhousie represented the general opinion of these values of the control of t opinion of those classes in the city, and declaring that they did not believe the bill before the house was necessary or called form over the bill before the house was necessary or called for; and that, in their opinion, it was an experiment affecting vital branches of our national interests, and in volving the most serious consequences, which called for the anxious consideration of their lordships.

anxious consideration of their lordships.

The Earl of Dalhousie observed, that the petition he had presented did not profess to express more than the opinions of the petitioners, "certain" merchants, bankers, and trades of the city of London, including, however, 24 or 26 Bank directors, 14 other banking firms, and 267 biter significant.

Earl Grey took notice of an erastire in this didn of a passage which had expressed an opinion that the passage which had expressed an opinion that the passage which had expressed in the these which erasure implied that, in hitter opinion of the passage which are implied that, in hitter opinion of the passage without any delay.

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The debate on the order of the day for going into committee was resumed by
Lord (OLVILLE, who very shortly declared his hostility

The BISHOP of ST. DAVID'S, with reference to a remark of Lord Stanley upon a former night, said, that of his public income little more than one-third was derived from a fixed payment, and as to the rest, it was subject to the reductions consequent upon any depreciation of the prices of agricultural produce, exactly in the same proportion as the incomes of any other of the clergy.

Lord STANLEY justified the allusion he had made by an observation which had fallen from the Bishop of St. Davids, that there might be an impression out of doors that their lordships were influenced in their votes by motives of personal interest, and he insisted that there was a broad distinction between the episcopal bench and the parochial clergy in relation to the measure.

The BISHOP of SALISBURY vindicated himself and his brother prelates from any suspicion that motives of personal interest could sway their opinions.

The Earl of Malmesbury, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Oxford, and the Earl of Winchelsea addressed their lordships with some warmth upon this personal

The house then went into committee on the bill, when The Duke of BUCKINGHAM, with a view of saving a shadow of protection to the agricultural interest, moved the

emission from the first clause of the date "1st February, 1319," when the 1s. duty is to come into operation, the effect of which would be to continue a portion of the sliding scale, so that, after 1819, the duty on wheat at 18s, would be 10s. per quarter, and at 53s. and upwards 4s. He was aware that many of their lordships were in favour of a fixed duty, instead of the remains of a sliding scale; but he still claimed

their votes for the protection he proposed.

The Earl of RIPON opposed the amendment. An objection had been made to the interval of three years; but this did not destroy the principle of the bill, and it had been considered that it might have the effect of mitigating the evils which might arise from the greatness of the change, The amendment of the noble duke was at variance with the principle of the bill; it professed to give a protection, and a protection which, so far from being an efficient one, was not worth the acceptance of the agricultural interest, if they could hope to maintain it.

The Earl of CLANCARTY supported the amendment. His lordship went over several of the topics which had been urged by other peers in opposition to the bill. He defended the Irish landlords from the charges which had been attempted to be fastened upon them. The landlords of Ireland felt that they held the land in trust for the benefit, not of themselves merely, but of the nation. This measure would fall with severity upon them, and not on them only, but upon the class of occupiers. He should cordially support the amendment, not in order to defeat the bill, but because, if carried, it would show that their lordships recognised the principle of a minimum of protection.

Earl STANHOPE likewise supported the amendment. In reply to the objection of Lord Ripon, he contended that the principle of the bill was contained in its preamble, which was not opposed to the amendment, for it merely declared the expedience of altering the laws relating to the importa-tion of corn. After repeating, with increased severity, his animadversions upon the great dictator of the Cabinet," and upon those who had basely and pusillanimously supported him at the expense of a violation of duty and breach of the trust reposed in them by their constituents, his lordship admitted that, as a measure of protection, the amendwent was inefficient, still it recognised the principle that protection was necessary to British industry, and upon the ame ground he had supported the sliding scale, though he did not think it a full and sufficient protection to agriculture; and in voting for the amendment he did not pledge himself

to adhere to this or any other sliding scale.

Lord BEAUMONT was also in favour of the amendment. He admitted that it was no efficient protection, but still those who supported it might justify their votes upon the ground that it retained the name of protection. This, however, was not the ground upon which he gave his vote, but, first, because he thought it was wrong to abandon, at the end of three years, one of the chief sources of our revenue; secondly, because he believed that, instead of being an advantage to the farmer, the delay of three years would be seriously injurious to him; and, thirdly, he thought their lordships had no right to legislate this year for another Parliament, adopting a principle which they dared not carry into effect. If the principle of Free Trade was to be adopted, it should be adopted at once; whereas this bill would derange our foreign commerce as well as our agriculture, exhibiting the monstrons absurdity of a sliding scale without the benefit of the sliding scale, and which was intended neither for revenue nor protection. His lordship denied the assertions made respecting the effect of this bill upon commuted tithe. The tithes had been commuted upon the result of years of high faculty. high farming upon protection, which had brought poor lands under tillage, which were now saddled with arable tithe, though they would be thrown out of cultivation by this bill. He likewise attempted to show that the operation of the measure would be to put into the pocket of foreigners the

amount of revenue which was sacrificed by this bill. The Marquis of BUTE opposed the amendment. He thought the noble duke who moved it, in his own mind, considered sidered that it was no real protection; and if it was not, the landed interest were much better without it. This was not his own opinion merely, but the opinious of a large proportion of the farmers of this country. Then, would it not place a large portion of her Majesty's subjects in the invidious position of desiring a tax upon foreign corn which would be of no use to themselves or to any one else? The noble marquis considered that the supposed alarms of the farmers had been much exaggerated; he did not think they

viewed the measure with apprehension.

The Earl of HARDWICKE, in support of the amendment, said, when this bill passed their lordships would hear no more of Free Trade except from farmers, who would be the parties anxious to buy their articles of consumption as cheaply as they could. The object of the amendment was to have a fraction of protection left, in order that they might come to the interest protection. to have a fraction of protection left, in order that they might come to the house hereafter, if necessary, for more protection; for without protection he was convinced the poorer soils of this country dould not be cultivated. Their lordships was less likely to suffer from this measure than another class, a numerous class, in this country, and particularly in the state of the country and particularly in the state of the country and particularly in the state of the country of the country and particularly in the state of the country of the cou

be a landlords' question. The noble earl then showed, from a detailed statement of the expenditure and produce of a beavy clay form, assuming, as he did, that the price of wheat under this bill be 10s. a quarter, that if no rent at all was taken, the tenant would be a loser. Their lordships must not lose sight of the political consequences of this measure. How was the Government to be radiumined if, with a manufacturing class imbued with radical sentiments, the county constituencies were offended and disgusted? If that protection was withdrawn from the landed interest which had enabled it to discharge the peculiar burdens cast upon it, it was only an act of justice to make the monical interest take

an equal share in the burdens of the State. Lord KINNAIRD agreed with his noble friend who had just addressed the house, in deprecating the clause which held this question in suspense for three years longer. He should certainly have preferred a total and immediate repeal (hear, hear). His noble friend stated that, if this measure were carried, all the farmers of the country would become Free Traders. He (Lord Kinnaird) should not be surprised at that, for, as a member of the Auti-Corn-Law League, he might say that the principle of universal Free Trade was a principle on which they had always relied (hear). One of the dangers the noble lord opposite had set forward with much force was the irruption of foreign grain to be expected upon the reduction of the duty. This was an assertion which apparently deserved some attention, but in effect it would be found of no importance. There was a large quantity at present in bond which could not be sold at a profit to the merchant for less than 60s. He contended that the improved method of cultivation which would be introduced would more than compensate for the less price to be obtained for the grain. He would instance the successful competition of the Scotch agriculturists with those of England as an example of the advantage to be derived from a better education of the agriculturist, and the introduction of a better system of farming. A friend of his had stated that two Scotch agricultural labourers were fully equal to three labourers of Hampshire or Dorsetshire; and their work, besides being equal in quantity, would be much better done. An experiment had been tried in Ireland on two fields, side by side; one was cultivated on the old system, and the net profit for three years was 01. 12s. 6d. The other was cultivated on an improved system and thoroughly manured, and the profit for the same period was 231, 7s. 6d. (hear, hear). Much had been said about the ruinous effect which the repeal of the Corn Laws would have upon the value of landed property. He (Lord Kinnaird) had had the advantage of hearing the opinion of Mr. Simpson, the eminent auctioneer, a few days back; and what did their lordships think was the effect already Mr. Simpson said, that in all his long experience he had never known estates more in demand, or more easily either let or sold. Rents were rising, and prices were firm and to be obtained with facility. Fee better or more competent authorities than that gentleman could be found, and such was his statement; and he had added that the sliding as well as other scales had fallen from his eyes (laughter). But there was another high and competent authority, whose opinion was of great weight upon the question-he meant the tenantry themselves. On an estate which he (Lord Kinnaird) would mention as an instance merely of what was taking place, a number of farms having lately fallen out of lease, the tenants, in retaking them, demanded the insertion of a clause giving them the option, in case the Corn Laws should be repealed, of giving up their holdings. The agent consented upon condition that a similar option were given to the landlord of rescinding the lease, in case the property should, after the repeal of those laws, become more valuable. The terms were agreed upon, but before the completion of the deed the tenants came voluntarily forward, and declined to have the option in either case inserted, preferring to take their chance in the ordinary manner as theretofore. He could cite several similar instances to their lordships; but he did not wish at that late hour to trespass further upon their time. But before he sat down ne wished to add a word or two with regard to what had been said of the League, of which he was a member. Many allusions had been made to that body, and it had been asserted that no such excitement existed in the towns upon the question before them as had been represented by the League to exist. Their lordships would, he hoped, give them (the League) credit for having remained perfectly quiescent during the progress of the debate in both houses. To such an extent, indeed, had they been quiet as to have given some sort of right to the noble lord opposite to say that no excitement could be got up by them in the towns upon the subject; but he could assure the noble lord that the League had resisted all the applications which had been made to them from all parts of the country to make a movement during the discussion, from a motive of respect to their lordships, to the other branch of the legislature, and to the Government which had taken the matter in might be said of them, in case they made a great demonstration, that their intention was to intimidate their lordships (laughter and cheers). He was well aware that the Lengue had been already frequently charged with an attempt to intimidate, and he was equally aware that many protectionists had asserted that their lordships could not be intimidated but although that had been said, yet he could assure them that the motives of the League were such as he had stated. They would not give a colour to such an assertion. They left the matter in the hands of the Government, and to the wisdom and discernment of their lordships and the other House of Parliament, and that had been the reason for the great quiescence of that body (hear, bear). But if their lordships imagined that there was any apathy abroad upon the subject they greatly mistook the feelings of the country. The opinions of the manufacturing districts were deep and unanimous. He could speak for Scotland from personal knowledge, and he should say that if they were disappointed in their expectation that the Corn Bill would pass-if any-

and in an unmistakeable voice. Upon his lordship resuming his seat, two or three noble lords essayed to be heard, but the calls of " question" and for a division were so general that they desisted, and the house divided. The numbers were :

thing should occur to mar those hopes which were regarded at present as almost certain—they would soon be heard,

For the amendment 103 The house resumed, and immediately after adjourned at a quarter past 11 o'clock.

On Tuesday, farther procedure was resumed, on the order falls day for going into committee.

Earl Stanhope asked if the Government could inform him

whether, under the Corn Law Repeal Bill, the price of corn would be raised, lowered, or remain stationary.

The Earl of Ripon replied, that under each of the former Corn Laws there had been extreme fluctuations in the pripe of corn, and though not authorating any very material

change, he declined to prophesy.

Earl Stanlings said it was evident that the Government had brought in their measure in total ignorance of what the effect would be.

The Earl of Winchelsea then convulsed the house with laughter by likening the conduct of ministers to that of a medical man, who, after 20 years' discreet management of his patient, suddenly proposed, on the recommendation of s quack, to try a wholly different course, though atterly analyse to say what would be the effect of the experiment he proposed.

The Duke of Richmond pointed out that in a recent despatch to Canada, Mr. Secretary Gladstone stated it to be the opinion of competent persons that prices would remain about the level of the average of the years 1848-16. If no great change were to take place, why all this agitation?

Earl Stanhope thought that the country would form its own opinions of the suspicious silence of the Govern-

The Earl of Ripon would not submit to the imputation of a " auspicious silence.

Earl Stanbope did not impute personal motives. Earl Frey remarked that the object of Free Trade was to obtain, not an assumed price of 80s., as in 1815; nor of 65s., as in 1827; nor of 55s., as in 1842; all of which assumptions were never realised t but to confer on the country the advantage of obtaining corn at the natural price, what ever that might be. They ought no more to be called on to predict the price of corn than of tea, cotton, or any other commodity.

Some further conversation was kept up, thriling on the point of order, and the subject dropped.

The house having gone into committee on the Cont Bill, The Earl of WICKLOW moved an amondment in the first clause, that the duty upon wheat not the produce of dbr colonies, after February 1, 1840, be 5s. instead of Is.; and if their lordships agreed to this proposition, he should move that there be a proportionate alteration in the duty upon other grain. The noble Earl adverted to the conflicting opinions respecting the effect of this bill upon prices—some thinking they would fall, others that they would rise, whilst others helieved that there would be little or no change, but a less fluctuation of prices. To secure the latter object was said to be the aim of the bill, and if it did get rid of that fluctuation, so injurious to the farmer as well as to the consumer, he needed no argument to prove that a 5s. duty would not have the effect of raising prices, which would be much the same with the duty as without it; so that, whilst the consumer loss nothing, the revenue of the country would be a considerable gather. After enlarging upon the evils which would flow from the measure in its present shape, his lordship asked, if it was wrong to tax the necessaries of life and the food of the people, why were other necessaries of life taxed except corn: -sugar, for example, which was as much a necessary as wheat? He knew that the consequence of his amendment, if carried, would be to cause the loss of the bill, and he wished it, in order to get a better bill, a measure likely to be permanent, for it was impossible to settle this question, and the agitation connected with it, by this bill, which, as respected Canada was the most impolitic measure ever introduced.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE opposed the amendment. He pointed out the different position in which this question stood now and when he, on a former occasion, supported a fixed protective duty; the sudden withdrawal of all protection would have then created a panic, and he had never been an uncompromising enemy of all protection. The country has since undergone great change of circumstances and of opinion. As to whether this bill would dapress the prices of corn, he believed that prices would be lowered by this bill; but not in a way to injure the landed interest, for he thought our farmers, in spite of their burdens, which had some compensations, would be able to compete with any foreign growers, who had none of the advantages of good roads and other appliances of the British furmer. Meanwhile, the prosperity of the country would be increased, and with increased prosperity the value of landed property would increase, He agreed with the noble carl that bread might be taxed for revenue,—a 5s. daty was only a shadow of protection, and he thought a low duty upon corn for revenue might be judicious; not from any abstract love of a tax, but as a substitute for another tax, and when he had advocated a fixed duty, it was to avoid the alternative of an income tax, under which, however, the nation now seemed to be patient. He had no love for this bill, though he had voted for its second reading. He agreed with the Duke of Richmond that it was a bill which seemed to have been framed, as far as the retention of the sliding scale, for the purpose of emparrassment. Still less did he admire the pretences under which this great measure had been introduced; and the way in which it had been carried was, in his opinion, very injurious to men in high stations. After a severe criticism of the conduct and arguments of the Premier. the noble Marquis declared he entertained every one of the principles he had professed, and it was not without difficulty that he had come to the determination to vote against the amendment.

amenument.

The Earl of CARNARVON, who supported the amendment, considered that the great question was, whether this measure would practically improve, or practically deteriorate, the condition of the poor man. He thought that the chapter of the condition of the poor man. ening of corn would throw land in this country out of cultivation, and that the poor man would lose more on the one hand than be gained on the other, and as far as the agricultural labourer was concerned, any diminution of the profits of the farmer would infallibly act upon his interests. His lordship predicted from this measure the most destructive consequences to the tenant farmers and lesser tenants, who consequences to the tenant farmers and lesser tenants, who would suffer utter shipwreck, and their lordships were bound to look to the interests of little mon. He shortly replied to some of the arguments against a fixed duty; and deprecating the application of the pure principle of Free Trade to a commodity in which so large a class was interested, he urged their lordships to consent to this fragment of protection, which would put this great question at rest, and instead of keeping up a conflict that set class against class, pour all the baim they could into the wounds of the agricultural interest.

tural interest.

Lord DF MAULEY supported the amendment, dering that a fixed duty so small as that proposed would slist the revenue, and enable the Government to repetit occurry, which weighted more heavily upon the manetact which weighted more heavily upon the manetact which weighted more sense alight protection destanly, so the landed interest.

Lord CLONCURBY declared, that the people of Ireland, who had suffered much misery from the famine, would gladly assent to said acquiesce in this law, though many of them did not know what bread was.

The Earl of WINCHELSEA supported the amendment,

not because he concurred in the reasons for which it was was proposed, but in the hope of another and a better bill. His lordship reiterated, with little diversity, the arguments of preceding speakers against the bill, and denied that a measure could set this question at rest which would entail a reduction of 20 and 25 per cent. of the retail of the country. so fearful a revolution would keep up a constant ferment and agitation.

Lard POLWARTH, being connected with various counties in Scotland, and cognizant of the feelings of the agrionlined interest there, explained the circumstances under which certain farms in Scotland had been let at higher rents in 1844 and 1845, from which he nevertheless drew conclualons alore to the bill. The agriculturists of Scotland felt great alarm at this measure. The farmers considered that if they weathered the storm, it must be by changing their mode of agriculture, and by increasing their stock. He believed the measure would have the effect of causing a considerable displacement of labour, a great quantity of which would be driven out of the agricultural counties.

The Earl FITZWILLIAM complained that that house had been ill-treated by her Majesty's ministers, who ought to have allowed their lordships a voice in this measure. Men who had obtained power in the way they had, by the sup port of the aristocracy and of the landed interest, ought to have brought to the consideration of this question that branch of the legislature in which the aristocracy sat, and which was most connected with the agricultural democracy of England; and the noble carl declared, smidst loud cheering, that her Majesty's ministers had betrayed all who had placed a reliance upon them, and that he trusted, whatever coincidence of opinion there might be between his friends about him and the Government upon this question, they would never sully themselves by an intimate connection with those who had conducted themselves in such a manner. After referring to the strange contrast between the year 1833, when he proposed a measure like this and stood alone, and the present time, when both houses were in its favour, the noble earl said he would not with Lord Winchelsen reject this bill in the hope of getting a better, or run the risk of a general election upon it. He believed that the measure would confer a great benefit upon the mass of the people, all classes of whom would be placed by it in circumstances of more case and comfort; whilst it would be advantageous to agriculture in every part of the kingdom, and most in those parts which were least advanced,

Lord BROUGHAM lamented the loss of time in a discus sion of the bill in general, instead of the amendment, which was the question before the house. His lordship dispelled the languor of the discussion by some amusing remarks upon Lord Fitzwilliam's speech, justifying the course pursued by her Majesty's Ministers with regard to this bill, and soothed the terrors of the "alarmists" by reading accounts of recent land sales in Passex and Suffolk so far exceeding the valuation as to astonish the auctioneer, an enemy of Free Trade. With reference to the amendment, he was and always had been an enemy to a fixed duty. He preferred the sliding scale, little as he liked it. To say a 5s. duty was a measure of finance was absurd; unless a corresponding duty was imosed upon our own corn, it was a measure of protection, and it imposed a tax upon the people in the shape of an enhanced price of bread. The noble and learned lord, in touching upon the delicate subject of a change of administration, said he would not sak Lord Stanhope to say who would be Ministers a fortnight hence; but he would venture to prophesy that there would be no change, and he assigned the grounds of his prediction in the proceedings of certain parties with reference to this bill and the Coercion Bill, which he had learned from certain "eminent oracles." He called upon their lordships to reject the amendment on its own merits, and because it would be neither more nor less than throw-

ing out the bill.
Lord STANLEY retorted upon Lord Brougham, in a tone of raillery, the charge he had made against other peers of wandering from the proper subject of discussion. He adopted Lord Fitswilliam's objection against the course of proceeding in this measure by a bill originated in the House of Commons, which gave their lordships no alternative between agreeing to or rejecting the bill as it stood. The rights of this house were infringed, the constitution itself was infringed, if a measure involving great political considerations was sent up from the Commons in the shape of a money bill; it should have been done by resolution in the other house sent up to this house. His lordship was commenting upon a part of Lord Brougham's argument upon the effect of a oa, duty, which brought up

Lord BROUGHAM, who repudiated the argument attributed to him, and the debate was suspended for a time by a contention on the question of order.

ANLEY, upon resuming, adverted to the coalitions and meetings spoken of by Lord Brougham, professing his ignorance of such proceedings. He acknowledged the justice of Earl Fitzwilliam's remark upon the extraordinary combination of parties now existing; it was by that combi-uation alone that this measure would be inflicted upon the people. Disclaiming for himself and those who acted with him all desire to seek to overthrow the present Ministry they were above such a proceeding-and applying himself to the amendment, his lordship observed that he had long been of opinion that, as a measure of protection, the sliding scale was infinitely preferable to a fixed duty; and if this amendment had been proposed before the second reading of the bill, he should have opposed it. But the house had rejected a modified sliding scale, and he, therefore, without hesitation, should vote for this amendment, preferring a fixed duty to no duty at all. He urged the evil effects attending the exchange of indirect for direct taxation, and the impolicy of binding succeeding Parliaments, Ministers, and constituencies. He constituencies that the process weeks the process weeks the process of the pro concluded by affirming that this measure never would have been passed but for considerations alien to it, and for the combinations of parties to which he had alluded.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE began by referring to the

statements of Lord Brougham relative to certain meetings, distinctly declaring that what really took place at the private house in question was the reverse of what had been stated by lead Brougham, whom he defied to prove that he (Lord Lindowne) had taken any other course than a fair parliamentary one in respect to either the Corn Bill or the Cornella. With regard to the amendment had been supported to the amendment had been supported to the amendment had been supported to the amendment had been supported to the amendment had been supported to the amendment had been supported to the amendment had been stated to the amendment had been stated to the amendment had been stated to the amendment had been stated to the amendment had been stated to the amendment had been stated to the supported to the supported to the amendment had been stated to the supported to the supp ty one in respect to either the Corn Bill or the Coer-th. With regard to the amendment, he had never the fixed duty in any other sense than that of re-and even now he considered that a low fixed duty for might be desirable. But a 5s. duty, either for refor protection, was not worth contending for, with

the prospect of losing the measure. He was prepared to make a sa rifice in order that this bill might become the law of the land; and although he was sanguine enough to hope that it would extinguish agitation, if, at the end of a few years, the agricultural interest should suffer injury from the measure, the agricultural interest should equist injury from the measure, there would be a union of opinions in the country which would procure a revision of the whole subject.

Lord BROUGHAM replied with some warmth to the ob-

servations of the noble marquis, which seemed to imply that he had been an informer or an eaves dropper, and he entered, amidst symptoms of impatience, into some details in vindication of what he had before stated respecting private meetings of the Opposition. The noble lord then turned to Lord Stanley, with whom he expostulated for having cast what he conceived to be an imputation upon his motives in defend-ing the measures of the present Government, and declared that it was his own fault, not that of the present Ministers, he was out of office, for he had firmly but respectfully declined most high and brilliant offers.

The Earl of BESBOROUGH explained what had taken place at the meeting referred to, confirming the statement of Lord Lansdowne.

The committee then divided, when the numbers were-For the amendment 107 •• •• Against it 140

ther clauses of the bill would be considered on Friday. Their lordships then adjourned.

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· Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed sub-

THE AMERICAN COTTON CROP.—The accounts United States, received by the Britannia, show a decrease in the deficiency of cotton received at the ports, as compared with the same period of last year; so that, in all probability, the entire crop will be a little larger than had been previously anticipated. Taking into account the increase of stock in the interior towns, the falling-off of receipts is now only about 337,(8)0 hales (instead of 380,000, which was the amount of the deficiency at the departure of the Cambria, on the 16th of May), and, from the rate at which the arrivals have been recently going on, it seems not unlikely to be reduced, before the termination of the season, to less than 800,000 bales; giving a total crop for the year 1845-6, of very nearly 2,2(0),000 bales, instead of 2,100,000, which was the highest estimate about a month ago .- Manchester

REPRESENTATION OF NORTH CHESHIRE.—It seems that the Liberal party in North Cheshire are preparing for the probable event of an election. We had previously heard the Hou. E. J. Stanley and John Cheetham, Esq., of Dukinseld. mentioned as the candidates at the next election, whenever that event might occur; but another has now actually offered himself, in the person of E. D. Davenport, Esq., of Capesthorne. Mr. Davenport issued an address to the electors on Monday. He states, that having been repeatedly consulted as to his intention to stand, if supported, he thinks there is no reason for withholding a declaration that he is ready to do so. He assigns as his chief reason for coming forward "an assess the best of the latter interest." forward, "an earnest desire to promote the better iserraforward, "an earnest desire to promote the better iserration and moral improvement of the people;" and desires
his principles to "consist in political and commercial fordom and religious toleration, all of which are included in
that still more ancient precept. To do unto others at
would have others do unto you." It is, at all covered
desixtood that Mr. Tatton Egerton does not inconducted
contest this division.

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PASSAGES FROM THE LIFE OF AN ENGLISH FARMER.

PASSAGE V.

In which the political uses of the tenantry at an election are given. This is omitted.

PASSAGE VI.

Which relates how Mr. Hurst kept his old farm, and not getting rid of his new one—how he, like many others, had more land than he could manage well, is also omitted. PARRAGE VII.

Which relates how the mortgagees caused Berry Park and mansion to be let to a sportsman who brought a new corps of gamekeepers on the estate, and preserved the game more than ever, is also omitted.

PASSAGE VIII.

Containing an account of the movement (metaphorically) of heaven and earth, in 1841, to return Tory Members of Parliament, who were to protect such men as Mr. Hurst from the enemies of agriculture. This is likewise omitted.
PASSAGE IX.

In which it is related how Mr. Hurst, having followed the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Society, in his efforts to make his farm more productive, was prosecuted for penalties, and made to pay them at the instance of members of that society for so doing. An instructive passage; but also from necessity omitted.

Passage X. Showing how Mr. Hurst examined closely for the first time, and found the conditions of agreement between him and his landlord to be such, that he was bound hand and foot not to improve the culture of his farm. This, too, must be omitted.

Passage XI.

In which Mr. Hurst, being in London, is going up Fleetstreet, and sees a notice on the house, No. 67, that a League meeting is to be held that evening in Covent Garden Theatre, and that seats will be reserved for tenant farmers who may wish to attend it, tickets to be had on application within. How he, always a believer in the virtue of the Corn Law, went in, his political conscience smiting him at the same time, and got a ticket, and went to the theatre and heard Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright; the first exposing the delusion practised on tenant farmers by the political landlords; the latter the wrongs to agriculture and to society by the feudal landlords in stocking the country with wild beasts, and preserving them by savage laws. This we must also omit. Passage XII.

Setting forth how Mr. Hurst thought he had heard the real farmers' friends speaking for the first time in respect of the feulal landlords and the Game Laws; and how the Corn Law was after all not such a sacred law as he had hitherto deemed it to be. How Mr. Cobden's exposition of it took root in his mind as seed sown upon new soil, and how he applied for and obtained copies of all the League tracts, read them and believed them, and endeavoured to make his brother believe them. This too is omitted

PASSAGE XIII.

Showing how he had struggled to succeed, and had succeeded, in making his two farms pay the high rents that he had a few years before contracted to pay for them, notwith standing the obstacles of unfriendly gunckeepers, swarms of game and conditions of agreement which bound him not to improve his agriculture. How he employed more people per hundred acres than his brother farmers, and raised better crops; but how he had his character as a farmer decried because he had been to a League meeting, and now said that he believed the Corn Laws had never been of any benefit to the farmers or to agriculture. Passage XIV.

Tells how/he went before the Parliamentary Committee on the Game Laws and gave evidence of the great injury done to himself and to the agricultural interests of his county by the excessive waste committed by the game; but owing to the parliamentary forms, forbidding the publication of the evidence for the present, his statements are not inserted; and this passage of his life is also omitted. Passage XV.

Showing how he was received by his brother farmers, whose interests he had served as well as his own, in giving evidence against the Game Laws, he being now an avowed opponent of the Corn Law.

It was rent day, the receiver of the rents was an elderly gentleman, a lawyer, from the precincts of Lincoln's Inn. He came down to the Royal George Hotel in a glass coach; and when he alighted from it, there would have been no violence done to truth to have said, he looked as if he had come out of a glass case; so prim, so scrapulously perfect was this chierly little gentleman in his dress. From the gold spectacle on the wig of his head, to the silver buckles on the shoes of his feet, there was no spot upon him.

And his professional conduct was as precise and formal, his moral character as snotled have it that lawyers living in the deep recesses of the temple lus dress. Fiction will and inus of court, in those caves of social life, called clambers, are the spiders of human kind reposing in dust and cobwebs, sleeping with their eyes open to dart out upon any human flies that may go too near them. But this is only fiction, or, if there be such lawyers, ours in the glass coach was not one of them; ours in the glass coach, if we may be so irreverent, was like a cockroach, or a blackbeetle, to whose glossy exterior no impurity adheres, rather than a dusty spider. He had dealings with the world, and es a lawyer, not unfrequently with those who bring upon it the appellation wicked world; but he never touched wickedness, as we may say, with his bare hands. He read his law books through his glasses, and he knew mankind through his law books. He knew there were bad men and good men. He knew there were bad men because laws had been made to hang them. He knew there were good men, because laws had been made to hang the bad ones. He knew the world must linve more good men in it than bad, else the bad ones would have been strong enough to hang the good ones. He ranged himself on the side of the laws and of good men,thus, of mankind generally.

Individual men were revealed to him in a similar manner, He knew there were good farmers and bad farmers, because some were always ready with their rents on rent day and others were not. He knew the relationship of landlord and tenant because it was written on paroliment. He knew the progress of agricultural science from the applications made to him by the tenants, when paying their routs, for authority to hy the tenants, which paying their routs, for authority to make and deduct the expense of making, next rent day, new gates, or regain of old ones; repairs of floors and roofs of barm; constitution of occupions to ave wasted manures; farm: reads published to dry wet Taird; drains to keep the wasted manures of the yard from delling the pond where the

cattle had to dritk; palings to protect young quickthorns; young quickthorns to supplient old ones; and other line provements akin to these. He knew that those who applied to have these things done had not done them. He knew their farms needed such improvements else such applications would not have been made. And he inferred that those who made no such applications for repairs and new works did not require them. Therefore it was logical to conclude that the tenants who being content to have broken gates, dilapidated roofs and floors, wasted manures, poisoning the ponds and pools where cattle got drink, bad fences, who never made a new fence or repaired an old one, who never drained wet land nor cleared out a ditch that made land wet,—it was a logical consequence to conclude that such tenants, who made no complaints and no demands, were the best farmers, and had their farms in the best condition; seeing agriculture, as he only saw it, through his gold spectacles on a map or on parchment, riding in a glass

He was the very perfection of a legal land-agent. His integrity was as firm as the bank buildings; the cash committed to his keeping as safe as the Bank cosh. His rules of procedure were so squared off by a legal straight-edge, that, as all the clauses in the agreements between landlord and tenant were provisive of penalties for the landlord against the tenant, the latter never made a claim that was allowed to be good, so as there were no good claims pre-ferred by tenants, there were no decisions in their favour. He decided the claims made by the tenants according to the parchment. And, on the same authority, he decided the complaints preferred against the tenants. The complainants in such cases were the gamekeepers, for disturbance of the game (some fields of hay being mown when it was ready to be mown with pheasant's nests still in it—a grievous crime, if the farmer did not make friends with the gamekeeper); or the woodman, the farmer having, perhaps, cut some overshadowing branches from a hedgerow tree; or the secret informer, never known precisely who, that had a farm on the estate, and kept his eyes open to see if all the crops were sown in the exact rotation written on the parchment, according to the rules of the agricultural science dwelling in the legal chambers of the Temple or Lincoln's-inn. The more numerous the informations laid by those servants of the estate, for disturbance of pheasants on their eggs, for the lopping of an overbranching tree, or for judging what crop would grow best by the quality of the soil, rather than by the provision in the pareliment, the more vigilant were they held to be, and the better claim did they feel themselves to have for augmented salaries and ultimate pensions.

Well, it was rent day, or as it is more genteely termed, the audit. More, to whom it is the pleasantest day in the calendar, call it by the pleasantest name. More, who see it coming on them long before it does come, coming as certainly and as sternly as an annual day of judgment, call it by the name which they know it best by, the rent day. It was the rent day at the Royal George Hotel, at the nearest market town for the Berry tenantry. They met there to pay their rents, and to prefer their complaints. Let us look at They met there to pay some of them.

There sits in a private room of the hotel the little elderly gentleman with his clerk beside him. There stands before him Mr. John Bull, with his hat in his hand. He has got his receipt-what more does he want? He might be as hold as any man that ever trod on English ground, yet he is timid. He has paid his rent, and owes no man anything. A little ago he was so bold in the public room as to tell Mr. Hurst to his face that he and all like him who went to League meetings were "no good to their brother farmers," that all who minced matters now a-days, and did not speak out for protection, would deserve to lose protection. Why does this Mr. John Bull now hesitate in presence of this one man and his clerk to say his say? He has not a farm gate that will hold in a cow, or a horse, or a pig. and has not had for half a dozen years; they have been patched and patched, and again broken and broken, and at last thrown down by the fox hunters, and by his own work. people, who found them more trouble than service, so often that the wreck is fit for nothing else than firewood. He has no timber to mend gates and fences, and he is trying to ask for authority to have the old ones replaced by new, the expense to be paid out of his next rent. He lins a mind, too, to ask for repairs to the old barns, which let rain through the roofs and the corn through the floors; but he has asked such favours before, and there is a feeling within him that those who have asked most earnestly and frequently to have their farm buildings repaired have been least successful. Yet his have got into such a state of absolute wreck that he cannot help orging the request once again. He bears in mind the very eminent services rendered at the last election in getting in the candidate for whom the gentleman now before him was concerned, and he gives hints, imperfectly expressed, that he should not be overlooked in any favours which are to be conferred.

Here is Mr. John Bull's error, the fatal error of farmers in submitting to ask for rights as for favours. The man who exacts rent for a farm of land which he does not provide with suitable buildings, and which he professed to provide, and at the same time lets the farm to the tenant on the condition that he shall quit at six months' notice, thus rendering it utterly impossible for him to supply the requisite buildings or fixtures himself-that man, be he agent or landlord, is no better than another Phuraoli exacting the bricks from the

bondmen without supplying the straw.

But look at the bondman, this John Bull, whose voice is as loud as a lion's -- as a British lion's -- so loud as to be called the British lion's voice, when he happens to roar on the same side of the table, or the same side of the subject with the agents and the landlords. Lincol to him, then, while now on the right side of a good cause—his own cause—in which the first principles of justice are involved, he dares hardly open his mouth to that one little old man.

But listen to the old gentleman. Mr. Bull is to be favoured. Authority is to be given for the expenditure of Januared. Authority is to be given for the expenditure of 1001, in repairs. The tenant is pleased beyond expression. He bows low and is grateful, and retires. He should be grateful for a favour. He should be polite under any circumstances. But has he anything to be grateful for? Will it his expenditure of 1001, in repairs be a favour? Will it not rather be a perpetuation of unit buildings, make-shift gates, and fences? Will it not make it requisite for Mr. John Rull to go again next year, or the next, begging once John Bull to go again next year, or the next, begging once

more to have some other part of his farm put in repair?

Then here is another tenant in the private from paying his rent. He has determined for the last filts monthle, and has sworn it a hundred times in his daily object at the said he will not quietly submit to have his fields hearst the said him action on the said has a start on with achieve and have a said and are in hear the said him action on the said has a start on with achieve and are in hear are in h hills eaten up with rabbits any longer; again, and again, has

he even this day formed in his mind what he would say to the agent when he paid his rent. But he cannot now say it. And why? because there is no door to his atable; and the stable itself is flooded whenever wet weather comes, and he has lost two horses by death, and the use of one, or two more by disease, because the drainage cannot be made complete, without leave to alter the water course and money to make another. If he begins to talk about rabbits, he will take the ground from under him to ask for a new stable; fur his ambition, or daring, does go as far as an entire new stable on a dryer piece of ground. So he talks of the stable, and omits the rabbits.

Then comes Mr. Hurst. He also is in the private room and has paid his rent. He has taken it into his head that all patchwork repairs are uscless, and that no thorough improvements can be effected without he obtains a lease of twenty-one years. He thinks if a new set of furn-buildings were erected, and new fences also, at a cost of 30001, on which he would pay five per cent. of additional rent, it would be of greater benefit to bim and to the farm than if he received an annual drawback of ten per cent. from his present rental to repair the old buildings. He offers to prove this, and the old gentleman listens; but at last stops him by say.

ing he has no power to alter the present system of letting the farms; which is true.

Others of the John Bull family enter and pay their rents, and tell how dilapidated their farms are, if they have any hope of an allowance for repairs. Some express a hope that they are not going to lose "protection to agriculture," to which the elderly lawyer says that is impossible; it can never be taken away and never will; and though he may grant them no drawback for repairs, no redress for rabbits, tell them he has no power to interfere with the game, doom them to their undrained bogs and sour cold clays, without an allowance for drain tiles, or for any one thing recom-mended by the Royal Agricultural Society as needful and indispensable to agriculture; they retire comforted and happy in heart that they are not to lose " protection." They retire to their dining room, and in due time the dinner is on the table, and the elderly gentleman who came from Lincoln's Inn in a glass coach, and who reads his law books through his glasses, and mankind through his law books, is chairman of the dinner.

This was in the autumn of last year, 1845. The dinner might be worth description, and the speakers worth reporting, but they were the same as have often been given to the publie in print. The "enemies of agriculture " were denounced, and the hints that there was only one "renegade" to the good cause of protection in the room, and on the estate, was

The only man who had dared to go before the parliamentary committee, to expose what they all suffered fromthe overswarming game, and the only one who had the courage in the private room to speak of those requirements which alone would have been favours, if granted by the old-lawyer, was Mr. Hurst, who was roared at by the British Lions around the dinner table, as a "renegade to the cause."
I conclude this brief sketch. If the names are not real,

the facts and the persons are; and deeply do I regret to say that what is here written is too true, and too generally applicable all over England.

ONE WHO HAS WRISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

THE STRIKE IN LIVERPOOL. - We hope this struggle is approaching a full termination. So far as bricklayers, joiners, and plasterers are concerned, workmen are in abundance. The masons, however, still form an exception; being a strong body, and there being a great demand for their services on the Holyhead, Carlisle, and other railways, together with the desire of the Liverpool and Birkenhead Dock Companies to forward their river walls and dock works during the summer months, they will stand out, and the lamentable consequence is, that a number of other artisans cannot procure employment because bricklayers and joiners are unable to proceed for want of masonry. The masons wish the hours of labour to be reduced to nine hours, which the masters cannot comply with, in justice to the operatives in the other branches of the building trades.—Liverpool Standard.

THE STRIKE IN THE BUILDING TRADES -The symptoms of this strike being near its termination are becoming every day clearer and more numerous. Last week, from individual inquiry, it was ascertained that 22 masters were employing 486 men, all of whom have either signed the declaration that they do not belong to the national association, or have joined the new society, which makes a declaration to that effect the basis of its constitution. This week no fewer than twenty-one men have resumed work at one establishment, all of whom have either signed the declaration, or joined the new society. There are several other instances of applications being made to the musters, to know on what terms they will again employ the men; amongst others to a firm to which there has been previously no communication from their old hands since the strike. The masters abide by the declaration, or the alternative of the men joining the new society. Yesterday the following note was received by Mr. J. B. Rogerson, the secretary of the masters' association:—

Railway Inn, Deansgate. Sir.—A deputation from the central committee of the United Trades' Association for the protection of industry, consisting of Messrs. Robson and Bush, desire an interview with the committee of the association of master builders, of which you are secretary, with a view, if possible, of coming to an amicable arrangement of the unfortunate differences now existing between your association and their workmen.—Sir, yours respectfully, W. ROBSON,

Mr. J. B. Rogerson, Secretary of Master Builders' Association.

We understand that Robson is not in any way connected with the building trades; but is in fact a working boot and shoe maker, No. 14, Richards Place, Haggerstone Bridge, London; and he is named as one of the auditors of the accounts of the National United Trades' Association for the protection of industry. John Bush is a carpenter, but also residing in London, at No. 1, York street, York Road, Lambeth, and he is, or was, vice-president of the National Association. The note was laid before the association, at their meeting yesterday, and after some observation on the course pursued by the men—that of sending two strangers from London, and one of them a boot and shoemaker, tog discuss terms between master builders and their working the meeting unanimously adopted the following resolution in

That the masters do not recomise any national anadellist and coincider that their own workman are the outyperties within their eligible to communication.

Here the master stands; but men, including target the applying delig to the regeters, and resulting work terms already stated.—Manchester Guardian.

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AGRICULTURE.

HOME TRUTHS FOR THE LANDLORDS.

Honour to the Bishop of Oxford. Right worthily has he discharged the duty of a leader among the teachers of Christian men. But, above all, the tenant farmers and farm labourers of England ought to be grateful to Dr. Wilberforce for his fearless and manly exposure of the defenders of monopoly. He has laid bare the source of all the evils under which English husbandry labours, and which depress all who depend upon it for subsistence. Our readers will find in another column a full report of the speech of the Bishop of Oxford on Friday se'nnight during the Corn Law debate in the

House of Lords; and we commend it to their attention as worthy of a most attentive perusal. We do not know that there has been any speech delivered during the weary years of agitation against the monopoly of food which bespeaks more moral courage, comprehensive intelligence, and enlarged sympathy for the industrious millions. We shall in this place confine our remarks to that part of Dr. Wilberforce's admirable address which relates especially to the

condition of agriculture.

Having referred to the appeals which monopolist lords had made to the Bishops to induce them to oppose the Ministerial Bill, upon the ground that the incomes of the clergy would suffer from a low price of corn, Dr. Wilberforce admitted that the clergy might possibly suffer, but said that they scorned to put their own personal and class interests in competition with the national weal. "They felt that there was an interest greater than the interest of money; and areward for themselves of more importance than their annual income." Dr. Wilberforce then added:

"There was another class, also, who would be injured by the measure—a class which it was just possible to suppose had some representatives in that house he meant the nominal owners of great properties which were mortgaged to There was just the possibility that persons so situated might be called upon to vote upon this questiontheir interests with respect to it were in something like the same position with those of the English clergy, and they would do well indeed to profit by the example which the clergy had afforded them. This measure would advance the general interests of the country, and would cause a greater demand for labour, as in order to ensure a return for the owner of the land its production should necessarily be in

"Earl STANHOPE: Where is the capital to come from?
"The Bishop of Oxrono: That was an important question, which had been so plainly put by the noble earl in a tone of sepulchral demand (laughter). It was clear that the person who was the nominal owner of a large property, which was deeply mortgaged, could not increase its production fully; and it was also clear that the tenants of poor proprietors were generally poor themselves, and he knew, from visiting their cottages, that the labourers of such proprictors were lamentably poor. It was only the other day that he was inquiring of a clergyman as to the moral condition of a parish in his diocese, and he was answered that a lamentable degree of immorality prevailed there. He asked why that was the case, and he was told that one great cause of immorality was to be found in the uncomfortable and confined description of dwellings, which were highly opposed to the observance of the decencies of life. asked why the clergyman did not represent to the landlord that if he wanted to have a moral peasantry he should build better cottages for them, and the unswer which he received was, that the landlord was aware of that, but he had not money sufficient to enable him to build houses for those on his estates who required them. Property which was in the hands of nominal possessors was in this condition, that the mortgagees did not feel any responsibility as regarded the condition of the tenantry and labourers, whilst the nominal owner, who felt the responsibility, was not in a position to relieve it, because, instead of a small property which he could manage, he preferred to be the nominal possessor of a great property. His position was like that which their lordships must have often witnessed, an instance of where a man kept a larger farm than be was capable of managing, whilst lie could successfully cultivate a smaller one. These nominal possessors of heavily mortgaged property would suffer from the change, and although he admitted that prejudices might be shocked and some injury effected by changes of property, yet looking at such a change of property as one of the results of this measure, it formed no reason why they should not adopt it, for he viewed it as one of the means of bringing the holding of property into a more healthy and natural state, and of providing for meeting those responsibilities which naturally lie on the holders of land."

Here we find the origin of protection laid bare-The deeply-scated sore which infects the landed interests of England is probed with a firm, unflinehing hand. Deep and difficult as the wound is, its depth has been ascertained and disclosed without circumlocution. It is the mortgaged interest which requires "protection"—the nominal possessors of large estates who want artificial searcity as the means of maintaining their own false position. Labourers and farmers are poor when they work and rent on heavily encumbered estates. We have shown all this again and again; but now the exposition comes backed by the authority of a spiritual poer. of insolvency.

And let us here note that the position of a bishop, if he he a courageous and large-minded man, is singularly favourable for the acquirement of sound views on this subject. His course of life must have led him to mix with all classes, and to understand the way in which the actual system of landed property affects all orders of the landed interests They who regard the labourers exclusively and chiefly contemplate their condition, will not thereby arrive at the origin of the evils, "the unnatural" and unnecessary evils, which fall upon the agricultural labourers of this country. Tenant farmers must be known, and known intimately, not merely at agricultural shows, protection meetings, or elections, but by their firesides, on their own farms, in their daily, weekly, ordinary temper, before the influence of a mortgaged and effete landocracy can be understood. Neither will the examination of the condition of the labourer and the farmer alone be suffleight to realise to the mind the extent of the mischiefs caused by nominal landowning. The observer who would know all, must have known something of the landlords; he must have been behind the scenes; he must have penetrated beneath the glare, and glitter and frivolity, and ostentation, which cover the real condition of the landlord; he must have heard of the large slice of the apparent income which goes to pay interests and debts and jointures and annuities; of the landlord's pressure on his steward for money, of the steward's pressure upon the tenants, of the tenants' pressure upon the labourers. The paralysis which insolvency -that is the word-brings upon the "great" landholder descends with more or less of ill upon all connected with him, and must be noted before the true position of the landed interests can be under-

Now the Bishop has had the means of observing most of these things. Beginning life as a parochial cloryman, in a rural district, he visits the poor at all times and seasons; he knows, and constantly converses with the farmers, he becomes the depository of the complaints of both classes; and that not by formal and direct complaint for any special object, when perhaps complaint might be carried too far, but incidentally. Then, the constant opportunity of observing the material condition of both of the industrious classes, the obstructions to their advancement, and those silent indications of the stationary or receding state which can be better observed than described, form a study which to the man of education and reflection must lead to settled convictions upon the landed system of this country, Moreover, a man can scarcely arrive at the station of a Bishop, whatever be his personal merits, with out much acquaintance and personal intercourse with the landed aristocracy. Carrying with him the practical knowledge acquired in his parish and the clear views which that knowledge, in combination with book-learning, has given him; he has a light for reading aristocratic society, which no mere aristocrat can possess. He has the key to the mixture of hauteur and meanness, the combination of profuse expenditure and want of money, the groediness for high ronts with the neglect of economy, the lavishing hundreds on an opera girl or race-horse, and the utter inability to find a few pounds to build cottages and preserve human decencies on the patrimonial estate, and various other churacteristics of a large, very large, section of our landed aristocracy.

It is plain that Dr. Wilberforce has not been through this course of training without advantage; and, to his credit, he has dared to give the short and comprehensive result of his experience and observation in the passage we have quoted, from his speech in the House of Lords. And what was the effect of these outspoken truths upon the peers? Did they deny the facts or displace the conclusions? Nothing of this kind. On the contrary, each monopolist peer seemed to take the general propositions of the Bishop of Oxford as a personal attack upon himself. Earl Stanhope, when improved husbandry by the outlay of capital was hinted, groaned out with an agony evidently real, "Where is the capital to come from?" Ashburton, as a new lord and a rich lord, anxious to pander to the prejudices of his older brethren, declared that insolvent landowners should by law be shielded from the ordinary consequences

Hardwicke, Malmesbury, and Winchelsea, by their attacks on the Bishop, proved that they felt be had pointed at them personally, when he described the false position of the nominal owner of heavily incumbered estates. Like galled jades they winced

But there was one peer, the Duke of Richmond who over and above these reasons for deeming Dr. Wilberforce's speech personal, appropriated to himself the following remarks about the agricultural labourers.

The Bishop said:

"He believed that the passing of this bill would, in the first place, have a great effect upon the condition of the labourers, who were at present in a most unnatural state (expressions of dissent). Did the noble lord who differed from him mean to say that the principle of prohibiting the poor man from buying his bread on the cheapest terms were a part of the economy of the God of nature (hear)? He (the Bishop of Oxford) would say that it was a most unnatural arrangement.

And afterwards:

" It was, therefore, the duty of their lordships to give their support to such a measure as this, which was calculated to produce a happier, a better contented, and a more elevated peasantry than that which at present was to be found in England. He knew the peasantry, for he had lived amongst them, and had seen them not only on a day of false PESTIVITY DRINKING FROM EMPTY GLASSES a wel come to the landlord, but he had seen them amongst their hevels, he had visited them in their homes, he had seen them on the bed of fever, he had watched them struggling with these difficulties which beset the English peasant during the long English winter. He knew their hearts, for he had lived 15 or 16 years amongst them. He had win nessed their patient endurance, and he was convinced that the time had come when the other side of Lord Bacon's observations might be observed, and that there was great and necessary cause for the experiment. The mass of the peasantry were in a state in which he did not wish them to continue, if it could be prevented. He did not wish to see their children suffering from physical wants, and from moral and religious destitution. He did not wish to see them living in cottages from which the decencies of domestic life were necessarily banished, and children looked at in their up frowth with the feeling that so many additional mouths required to be filled, whilst the difficulties of obtaining food were increasing (hear, hear, and cheers). Seeing those things, and looking round for a remedy, he believed that one would be found in anything which would extend the genera prosperity of the country.

This certainly was personal to the Duke of Richmond, because he is one of the greatest promoters of the humbug of professing to feast the labourers at show feasts at the landlords' tables, while all that really promotes the welfare, the deconcy, and the material comfort of the labourers is totally neg-

But truly has Dr. Wilberforce said, that if Free Trade should bring about the dispossession of the nominal owners of heavily encumbered estates, it will thereby produce a more healthy condition of landed property, which will greatly conduce to the welfare of the community.

WHO ARE THE LAGGARDS?

John Bull having now acquired, by a somewhat laborious course of teaching, a clear knowledge of the protective system and the backwardness of British agriculture, asks, in a peremptory tone, "Who are the leggards ?"-Why, of all his sons, the farmers alone require the "sickly" shelter of protection ?-Why Anglo-Saxon energy becomes paralysed when turned to the culture of the soil? And John has a full right to receive a precise answer to these questions.

Now the farmers say, and say truly, we are no lagards. They point, and justly, to what some of men body do under favourable circumstances to increase the production of our land. They ask for a fair field for their industry, security of possession, and no absurd or obsolete interferences with their management, and they want nothing more. But, they add, the proprietors prevent this. Now, what say the landlords? First, by inference, they admit that they require protection; for the peers resented the manly speech of the Bishop of Oxford on the Corn Law Bill as personally insulting. This is how the Bishop of Oxford spoke of protection:

"It had been said during the debates on this question that protection was the principle which was applied in other cases, and therefore it ought to be applied to agriculture, that we nursed the tender and delicate fruits of the earth, and that we ought to de cases, and there we ought to de cases, and the tender and the tender of the earth, and the cases of the cases of the cases. that we ought to do same with the tender interest of the agriculture of England. He, however, was not one who thought that the agriculture of England was such a sickly and fantastic errotic as to require the side of the si and funtastic exotic as to require the aid of protection; he thought that all it required was to be set free from the thought that all it required was to be set free from the shackles of protection, and it would assert its own insignous strength and vigour. Protection to native industry had become a favourite phrase in reference to this subject; and he could say for himself that he was one of those most favourable to the protection of that industry (an insignite other from the Duke of Richmond). The noble date might cheer: but he (the Bishop of Onford) feared his objects at little as he feared his arguments. What was probable to native industry? It was to bring it into a fall a feared his objects.

This is a healthy and a hopeful view of

culture. But now let us hear the Lords themselves. For instance, Lord Hardwicke may be taken as an exemplar of the protectionist landlord. He owns a large estate in Cambridgeshire, which is let to yearly tenants, who are in a deplorable state of dependence. None of them can make any profit worth naming, and but few can make a living at all. He sometimes has six or eight farms on his hands at once, and we remember to have seen an advertisement of a lot of his lordship's farms to let, subject to conditions so onerous, that no man who deserves the name of a farmer would think of taking one. Amongst other terms, the tenants were to be "subject to the general regulations of the estate !!"

Such is the Earl of Hardwicke as a proprietor. Let us follow him into the House of Lords, and watch his capacity for legislating on agriculture. During the debate in committee of the Lords on the Corn Bill, Lord Hardwicke said:

"He was as convinced as he stood upon the floor of that house that the Government measure would throw the poorer lands out of cultivation. His noble friend (Lord Kinnaird) shook his head; but he must remember that that noble lord was of opinion that no land was fit for tillage unless it would produce thirty two bushels an acre. No land to be cultivated unless it produces thirty-two bushels an acre. Then how are you to feed the people? Why the average production on most inferior soils is not more than twenty bushels an acre. Thirty-two bushels is a very large average, indeed. So you will displace all the labour, and throw all the land out of cultivation which does not produce thirty-two bushels an acre. What are you to do for breau t

"Lord Kinnaind: I said thirty bushels an acre. What are you to do for bread?

"The Earl of HARDWICKE: Oh, the noble lord has come down a bit (laughter). But no land is to be cultivated which does not produce thirty bushels an acre. My lords this is very important, considering that it comes from the head of the Anti-Corn-Law Lengue ("hear, hear," and laughter). We are to starve, unless all lands produce thirty bushels an acre, or unless foreign countries feed us. Why, if the noble lord thinks that thirty bushels an acre is the average produce of the kingdom, I must say he knows nothing about farming.

"Earl STANHOPE: Kitchen garden cultivation the noble lord must mean.

The Earl of HARDWICKE: Truly, my noble friend is correct. The noble lord of the thirty bushels (laughter)must be speaking of the produce of the kitchen garden. It was a mistake to suppose that the farmers were interested in in causing bread to be dear. The cheaper the bread, the better for them; but it must be the bread of home-grown corn. Protect them -protect them he would say, and he would answer for it, that under the system of protection the people of England would eat cheaper bread than ever they would under the proposed measure.

Now there is not a real farmer in England who would think of growing wheat upon land of which he had secure tenure and complete possession, except with the reasonable expectation of getting 30 bushels to the acre. And one year with another he will do it. We know that 30 bushels per acre is NOT the average produce of wheat, because three-fourths of the farmers of this country farm under the cloud of a Stanhope's mortgages, or a Hardwicke's "general regulation of the estate." Kitchen garden cultivation, indeed,-why the circumstances and "regulations" of half the estates in England prevent anything which deserves the name of cultivation at all-It is a kind of annual battle between the cultivator and a landlord-created waste, and the waste generally gains three-fourths of a victory. But mark the notions entertained by the monopolist lords of the soil of the incapacity of the soil. They assume that land is to remain in this bad state, to which their mismanagement has reduced it; and the national trade is to be tied down to their narrow limits.

We say distinctly no man should grow wheat without expecting 30 bushels to the acre. On some land, or by some systems, he might not get that return, if he sowed st oftener than once in five or six years; but then he should not attempt it more frequently. Poor lands, as the monopolists call them, will not grow corn so often, but no man can reasonably expect to farm with profit, unless he determines that when he does grow corn, be it once in three years, or once in ten, he will have a good crop; and nothing less than 30 bushels of wheat to the acre deserves the name of a good crop.

ARECDOTE OF A TAME LEOPARD.—While on the subject of wild animals, I may mention a leopard that was kept by an English officer at Samarang, during our occupation of the Dutch colonies. This animal had its liberty, and used to run all over the house after its master. One morning, after breakfast, the officer was sitting smoking his hookah, with a book in his right hand, and the hookah snake in his left, when he felt a slight pain in the left hand, and, on at tempting to raise it, was checked by a low angry growl from his pet leopard. On looking down, he saw the animal had been licking the back of his hand, and had by degrees drawn a little blood. The leopard would not allow the removal of the hand, but continued licking it with much apparent rethe hand, but continued licking it with much apparent re-lish, which did not much please his master; who, with great presence of mind, without attempting again to disturb the pet in his proceeding, called to his servant to bring him a pistol, with which he shot the animal dead on the spot Buch pets as snakes 19 feet long, and full-grown leopards, are not to be trifled with. The largest snake I ever saw was 30 feet long, and 8 inches in diameter. I have heard of 60 feat anakes, but cannot vouch for the truth of the tale.— Division's Trude and Trivel in the Far East. THE POTATO CROP.

Fears are entertained that the potato crop will again be in many instances a failure, more especially the early crop of ush-leaf kidneys. A person at Bicester, Oxon, planted six bushels of the above description, and they are a fullure, though he paid no less than six shillings per bushel for the seed, in order that it might be good. Other persons are in a similar situation.

THE POTATO CROP IN DEVONBHIRE.- I beg to forward an account of what I have observed in regard to the potato orop of Devon within this last week. I have visited many potato fields, most of which have a very luxuriant and thriv ing appearance when seen at a distance, but on examination I find the whole to be diseased; I could not discover one not affected less or more. I fully believe that the whole I have examined will be reasted or scorehed up with the direful calamity within a month of this time. Many considered their crops to be doing remarkably well, and, indeed, expressed themselves satisfied that their crops were quite clear from disease until I pointed out its defeots. Mr. Bridle, of Otterton, called my attention to a fine piece of early potatoes, which he had planted pretty early in l'ebruary last, in a sheltered, dry situation; they had remarkably strong stalks, from two to three feet in height, and many of them at the base as thick as the middle finger, with foliage as large as good spinach leaves. Mr. Bridle, on Monday last, calculated that he should be able to take up 50 bags of good tubers from this piece in the last week in this month, and I do not doubt but that quantity would have been produced by the ond of the month had they kept clear from disease, which attacked them on Thursday the 4th inst., and the whole have now dropped down dead, many of the stalks looking as if charred. I enclose a stalk, that you may have ocular demonstration of those facts. The effluvium is uncommonly disagreeable in this hot sunny weather. The fact is, on my examining them I could distinctly observe that they never had been free from disease; it originated in the old tubers which produced strong cankerous watery shoots. Whatever may have been the origin or first cause of this destructive disease, it is clear that it now proceeds from the tuber-that its first appearance is, if either in tuber, stulk, or foliage, in the shape of little watery spots, pimples, or bulgings, swelling into a dropsical contortion until it bursts, at which time the disease runs through the crop like wild fire, carrying rapid destruction before it. It is now almost a certainty that the whole of the crops which have been planted at the usual season, and that too without any previous preparation of the seed tuber will be again destroyed, whatever certainty there may be with prepared seed and early planting .- Sidmout! Correspondent of the Gardener's Chronicle.

THE POTATO CROP IN SCOTLAND .- The agricultural report of the Glasgow Herald states that the young potato crop in the neighbourhood of that city is extensively affected with the same disease as that of last year. The diseased plants generally look tolerably well; but, on digging round them, the seed from which the plant had sprung is found wholly or partially decomposed, and the sets had assumed a brown tinge, which was generally communicated to the

THE NEW POTATO CROP IN TRELAND.—In the course of Friday, a gentleman who resides northward of Dublin, at Raheny, sent to us some stalks of potatoes of the now growing crop, in which the blight, as it suppeared developed towards the harvest of last year, was painfully evident. The stalk was full of sap, the leaves luxuriant, and the upper part, which were manifestly about to throw out a blossom, was particularly full and green. About midway down all the stalks the marks of blight were apparent. The disease appeared as it were to enter the stalk at a joint, whence it appeared to run downwards only towards the root. The whole of the canal which transmits the nutriment to the tuber bore, from the point where the disease struck in a brownish bue, and in the centre the sap itself seemed to have become stagmant and corrupt. The gentleman who transmitted us the stalks, and who is an excellent agriculturist, says-" I send you a potato stalk attacked with the rot or blight, from which last year's crop suffered so much. The potato from which this stalk grew was a pink eye, and planted in February,—the field in which it grew had not the disease last year."—Dublin Freeman.

POTATO DISEASE IN PORTUGAL.—It may be interesting to know that my potato crop, which was a few days ago most flourishing, suddenly became black and withered; the same has occurred to many others, both in the neighbourhood and at some miles distant .- Correspondent of the Gardeners' Chronicle.

ELIHU BURRITT, THE LEARNED BLACK-SMITH.

As this indefatigable philanthropist will probably visit Great Britain in the course of a few weeks, it will, no doubt, our maden ing his history than they may have been able to glean from the newspapers of the day. The following brief sketch of the life of Mr. Elihu Burritt, extracted chiefly from American documents, is from a letter of Dr. Dick, of Dundee, to the Evangelical Magazine.

"Elihu Burritt was born in New Britain, Connecticut, in the year 1811, of honest and respectable parents. He enjoyed the privilege of attending the "District school" for some months every year, till he was sixteen years old; and by his diligence and attention to his studies he became well versed in the elementary branches of an English education, and by cultivating a taste for reading, he acquired much valuable information. When he arrived at the age of sixteen his father died, and he was apprenticed to the trade of a blacksmith; and when the term of his indenture had expired, and he had attained his legal majority, he had gained the reputation of being a young man of good moral and religious character, a skilful workman in his vocation, and one who cherished an ardent attachment for books The Bible was the first book which he thoroughly studied and at a very early age, he was familiar with almost every passage in the Old and New Testaments. He next availed himself of the opportunity of reading afforded by the "Social Library" in the town in which he lived; and afterwards was dependent on the kindness of his friends. Before he reached the age of 21, he was conversant with the English classics, both in prose and poetry, and passed delightfully many of his leisure hours in poring over the pages of Mil-ton, Young, Thomson, Cowper, Addison, &c. In the winter of the year in which he attained his majority, he commenced under the direction of a brother-in-law, who was an accomplished scholar, the study of mathematics. About the same time he entered on the study of the Lakin language, for the purpose of reading Virgil in the original. Me soon after turned his attention to French, which he mastered with

wonderful facility. He then acquired the Spanish, and afterwards the Greek and German languages. winters he devoted nearly all his time to study, but he was occupied a large portion of his time during spring and summer in working at his trade as a blacksmith, and in this ex-

omplary way, acquiring the means of subsistence. "When about 23 years old, he accepted an invitation to teach a grammar school; but this employment did not suit his convenience or his inclination. He was then engaged for a year or two as an agent for a manufacturing company, when he returned to his anvil, and has since been industriously engaged in the honourable occupation of a blacksmith, to which he was apprenticed in his youth; but devotes all his leisure hours to literary pursuits. mastered the Hebrew, Greek, and Latin languages, and all the languages of modern Europe, he turned his at-tention to Oriental literature, and in order to avail himself of the facilities afforded by the valuable library of the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, he removed to that place, where he has ever since resided, and been regarded as a useful and exemplary citizen. By dint of hard labour he has become a proficient in the most difficult languages of Asia, and in many of those languages of Europe which are now nearly disused and obsolete-among them are Gaelic, Welsh, Celtic, Saxon, Gothic, Icelandie, Russian, Belavonie, Armenian, Chaldaic, Syriac, Arabic, Ethiopic, Sanserit, and Tamul! It was stated, in a public meeting, in 1838, by Governor Everett, that Mr. Burritt by that time, by his unaided industry alone, hàd made himself acquainted with Firty Languages.-Mr. Burritt shows no disposition to relax from his labours. He usually devotes eight hours to study, and eight hours to physical indulgence and repose; and, by pursuing this course, he enjoys the advantages—vainly coveted by many literary men—connected with "a sound mind in a healthy Nordoes he confine his labours to the mere acquisition of literary wealth-be also diffuses it with a liberal hand. He has written many valuable articles for periodicals of high standing; he has delivered many lectures which have been replete with interest and valuable information; and has been repeatedly listened to by large and highly respectable audiences in New York, Philadelphia, and other places with edification and delight. He has not yet reached the meridian of life, and it is to be hoped that many years of usefulness are still before him. He is indeed a man of whom New England may well be proud."

The following extract from a letter written by Elihu Burritt, in 1839, to Dr. Nelson, a gentleman who had taken some interest in his history, displays the simple, unassuming, earnest character of the man, in a very interesting point of

view:

"An accidental allusion to my history and pursuits, which I made unthinkingly, in a letter to a friend, was, to my unspeakable surprise, brought before the public as a rather ostentations debut on my part to the world; and I find myself involved in a species of notoriety, not at all in consonance with my feelings. Those who have been acquainted with my character from my youth up will give me credit for sincerity, when I say, that it never entered my heart to blazon forth any acquisition of my own. I had, until the unfortunate denouement which I have mentioned, pursued the even tenor of my way unnoticed, even among my brethren and kindred. None of them ever thought that I had any particular genius, as it is called; I never thought so myself. All that I have accomplished, or expect, or hope, to accomplish, has been and will be by that plodding, patient, persevering process of accretion which builds the ant heap-particle by particle, thought by thought—fact by fact. And if I ever was actuated by ambition, its highest and furthest aspiration reached no further than the hope to set before the young men of my country an example in employing those fragments of time called 'old moments.' And, sir, I should esteem it an honour of costlier water than the fiara encircling a monarch's brow, if my future activity and attainments should encourage American working men to be proud and jenious of the credentials which God has given them to every eminence and immunity in the empire of mind. These are the views and sentiments with which I have sat down night by night, for years, with blistered hands and brightening hope, to studies which I hoped might be serviceable to that class of the community to which I am proud to belong. This is my ambition. This is the goal of my aspirations. But, not only the prize, but the whole course lies before me, perhaps beyond my reach. 'I count myself not yet to have attained' to anything worthy of public notice or private men-

tion; what I may do is for Providence to determine.

"As you expressed a desire in your letter for some account of my past and present pursuits, I shall hope to gratify you on this point, and also rectify a misapprehension which you with many others may have entertained of my acquirements. With regard to my attention to the languages, a study of which I am not so fond as of mathematics, I have by a kind of practical and philosophical process, to contract such a familiar acquaintance with the head of a family of languages, as to introduce me to the other members of the same family. Thus, studying the Hebrew very critically, I became readily acquainted with its cornate languages, among the principal of which are the Syriac, Chaldaic, Arabic, Samaritan, Ethiopic, &o. The languages of Europe occupied my attention immediately after I had believed any classics, and I studied Franch, Sagnish, Italian finished my classics; and I studied French, Spanish, Italian, and German, under native teachers. Afterwards I pursued the Portuguese, Flemish, Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic, Welsh, Gaelic, Celtic. I then ventured on further east into the Russian empire; and the Sclavenic opened to me about a dozen of the languages spoken in that vast domain, between which the affinity is as marked as that between the Spanish and Portuguesc. Besides those, I have attended to many different European dialects still in vogue. I am now trying to push on enstward as fast as my means will permit, hoping to discover still farther analogies among the oriental languages, which will assist my progress."

Amongst his works of philauthrophy, Elihu Burritt issues almost weekly 1000 or 1200 of his "Olive Leaves" for the press; and, in proof of his powers of writing, we may mention the fact,-a fact perfectly unparalleled in the annals of periodical literature,—that the articles thus forwarded are regularly printed in about three hundred newspapers in various parts of the Union.

THE CROPS IN CUMBERLAND.-Wheat, which in a few favourable situations southward, is in ear, will be light but of botter than average quality. Barley promises well, but outs have in many places suffered to a great extent by the stack of the grub, and fears are entertained in many quarters that this crop will prove a failure.—Carlisle Journal.

REVIEW.

Three Lectures on National Education. By the Very Rev. G. Waddington, D.D., Dean of Dur-

These admirable lectures are devoted to a subject of such great and permanent interest, that little more is required from us in the way of introduction than to state that they were delivered to large and intelligent congregations in Newcastle-on-Tyne, and that they evince, in a very marked manner, the same depth of Christian philosophy and the same extent of Christian philanthropy, for which the other writings of the Dean of Durham are distinguished. It is gratifying to find the prelates and dignitaries of the English church identifying themselves with the wants and wishes of the English people; rebuking the apathy and coldness with which the rights of the industrious, and the wrongs of the poor, have been treated in high places. Every true friend of the Church of England has reason to congratulate himself on the evangelical eloquence displayed by the Bishops of St. David's and of Oxford, in the recent debates. The Bishop of Oxford especially deserves our gratitude for his vigorous exposure of those abuses in the exercise of the rights of property which impede and even prevent the performance of its duties. The adding of field to field for the mere purpose of extending territorial domination is equally condemned by reason and by scripture. It makes both the proprietors and cultivators slaves to the soil, fixing on the one the yoke of mortgage, and on the other the yoko of uncertain tenure. It was worthy of a Christian bishop to demand the emancipation of land from this double bondage, to require that proprietorship should be free to oncourage improvement and tenancy free to reap the rewards of industry and expenditure. The abolition of slavery is the hereditary task of a Wilberforce, and the Bishop of Oxford, in accepting the inheritance, has added new honours to the imperishable name of his father.

It was not the least evil of the food question that it kept the education question out of sight. It would be vain to proffer books, when bread was withheld; to offer culture to the mind, when the body was fainting for want of sustenance. Though we felt with the Dean of Durham that the education of the poor in this country is still most imperfectly conducted, in regard both to its extent and its quality, and that the wealthier portions of the community, if they value either their honour or their security, must make, in some form or other, a very much larger provision than has yet been made for the purpose, we deemed it inexpedient to open so important a discussion, so long as the corn question remained undecided. That great measure of substantial justice, that great engine of redress for wrongs which, during the space of a whole generation, have crushed the energies and aggravated the toils of the labouring population, has passed through the perils of every legislative ordeal, and will, before another number of this journal appears, in all human probability, be the law of the land. The time then has come when the investigation of another social evil, preparatory to its removal, may fairly be commenced; and it could not be begun under better auspices than those of the Dean of Durham. After laving described the storm of opposition with which the first effort to obtain legislative assistance for the education of the poor was received, Dr. Waddington thus describes the present state of the question:

" Discussion succeeded to declamation, men's passions aubuided, and their blindness departed with their passions; and then this much decried project was discovered to rest principle so loudly demanded by all -it was a project for improving the secular and moral instruction of the poor on the foundation of the Christian religion.

"And here you will not expect me to enlarge on a truth which is admitted by every man, that any system of education not so founded would be any thing rather than a blessing to those who received it. To sharpen the intelligence only, without cultivating the heart- to inculeate secular knowledge only to make men acute and ingenious and subtle, without teaching them the duties of integrity, temperance, chastity, general self-control—this would be no better than to become school masters for Mammon, to prepare our pupils for his service, and to bid them walk in his ways. Again; to inculeate morality on any other than Christian principles would be fruitless as well as irreligious. For from what other source can be derived precepts so sublime and pure, or motives so commanding, even if the conduct of this life only were in question? But if you will rise to higher considerations - if you will but for a moment reflect, how fugitive and comparatively worthless is all that this life can give, you will still more strongly feel, that those, whose knowledge must after all be very limited, ought to possess at least the knowledge which concerns them most, For the knowledge of God is not only the beginning, but also the end, of wisdom. It is the knowledge of an elernal Father by children whom he is preparing for eternity. It is the knowledge of a righteous Judge, by culprits whom he has deathed to judgment. It is the knowledge of a merciful Redeemer, by sinners who have no other hope but in his merits and his mercy. Whatever other lessons we may teach them, at least let us never, on any consideration, omit

"It only remains for us now to consider one other aspect which this question assumed, before it resolted its present position. It was understood, as I have said, levall juries,

that the system of national education, to be established in this country, should stand on the foundation of Christianity. But there are many forms of Christianity, differing from each other more or less on points of dootrine, or observance, or discipline. Indeed, in no other European country are they so numerous as in this, in consequence, no doubt, of the greater latitude of individual opinion that has long been enjoyed by this people. Hence then arese, another question, involving a very serious difficulty, and supplying a subject of grave consideration both to divines and statesmen. It was this-Whether the children of parents of different per-suasions should be educated together in the same schools, or apart from each other in separate establishments? This led again to controversy. On the one side it was urgedthat the former scheme, that of mixed education, involved what was called a 'compromise of principle;' that the dis-tinctive points of the particular creeds would not by this method be sufficiently inculented; that religious indifference might flow from this; or, if not indifference, that religious disputes would arise among the children thus collected within the same walls.

"It was argued on the other side—that the points on which Christians are divided are not nearly so numerous, nor for the most part so important, as those on which they agree; that the habit of receiving together the same instruction, from the same instructor, would tend to soften the asperity of religious difference; that the distinctive dogmas might be taught separately by the respective ministers; and that it would be well for those, who were so soon to become active members of our community, to derive together, from the same sacred source, all their moral and the greater portion of their religious knowledge. This method was thought by some to be best fitted to sow the seeds of mutual forbeur-

ance and evangelical charity.

"But it was not thus ordained : the aspirations of a too sanguine philanthropy were stifled—the zeal of reciprocal jealousy was too strong and too intense. After some short controversy it became quite manifest, that there was no re ligious party in this country which desired the system of mixed education; all seemed to claim alike the privilege and the right of exclusive establishments. Though the opposite principle is still asserted by one great society, yet it is ob viously the general feeling among all denominations, that, by the separate system sione, they can all secure their respective independence, without any fear of proselytism, or any suspicion of compromise. And the Government, acquiescing in this feeling, distributes its assistance, as I am led to believe, with strict impartiality to all."

The dangers of allowing the increasing masses of our population to grow up in ignorance, are thus forcibly described:

"Let us not close our eyes against this truth. Let us not attempt to deceive ourselves. Let us not forget the past, or lose sight of the future, in the prosperous tranquillity of the moment. Any self-delusion in this matter may terminate, after a short dream of fatuous confidence, in some signal calamity. You all know, as appears from the last census, that the population of the greater part of this diocese—this more immediately connected with the mining interest —has recently increased with a rapidity almost unparalleled; and you have only to cast your eves around you to perceive that it is still steadily and fast advancing. These very seasons of peaceful prosperity in which you rejoice, and perhaps confide, accelerate that increase; and the increase will remain, when the prosperity may possibly have departed. Now, my brethren, you constantly hear this increase designated as fearful-but why fearful? What cause is there for fear in the multiplication of your species? What is there terrible in the aspect of a large multitude of honest, industrious, orderly, moral, and contented fellow-Christians? Surely this should be a subject of hope rather than of fear! A population trained in the love of God and of man, intelligent, considerate, peaceful, can never be too large, either for the general prosperity of the country, or for any individual interest. Why, then, do you call this increase fearful? I will tell you. It is because you apprehend that the character of this rising population is not such as I have described—that it does possess those qualities, which would make it a gain and a blessing to the community; and you foresee great danger-and in this I entirely agree with you-in the rapid multiplication of masses not so imbued, not so trained, but possessing other and perhaps opposite qualities.

" More than this. You are well aware that, in this vast augmentation, by very far the larger portion belongs to the lower orders. And this is a fact deserving your very serious reflection; for it indicates, no doubt, a great approaching change in the social system, for good or for evil. You do reflect-for you are very far from inconsiderate. You reflect, and the consequence is, that you fear. Why, I repeat, why not rather derive hope from your meditation? Are those men who are thronging round you, so destitute of the good feelings of you and so ignorant of the first principles on which society is founded, as to move only your jealousy and distrust? reply, that they are ignorant. Aye, my brethren, that is true indeed they are ignorant—and thence is the only real danger. But the crime of that ignorance does not rest with

" However, let us not enquire with whom it rests. Rather let us once again implore the Father of Mercies to avert from this nation the just consequences of our past omissions and neglects, and to give us grace to apply more virtue and more wisdom to the time to come.

"They are for the most part ignorant. Many of them have never been taught so much as the rudiments of their religious and moral duties. Their intellects have seldom been trained by any discipline, or stored with any useful information. They are uninstructed, or they are misinstructed, as to the foundation of their social obligations. They are conscious of certain rights; but, if their rights be greater than their knowledge you must see how certainly they will abuse They have intelligence enough to understand an appeal to their passions; not enough to detect the sophistry, which is sometimes employed to mislead them. They have virtue enough to love their families, to apply a good deal of industry to their support, and to abstain generally from any fingrant violation of the law; 1 or enough to make them provident against casual distress or disappointment, or to proserve them from much disorder in their lives. They congregate together in large masses, and are capable of firm and continuous co-operation, whether for a good purpose, or, as it might possibly happen, for a purpose the reverse of good.

"Now, this condition of such large multitudes is by no

means that which promises accurity, or inspires confidence. In worldly jutelligence and technical knowledge they are far removed from incapacity—in character, if not independent, they are containly not service; but they are for the most part

deficient in moral principles as the motive of their actions, and in sound religious principles as the basis of their morality. If then there be danger, this is the source of it. You are surrounded by masses of men whose physical energy and mechanical skill surpass their moral qualifications; and and mechanions said surpass their moral quantications; and among whom an indefinite sense of their power, and a possible misapprehension of their rights, are not regulated by habitual self control. And how should this be otherwise? Self control is the end and fruit of education; and these mentions are adverted to the end. have been instructed very partially, and educated not at all. They have learnt their trades, but they have not been taught their duties. They know the value of their hands, but they are uninformed us to the price of their souls. They have a strong sense of the interests of this world, but they have been left-many of them-without any certain knowledge, whether there he so much as a world to come, or not.

"I may here suggest to you another consideration, less important indeed, yet not without much weight in the treat ment of this subject-what are the recreations to which they usually have recourse in their hours of leisure?-for these, you will observe, are exactly the hours of their temptation, from various objects unconnected with their daily pursults; from the subtle suggestions of political or social cor. ruptors; from the mere gross impulse of uncontrolled sensolulity. With what principles then are their characters for tified for resistance to these seductions? With what light is their intellect provided to divert them from such vulgar and sinful occupation of their spare time? For I need not inform you, that when the curiosity has been awakened early, and the mind exercised and informed, the seasons of repose often become golden moments for moral reflection, or scientific enquiry, tending not only to therease the know. ledge and improve the habits of the man who employs them, but also to augment the general store of information and virtue. And I would not by any means be understood to say, that there are none among the working men in these districts who answer this description on the contrary, I be lieve that there are many of acute intelligence, considerable mechanical knowledge, and uncorrupted moral integrity. But what we all lament in common is, that these form no more than a body of honourable exceptions, and not, what they ought to form, and what they might form—the very heart and substance of the people."

Dr. Waddington fearlessly points out what is really the greatest defect in all the systems of education which have been established, either in England or on the Continent, the want of providing efficient schoolmasters by systematic training. Nowhere is this essential element of success so sedulously cultivated as in Ireland, under the National Board; and the teachers trained in the model school of Dublin are superior to the average of those entrusted with the education of the middle classes. It was one of the crying evils of the Kildure Place Society that they permitted a system of private patronage to influence the appointment of the schoolmusters they selected, so that in nine cases out of ten, every such appointment was nothing better than a local job. The Dean of Durham eloquently describes the qualifications which should be required in a schoolmaster:

" And now let us enquire, in a very few sentences, what are the principal qualities requisite for the office of a schoolmuster,-and I have no doubt that there are many among yon, even parents it may be, who have never to this moment asked yourselves this question. First among them, we require in him sound religious principles, not as a matter of belief only, but also as a motive of action; we require a spotless moral character-these are essential; nothing can compensate for their absence. pensate for their absence. Next, we insist that he be familiar with the various authorised methods of imparting information; but, besides this, he ought to command an extent of knowledge larger than that which he is called upon to impart; for thus only will be be able to illustrate his lessons, and give them perspicuity and force. Next, he must possess the art—the very difficult art—of communicating his information. This cannot be learnt, of course, without experience: but experience alone did not suffice;to awaken the curiosity of the child, to interest his imagination, to attract his attention, to teach him to think-rather than to repeat dry formularies of mere words which convey no meaning to his mind-to teach him to think, I say, and to understand and to infer and to reason-this, my brethren. is the secret, the very essence, of the art of teaching; and without it you may construct, indeed, an useful, animated machine, but you will never form a considerate and intelligent man.

The requisites that I shall last mention are gravity of deportment, discretion, self-control, and perfect command of temper. And this is a mere outline of the qualities which must combine to constitute the character of a good school-

Now I need not inform you that such men as these are not to be sought in the refuse of other trades and professions: on the contrary, a profession so' composed would possess a moral elevation to which most others might look ip with deference. You perceive, besides, that they cannot be self created; that they cannot attain that model without much diligence and discipline, -in a word, that the art of teaching must first be taught to them; that they must be tutored and instructed themselves, before they can be qualified to exercise tuition and impart instruction.

Till very lately we have lived with different notions. For all other professions some previous training and knowledge have been required—from the schoolmaster alone we have exacted no special preparation, but allowed him to entar, as if self-enlightened, or gifted with some sort of inspiration, on his most important mission; and to this, no doubt, as I have true to the self-enlightened t have just remarked, it may be mainly ascribed, that the amount of instruction communicated to the poor has been hitherto disproportionate even to the insufficient means

"It is for these reasons that during the last ten years, since people have begun to think at all on the subject, we have seen the establishment of institutions called Training Schools—that is to say, schools for solicolinations where the men to whom the education of the youth of the country is to be committed are prepared for that of the where they are taught that they will have follow discharge towards their pupils and their country, taught, too, how to discharge them. It is these them that they may attain the model which their placed before you. These was backets and the placed before you. These, my brethren, and the whence the men who will greatly influence the

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mercy it to manife cowards u Out o the next generation will proceed; and on their number, and conduct, and efficiency, will mainly depend the extent of the general good to be expected from our present exertions."

The Christian lessons inculcated in the conclusion of these lectures are so eminently suggestive, that we shall not weaken their effect by comment.

"We are by this time, I hope, convinced that the welfare of all classes is deeply interested in the improvement of what is called the lowest; that that class stands in great need of improvement; that any further delay might be fraught with danger; and that the instrument which God has given us for that purpose is education. We have seen. likewise, that the means of education must in every district be chiefly provided by the wealthier inhabitants, while some conditional assistance may be expected from the Government. Now, as a nation, we are capable of noble sacrifices. Many millions of our treasures have been expanded on the emancipation of our slaves, and year after year we still con-tinue our willing contributions in support of that holy cause. Yet it is a part of rational philanthropy not to confine its exertions to foreign and remote objects, however sacred, but at the same time, and with still greater zeal, to contend with any vast and wasting domestic corruption. I therefore repeat my opinion, that it is the duty of the Legislature to consecrate to the education of the poor of this country sums very much larger than the present grant.

"But even when this shall be done, the main part of the burden must still full, as I have told you, in some shape or other, upon the locality; and if you who are rich, if you have any superfluities, will not contribute to this purpose by the spontaneous exercise of an ample benevolence, you must expect an alternative which will be much less grateful to your feelings, in some form of compulsory impost.

"You are not insensible to the importance of sound and

"You are not insensible to the importance of sound and earnest spiritual instruction; as is proved, not only by your regular attendance in this church, but also by an act of grateful munificence lately performed by you. You recognise the value of literary and scientific information, whether for the exercise of your intellects, or the recreation of your leisure hours; and this is shown by the number and magnitude of your institutions, and the liberality with which you dispense their advantages to all within their reach—but those within their reach are not the poor.

But in respect to the poor, you are not indifferent to their bodily wants and sufferings. Individually, or associated for humane purposes, you support the helplessness of infirmity, you alleviate the pangs of pain, you satisfy the cravings of physical necessity. . . . But there are other necessities of which you do not dream, and which, though less visible, less obtrusive, are evils not less real, not less important—nay, in their consequences far more important—than those which your charity relieves. The children in your streets cry aloud for your assistance. They ask for bread, and you give it to thom. It is but half your duty. Give them at the same time that for which they do not ask—knowledge of their God, knowledge of their duties, and understanding to perform them.

"Act a more generous and a wiser part. Form societies for the improvement of the schools which exist, for the establishment of others in districts where they are most needed. Infant schools, as I have said, are valuable at least as means of moral discipline. Evening schools are frequently useful to those whose mornings have been employed in labour; and Adult schools to those whose early education has been neglected. Further these objects,-further them, not by pecuniary assistance only, but by the contribution of your time and your talents. Employ any influence that you may possess over the parents, to show them how clearly both their interests and their duties lie in the education of their children. Above all, improve the character and raise the condition of your schoolmasters. Bear in mind how entirely the result of your exertions must depend on their qualifications; and extend your support to the diocesan institution in which they are trained.

'If at any time you shall have any funds generally available for educational purposes, let me advise you to apply them principally, or at least some considerable share of them, to the education of the poor. And this for two reasons. Because the upper and middle classes are already much more abundantly provided with facilities of instruction than those below them; and because, even if this were not so, they never can want the power to provide them for them-It is not wisdom, my brethren, it is not good sense, it is not common foresight, to widen that broad space which already separates the upper from the lower orders. To ruise the one still higher, is in effect to depress the other to a lower depth; to accelerate the progress of those already too far in advance, is but to excite the despair of those who have not the means to follow. And you may be well assured of this besides,—they will not stand still; and unless you lead them along in the same path with yourselves, they will find out other paths, devious and perhaps crooked paths, pointing in a different and perhaps opposite direction. tion, and ending-where you would least desire to see

"Then let others take pride in their academic halls, or in their simple institutions for the growth of science, and the embellishments of art, that is, for the advantage and delectation of the classes who have raised them. But let it rather be said of you, that your foremost attention was directed to the wants of the destitute and the helpless. It will be a prouder boast than if some new turrets should crown your hills and add to the splendid monuments of your prosperity. For you will thus leave behind you monuments of your virtues too; and though the temples which you shall raise will be of humbler elevation and ruder structure, they will bear a more glorious inscription on their front, for they will be dedicated to the holiest of all human purposes, by the purest of all human motives. Act thus, my brethren, and you will build both more honourably and more permanently. Place your foundation in the interests and affections of the poor, and then your walls will stand fast in immortal security, and the protection of Heaven will be

upon you.

"I have now performed my task: I know how imperfectly, how unworthily of the cause which I have presumed to plead, but with an earnest hoart and with a single purpose. I commit the result to Heaven—only entreating you, when you shall reflect, as you sometimes will reflect, ou my advice and warnings, to consider through whose bounty it is that you have received what you possess; through whose mercy it is that you preserve what you have received; and so manifest your gratitude to God by your loving kindness towards man."

Out course draws to a close. The mission of the Lague is almost accomplished. One great victory

has been won for our common humanity, and monopoly has fallen before the unaided force of moral principle. The ground is clear for philanthropy and philosophy to combine with picty in the great work of the moral clovation of the people. Hitherto the Minister has been waiting for the country; and the country has been waiting for the Minister. Time waits for neither; and every day which we leave unimproved adds to an appalling mass of moral degradation, which, if allowed to accumulate unchecked, menaces the country with most perilous consequences.

Prisons and Prisoners. By Joseph Adshead. With Illustrations. London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longman.

This work is a valuable contribution on a subject to which the author appears to have devoted very considerable reflection and labour. The important topics on which it treats have been, for some years past, attracting an increased share of attention from thinking and philanthropic persons; but much remains to be done before a due regard will be paid to them by a sufficient number of influential individuals, or by the public at large. Abuses and abominations have to a considerable extent been abolished in old modes of prison discipline; yet so many serious evils still remain, so large a sphere is left for reformation, that benevolence has even in the present day a mighty task to accomplish in this direction of improvement. It is no easy thing to excite a general and full consideration of the principles which should regulate criminal treatment-at least, there are many difficulties in the way of doing so. The great majority of the people fortunately know nothing practically of the interior of our gaols. They pass by the strong, gloomy, stone walls with a notion, if they think on the matter at all, that strength and security are the only requisites for a prison. Of what is going on inside, whether the influences to which the immates are subjected are corrupting and degrading, or reformatory as well as punitive, they are ignorant, and consequently are not stimulated to exert themselves for the removal of abuses which may, and often do. exist in sad abundance. Some persons more sensi tive than others shudder at some indefinite idea of prisoners' sufferings, but few think of inquiring if any of that suffering is unnecessary, or if the ordeal of pain is really promotive of the interests of society and the improvement of the law-breaker. Much of this indifference is certainly attributable to the fact that what is passing in the interior of prisons is necessarily out of sight to the bulk of the community. We trust, however, that an enlightened public opinion will speedily be directed to the establishment of our penal institutions on a right basis, whereby the proper and only justifiable ends of punishment may be carried out.

There can be no better test of the degree of a nation's civilisation and humanity than the principles on which it acts in the treatment of crime. Barbarous conditions exhibit blind revenge and extravagant cruelty as the impulses of an injured party-wild justice, as some have called it. By degrees, as barbarism subsides, justice becomes less savage; it loses a portion of its vindictiveness by its being taken out of the hands of offended individuals, and confided to the care of magistrates; still it long retains a retaliative character. To make the lawbreaker suffer seems to be the sole object. The law is not constructed with an intelligent regard to the welfare of all through the security of the social fabric, but with a view to the gratification of vindictive feeling. Gradually, ameliorations are introduced into the penal code; and ultimately intelligence and humanity are associated with the administration of justice, and with those processes which the morally corrupt must undergo, to prevent con-

tagion, and for their own purification. It is out of our province to say anything in this place on the practicability of resorting to plans for the prevention of crime; by the diminution of poverty and its temptations; by extending the benefits of sound, healthy, moral, education, and by promoting various elevating influences among those classes which are now most exposed to vitiating circumstances. In passing by these measures we do not undervalue their overwhelming importance; but the mind must dwell upon one department of a subject at a time. The book before us relates to the treatment of criminals after conviction, and will be found to assist in solving the problems.—How far may humanity to the prisoner be made consistent with the conservation of society? and what method is the best adapted for reforming the culprit, and at the same time deterring others from the commission of crime?

Various systems of prison discipline are at the present time in operation in different parts of the civilised world, and in the same nation; as in our own country and the United States. Each of these systems meets with its respective defenders, between whom a great contrariety of opinion exists as to the principles and details in practice of penal management. We have prisons where the timeter are thrown into indiscriminate associations, and where

they have every opportunity of full communication with each other; with little, if any, attempt at classification. Then there is the silent and congregated system, generally connected with such a clussification tion as the gaols will allow of; under which system the prisoners work together during the day, and an attempt is made to prevent them communicating, inflicting severe punishments for brough of the prison rules in that respect. There is also the separate system, which provides a separate cell for each immate of the gaol, and in no case whatever allows the criminals to be brought into contact, so that communication is impossible. Work is given to the prisoners; a habit of industry is promoted among them; they receive moral and religious instruction; and are frequently visited by inspectors, the chaplain, and other officers. The silent and congregated method is sometimes called the Auburn system, from its being adopted in a prison of that name in the State of New Yorle; and the separate arrangement is often known as the Pennsylvanian system, from its being acted upon in the eastern penitentiary in that State. Many of the provinces throughout the States have adopted one or the other of these methods. Mr. Adshead gives his voice in favour of the separate system; and adduces a vast array of facts, derived from numerous authorities and extensive personal observation in England and America, in reply to its opponents, more particularly the Times newspaper, Mr. Dickens's American Notes, and the Boston Society's Reports.

Very little reflection appears to be needed to convince of the direful effects which must necessarily result from the free associations of the depraved, in their different degrees of guilt. Under such circumstances the tyre in crime learns lessons of deeper sin; the heart yet open to impressions of goodness is hardened by contact with the confirmed villain; scoffs and jeers greet a tear of repentance; and he who entered the prison door with fear, designing a better life, comes out with bravado, an accomplished enemy of his fellow men. Yet such contamination is permitted in this the city of London, the metropolis of England, and seat of so much that is great Newgate and other gaols under the maand good. nagement of the city authorities have frequently called forth the censures of the Inspectors of Prisons. In the Report of the Inspectors of the Home District, for 1843, the following passage occurs:

" It has been our painful duty again and again to point out attention to the serious evils resulting from gaol association, and consequent necessary contamination in this prison (Newgate). The importance of this prison, in this point of view, is very great. As the great metropolitan prison for the untried, it is here that those most skilled in orime of every form-those whom the temptations, the excesses, and the experience of this great city have led through a course of crime to the highest skill in the arts of depredation, and to the lowest degradation of infamy, meet together with those who are new to such courses, and who are only too ready to learn how they may sursue the career they have just entered upon, with most security from detection and punishment, and with greater success and indulgence. The numbers committed, nearly 4000 per annum, which have rapidly increased, and are still increasing, render this a subject of still greater moment. Of this number about one-flith are nequitted; many of these return to their associates with increased knowledge and skill in crime; with lost characters; with more hardened dispositions, from their association here with others worse than themselves; and with their sense of shame and self-respect sadly diminished, if not utterly destroyed, by exposure to others, and by increased gaol acquaintances. We most seriously protest against Newgate as a great school of crime. Associated together in large numbers and utter idleness, frequently moved from ward to ward, and thereby their prison acquaintance much enlarged, we affirm that the prisoners must quit this prison worse than they enter it. It is said that prisoners are here but for a short time, and that, therefore, much mischief cannot be done. Many of them are here for three weeks and more, and are locked up together in numbers from 3 to 30, for 22 out of 21 hours, without the restraining presence even of an officer, without occupation or resource, without instruction, except that afforded by the daily chapel service, and by the short visits which a chaplain can pay from ward to ward, in so large a prison, and by the books which are placed in the wards. At the end of three weeks what remains to be learnt that any inmate of a ward can teach? What narrative of guilty or sensual adventures remains untold? What anticipation of future success and indulgence that has not been dwelt upon?

Very few persons would have expected a character like this attaching, at so recent a period as 1843, to the chief metropolitan gaol, under the management of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of London. Mr. Adshead is of opinion that there can be no radical constructional improvement in Newgate, to admit the introduction of proper discipline, without the entire demolition of the present building. He also adds, that since the date of the report above quoted from:

"There has been no alteration in the construction of the prison, for the prevention of the characteristic contaminations of the gaol. There may be a more frequent removal than formerly of the prisoners, and the number of its impates may be somewhat lessened by prison regulations, but opportunities for mutually demoralising connect exist in all their proportionate extent, without an attempted remedy. A deputy-governor has been appointed by whom there is a more direct surveillance (the governor being now principally of coupled in office details), and who is fully alive to the illustrated construction of this prison for any purpose of proper discipline amongst the prisoners there continued.

of these arrangements; the sources of pollution thus opened up, to spread vice and misery in a thousand different channels, cannot be calculated. If the extent of contamination could be reckoned, and the number given of those who might have been restored, by a superior discipline, to respectable citizenship, but who are now pests in the social state, the estimate would be fearful. Of course, these remarks as to the lamentable consequences of indiscriminate gaol association apply to all the prisons throughout the country where the same practice is in operation. It is to be hoped that the metropolis will soon entirely put away these abominations, and by the application of correct principles to the management of its penal institutions, cease to be an example of error—taking its proper position of leadership in the march of improvement.

The silent system, with classification, is certainly better than the licentiousness just described, but just doubts are entertained of its being adequate to fulfil the purposes for which it was designed. It is adopted at the Coldbath-fields and Tothill-fields Houses of Correction. In the first place, a classification of the prisoners, which shall prevent injury from their mutual contact, is impossible with the various degrees and shades of guilt which must exist within the walls of a prison. Under the head of the New Prison, Clerkenwell, the following remarks occur in the present volume:

"Let us examine into the nature of prison classification. Take, for example, a department under that mode of discipline, termed the 'vagrant yard;' or a prison subdivision in which are placed prisoners of a very heterogeneous character, committed under the Vagrant Act. They include persons charged with the offence of begging, sleeping out at night, and not able to give a satisfactory account of them selves, suspected persons, gamblers, reputed thieves, for petty thefts, &c. All these are summaily convicted for various periods, without going to the sessions.

warious periods, without going to the sessions.

"The real character of the occupants of this yard we will endeavour to analyse."

"They are frequently strangers, who have never before seen the interior of a prison. There are also to be found gamblers, who may not be known to be thieves, and persons committed also for the most trifling offences; whilst it would be seen that a large proportion are comprised of those who have previously been on the misdemeanant, or felon's side, and also in the transport yard; some who have been transported, and have again returned to their own country, to plunder upon the community, and here we find them in what is termed the vagrant yard. We may refer, also, to the 'Convicted felon's first offender's yard;' there may be 40 or 50 under this head. Having, during the day, mingled with old offenders or transports at the treadmill, or in some other mode of employment in the different workrooms, they return in the evening from their labour to their yard and day-room. On these occasions it is, after the day's work has terminated, that free and mutual communication takes place, when they relate to each other their several acquirements in criminal knowledge.

"The disposition or placing of untried prisoners must not be overlooked. Those who are committed as first offenders, and old offenders, are placed in distinct wards. By first offenders is meant those who have never been known to have been convicted of felony, but who may nevertheless have been frequently in the vagrant ward as reputed thieves. Amongst those who appear as first offenders may also happen to be included those who are deeply steeped in crime, and who may have been confined in other prisons for misdemeanours or felonics; but being apprehended in another county, are classed as first offenders; for when questioned on their admission to the prison, such characters take ospe-cial care not to make the worst of themselves. It is an acknowledged fact, that in the flist offence ward there are, with those who are confined in a gaol for the first time, in constant association, some of the most deprayed and hardened characters, who are brought in contact with the novice in crime, both in their bed cells and during their employment in the lighter kind of labour assigned to them. Such prison classification may aid the prison officers in more readily distinguishing the character of their criminal charge then under detention, but as a point of discipline for any important purpose of moral improvement, it is quite out of the question.

Where a number of prisoners are brought together, though under an injunction to maintain oid all communication with each other, it must be evident that the circumstance of their being brought together constitutes a strong and almost irresistible temptation to break the rules in this respect. They are naturally curious to know the terms of each other's imprisonment and the crimes for which they are committed, besides being desirous of varying the monotony of constant muteness. Insubordination, too, is likely to meet with mutual encouragement. Recourse to severe punishments, in addition to the sentences of judges and magistrates, is thus rendered necessary. Dark cells, solitary cells, handcuffs and irons, stoppage of diet, and other punishments are in frequent use for the preservation of discipline In the year 1842 there were upwards of 125,000 committals in England and Wales; and in the same year there were 65,969 offences committed in our prisons and punished in various ways. Of two modes of punishment-imprisonment in dark cells and in solitary cells-there were 9026 of the former, and 15,310 of the latter. To take an example of one prison conducted upon the silent and congregated system, we find (Report for 1848) in Coldbathsields prison, in one year, a total of 16,808 offences for 10,380 prisoners, or 161 ton per cent. of prison delinquency. A/contrast favourable to the separate system is shown in the l'entonville prison, which gives a total of 82 offences for 714 prisoners in the course of the twelve months, or 11 for per cent. of delinquency in prison.

After all, communication cannot be prevented. The ingenuity of the prisoners is taxed to evade the officers' vigilance; and that cunning which characterises so many criminals is exerted to devise means of signalising or communicating with one another undetected. The Inspectors' Return for 1813 states, with reference to Coldbath-fields prison:

"Notwithstanding the discipline is attempted to be maintained by never overlooking a single breach of it, however trifling (for if a prisoner speak only once-even one word—he loses his meal), notwithstanding punishments generally are inflicted to the extent which the law sanctions; and notwithstanding the frequency of these punishments, yet it is admitted by Mr. Chesterton, that 'The punishments are decidedly insufficient to keep up the discipline.' 'They will not deter—it is almost impossible to make the prisoners work.' 'The punishments are not preventive.'"

Under this discipline, however successfully carried out, there must be one evil of serious magnitude. The utmost silence with congregation cannot prevent recognition. On coming out of gaol the unreformed thus have an introduction to a larger circle of criminal acquaintances; while those who feel inclined to a better life are annoyed by the approaches of former fellow-prisoners, and by importunities are often tempted to a repetition of crime.

The separate system obviates this difficulty. Prisons under this method cease to be places for the formation of new companionships in guilt; and become what they ought to be in every case-means of disconnecting the fallen from depraved associations. No doubt the idea of exclusion from the pleasures of companionship and society is appalling to a sensitive mind; but it must be remembered that imprisonment in any shape is distressing, and that to a person of delicate feelings, forced association with the coarse, brutal, and depraved would, to say the least of it, be quite as shocking as total solitude. The advocates of separation in our gaols are not monsters of cruelty, as some suppose, delighted with terturing the unfortunate sons of guilt. Many of its promoters are men of exemplary benevolence. Absolute solitary confinement is not defended; indeed, such mitigations and ameliorations as are necessary for the preservation of bodily health and mental clasticity are strongly contended for. The author of "Prisons and Prisoners" gives, in the introduction to his work, the substance of a definition or description of the separate system, supplied by the Inspectors of the Home District, a portion of which we here quote:

"What is separate confinement? It is totally different in its nature from solitary confinement. It differs from it in the following particulars: In providing with a large, well lighted, and well ventilated apartment, instead of immuring him in a confined, ill ventilated, and dark cell; in providing the prisoner with everything that is necessary for his clean-liness, health, and comfort, during the day, and for his repose at night, instead of denying him these advantages; in supplying him with sufficient food of wholesome quality, instead of confining him to bread and water; in alleviating his mental discomfort by giving him employment, by the regular visits of the officers of the prison, of the governor, surgeon, turnkeys, or trades' instructors, and particularly of the chaplain, instead of consigning him to the torpor and other had consequences of idleness, and the misery of unmitigated remorse, resentment, or revenge; in separating him from none of the immates of the prison except his fellow-prisoners, instead of cutting him off, as far as may be, from the sight and solace of human society; in allowing him the privilege of attending both chapel and school, for the purpose of public worship and education in class (securing, on those occasions, his complete separation from the sight and hearing of his fellows), instead of excluding bim from divine service and instruction; in providing him with the means of taking exercise in the open air, whenever it is proper or necessary, instead of confining him to the unbroken seclusion of his cell. The object of separate confinement, is the permanent moral benefit of the prisoner an object which he can plainly see this object has in view.

"Under the separate system an appeal is made to the moral sense and understanding of the prisoner; he is treated as a man, and with the respect and benevolence due to humanity, even in its lowest debasement.

"Separate confinement is fitted and designed to induce reflection, kindness, gratitude, and amendment: in short separate confinement is the separation of each offender from all communication and association with his fellow-offenders, regard being had to his bodily health, his mental sanity, his intellectual improvement, and his moral amendment, by inculcating industrious habits, and by religious and moral instruction."

We have no hesitation in acknowledging our confidence in a system of penal discipline, conducted consistently with the principle enunciated above, that the prisoner should be "treated as a man, and with the respect and benevolence due to humanity, even in its lowest debasement." The task of reforming those who are deeply dyed in guilt, while they remain within the sphere of mutual contamination, is hopeless. Some plan of separation must be adopted, or we must come to the conclusion that the restoration of criminals to the paths of rectitude is but seldom to be expected, and that in most instances they must remain centres of moral pollution. To the objection often urged against the separate system, namely, its alloged tendency to cause insanity, Mr. Adshead brings forward in reply a host of statistical details and many explanations which are too numerous for notice in this article. We cannot refrain, however, from mentioning one explanation given with reference to the sudden and extraordinary alleged increase in the number of cases of mental aberration, continuing for two or three years after 1837, in the Eastern Penitentiary, Pennsylvania. In 1837 a new physician was appointed to the Penitentiary, and the authority of Dr. Varrentrapp is quoted to show that a very considerable number of the cases reported, as those of alienation of the mind, would not have been so designated by the profession in Europe.

The returns which present this extent of lunaer also present cures in the proportion of 80 per cont. of the patients; while the disorder in most instances was of short duration. Now, the highest proportion of cures ever known to have occurred in any lunation establishment, even the best regulated, is 56 per cent.; so, if it be argued from the statements referred to, that separate confinement is likely to produce insanity, it follows from the other part of the statement that the same discipline constitutes by far the best cure yet discovered. In giving this explanation we are at the same time fully convinced of the injurious effects of unmitigated solitary imprisonment on the mind: and we coincide with the author of the volume before us, that the relaxation of some of the rules of the Eastern Penitentiary might be effeeted with propriety and advantage, to bring them in accordance with the regulations of the Model Prison, Pentonville, which are not a jot too lenient. Every good principle is liable to be carried to extremes; and in carrying out the separate system in our gaols, care must be taken to introduce all such ameliorations as are consistent with the purposes of a penal institution, for the prevention of morbid mental excitement or unnatural torpor. Powerful and useful medicines, when injudiciously prescribed, destroy the patient, instead of curing the disease; so must the separate system be administered with judgment and humanity, to benefit the morally diseased individuals submitted to the treatment

Space will not permit us to comment upon the different branches of the subject treated of by Mr. Adshead. The book is evidently penned in an earnest and benevolent spirit, and exhibits a close acquaintance with the workings of the various penal systems in operation in this and other countries. It contains a mass of information; and those who feel interested in the subject (and who should not?) will find "Prisons and Prisoners" a useful aid in arriving at sound conclusions. May a few years witness a great advance in the adoption of improved means for the cure of crime and its prevention for the future.

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JOURNALISM IN FRANCE.—The recent laws directed against the press in France have rendered the establishment of newspapers much more expensive and difficult than for merly. To secure the payment of the highest fine, the security, or cautionnement, for a journal has been raised to 100,000 frances, or 4000%, and the responsible editor must be proprietor of one third of that sum. In a country where capital is so limited, the necessity of paying 4000% operates very unfavourably to enterprise in journalism, and may be considered almost as a prohibition, when it is remembered that this money is at the mercy of a Government whose judges may interdict the publication of the paper after two udicial condemnations. But notwithstanding the sinister influence of this law, and the efforts used by the Government to corrupt public writers, these combined causes do not operate to raise the rich proprietor of a journal above the poor but able writer, as in England. The main cause of this lies in the social habitudes and institutions of France which are more favourable to talent, and far less favourable to the power and influence of mere wealth than the social system of England. Ministers in France seek to bribe and debauch writers in newspapers, and too often succeedministers in England, if there be a favour to confer, or s good thing to bestow, confer it on the proprietors of journals. such a paper is made a deputy-lieutenant, the proprietor of such another is created a baronet, the proprietor of a third is appointed a local magistrate. In France, it is the writers, and not the proprietors, who are rewarded; and the Bertins are no exception to this rule, for they were far more celebrated as writers than as proprietors. Fievee, Etienne, Keratry, and Chevalier, with many others, were made councillors of state, while at least twenty other writers were made presects, sub presects, maitre des requêtes, &c. The num ber of newspaper writers who have taken a still higher flight over the heads of proprietors, and attained ministerial "portfeuilles" or the peerage, is by no means inconsiderable. Chateaubriand, Salvandy, Guizot, Thiers, Duchâtel de Rémusat, Villemain, Cousin, and many others, may be numbered. Thus is a homage paid to talent, both by government and recole in France inhibit in France in France. ment and people in France, which in England is reserved for wealth or title. The late Mr. Thomas Barnes, of the Times, though not a man of genius, like Chateaubriand, nor a man of such varied attainments as M. Guizot, was yet far superior, both as a scholar and a writer, to all the other French newspaper writers who attained the rank of minister. But Mr. Barnes was born in a wealth-worshipping and saist tocratic land; never was an M.P.—never was a privy comoiller never was a minister in a country which has had a Knatchbull, a Lincoln, and an Elleuborough in the Cabinet,

and an Addington, a Goderich, and a Peel, for prime ministers.—British Quarterly Review for May.

A Fancy Fair and Fete Champetre will be held in the grounds of the Almshouses, Walham green, Follown, on Tuesday, the 23d, and Wedneaday, the 24th of June, in of the Butchers' Charitable Institution. A Concert and Ball are amongst the varied amusements of the day.

Ball are amongst the varied amusements of the day.

The superior order have been engaged, and original and appropriate pieces, written, for the presented.

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A. W. Paulton, Esq.,
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Prespectages may be obtained, gratis, on application at the Society's Office, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriars-street, Floot-street. The Rules (ed. each are now ready, and may be knot as above.
Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application is modified.

POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Friday Evening, June 19, 1846.

The personalities by which the debates on the Ministerial measures have been disfigured from the very commencement of the session seem to increase in bitterness and malignity as the struggle approaches its close. But no charge, recklessly hazarded by a desperate advocate of a desperate cause, has produced so much excitement as the charge of gross treachery to the late George Canning brought by Lord George Bentinck against Sir Robert Peel, and endorsed by Mr. Benjamin D'Israeli. The charge is, that Peel, in 1825, urged Lord Liverpool to settle the Catholic Question; and that in 1827 he joined in the persecution unscrupulously raised against Canning under the pretence that he was about to undertake the settlement of the question, and that, sheltered by this hypocrital excuse, he joined in hunting that statesman to death. Now we have a pretty vivid recollection of all the circumstances, and we have refreshed our memory by reading Hansard. We are, therefore, able to say with conidence, that the charge, in form, and manner, as brought forward, is utterly and palpably untrue. The Catholic Question, was not the difficulty under which Canning was weighed down. That question did not, in fact, press upon him at all, for the Catholic Association agreed to defer the consideration of these claims until the Premier had overcome the other obstacles which beset his opening career. If Canning should be at all regarded as a victim, he was a victim to the malice of monopoly. His proposed relaxation of the system of protection prompted the ire of the savage bands which yelled on his track. His only great defeat was on his attempted modification of the sliding scale; and as this was effected in the House of Lords, Peol obviously could have had no share in the transaction. As the Premier has given his own explanation of what he said in 1829, and as the sentence on which Lord George Bentinck and Mr. D'Israeli rely for the proof of their charge is so vague and indefinite as to admit of a variety of interpretations, we need not enter into the special pleading by which the discussion has been encumbered.

But it is our duty, as honest men, to expose the position taken by the accusers. We know of no parallel to it but that recorded in sacred history: "They set Naboth on high before the people; and behold two men, sons of Belial, stood up to witness against him."

Let us begin with the noble lord of the stable mind; he either believes the charge he has made, or he does not. If he disbelieves it, he must not be surprised if he is treated as a slandorer and calumniator; but if he believes it, language does not furnish words adequate to stigmatise his conduct, For nearly twenty years, on his own showing, he has treated as a political, and even a personal friend, a man whom he knew to be guilty of the most monstrous hypoerisy, and whom he deemed the virtual assassin of "the illustrious relative" whose unworthy fate he declares himself bound to avenge.

From this dilemma there is no escape; the pretended avenger of blood either assumes a fulse character or has been an accessory after the fact-He has turned approver too late. If there be guilt, it lies at his door, for he sought the friendship of the guilty, though fully cognizant of the crime. If there were crime, he has been criminally silent; his charge of treason involves a confession of sus-

picion,-"he was silent for years and he was silent for money," is a sontence which he has virtually pronounced upon himself. Under such eireumstances the accuser comes into court with such polluted hands that no waters could efface the stain.

" Nay, his wet band would rather The multitudinous sea incarnadine, Making its green one red.

But how stands Mr. Benjamin D'Israeli, author of "Vivian Grøy," and editor of that precious newspaper, the Representative? Among the libellers of Mr. Canning, he stood prominent as the most viru. lent and the most vindictive. The grave itself afforded no shelter from his persevering enmity:

^a So fierce, so furious was his hate, It passed the bounds of mortal fate; And died not with the dead."

If it were worth while to make search among the archives of the pastrycooks and trunk-makers, it would not be impossible to disinter splenetic effusions of perverted genius and disappointed ambition aimed against Canning in his life and in his death. But we wish not to rescue from their un honoured oblivion those books-

"Which are rich in Examples and lessons to lions high-bred; How they suffer those mongrelly dogs in their kitchen, Who feed on them living, and foul them when dead."

GREAT HISTORICAL PICTURE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE .- We have pleasure great in announcing that Mr. Agnew, the enterprising print publisher, of Manchester, has completed arrangements with Mr. Herbert, R. A., for a historical picture, commemorating one of the most important achievements of modern times, the peaceful triumph of Free Trade over monopoly. The celebrity which Mr. Herbert has obtained, as a historical painter, by his pictures of Sir Thomas More, and his daughters, the Trial of the Seven Bishops, and Philip Nye's Declaration of Religious Liberty, is a sufficient guarantee to the public for the fidelity of portraiture and artistic excellence of the work on which he is engaged. He has just commenced his task; and as we take a deep interest in his success we shall take the earliest opportunity of reporting on the progress he has made. We know of no group which a few years hence will excite such interest as the Council of the League. Their labour has been one of pure thought and organised intel igence. They have wielded only the weapons of mind, and they have gained victory only by winning conviction. It is the first movement in political bioteches appropriated and consummated by the history, commenced, conducted, and consummated by the middle classes; and as such it deserves a permament record at once to illustrate the past and to guide the future.

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THE RUNGS

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CORN MARKET.

CORN MARKET.

Monday, June 15th.—We are again shortly supplied with Wheat, Barley, and Outs. English Wheat was soon taken off at 3s. to 4s. advance from Monday last. There has been a limited demand for inferior Mediterranean Whost for export to Bolgium at 3ss. to 42s. per qr. Barley meets a dull sale, and is unaltered in value. Beans are is, and Pees 2s. dearer than this day week. There is a little more briskness in the Bondal Out trade at fully is, more than last Monday; and Free Outs are so scarce that a similar enhancement is obtained on them. S. H. Lucas.

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8. H. Leeas.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 12th of June to the 19th of June, both inclusive | English | Irish. | Fore

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THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, JUNE 12.

J. C. Hill, Reading, grocer. [Mespre, Lewis and Lowis, Ely-J. Wyatt. Ockham, Surrey, common brewer. [Mr. Walker

South-square, Gray's inn. C. Henns, Winchester, miller. (Mr. Gedgo, George street,

Muston-house.
W. Hart. Whitechupel High-street, hat manufacturer. [Mr. Rawlings, Crosby-halt Chambers.
J. B. Pim and C. Payne, Mansfield street. Borough road, paper makers. [Mr. Lewis, Grosvenor-street.
T. Simmons, Woodburn, Buckinghamshire, corn merchant. [Mr. Waller, Finsbury-circus.
J. Staveley, Manchester, warehouseman. [Mossis, Gregory and Co., Bedford-row.
C. Fox Kingston ways Multiplicated.

C. Fox. Kingston-upon Hull, victualler. [Mesors, Tilson and

J. Holt, Nottingham, lace manufacturer. [Mr. Huish, Castle D. Clark, Liverpool, leather dealer. [Messra, Johnson and Co., Temple.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS. J. Anderson and A. Brown, Glasgow, smiths.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16 BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED. W White, Tavistock, tailor.
R Harvey, Chacowater, Cornwall, grocer,
BANKRUPTS,
Southwark,

J. Bickerton, Castle street, Southwark, hat manufacturer. Mr. Fox. Finsbury-circus.
H. Elphick, Wardonr-street, St. James's, victualler. [Mr.

H. Elphick, Wardour-street, St. James's, victualier. [Mr. Buchanan, Basinghall street. W. Filhey, Wyadisbury, Buckinghamshire, coachmaker. [Mr. Lloyd, Milk-street, Cheapside. E. Gardner, Fieldgate-street, Whitechapol, chemist, [Mr. Spillan, Camomile-street, Spillan, Camomile-street, J. C. Staines, Oundle, Northamptonshire, tailor. [Messes, J. C. Staines, Oundle, Northamptonshire, tailor. [Messes, J. Pilheam, Parker-street, Bolio. T. Pilheam, Parker-street, Drury-lane, coachsmith. [Mr. Goren, South Molton street. J. Boulton, Ashton-under lyne, carrier [Messes, Parker et al., Boulton, Ashton-under lyne, carrier [Messes, Parker et al., Boulton, Ashton-under lyne, carrier [Messes, Parker et al., Boulton, Ashton-under lyne, carrier [Messes, Parker et al., Parker et

J. Boulton, Ashton-under lyne, carrier. [Mossrs. Rood and Langford, Fridny street. W. Kirby, Liverpool, hotel-keeper. [Mossrs. Holme and Co.

J. G. Smith, Liverpool, grocer. [Messrs. Keightley and Co.

Chancery-lane.
P. Hare, Liverpool, tallow chandler. | Mosses, Norvis and Co. Bortlett's-buildings.
W. Butes, Manufaster, stockbroker, [Messrs. Gregory and

G. and J. Barton, Manchester, copper roller manufacturers.
[Messix, Milhe and Co., Temple.
S. Smith, Bodminster, grocer. (Mr. Perkins, Brietol.
W. H. Smith, Swanses, newspaper proprietor. (Mr. Strick Doughty-street.

ECOTCH BEQUESTRATIONS.

J. Dick, Glasgow, builder.

R. M'Indoe, Glasgow, merchant. J. Carmiohael, Sandyford, Glasgow, builder. D. Armstrong, writer, Dumfries.

DOTANIC WATER and BEAR'S GREASE.—When the hair is becoming thin and falling off, the only effectual remedy, be dedes showing the head, is the use of the two above named articles, applied alternately—the botanic water to cleame the roots from sour, and as a sile alternately—the botanic water to cleame the roots from sour, and as a sile antique, and the least a group of the virtues of lear's grease for renovating and prevents the hair, Mr. Catilin's account of the quantity used, and the length of his newer.—1058 and 80Ns, 110 and 120, libripoparate articles and the length of the least of hear's grease in this country, and who fit and all reduced the use of bear's grease in this country, and who fit and all reduced the use of bear's grease in this country, and who fit and all reduced the use of bear's grease in this country, and who fit and all reduced the use of bear's grease in this country, and who fit and all reduced the public to purchase none other but with their and a side of the side of the side of the hair are were the second on the option of the observer.

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Richard Services

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Sir Thomas Brancker Adam Hodgson, Esq

DRITISH CONSULTS OFFICE. PHILADELPHIA.—Know all Persons to whom these presents shall come, case of configurations and its initianic Majorty's Consult, do hereby config. that it. WARRING, Eq. (who attests to the effi-

OLDRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA,

IN RESTORING HAIR), is Mayor of this City, and that M. RANDAIN, Eq. is Protionotary of the Court of Commiss Pleas, to both whose signatures full faith and credit is and that I heard him expressibly associated with J. J. INGLES, Esq., another of the algories, and that he is a person of great respect oblitis, seal of Office, at the City of Philadelphia December 29, 1825.

Price 3s 64 . 6s. and He per bottle. No other prices are genuine. OLDRIDTES BALM of COLUMBIA, I, Wellington street, the second h

GREAT HISTORICAL PICTURE

COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE.

The accomplishment of Prec Trade will be one of the most remarkable events, not only in the history of the British Empire, but of the civilised world. No movement so important, so offsetive, and so successful. has ever been before witnessed by mankind. Those to whose zeal, integrity, prudices, and shifty this great triumph is due, will be recognised as the benefactors of mankind to remote generations.

It is a duty, then, which we over to the world and to posterity, to preserve some

PERMANENT MEMORIAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE;

that deliberative and executive holy, which has achieved moved by moral force, than her bear accompilehed, by assembations that included physical

that deliberative and executive body, which has achieved more by moral force, than has been accomplished by associations that included physical strength and political power. For this purpose arrangements have been made with Mr. HERBERT, R.A., to paint a

HISTORICAL PICTURE OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE,

including Accurate Portraits, not only of the Principal Leaders, but of those less prominent Members, whose indefatigable labours during the whole course of the morement have entitled to not public gratitude. It is proposed that this shall be engraved by a first-rate artist, on a large scale nighty movement by which monoisely with overthrown, and there are no place within the reach of persons of moderate fortune, a monument of the take sajoyment of so glorious a victory. The principles of universal peace have been established by their own practical development in peaceful

In order to accomplish this great work of Art! on a scale and in a style worthy of the subject it is designed to commemorate, those who are wish to Subscribe

There will be three Classes of Engravinus from this great Historical Picture, at the following prices:—
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On SATURDAY, JULY the 18th, will be communeed, A NEW WEKKLY PAPER, entitled, A NEW WEKKLY PAPER, entitled, TO UGLAS JERROLD'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, 72 Columns, Large Follo, Price 6d. RDITOR and PROPRIETOR, DOUGLAS JERROLD. Cantaining numerous Original Artices by the Editor and Eminent Literary Associates, And being in every respect a Foll and Efficient Newspaper, advocating the Cause of the People. OPPICE, 109, STRAND, Where Prospectuses may be had, Gratis, and of any Town or Country Newsman. TO HOUSEKERPERS—This Day 2s cloth or 2s 6st in leather

TO HOUSEKERPERS. This Day, 2a cloth, or 2a 6d, in leather, THE COOK-MAID'S COMPLETE GUIDE, AND THE ART OF COOKLRY MADE EASY. Being the best and easiest methods of correctly performing all the business of the Cook-maid in respectable families. With proper instructions for Steaming, and the most exact directions for preparing tocook, and for cooking and serring up all surts of Provision, from a single Joint of Meat, with Vegetables, to the first seasoned dishes of Game, Poulity, Fish, Sauces, Soups, and Mada Dishes. Jellies and Custards, and also for making and baking Pies, Taris, Patties, &c. The whole written from experience. By A Laps.

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MEDIC C. RELEGIS.

Marshall Hall, M.D., F.R.S.

Alexander Anderson, Esq., F.R.C.S.

Messrs. Palmer, France, and Palmer, Hedford row.

By the Act of Perliament obtained by the Company. It is expressly conditioned that the liability of the Shareholders under the Policies shall not be restricted by special contract or otherwise.

In the Deed of Constitution it is provided that, until a Reserved Fund of £10-180 be accumulated, and unless it be kept up, no greater dividend than Five per Cent. shall be paid to the proprietors in any one year.

At the commencement of the present year, the Reserved Fund amounted to £117,20-1; and, in addition, the sum of £31,901 its 6d. was retained out of the Fire Premiums of the Year, as a Guavantee, or Reinsurance Fund, against current risks. The Premiums received in the Life Department form no portion of other of those two funds.

The Directors having thus succeeded in establishing a substantial and highly-flourishing Institution, with a stendily increasing Ruslaess, have been induced to form a junction with the LONDON, EDINIUIGH, and DUBLIN LIFE ANSURANCE COMPANY, by the assistance to be derived from whose Connex ons and Proprietors they hope to acquire a firmer and more extensive hold on the Metropolis and the Country generally.

Proposals for the Insurance of Property against Fire in the United Kingdom, the British Colonies, and in Foreign Countries, and for the Assurance of Lives, the Purchase of Annuities, and the Sale of Reversionary Interests, will be received at the Offices above, or by any of the Company's Agents.

ALLA ROBLETS OF PROTESTANT DISSEN FERS' and GENE-

Dr. Robert Culverwell's Guide to Health and Long Life.

Or. Robert Culverwell's Guide to Health and Long Life.

(Suppages, packet volume), price is. by post, is. 6d.,

WHAT TO EAT. DRINK, and AVOID; with Diet.

LADIES for all Complaints. By R. J. Celvers well, M. D. M. R. C. 8.

LAC. &c. Contents. How to insure perfect direction, tranquil feelings, a good night's real, when head, and a contented mind. By an observance of the instructions herein contained, the feeble, the nervously delicate, even to the most shattered constitution, may acquire the greatest amount of physical happiness, and reach in health the full period of life allotted to man. To be had of Sherwood, 23. Paternoster row, and all Hooksellers, or direct from the Asthor. 21, Arundel street, Strand, who may be advised with on these matters daily till 3; evenings, 7 till 9.

THE NEW MORNING NEWSPAPER, THE DAILY NEWS, forwarded by the early Morning Mails, direct from the press, for 16s 4d, per quarter, payment in advance. Orders, pre-paid, to EDWARD HALL, General News Agent, 223, Strand, London. E. H. continues to supply the Times at 16s, per quarter, Chronicle, 15s; Sun or Globe, 13s, per quarter.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS AND EDITORS. A Gentleman of Free Trade and Liberal principles, resident in London, and in every respect competent for the task, is desirous of enter ing into an arrangement to contribute to the columns of a Local Paper, Address to B. Y. Free Trade Club, 27, Regent street, London

National Tableau of Public Interest, which has been Eight Months in Preparation.

THE Royal Family at Home, consisting of the Queen and Prince Albert caressing their Pour lovely Children. The Grouping and Colouring by Madone Tussond, the Models and Portraiture by Mr. F. Tussand, the Contunes by Mrs. F. Tussand, is now added to the Collection.—HAZAARI, Haker street, Portnern square.

"This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."... Times. Admittance, is., Napoleon Rooms, 8d. Open from 11 till 4, and from till 10.

PREEMASONS' and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, II, Waterloo place, Pall mall, London, Business transacted in all the branches and for all objects of Life Assurance, Erdownents and Amarifes, and to secure contingent Reversions, &c —Information and Prospectuses furnished by Joseph Berninger, Secretary.

48, Ornechusch street, London, For Mutual Assurance on Lives, Endowments, Deferred Sums, Immediate and Befored Annufiles Lincolled under the Acts of Parthament relating to Friendly Societies, DIRLCTORS ATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,

C. P. Bousfield, Fsq. John Bradbury, Isq. William Cisth, Fsq. Thomas Castle, Fsq. John Feltham, Fsq. John Feltham, Fsq. Thomas Hodgkin, M.D.

Robert Ingham, Esq Samuel Hayburst Luens, Esq. Charles Luchington, Fsq. John 8t, Barbe, Esq. Richard Shortridge, Esq. Samuel Smith, Esq.

J. T. Conquest, M. D., F.L. S.

Soft terrors

Mesers, Handwicke and Davidson.

Charles Ausell, Eq. (2.118).

The gratifying result of the valuation of the liabilities and Assets of the Institution made in November, 1812, is exemplified in the following in stances, exhibiting the profit assigned to Policies which had been in existence from one to seven years.

Policies in Exist- vice	Age at Com- mence ment	Sum As Sured	Amount Original Prem. In lieu of on the Original Bonus. Prem. In lieu of on the Original Premium of
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The max Division of Profits will be made in Nov. 1847.

The torn number of policies loated from the commencement of the Institution, in December, 1833, to the present time, In 1863, and the annual income of the Rollety is unwards of EP (18).

MENURY whose PREMIT WE HEROME DUE on the 1st JULY next are remined that the same MUNTHE PAID WITHIN THIRTY DAYS PROM THAT DATE.

Opposed the Report to the last Annual Meeting of Members, and all other information, may be obtained at the Office, or of the Agents in the country.

country. London, June 6, 1816.

JOIRPH MARON, BOC.

ALEX. ROBERTSON, Resident Secretary.

THE PROTESTANT DISSENFERS and GENERAL LIFE and PIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Instituted 1837.

Empowered by Special Act of Purlimment, 3 Vic., c. 20.
(2), King William street, London Bridge, London.
21, St. David str. et, Edinburgh; and
6, King street, Queen square, Bristol.

CAPITAL—ONE MILLION.

George Housdied, Esq.
Thomas Challis, Esq., and Ald.
Jacob George Cope, Esq.
John Dixon, Esq.
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John Dixon, Esq.
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By order of the Board,

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

SHOWER BATH FOR 10s.; ditto, with copper A SHOWER BATH FOR 10s.; ditto, with copper conducting tubes, from 69s.; Huzard's patent ditto, 21s.; ditto, made very portable, including case, 3 s.; Hip baths, 19s and 21s.; Sponge ditto, 12s., 19s., and 21s.; Toilet Caus. 6s. 6d., Feet baths, from 8s. 6d. Also every deeription of Japan Ware 30 per cent, under any other house. RICH XID and JOHN KLACK beg to call the attention of the Public to their prices. As every Bath is manufactured on the premises, they can confidently warrant them of the very best make and material. Richard and John Sisek, 33s. Strand, opposite Somewset House. Their illustrated Catalogue of Baths, and every article in Furnishing Ironmongery, may be land gratis, or sent post five. Established 181s.

EORGE and JOHN DEANE, SADDIERS and JOHN DEANE, SADDIERS and JOHN DEANE, SADDIERS and Carriage Harness, manufactured on their own premises, by workmen of much experience, and under the direction of forcmen of superior ability and skill. Their leather is invariably dressed by first-rate London curriers, the furniture is also of the best town manufacture, and 0, and J. Deane warrant that the preductions of their manufactory cannot be surpassed for beauty, strength, and cheapness, by any other house. Horse clothing made to order: conteens of best seasoned wood. Beane's London-made whips, and all articles for stable and travelling use in large variety.—No. 2, Arthur-attect East, opening to the Monument, London-bridge.

JONES'S £4, 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES warranted not to vary more than half a minute per week, are selling at the Manufactory, 336, ferand, opposite Somerast-house. They combine the truth of a unitarganisal instrument with the chaptage of an ernament of these. On records of a real-order order for is, above the price, a Watch will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Read Joseph "Sketch of Watch Work," sent free for a 3d, stamp,

UMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD based on The following sample package ingreenmended to achieve who wise (previous is purch ling their used) supply of TLAS, OFFICE, O

All goods afterwards ordered will be sent warranted equal to these samples

A N ADVERTISEMENT HERE CAN CONVEY A DVE RELEASE MENT 11 P. RE. CAN CONVEY but a faint idea of the excellence of this manufacture for was or use, nor can it show the saying in actual money on the various article. In the aggregate this is over fifty per cent. The Catalogue, with 100 illustrations, gives the pattern and the price against every article. All house, keepers should have this book; and, by addressing C. WATSON, 61 and 42. Barbican, and 16, Norton Folgate near the Eastern Counties Railway London Terminus), it will be forwarded Gravis and Post Prec.

42. Barbican, and 16, Norton Folgate mear the Eastern Counties Railway London Terminus), it will be forwarded Gratis and Post Free.

LCXURY IN SHAVING.

JOHN GOSNELL and CO'S AMBROSIAL SHAVING CREAM Patronised by Prince Albert). This inestinable Gream possesses all the good qualities of the Finest Naples Soap, without the disagreeable smell inseparable from that article in a gennine state. It is of a white pearly silvery appearance, produces a creamy lather, which will not dry on the face, and omits in use the delightful flavour of the almond.

In Pots, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 7d., &c.

Perfumers to her Majesty, 12, Three King, court, Lombard-street, London. Manufacturers of Combs and Bruskes of the best quality, and on the most approved principles.

TRIDDELLYS PATENT ECONOMICAL MICA-CROWLINNG for the protection of Bonnets, Caps, and Hats from the injurious effects of the natural and artificial majesture of the hair, Ladies and gentlemen, before purchasing such articles, should see that they are provided with this elegant and inexpensive article, which may be faperceptibly introduced into the most delicate bonnet or cap, thereby preventing the very unsightly stains produced by perspiration, 6t, &c.: being a non-conductor of heat. It will be found invaluable in warm climate, especially in the East and Wost Indies, preventing the affects of a coup de solell or stroke of the sam, which has proved so fatal to Buropeans especially. To be lead of all respectable interes, milliners, laberdashers, outfitters, hosiers, &c.: W. Patterson, 194, Wood street, Chempside, London, is licensed to supply wholosale house only. Price One Smilling.

FOR FILLING DECAYED TEETH.

FOR FILLING DECAYED TEETH.

FOR FILLING DECAYED TEETH.

ALE'S ENAMEL, price 2s. 6d.—This preparation is confidently offered to the public as the best material ever discovered for filling decayed teeth, which it effects without giving the least pain or inconvenience, becoming, in a short time, as hard and as durable as the tooth itself, and, by periettly excluding the access of air, it arrests all further possible progress of decay. The preparation, before use, is has soft state, and continues so for a short time; and it may therefore be used by any person with perfect facility, and is warranted to succeed in every case, however large the cavity. Prepared by John Dale, analytical chrimist, Manchester. Sold in packers at 2s 6d. each, by most respectable druggists and medicine venders in the kingdom. Directions for use an inclosed with each packet.

Wholesale Agents: Mettershead and Roberts, Manchester; Barelay and Sons, 95, Farringdom-street, London.

Wholesole Agents: Mettershead and Roberts, Manchester; Barelay and Sons. 9). Farringdon-street, London.

DENTISTRY

225, Piccadilly, between Regent Circus and Haymarket. London II GIDNEY, formerly of New York, but for the last 16 years extensively knewn in Manchester and its populous requiring a change to a minder and drier cliniate, has selected the above premises, as very central, and convenient for his professional business, where he tenders his heat services to all who may desire the failinal and solid advantages of his art. His practice will embrace every necessary operation for the improvement and preservation of the human teeth. He regulates deranged teeth, and removes all causes incidental to their destruction, or that may deform the beauty of these important organs. Mr. G. never uses any of the various cemeats, postes, or succedaneums, which are all neers funcy names for the same article being base analyms of quicksliver (mercury) with other constanctals, their use being wholly prohibited for filling teeth, and justly considered anal-practice, by the American College and Society of a ental Surgeons: but he fills decayed teeth with the very fasest gold, so as to preserve them free from pash for life. Nor does he excise or cut off the crowns of painful teeth when they should be extracted; but his remedy effectually and with east destroys the nerve when exposed and painful. His experience and advantages in artificial substitutes are equal to anny in the profession.

Mr. G. considers it strictly professional, and will, under a conviction of its utility, adapt the practice when called on of visiting public seminaries and private families, for inspection and consultation only, either before or after the hours of business.

His circular containing regulated charges, and brief information, respecting the advantages and utility of his profession, may be had through post when required. Hours of business from 10 a.m. to 5 pm.

Post when required. Hours of business from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE, A White Powder for the Teeth, compounded of the Cholcest and most Recherche Ingredients of the Oriental Herbal; the leading requisites of cleanliness and efficacy being present in the highest possible degree. It hostows on the teeth a pearliffic whiteness and frees them from tartar; imparis to the gums a healthy firmness, and to the breath a grateful sweetness and perfume.

CAUTION.—"A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, Hatton Garden," is engraved on the Government Stamp, which is affixed on each box. All other Odoutos are FRAUDILENT IMITATIONS!

graved on the Government Stamp, which is affixed on each box.

All other Odoutos are FRAU DU LENT IMPATIONS!

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS."—

This prefix is one that we oftentimes need:
But that which at present is heading these rhymes.
Rather differs from those which appear in the Times.
E. MOSES and SON, who request the attention
Of 'Parents and Guardians' have something to mention.
As the Midsummer holidays now are at hand,
When the schools will be rid of their juvenile band,
E. MOSES and SON have a wish to impress,
The importance of buying their juvenile dress.
If 'Parents and Guardians' would save a vast sum
To MOSES and SON's famous house let them come.
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E. MOSES and SON's famous house let them come.
E. MOSES and SON's famous house let them come.
E. MOSES and SON's famous house let them come.
Are certain to save you full thirty per cent.
Not only in che appress do MOSES' excel,
But in beauty of coloth and in fashion as well.
Their Hussars and their tunics, adorn'd with neat braid,
Are such as out rivel the whole of the braile.
And "Parents and Guardians" (a hyudred to one)
Buy their juvenile dresses of MOSES & RON.

READY-MADE.

E. d.

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Summer Coats in every deserting the Registered
Coat in every malering adapted for the season in every waitery of style and fashion to order, from Quilling Vests, 6st deach, or 3 for Cashmere, in every variety of cytic and fashion to order, from Quilling Vests, 6st deach, opation particulating the Registered
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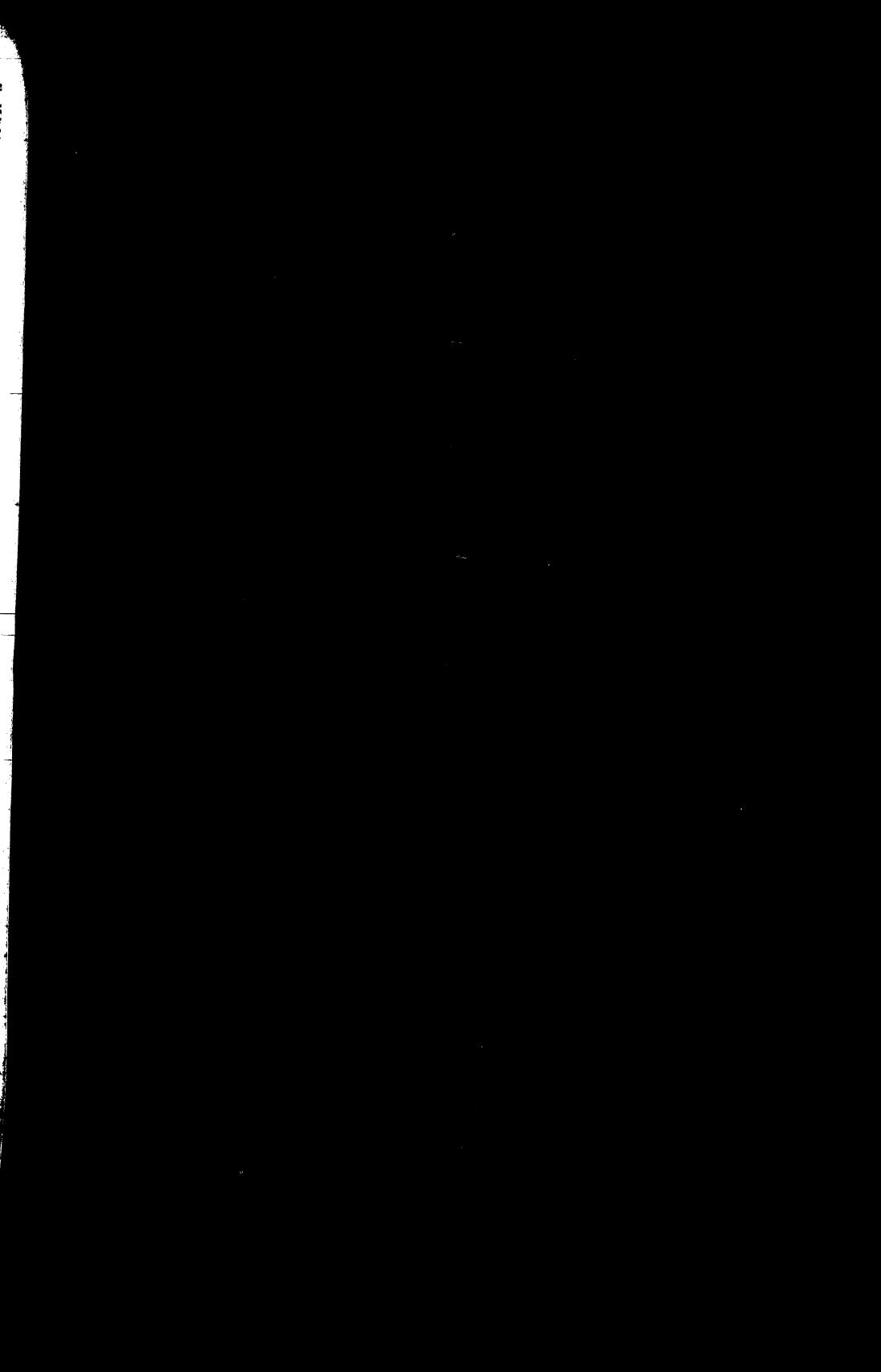
Tweed Taglioni, from Cashmerette Codringtons and Taglionis Summer Coats in every de-scription and make, in-cluding the Registered Coat Summer Coats in every description and make, including the Registered Coat Regi

London.

Observe the Address. R. MORES and RON, 15t, 155, 156, and 157, ries, and 83, 84, 85, and 86, Aldgate, City, London.

Novice... The entrance to the Bespoke Department is at 84, Alexander of the Bespoke Department is at 84, Alexander of the Bespoke Department is at 84, Alexander of the Bespoke Department in at 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexander of the 84, Alexand

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THE LEAGUE.

No. 144.—Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1846.

[3d.

COUNTY REGISTRATION.

Between the 20th of June and the 20th July, a valid claim can be made, which should be in the following form:

To the overseers of the parish of

I hereby give you notice, that I claim to be inserted
in the list of voters for the county [riding or division]
of —, and that the particulars of my place of abode
and qualification are stated in the columns below.
Dated the day of , in the year

(Signed)

Christian name and surname of the claimant at full length.	Place of abode.	Nature of Qualifica- tion.	Street, lane, or other like place in this parish for township], and number of house [if any] where the property is situate, or name of the property, or name of the occupying tenant, or if the qualification consist of a rent-charge, then the names of the owners of the property out of which such rent is issuing, or some of them, and the situation of the property.

Taking care to sign their Christian names (if more than one) and surname in full, their true place of abode, nature of qualification, and locality, conformable with the heading of the notice, so that it may be identified. In the third column state, if the qualification is freehold, say "Freehold house," or "land," or "rent-charge" (if for life, only £10 value is required), giving the name of the owner and the situation of the property.

If copyhold, say "Copyhold house," or "land," as the case may be.

If leasehold, say "Original lease of twenty years," or "sixty years of house," or "land," as the case may be.

If a sub-lease, then "Sub-lease of sixty" or "twenty years," as the case may be.

If tenancy qualification, say "House" or "land occupied at a rental of £50 per annum,"

QUALIFIED FREEHOLDERS

Are those possessed of an estate of inheritance of the yearly value of 40s., or an estate for life or lives of the yearly value of £10, or an estate possessed prior to June 7, 1832, or since. If by marriage, or will, or promotion to office, or if the freeholder is himself the actual occupier, 40s. value will be sufficient.

Parish clerks, sextons, schoolmasters, Dissenting ministers, and holders of office, if entitled to emoluments of 40s. out of land, but the appointment must be for life, or during good behaviour. Six months' possession prior to the 31st of July will entitle the freeholder to be registered.

QUALIFIED COPYHOLDERS

Are those possessed of copyhold "houses or land of £10 value." The period of possession the same as for free-hold,

QUALIFIED LEASEHOLDERS

Are those who possess an original lease or a sub-lease (if in occupation), originally created for sixty years, of the clear yearly value of £10, over and above all rents and charges, or for twenty years of the clear yearly value of £50, over and above all rents and charges, and in possession thereof twelve months previous to the 31st of July.

QUALIFIED OCCUPYING TENANTS

Are those who occupy as tenant any lands or tenements for which they are bona fide liable to a yearly rental of £50, and the period of occupation must be the same as the leaseholder.

Many electors during last year's revision lost their right of voting for twelve months, owing to their mistaking the tenancy qualification and leasehold qualification; but the reader will see they are totally different, and those who were struck off should reclaim:

The holding of a lease at a rental of £50 will not confer a leasehold qualification. The lease must be worth annually £50, over and above the rent, &c., and persons holding as described, when in occupation, should claim as occupying tenants at £50 rental. The claim, then, can be maintained, and costs demanded, if frivolously and vexatiously objected to. The notice, when filled up in duplicate, may be served on the overseer of the parish where the qualifying property is situate, by taking it to the post-office, where money orders are paid and received, and, on the payment of 3d., the postmaster will stamp the duplicate and forward it by post, or the notice may be left at the residence of the overseer or office for the transaction of the parochial business. It is to be observed that a redeemed land-tax of 40s., if purchased and

entered under Schedule D, will confer a county vote; but neither freehold in occupation of owner, or a copyhold of £10 value, or a leasehold on which a ten ment is built, will confer a county vote, if the property is situate in a city or borough. It has to be observed, however, that two or more copyhold or leasehold houses of less clear annual value than £10 each, but more together, will confer a county vote, even although situated in a parliamentary borough.

VICTORY!

Our work is done. The great principle in whose name and power we leagued ourselves together, and which we undertook to see finally embodied in an Act of Parliament, has now received the seal of statuary enactment. The British legislature has made its last Corn Law—has relinquished henceforth and for ever, the unholy office of restricting the people's food. By and with the assent and consent of the three estates of the realm, in Parliament assembled, Free Trade in the first article of human use and necessity is now part and parcel of the law and constitution of the country.

It has taken a long time to do. First, seven years of popular agitation; and then, five months of Parliamentary conflict! Never was a public and social wrong more deeply rooted and ingrained in the institutions, habits, and prejudices of a country, and in the pride and supposed interests of a dominant class, than was that which, in the commencement of the year 1839, we pledged ourselves to wrench from its place in the British statute-book. Future generations will marvel that it should have cost so much to achieve an end so simply right and rationalto win legislative recognition for such palpable rudiments of common justice and common sense. Yet, now that all is over, we are not disposed to complain, with any bitterness, of the tardy action, either of popular intelligence or of Parliamentary forms. Delay itself has not been without its compensatory advantages. It marks deliberation and settled purpose. It serves to indicate, to the obtusest perception, the finality and irrevocableness of a national act, which the national judgment has so slowly and cautiously matured. Nobody has been taken by surprise. All opinions have had fair play-all parties have had free speech. Neither violence nor hurry has shared in effecting this great consummation. The act to which her Majesty's most gracious and glad assent will this day give the force of law is, most emphatically, the work of the national intelligence, the expression and embodiment of national conviction - of a conviction wrought very gradually, spread over many years, tested and confirmed by a long course and wide variety of national experiences, and successively embracing larger and larger classes of minds, until at length it has reached that maturity and universality which constitute a moral necessity for the statesman to recognise and obey. It is too little to say, that what is so done can never, in the nature of things be undone;—the bare notion of the possibility of undoing it is one that can never enter a sane mind. A legislative revolution so slowly and gradually elaborated, and so tranquilly consummated, bears the unmistakeable stamp of legiti macy, inevitableness, and finality. Its credentials are in its history. It is certificated against all attempts at reaction and counter-revolution-guaranteed against all political casualties. There it is, and there it will be, in all its grandeur of principle, beneficence of tendency, and fruitfulness of resultas truly an integral element of our national being as the steam-engine, the printing press, or the House of Commons.

That this vast and beneficent change in our national policy has not been effected with absolute national unanimity—that, even to the last, a few voices are feebly raised, in dissent and "protest."

against the dietates of policy and justice-is too much in the ordinary course of things to excite any strong emotion either of surprise or indignation. We should, of course, have liked to see it otherwise; but it is impossible to be angry with men whose offence carries with it its own punishment. It is penalty enough for the would-be taxers of the people's bread, that they are doomed to sulk while the country rejoices, and that their share in the legislative revolution of the age has been only that of unavailing and impotent obstruction. We cannot be hard upon them. The retributions of history will be sufficiently prompt and painful to answer all the ends of justice. That the Stanleys, and Richmonds, and Buckinghams think proper to commit themselves by formal and solemn "protest" against an act of legislative wisdom and moral right which places this country in the front rank of the world's civilisation, is much more their business than it is ours. If noble lords will register themselves, in the archives of the empire, in the singularly disadvantageous character assumed by these protesting peers, there is no help for it. The time is not distant when their lordships will regret having taken pen in hand for so silly a pur pose, and will vainly wish that it were possible to erase from the journals of their house, and from the memory of their country, all record of the fact. that in the year 1846 they deprecated food as a nuisance to be abated -- obstinately resisted the people's claim to earn and eat their bread in their own way-and pledged their credit and reputation to absurd predictions of the misery and ruin consequent on an "inundation" of edible products. As we are, however, in no mood for re-opening a closed controversy, and would like to part pleasantly from our old opponents, we content ourselves with wishing them, one and all, a speedy conversion to wiser and happier views, and moral courage to proclaim such conversion to the world. We have much faith in the efficacy of "three years' experience."

Of an event so wide and far reaching in its bearings, both present and future, as that which it is this day our happiness to record—an event which will ever constitute one of the great dates in the history of this country—it is difficult to speak fitly and adequately, on the spur of the moment. Our readers are probably, with ourselves, disposed just now rather to enjoy the "great fact," than to theorise on its consequences and tendencies. The tone of congratulation is that which best belits the hour of victory. And from our hearts do we congratulate all classes and parties of our countrymen on the achievement of a blessing in which, quite irrespectively of their share in the toils and sacrifices of the conflict, ALL will substantially participate. To those tried friends and fellow labourers who have borne with us the burden and heat of the day -who have fought with us this fight from the beginning-battled for a true, just, and generous principle, through evil report, and through good report-and lived to see it espoused by the collective statesmanship of the empire, and finally written on the statute book; to those more recent converts who, by their timely and efficient aid, have fairly won that equalshare of the meed and honour of success which & high authority assigns even to labourers who begin their working day only at the eleventh hour; to all ranks and orders of the industrial community of Englishmen, who, whether conscious or unconscious of their own enfranchisement, are this day liberated from the bondage of a most grievous yoke, and from the pressure of a most fatal hindrance; to the hardworking agriculturists, in particular, who are now again placed in their true and natural relations to their countrymen, and re-enter on equal terms the great fraternity of British producers; to: the landowning gentry and aristocracy, who have

cleared themselves of the odium of enacting laws for their private pecuniary advantage, and making a class "interest" of national impoverishment and misery; and to the statesmen who have, once for all, east off a responsibility too vast and onerous for any human rulers to sustain, and are no longer charged with the awful task of "regulating the supply of food to the people;" to all our countrymen, of every rank and degree, do we tender our most fervent congratulations on a triumph which opens a new career of progress to our common country, widens and brightens the horizon of our national future, and more than any other act or event of this age, re-asserts for England her old prerogative of TEACHING NATIONS HOW TO LIVE.

THE PROTEST OF 1815 AND THE PROTEST OF 1846.

Before our labours conclude we are anxious to place on record, in striking contrast, Lord Grenville's protest against the establishment of the Coru Laws and Lord Stanley's protest against their repeal. The experience of thirty years has established the truth and wisdom of every syllable of the former. The latter is one of those documents likely to puzzle posterity, by rendering it doubtful whether it emanated from a Lord Stanley, of the nineteenth century, or from some unlettered baron of the darkest of the dark ages.

LORD GRENVILLE'S PROTEST.

]) INGENTIENT,-

- 1. Because we are adverse in principle to all new restraints on commerce. We think it certain that public prosperity is best promoted by leaving uncontrolled the free current of national industry; and we wish rather, by well-considered steps, to bring back our commercial legislation to the straight and simple line of wisdom, than to increase the deviation by subjecting additional and extensive branches of the public interest to fresh systems of artificial and injurious restrictions.
- 2. Because we think that the great practical rule, of leaving all commerce unfettered, applies more peculiarly, and on still stronger grounds of justice as well as policy, to the corn trade than to any other. Irresistible, indeed, must be that necessity which could, in our judgment, authorise the legislature to tamper with the sustemance of the people, and to impede the free purchase of that article on which depends the existence of so large a portion of the community.
- 3. Because we think that the expectations of ultimate benefit from this measure are founded on a delusive theory. We cannot persuade ourselves that this law will ever contribute to produce plenty, cheapness, or steadiness of price. So long as it operates at all, its effects must be the opposite of these. Monopoly is the parent of scarcity, of dearness, and of uncertainty. To cut off any of the sources of supply can only tend to lessen its abundance; to close against ourselves the cheapest market for any commodity, must enhance the price at which we purchase it; and to confine the consumer of corn to the produce of his own country, is to refuse to ourselves the benefit of that provision which Providence itself has made for equalising to man the variations of climate and of seasons.
- 4. But whatever may be the future consequences of this law at some distant and uncertain period, we see with pain that these hopes must be purchased at the expense of a great and present evil. To compel the consumer to purchase corn dearer at home than it might be imported from abroad, is the immediate practical effect of this law. In this way alone can it operate. Its present protection, its promised extension of agriculture, must result, (if at all) from the profits which it creates by keeping up the price of corn to an artificial level. These future benefits are the consequences expected, but, as we confidently believe, erroneously expected, from giving a bounty to the grower of corn, by a tax levied on its consumer.
- o. Because we think the adoption of any permanent law for such a purpose, required the fullest and most laborious investigation. Nor would it have been sufficient for our satisfaction, could we have been convinced of the general policy of a hazardous experiment. A still further inquiry would have been necessary to persuade us that the present moment is fit for its adoption. In such an inquiry, we must have had the means of satisfying ourselves what its immediate operation will be, as connected with the various and pressing circumstances of public difficulty and distress with which the country is surrounded; with the state of our circulation and currency, of our agriculture and manufactures, of our internal and external commerce, and, above all, with the condition and reward of the industrious and labouring classes of our community.

On all these particulars, as they respect this question, we think that Parliament is almost wholly uninformed; on all we see reason for the utmost anxiety and alarm from the operation of this law.

Lastly, Because, if we could approve of the principle and purpose of this law, we think that no sufficient foundation has been laid for its details. The evidence before us, un-

satisfactory and imperfect as it is, seems to us rather to disperve than to support the propriety of the high price adopted as the standard of importation, and the fallacious mode by which that price is to be ascertained. And on all these grounds we are anxious to record our dissent from a measure so precipitate in its course, and, as we fear, so injurious in ts consequences.

LORD STANLEY'S PROTEST AGAINST THE CORN BILL.

The following is the Protest of Lord Stanley against the Corn Bill, which was laid on the table of the House of Lords last night:

DIREBNTIENT,-

- 1. Because the repeal of the Corn Laws will greatly increase the dependence of this country upon foreign countries for its supply of food, and will thereby expose it to dangers against which former statesmen have thought it essential to take legislative precautions.
- 2. Because there is no security nor probability that other nations will take similar steps; and this country will, therefore, not only be exposed to the risks of failure of supply consequent on a state of war, but will also be exclusively subject to an unlimited influx of corn in times of abundance, and to sudden checks whenever short crops shall reduce the ordinary supply from the exporting countries, or their Governments shall deem it necessary to take precautionary measures for their own protection, thus causing rapid and disastrous fluctuations in the markets of this country.
- 3. Because under a system of protection the agriculture of this country has more than kept pace with the increasing demand of its increasing population; and because it is to be apprehended that the removal of protection may throw some lands out of cultivation, and check in others the progress of improvement which has led to this satisfactory result.
- 4. Because it is unjust to withdraw protection from the landed interest of this country, while that interest remains subject to exclusive burdens imposed for purposes of general and not of special advantage.
- 5. Because the loss to be sustained by the repeal of the Corn Laws will fall most heavily on the least wealthy portion of the landed proprietors, will press immediately and severely on the tenant farmers, and through them, with ruinous consequences on the agricultural labourers.
- onsequences will result to the manufacturing interest, and especially to the artisans and mechanics, from competition with the agricultural labourers thrown out of employment, but principally from the loss of the home market, caused by the inability of the producers of grain, and those dependent on them, to consume manufactured goods to the same extent as heretofore.
- 7. Because the same cause will produce similar evil results to the tradesmen, retail dealers, and others in country towns, not themselves engaged in agricultural pursuits, but mainly dependent for their subsistence on their dealings with those who are so engaged.
- 8. Because the effect of a repeal of the Corn Laws will be especially injurious to Ireland, by lowering the value of her principal exports, and by still further reducing the demand for labour, the want of which is among the principal evils of her social condition.
- 9). Because a Free Trade in corn will cause a large and unnecessary diminution of annual income, thus impairing the revenue of the country, at the same time that it cripples the resources of those classes on whom the weight of local taxation now mainly falls.
- 10. Because a general reduction of prices, consequent on a reduction of the price of corn, will tend unduly to raise the monied interest at the expense of all others, and to aggravate the pressure of the national burdens.
- 11. Because the removal of differential duties in favour of Canadian corn is at variance with the legislative encouragement held out to that colony by Parliament, on the faith of which the colonists have laid out large sums upon the improvement of their internal navigation; and because the removal of protection will divert the traffic of the interior from the St. Lawrence and the British ports of Montreal and Quebec, to the foreign port of New York; thus throwing out of employment a large amount of British shipping, severing the commercial interests of Canada from those of the parent country, and connecting those interests most intimately with the United States of America.
- 12. Because the adoption of a similar system with regard to other articles of commerce, will tend to sever the strongest bond of union between this country and her colonies, will deprive the British merchant of that which is now his most certain market, and sap the foundation of that colonial system, to which, commercially and politically, this country owes much of its present greatness.

THE CORN MARKET.—The accounts from the Continent lead us to expect a continuance of the demand for wheat for shipment to Belgium, Holland, and the Rhenish provinces. The present stocks appear much exhausted; and the accounts of the growing rye crop are more unfavourable. Throughout Belgium and Holland, and along the banks of the Rhine, the crop has been ascertained to be bad for some weeks past, but these letters not only confirm those accounts, but extend them to Pomerania, and other more important grain growing districts of Germany; and the opinion is confirmed that a very serious deficiency will this year be experienced in this most important grain for Continental consumption, which will lead to a demand for inferior and cheap wheat,—Morning, Chronicle.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

THE FREE TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Twenty-third Week, ending Saturday, June 27. Thursday night, the 25th of June, 1846, must be memorably marked in the political calendar. On that night Sir Robert Peel carried, in the House of Lords, his bill for the ultimate repeal of the Corn Laws, and his bill for the further revision of our commercial tariff. And on that night, the same minister was defeated in the House of Coin. mons by a majority of seventy-three. Such a concur. rence of events on the same night in both houses of the Legislature is unparalleled in our political history, It shadows forth the enormous difficulties of Corn Luw repeal, and yet the power of that political opinion which has compelled it; and though Sir Robert Peel has fullen on a Coercion Bill ("true 'tis pity, and pity 'tis true") there is uo reason to suppose that he could have much longer retained political power. He has redeemed all his past errors by sacrificing his political life for the service of the people; and the gratitude of a commercial people, emancipated from the stern grip of monopoly, will follow him into private life. and attest, as Mr. Cobden did, on Thursday night, then sense of that "steady perseverance, unswerving firmness. and great ability," with which he has conducted to a triumphant conclusion the most "magnificent reform" of modern times.

It was agreed that there was to be no division in the House of Lords on the third reading of the Corn and Customs' Bill. It was felt to be useless; and the whole debate was therefore dry and empty. There was a speech from Earl Wicklow; the Earl of Ripon briefly defended the financial course of the Government; the Duke of Cleveland deplored; Earl Stanhope objurgated; Lord Feversham lamented; Lord Gage vaticinated; and the Duke of Richmond threatened. Then came the question, "That this bill do pass." "Content," exclaimed some voices; "Noncontent," replied others; and then the Lord Chancellor gravely said, "the Contents have it." So the Corn Law repeal bill was passed; and will probably have received the royal assent before our paper is in the hands of our readers.

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Below the bar of the House of Lords it was interesting to mark the groups that were awaiting the final sanction of the legislature to the long and arduous struggle that has so incessantly absorbed public interest and attention for the last seven years. Members of the House of Commons crowded around the house-amongst whom we remarked, with more than joyous aspect, the hon member for Durbam. Mr. Bright, engaged probably in exchange of gratulations with Mr. Gibson, the veteran member for Salford, Mr. Brotherton, Mr. Thornely, Mr. Moffat, and many other wellknown Free Traders. A little behind the front ranks Lord John Russell stood, apparently in jocular conversation with the hon, member for Stockport, and as the words "that this bill do pass," fell from the lips of the Lord Chancellor, a suppressed cheer ran through the ranks of the Free Traders within the strangers' gallery; amongst the foremost of whom we observed the Chairman of the League, Mr. George Wilson, Mr. Rawson, the Treasurer of the League, Mr. Paulton, Mr. Lees, and several members of the Council.

The Customs' Bill was passed in a similar way; and after this serious and important work, the House of Lords adjourned, and the House of Commons pursued its course of defeating the Government.

The long protracted debate on the Coercion Bill was dragging along, when messengers from the Lords announced that their lordships had agreed to the Corn and Unstoms Bills, without amendments. The members on the Opposition benches marked their satisfaction by a loud burst of cheering. The debate then went on, its dulness redeemed by an excellent speech from Mr. Charles Buller, and a sparkling one from Mr. Shiel. It was fitly concluded by Mr. COHDEN, whose speech, short and pithy, placed the whole question in so clear a light, and so clearly expounded the rationale of the ministerial defeat, that it will be read by every man desirous of understanding it. Then came the important division—

For the second reading of the bill . 219

Against it

The Government, therefore, being defeated by a unjointy
of SEVENTY-THREE.

After the division in the commons a considerable number of Free Traders remained in the lobby of the house, and as Sir Robert Peel passed through to the cloak room he was greeted with several rounds of most enthusiastic cheers.

On Friday, after an aimless discussion raised by the Duke of Richmond, about giving to tenants the right of vacating leases, and for which he proposed and withdraw clauses to mere piece of claptrap on the part of the Duke of Protection), the Corn Bill safely passed through committee, and was reported, without amendments. The peril was therefore over; and nothing remained but the third reading, which was then fixed for Tuesday, though on the subsequent Monday it was postponed till Thursday, Lord Stanley giving an assurance that the Protectionists did not mean to divide on it, but simply to content themselves with entering a protect on the Journals.

test on the Journals.

On Monday, by agreement, Lord Ashburton brought forward a motion, the object of which was to prevent bonded corn from being entered for consumption at the low rate of duty, should the bill pass. Here it is, in precise terms.

"That whatever may be the alterations which it was a standard to the low regular terms."

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tion of foreign corn, it is the opinion of this house that the sudden admission of the large quantity of wheat and wheat flour now in bond at a very low rate of duty, while the prices are moderate, and the prospect of the approaching harvest is promising, may be productive of great injury and injustice to the cultivators of the soil of the United Eingdom; and that some better provision against such a calamity should be provided than incompleted in the bill now before the house." is contained in the bill now before the house.

In support of his motion, Lord Ashburton attempted to highton their lordships by a speech which the Earl of Dalhousie characterised as "dark in alarm, and fruitful in prophecy, but utterly destitute of argument." Not only there 2,500,000 quarters of grain in bond, but more was to come in upon them like a flood, and literally to swamp us all. It is painful to look upon Lord Ashburton, now an old man, muttering gibberish which, in his younger days, he despised. Despise is too strong a word, for the beginning of the speeches of Mr. Thomas Baring, in the House of Commons, were always flatly contradicted by the conclusion; but, at all events, Mr. Thomas Baring uttered more sense and shrewdness than ever Lord Ashburton has done.

The Earl of Dalhousie, on whom has devolved the conducting of the Corn and Customs' Bills through the house, answered the speech of Lord Ashburton. Instead of there being in bond 2,500,000 quarters, the quantity was only 1,000,000; while under the sliding scale there had been imported, in 1842, in the short space of four weeks, no less a quantity than 2,180,000 quarters. In 1841, also, there had been in bond at one time no less than 2,017,000 quarters. But the point which struck Lord Ashburton hardest, was the fact that the lord of the breeches pockets had voted for the amendment proposed by the Earl of Wicklow for imposing a fixed duty of 5s.; and all the stock now in bond would be admitted, under the new law, at precisely a similar rate of duty! The Earl of Dalhousie also reminded the house that the Government were not to blame for any alleged accumulation of stock in bond. The following is an abstract of the debate:

Lord ASHBURTON said he would not enter into the general policy of the great change about to be made in our commercial law, and particularly the Corn Law, after the opinion which had been twice expressed by their lordships upon the principle of the measure. But assuming they were right in the general policy and expediency of this great change, he wished to call their attention to the want of caution exhibited in the hasty, inconsiderate manner in which the measure had been conducted, and to contrast it with the proceedings of former Governments and Parliaments in suntogous cases. Their lordships were about to take away, he did not say all protection, but every safeguard against the shock and oscillation of prices which must he occasioned by the vast quantity of corn and flour now in bond coming at once upon the market. quantity was some time ago not less than two million quarters, and since then foreign corn had been pouring in every day from all parts of the world, exceeding all power of absorption by the effectual demand in this country, where there was, moreover, every prospect of an abundant market. Upon an average of six years, we had required only about 100,000 quarters of foreign wheat in aid of our own produce, and they were now going to open the flood-gates and let in recklessly, without the slightest precaution to prevent individual ruin, at least two millions and a half actually in bond. This had not been the course pursued by Mr. Huskisson in 1822 when proposing a much less change than this; which, whatever supposed advantage might accrue from it, showed very little feeling towards the cultivators of this country. They might suspend the operation of the hill till prices reached 60s.: but he suggested no particular plan; he merely proposed a simple resolution, that whatever their lordships did, they would take care not to expose the country to any unnecessary risk.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE observed, that the speech of Lord Ashburton was dark in alarm and fruitful in prophecy, but a speech more bare in facts, or less supported by argument, it had never been his fate to hear. His noble friend had talked of some unheard of and dangerous amount of foreign cornthat was to come into this country; whereas the latest accounts from the Custom House showed that the quantity of wheat and wheat flour together in bond is under 1,000,000 quarters; and so far from there being any anticipation that this quantity would so unduly or inordinately increased by imports from foreign countries, the very reverse is the fact; for from every quarter of the world the Government had the same information as in the last yearnamely, that there was a short-coming harvest; Nature appearing to set herself in array in her various elements against us by an excess of wet in one quarter and drought in another. He showed that the quantity of foreign corn in bond, and actually admitted, under the existing law, had been greater than 1,000,000 quarters. In reply to the complaint of Lord Ashburton regarding the hasty and reckless manner in which this measure had been conducted, he reminded their noble lordships that the measure had been announced a quarter of a year back, at the time when Sir Robert Peel proposed that the same rule should be applied to the gradual admission of corn as it was customary to apply to other merchandise when the duties were altered. But this was objected to, and Sir Robert, finding it not according to precedent in respect to corn, withdrew the proposition, and Lord Stanley had given him credit for so doing. He believed the proposition of Lord Ashburton to be unjust in principle, and that, so far from benefiting, it would injure those who were affected by it. How did the noble lord propose to deal with the subject? He spoke of "better provisions"—what provisions? His resolution was in the teeth of our whole warehousing policy, whilst, by an ex post facto law, it would infliet gross injustice. Whatever effect this measure might have been expected to produce upon prices had been produced already; and if their lordships intended to make this change in the Corn Law, it should be done as much as possible at once; for experience had shown that the worst thing that could be done was to hang up such a measure over the heads of those

who were affected by it.

Lord KINNAIRD confirmed the argument he had urged apon a former occasion, by stating that the price of wheat at Mark-lane, at 2 o'clock this day, was is. higher, with a

short supply,

Rarl GREY trusted that the house was not going to coneast to this resolution without an explanation of its practical

consequences. How did the noble Lord who proposed it intend to work it out? If it was adopted, did he mean to say their lordships must not then agree to the third reading of the Corn Bill? If so, this was an indirect way of throwing out the bill. (Lord Ashburton disclaimed this design.) Then, if they were to pass both this resolution and the bill, the former would be a dead letter. Nay, it would be worse than useless, for it held out a threat that the legislature meant at some time to check the admission of corn in bond, the consequence of which would be, that the holders of corn would not lose an hour in getting their corn out of bond; so that the resolution would defeat its own object.

Lord REDESDALE defended Lord Ashburton from the suspicion of desiring to throw out the bill by a trick, and contended that some provision was absolutely necessary to pro-tect the farmers of this country from ruin.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH observed, that delay in this measure was now deprecated by all, yet this resolution must interpose delay. Lord Ashburton had supposed that because corn in bond became saleable, therefore it would be brought to market; but this was contrary to experience. Every year, after harvest, from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 quarters of corn became saleable, though a very small quantity came to market. He believed that a week or two after the corn in bond became saleable there might be an iuflux, for the same reason that brought corn to market after havest, namely, the distress of the holders, who were anxious to

realise the value.

The Earl of WICKLOW confessed that his opinion had been influenced by what had been stated by Lord Dalhousie. If instead of 2,500,000 quarters in bond, there were but 1,900,000, and the prospects of the Continental harvests were so unfavourable, the necessity for the resolution fell to the ground; and he agreed that great inconvenience would result from the procrastination of this measure.

Lord ASHBURTON shortly replied, and their lordships divided, when there appeared

For the resolution •• Against it Majority againt the resolution .. 23

The next business was the consideration of the Customs Duties Bill in committee. This was the opportunity for the Duke of Richmond to shine-his last grand effort to prove that the question was not a mere landlord's one. He held in his hand the got-up petition from the Spitalfields weavers, praying to be heard by counsel at the bar against the proposed reduction of the duties on silk. He had secured the aid of Lord Brougham; and felt so sure of success that a learned counsel (Mr. Sergeant Tulfourd), armed with a ponderous brief, was in attendance to endenvour to arrest, by his eloquence, the progress of the bill; and a body of Spitalfields weavers stood below the bar. The question having been put that the house should go into committee, and the duke having presented his petition, and made his motion,

The Earl of DALHOUSIE said it was ungracious to oppose this motion, but with reference to convenience and to precedent, their lordships should not agree to it. The usage and practice of the House precluded the hearing of counsel on a Customs' Bill, or a measure of general po-

Lord BROUGHAM denied the existence of such a rule, and appealed to the precedent of the orders in council, when he had been heard as counsel in the house.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said their lordships must take care not to establish a dangerous precedent which would obstruct business.

The Duke of WELLINGTON also reminded their lordships that they could not consent to any alteration of the details of the Tariff Bill in committee without an infraction of the rules of proceeding between the two Houses of Parliament.

The Duke of RICHMOND protested with some warmth against this doctrine, and declared he would divide the house upon the question.

The division showed the following numbers: For the motion Against it ... 7H

Majority against the motion The motion having been negatived by the proxics (the majority of the peers present being in favour of the motion), a warm discussion ensued as to the rules which regulated proxies, and as to the expediency of that mode of voting.

Lord STANLEY, before the house went into committee upon the Tariff Bill, addressed their lordships upon its principle, and with reference to some articles embraced in it.

The Earl of Ripon had declared the principle of Free Trade to be the great rule of the Government; yet, after taking off all protection from corn, they brought forward this bill, which recognized the principle of protection, and it was because he (Lord Stanley) found that principle recognized in the bill that he should support it. But it was on the score of revenue that he should deal with this bill. The Government calculated upon a very small surplus, and there was great danger next year of a deficiency of revenue. In these circumstances, they proposed to repeal or reduce duties on articles which produced last year 2,789,1871, and the probabilities of the produced last year 2,789,1871. bable loss of revenue would be 1,400,000%. If there was one financial maxim better recognized than another, it was that those duties should be the last reduced which were in a state of progressive productiveness to the revenue, showing that they did not press upon consumption. The noble lord pointed out various articles in which, under the present duties, the revenue was increasing and competition was becoming day by day more brisk; and, therefore, there should be some explanation of the reason why so large and unnecessary a sacrifice of revenue is made.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE denied that this measure was

introduced as a Free Trade measure. He had admitted that there were various anomalies and exceptions to the principle of Free Trade in the bill, the object of which was to remove all duties from articles of food and of the first necessity, as well as from raw materials; and with respect to articles not of prime necessity, but which entered largely into consumption, to reduce the rates of duty as far as practicable. Upon some articles, for various reasons, the principle was not worked out, and he admitted that the tariff did not profess entirely to depart from the principle of protection. The noble earl then replied in detail to the specific objections of Lord Stanley, observing that it did not follow because the importation of an article was increasing; or the revenue collected upon it augmented, that this was a healthy increase;

high duties created an illicit trade, which deranged all calculations.

Earl STANHOPE, whilst he predicted the most ruinous consequences to British industry from the operations of the Tariff Bill, expressed his conviction to be that the full principle of Free Trade had not been carried out in it, simply because, though the agriculturiats allowed themselves to be led like cattle to the slaughter house, the ministers durst not treat the manufacturers in the same way.

The Earl of RIPON neutralised the apprehensions of Lord Stanhope, by exposing the groundless vaticinations with which he had been overwhelmed at the introduction of the tariff of 1812, by deputations from the glovers, the dealers in salt provisions, and the milling interest, some of whom had since assured him they had found that he (Lord Ripon)

was right and they were wrong.

Lord MONTEAGLE observed, that there was one matter which had not been noticed by Lord Dalhousie, namely, the connection of this measure with the ques tion of finance. Their lordships had a right to know what it was expected would be the financial result of these measures. Did they expect the possibility of the removal of the property tax; or was it not a matter of inevitable mecessity that that tax must be perpetuated? He lamented that Lord Stanley should lend the authority of his talents to the opposition offered to this measure; it was inconsistent with his past conduct; and his arguments applied to 1842 and to the Caunda timber measure. He denied the principle laid down by Lord Stanley, that taking off the duty upon the raw material and levying a duty upon the manufacture was protection, which our manufacturers did not want. The noble lord pointed out some defects in the tariff, but he vindicated its general

The Marquis of SALISBURY mentioned some facts which showed that the tariff of 1812 had not worked so advantageously as the Earl of Ripon supposed, and he contended that for every farthing by which articles were cheup ened to the consumer by this bill, so much would be taken

out of the pocket of the English artisan.

After a few observations from Lord Colchester, in opposi-

Lord ASHBURTON warned their lordships, upon every trustworthy authority, against the reckless dealing with finance which these measures discovered. The application of the broad general principle of Free Trade would be fatal to the national industry, though as far as raw materials were concerned, the removal of duties was good policy in a manufacturing country

The house then went into committee. Upon the second clause

Lord STANLEY said the house was asked to sacrifice, in the article of timber alone, 190,0007, out of 1,000,0007. which it was unnecessary to throw away, and he moved that the clause be omitted.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE, upon the results of official accounts of the timber trade, refuted the arguments of Lord Stanley, and contended that the admission and consumption of foreign timber did not diminish the importation of colonial timber, and that the duty of 15s, was a fair duty.

The Committee divided, when the numbers were-

For the original clause For the amendment .. 62 Majority in favour of the clause

This was the division, as announced in the gallery, and as given in all the daily papers. But it seems there was an error, the numbers being only 54 to 52, giving to the Government the narrow majority of two.

All the clauses were then agreed to, as far as the schedule

The Duke of RICHMOND objected to proceeding further.

Lord STANLEY said that, after the decisions which their lordships had come to upon the Corn Bill, it was not intended to prolong the discussion upon that measure, or to divide upon the third reading; but he and other noble lords would record a protest, setting forth their objections to the

On Tuesday the great question of the silk duties, and some minor ones, were debated.

On the articles " butter and cheese,"

Lord HARDWICKE moved that they be struck out o the table, as an act of justice to the poorer classes of farmers in this country and in Ireland. The importation of butter amounted to 2,000,000 cwt., the value of which was 80s. per cwt., and the reduction of duty, 10s. per cwt., would be so minute and insignificant a relief to the consumer, as not to be felt, whilst it would take 500,000L a year from the farmers

of Ireland, and cause a serious loss to the revenue.

Lord DALHOUSIE said, if the Government had had no other object in view than revenue, the argument of Lord Hardwicke might prevail; the schedule, however, had not been framed with that view; but, precisely upon the ground upon which Lord Hardwicke conceived the existing duty should be relained — namely, the benefit of the poorer classes—the Government considered it ought to be reduced.

Lord STANIA Contended that the reduction would put

a large sum into the pocket of the foreign grower, without affording any benefit to the people of this country.

The committee then divided; the numbers were-

The Duke of RICHMOND then proposed the omission of "hops," in the cultivation of which a large capital was invested. Sir Robert Peel had triumphantly appealed to the few foreign hops which had been imported since the last reduction of duy; but it took three years to get a good crop of hops upon new land. During the last year, however, samples of foreign hops had been produced, and were only kept out of the market by the duty. He founded his objection to the reduction on the ground of the large capital and numerous population employed in the cultivation of hops. If cheap hops were wanted, why not take off the Excise duty?

Lord DALHOUSIE was so far from agreeing with the

Duke of Richmond that the amount of duty had been unduly reduced, that he had expected to be told that it was still too high, and that this was one of the anomalies of the measure. Hops might certainly be brought from Belgium and the south of Prussia; but, in addition to the duty of 20s., they would be substituted to the Excise duty of 19s. 7d., which afforded a projection to the home-grower of 60 per cent.

Lord WICKLOW hoped that the Excise duty would be

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repealed—the only instance in which an Excise duty was

levied upon a growing crop.

Lord ASHBUBTON condemned the reduction as a wanton experiment, not justified by any argument hitherto em-

After some observations from Lords Colchester, Stanliope,

and Ripon, The Duke of RICHMOND urged that the only sure

means of giving the people cheap beer was to repeal the

Lord FITZWILLIAM concurred in this suggestion. Beer was just as much part of the food of the people as bread, and the repeal of the malt duty would be a great boon conferred upon the landed interest. The noble Earl was led to touch upon the general question of protection to British industry, in which he was followed by Lord Ashburton,

but no new argument was employed by either.

Lord RADNOR supported the reduction of the duty upon hops, and the amendment was negatived without a di-

Lord STANHOPE objected to the reduction of the duty upon thread face and pillow face, which would destroy a branch of domestic manufacture carried on in costages by poor industrious women and children. He declared his determination to take the sense of the committee upon this

The Duke of RICHMOND likewise deprecated the sending the cottage lace makers into cotton factories.

Lord DALHOUSIE considered that the effects which

the two noble peers had ascribed to a reduction of duty from 137, 28, 6d, per cent. to 101, per cent, were extravagant. Those were articles of great value, easily smuggled, and the effect of the reduction would be to prevent their illicit in-

Lord STANLEY ridiculed the idea that a reduction of three per cent. could check smuggling. The reduction was unnecessary, whilst it took away pro tanto a not extravagant protection from an humble but deserving class of manual labourers

Lord FITZWILLIAM observed, that nothing was less conducive to the nurture of the young mind under the eye of a careful parent, or tended more to foster immorality, than employment in home lace making, in which the earnings were small, and which rendered the persons engaged in it un-

fit for other female employments.
The Earl of GALLOWAY confirmed the above observa-

The gallery was then cleared for a division, but none took place, and the item passed.

Upon the item of paper hangings, Earl STANHOPE objected to the reduction from 1s. to 2d.

Lord ASHBURTON could not see what possible object could be gained by this reduction. The manufacture of the higher and tasteful descriptions of ornamental paper had been entirely given up in this country. He entered his protest at the manner in which this measure was carried out for the mere pedantry of political economy.

Lord DALHOUSIE could only meet this sweeping asser-

tion by a general denial.

Upon the article of silk

The Duke of RICHMOND came to the table with a brief before him, which he stated had been prepared for the counsel on behalf of the Spitalfields silk weavers, and proceeded to show the depressed condition of the petitioners, who were chreatened already by their masters with a reduction of evages. The protection of 15 per cent. retained to them, they contended, would not amount to more than 9 per cent. upon the finer articles; and they stated that the gross anmust value of the silk manufactures at home was less than in 1824 by 2,000,000%, or 3,000,000%. The noble duke lamented that this loyal and deserving class were not allowed to have their case stated by counsel at the bar; and he concluded by reiterating his former arguments in favour of protection to the artisans of this country, and proposing that the article of silk should be left out of the bill.

The Duke of CEEVELAND, reverting to the case of the face weavers, observed it was a strange argument to urge their immorality, when the immorality in cotton factories

Lord DALHOUSIE expressed his regret that he had been constrained, upon precedent and for public convenience, to resist the prayer of the petitioners, whose case, however, had not suffered in the hands of the noble duke. The petitioners had complained that, whilst the bill professed to retain a duty of 15 per cent, upon foreign silks, on many articles it amounted to only 9 per cent. The noble lord explained the difficulty of adjusting exactly the duty upon so large a number of articles, varying so much in value; but he believed that 15 per cent, was, as far as it was possible to fix it, the general amount of duty. With respect to the allegation of the petitioners, that twenty years ago the legisla-ture began that alteration in the silk trade from which they dated their depression, if, the noble lord observed, capital had been withdrawn from this trade, the importation of the raw material had diminished, and the demands of the homemarket and of the foreign trade had decreased, the petitioners might have a case founded upon their past history; but if in all these respects the very reverse was the fact, the petitioners were not borne out in their statement, and their prophecies were groundless. The noble lord then demonstrated the truth of his assertions from official accounts laid before Parliament. The fact of silk manufacturers being exported from this country to France, which excelled in ailk fabrics, was itself a triumphant proof of the ability of our manufacturers to maintain a competition with foreigners. The noble lord then demonstrated the truth of his assertion from official accounts laid before Parliament. The fact of silk manufactures being exported from this country to France, which excelled in silk fabrics, was itself a trinumphant proof of the ability of our manufacturers to maintain a competition with foreigners The noble lord showed that our ailk trade had prospered during the last three months, since the reduction of duty had been actually in operation, and stated that there never was a time when, as a whole, those who were employed in the silk trade were in a greater state of prosperity. In Spitalfields itself advertisements for hands were put up, and the throwing mills in the country could not get them in sufficient number. The very country could not get them in sufficient number. The very night on which the Duke of Richmond was to have presented the Filmon of the silk weavers (a fortnight ago), a part of them weavers was held to consider whether they always in the present part ask so increase of wages; the meeting was held, a rise of wages, the meeting was held, a rise of wages, the meeting was held, a rise of wages, the meeting was held, a rise of wages, the meeting was held.

The first was a second of the silk trade had been so proposed, why it should be interfered with? But he differed with Lord Dilhousic as to the facts, and as to the

effect, said to have been produced, having been produced, not by diminishing the duty upon the raw material, but by the concurrent reduction of duty upon the manufactured article. Lord Stanley then produced counter statements of the silk trade since the year 1824. Lord Dalhousie, he observed, had spoken of the vast increase in the importation of raw silk; but whilst the quantity had increased from 1,388,000 lb., the average of 1815, 1816, and 1817, to 3,881,000lb. in 1824, in 1844 it only reached 4,000,000lb. an increase of 800,000tb, in twenty years, instead of 2,000,000lb, in six years; and of this quantity great part consisted of knubs and husks-a specimen of which his lordship exhibited, observing, that of this rubbish the largest portion of the boasted exports to France had been made. The noble lord, in like manner, showed that, in the export trade and the import of finished goods, the evidence of the success of Mr. Huskisson's measure in 1821 was equally equivocal. After pointing out various instances of the practical inequality of the silk duties, he stated that there was only one article in this trade in which wages had not fallen and were falling, and that was figured velvet, which had a high protective duty of 1/. 7s. 6d. per lb., and that was now to be reduced to 98. The noble lord contended that the alteration was neither called for by policy, nor justified by the arguments of Lord Dalhousie, and its effect would be to injure the revenue by reducing one-half duties which now produced 300,000/.

The committee then divided, when the numbers were-For the amendment Against it

Majority against the amendment ... 25 After a smart dialogue respecting a deputation from the silk-weavers to the Board of Trade, the schedule was agreed to; the bitt was reported without amendments, and ordered to be read a third time on Thursday.

Their lordships then adjourned. On Thursday the Earl of RIPON moved that the Corn

Importation Bill be read a third time.

The Earl of WICKLOW said, as they were now at the last stage of these proceedings, and were about finally to conclude this dreadfully long chain of the commercial policy of this country, he begged to direct the attention of Govern ment and their lordships generally to two points on which, it appeared to him, that no information had been afforded to their lordships in the course of these proceedings, and on which he thought that both to the country and their lordships information was due from the Government. The first of these respected the promises made by the first Minister of the crown to confer certain equivalents or compensations, which, it was stated, should accompany this measure. They had now reached the last stage of it, and yet up to the present time he had not been able to ascertain that in either house of Parliament anything like a proposal as to any of these matters had been made. It appeared that this point was not considered by the Government of small importance at the time of the measure being introduced, for ministers then represented that the equivalent to be proposed would in some degree compensate the landed interest for the loss which they would sustain. How was it, then, that they had now come to this period of the session, and that no notice had been taken of the subject in either house of Parliament? Was it the intention of ministers that the session should close without any proposal of compensation being brought forward? One such compensation had been promised to the country with which he was connected, which, though not equivalent to the landed gentry or tenantry for the injury to their interests which would be inflicted by the Corn Bill, was in itself of some little importance; and it ought to have been brought forward by the Government, independently altogether of this measure, for it was one of the bills strongly recommended to the Government by the commission of which Lord Devon was at the head. He referred to the proposition by which the whole of the constabulary force of that country was to be thrown on the consolidated fund, and the various counties relieved from any portion of the expense. Upon that subject they had heard no proposition of her Majesty's Government made to either House of Pathament. He, therefore, thought, before they agreed to the third reading of this bill, it was incumbent on some member of the Government to explain to their lordships what was their intention with reference to any measure to be brought forward. He now came to the second point, which appeared to him infinitely more important. Allusion had been occasionally made to the subject in that house, especially by his noble friend opposite (Lord Monteagle), but no explanation had been afforded by her Majesty's Government. When Sir R. Peel brought forward in the House of Commons his proposition for an incometax, he obtained the consent of the house to the tax for three years on the especial ground that he was then effecting great financial changes and extensive reductions in the toms, which would inevitably lessen the amount of the customs duties, so as to require for a certain short period a means of taxation in lieu of them. But the right honour able baronet held out strong hopes to Parliament that by the end of three years those reductions would so much increase the produce of the customs' duties as to render it unnecessary to renew the income tax. It was solely on this ground that the right honourable baronet had obtained a three years income tax, for he believed that no other Minister who had governed this country for many years would have obtained it on any grounds whatsoever; but the great confidence reposed in the right honourable baronet as a financial minister by Parliament and the country, induced them to waive the strong objection which prevailed against an income-tax in time of peace, and so far to confide in his promises that the operation of the reductions would be successful, as to concede the renewal of the tax. The right honourable baronet's promises, we knew, had remained unfulfilled, but Parliament was induced to extend the period for which the tax had been granted, from a belief that by the reductions in the customs' duties the revenue of the country would be so increased as to make the continuance of the tax unnecessary. He believed this would have been the case if things had gone on as they were then doing, for the revenue was improving, and the state in every department was flourishing. But most unfortunately, in the present session, partly owing to the very increase which had been thus predicted, the right honourable gentleman and his government were determined by a sense of duty not to remain content with the alterations they had made, but to make those other alterations which their loudships had been considering during the last three weeks. His noble friend at the head of the Board of Trade (the Earl of Dalhousie), by the able manner in which he had conducted these proceedings-and he gave his noble friend credit for having done so in a most

masterly manner—had shown himself an able statesman, a

great debater, and capable of conducting affairs in any department which might be entrusted to him; but his noble friend had never ventured to hold out to their lordships that the result of the measures he proposed would ever raise the revenue beyond the point which it had attained previous to the reductions, for he had swept away, in a great measure, the income derived from the duties which they affected His noble friend only proposed his reductions in the hope that in the course of years the buoyancy of the public h sources and the augmentation of trade might raise the revenue, not up to the amount anticipated by Sir Roben Peel, but up to the point at which the revenue stood at the present time. The financial minister, in bringing for ward his budget, held out to the country no prospect of any surplus whatever. The whole amount of the surplus for the present year, including the remittance from China, which would be of course confined to the year, did not reach more than 700,000l. Had they not a right to demand that her Majesty's ministers should state their expectations with respect to the future revenue of the country? Was it not perfectly clear, on their own showing, that the customs duties would not rise to the point at which they had formerly stood? Had not their lordships a right to know if it was the intention of Government to p. new the income tax? If it was not their intention, ther had a right to know to what sources of revenue Ministers intended to look as a compensation for the taxes they were now abolishing. If it was their intention, they were bound to announce it fairly (hear, hear). A new Parliament would be chosen before the expiration of the present tax; and if Ministers intended to propose a renewal of the tax, a must be to a new Parliament. He asked them, did they be. lieve that a new Parliament would ever sanction that tax is a permanent tax? If it was not their intention to propose it, they must have some other measure to propose which they ought to let the house know. But did they believe that any Parliament that would ever meet in this country would sanction the imposition of the income tax as a per manent tax? He believed the contrary. He believed that no Parliament would ever sanction that direct mode of ux. ation as a permanency. See to what this would drive them. If they determined to adopt the direct mode of taxation, and to abolish that indirect mode which had hitherto been looked upon as the most proper for a commercial, or indeed for any country, then it became absolutely necessary that the whole, or almost the whole, of the taxation of the country should be derived from that source. It was impossible that another Parliament, if it sanctioned that measure, would ever allow the malt tax to cominne, or that tax which they had been discussing lately, the duty on hops (hear, hear). It was impossible that the vernment, in considering the measures they had brought forward, should not have fully and distinctly deliberated on these matters. Was it fair or just that they should now conclude these measures without any information whatever being given respecting the points to which he had called their attention? Let him not be told that the financial ministers in the other house were the proper persons to answer those questions. There was his noble friend a the head of the Board of Control (the Earl of Ripon), who had been Chancellor of the Exchequer, and without whose full sanction no measure of this kind could be proposed to Parliament. His noble friend at the head of the Board of Trade was also perfectly capable of giving an answer, and if they declined, on this last stage of the measure, to give an answer, the country would draw its own conclusions from their silence. Let it not be said because ministers were going to resign, they would throw the affairs of the country in an embarrassed state into other hands. Let it not be said that because they had received the affairs of the country is m embarrassed state from their predecessors, they would retaliate by leaving them in a similar condition. Such an excuse would not be received by the country; it would be tampering with public feeling to offer it; but he knew that his noble friends were men of too high honour to be influenced by such considerations. He said that, before the measure passed, ministers were bound to give their lordships the information upon these subjects which they must possess, and he called on his noble friends to give him an answer on the two points he had stated, which he consi dered of vast importance to the country.

The Earl of RIPON and Lord Ashburton rose together but the call of the honse for the former noble lord being unanimous, he proceeded to address their lordships accordingly, and said that as he had no right to object to the questions which had been put to him by the noble earl, and as he had no fault to find with the manner in which they had been put, he would endeavour to give them an answer. The first question which the noble earl had asked was whether it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to carry into effect those measures which were stated by me commencement of the present intended to accompany the alteration in the Corn Laws, and which were considered by them as measures calculated to be beneficial to the agricultural classes—not as equivalents or compensation for those alterations, but as right in themselves, and, as far as they went, tending to diminish the cost of production to those whose capital was employed in the land. The Government felt then as they had done when they proposed the measures to Parliament, and were bound to adhere to them, and though it might be quite true that they had not yet passed, he believed that some of them would not require an act of Parliament, except in so far as the sum, to be raised from the consolidated fund, instead of in other ways, was concerned. Besides this, there were other measures of considerable importance proposed with respect to the removal of paupers; but they were in themselves quite independent of the question of the Corn Laws, and would have been exceedingly good and proper measures to sdop! whether the Corn Laws were passed or not. Those measures had been brought forward in the other House of Parliament, and he could not say when they would be brought up to their lordships' house. With respect to the remarks of the noble earl on this point, be (the Earl of Ripon) thought the noble earl might understand that those measures could not, from their very nature, have been brought forward in this house. The noble earl having asked those questions, proceeded to inquire what it was the intention of her Majesty's Goren. ment to do as to the continuation of the property tax. Now, under all circumstances, he apprehended that no Government could under all circumstances, he apprehended that no government could under all circumstances. ment could undertake to give answers or pledge themselves in reply to such questions as these. The property tax had been brought in for three years; it had been since tenered, and he thought it would be exceedingly unwise to the pledge that it would not again be reneved from the cline answering it. But he would have the first the cline answering it. But he would have the state on the observations of the noble card as to the state continuous of the noble card as to the state continuous continuous of the noble card as to the state continuous continuous of the noble card as to the state continuous contin on the observations of the noble earl as to the sets

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non of the revenue with respect to the effect of the reductions which he had made within the last four years. He thought that having made those observations the noble earl could hardly have attended to the document that had been lad on the table of the house, and which would explain the grounds on which he trusted that the reductions they were about to make would not only not be attended with loss to the revenue, but that in point of fact they were entitled to count on them as being productive of a considerable increase. He thought from the history of past reductions to be able to attisfy the noble earl that such was the case. In the year 1812 the amount of customs' duties had been 19,661,000 In that year those duties had been reduced by 1,333,000/... which would have reduced the amount of customs in a corresponding degree the following year, unless there had been an increase in the amount of goods, so that the customs in 1413 should not have amounted to more than 18,323,000% if the revenue underwent the full loss of that reduction. But in that very year 1843, the customs' duties produced 30,275,000%, being an increase of 614,000%, on the preceding year. In the year 1843 the customs had been still further reduced, to the extent of 171,000%. Had the customs of 1844 suffered that entire loss? Not by any means. The amount of duties for that year had amounted to 21.460,000l., being in effect 1,800,000l. more than the duties for 1812, notwithstanding the immonse reduction which had been made in that and the subsequent years. In 1844 the duties had been reduced still further, to the extent of 286,000%, and the products of those duties in 1845 certainly had not amounted to as much as in the two preceding years; but in 1845, their lordships would recollect that a great reduction had taken place, the extent of 2,418,000/., in the customs' duties, and as that reduction did not take place until late in the year, a great portion of the loss would take place in that year itself. Notwithstanding all this, the amount of duties had been 19,829,000L, exceeding the absolute amount even in 1812, by about 200,000%, although in the course of the four preceding years duties had been removed to the amount of upwards of 4,000,000%. If then there had been no increase in the receipts connected with the reduction of duty, the sum which stood at 19,691,000/. in 1842, should have been only 15,661,000%, in 1815; whereas it had actually been 19,829,000%. Had not the Government then, with those facts before them, a right to anticipate that that there would not be a permanent reduction in the customs to the amount of the duty which would be removed? His noble friend would observe that the increase had not been confined to any particular period, but had been spread over the whole of the years of diminished duties. In the excise, to which the noble earl had alluded, reductions had also taken place. In 1842 the excise had produced 12,517,0001., and in 1843 had amounted to 12,879,000%. In 1841 a reduction had been made to the extent of 70,000%, and in 1845 a farther reduction of 913,000% had taken place. But, notwithstanding these reductions, the excise in the subsequent year amounted to 13,585,000%. He did not apprehend that the whole loss of those reductions would take place in the course of the year; but the excise of 1845 exceeded that of 1841; the excise of 1844 exceeded that of 1843. The sum total of the excise and customs in those four years had been—32,178,000/. in 1842; 33,152,000/. in 1843; 34,714,000/ in 1841; and 33,450,000% in 1845; while the total amount of duties removed had amounted to 5,197,000L, notwithstanding while the receipts in 1845 had exceeded those of 1842 by apwards of 1,000,000% (hear, hear). He thought the expe nence of those four years, therefore, tended to show there were rational grounds for assuming that the total amount of the reduction, great as it might be, would not cause a reduction in the amount of the revenue. That was the base on which the Government went, and he thought they were justified in going upon it. He was sare that the same principle lind been acted upon before, and therefore he did not think his noble friend had just grounds of complaint against the Government for not putting the general ground on which they had brought forward those measures before Parliament. He believed that in making those reductions an equivalent would be made up for what had been lost in the course of a limited number of years; but it was impossible to suppose that the amount of those reductions would be made up immediately. The Government, therefore, intended to make up the loss by the income tax, to which there were, he admitted, grave objections not only to the tax itself, but because it had been introduced in time of peace, and not of war; still, in introducing it, the Government had fair reason to think that the amount of those losses would he made up as years went on, so as to dispense with that tax. He must, however, decline expressing any opinion or giving any pledge on the subject; but of this he was quite certain, that Parliament would never be unwilling or afraid to pass any measure which might appear to them to be neenable it to meet all demands upon it, and the heavy expenses it had to incur. It was deeply to be lamented that there was but little chance of there being reason to hold out the research that there was but little chance of there being reason to hold out the prospect that those expenses were to be diminished. But as to one source of these expenses, there had been considerable reduction. He meant the charge of the national debt, which had been reduced by the amount of 1,100,0002; and which, considering the state of our finances, was a circumstance of material importance. He had thus endeavoured to answer all the questions which had been not been active to the control of the con been put to him. He had brought no papers with him, not having expected the discussion to take such a turn; but, recollecting there was a document on the table from which he could satisfy their lordships, he had availed himself of the information it contained to do so.

Lord FEVERSHAM denied the assertion that the tenant farmers were in favour of those new measures. The assertion had been made, and had been several times repented, but nothing had been shown to prove or corroborate it.
What had they done? They had held meetings all over the country, at which they had passed resolutions that indicated beyond the possibility of doubt what were the real feelings of their body. The noble lord then read extracts from resolations passed at protectionist meetings in Doncaster, in the North Riding of York, in Lincoln, at Spalding, and in Dorsetable, which were strongly condemnatory of Free Trade in corn. The control of the tenant farmers. in corn. These were the opinions of the tenant farmers, who were said to be favourable to the bill. But, said the supporters of this measure, they have nothing to fear; the land which will be thrown out of cultivation by the operation of the Line which will be thrown out of cultivation by the operation of the bill, must be of the worst and poorest soil. Why, it was that poor soil which required the greatest number of labourers for its tillage (hear, hear). So that the evil of diminished employment would be increased instead of lessened. No one knew what the price of corn would be re-dued to. When a member of the Government in that house hed been asked what the probable price of corn would be,

be replied that he would not hazard any prediction on the subject. That might be satisfactory to the noble lord, but he doubted if it would satisfy the house. Indeed, it did not appear that Government had taken any pains to calculate the price of corn under the new law. He had lately spoken to an intelligent American gentleman, who assured him that corn could be exported from America under 30s. a quarter. He could not at all concur with those who thought this measure would be so conducive to the improvement of the labouring classes. A much more useful measure, in his opinion, would be the Ten Hours Bill, which would be a benefit to them in every way. bill had been introduced into the other house of Parliament, where it had been rejected by a very small majority, aided by the Government; but he believed the time was not very far distant when it would receive the sanction of that house. When it should come up to their lordships, as it was but a measure of policy and justice, he hoped they would give it their favourable consideration. As to the bill before them, he regretted they had passed if, as in effect they had done, and more particularly that the majority of the right reverend prelates had supported it, because he believed it had been very greatly through their influence and votes that the measure had been successful. Their lordships' house and the agriculturists had always supported the rights and privileges of the Established Church, of the right reverend prelates, and of the rural clergy, and he therefore regretted it. This bill was a premium to agitation. It had been brought for ward by the ministers of the Crown, but they could not be said to be its originators or promoters. Those who really originated and promoted it were the manufacturers and mas ters of Stockport and Manchester. It was nothing but concession to intimidation and agitation to pass this bill. He looked upon it as a downward movement, calculated not to uphold, but to overthrow the constitution (loud cries of "hear, hear"). It was impossible, he maintained, to say which of the great institutions of the country would not be subject to attack after their lordships had given their con sent to a bill like the present, which had been commenced by a great agitation, which had been carried by a be-trayal of great public trusts, and which would be regarded as a concession to that agitation, and a record of that betrayal (hear, hear, hear): In conclusion, he begged leave to enter his decided protest against the third reading of the bill.

The Duke of CLEVELAND said that on this, the last stage of the memorable Corn Lawdebate, he did not wish to create any further delay, but merely rose to protest in the most solemn manner against the policy of the measure. After all the debate and lengthy arguments they had heard he was still of the same opinion. Scarcely had any measure ever passed the house on which so many of their lordships had given their opinions viva voce, and the occasion would, on that account, be memorable in history; but still more memorable would it be for the sacrifice of private opinion to party interest. The house was constituted by three distinct parties, two of which had been bitherto the rival parties of the state, but being agreed on this subject, had overcome any opposition which could be made to them. Many noble lords on the other side of this house said that this bill was not quite suited to their ideas, but, nevertheless, they had not moved any amendment upon it. With respect to noble lords on his own side of the house, so many of whom had changed their votes but not their opinions (hear)-many of them had very prudently recorded their votes in silence No one could doubt the prudence of that course. Some noble lords, however, had not followed that course, among whom was the noble lord the President of the Board of Control, who had been the author of the bill of 1814, and who hitherto had always advocated protection to agriculture. There was a third party, to which he belonged, and which was opposed to this bill on principle. They had given the grounds of their opposition. Though their lordships had decided against them by a large majority, be hoped he might claim credit for his party for consistency, for independence of conduct, for fairness in their actions, and honesty in their intentions (hear, hear). He had taken the liberty at an early period of the discussion of appealing to the episcopal bench as the representatives of the parochial clergy. That appeal was responded to by a right reverend prelate, who said the parochial clergy were not justified in opposing this bill; first, because they were a small body, and next, because they had taken no part in the agitation against it; extraordinary reasons he must take leave to say, and the latter of which not doing much credit to the right reverend prelate's charity. If the bench of bishops had voted with his party they should have had a majority of those present against the bill. The number of proxies was large—35, and a majority were in favour of the bill. It was not his intention to deprecate the system of proxies. It was founded on long and established usage. That was the only ground of its justification; for voting in any society by If they meant to preserve this privilege they should take care not to abuse it (hear, hear). It was true that noble lords resident in this country might be as capable of forming a judgment on a public measure if they resided 200 miles from town, as if they attended in that house. But that the proxics of lords in different parts of Europe, who never heard of this measure, or never imagined that such a measure would be brought forward, should be resorted to, he thought a most extraordinary proceeding. He should give one instance. There was the Marquis of Tweeddale, Governor of Madras, who had been absent for four years from this country, and who was so engaged by the late war in India, that he doubted whether he ever heard of this measure. The lamentable part of this measure was, the loss of confidence which it inspired in the humble followers of leading men like himself. His political life had not been a short one. For half of it he attached toward to the White metals had been a short one. tached himself to the Whig party; but in 1833, he found himself unable, on the Reform Bill, to go as far as the Government was inclined to go. Far be it from him to say there was any breach of faith on that occusion by the Whigs. From that time to the present he had supported Sir R. Peel, whom he looked on as one of the greatest men this country had produced, whose talents he admired, and in whom he had placed implicit confidence. It could be easily supposed what his feelings now were at finding himself deserted and standing aloof, as it were, from both parties. But he had some consolation in the fact there was still left a leader whom he could follow, and that a man of no mean talents—he meant the noble lord near him (Lord Stanley). He had no hesitation in saying that he should for the future look up to that noble lord as not only his guide but his polar star (hear, and a laugh). He had no favour to expect from

much more essential to a statesman-honesty in his professions. He had sat a long time near his poble friend in the other house, and he had always heard him speak without hesitation or equivocation, and he had never seen him look for a loop-hole through which he might one day escape (hear, hear). He must say the Government had been, in his opinion, guilty of an uncalled for and thorough broach of fuith (hear).

The Earl of DALHOUSIE wished to notice a remark of the noble duke as to a noble and gallant relative of his—the Marquis of Tweeddale. Whether it was right or not to preserve proxies, so long as they continued they amounted to a delegation of the mind of the peer, in whose name they were given, to the person who held them. It mattered not, therefore, whether the peer who sent his proxy was in India or dining in Belgrave square. As to this vote being at variance with his noble relative's opinions, the noble duke forgot that this question was substantially before the country for seven months, and that the period of communication with India was six weeks. He begged to assure the noble duke that during this whole discussion he had been in possession of the sentiments of his noble and gallant relative, and it was his firm conviction that if present he would have voted for the second reading. -He would frankly state that his noble and gallant relative would, in his opinion, have supported the proposal for a fixed duty; and had their lordships assented to the noble earl's (the Earl of Wicklow's) proposal, and that it was proposed to reserve it on the third reading, he should not have felt himself at liberty to use his noble relative's proxy to negative a proposal for a

Lord GAGE said the Government had but one valid argument in favour of this measure—power. The independent exercise of their lordships' functions was gone, and it was idle to talk of the balance of estates. Where did those who called themselves the Liberal party mean to stop? Could they go the length of saying that they, the protectionists, were not justified in opposing a measure which they mought would destroy themselves without doing any good for any part of the community? It was not merely for rents that they opposed this measure, but for the sake of the yeoman and farmer, who would be ruined by it. How was the revenue to be collected -the touchstone of our existence as a state? Was there a suspected enemy of the church, state, and crown, that was not a supporter of this bill (hear)? If they approved of this bill, as nine tenths in their hearts disapproved of it, notwithstanding their votes, it was their duty to stand firm until they heard the constitutionally expressed voice of the country (hear). No institution in the country could be safe from the results of such agitation. Its continuance and encouragement would lead to the destruction of all order and property. The noble and gallant duke opposite, while giving them his advice to yield this bill, also said that it might be the last time that he would counsel them. The pain given him by that hint was not lessened when he considered the elevated character of the noble duke who uttered it. He had long venerated that character as displayed and illustrated in the noble and gallant duke's splendid volumes of desputches, and he deeply grieved that the last triumph of so great a general should be one over his own political friends and allies (hear, hear).

Earl STANHOPE urged that the measure before the house had been carried by a monstrous and unnatural combination of parties. The agricultural classes had now a right to demand that they should not be subjected to any exclusive taxation-to any land-tax, or malt, or hop duties. Indeed, even if the bill had not been proposed, the agricultural interest would be justified in demanding an equitable revision of their peculiar burdens-of the county rates, highway rates, and other imposts now levied upon them. If they were to have Free Trade in corn, he did not see why they should not have Free Trade in all agricultural produce -why they should not be allowed to grow tobacco, and extract sugar from beetroot. It was quite impossible for the farmers to stand against foreign competition, without an enormous reduction of taxation. The noble earl concluded by solemnly warning the house of the consequences—consequences involving nothing short of ruin and revolution (hear, hear).

The Earl of SELKIRK observed that it was said that this was to be the last time that this question was to be debated in the legislature. He did not believe that (protectionist cheering). If his views were correct, he trusted that their lordships would not besitate to reconsider the subject, and to entertain fresh measures with respect to it

The Duke of RICHMOND said that as no noble lord had moved that this bill be read this day six months, and that as he should be sorry to see the measure become law without some such amendment appearing upon the journals of their lordships house, he should take upon himself to make the motion in question (protectionist should wish now, in reference to what had fallen the other night from the noble lord the President of the Board of Trade, to put a question to noble lords opposite. noble friend had stated that Government still intended to persevere in the introduction of the bill giving what was called compensation to the agricultural interest for the measure now to be enacted. What he (the Duke of Richmond) had to complain of was, that these bills were not yet introduced into Parliament at all (hear, hear). The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in bringing forward his budget the other night, said not a word about the sums to be paid out of the consolidated fund in aid of the county rates (hear, hear). He wished distinctly to know whether her Majesty's Ministers still maintained the opinions uttered by Sir Peel, when he stated his conviction of the justice and necessity of the compensatory measures in question (cheers). He thought, however, that it was possible, that when these acts were brought forward, if they were brought forward, it would not be by the present advisers of the Crown, and then the fact would be, that their lordships would have given a third reading to the Corn Bill without any security further than speeches, and they knew the value of speeches as pledges, that the other measures which were to accompany that before their lordships would ever be introduced (hear, hear). He agreed with the noble lord who had just spoken that this would not be the last time that the question would be debated by their lordships (hear, hear). It was out of the question that this measure should be a final one (cheers). Did they think that the great majority of the farmers and the middle classes of the country would alt down patiently under the injustice now heaped upon them? No. They would agitate-not for the miserable sliding scale of the present bill being made permanent, or for any nonsensical 4s. duty they would agitate for an adequate degree of protection to him, nor had he received any; but he had the greatest possible admiration for his talents, and for what he considered of national industry (loud cries of "hear, hear,").

For his own part, he would try to persuade the farmers not to yield, but to behave like men; he would recomround them to be up and stirring to agitate for the remission of local burdens, and if they did not take his advice, be did not understand their character (cheers). He denied atterly and positively that the farmers were indifferent to this measure. He denied, too, notwithstanding what had been said the other night by a right reverent prelate conmeeted with Walen, that the parochial clergy were indifferent to the measure. True, they had not met in bodies to oppose it, and they acted wisely. He objected as much as any man to large meetings of the clergy on political subjects; it was better for them to avoid entering into such disputes. But the clergy had done what they had a perfect right to dothey had agreed with their parishioners on this subject, and had headed the lists of signatures to petitions against the bill, petitions which had been presented in such numbers by husself and by other noble peers. Indeed the case of the working clergy was a peculiarly hard one. They were a highly meritorious and most deserving class. He had slways found them doing their duty by their poor parishion-ers, and practising what they preached. They ought certainly to be the last body of men to be treated in the way in which it was now determined to use them. noble dake went on to express his doubts as to whether the ministry contemplated, when they introduced the Corn and Customs' Bills, that their ultimate effect would he to break up the cabinet. The Government would pass the Corn Law and the Customs Duties Bill, and they would have the satisfaction of reflecting that they had broken up a powerful party in this country, and that, for some time at least, there would not be a strong Government, and that the business of the country must be carried on by an administration which could count on a majority of perhaps half a dozen votes. He was glad that the Government were going to resign, because it would show future statesmen that they could not break the pledges which they had given with impunity (hear, hear). Although this disruption of the cabinet might disappoint those 110 followers, he for one was not very sorry to and that those 110 gentlemen would not gain anything by their conversion.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH said that a question had been put by the noble duke to the members of her Majesty's lovernment, and he thought that it was inexpedient that it should remain without an answer. As he understood the noble duke, his object was to inquire whether the views of the Government had undergone any change with respect to those measures which had been announced at the commoncement of the session as intended to accompany the present measure. He believed he could most distinctly state for his colleagues that their opinions on those subjects had undergone no change (cheers), and he could say for himself individually that his own opinion was not changed, and that he should feel himself bound to do all in his BONGS to commercial passing of every one of those measures (hear, hear).

The amendment was then put, and negatived without a division, and the bill was read a third time and passed. On the motion that the Customs' Duties Bill be read a

The Duke of RICHMOND moved as an amendment that it be read a third time that day six months. The noble duke said that he rose chiefly for the purpose of putting a question to his noble friend at the head of the Board of Trade on the subject of the Spitalfields weavers. He wished to know whether his noble friend would object to receive a deputation, from that body, for the purpose of hearing a statement of their case. Their lordships were aware, from what fell from his noble friend the other evening, that his noble friend considered the statement which had been made respecting that deputation as one that affected his personal honour (bear, bear, bear). It now appeared, however, that a deputation of the petitioners went to the Board of Trade at a time when his noble friend was ill in The deputation were received by the Vice-President of the Board of Trade and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and they left those right honourable gentlemen with the impression that the statement of their case had produced a considerable effect. He believed that the official answer given was, that the case would be considered (crics of " hear, hear," and a haigh). 41e understood from the petitioners that they had asked for precisely the same classification which had been granted to the Coventry silkweavers, the justice of whose case had been admitted by his noble friend. He wished to ask his noble friend, therefore, whether, duving the short time that he would stay in office, he would receive a deputation from the Spitalfields weavers, and whether, if their case should turn out to be similar to that of the ribbon weavers of Coventry, he would propose, or at any rate support, a bill to place them in the same position? He thought he had a right to appeal to the Government to rectify a mistake which he must say had occurred through the negligence of the Vice President of the Board of Trade, who ought to have informed his noble friend of what had taken place. With regard to the present bill, he must say that he objected to the whole of it, with the exception of that part of it which related to the colonies.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE said that the noble duke had adverted to what had been stated the other night with respect to the deputation of the Spitalfields weavers. He (the Earl of Dalhousie) stated on that occasion that he was not aware that the deputation had attended at the Board of Tende. The noble duke had stated correctly, as appeared now, what had occurred. Their lordships, however, must permit him to offer a defence of his right honourable friend the Vice President of the Board of Trade. He (the Earl of Dalhousie) was ill at the time when the deputation called, but although it was true that his right honourable friend did not acquaint him with the circumstance, he was not liable to the imputation cast upon him by the noble duke, because the noble duke had assumed what was not the fact, namely, that these parties had not had a full hearing. The deputation, however, had had a full hearing from that officer of the Government with whom rested the final detormination upon their ease, he meant the Chancellor of the Exchequer. As their lordships, therefore, would perceive, these parties had not been left without a hearing, and their case having been determined on, he should be mocking them

if he were to propose to see them now, and hear their case.

After a few words from Lord Stanley and the Earl of Dal-

Lord ASHBURTON, who spoke with his back to the gallery, and was almost totally insudible, was understood to ask whether there would be any means of ascertaining the amount consumed at home of those articles which would now be relieved from an import duty.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE said that a record was kept of

all articles that passed the Custom-house, although no duty was paid upon them, and by comparing the record of imports with the record of exports, the quantity which was entered for home consumption might be easily ascertained.

The amendment of the Duke of Richmond was then put and negatived, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

HAYDON AND SIR ROBERT PEEL. (From the Times.)

Our columns of yesterday detailed the particulars of one of those terrible catastrophes which occasionally burst upon the nation, and startle the most giddy and unheeding by a transient but fearful glimpse of the miseries that are doing their deadly work below the smooth surface of our social state. A gentleman of high talent, untiring industry, exemplary temperance, and fervent piety, has fallen by his own hand, having been unable to preserve his reason amidst the complicated embarrassments of mental trouble and intellectual toil, or under the prospect of overwhelming difficulties and imminent distress. It is impossible to peruse, without feelings of inexpressible pain, the notes which this unfortunate gentleman has left of his daily hopes and emotions, his successive struggles and disappointments, through the last months of a cheerless professional existence. With exertions and efforts of the most exhausting kind-exertions of the intellect under circumstances of harassing and distracting trouble-be had completed a laborious task, to which he looked with the natural confidence of his profession and position as promising a release from his perplexities, and a recompense for his pains. He offered to the public the first of a series of paintings on a noble and national subject, conceived, at least, with grandeur, and directed towards the highest objects of his art. When the days of trial came he saw his hopes dashed and his efforts spurned; while the patronage which would have ransomed his pencil and restored his peace, was lavished on a rival exhibition of the most puerile and offensive character. The display of a disgusting dwarf attracted hordes of gaping idiots, who poured into the yawning pockets of a Yankee showman a stream of wealth one tithe of which would have redeemed an honourable English artist from wretchedness and death. It is terrible to think, that in the London " season" of this century, in the heart of the greatest city. and under the eyes of the wealthiest people in the world. such should have been the lot of a gentleman who, if he wanted those pliant qualities which sometimes supersede both talent and morit in worldly success, had almost merit and talent enough to compensate the deficiency, and failed in no other of the requisites for competence and fame. These are the events which impel even sober-minded men towards the conviction that this condition of society should no longer exist, whatever be the cost of the change.

One circumstance connected with this melancholy trans. action was disclosed at the inquest which must leave a deep impression on all who heard it. The unhappy man, as his troubles closed around him, attempted a few despairing applications to the rich and powerful of his friends. One of these appeals met with an instant reply, and secured kind commiseration and unhesitating aid. The person who thus answered a call of distress without the delay of an hour was the Prime Minister of this kingdom. From the midst of criminations and controversies, under a pressure of unexampled burdens, in the hour of peril, and in the day of defeat, Sir Robert Peel found time for an act of charity. And if this should be among the last acts of his official life, it will be more to his comfort in his chamber, that he cheered the last moments of a dying artist with the means of leaving a little legacy to his desolate family, than if he had carried all his measures over the heads of an exasperated house, and crushed his combined foes with the sweep of a conqueror into a helpless and humiliated mass.

CORONER'S INQUEST ON HAYDON.

ENTRACT PROM THE DIARY OF MR. HAYDON, "And this Peel is the man who has no heart."

"May 21.—Worked hard at my picture, and advanced immensely. Felt uneasy because I could not give my dear son

money to go and see his college friends.

"June 3.—Called on my dear friend Kemp, who advanced me some cash to get over my difficulties. By the time my pictures are finished they will be all mortgaged; but never mind so that

"June 13.—Picture much advanced; but my necessities are dreadful, owing to the failure of my exhibition at the Hall. In God I trust. It is hard—this struggle of 42 years duration; but Thy will and not mine be done

June 14.-O God! let it not be presumption in me to call for Thy blessing for my six works. Let no difficulty on earth stay their progress. Grant this week Thy divine aid. From sources invisible raise me up friends to save me from the embarrass-ments which want of money must bring upon me, and grant that this day week I may be able to thank Thee for my extrication.

this day week I may be able to thank Thee for my extrication.

"June 15.—Passed in great anxiety, after harassing about for several hours in the heat of the sun.

"June 16.—Sat from 2 to 5 o'clock staring at my picture like-an idiot; my train pressed down by anxiety and the anxious looks of my family, whom I have been compelled to inform of my condition. We have raised money on all our silver to keep us from want in case of accident. I have written to Sir Robert Peel, to —, and to —, stating that I have a heavy sum to pay. I have offered 'The Duke's Study' to — . Who answered first? Tormented by D'Israell: harassed by public business; up came the following letter: up came the following letter:

"" Whitehall, June 16. From a limited fund which I have at my disposal, I send, as a contribution for your relief from these embarrassments, the aum of £50.

"'I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant.
"'ROBERT PEEL. "'Be so good as to sign and return the accompanying receipt. That's Peel. Will ---,

"That's Peel. Will ——, , , or answer?

"June 17.—My dearest wife wishes me to stop the whole thing and close payment, but I will not! I will finish my six plotures, by the blessing of God!

"Jane 18.—This morning, fearing I should be involved, I returned to a young bookseller some books for which I had not

paid him. No reply from - or -! And this Peel 14 th. "June 21.—Slept horribly, prayed in sorrow, and get up. agitation.

The next was the last entry made, evidently, immediately before the world closed upon the unhappy man; it its

"June 22—God forgive me. Amen. Finis.

" B. R. HAYDON "'Stretch me no longer on this rough world.'—Lear.
"The end of the 26th volume."

The reading of the above extracts having been concluded The Coroner said, he could not suppose that the jury would now require any further witnesses. For himself, he felt the case to be too distressing for remark. They must all agree that the deceased had committed an act of self-destruction. and the only question for the jury was the state of mind in which the unfortunate man was at the time. In leaving the case in the hands of the jury, he could not fail, however, to comark on the munificent act of Sir Robert Peel t wants the unfortunate deceased. He thought it must speak to the heart of a great many thousand persons, that whilst others were so to speak, altempting to destroy his own mind and amidst a pressure of public business almost unparalled. Sir Robert Peel had not forgotten the sufferings of others.

The Rev. Mr. Hyman here begged permission to state that he had not yet said all that he could in reference to the generosity of the right hon. baronet. Subsequently to the deceased's death, Sir Robert, addressing one of the executors. had enclosed a check for 2001. from the Royal Bounty Fund in order, as he stated in his letter, that the family might not be molested before a public appeal could be made at their behalf; the right hon, baronet added, that when that was done, of course he should be most ready to come forward so far as his private purse and personal influence were concerned.

The Coroner, after having again remarked on the muselicence of the Premier, inquired whether the jury were unanimous on their verdict.

The Foreman, on behalf of himself and the rest of the panel, replied in the affirmative, and the following return was accordingly recorded:---

"We find that the deceased, Benjamin Robert Haydon, died from the effect of wounds inflicted by himself, and that the said Benjamin Robert Haydon was in an unsound state of mind when he committed the act."

The proceedings, which had lasted nearly four hours, and excited the greatest possible interest, here terminated.

Appearances indicate that the next general election will take place upon the ensuing register of voters. The res dents in boroughs, to be entitled to vote, will have to pay the assessed taxes, and poor-rates, on or before the 20th July. This requirement of the Reform Act it is most important should be complied with, as no person can vote without being inserted in the register, and the safety of the present and the success of future measures will mainly depend upon the progressive party in the next House of Commons.

HERBERT'S PICTURE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE -We have been gratified by an opportunity of seeing the progress made in this historical picture. Mr. Herben las nearly finished the portrait of Mr. Cobden, and it is the most striking likeness we have ever seen of that gentleman-The artist has not only porgrayed the features, but he live caught the intellectual expression of the countenance, that undefinable combination of minute touches which at once marks and reveals character. There is a thoughtful mildness in the face which evinces conscious possession of truth. and resolution to maintain it without any intolerance of opposite opinion. Should Mr. Herbert proceed as he has begun, his production bids fair to rank as high in the annals of art as the event he commemorates does in the history of

PEDIGREE OF THE PEEL FAMILY.-We have seen a copy of a beautifully-executed genealogical tree, showing the pedigree of the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel and the Peels of Lancashire, extending backwards about two centuries and s half. This curious piece of workmanship has been executed by Mr. John Davies, printer, of this town; the collection of the materials having imposed on him an amount of labour and research which only those who have trodden the same path before him can fully appreciate. Mr. Davies successfully proves that the Latin proverb, ne sutor ultra crepidam, is not always true, for the printer has in this case been a mer successful tracer of pedigrees than many who have been educated in the Herald's College. His inducement to me dertake the task was the letter written by the late Sir Robert Peel to Mr. John Corry, the Lancashire historian, wherein the worthy baronet, speaking of his family with humility, says—"It is not in my power to furnish you will any particulars of much interest." The research expended by Mr. Davids by Mr. Davies may be estimated when we mention that hitherto history-men have sought eagerly, but without success, to trace the Peel pedigree. The family, consisting of four married brothers, William, John, George, and Thomas Peel, came from Craven, in Yorkshire, and stilled the constant of the constant o at Hoyle-house, Blackburn, somewhere about 1600. The first baptism in the county is that of George, son of John Peel. It is probable that the family were accompanied from Yorkshire by their father, as the first burial of the The late Sir Robert Per! name is "1008, Robert Peels." The late Sir Robert Periwas the son of Robert Peel, of Oswaldtwistle, now called "Peel Fold," whose father, William Peel, was the fourth in "Peel Fold," whose father, William Peel, was the fourth in the control of th descent from the eldest of the family above mentioned Mr. Davies's justification for expending the time necessary to consult so many parish records and to complete the collection of the consult so many parish records and to complete the collection of the collectio necting links of a family chain, in the achievement of which he had no personal object to gain, we give in his own words—he feels "assured that the leisure hour of an unlettered at tigan thus arreduced that the leisure hour of an unlettered at tigan thus arreduced to the leisure hour of an unlettered at the leisure hour of an unl tizan thus employed would create fewer enemies, and lead to self gratification in having pursued pleasure unalloyed with pain."—Manchester Guardian.

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A most remarkable circumstance occurred on beard the Lindsey steamer, on her passage from Hull to Galusberough. on Friday morning week. When she resched opposite Gusthorpe, a lerge swarm of bees settled on her, taking up their position. position near the chimney, where they remained as passes gers till she reached her destination; they were then easy veyed to Captain Johnson's garden, Little Cherch Lane, and may now be seen "gathering honey from great flower."—Hull Advertiser. ti .3

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DESTITUTION IN IRELAND.

(From the Economist.)

Much has been said as to the exaggeration of the destitute state of Ireland, in consequence of the failure of the potato crop, but very little or no evidence has been produced to confirm the statements of the asserted abundance, or even of the ordinary plenty, in the present, compared with former years. It is asserted that Ireland borders on a state of starvation in some part or other of every year; and that sufficient of the produce of no year is retained to sustain the people till the gathering of the next crop. Unwilling to judge by bare assertions, we have looked for some unquestionable test of the real state of the case, which could not be suspected of being influenced either by a desire to make out a case for the repeal of the Corn Laws, or for reproach to a Government. Now, we take the surest test of abundance or scarcity to be the quantity of potatoes supplied at the chief markets, and the prices obthined in these markets. No one will suspect that the Irish farmers will hold back their produce from a market giving a high price, or that the buyers in those markets will consent to give a high price, merely to justify the policy of a Govern-

We find that it is the practice in Cork, the chief market for notatoes in Ireland, to make a return to the magistrates of the quantity supplied on each market day, and of the prices at which they are sold. These returns are published in the Cork Southern Reporter, from which we extract the following table of the quantities and prices for the last month; and of the corresponding month of last year:

Potatoes	Dronku	t w mit	reset.	1.1106.8 01	W mite Polateci	8.
	1846	184	6	1845	1846.	
	Loads	i. Load	ls.	Per Stone.	Per Stone.	
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15	51	12	••	31 - 41	8 - 10	
16	527	215		35 45	8 - 10	
19	43	54		3 4	8 — 10	
21	149	76		21 4	8 - 10	
26	20	8	••	31 - 51	8 94	
27	59	45		3∤ 4	7 - 10	
29	40	10		31 41	71 111	
Juno 1	31	7	• •	34 44	7 - 10	
3	110	24	• •	$3^{2}-4^{2}$	8 10	
4	111	18		24 4	8 -9	
6	459	153		3 4	8 9	
12	72	3	• •	21 4	81 91	
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It would be difficult to find more conclusive evidence of scarcity, and the consequent high prices to which scarcity leads, than is furnished by the above table. But it is a very unfair test to take the facts as they at present exist, bad as they are, of what would have been the condition of Ireland, had no precautions been taken by the Government. No one can deny the strong case which existed in the autumn and winter of last year for the apprehension of scarcity and famine. There was not a farmer or dealer throughout the whole of this kingdom whose personal observation and experience did not lead him to anticipate great scarcity, and there was scarcely a Government in Europe that did not feel it an incumbent duty to make unusual preparations to protect its subjects against the consequences of ageneral blight. OurGovernment followed the example of others, and not only took precautions against the immediate evil, but wisely determined to do so against the recurrence of such an evil in future, as far as human efforts could do so. How far the timeous warning of the great extent of the potato rot, which was ascertained and made known to the country by the Government commissioners, has acted as an inducement to care and economy in the use of that article, and has thus contributed to a greater abundance in the later part of the scason it is difficult to say, but certain it is that there is much evidence that potatoes which are usually used for the feeding of stock and for other inferior purposes have this year been preserved for human food. Moreover, how far the introduction of Indian corn and meal at a small nominal duty early in the spring, have had the effect of saving Ireland from suffering, it may be difficult precisely to measure; but the evidence of dealers connected with the provision trade in Ireland all agrees, that this article has exercised a most extraordinary check upon the rise of prices of other articles of food. Still, after all the precaution and all the care which have been used, the above table of the supply of potatoes and their prices for the last month in the largest markets of Ireland, shows that the cure has been very inadequate to the evil Still this is the case which the Government are now charged with having exaggerated.

The truth is, that the Minister who has sagacity to foresee an evil, and who provides against it, will seldom receive much credit for doing so. Mankind never properly estimate an evil until they suffer under it. We are always ready enough with our censure, when public miisfortunes occur without any provision against them; and, when provision has been successfully made to avert a threatened disaster, we are only too prone to underrate the danger which existed. In our estimation, the present Government were senously me for not, at a much earlier period, taking the neces sary guarantee against famine, after their experience of 1842; but they have now made such ample and unreserved reparation for former neglect, as to recommend them to the warmest gratitude, especially of the labouring population, as well in Ireland as in other parts of the country.

FUNERAL OF MR. JOHN DYSON FERNLEY.—The remains of Mr. John Dyson Fernley were interred in the family vault, Teviotdale Chapel, on Monday morning last. The interment took place about twelve o'clock, and the interest, depth of feeling, and even excitement, which prevailed among all classes of society, was most extraordinary. The funeral corlège moved from Mr. Fernley's house in Greek-street, down the Wellington-road and Henton lane, and almost-every available inch of space was thronged by persons anxious to catch a sight of it. There were four mourning couches in the procession, besides eight private carriages, and these were followed by friends of the deceased once constant of the serious and these were followed by friends of the deceased once constant of the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the serious and the seriou nected with him either in business, or in the schools and other concerns of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, to the number of about 130. On the arrival of the procession at reviotdale chapel, the spacious gallery was found to be hearly filled with spectators. The burial service was read by the Rev. J. Nelson, after which, the Rev. Dr. Hannah, D.D., Professor of Theology in the Wesleyan Institution, Didaham deliberation of the service of the service was read to be a service was read to be a service was read to be a service was read to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was found to be a service was read by the Rev. J. Nelson, after which, the Rev. Dr. Hannah, D.D., Professor of Theology in the Wesleyan Institution, Didaham and the service was found to be a service was read by the Rev. J. Nelson, after which, the Rev. Dr. Hannah, D.D., Professor of Theology in the Wesleyan Institution, D.D., Professor of Theology in the Wesleyan Institution, D.D., D.D., Professor of Theology in the Wesleyan Institution, D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., D.D., Didebury, delivered a feeling and appropriate address, in which, while he lamented the early and sudden death of one so promising and useful, he pointed out the duty of submission to the divine will, and urged upon all, but especially upon the junior part of the assembly, the advantages of early piety, which, in the deceased, had been illustrated so strikingly, and had proved the cause of all his usefulness and success. After the interment, the immense assemblage of After the interment, the immense assemblage of persons quietly dispersed.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. T. DUNCOMBE AND THE LEAGUE.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

SIR,-In an article under the above title, in your last Number, you have made a statement which I know to be incorrect, and think it sufficiently important to request you to insert this contradiction of it. In reference to the Anti-Corn-Law meeting held in Stevenson square, Manchester, in June, 1841, and which was opposed, as you think, from corrupt motives by many of the Chartist leaders, you state, "Every Chartist leader of any notoriety was brought to Man-chester from places as distant as Leicester and Sunderland." Now, in justice to the character of the Chartists of this borough, but more especially to certain individuals, to whom (from their prominent position in connection with that body in this place at that period) your statement will probably be considered to refer, I beg to assure you that no Sunderland delegate or leader was present at the meeting referred to, nor did the Chartists of this borough then, or at any other period as a body, countenance the protectionists' doctrines.

Though in principle an ardent Chartist, I am deeply sensible of the great service the leading Free Traders have rendered to the interests of industry; and I feel therefore an honest pride in subscribing myself,

A CHARTIST AND FREE TRADER.

Sunderland, June 15, 1840.

Sheffield, June 17th, 1846.

DEAR Sin,-Your remarks about Duncombe's associates aroused me, and this morning I penned the enclosed. I am prepared to prove some of it, and to swear to the whole of it. Perhaps I can prove the whole. At all events, those who know me will require no further proof than my deliberate declaration. You may do what you like with it. I think its publication would do good.—Yours faithfully,
To A. W. Paulton, Esq.,

67, Fleet-st., London.

WM. IBBOTSON.

Sin,-In the first page of your last week's journal, I noticed your remarks respecting Mr. Duncombe and his associates. The fact which you repeat relative to the payment of money to the Chartist leaders, you are aware has been long known to the public, and doubtless furnishes abundant proof that at least some of the Chartist leaders were paid by Conservative landholders.

It is an old saying, that those who pay the piper ought to choose the tune, and it is fair to presume that the Chartists were prompted, instructed, and directed, by those who paid them; and that their constant efforts to create disturbance and to carry amendments at Free Trade meetings was simoly done in compliance with the instructions they received from those who employed them.

Sir, it occurs to me that this is a subject of great nationa importance, and I think it must be so regarded by every honest man who loves his country. I therefore conclude that it is a duty which I owe to society to contribute something further on the same subject.

Some months before the Chartist agitation was commenced, a gentleman, greatly distinguished as a talented politician, who mixed with men of the highest rank amongst the Conservative class, presented himself to me with letters of introduction. Having previously read reports of this gentleman's opinions and speeches, his name was familiar to me; and whatever might be my doubts as to the correctness of his views, I could not but admire his talents, and I gladly availed myself of the opportunity thus presented to me of making his acquaintance. I had long and repeated conversations with him, and although I suspected him of being strongly Conservative, yet, as he repudiated party, and since I considered myself as a Liberal in the best sense, at his urgent request, I produced him a highly respectable and numerous meeting, which consisted of men of every shade of

politics, to hear his statements. After a familiar and lengthened intercourse, I found that he was in daily correspondence with Conservatives of the highest rank. At length he strongly urged me to adopt his views, and publicly co-operate with him. This I declined, but urged as a reason that neither my abilities nor my influence were worth his acceptance. I suggested the policy of his inducing his noble friends to adopt his peculiar views, and to devote their efforts and influence to the promotion of his object.

Mark his reply. It was this: "I would rather have the energies and influence of a respectable manufacturer, who enjoys the confidence of his neighbours, than of all the nobles in the land."

This remark was rendered emphatic by the style in which it was delivered, and was made still more striking by other remarks with which it was associated. It instantly flashed across my mind, if these are the opinions of our Tory aristocracy, most assuredly some plan will be devised, and some attempt will speedily be made, to lessen the power and influence of this class of men.

I questioned the gentleman as to the extent and prevalence of his opinion, and I found in his view at least it was universal amongst the highest ranks of society. When subsequently repeating these remarks to my contemporaries, I declared if this gentleman was correct, soon some attempt would be made to lessen our power. About this time a Tory magistrate, of great talent, but who was still more notorious for cunning and perfidy, prevailed upon some artisans, by liberal promises of reward, to get up some cases and apply to him for warrants against their employers. They did so, and when he and his man Friday heard the various cases, as

was fully expected, they were all decided against the masters.

On this occasion, before leaving the bench, he made a formal speech to the men, denouncing manufacturers as the greatest tyrants in the world, and concluded by assuring the workmen they had only to bring their employers before him, and he would do them justice.

This man's speech was amply discussed in the neighbour hood, both by artizans and agricultural labourers; many of the latter were heard to say, how happy they should be to exchange the services of this kind and paternal magistrate for the services of these tyrant-manufacturers, since in that district the artizan, by less labour, got two-thirds more wages than they could obtain as agriculturists. Not many weeks after, these proceedings were reported to me by the suffering masters. I found in the newspapers the report of a speech delivered to the working classes by a man who subsequently became notorious as a Chartist leader. I was really startled to find that he adopted the very form of words, verbatim, which had been used by the magistrate before referred to; and he, in like manner, applied them to manufacturers with scarcely any variation. As the first speech had not been printed, and as the second speaker had probably no knowledge of the first, it was natural to conclude that they both derived the matter from one source, and I therefore at once concluded that my predictions were fulfilled, and that landholders, or rather the party men who represented them, had adopted this plan to lesson the power of manufacturers.

It is not necessary to notice the progress and movements of the Chartists; and I beg now to state a fact for the introduction of which the preceding remarks have been made.

A few months after the Monmouth riots, I one evening met in a neighbouring city a distinguished gentleman, whom I had previously known. He requested I would spend the evening with him. I accepted his invitation, and waited upon him at his hotel, when he introduced me to a number of honourable associates. On looking round, I perceived all the appearance of the committee of some public company. A secretary sat at a side table, which was covered with books, papers, and letters. I was sourcely seated when the chartman of the company, if I may so term him, introduced the subject of Chartism; and he astonished me beyond measure with the knowledge which he manifested of all their movements and designs. I listened with attention for hours to his statements, until he gutered into details so minute, that I began to suspect some person had been practising upon his credulity. I gradually and delicately made him acquainted with my suspicions, when he seemed somewhat excited with the idea that I should doubt his authority; and, turning to his secretary, he asked for a parcel which lay on the table addressed to anoble lord. This parcel he cut open. It contained nothing but a large batch of letters, all open and neatly strung together, and probably from 14in. to 2in. thick. He placed these letters in my hand, requesting I would read them; and then he assured me I should know from whence he received his information. I complied and read the whole of these letters, which oc-

cupied me two hours. I found they were a regular series for weeks and months past, dated from various towns in Great Britain, bearing the names of the towns, and the postmasters of the places where it was professed they were written, and they were all signed by well-known Chartist

These letters contained reports of the proceedings of these leaders and their associates. The movements they made—the effects they produced—the writers acknowledged the receive of the produced—the writers. the receipt of money—they repeatedly arged the necessity of more being sent—they answered numerous inquiries, and solicited opinions in return. In short they were regularly employed and paid by this party.

Perhaps I need not say more, unless it be that subsequently I had substantial proof that these Chartists and the party referred to formed one party. These gentlemen also subsequently acknowledged to me that they were members of a notorious Conservative Club in London. They never informed me from whence the money was derived which kept the Chartist leaders in operation. I put one question which they did answer. Do all the men who receive money know from whence it is derived? The reply was no; only a select few know that. The other men act according to instructions, because the money comes with those instructions; but they are ignorant of the parties supplying it.

You may judge of my feelings when after this I read in the papers, from week to week, reports of the speeches made by these very men, who, though employed, instructed, and paid by Conservative landholders, were occasionally pretending to attack them with severity; but I did remark that landholders were attacked generally, while manufacturers specially. I have said sufficient to induce all classes to pin their faith to no one, but to judge for themselves. If they do follow any man, let him be a well tested and tried neighbour. If any portion of what I have stated should be questioned, I am prepared with proofs to satisy a few men of honour .- I remain, sir, your most obdt. servant,

Shoffeld, June 17, 1846. WM. IBBOTSON.

To the Editor of THE LEAGUE.

Sin,-I never was more surprised in my life than in reading in THE LEAGUE the statement that " Kent got its name from Canute the Dane," in the first letter of "One who has Whistled at the Plough." Really, Sir, I considered that every tyro in his country's etymology was aware that long prior to the era when the Romans, the most deceptive and imposing people that ever lived, planted their eagles upon its soil, Kent rejoiced in the name of Cantium. As I am writing this note on board one of the Gravesend steamers, I have not Cosar at hand for reference. I believe his words are—The inhabitants of "Cantium," or the "Cantii," are more civilised than those of the interior, on account of their connection with the Gauls. Horace, in the Augustan age, alludes to the Cantii; so also Tacitus, in his "Life of Agricola," written after the decease of Domitian.

Casar marched into the country. Mr. Dunkin maintains in "The Chronicles of Kent," that Casar miscalled "the Medway" the "Thames;" and he partially founds his reasoning upon the circumstance that "Tamesis" literally translated from the Celtic gives "Tam-ys," a winding river.

The Rev. Mr. Barry asserts that Cossar's autobiography

consists entirely of garbled statements; and he most satisfactorily proves in his "Cesar and the Britons," that the Roman general was disgracefully beaten in all three of his Kentish invasions. Geoffrey of Monmonth, in the earliest British Chronicles we have, asserts that there were three invasions; in which statement the modern antiquaries I have named coincide.

Sir William Betham, the Ulster King at-Arms, abides in his "Goel and Cymbri" with Cossar in only enumerating two expeditions; but as his work was published some years prior to Messrs. Barry and Dunkin's labours, it is hardly

fair to bring him into the arena.

As, Sir, I am treating of Kent, it may be as well to mention that the discovery of the City of Cassivelaunus or Caswallon in the woods near Crayford and Dartford within the last three years has done more to set the question at rest than pages upon pages of the massive lore which annually appears in the Archaeologia would ever have done. From this happy accident it is clear that Usesar never in any of his expeditions (be they two or three) went out of Kent; it also evidences that the Medway was the river instanced in hia "Commentaries."

I remain, &c., ONE OF THE LATE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE WEST KRET ANTI-COME LAW MAGAZINE.

A years ago plate glass was sold at 12s. per foot. At that price the demand was 5000 feet per week. It is now sold at 0s. per foot, and the demand per week is 49,000 feet.

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Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, June 24, 1846.

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

As the regulations of the Post Office require that the Christian Name of the party to whom Post Office Orders are sent should be given in full, subscribors are respectfully requested to procure their Orders in future for George Wilson, League Offices, Manchester, or Abraham Walter Paulton, 67, Fleet-street, London.

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ARBIVAL for Specie.-On Wednesday the steam-ship Victory arrived at the St. Katherino's steam-packet wharf from St. Petersburg, with a large quantity of specie on board, amounting to nearly 200,000%, packed in twelve large cases. It is consigned for a number of merchants in the city, and the greater part has already been entered.

### LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS .-No. LVIII. AND LAST.

TO GEORGE WILSON, ESQ.

Sin,-With whose name can I more appropriately close this series of letters than with that of the Chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League? With you, that chairmanship has been no merely formal and honorary office. Yours has been a real presidency, both in the 'crowded meeting and in the Council Chamber. The public has become accustomed to a sway always efficient and never obtrusive. The densest multitudes have been hushed into stillness by the waving of your hand; and the quiet tones of your voice, while you were making statements always most lucid, or enforcing principles ever most important, have never failed of ensuring eager attention and prompt response. The still rarer aptitude for direction and organisation which induced the Council to place you at its head, can only be in any degree appreciated by those who have inspected the arrangements at the principal League Offices; and have discovered in them a perfectness of order, and a facility for dealing with the most multifarious combinations, well worthy of imitation in the bureaus of an empire. Fully to appreciate your worth in the functions you have discharged, required that familiarity with the foresight of your suggestions, the readiness of your resources, the calmness of your temper, the soundness of your judgment, and the determination of your character, to which they who have enjoyed it most bear the strongest testimony. Partaking in that general quiescence which has been deemed the fittest policy since the introduction of the Corn and Customs' Bills into Parliament, I have consed to occupy my wonted place in this Journal, except in the letters on the approaching close of their heroic labours addressed to Richard Cobden, Esq., and John Bright, Esq.; and now that the conclusion has actually and happily arrived, I have only, as one of the millions for whom the victory has been achieved, to record, in connection with your name, a final expression of gratitude and gratulation.

The peculiar character of the agitation over which you have presided, will command the attention of future historians. It was the first of its kind; may the wisdom of the ruling classes allow it to be the last. No violence has stained its course. No party alliances have been purchased by unworthy compromises. No base tendency has been appealed to, for the exercise of intimidation, or the accession of seeming strength. The great agency has been that of instruction. The power relied upon was that of truth and justice. No prejudice has been flattered, whether of the few or the many. Zeal has been directed in channels sanctioned by morality and known to the institutions of our country. Only wise, just, and beneficent means, valuable in their immediate and incidental as well as in their direct and ultimate result, have been employed for the accomplishment of a wise, just, and beneficent

That end is attained. The royal sanction, noblest act of Queen Victoria's reign, is given to bills which avowedly constitute Free Trade the policy of the country. The cries of the destitute are heard and answered. The speculations and hopes of philosophers have grown into practical realities. Relieved from artificial pressure, the springs of industry will soon play freely. Labour receives the charter of its rights. Unfounded apprehensions fade away like shadows in the dawning. A great example is given to the nations. They are invited to that unrestricted interchange which makes the teeming earth, and the productiveness of human art, subservient to universal good. Free Trade, spreading over the world, will become the pledge of peace and the bond of brotherhood. Let the moral, as is its tendency, follow the material good, and earth will rejoice in the renewal of the primeval benediction.

The instruments and agencies of this change have done their work, and will pass away. The League may be dissolved; but what shall dissolve the memories of that season of anxious consultation, of harmonious co-operation, of strenuous effort, of heartfelt unity, of sincere devotedness? Or of those mighty and unprecedented gatherings, when the popular mind expanded under the growing light of knowledge, and the popular heart vowed itself to the cause of mercy and of justice?

The history of the League is a bright and affecting chapter in the philosophy of humanity. It com. prises much to make us love our fellow-creatures, and reverence, in them, our common nature.

Until the new laws have thoroughly established themselves, by their tried and satisfactory opera. tion, some danger, though I trust but slight, must remain of attempts to revort to exploded monopolies. On you, Sir, the public will rely for watchful. ness. From you they will expect the signal of penl that shall call them to the rescue.

"Tho' no longer the hurricane rave o'er the deep; The skies the no longer black tempests deform;
In fancied security shall we then sleep?
No! look to the pilot that weathered the storm."

Your call, should there unhappily be occasion, will be responded to by millions, through the length and breadth of the land; and the Anti-Corn-Law Agitation present itself revived in all its formidable power, to crush the faintest hopes of monopoly. But that time can be but short. An unlimited time follows, during which your name will be gratefully looked to, as it introduces the list of those who, in winning commercial freedom for their country, became the benefactors of all succeeding genera-

A Norwich Weaver Boy.

### THE LOTHIAN FARMERS, THEIR MEN AND THEIR BEASTS.

The tenant farmers who met in the county town of Haddingtonshire last week to speak and to act against the Game I aws, have again attracted public notice to that distinguished section of their country known as East Lothian. which they well cultivate.

My present intention is not to dwell on their speeches and resolutions; these will, perhaps, he inserted in another part of this paper; and if not, the omission will be of no great consequence, as their arguments against the preservation of game are similar to those which have frequently appeared here. But as we are now almost at the end of our Anti-Corn Law journey, within sight of the point which was once so far from us that human penetration could neither tell where it lay nor how far off; having as few days between us and the end as the League had years when the League began; having overcome all obstacles, left behind those who cried to us to halt, shaken off those who never advance but by clinging to the skirts of some other party, walked steadily away from those who ran by our sides, before and behind, and among our feet to trip us up, covered with scorn those bolder enemies of progress who stood in front, not alone as the dolers out of a nation's bread, but bullying as if they would knock the nation's teeth out should the nation seek brend elsewhere than from them; having passed all such opposition, and gathered more associates of progress from the opposition-more a thousand times told than all who now linger like idle hoys throwing stones, and calling ill names to decent people, we have nothing to do but walk leisurely onward to the place of rest. All the attention now requisite is to keep a look out, which must be done to the last step of the journey. We may therefore breathe more freely, look around us more leisurely, and speak of what we see or expect to see beyond the point to which we are at present bound. The fact of the East Lothian farmers being the first farmers in the kingdom to associate together to put down the last remnant of feudal injustice—the stocking of a man's land with game for the pleasure of another man who bears none of the expense of feeding it, suggests several considerations both as to what that county has been and what it may yet be.

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In the year 1750 the first turnpike bill for Scotland was an Act of Parliament ob from Dunglass on the eastern boundary of the county to liavensheugh on the western boundary. It was long after that before there was any sign of that great agricultural success since characteristic of the county; but the first element of good agriculture there as elsewhere was the formation of good roads.

On Thursday, the 18th of this present month of June, being the day previous to the meeting of farmers held to de-nounce the feeding of wild beasts for the sport of the land lords as a relic of barbarism, the North British Railway was opened from Edinburgh to Berwick-upon-Tweed, entering this county on the west at or near Ravensheugh, and passing from it at Dunglass. This line will soon communicate with Newcastle-upon-Tyne and with all the manufacturing districts of Eugland and the metropolis. Already, by the steamer's from Leith to London, occupying forty-eight hours on the passage, million and beef are sent to London, fed in the Lothians and killed at Edinburgh, to compete, and to compete successfully, with the beef and mutton fed within fifty miles of the metropolis. Here we see what farming capitalists who have security in their farms can do for agriculture. With a soil fully equal to the best of the Lothian soils, and superior to the average soils in East Lothian, with a better climate, and paying less rent by at least one-third they the Lothian two or third than the Lothian farmers pay, living within two or three hours' journey of the metropolis where the best mar-from their farms than the Lothian farmers four hundred miles distant, whose cattle and sheep have hitherto travelled as far to Edinburgh as the Essex outle and sheep travel to London; have been there killed, and then sent to London five hundred with a sent to London. ave hundred miles by sea. The absence of those

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privileges of the landlords and the cumbrous inventions of the farmers which weigh down the English farmers (obief of which are occupation of the farms without any security of tenure, and the legal obligation to do nothing new for the improvement of fertility) the absence of these in Lothian, and their consequent evils, make the chief difference between the profits of English and Scottish agriculture. The Lo-thian farmer is still, like his English brother, afflicted with the vermin which the Game Laws bind him to preserve; but he is now in motion to throw off even that remnant of feu dalism. It is not improbable that when the Game Laws go down, the English farmer and the Scotch farmer will be relieved of them at the same time. But the English occupier of rumble-tumble barns and stables -here a one on the farm, there a one, few of them more than a wooden shelland the farms overrun with waste ditches, waste land, hedgerows which encumber many acres on each farm but perform not the uses of a fence; and legal covenants which encumoer everything, and perform not in one instance the uses of a security to the man who most needs security-the cultivator of the soil-the English occupier will, if the Game Laws were abolished to morrow, and all the game now breeding were in the pot, still be a poor farmer in any sense of the designation. Security to employ capital, and riddance of the rules of agriculture made in the legal chambers of Lincoln's Inn, will still be far from him.

On the other hand, the Lothian farmers with their secure leases, with corn rents which always bear relation to the prices of produce, with improved markets opened by improved roads, with the great ment markets of England opened to them by the new railways just made, and in progress of making, will more effectively than ever employ their science and capital to the augmentation of produce and profit. The greatest obstacle to a more rapid extension of sheep and cattle feeding, has been the distance from populons places. The market towns in the county have little trade, and not many well paid or well fed inhabitants. But the very effort to supply distant places, now that railways make it possible so to do, may improve the ability to consume at home. Take the small town of Dunbar as an instance. It is a town with little trade, and, for the present, with the appearance of less, so far as the opening of the railway will deprive it of its coach-road traffic. But it stands in the richest corner of East Lothian, where turnipfed cattle and sheep fatten numerously and fast. Is it too much to suppose that they may yet be sold and slaughtered there, and the carcasses sent off to London, where they will arrive in sixteen hours (at intermediate English towns in a time proportionate to the distance), instead of forty eight hours, as per Leith steamers at present? The reduction of time will completely carry the question of killing meat, against that of carrying live animals.

The town of Dunbar—and I particularise it as a specimen of many others similarly situated in districts of rich agriculture—is likely enough to be the port that will bring to the Lothian farmers ships loaded with the oats and barley, and peas and beans, and maize, which, perhaps, with flax-seed of their own growth, instead of the oil cake they now buy, they will feed their cattle with, united to those large crops of roots which they now grow. Their land is already too valuable, and their system now on the increase of feeding more cattle and growing less corn will make it more so, to grow the inferior kinds of grain. A ready supply of these from the countries opened by the abolition of the Corn Law will greatly augment the feeding system, improve the trade of the district, enlarge the supply of the best mannres, spread over thousands of more acres the culture of turnip and other root crops, make the production of good wheat more profitable, employ more people on the farms, and give the general population of the kingdom a supply of butcher's meat, which only needs to be abundant and regular to be readily paid for and consumed.

The fact of East Lothian being at present in advance of any other agricultural district of like soil and situation is not suggestive that it will linger where it is until others rech up with it. On the contrary I look upon its present superiority as the best evidence that it will advance, and advance fast. The race of agriculture is yet to come; Lothian is saddled, bridled, and ready for the race. It is on its feet, while four fifths of all England are yet dreaming with the nightmare of the feudal ages on them, and not dreaming of what agriculture will some day reach to in England; not even dreaming of what it is already in East Lothian.

Although there are no factories nor public works in the country, save some of inconsiderable extent in the market towns, and a few collieries in the western parts of the county, the stranger on crossing the Lammermoor hills, is surprised to see on every farm a steam-engine, its tall chimney, and occasionally its smoke rising above the farm buildings, and these, laid out in squares on paralellograms, the outsides of which are again surrounded with large constacks, as neatly built, thatched, and finished, as if each farmer had an architect on the ferro

farmer had an architect on the farm.

The late William Cobbett, in his "Northern Tour," described very well such parts of East Lothian as he saw—not so well what he did not see. He did not see the villages and churches, as they do not happen to stand by the side of that great post road, which is more modern than the villages; so he concluded that East Lothian has no villages nor churches. But he saw the turnip fields, the corn fields, the corn stacks, and the houses, or hovels, or styes, or dens, or whatever they may be called, inhabited by the farm labourers; and all these he describes as they were then, and, as with very few exceptions, they are now. He says:

exceptions, they are now. He says:

"We entered into what is called East Lothian, and just at a little village called Cockburnspath, where there is the second church which I have seen since I quitted Berwick. We get into the county of Haddington, where we see the sea all along upon our right until we get to Dunbar; and such corn fields, such the county of Haddington, where we see the sea all along upon our right until we get to Dunbar; and such corn fields, such stackyards, and such a total absence of dwelling houses, as never surely were before seen in any country upon earth. You very frequently see more than a hundred stacks in one yard, each containing on an average from fifteen to twenty English quarters of wheat, or ef oats, all built in the neatest manner; thatched extremely well, the thatch bound down by exterior bands; spars not being in use, owing to the scarcity in wood. In some of these yards the threshing machine is worked by horses, but in the greater part by steam; and where the coals are at a distance by wind or by water "(now, in 1846, they are all worked by steam, except in a very few cases where there is a good fall of water). "So that in this country, of the finest land that ever was seen, all the elements seem to have been pressed into the amiable service of sweeping the peeple from the face of the earth, in order that the whole amount of the produce may go into the hands of a small number of persons, that they may squander it at London, at Paris, or at Rome. Before we got into Dunhar we found the road, which is very fine and broad, actually covered with carts, generally drawn with one horse, all loaded with sacks of copp. For several miles it appeared to be a regular cayalcade

of carts, each carrying about twelve English sacks of corn, and all going to Dunbar, which is a little scaport through a large town (not a very large town), apparently made for the express purpose of robbing Scotland of all its produce, and of conveying it away to be squandered in scance of dissipation, of gambling, and of every other vice tending to vitiate men and enfeeble a nation."

These last words suggest a remark. The corn carted into and sold in Dunbar was not sent out of Scotland to be squandered in scenes of dissipation and gambling. It was sold and sent out of Scotland to help to supply London with bread, where there is a very great demand for it, where work ing people certainly work as hard and deserve as well to be supplied with bread in return for the money they earn as any working people whatever. The farm labourers of Lo-thian could have kept av much wheat at home as they chose for their own use, if their wages had enabled them to pay the price paid for it by those who sent it to London; but their wages did not, and do not now, enable them to buy the wheat they want, nor any wheat, therefore they do not eat wheaten bread. The question is between wages and rent. The question is between wages and rent. The Lothian farmers pay low wages and high rents. If less wheat was sold and sent away from Dunbar, lower rents might be paid, but there would not be higher wages, and wheat would be still further out of the labourers' reach, for the general markets would rise, and wheat be dearer when the supply was less. In all countries of the world where least of the produce is sold, the people are poorest. Even in East Lothian, when less was sold than now, the people were still poorer than now. Cobbett's error is that of those who despise the principles of political economy up to the present day. He thinks, and they think, that agricul-ture is and may be the chief interest of a nation. Now the converse of their belief is true. The more people who buy the produce of agriculture, and who carn the money to pay for it by producing something else than corn, the richer will the nation be, and the higher the price of agricultural pro-

The disproportion between rent and wages on the Lothian farms is greater than anywhere else that 1 know. Rent is fully three times the amount of what it was fifty five years ago in that county, and wages are now as then; food enough to live and work upon, with the means of getting clothes enough to wear for use, but hardly for ornament. Yet both the food and the clothes have improved in quality within that time. There should be more animal food used by the farm workers; but it is no hardship to them to use outnead porridge, at least for breakfast. Food more wholesome and better relished than outmeal porridge is not used anywhere.

But how are the hinds of Lothian to get better suppers than potatoes and salted herrings? Surely they should have better. And how are they to get better dinners than their barley bread and butter and milk three or four times a week, or their potatoes and "kail and flesh" two or three times a week; the "kail" being three or four gallons of liquid, with greens and barley, and about two pounds weight of salt pork boiled in the water? I say how are better dinners and suppers (save when a family can afford to use oatmeal porridge for supper as well as for breakfast) to be got? Lothian for supper as well as for breakfast) to be got? farmers pay their way; but do they not get rich? The less they pay their labourers the more they pay their landlords: and if we are to turn to the landlords to ask them to raise wages, we must, I fear, wait until we have raised in them sentiments which they do not possess—which are in fact not common to mankind. The only practicable means of augmenting wages, whether in manufactures or in agriculture, whether in well-cultivated Lothian or ill-cultivated Devoushire, is to enlarge the demand for men by extending employment. The more men we can take away from agriculture by employing them better otherwise, and the more agricultural employment created for those remaining (such as a great increase in the stall feeding of cattle will create) the better will wages be, and the more power will every one have to consume good food and pay for it.

But the houses in which the farm labourers live in Lothian are the landlord's property; and the hinds cannot live elsewhere than in those houses. But it is a misuse of the word to call them houses. Here is their description by Cobbett—literally true, every word, and rather under the truth as regards the hinds' houses on some of the best cultivated and highest rented farms in the county, where the most complete and appropriate buildings have been erected for the lodgment of the four-footed beasts of the farm which ingenuity can devise, and where the lodgment of the human beings has never cost the owner of the land a thought, heyond the thought of how human habitations may cost him the least money. Cobbett is addressing a letter to the "chopsticks of the south of England," and describing to them this famous county of East Lothian. He says:

"With the exception of about seven miles, the land is the finest I over saw in my life; though I have seen every fine vale in every county of England and in the United States of America, I never saw any land a tenth part so good. (He, like many other strangers, who only pass through the best of the district, attributes that to native fertility of soil, which is mainly attributable to science and energy.) You will know what the land is when I tell you that it is by no means uncommon for it to produce seven English quarters of wheat upon one English acre, and forty tons of turnips upon one English acre; and that there are almost in every half-mile, from fifty to a hundred acres of turnips in one piece; sometimes white turnips and sometimes Swedes, all in rows, as straight as a line, and without a weed ever to be seen in any of these beautiful fields. Oh! how you would wish to be here! 'Lord!' you will say to yourselves, 'what preity villages there must be there!—what nice churches and churchyards! Oh! and what preciously nice ale-houses! Come, Jack, let us set off to Scotland. What nice gardens shall we have to our cottages there. What beautiful flowers our wives will have climbing up about the windows, and on both sides of the path leading from the wicket up to the door; and what prancing and barking pigs we shall have running out upon the common; and whata flock of gaese grazing upon the green.

Stop, stop; I hava—not come—to—listen to you, but to make you listen to me.

Upon a steam ongine form the steam to you, but to make you listen to me.

"Stop, stop; I have not come to listen to you, but to make you listen to me. There is at a considerable distance from the farm-yard a sort of barrack erected for these to live in. It is a long shed, utono walls and pantile roof, and divided into a certain number of boothies, each having a door and one little window, all the doors being on one side of the shed, and there being no back doors; and as to a privy, no such thing for them appears over to be thought of. The ground in front of the shed is wide or narrow, according to circumstances; but quite smooth, merely a place to walk upon. Each distant boothie is about 17 feet one way, as nearly as my eye could determine, and 15 feet the other way. There is no ceiling and no floor but the earth. In this place a man, his wife, and his family have to live. When they go into it there is nothing but the four bare walls and the tiles over their heads, and a small fire-place."

Mr. Cobbett should have added, not even a grate nor a cuploard; and as regards some of the hovels farther south in Scotland, and in Northumberland, on the princely domain of the Percys, and others not less proud if less princely, which he also described in his Tour, he might have added

to the deplorable picture by stating the fact, that even the window, if glass there be, is carried from one hovel to another by the tenant hinds when they remove; the window being but a single small pane in some instances, and seldom fitting the place in which it is fixed, letting in the weather, keeping out the sun, and just allowing a bird's eye view, literally so, of such as Haggerstone House, or Alnwick Castle, whose immates boast of having as many windows as there are days in the year. Of the hinds' sheds in East Lothian, Cobbett continues:

"To make the most of the room, they, at their own cost, creek berths like those in a barrack room, which they get up into when they go to bed; and here they are, the man and his wife, and a parcel of children, squeezed up in this miserable hole, with their moal (outmeal store) and their washing tackle, and all their other things; and yet it is quite surprising to behold how decent the women endeavour to keep the place. These women, for I found all the men out at work, appeared to be most industrious creatures, to be extremely oblighing and of good disposition, and the shame is that they are permitted to enjoy so small a portion of the fruits of all their labours, of all their cares."

This is true to the present time; for though signs of improvement in the sheds crected for the Lothian ploughmen to live in are beginning to appear, the sheds crected for cattle being long ago of the best kind, yet progress is very slow.

Mr. Hope, of Fenton Barns, though only a tenant, has improved the dwellings of his workpeople at his own expense, by building an apartment with a back door and window to each. There Cobbett's chopsticks would see pretty flowers "all a growing and a blowing."

There are also some pretty cottages in the neighbouring village of Dirleton. Still, taking Lothian all over, the men of the farms are housed more meanly than the beasts.

Having noticed that East Lothian was the first county in Scotland to improve its roads by Acts of Parliament, and that it has since kept ahead in all its improvements; and further that it has now taken the lead in associating the farmers against the Game Laws, it is also proper to remember that it gave the League, from the pen of a farmer, the first of the prize essays, showing the injury done to tenant farmers and labourers by the Corn Laws. More of the men of capital and science who farm in that county, have declared for Free Trade, than in any other county.

And now that men of all opinions in politics meet together there to put down the Game Laws, it is pleasing to see them giving the lead to Mr. Hope, the father of the prize essayist, who is a distinguished agriculturist, who instilled into his son from childhood the errors of the system miscalled protection.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

THE STRIKE IN THE BUILDING TRADES .-- As we anticipated in our last, the men are going in, and the strike is rapidly drawing to a close. In one builder's establishment. 20 have gone to work, consisting chiefly of men from Stalybridge, Ashton, and other neighbouring places, with some few of the turn outs. Many others have applied at the same place for employment; but they have been told, what is the fact, that the full number have been engaged, and that there is no room for any more. At another establishment, where, from the commencement of the strike, there has been an obvious holding back of applicants, a number of men are to resume work to-day. The resumption of work is attended with one circumstance which distinguishes the close of all strikes; There are more applicants for work than can possibly obtain it; as during the turn out many strangers have been engaged, and the masters will not discharge these men in order to accommodate their former workmen, who, by exercising their undoubted right of ceasing to labour, have exposed their employers to great inconvenience and loss. In this state of the labour market, the masters are exercising their right in turn, of engaging the best workmen of those turn outs who are now seeking employment, and declining to employ the less skilled hands,—who, as has often been observed, are usually the most strennous advocates of trades' unions and strikes. Under these circumstances, it is clear that the turn-out here must be nearly at an end. In Liverpool, we understand the bricklayers, joiners, plasterers, and plumbers have generally resumed work at the old rates, both as to hours and wages; but the master masons of Liverpool, owing to the great demand for masonry work at public works, and to the want of co-operation on the part of the two dock companies of Liverpool and Birkenhead, have been obliged to comply with the demands of their men, both as respects increase of wages and diminution of labour. We understand that the present wages of joiners and carpenters. it has been agreed, shall not exceed 28s. in Birkenhead, 27s. in Liverpool. The hours to be 60 per week, which is the same amount as before, only differently arranged. The men commence work now at six instead of seven on Monday morning; breakfast from 8 20 to 0 A.M.; dinner, one to two; ceasing work at six; on Saturday, at four o'clock. In Bir kenhead they are paying the best joiners 20s.; bricklayers chiefly 27s.; plasterers 21s. and a few 25s. and even 26s .-Since writing the above, we have seen a placard, addressed To the master bricklayers in Manchester and Salford, journeymen not in the bricklayers' union, and others." It states that:

"A number of journeymen bricklayers having received grievous and oppressive treatment from the trades' union of journeymen bricklayers, beg to acquaint the musters of Manchester and Salford, that, in order to protect themselves from the oppressive interference of such body, they are about 16 establish a society unconnected with it; hoping to meet with their countenance and support."

They amounce the first meeting, and trust that the parties addressed "will unite to resist the rule and oppression of the present union.—Manchaster Guardian.

THE CROPS ABROAD.—Accounts from Holland and Belgium state that the rye crop is in a very precarious state in both countries, the plant having changed its colour, and ripened before the seed was properly formed. This will be a greatloss to those countries where, as well is in Germany, rye bread is still generally caten, and even preferred to wheaten bread, as it was in the north of Lancashire half a century ago. The use and growth of rye have now almost ceased in this country; but a few patches which we have seen this year are unusually luxuriant in their growth, and promise to yield abundantly. Much of the straw is upwards of six feet high. The potato crop seems to be failing this year in Portugal, Tuscany, and other parts of the south of Europe. In Portugal the weather has been unusually wet, whilst in Italy it has been unusually dry. It thus appears that either extreme is fatal to the plant. The same fact has been observed in the United States, and it strongly confirms the opinion that the sets of the plant now in use are in a weak and degenerate state, and therefore unable to regist any kind of extreme in the Weather.—Liverpool Times.

### AGRICULTURE.

THE MONOPOLISTS LAST HOWL.

Probably before this meets the reader's eye, the bill, which will eventually relieve the farmer from the incubus of protection, will have become law; and farmers will do well to mark the foolish and helpless opposition offered to the measure by his self styled friends, the political monopolists. Perhaps the most entirely absurd amendment which has been proposed is that offered by the Duke of Richmond on Friday, the 19th inst., when the Corn Bill finally went through the committee in the House of Lords. The proposal was to insert a

"That in six months after the passing of this Act, the tenant shall have the power of giving to the landlord six months' notice of his intention to quit his occupation, that then arbitrators shall be agreed upon between them, and, if the arbitrators shall not agree, that then the matter shall be left to the decision of the commissioners under the Act for the inclosure of commons, who shall value the unexhausted improvement of the farm."

Now, had this clause been proposed in sober seriousness it would have betrayed great ignorance of the condition and business of farmers on the part of its proposer and supporters. But it was not seriously proposed. It was a mere sham, or, perhaps, we should say it was a pacrile exhibition of effete rage on the part of the monopolists. Novertheless it exhibits their atter ignorance of agriculture in a strong light.

First, it may be observed that in England comparatively few farmers hold leases at all; consequently the clause would be, as to them, inoperative. Then is it to be supposed that in six months after the emetment of the law, the farmer, who has embarked a large capital in his business, and who has arranged his plans for several years onward, will hastily determine to throw up his lease? Why, the real effects of Free Trade will not be known till February, 1849. Depend upon it the farmers jump to no such hasty conclusions as the monopolist landlords, who misrepresent them, would have believed. Except from peculiar causes, affecting individuals, there would be no farmers who would avail themselves of the power of surrendering their loases.

The farmers have already lost the apprehensions of Free Trade they once entertained, and are now anxious to get leases rather than give them up. They feel that new exertions and a difference of system may be necessary under Free Trade, and therefore they demand security of tenure, not so much to shield them from foreign competition as to protect them against their landlords. The Duke of Richmond says he shall offer to release his own tenants from their leases; and states that he did the same thing in 1812, but he forgot to tell the house that not a single tenant accepted the offer.

In contending for his sham clause, however, the monopolist duke made some admissions which tell rather awkwardly against the monopolists. He said:

"The tenant farmers of this country feel most strongly that this measure - which, I fear, must now pass this house -will very seriously diminish the price of their produceand that they must naturally be auxious to be enabled to get rid of those engagements which have been entered upon faith of Acts of Parliament-that protection should continue to be the policy of the Government of this country. My lords, it is no fault of theirs, for I must remind you, that in 1841, the farmers of this kingdom returned representatives to Parliament for the sole object, at all events for the great object, of maintaining protection to our domestic industry; and you cannot blame them, my lords, because some few of them may have been either acduced or converted. But it is surely very hard, my lords, when, after a farmer shall have entered upon a twenty or thirty years' lease of a farm when wheat was at from 50s, to 50s, a quarter, that that farmer shall, when wheat comes down to 40s, a quarter, be bound to carry on his lease. This, my lords, is very unfair."

Be it so, most sapient duke. But what say you of the fairness of those legislators who have promised the farmers prices for wheat, varying from 80s, a quarter in 1815, to 56s, in 1842, without the slightest power of performing such promises? When the law promised 80s., did not the price fall in October and November 1822, below 39s. per quarter?

How was it that the law of 1828, which was to secure to farmers at least 65s, a quarter, and induced them to enter into engagements "upon the faith of Act of Parliament" prices, left them in December, 1835, with an average price of 35s. 4d. a quarter?

80, in 1842, when the "Act of Parliament" promised 56s., the actual price was only about 44s.

Who then is to be taunted with deceiving the farmers and "consigning them to entire ruin,"-so far as the law can do so,-they who teach them to rely on such Act of Parliament promises, or the Minister, who now, though late, tells them that all such promises are vain things, idle impossibilities?

The answer is practically given by the fact that farmers are quietly preparing for the more natural and wholesome state into which their trade is about to be brought; and we believe that the coarse virulence, which the violent and feeble party, represented by the Duke of Richmond in the Lords and Lord George Bentinck in the Commons, have exhibited, arises from their consciousness that their influence over the farmers has been annihilated. That influence was based on a delusion now pretty well, and soon to be completely, seen through by those it has deceived.

### ANTI-GAME-LAW MEETING. FARMERS MUST HELP THEMSELVES.

It is difficult to conceive a law more obnoxious to the farmer than the game law, or a practice more injurious to his business than game preserving. And upon this point farmers are perfectly unanimous. They may differ on all other subjects, yet on this they will be found to agree. Game is the farmer's grievance. It is the badge of his social serfdom. It forms both an injury and an insult, and the effort by which he frees himself from this wrong will go far to emancipate him from the lingering habits of feudalism by which he is op-

We have always said the farmers must stir themselves in order to obtain relief from the game nuisance; and we are right glad to find that the farmers of East Lothian have begun to move upon the subject. This is as it should be; the foremost farmers of Great Britain have taken the lead against the most intolerable evil by which agriculture is afflicted. The meeting consisted of proprietors and tenant farmers, and was called on a requisition signed by more than one hundred of the principal tenants of the district. It was held in the Court House of Haddington:

"Hugh Francis Caddell, Esq., of Cockenzie, was called to the chair. Among those present, in addition to the chairman, we observed the following :-Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart. of Balgone; John Martin, jun., Esq., Morham Bank; Provost Dodds, Haddington; Messrs. Waugh, Eweford; Johnston, Westfield; Miller, Gilchriston; Tweedie, Deuchray; Dodds, Pathead; Begbie, Queenstonbank; Burns, Bonnington; Bruce, Waughton; Hogg, Begbie; Miller, Newhouse; Hope, Fenton Barns; Shepherd, Gleghornie; Stevenson, Redside; Dodds, Nunra; Richardson, North Bonnick Abbon, Mallon, Bolley, Calebon, Control Berwick Abbey; Mylne, Bolton; Stenhouse, Quarryford; Waterston, Balgonie Barns; Harvey, Stevenson Mains; Christie, Markle; Roughead, Myreside; Russell, Beanstone; Brodie, Fortune; Handyside, West Fenton; Ferme, Barney Mains; Henderson, Longniddry; Deans, Penstone; Barney Mains; Henderson, Longniddry; Deans, Penstone; Hood, Woodhall; Howden, Trapraine; Howden, Boggs; Cuthbertson, Penkaithland; Ritchie, Dunbar; Turnbull, Coulston Mains; Skirving, Luffness; Johnston, Westfield; Hepburn, Whittingham: Mylne, Luggate; Wilson, Sheriffside; Peacock, Papple; Ferme, Duncrahill; Learmonth, Fortune Bank; Told, Castlemains; Rate, Lampockwell; Kilgour, Hangig, Rate, Millan, Handan Wintonhill, Hang Kilgour, Hoprig; Rate, Milton; Howden, Wintonhill; Henderson, Byres; Ainslie, Samuelstone; Skirving, Muirton; Pringle, Seggersdean; Bell, Townhead; Douglas, Athelstonmains; Welsh, Spott; Reid, Balloncrief; and many other tenant farmers.

The chairman, after reading the requisition, remarked that the names of the requisitionists made it plain that they were not actuated by any political opinion whatever, but simply by a desire to represent the oppressive system of the Game Laws. After observing upon the harshness of the law in general terms, he gave some particular instances:

He might mention that of a small farmer in the centre of the Lammermoors. He had very great difficulty in bringing to maturity a crop of oats; and when he did succeed, he found that the moor game preferred his oats to the jumper berries. Well, one morning he took his gun, and killed two or three of these hirds; but no sooner had he fired than a gamekeeper, who had secreted himself in the tenant's own premises, made his appearance, and gave immediate intima-tion to the Tax Office, when he was fined in the sum of 10t. and expenses; and all this for preserving his laboriously reared crop of onts from the rayages of these destructive

"Another instance that he (Mr. Caddell) happened to have heard of happened to a tenant not far from Haddington. His crops being much destroyed by the excessive number of the rabbits, he received permission from his landlord to trap and snare them. One morning a hare got into the trap. The tenant's proceedings were watched by the gamekeeper of an adjoining property, who gave immediate information, and the result was as in the previous case; the farmer was fined in a heavy penalty. These circumstances showed the ex-

And he most justly said :

"The fact was, that no sooner did the farmer take mea-

than another description of vermin, not much better than the other—he meant gamekeepers—made their appearance; and unfortunately these individuals were too much listened to by their employers, in the misrepresentations which they not unfrequently made of what actually took place."

Mr. Hope, of Fenton Barns, whose good service in the cause of Free Trade is well known to our readers, followed. He had personally no complaint about game, but knowing the "incalculable mischief" and the demoralisation caused by game, he could not remain silent.

"Had this matter been merely a question of pounds, shillings, and pence, betwixt landlords and tenants, I for one would not have been here to-day; but it has other, and, to me, fur more interesting bearings, and I feel that if knowing to do good, and doing it not, to me it would be sin; besides. I consider it the duty of each and all of us to use our utmost endeavour to bring all laws more and more into harmony with the noblest conceptions of the highest minds. Why, what are these Game Laws but the arbitrary selection of certain wild birds and beasts by their legislators, which they declare to be game, for there is no inherent difference in the animuls selected from many of those omitted, except, perhaps, they have chosen those most ravenous and destructive to crops. They might have included rats and hedgehogs with rubbits and hares, blackbirds with blackcocks, parrous and popinjays with partridges and pheasants, for all might have been 'tabooed' with equal justice."

Game are now styled property by preservers. But are they so till enught?

"Are they not bred on one estate, and too frequently fed on another? If they stray, can you go after them and bring them back? Are you liable in damages for not keeping them at home? Nothing of the kind. Oh; butthey are the property of the person whose land they chance to be on for the time. What! they are your's just now; they fly over the hedge, or hop across the road, then they are anover the nedge, or nop across the rola, then they are another's, and thus our poor partridge may have belonged to some score of people during one forencon (loud applause), Curious property!—very different from sheep or pigs, or barn-door fowls. If wild animals really are yours, put your brand on them-keep them at home, do not let them roam the country at large (hear, hear). But it is utterly ridiculous to expect that ordinary people ever look upon game as property in the usual acceptation of the word

It was only a few years ago that game was legally made saleable, though it might before have been bought in every poulterer's shop.

And he added:

"What, I wonder, was the opinion of our legislators then, regarding this sort of property, which you durst neither buy nor sell, without being liable to penaltics? Did the community at large view game as property, would bands of armed men sally forth at night to attack the well-guarded preserve in preference to the unprotected sheep fold, or the almost open hen-roost? It is a crying evil for which our legislators are seriously responsible, this attempt to confound right and wrong. They have no title to expect any law whatever to be respected, unless it carries on its forehead the broad impress of truth and justice, and which the law under consideration certainly does not."

Mr. Hope thus referred to a case which happened to one of his own men:

"I may tell you of a case which makes me indignant whenever I think of it. One of my men was prosecuted some years ago, for firing at a rabbit with a ball, when on his way to Linton to shoot for an eight-day clock on that high festival, Auld Hansel Monday. It was on a farm where his father resided; and not that he hit the vermin—he scarcely frightened it-for he had never fired a gun half a dozen times in his life, and I do not suppose he has touched one since, yet it cost him one-twelfth part of his year's earnings, which, to a working man on 10s. a-week, and with a wife and four children depending on him for bread, is no joke."

The tenants are not unwilling to keep a moderate stock of game:

" I am certain that it would be far better for them, as well as the whole community, were a tenant enabled to show his gratitude to a landlord foud of field sports, by voluntarily preserving for him a moderate head of game, as I am sure every tenant in the room would be happy to do, in place of being grateful, as some are at present, that they are not wholly eaten up. A friend has assigned that as a reason to me for not joining us to-day. He quite approved of our meeting; but if his laird chose to increase the game a little more, he asked what would become of him. I rejoice that we have cast the stone into the still lake; the circling wave of truth will extend, and be ever succeeded by another and an other, until justice, love, and mercy take in the whole expanse.

Mr. Roughead said:

"We assemble here in a constitutional manner to give expression to our sentiments regarding one of the most obnoxious laws that was ever placed upon the statute book of a free country. I oppose the Game Laws because they are oppressive and unjust in their principle, and in their spirit tyrannical, and have ever been a great bane to agriculture, and it is full time in this enlightened age that such a thorn were extracted from her side (hear, hear). I oppose the Game Laws because they are injurious to the interest of the landed proprietor. In many cases they have been the means of preventing agricultural improvements going forward, of keeping up a bad feeling, and causing much discontent to exist between the landlord and tenant, and preventing that harmony and companying and tenant, and preventing that harmony and co-operative spirit that ought ever to subsist between those contracting parties."

He thus referred to the position of the game-ridden

"I can conceive no case of hardship equal to that of the tenant farmer paying a high rent for his lands, spending his capital—wasting his time and talents in order to produce an abundant crop; and, at the very time when he expects to be paid for his toil, to see his fleids run over with useless permit, of game against whose revages he is not entitled by law sures to frighten away the game from destroying his crops, to protect himself; nor when he has sustained the injury,

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of demand damages against the landlord who claims a right of property in the game. But the hardship of the termin farmer has of late in many cases been made doubly hard by some proprietors preserving the game upon their estates, not as it was intended by the legislature when the Game Act was passed into a law, for affording the proprietor a fair day's sport, but in order to have the poulterers' shops well supplied; in fact, forcibly laying hold of the capital of their tenants, and justifying their proceedings under the shade of unjust and ill-defined Acts of Parliament."

The damage by game is enormous:

"I shall be bold enough to state in this meeting, where I can be so easily contradicted, that, throwing the mount of damage/done by game to the crops of grass, turnips, oats, and bafley, entirely upon the wheat crop, upon the average it is not under 10s. per acre. Now, if it is allowed that the average produce of that crop is seven bolls per acre, certainly the Game Laws puts a direct tax upon the staff of life to the extent of from one-fourth to three-rights of a penny upon each four pound loaf that is consumed (applause). And for what is the people of this country so taxed? Certainly not for the preservation of life or property, or for any advantage to science, art, or education, but to give to a mere fraction of the population a most unchristian and barbarous amusement."

He thus vindicates the labourers from the imputations of game preservers:

"I have heard it objected against our proceedings that the tenant farmers will be in a worse position if the Game Laws were repealed, by having their fences destroyed and their flocks disturbed by every idle trades' lad in pursuit of sport; but did it never occur to those who have raised this objection that the Legislature could alter the law of trespass, and make it a criminal in place of a civil offence? But should the right of game be thrown open to all, I fear no loss. I form too high an opinion of the labouring class to think that for the mere purpose of procuring a good day's sport they will wantonly destroy the property of their neighbour (hear, hear). Yes; I have yet to learn that because a man is poor he is an inferior animal. I have also yet to know that because a man is poor he cannot possess proper feelings of honour,"

And he addressed this argument to the protectionists:

"I regret to see so few landed proprietors attending this meeting. I must say that I think it inconsistent in the protectionist party not to give us their aid; for if they are anxious to protect native industry from the importation of foreign corn, they ought to consider it as great an evil to have native industry destroyed or weakened by the operation of the Corn Laws."

Sir George G. Suttie opposed the resolution on the ground that to abolish the Game Laws would be a confiscation of the property of the landlords, and that game would become common property; and he thought the resolution should be confined to hares and rabbits. Mr. Stevenson referred to the returns on this subject, which cannot be brought too often before the public. He said:

"I will refer you to the returns moved for by Mr. Mainwaring and Mr. Bright. The one is for the number of inquests and verdicts of the juries; the other is for the number of persons convicted for offences against the Game Laws. I consider these to be the most melancholy documents ever submitted to this country. From these I find that the number of deaths of gamekeepers was 42, from the year 1833 up to 2d April, 1844. The number of convictions at the assizes for the year 1833 was 152; at the quarter sessions 4377, making a total of 4529. Here you have something like 4529 persons made criminals annually for game. Are the people of Great Britain sensible that they have a budget to pay, with a frightful regularity, of fines, prisons, banishments, and murders, and all to protect them? Is this not a question that every one must have an interest in—the question of the expenses of convictions, of building jails, and the keeping and maintaining these prisoners, irrespective of the expenses of those who had been banished? Is this only a matter of pounds, shillings, and pence? There is, however, another question of a more serious nature, namely, that of engendering crime."

After commenting on some of the statements in Mr. Grantley Berkeley's pamphlet, he spoke of the necessity of total abolition:

"If game could be made property, and if you could identify them when they went astray, and prove them to be the property of a particular person or spot of ground, this might be all very well: but seeing this is impossible, what is the next best course to adopt? Say, to secure to the tenant an equal right with the landlord to kill game. Now, this is at present quite in your power, for don't take land except under such conditions, and you require only to make your bargain accordingly. But observe, although the laws were altered to the extent of giving you an interest in the game, proprietors would at once state, as they do at present, 'There is my form of lease, and I will part with my property under no other condition.' I need not remind you that there have been hitherto no lack of tenants willing to take land upon almost any terms. The following are specimens of leases servation of game: 'The said noble earl binds and obliges binself to use all due means for keeping down and destroying rabbits on the lands hereby let, and otherwise preventing the crops growing thereon being injured and consumed by rabbits, it being hereby specially provided and declared that the said tenant and his foresaids shall not he at liberty to kill or otherwise destroy rabbits or any game; and except what damage may arise from an undue fulfilment by the said noble earl of the foresaid obligation undertaken by him, he the said TENANT RENOUNCES ALL RIGHT OF DAMAGES FROM GAME OF EVERY SORT OR RIND. Here is another copy of a lease: 'let, If said tenant keeps a dog, he must be tied up. 2d, If said tenant has a gun, he is bound by his lease not to put ball into it. 3d, His lordship's gamekeeper has a right to examine said gun at his pleasure.' After demonstrate this treatment of the tenantry pleasure. After denouncing this treatment of the tenautry, Mr. Stevenson said—I was rather struck with the observations of a factor upon this same agitation; he stated to me that I was wrong in stirring in the matter, for that there

never was yet an alteration in the Game Laws which did not make them more stringent. Mr. Stevenson, in conclusion, called upon the meeting to beware of agitating merely for tenants' right to the game stopping short of total abolition of the Game Laws. It was only by doing that that they would obtain the support of the rest of the community. It required only public attention to be directed to the subject till the majority of the people would demand the total abolition of the Game Laws."

Mr. Sheppard referred to the reluctance with which farmers had moved in the matter:

"Indeed, although throughout Scotland and England the suffering to the farmers from this source has been so cruel, and so long, if I mistake not, this is the first public meeting of farmers that ever was convened on this subject. There is no class of men in any other department of business that would have suffered in silence so long. Not that I would infer from this that we possess any patient merit—if merit it be—beyond other classes. I only mention it to show with what timid reductance we ever venture on any political measure that may be offensive to our landlords."

The preservation of game is inconsistent with modern husbandry:

" The landlords proclaim every day that all this is at an end-that your connection and holding with them is of a purely commercial character (hear)-that long continuance upon their grounds, though a long life has been spent there, though the landlord has never lost by you, is matter of no account, and there is to be nothing founded on this circumstance—and that when the expiry of your lease shall come, this is a matter of no moment whatever-and that if a stranger from the other end of the island shall offer a shilling an acre more than you, that stranger shall have the farm (hear, hear, and applause). Now, I am far from presuming to object to this. No one will deny the perfect right of the landlords to do this. I do not even say that they are wrong in doing this—in insisting that their whole connection with their tenuntry shall be of a purely commercial character. But what we would presume to insist on here is, that if the connection is to be a commercial one, it shall be worthy of the name-it shall be one in good faith-that it shall not be infringed indefinitely by the one party without the possibility of recompense to the other. We think that, through the instrumentality of those enactments which we are met here to-day to protest against, that the rights of the tenants are frequently, and to a most serious extent, infringed upon. It is a fact that they have been ruinously infringed upon by the Game Laws. It is a fact that, throughout the country generally, there has been sore and galling annoyance, and loss, and wide ruin inflicted through game - for which no recompense is allowed, and the damages caused by which can never be properly valued, even if it were allowed (hear, hear). It is notoriously the fact, that there has been manifested no proper anxiety by the landlords generally to prevent the tenants' suffering from this cause, but rather the contrary. For if a tenant complains of excess of game (and you are all aware with what unwillingness he ventures to do this, and how much be will submit to rather than run the risk of displeasure in consequence); but if he does so complain, you all know there is but little readiness to inquire into the case, for the honourable purpose of redressing the grievance (hear). But, on the other hand, if a tenant has been reported against by a gamckeeper for interfering with the game, how instant and angry a measure will flud its way

Landlords and tenants do not stand on equal terms:

"The landlord is gnarded at all points by law against the machinations of his tenant; but the tenant is not gnarded by law against the abusive exercise of his privileges by the landlord. In regard to this matter of game in particular, the tenantry are left wholly in the power of every thoughtless heir who may be cast up to rule over them. It is astonishing that the landlords choose to have an imputation of this sort resting on them—that they will for a moment submit to the dishonourable allegation of sorning their vermin upon their disabled tenantry."

The damage by game can't be fully ascertained:

"You hear people talking of valuing the damage caused by game. The injury so caused can never be properly valued. Such valuation at the best is no other than a vague guess, even if we were allowed to get remuncration in this way. And if tenants were all in a condition to insist strictly on⁷their rights, this process of estimating damages would have to be renewed every season, and probably more than once in a season; but it is a fact that the Court of Session has never yet granted recompense for injury caused by did, it is absurd to think that the tenants are to be for ever fighting with the landlords in this way. In the vast majority of cases, they are unable or afraid to do so. Rather than risk disputes of this fatal nature, we all know what withering injury will be submitted to by the weaker party. They never can, and they never will, fight with their landlords in this manner. There is no remedy but repeal. It is undoubtedly for the good of all parties, and the peace and profit of all parties, of the land lord as well as of the tenant, that these vindictive enactments should be utterly and for ever repealed (applause). We have heard the statement of Sir George Grant Suttie, that the repeal of the Came Laws would be equal to a confiscathe repeat of the Came Laws would be equal to a conneca-tion of property. I deny that, in point of fact, game is pri-vate property at all (applause). Every one knows, although not in their leases, that game is public property; and there-fore cannot be confiscated. But, says Sir George, unless you are prepared to substitute something for these laws, you ought not to go the length of proposing their repeal. Sir George, in making this statement, overlooks the important fact that these laws, from their very nature, do not require any substitute at all; and why? Because they are an unmitigated evil (hear). I am confident that the majority of this meeting do not think that they require any substitute whatever.

And he added:

"The only case resembling injury from their repeal is that of the proprietors of highland districts, whose income from leasing the right of shooting is often as great as from farming the land. But his rights and whole interests could be as well guarded by means of the law of trespass as by means of the Game Laws."

What are the means used for getting rid of the Game Laws? Mr. Sheppard says:

"These means are of two kinds. We may content our selves simply with petitioning, or we may in addition to this, in our respective districts, use what influence we can in the event of elections to Parliament, to obtain the return of candidates whose sentiments harmonise with our own, and this last is the mode especially recommended in the resolution. But the question is, when shall we get a representative who shall subscribe to these terms? But it is said that if you demand such a strict pledge on the Game Laws, no fitting member of the aristocratic body will so far violate fashion as to submit to come forward on such terms. I am not of this opinion. But if it shall so turn out that, while they are ready to pledge themselves to any amount to the parties who are in the possession of power and patronage in London, they shall nevertheless scorn to acquiesce in so moderate—I submit so reasonable—a request on the part of their constituents, as that which we now presume to insist on, they certainly do not deserve either the name or the situation of representatives at all. And, perhaps, by far the best thing that could happen to stamp with effect the resolution to which this meeting has now come, would be that of our using the freedom of selecting one of our own class, on Ichose hearty and faithful advocacy of this and other good measures we could securely rely. would, indeed, be the first member of our class that ever entered St. Stephens. I say, perhaps, by far the best way of producing a strong moral effect in the country on this question, would be to have to resort to the novel and heretofore unheard-of impudence of selecting for the important county of East Lothian a farmer for once to be its representative in Parliament till this question shall be disposed of. But whoever should be selected, let us at all events show to the country that we are in earnest in this matter, by making choice of no one whose opinions on this subject are in the smallest degree doubtful (hear, hear). In reference to the class

The Game Laws can't be modified:

"Although this is the first meeting of farmers that I suppose was ever assembled in Scotland for such a purposoand though a few anonymous and stray appeals in the public prints, and now and then a poorly signed petition to Parliament, are the only forms in which our complaints have yet been put before the public, there is perhaps no question, ne vertheless, on which the public mind is more fully matured and ripened than on this, as to what should be done with the Game Laws. It is no longer a question with other classes of the community, any more than it is with us, as to what should be done with them. Modify them! Why not modify them? What modified good have they done? They have worn down the farmer. They have demoralised the labourer. They have wrought no good They have produced nothing but distress, and dissension, and crime, and misery. And why should we modify them? And in the public mind, as I have said, this question is already disposed f; --repeal --instant repeal -- without any mistake.

called gamekeepers, who have been so often alluded to, there

was an expression used by the late Sir John Dalrymple, of North Berwick, which deserves to be quoted on this occa-

sion. Sir John said that he did not know what use game.

keepers were for an estate, except to breed, not game, but

mischief, betwen landlord and his tenant (applause)."

This is a good beginning; and we trust this example will be followed in every county in Great Britain.

The farmers must resolve to vote at the next election against every man who preserves game, and who will not pledge himself to a total repeal of the Game Laws.

We deem this question so important to the farmer, that, notwithstanding the length of our extracts, we reprint the resolutions. Let others adopt them:

"1. That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Game Laws are unjust in principle—cruel and oppressive in their penalties—and that their whole working is fraught with great moral and social evil to the community.

"The resolution being put to the meeting, was unanimously adopted—Sir Geo. Grant Suttle dissenting.

"II. That a greater bane to agriculture than those laws can scarcely be conceived, as by their means the landlord retains power to consume and destroy the crops on the lands which he lets for arable busbandry. Thus they have ever been, and must continue to be, the source of dissensions and unkind feeling betwixt landlord and tenant—depriving the latter of every motive for exertion, and too frequently even of the means of improving his farm.

"III. That these laws being iniquitous in principle, and tyrannical in operation, it is hopeless to attempt their amendment. It is the opinion of this meeting, therefore, that they

should be utterly abolished.

"IV. That in order to carry into practical operation the above resolutions, this meeting determines to use its influence to obtain the return of Parliamentary candidates, whose sentiments harmonise with their own on this most important question. It further resolves to form an association to receive subscriptions, and to use such other means as shall be deemed proper for effecting the repeal of those injurious enactments.

"The meeting then named the following committee, for the purpose of carrying these resolutions into effect, viz.:— Mr. Csdell, of Cockenzie; Messrs. Miller, Newhouse; Har vey, Stevonstommains; Watterston, Balgonebarns; Hope, Fentonbarns; Roughead, Myreside; Henderson, Longuiddry; Myle, Bolton; Stevenson, Redside; Shepherd, Gleghornie; and Ainslie, Samuelston; with power to add to their number—five a quorum. Mr. Cadell, convener.

number—five a quorum. Mr. Cadell, convener,

The meeting direct these resolutions to be published in
the Edinburgh Courant, Scotsman, Witness, and North
British Advertiser, and Mark Lane Express.

"Upon the motion of Mr. Watterston, Balgonebarns, the cordial thunks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Cadell for his conduct in the chair.

11. Fras. Cadell, p.8.

"The committee appointed Mr. Alexander Matheson, writer, Haddington, their secretary and treasurer, with power to receive subscriptions."

IMPORTATION OF GOLD FROM RUSSIA.—The Victory steam ship, William Pedder, commander, belonging to the London and St. Petersburg Steam ship Company arrived in the river on Wednesday last, from St. Petersburg, after an unprecedented passage of seven days and a few hours, including the usual detention at Copenhagen in clearing the Sound. Sho brings with her, besides a general cargo and 20 passangers, 380,000l. in gold coin and bars, exceeding by 100,000l. the quantity imported last month by the Company's vessel the Magnet.

### CONDITION OF THE PEASANTRY IN DOR-SETSITIRE.

(From the Correspondent of the Tomes, In pursuance of the duty assigned me, I shall to day by before you the result of my inquires in Stourpain, a parish about two miles distant from Blandford, and forming part of the district to which the public attention has been drawn.

The first feature which attracts the attention of a stranger on entering the village, is the total want of elevatiness which pervades it. A stream, composed of the matter which constantly escapes from pigaties and other receptuality of filth, meanders down each street, being here und there collected into standing pools, which lie festering and rotting in the aun, so so to create wonder that the place is not the con-tinual abode of pestilence -indeed the worst indignant fevers have raged here at different times. It may be sufficient to add for the present that the inside of the cottages in every respect corresponds with the external appearance of the piace. I will however, come to the con-ideration of that point hereafter.

As the subject of "grist" will form a pronunent feature in this letter, it is necessary that I should give an explanation of the term. "Grist," or " tailings" as it is a smally called in other counties, is that portion of the wheat which remains after the best, which is designed for the market, has been separated from the mass. It then undergoes a second sepa ration, and the dirt and useless stuff is removed. It is the dastom in several parts of the county for the farmer to allow his labourer to take a bushel of this article as often as his wants require it, at is, below the market prige of the best wheat. This is one of the "advantages," as it is termed, of the labourer, and I am ready to admit that when conducted on fair principles, it may deserve the name. My researches in Stourpain have, however, taught me that in that village at least, so far from " grist" being an advantage to the labourer, he pays for it a sum equal to, if not exceeding, the price of the best wheat, and in support of this assertion I will now enter into an examination of the "grist" system as practised in this parish.

As the wages in this place, in very few instances, exceed 7s, per week, it may readily be seen that under such circum stances the labourer is often without food or money. What is to be done? He cannot allow his wife and children to starve. The shopkeeper will not trust him. In such a place the shopkeeper himself is generally a needy man, and his customer has 7s. a week and a family. He takes the only course open to him. He goes to his master, and, as the gets a griet," the price of which is generally 7.3. a bushel, which is stopped from his wages on the ensuing Saturday. In some few instances I have found the price to he fis, fid, per bushel. Thus it will be seen that in most cases the whole amount of his wages is at the end of the week withheld in payment for his bushel of "grist."

I have before me a weekly return of the price of the best wheat in Blandford market for the last two years, ending Lady-day, 1816, by which it appears that in 1811 the average price of a bushel of wheat was is 111d. and in 1844, 68, 7d. Phus it is clear that the labourer, pressed by " and and necessity, of which the farmer takes an undue and dishonest advantage, pays for this second or third rate article a sum exceeding the average price of the best corn during the last two years. So much for the price of "great;" the quality now demands attention.

A few days since I had a conversation with a miller who resides and carries on his trade near the place, as d to y hom the labourer is in the habit of bringing his "grist" to be ground. I will give you has description of it, as nearly as I enn recollect, in his own words:

"Some of the englishes Tring revery Vol. 1-de not think ! is worth its a but held I don't much the having anything to do with it, for Lum oblige to keep a separate pair of stones to grind it. If it regrained by the some stones that I me for the finer sort of wheat, it fouls the better so Lund spoils it."

With this remark of the miller's I chose my observation for the present on "grist" and its "advarrages.

Although it must be apparent to every one bow dreadfully insufficient the usual amount of wages in these parts must be for the support of a labouring family, the following extract from Mr. Austin's "Report on the Counties of Wilts, Doract, Devon, and Somerset" (p. 59), will perhaps render that clearer which was but too obvious before. A gentleman of Wiltshire Chis remarks will apply equally well to this county), in his examination, says

"The wages are certainly insufficient. Even when there are only two children it requires cool in largement to keep them decently out of 8, a week. Take any standard of a inpurson, identify out of 8g. a week. Take any standard of a imparison, and it will show the insufficiency. Perhaps the fairest is the cost of the pumper's food in the Limin workhaires where the articles are such as usually term the poor man's food at home bucon, bread, and potatoes, without Teer or other fuzzies, and where the quantity or supposed to be absolutely necessary to keep the innertes in health. If the labourer has not so much keep the innertes to health. If the jabouter has not so much food as the pumper, be ought to have. In our union the cost of each individual, taking the average of men, women, and children, is is, fid for food only, and buying by tender and in here quantities, we have at least 40 per cent, cheaper that the labouring man can. But without con idening this advantage, apply the realie to the pear man a healty. A man, his wift, and two calle to the pear man a healty. A man, his wift, and two children will require, if projects felt, fix we kly, then tent, at least is, and firef will very nearly swall on up the remainder. But there are yet many things to provide east the candles, children. there are vet many things to provide so up an emilles, clothes, and shows. Showerton poor man are a serious expunse, as he and some. Shore ten poor man are a serious expense, as no must have them strong, costing about 12s, a pair, and howill need at loast one pair in the year. When I tecken up these thing em detail, I sen alway on go and more estouished howillo Isbourer contrive to live at all."

Another witness says

"I nover could make out how they brewith their present earn I hove could make out how they have ath their present earn ings, for after examining a countely the a counts of their necessary weekly expenditure, and terms to compare it with their weekly expension all cases that I have trued their extresses seems to exceed their carnings. This problem several of a linear triad, but without success.

In the above extracts a man is supposed to be entiring \$8 a week, which is to support a family of two children. In Stourpain unfortunately the families, are generally much larger, and the rate of wores a shalling a week lower. The conclusion which, therefore, must necessarily be drawn is, that during a part of the week at least the labourer must be starsing. A labourer's wife, in the course of my progress through the village, told me she helt enten nothing since the previous morning. It was about 11 and when the gave me the information.

Another fruitful source of misery, as well as immorality, is the great inndequacy of the mamber and are of the house to the number of the population, and the consequently crowded state of their habitations, which in Dorsetslare generally, and in Stourpain particularly, afford the most limited accommodation. It is by no means an uncommon thing for the whole family to sleep in the same room, without the slightest regard to age or sex, and without a curtain

or the slightest attempt at separation between the beds. In one instance which came under my notice, a family, consisting of nine persons, occupied three beds in the same bedroom, which was the only one the house afforded. The eldest daughter is 23 years of age, the eldest son 21. I am enabled to give you the dimensions of the room into which these nine persons are nightly crammed. It is 10 feet square, not reckoning two small recesses by the sides of the chimney, about 15 melies deep. In some few instances, when circumstances admitted of it, I have seen most ingenious and laudable attempts to effect a barrier between the sexes, but in general there does not appear to exist any anxiety on the subject; and indeed in most instances the size and form of the rooms, and the number of beds required for the accommodation of the family, render all such attempts futile. It will be easily inagined that the nightly and promisenous herding together of young people of both sexes is productive of the most demoralisting effects, and it is no matter of wonder that there are more illegitimate children in Stourpain than in any villace of equal size in the Union of Blandford. In case of a death occurring in a family, should there be but one bedroom, which is, I think, generally the case, the immates of the house are compelled to pass their nights in the same room with the corpse until the time of burial. A gentleman informed me that he once inquired whether, in such cases, there was not much difficulty in reconciling the children to such an arrangement. The answer he received, from the deep tone of philosophy which pervades it, is particularly deserving of attention:

"Why, sir, in such cases we let the children get dead asleep before we take them to bed, and in the morning we pull them out of bed and harry them down stairs before they are properly awake. It is worse for the grown folks than for them."

The rent of these hovels vary, with few exceptions, from 14. a week up to 31. and even 41. per annum; but it should here be stated, that the rent of all cottages belonging to the chief landed proprietor have lately been considerably

It may be useful to give a few examples of the miserable and degraded state in which the inhabitants of this village pass their lives. I should premise that every case came under my own personal observation, and that I generally obtained my information from the labourer's wife, but sometimes from himself.

Silas Upward .- Has 7s. a week, out of which house rent takes a shilling weekly. There are seven in family. This man's house was a miracle of littleness. John Allen.—Has eight in family; wages 7s. a week; house-rent, 3l. per annum. William Hew.-Has six children, all under 14 years of age; wages, 8s. a week; rent, 3l.; one bedroom, in which all the family sleep; pays 7s. for grist. Robert Hayter. Wages, 7s.; gives 7s. for grist; has four children living, and has buried five; rent, IL 58. a year. George Ball.—Has six children under P2 years of age; wages, 7s. a week; pays 7s. for grist; one hed room. James Ainsworth.-Pays 4/, rent; wages, 7s.; has six in family; the chlest girl is 15 years of age, and the eldest boy II; all these shen in one room; pays 6s, 9d, for grist. —— Jeans.—Has II in family; two hedrooms in the house; in the first the hasband, wife, and six daughters sleep; the eldest daughter will soon be 20; in the smaller room three boys occupy the same bed, the eldest of whom is 10, the next 16, and the youngest 7 years of age; wages, 8s.; rent, 2l. William Jeans - Family consists of seven persons; there is one bedroom, which contains three heds, in one of which the husband and wife sleep; the second is occupied by three boys, the eldest of whom is 15; and the third by two girls, of the respective ages of 19 and 16; pays 21, rent.; wages, 7s.

These are a few of the numerous examples 1 am enabled to produce, but I think these are amply sufficient to illustrate the horrible mode of existence which prevails here. I could also produce instances of the most frightful depravity which it is evident must be the inevitable consequence of this disgusting and indiscriminate herding together of so many persons of both sexes into one common and confined sleeping apaytment, but I prefer suppressing them, more especially as they may be easily imagined. The want of proper ventilation in these houses must be to the last degree detrimental to the health of the inhabitants; the atmosphere, especially of the sleeping apartments, to an unpractised nose is almost unsupportable. It is perhaps worthy of remark that dishes, plates, and other articles of crockery, seem almost unknown; there is, however, the less need for them, as grist bread forms the principal, and I believe only kind of food which falls to the labourer's lot. In no single instance did I observe meat of any kind during my progress through the parish. The furniture is such as may be expected from the description I have given of the place-a ricketty table and two or three foundered chairs generally forming the extent of the upholstery. Want, famine, and misery are the features of the village, and yet 1 am credibly informed that the peasant of the Vale of Blackmore and the western parts of the county is as hungry, emaciated, and squalid a being

as the denizen of Stourpain. From the picture of a Dorsetshire parish, it may be readily gathered that apathy and indifference on the part of the funded proprietor, and the grasping and closefisted policy of the farmer, are the causes of the prevailing distress. The default of one is apparent in his neglect to provide proper bal stations in which the labourer may bring up his family in comfort and decency. In no county, notwithstanding the universal increase of population, is the want of new cottages so apparent, and the neglect of the landlord, in this point at least, so conspicuous. The latter, in withholding from the man who serves him a just and reasonable reword for his services, is acting neither wisely nor honourably. Both seem to have forgotten, or at least to have shut their eyes to the undoubted fact, that one of the surest methods of consulting the public advantage is to secure to the lower class comfort and competence.

DUBLIN, JUNE 21 .- THE HARVEST -- POTATO DISEASE. Further accounts have been received, of the extension of the disease amongst the early kinds of potatoes, which had entirely escaped the postilence last year. The disease has appeared, in the most unequivocal manner, in the vicinity of Dallin. At Roebuck, two miles from this city, is a field of polatoes, a portion being sown with early bangers, of the kylney kind. The steward of the owner had previously reported the breaking out of disease amongst this description. The leaves were quite withered, and vegetation seemed entirely destroyed. On digging out, the disease was quite manifest, a brownish spot appeared on the side of the tuber, and on cutting it, the interior, down to the heart, was corraded by the disease. The blight commerced at the end of the side, and has been moving upwards. These potatoes were sown from excellent and perfectly sound seed.

### REVIEW.

The Philosophy of Magic Prodigies and apparent Miracles. By A. T. Thomson, M.D. London: Bentley.

This very interesting work is taken from the rench of Eusebo Salverte, but with so many alterations, both of omission and addition, that it has fair pretensions to originality. Salverte's theory is that the prodigies recorded as miracles by uncient writers may be generally received as facts, and that they may be explained by supposing that the priests and magicians were in possession of a scientific secret which enabled them to produce phenomena that to the uninitiated passed for miracles. Let us take a pretty notorious instance.

'It is often related in ancient history, that distinct words have been attered by a child at the moment of its birth; that trees also and statues have spoken; and that sounds have been spontaneously uttered in the sombre gloom of a temple. The phenomena of ventriloquism affords a satisfactory explanation for many of these stories, but not for all of them. It is, therefore, more natural to admit that these sounds, the origin of which is not perceptible, are the effects of art; and to attribute these to the invention of the Androides, which, although, in our own times, explained in well-known works, yet has, under the name of the Invisible Girl, excited the admiration of the vulgar, and even of those who are unwilling to class themselves among the ignorant. Questions are addressed, in a low tone; to a doll, or a head made of card-board or of metal, or even to a glass box; in a short time replies are heard which appear to proceed from the inanimate object. Acoustics teach us the methods which enable a person, at some distance, to hear and to be heard as distinctly as if he occupied the place whence the doll apparently speaks. It is not at all a modern invention; for more than two centuries have clapsed since Porta explained the principles of this isvention in his Natural Magic; but, in more ancient times, its principles were kept secret and only the wonders performed by it presented for the admiration of the multitude.

"Towards the end of the fourteenth century, a speaking head, made of earthenware, excited in England the astonishment of the curious. The one made by Albertus Magnus, in the thirteenth century, was of the same material. Gerhert, who under the name of Sylvester the Second, occupied the papal throne from the years 999 to 1003, constructed a brazen head possessing a similar property. This masterpiece of art was the cause of his being accused of magic; perhaps the accusation was not unfounded, if they applied the same meaning to the word as we do; it was the result of science concealed from the knowledge of the common people."

Salverteassigns very strong reasons for believing that the ancients were acquainted with the practice of distillation, and that ardent spirits were employed in the mysterics of these temples. On this point, Dr. Thomson makes some acute remarks, which deserve to be extracted:

"In the opinion of the Editor, the reasoning of our author as to the introduction of the art of distillation into Asia Minor, Etruria, and Greece, from Hindostan, is by no means necessary in order to account for the knowledge of ardent spirits by the priesthood, and their employment in some of the mysteries of the temples. It is a well known fact, that there is no variety of the human race, of however low a grade, that has not some means of inducing intoxication, by means of beverages. In the Friendly Islands, when Captain Cook first visited them, the natives made un intoxicating beverage, by chewing the root of the Kava plant, and, mixing the juice thus extracted with water. The Tartars make Araka, a strong liquor, from the fermented milk of the cow and the horse: in Egypt Araki is the produce of the date, and in India that of the flowers of the Madhuca tree (Bassia butyracea). The Siamese become intoxicated with lau, made from rice: the Chinese with show-choo, a species of brandy, distilled from the less of mandarin, a rice wine; the Mexican on a spirit made from pulyne, the fermented juice of the Agave Americana; and the Kamschatkains on Slutkain trava, a spirit made from a sweet grass, and another from the juice of the whortle berry, mixed with that of the Amanita Muscaria. Now all inebriating liquors, however produced, and whether obtained from vegetable or from animal substances, derive their incbriating properties from alcohol; and, if that opinion be admitted, it is easy to conceive that as, when these liquors were heated or boiled, they must consequently have become weaker, and lost much of their intoxicating properties, those who observed this effect would be led to innt something was driven on with the vapour during the boiling, and without this the liquors ceased to intoxicate. The natural result of such an observation would be an attempt to regain this important ingredient, by condensing the vapour; and the possibility of doing this would be observed almost as early as the discovery of its being carried off by the vapour: hence the first step to the performance of the process of distillation. It is, therefore, probable that the discovery of ardent spirits is coeval with civilization; and that the process of procuring them was known in many countries, without being communicated from other nations; and, consequently, must have been familiar in the temples, the repositories of all the science and learning of antiquity.

The effects produced by intoxicating liquids in kindling enthusiasm are best illustrated by the history of the Assassins, of which Dr. Thomson gives a brief summary:

"The followers of Hassan were bound to the most rigid obedience to the precepts of Islam, or Abdallah Malmom. the projector of the sect. It is unnecessary here to describe the rules which were requisite to be practised by the aspirants, provelytes to the faith of the society. Assassination was an obligation on the Ismailite Fedavec, one of the dividous of the arct; any one of whom, ordered by a superior to assessinate a stranger, was obliged to obey; and, in the per formance of the order, the wretched Fedavee firmly believed he was promoting the cause of truth. It has been supposed that the name Assassins, given to the society, originated in this obligation; but the appellation is derived, according to M. De Sacy, from the Oriental term Hashtsheen, corrupted by the Crusuders into Assassin. This term implies takers of Hashiche, a species of hemp, from which an intextesting drug was compaunded, which the Fedavec took previously

فملللة الخسد الطائعة وهوا مهيئ وإجراسها الممار المايات

to their engaging in their daring enterprises; and which procured for them the delicious visions of Paradise, promised to all the followers of the Sheikh-el-Jebal. This Paradise was typified on earth, according to Marco Paulo, who travelled over the East in the thirteenth century, by gardens of the most luxurious description, stored with the most delicious fruit and fragrant flowers and shrubs, and containing palaces inhabited by exquisitely beautiful and highly-accomplished damsels, clothed in the richest dresses, and educated to display every grace and fascination that could

captivate the senses.

The Chief, in discoursing of Paradise to his followers persuaded them that he had the power of granting admission to it; and to prove the truth of his assertion, he caused a potion of a soporific kind to be administered to ten or twelve of them at a time, and when they were sound asleep, he had thom conveyed to the palaces in the garden. On awaking from their sleep, their senses were struck with the beauty and splendour of every object upon which their eyes rested their ears were ravished with the most harmonious voices. and their fond glances at the lovely damsels were returned with the most alluring caresses; until, truly intoxicated with the excess of enjoyment, they believed themselves actually in Paradise. After a time they were again thrown into sleep, and carried out of the garden. They were questioned before the whole Court as to where they had been, and what they had seen; and having detailed all the pleasures they enjoyed, the Chief assured them that those who yielded implicit obedience to him should inherit such a Paradise for ever,

" The effects of such an imposture display, most strikingly, the lengths to which credulity and superstition will conduct mortals. The following anecdote powerfully elucidates this remark. 'An Ambassador from the Sultan Malek Schah having come to Alamoot to demand submission and obedience of the Sheikh, Hassan received him in a hall in which he had assembled several of his followers. Making a sign to one youth, he said, 'Kill thyself!' Instantly the young man's dagger was plunged into his own bosom. To another he said, 'Fling yourself down from the wall!' In an instant his shattered limbs were lying in the eastle ditch. Then turning to the terrific envoy, he exclaimed-'I have seventy thousand followers who obey me after this fashion. This is my answer to your master. These victims died in the fall conviction that they were immediately to pass into that sensual Paradise, of which they had received a foretaste in the gardens of the Sheikh."

The influence of imitation in propagating and supporting fanatical delusions and similar hallucinations is thus elucidated:

"A thousand instances might be brought forward to demonstrate the influence of imitation. One of the most remarkable was the dancing mania which prevailed all over Europe in the fourteenth century, and which actually grew into a real epidemic. It is only requisite to relate two or three instances of more recent date in this kingdom. At a cotton manufactory, at Holden Bridge, in Lancashire, a girl, on the 15th of February, 1787, put a mouse into the bosom of another girl, who was thereby thrown into convulsions, which lasted for twenty four hours. On the following day six girls, who had witnessed these convulsions, were affected in a similar manner, and on the 17th six more. The alarm became so great, that the whole work was stopped, under the idea that some particular disease had been introduced in a bag of cotton opened in the house. On the 18th three more and on the 19th cleven more girls were seized. Three of the whole number, namely twenty-four, lived two miles from the factory, and three were at another factory at Clitheroe, about five miles off, but who were strongly impressed with the idea of the plague, as the convulsions were termed, being caught from the cotton. Dr. Sinclair relieved all the cases by electrifying the affected girls. The convulsions were so strong, as to require four or five persons to hold the patients, and to prevent them from tearing their hair and dashing their heads on the floor or on the walls

Upwards of a century ago, a woman in Shetland, labouring under epilepsy, was attacked with paroxysms of the disease in the church; the result was, that many adult females and some children became affected in a similar manner; and the disease has continued to occur very frequently, ever since, during divine service. When Dr. Hibbert visited the Island of Unst, and was attending the kirk of Baliasta, a female shrick was heard; but the person was carried out by the desire of the clergyman, who also requested any woman, who felt that she might be similarly affected, to leave the church. Dr. Hibbert says, 'On leaving the kirk, I saw females writhing and tossing about their arms, on the

Most of our readers will remember that the Roman historians declare that Numa, their second king, was instructed by certain Etrurian deities in of drawing down the lightning from heaven, and rendering it harmless, but that Tullus Hostilius, his successor, was destroyed in a similar attempt. Salverte thus explains the matter:

"To render lightning less hurtful, and to make it descend without danger from the bosom of the clouds, was, both in effect and in end, obtained by Franklin's beautiful discovery, with success by Numa. Tullus Hostillus was less fortunate. 'They relate,' says Titus Livy, 'that this Prince, when perusing the notes left by Numa, found among them some instructions on the secret sacrifices offered to Jupiter Elicius. He attempted to repeat them; but in his preparations for, or celebration of them, he deviated from the sacred rite; and being thus exposed to the anger of Jupiter, aroused by a defective ceremony (sollicitata prava raligione), he was struck by lightning, and consumed in his own palace."

"An aucient annalist, quoted by Pliny, explains this event much more explicitly, and justifies the liberty I have taken in deviating from the sense commonly given to the words of Livy by his translators. 'Guided by Numa's books, Tullus Livy by his translators. 'Quided by Numa's books, Tunus undertook to invoke the aid of Jupiter by the same ceremonics employed by his predecessor. But having performed imperfectly the prescribed ceremony (parum rite), he perished, struck by thunder.' Instead of the term ceremony, if we substitute the word experiment, we shall perceive that the fate of Tulius was similar to that of Professor Reichman. In 1753 this learned man was killed by lightning while report. 1753 this learned man was killed by lightning while repeating, with too little caution, one of Franklin's experiments."

We think it much more likely that the Etrurian priests were acquainted with some explosive compound similar to gunpowder, of which many are known to exist, and that Tullus Hostilius fell a vic-4im to want of caution in its use. There can, how-

over, be little doubt that many mechanical, chemical, and even electrical combinations which pass for modern discoveries were tentatively known to priests and wonder workers of ancient times, and were kept profoundly secret as a means of working on the credulity of the people. But we think that Salverte has carried his theory too far, and has not made sufficient abatement for the exaggerations of ignorance in the accounts given of prodigies. Lane has very ably shown that the wonders related in the voyages of Sinbad the sailor are mostly exaggerations of real phenomena in the Eastern seas. The tale of the "Three Black Crows" is more than fulfilled when the superstitious give an account of what has actually passed before their own eyes, and still more, when tradition gets hold of the prodigy, and repeats it with its usual habit of exaggeration. In the recent discussions on the Corn Bill we have found tales gravely told by those who pass for statesmen oven more wild than those of the Arabian Nights. Aladdin's palace is not one whit more extravagant than the supernatural abundance of Tamboff, and Sinbad's Old Man of the Sea is but a tume invention when compared with the imaginary burdens on land of which we have heard so much. Had Salverte lived, he would have witnessed in our day a proof of his favourite theory, that occult sciences pass into real sciences so soon as protection is withdrawn.

Margaret Russell: an Autobiography. London: Longman and Co.

We know not whether this interesting narrative has had any foundation in fact, but there is an air of life and truth in the incidents, and a consistency in the characters, which we rarely find in works of pure imagination. The lady by whom the work is written may not have passed through the ordeals she has described, but she has so vividly delineated the feelings which such situations must produce, that we are persuaded she drew more from the experience either of herself or of some intimate acquaintance than from the simple suggestions of funcy. Margaret Russell describes herself as forced to seek refuge with a maternal aunt, under whose roof her mother dies. The character of this aunt is one which too many will recognise among their acquaintances:

"Although a person who, in her own opinion, exercised an important influence, both by precept and example, in her own immediate neighbourhood, yet so perverse were the principles upon which she acted, and so constantly were her efforts to iculcate lessons of piety counteracted by the method she took to impart them, that it would have been difficult to say what real good she did, or what specific purpose she fulfilled in the scale of being. She was one of those who are content to 'act religion instead of doing it.' Her love,—if indeed she could ever condescend to love what she termed 'corrupt humanity, - was not heart-warm; there was no pulse of life in it. Her charity was the mero charity which ministers to the wants of the body, while it leaves those of the mind uncared for; and in this her means would not allow her to indulge. That a generous sympathy for the distress of the afflicted, generally, and a forbearance even towards those who are sufferers from the consequences of their own evil passions, were necessary portions of the creed she professed, seemed never to have occurred to her. If she visited the sick, she left the cottage of the labourer more desolate than she found it; for she gave only that of which the heart of the sufferer was full-prayer; while she took away that of which it is most barren-hope, the two-fold hope of the sinned against and sinning, the hope of sympathy on earth and of mercy in heaven. If she entered the Sunday school, it is true that the children were awed by her presence, that they put on a graver aspect, and lifted up their little voices in the Sabbath-song of probe with a more solemn intonation; but the image of the Delty in their minds was in a moment transformed from a God of love to a God of fear, by the sudden apparition of this—to them—severe herald of his displeasure.

"In her own household the same cold, harsh measures were pursued. For the house itself, a gloom seemed to rest on everything, animate and inanimate, within its walls. And as for the servants,—God help them! I pitied them from my heart. Like the inhabitants of Chorasin, they were driven to worship with the scourge. Not only their actions, but their words, their looks, their dress,—nay, if possible, their very thoughts, were ruled over with a strictness of supervision that would have done honour to an Inquisitor."

Another aunt who " had suffered persecution, and learned mercy," came to share Dorothea's protection with Margaret:

"Excluded from all sympathy where it should have been most abounding, the mourner, ever gentle and uncomplaining, instead of resenting a coldness which nevertheless she felt hentely, only turned with a more relying tenderness to the bosom ever ready to give sigh for sigh, and tear for tear. And now as time went on, beautiful was the affection which sprung up between the motherless child and the childless

"I call her childless, for unchilded she was in a double sense, although her son yet remained to her; since, by of one those unaccountable turns and shifts in the strange machinery of fate, this child, at the very thought of whom her whole soul overflowed with tenderness, had been torn from her.

"Her husband, some time previous to the boy's birth, had exhibited unequivocal signs of insanity. His family termed these occasional aberrations, 'eccentricity of manner;' some hesitated not to attribute them to hereditary disease; while others, with more reason, supposed his derangement to arise from a local injury, the result of a severe attack of brain fever,

from which he had never wholly recovered.

"As these symptoms increased in strength and frequency, the maniac—for such in reality he was—began to evince an intolerable aversion to his unoffending wife. This at first showed itself merely in avoidance of her society. No sooner, however, was his son born, than, seizing the opportunity to

deal a cruel and deadly blow, he immediately made over the boy to the cure of his own family, and, with the cunning natural to the insane, set about making a will, by which the mother was to be debarred from the presence or knowledge of her child until he should come of age. The reason he alleged-for he was still plausible enough to secure to himself all the privileges of a person of sound mind -was, that women were, from want of capacity, unfit to have the guardianship of male children.

Soon after this he died, utterly and hopelessly decanged. But the time of appeal was past.

His family, temiciously alive to the taint of insanity

resting upon their name, which it would have done had the validity of the document been called in question, acted up, in every point, to the instructions contained in it. And as the bereaved mother, the only person whose interest it was to contest the will, refrained from doing so, the wrong, as usual, prevailed, and injustice triumphed.

Alice was re united to her son so soon as his majority allowed him to act on his own impulses; but her frail frame did not long sustain her struggles of feeling.

" It soon became evident to herself, although we were yet unconscious of the pang which awaited us, that nature was gradually studing; and that, however she might rally for weeks, or even perhaps for months, the seat of death was no

less as medly set upon her brow.

"And now all the beauty and the truth, the trust, the devoteduess of her woman's mature were daily and hourly developed. Aithough life was becoming every moment more cudeared to her, not a complaint, not a murmur was ever heard from her lips, that could indicate how sorely she felt the doom which was to shut her out from it for ever. She was yet in the matronly prime of her years; and much as she had undergone, her feelings had never been deadened or unyouthed. She had not to sink into the grave with the comforting thought that she was laying down a burthen greater than she could bear; she had to go down to darkness with the thrilling consciousness of an increased power of enjoyment strengthening within her. The passage to the grave, too, was to be trodden alone, without the sympathy which smoothes the bed of the dying. None knew but herself what was going on within. She did not regret this; she rejoiced at it; but not the less did she feel it. She assumed a cheerfulness which was but a mask for the melancholy that devoured her. Like the poor Hindoo, white writhing in the pangs of her self imposed penance, she scattered flowers around her. She smiled; but her smiles were but as sun rays upon the tomb; they might gladden and chase the thoughts of corruption from those who were without, - but she was within its shadow.

Fortune he would have none, beyond the little she could bequently him at her death. His father had been a younger brother, and brought up to the church. After passing his heat years as a poor country curate, he eventually obtained a small living, barely sufficient for the maintenance of himself and family; and at his death his widow would have been left wholly unprovided for, but for the small patrimony which had been settled upon her at her

" It is true, that the nucle with whom Francis had boun reared, himself childless, had always declared his intention of making him his heir; and, under this idea, had not educated him for any profession. But Sir Richard Bruce was a man of strong passions, haughty, and overbearing; and any offence, however unintentional, on the part of his nephew, might at once place him beyond the pale of his

Alice died almost in the arms of Francis and Margaret a circumstance which naturally developed and strengthened the growing affection of the consins. Just at this crisis, however, Dorothea informs Margaret that she was not, as she believed, an orphan, but that her father was a convicted felon, sentenced to death for forgery, but allowed to escape with transportation for life. Her resolution not to involve her cousin in any portion of the disgrace attached to such a parent, and her self-dovotedness in rejecting all his offers, are very powers fully portrayed, but a fresh trial is in store for her; the father secretly returns to England, lives in daily dread of being delivered up to justice as an escaped convict, and tries to drown his fears and his shame in the most degrading dissipation. She quits her aunt to share her father's poverty. It was a time when pestilence ravaged some of those haunts of wretchedness in London, commonly called " rookeries," and we extract one picture of misery, such as London could alone produce, to illustrate what many still call" the short and simple annals of the poor;

"Day by day the pestilence increused. A constant cloud, deepening towards night into a log, thick and stifling as an Egyptian plague, hung overhead. Silence, unbroken save by the everlasting toll of the death bell, reigned within and without the dwellings of the dead and dying; while, amongst the survivors, the stupefaction of despair made them seem, as they walked abroad upon the earth, almost as corpaslike as the forms that rotted beneath; till the sleep of the fiving became more awful than the sleep of the dead

"That such scenes should have an engrossing and absorb. ing interest for one who was but newly, as it were, rescued from the very grasp of death, is scarcely to be wondered at it was something better than the more vulgar craving for horrors, for excitement, that now led me to look intently upon the life that breathed,—or rather gasped, on every hand about my path. It is probable that I night, in happier days, have shrunk from such fellowship; but my present lot had cast me, as by a fate, into the darker places of the world,among the stern and gaunt realities of life; and, emerging as I was, slowly, out of pain into a renewed existence, pansed and looked around me to see if out of that darknoss, light might be struck.

"I was yet very feeblo; weakened in body, and with scurcely the energy of mind needful for the formation of new plans or resolves for the future. My spirit for the time was broken; but still I longed for action, or rather for the capability of acting. It occurred to me that, subduce tray? might still be of some use to the wretched beings I saw around me. Much as I had heard talked of poverty, I had

never till now met it face to face; never known more of its ating than belonged to the mere absence of wealth. Here a new chapter in the history of man was opened to me, and I could not pass it by unread,—dared not say to my own soul—' What is this page of humanity to thee?'

"Far from finding my advances repulsed when, on being once more able to move abroad, I sought the dwellings of those with whom I had a fellowship in suffering, my offers of personal assistance were, in most cases, gratefully accepted. I had no difficulty, therefore, in gaining access to the abodes of poverty and wretchedness by which I was encompanied, and in studying the phases of human life, as they were here presented to me, devoid of that veil with which civilisation, in the better ranks, hides man from his fellow

man.
"The first house I sought was that where lived the parents of the child who had so tenderly nursed me during my illness, and to whose ministry, together with the occasional aid of her mother. I owed my life, helpless and otherwise untended as I was.

"Crowded together in a single room, of a size which those who are accustomed to the merest decencies of life would have considered too close and unwholesome for a single oc cupant, I found the entire family, consisting of the parents, an aged woman, the mother of the man, and their four children. One wretched bed, if bed it could be called, which was composed of a few rags huddled together on the floor, served for them all. Two of the children-one, and the fairest of whom was my poor little favourite, already mentioned as having passed her previous years away from the city, and who had been brought up by an aunt, since dead,were in the bost stage of the fever. Another, and apparently the eldest lay a corpse in the midst of them, the coffin resting upon two chairs within a few inches of the bed where the others were passing out of life, Here, by the lifeless remains of its brother, played—as only the children of the very poor do play, especially the city poor—with a heart and a step alike joyless and unchilded, the last and only one of the four yet untouched by disease

"Of the two already signed and scaled for death, my little woodland flower was the first to perish. I stood by her side when her tender spirit passed away. She was dreaming of the green fields she had left behind, and her prattle was of woods and flowers. Her sense was drinking in the odours from the bean-field at the end of the little garden paddockthe ripple of the brook waters trembled into her ear. Her pale hands moved to and fro ; -she was weaving in thought fairy-chains of the golden king-cups.

"She died. They buried her in a pit heaped up with putrefving bodies, over which a little earth was shovelled, in that noisome place, -the churchyard of a city. The solitary candle that lighted her to her last resting place, was extinguished by the noxious gases that exhaled and steamed up luto the faces of the mourners as they lowered her into her grave. A few hasty words were muttered over her coffin, as 'dust' was given to 'dust;' and she from whose clay flowers should have sprung was left to fester almost beneath the ayes of her parents, polsoning the air they breathed."

We need not tell the rest of the history, for we hope that the little volume will become generally known. Its high moral tone, the lessons of purity and self-devotion which it inculeates, united to the spirit and powers displayed in its portraiture, will, we hope, command, as we are sure they must, an excellent circulation.

### VISIT OF ELIHU BURRITT, THE LEARNED AMERICAN BLACKSMITH.

In our last number we gave a brief sketch of this won-derful man, this "walking polyglot," as Byron said of Mezzofanti. It is proper our readers should know that he is a most devoted advocate of Free Trade. Referring to our journal of the 30th ult., we now give a few more extracts from his letters, a few more sparks from his anvil. We understand he is expected to arrive in Liverpool to-morrow, by the Boston steamer; and that his visit to this country will be made subservient to the great cause of unrestricted com merce. Considering the circumstances under which he ac quired his stores of learning and knowledge, he may perhaps be looked upon as the most extraordinary man living:

THE LEARNED AMERICAN BLACKSMITH'S PROPOSED VISIT TO

THE LEARNED AMERICAN BLACKSMITH'S PROPOSED VISIT TO ENGLAND, AND PEDITSTRIAN TOUR.

(From the Christian Citizen.)

"For some time past, the idea has been running in our mind, that a voyage to England and a short visit in that country would much benefit our outward man. We have been much confined during the last two or three years, and thus deprived of the physical exercise which our earliest inhits have rendered constitutionally necessary to our health. We have thought, therefore, of this plan, which we would now submit to the committee of the whole list of our readers and friends. About the first of June, we propose, under certain conditions, to take steamer or the whole not of our regues and the state of the steamer or June, we propose, under certain conditions, to take steamer or pack t for England. On our arrival, we propose to take a pri-

the whole list of our readers and friends. About the first of June, we propose, under certain conditions, to take steamer or pack it for England. On our arrival, we propose to take a private hickory staff and travelon, like Bunyan's pilgrim, through the country, at the rate of about ten miles a day.

With a pocket for my wheat, and a pocket for my rye.

And a jug of water by my side, to drink when I am dry.

Passing thus lessurely on foot through the agricultural districts, we anticipate the opportunity of looking through the hedges and into barn yards, sometimes into the kitchens of the common people, once in a while into a blacksmith's shop to smite at the anyil. In fact, we intend to pull at every latch-string that we find outside the door or gate, and study the physiology of turnips, hay-ricks, cabbages, hops, &c., and of all kinds of cartle, sheep, and swine. We propose to avoid the home of the country, and confline our walk to the low lands of common life; and to have our conversation and communion chiefly with the labouring classes. Perhaus we might get together a knot of them some moonshiny night and talk to them a little on temperance, peace, and universal brotherhood. During such a pedestrian tour, we think we might see and hear some things which a person could not do while whizzing through the country on the railroad at the rate of thirty miles an house.

At repotes with loy unspeakable at the appearance of new stars of hope and promise in the heavens of humanity. Brothern, the morning of a new era has illumined the horizon of mankind. Free Trade, the commercial harbinger of the millenium, with its white, world wide wings, is crossing the threshold of this hate seared world, to fase the natious into one poaceful and happy beatherhood. The prospect of uncostricted social and commercial intercentes makes my heart palpitate for joy, especially in view of the interesting and intimate union in which it will merge our two great nations.

**Let Free Trade, in its amplest seus, be declared between us, in the

Great Britain. Occupying a region capable of supplying the whole human family, they have been almost entirely shut away from your country, and from every other one on the globe. The stinted commerce which has slipped through the iron fingers of restriction, has hardly opened a channel larger than that which might run through a rye-straw, for the swelling ocean of their sgricultural productions. The opening of the British ports to these productions will have a moral effect on their stitude towards your country and in this, and make them the greatest poscemakers in the Union.

"I watch with the deepnet anxiety every movement that tends to increase our international commerce and comity. I look upon the increasing number of letters exchanged, as a favourable onen; of passengers in the steamers, &c. I long to see more steamers put on the Atlantic, to cheapen and popularise the communication between us. I have watched with earnest hope for the repeal of your Corn Laws, as a great peace measure, which would take immediate effect on the most warlike portion of the Union. It would have a great influence here, and serve to extinguish the war-spirlt in its very heart."

"A PRODLEM FOR THE PROPLE—More than half the commerce of the United States is with Great Britain. British ships carry across the ocean nearly half of our exports. On whom does it devolve to protect these merchant ships into British ports?—on Great Britain or the United States? In case of war with England, would not the navies of the two nations be on the same side in protecting this commerce, which they own in partnership?—and would it not be binding on both nations to send each a flect of armed vessels to convey the cotton of the United States to English ports, either directly or by way of Hamburgh? In such a war, would it not be perfectly consistent for half a-dozen British seventy fours to lead the van, and as many of the United States to bring up the rear, of a squadron of cotton-freighted ships?

"The Cotton Scatne of Batters to Liverpool for signatur

many of the United States to bring up the rear, of a squadron of cotton-freighted ships?

"The Cotton Stains of Brotherhood.—The value of the produce shipped from the United States to Liverpool for six months of the past year, was 39,000,000 dollars, of which \$6,000,000 dollars was in cotton. A large hawser, that, to be severed by the sword, before the two nations may swing clear of each other. If Christianity and civilisation should help to moor the two kindred countries together with a cuble of equal strength, all the swords that War ever sharpened could not cut apart these Angla-Saxon Twins.

"E. B."

TO THE FRIENDS OF FREE TRADE. 

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Commercial Hank,

Solistron.

Josh, Ivimey, Esq., 25, Chancery-lane, st gyaros Mr. Frederick Parrand, Priory Villa, Peckham.

Prespectuses may be obtained, relary Villa, Pevkham.

Mr. Alfred Lunch Saul.

Prespectuses may be obtained, gratis, on application at the Society's Offices, East Temple Chambers, Whitefriam-street, Fleet-street. The Rules (6d. each) are now ready, and may be had as above.

Persons desirous to join the Society are requested to make application immediately.

MIEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, — M JULLIEN has the honour to announce that it is his intention to terminate the series of his concerts D'Ete with a Olfan'd BAL MASQUE, which will take place on Monday, July 2), 1846. Tickets for the Hall its. 6d. The Prices of Admission for Spectators, (for whom the audience portion of the Theatre will as before he set apart) will be as on former occasions, viz., Dress Circles 5s., Hoxes 3s., Lower Gallery 2s., Upper Gallery 1s. Private Boxes from £3 3s. Od. upwards. Persons taking Private Roxes will have the privilege of passing to and from the Ball Room without extra charge.

### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Friday Evening, June 26, 1846.

On the same night that Sir Robert Peel brought to a triumphant issue the greatest, the most important, and the most beneficent measures ever introduced to a British Parliament, he was defented on a different question by a majority of 73, and his tenure of power was thus brought to a close. It is no small merit of the right hon, baronet that he foresaw this issue from the very beginning, and was aware that the prosperity of his country could only be purchased by a greater amount of self-sacrifice taan was ever yet required of any Minister. He had devoted years of patient toil and anxious thought to the construction of a Conservative party from the wreck of the party which had opposed the Reform Bill. He undertook to inspire the despairing with hope, and the timid with courage; to win confidence from constituencies, the enfranchisement of which he had opposed, and to obtain influence in a system which he had resisted and denounced. No other leader could have organised such a party; his caution prevented the excesses into which unexpected success tempted many of his followers; his prudence checked the violence with which the desire of vengeance inspired others. He showed his adherents that discipline was the great element of success in party warfare: and he maintained that discipline by winning confidence, not by inspiring foar. In ex ocuting this task, he was sadly hampered by the nature of the materials with which he had to deal; he was hunted in the choice of his associates and his instruments, and he was generally under a stringent necessity of withholding from them the confidence which he required for

Ho was thus a leader from circum. himself. stances, a chief chosen by his party, not because they loved or sympathised with him, but simply because they could not do without him. Peel was with the Conservatives, but not of them; he shared not in the solfishness of monopoly or the bigotry of ascendancy, but he taught both that their gains and their privileges could only be maintained by occasional and graceful concessions. As a leader of opposition, he had to suppress occasional murmurs and to check incipient mutinies. Though his policy at that time was simply "to obstruct," there were those around him who would have pushed their obstruction so far as to stop the entire business of the nation; they would thus have infallibly produced a reaction which would have given back to the Whigs all their waning popularity and all their declining power. To such men he was reluctanly compelled to concede more than his prescient view discovered to be either prudent or politic, for he was too wise a statesman not to foresee that an anti-Irish cry in England would infallibly produce an anti-English cry in Ireland.

The differences between Peel and his party, latent to some extent so long as it was only necessary to oppose, became rapidly developed when accession to office compelled them to act. Sir C. H. Williams опсе compared party to

> "a snake. Where the tail moves the head."

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In the present case, the "tail" typified by the Duke of Richmond laid claim to the direction of the movement, and significantly declared that "the power which had made could also unmake a ('abinet." The Premier spurned a servile tenure of office. He was the Minister of a Queen at Windsor; he would not be the serf of a duke at Goodwood. He looked to the country; he saw that the country was to be gained; but that in the attempt the party must be lost.

Sir Robert Peel felt himself isolated, though surrounded by a crowd of supporters. He knew them, but they did not know him; and he was conscious that the hour of explanation would be also the hour of division and separation. But circumstances rendered it dangerous, if not impossible, to keep silence any longer. The season of scarcity began, that of famine east lengthening shadows before. His sense of duty as a Minister was strengthened by his depth of feeling as a man; and with noble resolution he declared that he would no longer be a party to the maintenance of artificial starvation.

Lord John Russell had preceded the right hon. baronet in the same declaration, and had similarly disregarded the ties and obligations of party. We discuss not the relative merits of the rival states. men-in their conduct at this crisis we equally admire both. We are neither remiss in gratitude nor deficient in respect to the noble member for London, whose efficient aid in this struggle we have ever thankfully acknowledged, when we state that the right honourable baronet made far the greater amount of sacrifice, and encountered for the fiercer hazards. During six months he has been . the butt for every shaft which faction could aim, disappointment wing, and malignity tip with poison. But his part was taken. With untiring perseverance he laboured for one great object, the emancipation of British industry; and he held to his position as firmly as the ocean-rock, unmoved by the billows that frot, foam, and dash against its cliffs. Howas a pilot adhering to the helm, regardless of the storm and heedless of the ignorant clamour of a mutinous crew. He has steered the craft of which he had charge into a haven of safety, but those whom he rescued are ignorant of the impending danger from which they were saved. For if monopoly had continued, nothing short of a miraculous interposition could have saved monopolists from destruction. He descends from power just as he had attained the summit of popularity, as if it were part of his pride to pay in person the price which the salvation of England's prosperity required. He sinks like the tropic sun, with light unshaded and heat undiminished, leaving earth to

enjoy the growth he has cherished, and the fruits he has ripened.

We cannot conclude without directing attention to Mr. Cobdon's speech. It is a tribute equally worthy of the giver and the receiver; and we have /no hesitation in declaring that it embodies the sentiments of every member of the League.

Mr. COBDEN then rose, and was received with loud cheers. He said: I am not going to argue the question; but I wish to say one or two words as to the spirit of the votes we are going to give. I shall find myself in the lobby to night—and probably in a majority—with three classes of The first class are those gentlemen who voted against the first reading, because they were opposed to the principles of logislation for Ireland which the measure involved; the next are those hon, members on this side of the house who voted for the first reading; and the third, to my great surprise, are a large number of gentlemen below the gangway, who also voted for the first reading. Now, I don't intend to offer one word in the way of putting a construction upon the motives of hon. gentlemen who are to vote differently upon this occasion; but as such a combi nation may seem rather odd, and may be looked upon by the country with some suspicion (hear, hear), I wish to clear myself at all events, and probably in doing so, I may also render some service to other hon, members by showing that the construction which may be put upon the vote about to be given by the noble lord, the member for Lynn, at all events does not apply to us. The noble lord has told us very frankly what he considers the object of the majority to the the transfer to the instinct to the to be,—that we are joining together to do justice to the right honourable baronet for his policy during the present session. I think he said that it must be the object sent session. I think he said that it must be the object of every honest man to inflict summary punishment upon the traitor, although some of us may like the treachery (hear, hear). That I humbly think is not acting upon the merits of the question. It is a vote of censure apon the right hon, baronet in the estimation of the noble lord. Now I beg to repudiate for myself (loud cheers) and for many hon, gentlemen on this side of the house, such as many hon, gentlemen on this side of the house, such an unjust and unfair construction upon the votes we are giving (renewed applause). We should be acting very inconsistent indeed with popular opinion, and we especially affect to represent popular opinion, if we were to give such a vote as this (hear, hear). Because I apprehend there will be no dispute on this point, that the right hon, baronet has been the means of passing this session one of the most popular measures that any Minister could possibly undertake (cries of "Oh, oh," and cheers). We should be outraging public opinion if we allowed such a construction to be put upon our vote at this moment, on the very day that this great measure has been brought down to this house from another place. Yes, I can imagine the noble lord feeling that there is a sort of poetical justice in carrying a vote of censure at the very moment of the passing of the Corn Bill; but I heg to say that he must not put this contraction at all events upon my vote (cries of "Divide.") I do not mean to say one word on the merits of the bill. But it seems the right have harmont attaches, so much investores to the bill. right hon, baronet attaches so much importance to the bill that, according to general report, he has determined to stand or fall by it. With that I have nothing to do (cheers); for I have resolved that I shall not imitate the noble lord, and stultify myself by voting that black is white, merely to serve another purpose (cheers). I said two months ago that I believed it possible that before the Corn Bill passed the House of Lords, the right hon, baronet would be put in a minority by a cross vote, for I said then, as I say now, that the hon. gentlemen below the gangway were prepared to give any vote consistent with their personal honour, which we must not question in this house, for the purpose of throwing out the right hon, baronet. I therefore feel that it would be quite hopeless for any man to seek to keep a party in power by giving a single vote against his convictions, because we should then he soon again put to the test by the hon, gentlemen opposite, and we should go on voting black was white to no purpose (hear, hear). Now, I beg to assure hon, gentlemen opposite that this state of parties will ere long receive a solution out of doors (loud cheers). We cannot continue with three parties in this house, neither party being able to carry on the Government. There must be a fusion of two parties. I see no immediate prospect of an amalgamation between the gentlemen below the gangway and their late friends on the other side; and I must say that I am very glad to think so (cheers). There is nothing which I should regret more than to see the right hon, baronet forced into an alliance, with that required party. But there is into an alliance with that rearward party. But there is another alliance which I imagine, in some shape or other, must take place here, and which has already taken place in the country. There is no distinction in the country, so far as I am aware, between those who follow the noble lord the member for London and those who give in their adhesion to the policy of the right hon, baronet (cheers from the protectionists). I don't understand the logical inference to be drawn from that cheer. I don't think it holds out a cheering prospect to the hon, gentlemen below the gangway. But augur that if this fusion has taken place out of doors, and the rank and file of those who follow these two distinguished leaders are found mingling in their ranks and fraternizing with each other throughout the country, there cannot long be a separation between the two chiefs themselves, and the result will be an abandonment of their strife, and a fusion between the two parties in this house (cheers). apprehend that this will give us a Government and majority—which will not be a protection Government, at all events. Now I have only to say, in contradiction to the noble lord, that if the right hon, baronet chooses to retire from office in consequence of this vote, he carries with him the esteem and gratitude of a larger number of the population of this empire than ever followed any Minister that was ever buried from power. [Mr. Rashleigh.—"Not of the working classes."] The hon. member for Cornwall says, "not of the working classes." [Mr. Rashleigh.—"And I repeat it."] I am sorry the hon. member is so excited in making the declaration (cheers and laughter): but has he the same expression of coining to laughter); but has he the same expression of opinion to give with regard to the voting classes (cheers)? I think the right hon, gentleman has shown great forbearance to hon, members below the gangway, in not having availed kimself of the strength he has with the country, and, taking them at their words before he shendone office amounting to them at their words, before he abandons office, appealing to the country (cheers). But should he not do so, I am not misinterpreting the opinion of the people, not only of the cheers, but sepecially of the working classes, when I tender the right honourable because, in my own name, as I might

do in theirs, my heartfelt thanks for the unwearied perseverance ("oh, oh!"), the unswerving firmness ("oh!") and the great ability with which he has during the last six months conducted one of the most magnificent reforms (cheers, and "oh, oh !") ever carried in any country, through this House of Commons (cheers).

The house then divided, the numbers were-For the second reading .. .. Against Majority against the second reading — The division was received by the house in silence.

Our task is nearly accomplished. It will in all probability be our duty, next week, to bid our readers farewell; and we cannot now give vent to the feelings which such an event inspires.

### THE FUNDS.

	SAT. June20	Mon. June22	Tura, June23	WBD. June24	Tune 25	Fri. June26
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Spanish 5 per Ct. Do. 3 per Ct	243 37	37	241	243	371	214 37

### MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

CORN MARKET.

Monday, June 22.—We have again short supplies of all British Grain to this day's market. The Free Wheat in the hands of factors is small in quantity, and they are not quite willing to quit without an advance of 2s. or 3s. per qr., which is course quently paid. In Foreign Wheat no alteration. Barley is about 1s. dearer—Beans are 2s., and Peas, 1s. dearer, except White, which are unaltered in value. In Oats there is more activity than for some time past; Free Corn fetches fully 1s. over the prices of this day week; Bonded, of which the arrivals are fair, is not dearer, but holders are unwilling to make extensive sales, though there is rather more inquiry than has been experienced for those descriptions lately.

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Peas, White
Ditto Boilers
Flour, Canada, fresh, per barrel of 190 lbs...
United States Australian, per sack of 280 lbs..... Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from June 15 to June 20, 1845, both days inclusive.

Wheat. Barley. Oats. Beans. Peac. 1064 2500 452 60 60 Scotch ...... 1389

Brow. Polands

94 1υ

Flour, 3744 eacks; (018 barrels. 5925 Flour, 3744 sacks; (6018 barrels.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26.—The third reading of the Corn Bill took place last night, and it is fully expected that duties will be payable by the new scale to morrow. The market is in a very unsettled state, there being no confidence as to the future range of prices. There was a very brick inquiry for all kinds of corn at the beginning of market. English Whicat, of which the show is triffing, was neglected. Foreign was offered free at 2s. lower than late free prices; but millors were uncertain what to bid, and but little business has been transacted. The last remark applies necessarily to every branch of the trade. Buyers of Oats bid about 2s. to 2s. 6d. less than on Monday for free corn. On the other hand, holders of Foreign ask 1s., and the new duty of 1s. 6d. over the bonded prices of Monday, which checks business. We cannot expect settled markets for a few days. In Barley, Beans, and Peas no alteration can be quoted. Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 19th of June to the 20th of June, both inclusive English, 3700 Irish. Foreign, 10350 Barloy .... 1740 Outs ..... 3150 10790 Flour, 1850 ancks.

IMPROVED COTTAGES FOR THE INDUSTRIOUS CLASSES. -We have been favoured with a sight of some plans, and sections, of a design for improved cottages for the industrions classes. They are the production of Mr. Robert Owen, of Manchester, and are intended for the use of the Free-holders' Building Society of that town. Mr. Owen's principal object has been to obtain a thorough ventilation in the cottages built for the society; but in addition to the attainment of this object, he has made some architectural improvements, and given greater convenience to the inhabitants than is usually to be obtained in cottages of the same size. The houses can be built back to back, with the same advantages as with a passage between. The present offensive state of back accommodation among the working classes is done away with by these designs, a greater number of sleeping rooms is secured, unpleasant smells are prevented or provided against, and everything is done on the principle of a sanitory improvement. The cost of a pair of these houses is variously estimated at from 200/. to 240/. Altogether the designs appear unexceptionable-nay, highly advantageous. Here we appear to have as much convenience as possible, on the least possible ground, and at the smallest possible cost; and these are no inconsiderable advantages to districts so populous as Manchester and its vicinity. Mr. Owen is entitled to the warmest thanks of his fellow members in the society, and of all who are interested in the sanitory improvement of our towns. The members of the Freeholders' Building Society cannot but be proud of the co operation of Mr. Owen. His services have been indeed valuable, not only in the production of these designs, but also in his active exertions for the establishment and prosperity of that very successful society. We believe the plans may be purchased at a low figure of the secretary to the society.

RIDDELL'S PATENT ECONOMICAL MICA-CROUS LINING for the protection of Boancts, Caps, and Bats from the Injurious effects of the natural and artificial melstare of the har. Ladies and gentlemen, before purchasing such articles, should see that they are provided with this elegant and mexpensive article, which may be fur preceptibly introduced into the most delicate bounds or cap, the cells preventing the very unsightly stains produced by perspiration, oil, see being a non-conductor of heat, it will be found invaluable in warm climates, especially in the East and West Indies, preventing the affects of a coup desoled or stroke of the sun, which has proved so fatal to Europeans especially. To be lead of all respectable hatters, milliners, haterdashers, outfitters, hosters, &c. W. Patterson, 101, Wood street, Cheapanle, London, is fleensed to supply wholesafe housestonly. Price One Smilling.

DALE'S ENAMEL, price 28. 6d. This preparation is covered for filling decayed teeth, which it effects without giving the least path of the motion as the hest material ever discovered for filling decayed teeth, which it effects without giving the least path or meanwhelmer, becoming, in a short time, as hard and as durable as the tooth (welf, and, by perfectly excluding the neroes of air, it arrests all further possible progress of decay. The preparation, is fore use, is in a soft state, and continues so for a short time, and it may therefore be used by any person with perfect facility, and is warranted to succeed in every case, however large the cavity. Prepared by John Dale, analytical chemist, Manchester. Sold in packets at 28. 6d. each, by most respectable drugglash and medicine venders in the kingdom. Directions for use are inclosed with each packet.

Wholesale Agents Mottershead and Roberts, Manchester, Barclay and sons, 33, Farringdom street, London.

AN ADVERTISEMENT HERE CAN CONVEY or use, nor can It show the saving in actual money on the various articles, that the aggregate this hover lifty per cent. The Catalogue, with 150 illustrations gives the pattern and the price against every article. All house keepers should have this book, and, by addressing C WAT 50N, 11 and 42, har bleam, and 16, Norton Felgate, near the Fastern Counties Radway London Terminus), it will be forwarded to ratis and Post Free.

ONESS £1. 48. SILVER LEVER WATCHES warranted not to vary more than half a minute per week, are selling at the Manufactory, 339, Strand, opposite Some set house. They continue the truth of a mathematical Instrument with the elegance of an ornament of taste. On receipt of a Post-office order for is, above the pure, a Water will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Read Jones's "Skotch of Watch Work," sent five for a 2d, strong

Water Work, "sont five for a 2d, strong

\$110 WER BATHS, with curtains, 9s, each. - Parchasers

\$1 of any description of BATH should visit WILLIAMS. BURION S, late
Rippon and Burio eschata show room, which contains, hesides follet sets
inpanned in initiation of fancy woods, chima, &c., in chormous variety, all
the requisites for the season, so arranged in one room, devoted exclusively
to articles of that character, that patterns, sizes, and sorts can be instantly
selected, and at 3c per cent, under any other house where attention is paid
to the quality. Full size portable shower bath, vory strong and papamed,
with curtains and copper valve, 9s, each. Pillar shower buths, with
copper conducting tubes, brass force pump and top, complete with curtains
and Japanned, from 6bc. Hand shower buths, japanned, 3s, 6d. The
own difference of the contest of the curtains of the particle seat (per post free.

WILLIAMS, BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) stock of gene
rai furnishing ironmongery and baths is literally the largest in the world,
and as no banguage can be employed to give a correct them of its variety and
extent, barchasers are invited to call and inspect it, -39, Oxford-street
(corner of Newman-street). Established in Webs-street, 1987.

Bomerset House, established 1818.

LUXURY IN SHAVING.

LUXURY IN SHAVING.

CREAM (Patronised by Prince Albert). This inestinable Gream possesses all the good qualities of the Finest Saples Soon, without Gredingrees able smell inseparable from that article in a genuine state. It is of a white pearly slivery appearance, produces a creamy lather, which will not dry on the face, and emits in use the delightful flavour of the almond.

In Pots, price 2a. 5d., 3a. 5d., 3c.

Perfumers to her Majesty, 12, Three King court, Lombard street, London.

Manufacturers of Combis and Brushess of the best quality, and on the moss approved principles.

R F Y II A I R.—

The nourishing properties of ROWLANDE MACASSAR Oll, are

R E Y II A I IX.—
The nourishing properties of ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL are eminently successful in the prevention of Orey Hair, and in the restoration to its original colour. It is the only article that really possesses mutrifous virtues for promoting a luxuriant growth of the human Hair, preventing it from falling off, or turning grey, and for cleansing it of scurf and all imposites.

purity.

CAUTION.—The words "ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL" are on the wrapper of each gossiline bettle

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THE ATRAPILATORY, or LIQUID HAIR DYE, the only dye that really answers for all colours, and does not require re-doing but as the hair grows, as it never fades or acquires that unnatural red or purple tint common to all other dyes. ROBE and RONE can, with the greatest confidence, recommend the above dye as infallible, if done at their establishment; and laid a or gentlemen requiring it are requested to bring a friend or servant with them, to see how it is used, which will emble them to do it afterwards without chance of fallure. Heveral Private apartments devoted entirely to the above purpose, and some of their optimization griendly in the instructions given with each bottle of dye, numerous persons have succeeded equally well without coming to them.

Address Ross and Boug, 119 and 120, Highopsgate-street, the celebrated at their even readences, whenever the distance.

# ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S MEETING AT NEWCASTLE ON-TYNE. On July I will be published in 12mo., price 1s.,

# THE HAND-BOOK TO NEWCASTLE, AND VISITORS' GUIDE TO THE SHOW;

Comisining a Description of the Town, the Streets, Public Buildings, Cattle and Implement Yards, Pavillon, &c. The Hotels, Post Office Arrangements, Lodging-Rouses, Banks, Railways, Coaches, &c.

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A PROGRAMME OF THE WEEK.

BY LLEWELLYNN JEWITT. Illustrated by Wood Engravings, and a Map of the Town.

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# GREAT HISTORICAL PICTURE

# COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE.

The accomplishment of Prec Trade will be one of the most remarkable events, not only in the history of the British Empire, but of the civilised dence, and ability this great triumph is due, will be recognized as the before witnessed by mankind. Those to whose zeal, integrity, pruIt is aduly, then, which we over to the world and to posterity, to precive some

PERMANENT MEMORIAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE;

that deliberative and executive body, which has achieved more by moral force, than has been accomplished by associations that included physical strength and political power. For this purpose arrangements have been made with Mr. HERBERT, R.A., to paint a

**TECHESON TEXTS A. TEXTS A. TO STATE TEXTS A. TO STATE TEXTS A. TO STATE TEXTS A. TO STATE TEXTS A. TO STATE TEXTS TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TEXTS A. TO STATE TEXTS TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TEXTS TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE TO STATE

#### HISTORICAL PICTURE OF THE MEETING -OF COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE,

including Accurate Portraits, not only of the Principal Leaders, but of those less prominent Members, whose indefatigable labours during the whole course of the movement have entitled them to public gratitude. It is proposed that this shall be engraved by a first rate artist, on a large scale mights movement by which monopoly was overthrown, and the cause of justice established. Without any remembrance of outrage or violence to the enjoyment of so glorious a victory. The principles of universal peace have been established by their own practical development in peaceful agitation.
In order to accomplish this great work of Art, on a scale and in a style worthy of the subject it is designed to commemorate, those who are interested in its production, are requested to communicate to Mr. AGNEW, Printseller and Publisher, Manchester, the Class of Engraving for which they wish to Subscribe

There will be three Classes of Engravings from this great Historical Picture, at the following prices:

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A NEW WEEKLY PAPER,

ENTITLED.

# DOUGLAS JERROLD'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,

72 Columns, Large Folio, Price Sixpence.

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THE EDITOR AND EMINENT LITERARY ASSOCIATES,

AND BEING IN EVERY RESPECT

A FULL AND EFFICIENT NEWSPAPER, ADVOCATING THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE.

OFFICE, 169, STRAND,

Where Prospectuses may be had, Gratis, and of any Town or Country Newsman.

With the natural desire that what is here set down shall be read, we shall be brief. Indeed, we could wish that the laconic notice of a finger-post were sufficient for our object, merely pointing the way to the printer's, with no verbal flourish of what awaits those we hope to send there. Custom, however, will not be so satisfied. The prospective editor of even gravest determination must, like the pediar, after some sort vanut the of NEWB, and POLITICS, and LITERATURE, to the remotest nook and corner of the land.

#### NEWS.

Were it possible for a man to realise a recent forlorn idea of Lord Brougham's, and live seven days "in an air pump," it is our hope that our hourly gossip. To achieve this, we shall imitate the chemical doings of certain purveyors, who to make food portable, condense the essence of whole nucl as an aid to public morals, we shall not circuitously say, the unfortunate man, or woman (children are not hanged now) was launched into advantage it gives us brevity, and more, in a clearer light, it sets forth truth

#### POLITICS.

We shall deal with Politicanamen deal with melona; accept a slice from any aing, if the alice be good. And the simile holds out. For whereas, in the good old times, and times not so good or old, laws, like evolics, were cultivated for the few, so are they now, equally desirable by the many. And more; they will be a nate pacefully -but determinedly—had. And in this inevitable adjustment, for be it for mus to wish to set class against line word, our Pollities will be the Pollities of Progress. And for the wisdom of our uncestors," we shall not, like antiquariam medallists, desire to preserve it for the rust and verdigris of the past, but solely for its current value and utility to the present and the future.

#### NATIONAL EDUCATION.

It was recentive said and well said, too', by the Bishop of Oxford, "that it was a good thing the people would not now be kept quiet by a low peare and quietness." In plain words, "Dame School" Education; administered like laudanum, not to promote intellectual health, but all "for their conscientious teacher; nor leave the task to demagogues by trade and patriots for ready money. Therefore, National Education, as the hand-maid of Universal Sorrange, will have our unceasing advocacy.

#### RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

Unless Heaven could be mapped out by Government Survey, we are for no government way to immortality. "We'say with Hood—
"Our heart forments not with the bigot's leaven,
All more with toleration thorough,
And have a horror of regarding heaven

And have a horror of regarding heaven

Hence, the vessel of the Bishop's Church —a very different vessel, by the way, from the boat of Simon Peter—would not, we think, finevitably founder,
were her golden tow-rope cast off from the State, and the rest of her voyage worked by volunteers.

#### FREE TRADE.

As free as the design of Providence, in its great bounty, is made manifest. For surely, every land would have contained everything within itself, had not the Giver of the Good intended its free exchange among the family of man.

# PEACE WITH ALL THE WORLD.

The First Lord of the Admiralty has recently avowed his preference of "the man who serves his country under rise, to the man who serves it at the rise." Thus, in the Rilenborough intid. Private Smith in a shower of bullets is nobler, more sublime than Shakspeare in his study—than liaous, Newton. Capernicus, Watt. "We would not underrate the occurage and endurance of Private Smith, but we shall do our best to do without them; to show that we have glory sufficient; and that the noblest and most humanising truths are written not in laurel leaves, but elive.

Enough of profession. We have briefly indicated our principles. We will no further dwell upon the weekly contents of our newspaper, than to state that they will comprise more than the usual subjects of information and amusement, animated, it is hoped, with a spirit of novelty. WE WRITE FOR THE MASSES. We shall endeavour to write not nown, but up survet way to hit the crowd is—to aimlanc. DOUGLAS JERROLD.

SERIES of BIOGRAPHICAL SECTIONES of the EMINERY LEADERS of the LEAGUE will be commenced in an early Number, and centinued weekly.

THE HISTORY OF COMMERCE, FROM THE EARLIEST AGES TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PRES
TRADE.

By William Cooks Taylos, L.L.D., of Trinity College, Dublin,

On the let of July will be published,
JERROLD'S SHILLING MAGAZINE,
No. XIX.
London: Published at the Punch Office, 85, Pleet-street.

On the 1st of July will be published, price 1s., No. IV. of

UR OWN T ME 8.

Contents:—London Penetrain, No. 111.—The Cheap Ball-room, with a
Plate—Railway Deposits.—A Plea for Advertising Vans.—The Clamics in
Speciacles.—Matrimony by Advertisement.—A Modern Story of the
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THE COOK MAID'S COMPLETE GUIDE, AND
THE ART OF COOKERY MADE EASY. Being the best and
ensiest methods of correctly performing all the business of the Cook maid
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the firest seasoned dishes of Game, Poultry, Pish, Sauces, Soups, and
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Dr. Robert Culverwell's Guide to Health and Long Life.

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WHAT TO EAT, DRINK, and AVOID; with Diet
LAC, &c. Contents - How to insure perfect digestion, tranguli feelings,
a good night's rest, a clear head, and a contented mind. By an observance
of the instructions herein contained, the feeble, the nervously delicate,
oven to the most shattered constitution, may acquire the greatest among
of physical happiness, and reach in health the full period of life siluted to
man. To be had of Sherwood, 23, Paternoster-row, and all Booksellers, or
direct from the Author, 21, Arundel-street, Strand, who may be advised
with on these matters daily till 3; evenings, 7 till 9.

TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS AND EDITORS.

-A Gentleman of Free Trade and decidedly Liberal principles, resident in London, is desirous of entering into some arrangement for contributing to the columns of a Local Paper. Address to H. Y., Free Trade Club, 27, Regent-street, London

National Tableau of Public Interest, which has been Eight Months in Preparation.

THE Royal Family at Home, consisting of the Queen and Prince Albert caressing their Four lovely Children. The Grouping and Cotouring by Madume Tussaud, the Models and Portraiture by Mr. Tussaud, the Costumes by Mrs. F. Tussaud, is new added to the Collection.

HASAAR, Baker-street, Portman-square, "This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."—Times. Admittance, is.; Napoleon Rooms, 6d. Open from 11 till 4; and from 7 sill 10.

TREEMASONS' and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 11, Waterloo-place, Pall-mail, London. Business transacted in all the branches and for all objects of Life Assurance, Eadownents and Annuities, and to secure contingent Reversions, &c — Information and Prospectuses furnished by Joseph Berrilder, Secretary.

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London—The following sample package is recommended to families
who wish (previous to purchasing their usual supply of TEAS, COPPEBS,
&c.) to sample and prove the superior excellence of the goods sold by
DAKIN and COMPANY, Teu Morchants, and it will be forwarded to be
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3th Finest True Rich Congou Tea at 4s 6d 13s 6d
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1th Strong Congou Tea for domestics 3s 6d 3s 6d
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1th Finest Taploca imported 5s 6s 8d 0s 8d
2th Finest Hencoolea Claves 3s 0d 0s 9d
2th Finest Hencoolea Claves 3s 0d 0s 9d
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2th Finest Hencoolea Claves 3s 0d 0s 1s
4th Very best Cayenns Pepper 5s 4d

All goods afterwards ordered will be sent warranted equal to these samples.

EORGE and JOHN DEANE, SADDLERS and HARNESS MAKERS, invite attention to their Gig, Tandem, and Carriage Harness, manufactured on their own premises, by workmen of much experience, and under the direction of foremen of superior ability and skill. Their leather is invariably dressed by first-rate London curriers, the furniture is also of the best town manufacture, and G. and J. Deans warrant that the preductions of their manufactory cannot be surpassed for beauty, strength, and cheapness, by any other house. Horse clothing made to order; canteens of best seasoned wood. Deane's London-made whips, and all articles for stable and travelling use in large variety.—No. 2, Arthur-street East, opening to the Monument, London-bridge.

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Is MONEN' dress-mart (you know where)
A very wonderful affair?
Have not itstriumplis been unfurl'd
In ev'ry corner of the world?
Does ev'ry body talk about
MONES and SON?—"Without a doubt." DOUBT.

MOSES and SON?—" Without a doubt."
Do sentlemen of taste admire
MOSES and SON'S superb attire?
Is matchless excellence display'd
In all their articles of trade?
Do short, and tall, and thin, and atout.
Adopt this dress?—" Without a doubt." And are the articles so strong
That they will hat the wearer long?
And do they stand the "wear and tear
Of any that may chance to wear?
Do persons seldom wear them out
However long?—"Without a doubt."

And are the clothing prices such As any cyou very, yery much?

It MOSEs and his 80% agree To study strict economy?

And mny you get a suit right out For little pay?—"Without a doubt."

LIST OF PRICES. READY MADE.

LIST OF PRICES.

£ a. d. Coats in every material adapted for the season in every variety of style and fashion to order, from 0 18 0 Quilting Vests, 6s et each, or 8 for - 0 19 0 Cashmere, in every variety of pattern - 0 8 Satin, plain, or fancy - 14 Cloth or casimere do - 0 19 0 Heet single milled do - 0 12 0 Spring Trousers in every pattern - 0 4 8 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 18 0 Spring Trousers in every pattern - 0 18 6 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 18 0 Spring Trousers in every - 0 10 6 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled Albert and - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle milled - 0 Ringle mill Tweed Taglioni, from 0 7 6
Cashmerette Codringtons
and Taglionis 0 18 6
Summer Coats in every description and make, including the Registered
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Blouses in every material 0 2 3
Splendid pattern Summor
Vests
Cashmere and Porsian in
endless variety - 0 4 6
Black and Fancy Satins 0 0 0
Fancy Trousers - 0 4 6
Hlack ditto - 9 0 8
Dreas Coat - 1 0 0
Frock ditto - 1 3 0 Spring Trousers and Department of the Pattern Single milled Albert and Victoria ditto
Best or Black dross do Dross Coats
Does manufactd.

Frock ditto

A new work, entitled "Past. Present, and Future," with directions for self-measurement, may be had on applications or forward from the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control

Dost free.

Mourning to any extent at 5 Minntes notice.

Oaskave.—Any article purchased, or made to measure, if not approved of, will be immediately sechanged, or the money returned.

Fig. E. MOES and SON, Tailors, Woollen Drapers, Clothierd, Fitters, Hoolers, Outfitters, and General Warehousemen, regret to be obliged by guard the public against imposition, but have learned that the sale of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the companies of the

London.

Observe the Address, R. MOSES and SON, 154, 185, 186, 884 187, Maries, and SS, 84, 85, and 86, Alegate, City, London
Novice...The entrance to the Bespoke Department is at 84, Alegate, and N.H. No business transacred at this Entablishment from Exercise the Revening till sunset on Naturday Evening, when it is received to clock.

Printed at the Whitefriars Printing office, Bouver's first clusts of Whitefriars, in the City of London, by Jones Number 7, Ridgmount-place, Rampathefries, in the Landon of Number 4, Fairfield parties of Ramchester, in the Country of Linear Parties of Ramchester, in the Country of Linear Parties of Ramchester, in the parties of Ramchester, in the parties of Ramchester, in the parties of Ramchester, in the parties of Ramchester, in the parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parties of Linear Parti

# THE LEAGUE.

No. 145.--Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1846.

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#### NOTICE.

All persons having claims upon the COUNCIL of the LEAGUE are requested to send in their accounts forthwith to the Offices, Newall's Buildings, Manchester, that they may be discharged.

By Order of the Council,

Joseph Hickin, Sceretary.

#### FAREWELL ADDRESS

Our task is concluded, our labours are at an end. We have seen the great principles for which we have struggled through seven years of doubt and difficulty brought to a triumphant issue, and permanently established in the legislation of the empire. The records of Parliament are the evidence of our services; the freedom for which wise men wrote, and good men sighed, and brave men struggled, has been won peacefully, honourably, and completely. Laws devised by a jentous, monopolising, and ungrateful spirit to restrain the bounties of Providence, and fetter the energies of an industrious, a brave, and a loyal people, have been swept from the statute-book to take their place in the records of unhonoured history. We have extended the right hand of fellowship to every nation upon earth, and laid the foundation of a brotherhood which will unite the whole family of man.

Compared with such a victory the triumphs of conquerors and the achievements of heroes sink into insignificance. Our march has been stained by no blood—our success is sullied by no tear. There is no regret in the bosom of the victor, and there soon will be none in the heart of the vanquished, for ours is the triumph not of force but of reason; not of ambition, but of benevolence; not of a party, but of the united empire; and we might add, of universal humanity. As there is nothing to cloud the joy of present success, so is there no painful association connected with the history of the agitation by which that success was obtained. Our march from the starting point has been steadily onwards; our course has never swerved from the single object which we had resolved to pursue, and our means have been as noble as our end.

For the first time in the world's history a great revolution has been accomplished without physical force being so much as mentioned in the whole struggle. Convinced of the power of intelligent opinion, we set ourselves to develope that intelligence and to form that opinion. We foresaw that our mission should be educational, and we accepted its conditions. The League undertook to instruct the people, to reform the economic creed of the country, and to overthrow the fallacies devised by an ignorant selfishness, and supported by an unthinking credulity. We had no bribes to offer our converts; on the contrary, large sacrifices were required from all who joined our cause. So hopeless did our enterprise appear when first undertaken, that it was regarded as something little short of insanity. Hope and encouragement, however, grow rapidly around us. We asked men to inquire, to investigate, and to examine, and we found that every one who thus exercised his mind ended by adopting our sentiments.

The system of lectures was an early and necessary part of our educational course; the gentlemen employed for this purpose by the League spread the doctrines of Free Trade through the length and breadth of the land, and the reception which they everywhere met convinced the Council that there was a mass of sound opinion spread over the country which only required to be organised and concentrated to attain its object. Nothing was more surprising than the rapidity with which sentiments of sympathy and confidence were developed among the Traderic Community of feeling became the

bond of friendship, and it was cemented by community of suffering.

The financial and manufacturing distress which the Free Traders clearly saw would be the result of a perverse code of commercial legislation after sending before it a promonitory shadow, spread a deep gloom over all the branches of British industry, but more especially over those engaged in the production of textile fabrics. The ministers of religion met to protest against a system which violated the first principles of Christianity, and outraged every precept of the gospel. Appeals were made to the Government of the country by deputation after deputation, but instruction had not penetrated into high places-the educational mission of the League remained still incomplete. An outbreak of a singular character in the manufacturing districts equally attested the distress of the operatives and the strength of their moral principle. The League held out to them hope and encouragement; they were saved from the wild excesses of despuir, and tranquillity was restored without bloodshed. Men at a distance were astonished and perplexed by such a phenomenon. They called for inquiry, and it was granted; the investigation only showed that physical suffering had prompted to the movement, and that moral principle had brought it to a peaceful end.

The crisis passed over; a more prosperous period arrived produced by the causes which the League had accurately predicted, and attended by all the circumstances which it had minutely forefold. The soundness of our principles had thus been tested by the two extremes of fortune; our own confidence in their truth was strengthened; the process of conviction was accelerated, and new converts gathered around us every day. We had multitudes of recruits, and not a single renegate; countless volunteers, and not one desorter. The League had taught the lessons upon which events supplied a commentary; the evidence of the truths we inculerated was brought within the daily range of every man's experience.

For a long time the monopolists viewed the progress of Free Trade opinions with apathy or indifference; sound opinion had already taken a deep root in the country before they showed themselves conscious of its existence. At length they discovered their danger, and began to prepare for defence. All the fallacies which Adam Smith had exposed, and his followers demolished, were dragged from obscurity and obstruction, and were reiterated in nearly the same words and syllables at every farmer's dinner and agricultural association. But the Free Traders had gained an immense advantage by forcing the monopolists to speak out. Fallacy after fallacy was domolished as fast as it appeared; farmers began to think, and labourers to reason; they saw the monopolists ever shifting their ground-driven from pillar to post, and from post to pillar-while the Free Traders constantly preserved the same simplicity and consistency of

Publication was one of the earliest modes of diffusing sound principle which the League adopted. Tracts were disseminated through a large portion of the electoral body, and a journal was established in Manchester as a record of proceedings. When the increased importance and interest of the debates on Mr. Villiers's motion gave evidence that the time of a decisive struggle was approaching, the journal was removed to London, where it took the name of THE LEAGUE. Like the body which it represented the journal strictly confined itself to the discussion of Free Frade and its collateral topics, holding itself independent of every political party, unawed by the frowns of power, and inaccessible to the blandishments of seduction. No man, no journal, and no institution, can be expected to please everybody;

but there never was a journal so widely circulated against which fewer complaints were made, either in public or in private. Whatever may be thought of our pretensions to talent, we believe that no one will contest our claims to temper and discretion, oven under circumstances which might have rendered a little warmth excusable, if not justifiable. It is neither our wish, nor our purpose, to enter into any details of the management; but we may state that it is an unprecedented event in literary history for a journal, devoted exclusively to a single topic, to maintain a permanent interest for its readers through anything like the period over which our publication has extended. A progressive increase of demand is, at least, some evidence of sustained influence; and though the paper was published at a price which rendered it improfitable as a pecuniary speculation, we have reason to know that this was more than compensated by the subscribers it procured to the general fund.

There was one department of the business of the League, unconnected with its educational mission, which has excited much attention on account of its constitutional importance; we mean the registration. Sir Robert Peel was the first to proclaim that the battle of the constitution should be fought in the registration courts, and his party found the benefit of following his advice. As the League de pended for success solely on constitutional means, it was necessary, as the combat deepened, to investigate the means which the constitution had placed at their disposal. By the ancient laws of the realm the possession of a forty shilling freehold confers a vote in a county; and hence Free Tradors were urged to procure such freeholds, the League providing proper agency to accilitate their acquisition. It has been absurdly supposed that some of those freeholds were purchased from the League fund; but in every instance they were hought and paid for by the individual Free Trader, the League only procuring for the purchaser legal aid and guidance in effecting the transfer. Had the existence of monopoly been protracted to a new Parliament, we have little doubt that the League system of registration would have been found as effective in other counties as it proved to be in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The announcement of the ministerial measures just brought to a successful issue under the guidance of Sir R. Peel, tested the strength and consistency of the League. It was supposed that it should of necessity declare either for one party of the other; but it held to its independent course, and submitted to the house its demand for total, immediate, and unqualified repeal. When that motion was rejected, it refused to play the factions game of the monopolists, but steadily supported the Minister who "paid 17s. 6d. in the pound, and gave good security for the remaining half-crown."

Let it be remembered that the Free Trade agitation was the only movement exclusively originating with, and conducted by, the middle classes recorded in British history. The League sought no aristocratic leader, and submitted to no titled guidance; it was perfect democracy with all the unity of a despotism; it had no recognised head in whom its powers were concentrated, no absolute leader by whom its proceedings were uniformly directed. When any business was to be done, the fit man was found to volunteer without the trouble of a search; and he took the lead in his selected department until his mission was accomplished. Mutual agreement and mutual confidence supplied the place of command and obedience; and hence the steadiness of the power applied effectually prevented any de langement of the machinery. Everywhere in the League the spirit of self-sacrifice destroyed the spirit of soldshness so often apparent in offer asso-

ciations. The desire of all was to have the good offected; but the individual instrumentality was never brought into question. But the League itself was founded in self-sacrifice to an extent unparalleled in the world. The members of the Council were not idle men of fashion, on whose hands time hung heavy; as little were they professional politicians, taking up an agitation as a means of opening paths to place and power. They were all merchants and manufacturers to whom their countinghouses, their warehouses, and their factories were more valuable and precious than any offices which it is in the power of the Crown to bestow. Splendid as were their pecuniary donations, their devotion of their time and toil to the cause was a far heavier tax, and involved a greater amount of loss. They had no ambition to gratify; and, as the event proves, so far from seeking to make the Lengue a leverage for personal elevation, they have resolved on its dissolution the moment that its object has been ac-

Many zealous friends of the cause will no doubt grieve over the dissolution of the League, and regret that its machinery was not applied to effect some other social improvement. But the League has never broken faith with the public. The most precious point in its history is its unsulfied honour; and this must be preserved not only without taint, but without suspicion. To preserve the organisation and machinery of the Lengue, and hand over the direction to come other association formed for a different object, however beneficial, would be inconsistent with the promises made from the beginning of the agitation, and would violate, if not the letter most certainly the spirit of the League's engagements. Hitherto there has been the most perfect unanimity in the working of the League. Never was there so large a body in which there was so Hule, not merely of desension, but even of differance of opinion. But this manimity would be at an end the moment that it became necessary to choose a new subject for new exertions, and the result would exhibit a majority with little reason to boart, and a minority with much reason to complain.

Singleness of object has been one of the chief elements of the success which has crowned the efforts of the League. There were many occasions in the course of the struggle when a large addition of strength seemed likely to be sained by allying our cause with other demands more or less popular, but the seductions of temporary advantage were resisted, for the League relied for success more on strength of argument than on strength of numbers. Truth must in the long run prevail, and its progress would be retarded if it had been presented to the public mind in such a form as to distract attention. To have superadded another topic to our legitimate demand would have alienated many whose aid was desirable, not merely to increase our strength, but to smooth down the prejudices of adversaries. We sought to win our way, not by conquest, but by conviction; our victory has therefore been noiseless, and for that very reason is likely to be perpetual in its results. The silent ebb and flow of occan produces eternal changes on the continents of the earth, but the effects produced by the storm and the tempest are either efficed by time or again altered by the next convulsion of the elements. Truth, like its Divine Author, is to be found neither in the whirlwind nor the earthquake, but in the still small voice.

That on some occasions more violent language was used than the occasion required, or than strict docorum might sanction, may safely be confessed; the immensity of the means was inseparable from the excess. An agitation spread over the whole extent of Britain must have occasionally fretted and foamed, like the tide when it passes over a shoal or is impeded by a rock; but these aberrations were lost in the general advantage; the dashing of the spray was but an incident in the onward flow of the mighty waters. There was an element of safety present in the very worst of these perils—the perfect publicity of the League's proceedings; and publicity is the best means to keep men innocent and

to keep them rational. In none of the League's proceedings was there any vulgar denunciation against the Government, or any mysterious admiration of revolution; we had no crime to conceal, and no folly of which we should be ashamed.

The objects of the League were national, not selfish; they sought to protect the rights of the indus trious from the wrongs of the idle; to secure to every man who sought to earn his subsistence "a fair day's wages for a fair day's work," and they sought this as earnestly for the labourers of Dorset shire as for the operatives of Lancashire. They showed that protection deprived labour of its fair remuneration, and they listened to the cry of distress which the agricultural labourers uttered in their homely but forcible language, "We be proteeted, but we be starving." If the country is now convinced that the condition of the agricultural population imperatively demand investigation and redress, it is owing to the Lengue; -- if the Arcadian pictures of rural felicity which floated before the poetic vision of lords and squires have been dispelled to reveal the naked realities of misery and degradation they concealed, it is owing to the League; if the ravages committed by game on the property of the farmer, and the moral ruin brought by Game Laws on the character of the labourer have been so exposed as to render the continuance of such a system impossible, it is owing to the League; if the wrong which insecurity inflicts on the tenant, and the limitation which the same insecurity affixes to the amount of employment for the labourer be now notorious and palpable, it is owing to the League. In fact, the League has done more for the agricultural than for the manufacturing interest; and ere long farmers will hallow its me more more affectionately and more devotedly than

Our association, like every other institution, must perish when its destiny is fulfilled; but it leaves to the world the rich bequest of a bright example. Henceforth let no labourers in the cause of enlightened philauthropy despair of final success. The stripling with his stone and sling has proved adequate to the overthrow of the mighty giant. Noble ends sought by noble means more than compensate for any original disproportion of physical strength and power. The League is truly a great fact—a fact gained for humanity, and established as an eternal precedent in human improvement. "Recorded honours shall gather round its monument," for its origin was in rectitude, its course in justice, and its end in blessing.

#### A GLIMPSE INTO THE NEW ERA.

In terminating our labours, we have the cheering satisfaction, that we have not merely achieved one vast reform, and uprooted one gigantic wrong, but laid the foundation, and cleared the way, for a wide variety of social and moral blessings. The benefits of the repeal of the Corn Law do not begin and end with the removal of a single vicious and oppressive enactment from the statute-book-nor oven with the definitive establishment of just and true principles of economical legislation, applicable throughout the entire range of our commercial and industrial interests. They are not measurable by the rules and terms of economical science; they transcend altogether the formulas by which that science expresses the growth of the wealth of nations; they are not to be described in the statisticians' dialect of "facts and figures." Our commercial and in dustrial reform will be found very fruitful and far reaching in its scope and tendency-more so, perhaps, than any of us have yet habitually realised to our thoughts. The repeal of the Corn Law opens up a wide future of hopeful and beneficent endeayour to the philanthropist, the educator, the social reformer, and-as inclusive of these, in the new social era on which we are about to enter—to the

The great fact that will ever render this year, 1816, memorable in our annals may truly be called a "revolution." History has given the name to

many and many a political event far less worthy. it—containing for less of the plements of social change and progression. It is characteristic of the revolution of ours, that it implies a fundamentally new conception, on the part of the ruling power of these realms, of the legitimate functions of legislation and government The whole science and and of statesmanship are simplified. A fallacy which absorbed the time of the legislature, misdirected [ ... attention, wasted its strength, perverted its moralis, and fatally damaged its Character and influence for ever swept away. Unce for all it is ruled, that legislation and government have henceforth nothing to do with taking care of special class interest. Parliament is relieved of the endless, hopeless profitless, and impossible task of making special statutory provision for the lucrativeness of the that, or the other line of business. Never again will Parliament concern itself with guaranteeing the profits of any class of traders or producers... never again will it be regarded as among the duties of a statesman to settle the selling pair of wheat. From this time forth, the legislature will no more think of controlling and regulating the supply and price of the people's food, than of controlling wind and regulating the rain. The law of Parliament will no more meddle with the law of trade than with the law of tides. The merchant, the manufacturer, the farmer, will mind his basiness -and the statesman his.

A great deliverance this! Having rolled awaythis enormous obstruction from the path of legislation and statesmanship, we have now a clear field for those social reforms, which have so long him in abevance, while our politicians were vainly haraing themselves about matters with which politicins have properly nothing to do. The repeal of the Corn Law has set free all the best minds of the country for the highest work that can engage the thoughts and efforts of public men. The inteller tual and moral forces that have fought and won the battle of economical truth and justice, are at length liberated for other and yet nobler service. It is now open to our reformers to gird themselves to the task of assailing and subduing social and moral ills which it seemed little better than hopeless to attack so long as the spirit and power of evil had the vantage ground of a law that perplexed every social relation, made the cojoyment of every social blessing preceditions, and poisoned the very breath of society by tainting the moral atmosphere with injustice. We are now acliberty to carry the war against ignorance, vice, crime, and misery. Sanitary reforms, criminal-law reforms plans for the more effectual prevention of crime, and reformation of the criminal, may now be hope fully pressed on the attention of a legislature and a public released from the labours of assailing or defending a law for giving corn-growers a higher price than their corn is worth. We are now at leisure to grapple with the difficulties of that which is coming to be the first and foremost of national questions-THE EDUCATION OF THE PROPER;—as the people themselves will be placed, by the improved conditions under which their industry will henceforward be carried on, in a better state to receive the blesse ings of education, and to appreciate and respond to the endeavours of an enlightened Government. We may say, of all questions of domestic policy affecting the intellectual, moral, and social amelioration of the people, that they will now, for the first time within the memory of man, begin to have fair play.

It will ever be matter for animating and joying reflection to those who have toiled and struggled together in the great cause now happily triumphant, that they leave their country in a more hopeful condition than they found it, with reference, not merely to those economical interests which have been the more immediate aim of their agitation, but to all the higher ends of philanthropy and patriotism. The one great and decisive reform which we have leagued ourselves to achieve will be, directly or indirectly, the fruitful parent of an endless sories of beneficent and peaceful changes. The whole social atmosphere is purified. An endless for that they gorated public opinion, they securities for that they

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sical and material well-being of the industrious millions which is the indispensable pre-requisite of social and moral improvement; an abolition of the old traditionary landmarks of party contention—and a treaty of peace and amity between classes whom a false and vicious legislation had placed in temporary relations of antagonism;—such is the legacy of the expiring Anti Corn-Law Leadue to that New Era which dates from its euthanasia of victory.

#### ANNALS OF THE LEAGUE.

If there be anything unusual in noticing works which are as yet unpublished, and to a great extent miwritten, we have to plead in excuse that when they are completed and published, our Journal will have ceased to exist. No one will deny the great interest and importance of an accurate record of the great Free Trade movement which has been just brought to a successful issue; and there is not among all who have taken part in its proceedings a gentleman so peculiarly qualified to become its historian as Mr. A. W. Paulton. He sat by its cradle, he shared in all the toils of its life, and he has largely contributed to its glorious consummation. Seven months before any society had been formed to organise agitation, the lectures on the Corn Laws which he delivered under peculiar circumstances at Bolton directed public attention to the food monopoly as the great source of mercantile and manufacturing distress; and the public meetings he subsequently held in all the principal seats of our national industry, during the autumn and winter of 1838, led to the formation of associations for emancipating trade from the injurious restrictions with which it was fettered. Mr. Paulton was in fact the immediate precursor of the League, and it was chiefly through his exertions that delegates were assembled from the principal maunfacturing districts during the spring of 1839, at Brown's Hotel, in Palace-yard, from which assembly the League sprung. The preceding months may be regarded as a period of gestation, during which the League was struggling into existence; its proper birth-day was the 19th of March, 1839, the day after the rejection of Mr. Villiers's motion in the House of Commons. For the last three years Mr. Paulton has acted as the managing director of the League resident in London, and has superintended all its metropolitan proceedings. The ability with which these were directed, afford as decisive a proof of his competency as his position does of the unrivalled opportunities he had for acquiring minute and accurate information. His work will come before the public with all the weight of official authority. No other writer could possess equal advantages, and we know of few prepared to use such advantages with equal diligence, equal talent, and equal integrity. Such a historical record, as we are certain of obtaining at his hand, will be in literature what Herbert's historical picture will be in art, the only memorial of our great agitation, sanctioned by the approbation and assisted by the personal evidence of the great leaders of the movement.

THE "ECONOMIST" AND "OUR READERS."

The Economist newspaper, as our readers will learn on reference to our advertising columns, is about to enlarge its sphere of usefulness by the immediate addition of several new and important features. These changes have been rendered necessary in some measure by the great reform that has just been achieved in our commercial policy. The principles of Free Trade, adopted to so large an extent in the Corn Bill and Tariff, are no longer the main or exclusive objects of public interest. Devoted to the advocacy of these principles during a period of three years, the Economist has laboured with a zeal, ability, and fidelity, that has contributed in no small degree to the triumphant issue of our long struggle. No tribute that we could pay to the able condictor of that journal would adequately express our sense of the powerful aid he has rendered to our cause and principles thus acknowledging our obligations, we are anxious at the same time to testify our future confidence in the integrity and vigilance with which the further application of these principles will hereafter be maintained. A wide futurity of fruitful reforms remains yet to be accomplished in our commercial and financial policy. An important, if not the chief portion of the business of the legislature for some years will necessarily lie in this direction. The Economist needs no vindication from us of its woll-merited claims to public confidence and support. We are, however, about to close our labours as journalists. The work for which the Loague was organised is accomplished. Whatever remains to be done, the silent and steady growth of public opinion will specifily realise. As a guide for that opinion will specifily realise. As a guide for that opinion will specifily realise. that confidence which has been reposed in ourselves, we, are anxious — most anxious, to recommend to our readers the claims of the Economist newspaper. It has calready a large and influential circulation throughout the moreantile manufacturing, and banking establishments of the country. We should rejoice to extend its influence among the great bulk of the middle and trading classes. It is impossible to estimate too highly the importance of popularising effectually the principles of which it has been so logical and practical an exponent.

As one means of conducing to this result, the changes contemplated by the Economist are most opportune. It is intended to associate all the elements of a perfect political and family newspaper, with the less attractive but most valuable department of commercial economics. Every member of the family circle will herein find its appropriate food. Each department, whether commercial, political, or literary, will be rendered as complete as possible, and conducted we have no doubt with an ability equal to that which has hitherto characterised its main features. It will therefore combine advantages which we will venture to say few other newspapers can adequately contest. For further particulars we must refer to the prospectus in our advertising columns, and content ourselves with thus cordially recommending the Economist to the confidence and support of our readers.

#### FREE TRADE CLUB.

This establishment, we are glad to learn, is in a prosperous and growing condition. Since the commencement of the present year, there has been a large accession of town and country members, and there is little doubt that the Free Trade Club will be one of the most numerous and widely supported institutions of the kind in the kingdom. It is as most of our readers are aware, a Club composed of gentlemen who seek the abolition of all protective and differential duties, and has been brought into existence for the purpose of enabling such persons to come into friendly contact with Member of Parliament, and others who are interested in the emancipation of capital and industry from the restrictions which have been placed upon their productive powers.

We are exceedingly happy that this Club survives the dissolution of the League. In the progress of the great struggle for the abolition of the Corn Laws, men of all political parties, in every part of the country, have been brought acquainted with each other; and while they have been zealously labouring for a common object, now happily achieved, they have been led mutually to desire that their communion should not terminate with the disbanding of the great League army. We have ourselves strongly participated in this desire, and we know that such is the feeling also of every gentleman in Parliament and out of Parliament distinguished for his efforts to obtain the victory we are now celebrating. The FREE TRADE CLUB now presents itself as a place of occasional resort for all who have in times past fought shoulder to shoulder in the holy war The terms of admission (which we give below) are such as to enable Free Traders throughout the kingdom to belong to it without inconvenience; and its advantages are such as to offer ample compensation for the annual fee, though the visits of a country member to the metropolis should be seldom and brief. Here, then, we hope to meet, from time to time, those who have been our fellow-labourers in the cause of Free Trade. Already the Club numbers amongst its supporters and regular frequenters the men to whom the nation is returning its thanks for the greatest national benefit ever obtained by peaceful means; and we cannot doubt that many hundreds will hasten to enrol themselves on the same list, and so perpetuate their connection with Free Trade measures, and Free Trade men:

TERMS.

Resident Members (within fifty miles of London)
Entrance Fee
Annual Subscription
Non-Resident Members (beyond fifty miles from London) Annual Subscription
No Entrance Fee intrance from any resident members

No Entrance Fee is/required from non-resident members. Rule V. Each candidate for admission shall be proposed as a Free Trader, by one member (on personal knowledge) and seconded by another; and the candidate's name and usual place of residence, his rank, profession, or other description, must be forwarded to the Secretary (Mr. A. Moore) at the time of application.

The situation of the Club House, 27, Regent-street, is peculiarly convenient for country members—intersecting, as it does, the great thoroughfares of Piccadilly and Regent-street. Public conveyances to all parts of the town and its suburbs pass the door at all times of the day and night.

A list of sleeping apartments, in the immediate neighourhood of the Club, is kept by the Secretary, and members intending to come to town can, by writing to him, and stating particulars, have an apartment engaged, and ready for them

Having thus placed before our realers the objects, the principles, and the terms of the Free Trade Club, it only remains that we should recommend it to the attention of our friends throughout the country, who, we feel persuaded, have only to be aware of the facts we have placed before them to be induced to join it.

HERBERT'S PICTURE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE.

We have great pleasure in recording the progress of this truly national work. Mr. Horbert has nearly completed the likeness of Cobden, and has sketched the heads of several other leaders. His portrait of Cobden has an intellectual life, such as we have rarely seen in the works of modern artists. and is one of the most revealing of mental character which we have ever beheld. The grouping is pre-ominently artistic; it conveys those ideas of earnestness and attention which were the marked characteristics of every meeting of the Council, and there is a delicacy in the management of the light and shade which makes all the accessories of the picture subservient to the principal design. We may now safely predict that Mr. Herbert's work will have very few rivals in the English school of historic art, -- a school to which it essentially belongs by the sincerity of purpose which is manifest in every part of the artist's delineation. We may also add, that the undertaking is one highly creditable to the spirit and enterprise of Mr. Agnew, who has entered into the speculation at his own individual risk, and who looks for no other patronage than that which the interests and merits of the work will win from a discorning public. We carnestly hope, indeed we confidently believe, that Free Traders throughout the empire will be auxious to possess a historical memorial of the greatest social victory that has ever been obtained by peaceful means; and that Mr Agnew will obtain the reward due to his patriotic anxiety to render this pictorial record worthy of the great event which it commemorates.

## THE MAN THAT PLAYED PUNCH. (From the Nonconformist.)

When the noisiest of pappets has talked his fill, and the dog Toby has snapped and snarled through the part which was the consideration for his supper and the cracked trampet is still, there is a shuffling of something like a curtain, and out there steps a man as little resembling any of the preceding performers as fancy could invent, who nevertheless was undeniably the spring and mover of all that has been squenked, or barked, or with less decorous inarticulate explosion discharged upon the public ear.

Lo! now, when the game is up, the drawing of the curtain reveals the authors and movers of the agitation which men mistook for Chartists. The protest of the protectionist peers has been made with paste and seissors, from the bills in which the migratory orators of the Northern Star were wont to challenge to wordy war the travelling preachers of the League. Not a word is omitted of what is weak, no added of what is strong. Surely neither Punch nor his manager will age to make princeton.

nagers will ever be made ministers.

It is serious matter of hope, that none who have been capable of committing themselves to such a protest, will ever be found in a position to influence the fortunes of the country. In a few years the matter will have grown into a builesque; or men at large will have so outgrown it, that it will be like those dresses of our ancestors which cannot in these days be looked upon with a grave countenance. The West Briton who wanted to lengthen his cout by sewing at the bottom a piece taken from the top, will be held only a type of a lordly protectionist and his commercial policy. Our children's children will wonder at what school men were educated for such a process of arithmetic; and most of all they shall admire the fatality by which, being simple, they could not refrain from chronicling their simplicity.

OUR EARLY FRIENDS.—In a recent article upon the House of Lords, we stated, that only three peers of the realm hadjoined the League, viz., Lords Rudnor, Ducie, and Kinnaird. A correspondent has, however, reminded us of the services of Earl Buchan, a peer of Scotland, who has for many years been a consistent supporter of our cause, and who joined the League, and presided at our meetings at a time when it was very unfashionable to do so. We should be sorry if, in the exultation over new converts, we should lose sight of one of our early friends.

MANCHESTER REFORM ASSOCIATION.—At a numerous meeting of this association on Tuesday, held at the Albion Hotel, Mr. Alderman Potter was elected chairman of the association, in the room of his father the late Sir Thomas Potter; and Mr. John Moorhouse was elected secretary of the association, in the place of the late Mr. Richard Webb.

REPRESENTATION OF NEWCASTLE UNDER-LYNG.—Mr. Geo. Graville Francis Egorion, the eldest son of Lord Francis Egorion, the eldest son of Lord Francis Egorion, the eldest son of Lord Francis Egorion, and nephew of the Duke of Sutherland, has announced himself, in the following terms, as a candidate for the representation of this horough:—"Having seen in the newspapers a letter addressed to you by one of your present members, declaring his intention of retiring from the representation of your borough in the event of a dissolution of Parliament, I take the liberty of announcing my intention of becoming a candidate for the honour of your suffrages at the earliest opportunity; and I shall venture to hope that the explanation of my political views and opinions will be such as to secure for me your confidence and support." Although the political views of the honourable candidate cannot be gathered from the above address, it is understood that he will come forward upon independent principles, irrespective of party, adopting the conduct of his noble father as the gaide of his political life. The high claims of the noble family with which Mr. Egerton is connected—Trentham, the seat of the Duke of Sutherland, being within four miles of Newcastle—are of themselves sufficient to insure the honougentleman's success.—Times.

Exportation of Wheat.—Some days ago, in remarking upon the state of the corn markets in Belgium, we expressed an oninion that, some of our wheat in bond would be exported to that country. During the last week, we find that about 20,000 quarters of the lower qualities have been bought at prices from 34a, to 43a, per quarter for that purspose,—Merning Offenicle.

#### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE PRES TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION OF 1846.

Twenty-fourth Week, ending Saturday, July 4.

A few years ago there was a gentleman in the House of Commons, whose manners were much more eccentric than his judgment was profound, and who, in this respect, was a tolerable rival of one of those gallant colonels, whom Mr. O'Connell has transmitted to future ages in an intaortal parody. The name of the senator may be recollected from the fact, that in 1837 he was committed by the Lord Chancellor for contempt of the Court of Chancery; and the House of Commons refused to interfere in his behalf. On one occasion, our worthy representative made a vehement speech. though we doubt if it has been embalmed in Hansard. It was on some really unimportant matter, which, however, to his perceptions, seemed to involve the ruin of our glorious constitution. With vehement action, and in excited language, he declared his determination to stand by that flug which, he affirmed, had floated over us, unahered and unchanged, for a thousand years. A thousand years is a long time for a flag to float, unaltered and unchanged. Lord Brougham, on a recent journey in the south of France, took shelter from the noon day sun in the porch of an old church, saturated in a secluded rural district. Here he was struck by an affiche, or placard, nearly as perfect as it had come from the printer's hands, and which contained a copy of a Government edict issued during the first French revolution. The document had remained undisturbed and undestroyed for half a cent ry. But this was in the "sunny south;" and our damp climate, and restless spirits, are ill adapted for the preservation of literal or metaphocical flags or placards. Even in the British Museum the vivid colours of the paintings from the tombs of the Pharaohs are fading; and the Corporation of the city of London find it very hard to scrape a marble statue (Queen Anne, to wit) into pristine purity, when once it has been coated over with the coal dust of ages. No wonder, therefore, that those present in the House of Commons laughed when they heard of the metaphorical flag of the constitution floating unaltered and unchanged during a thousand years. The monomania, like the leprosy, has disappeared; and if ever it should again exhibit itself. the humanest method of cure will be to move that the honourable member subject to the attack be ordered to read patiently and continuously the whole series of the "statutes at large.

Yet Lord Stanley was very near being violently affected by a fit of the "unaltered and unchanged." In that great speech of his, which he himself regards with some complacency, be answered that the principle of PROTECTION had been recognised by the legislature during five centuries. There is something excessively droll in such an impudent assumption. Dark and barbarons as were the notions and the customs of our ancestors, the great object of early legis. lation, however stupidly it was attempted, was to cheapen the price of food. No doubt the Richmonds, the Ashburtons the Stanhopes, the Bentineks, and the Stanleys say, that anodern protection is identical in spirit with ancient protection, namely, to secure and to cheapen home-grown produce. But the darkest night is not more different from the brightest day, than the circumstances of England now, and five centuries ago. The people of London can now get corn with more certainty from Australia than they could then from Lincoln, to say nothing of the ten thousand other considerations which affect the question. The possession of the soil has, of course, been always an important matter in this country: but protection, in its true, genuine, modern acceptation, only began when increase of population taught landlords the value of their property; when, by BOUNTIES on exportation, they enhanced the price of their produce, by getting the nation to PAY them for sending corn abroad; and at last, when the population had outron their ability to supply, changing the bounty on exportation into a PENALTY on importation, and thus tying down a great nation to deal almost exclusively, at one chartered corn shop. Happily we are now reverting to a state of things, and to a state of feeling, which will lead a House of Commons, as in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to stare with amazement at the iden of BERAD being put amongst the " patents."

And even since 1815, what a curious and amusing history might be made, out of legislative doings and wrigglings with respect to corn! The Corn Bill of the latter year just mentioned, with its prohibition of importation so long as prices remained under 80s.; the rise of the price in 1816-17-say in eighteen months-from 53s. Id. to 112s. 7d., and then the rapid fall from 112s. 7d. to 74s., thus combining the baffling of the landlords, with the punishment of the people; the ery of agricultural distress during 1820-22; the grave proposal of Sir Thomas Lethbridge that there should be levied on all foreign corn a permanent duty of forty shillings a quarter; the no less grave proposal of Mr. Benett (who lives to weep over the ruin of his beloved protection) that there should be a permanent duty of twenty four shillings a anarter when the averages had reached 80s., and a drawback of 18s. on every quarter exported; the object being the same as that of the bounty system, to tempt exportation, and keep up home prices. Add to all this, that a Select Committee of the House of Commons, in 1821, had under its consideration a proposal for withdrawing the permission

and placing it in store. Indeed, the alternate nullying and witking of the agricultural interest, ever since 1816, remind us of the Lincoln's Inn beggar, as described by Gay, who whined over his crutch in the day time, but used it for knocking down at night. Thus does Gay, in his Trivia, or 'Art of Walking the Streets of London," published in 1712, caution the metropolitan pedestrian:

"Where Lincoln's Inn, wide space, is railed around, Cross not with venturous step; there oft is found The larking thief, who, while the daylight shone, Made the walls echo with his begging tone; That crutch, which late compassion moved, shall wound Thy blending head, and fell thee to the ground. Though thou art tempted by the linkman's call, Yet trust him not along the lonely wall; In the mid-day he'll quench the flaming brand. And share the booty with the pilfering band.

We say this in no spirit of taunt or of triumph. The moral victory we have won wholly indisposes us to trample on a fallen foe. Animated not by the lust of conquest, but by the spirit of conviction, we have fought to bring, not merely our friends but our adversaries, under the beneficent reign of sound principle. We have done this, as Sir Robert Peel has avouched, by "appeals to reason;" and the exult tation of our triumph is, or at least ought to be, a reasonable one. Nevertheless there are good grounds for historical reminiscences. If the children of Egypt were to remember for ever the Egyptian bondage out of which they were brought, the people of England (and we use the illustration with reverence, though at the risk of being termed "blas. phemous" by an Earl of Warwick) should never forget the dark days of monopoly. The agricultural mind has been pre-eminent for proving that "Tenterden steeple do be the cause of Goodwin sands;" and we are not yet fairly hunched into the great ocean of Free Trade. Should anything occur while we are on the slips of the three years' probation, there are Bentincks and Stanleys on the watch, ready to tell the farmers that if a sheep be stolen, or a stack takes fire, it is all owing to the want of protection! Public opinion must, therefore, remember what has been, as well as observe what is; and in that case, we may safely conclude that agricultural protection will be consigned to a dictionary of obselete phrases, and its history and meaning only hereafter to be found in some volume of the "Curiosities of Economic Legislation."

The legislative action of the ANTI-CORY-LAW LEAGUE on public opinion commenced in 1839. At that time, on the subject of protection, the House of Commons was a too faithful reflection of the House of Lords. The question of the Corn Laws had all but died out of recollection; and though the present SPEAKER of the House of Commons, Mr. C. S. Lefevre, in a report which he drew up in 1836, recommended a moderate fixed duty, it was quite true what Mr. COBDEN subsequently said, that in 1835, the eloquence of a Demosthenes would not have attracted attention to the importance of Free Trade. But, at the close of 1836, occurred the commercial collapse, arising out of the monetary crisis in the United States, and its action on our own commerce; and this collapse was accompanied by a slightly deflerent harvest. The foreign exchanges turned against us. Yet the cause or causes were very imperfectly understood A large exportation of bullion was going on; and this compelled a great contraction of commercial accommodation. which was aggravated by the discredit thrown on the best houses, owing to the American revulsion. But men abused the Bank of England, and forgot the sliding scale; they talked much of currency, and said little about corn. We struggled through 1837, and seemed to be recovering, when the deficient hurvest of 1838 plunged the country deeper into gloom and suffering. By this time, thinking men were laving their finger on the true cause of all our disasters. Colonel THOMPSON and Dr. Bowning originated the Anti-Corn-Law crusade; and Mr. PAULTON commenced the first of that series of "appeals to reason" which have ended in so signal a moral triumph. On the 13th of December, 1838, the Manchester Chamber of Commerce agreed on a petition to Parliament, praying for the total and immediate repeal of the corn and provision laws; and in January, 1839, the first meeting of deputies was held in Manchester. This led to the delegation which assembled in London on the commencement of the session-the memorable Anti-Corn-Law Parliament which met at Brown's Hotel, Palace Yard, in the spring of 1839. Dr. Bowniso was placed at the head of an EVIDENCE Committee; Mr. VILLIERS was selected to lead the battle in the House of Commons. Mr. VILLIERS moved "That this house will immediately resolve itself into a com mittee of the whole house, to take into consideration the act regulating the importation of foreign corn." He did not obtain even a respectful hearing. The division was called for, amidst the wildest hootings and outcries; and 344 against 197 rushed into the lobbies to silence a national demand.

In truth, we can hardly wonder at it. Protection had shot its roots into the soil; capital had been invested; mortgages made; incumbrances created; settlements assigned; leases contracted-all on the faith of the unjust and exclusive possession of the home market. A strong self-interest was the foundation of protection; and that foundation has become concrete. The "agricultural mind" sat in its arm-chair of statutable law; and the daughters of fraud and delusion, whose names are fallacy, clap-trap, and sentiment, waited lion starling in Exchequer bills should be applied by the Covernment for the purpose of buying up British wheat, bome market, the loss of which would bring ruin to millions, prevent their being the "real came of the distinct declaration to that areas, and spoke of capital invested in the soil, of labourers which he said alluding to the condition of the implication of prevent their being the "real came of the distinct declaration to that areas, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of putting a hypothetic case, in even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the length of the even went the len upon the portly personage. When public opinion came into

Then Clap-trap sung a song, the burden of which was "in. dependence of foreigners," and which implied that in the event of a war, our snug little island would supply us with all that we wanted, and enable us to laugh at all our enemies. And Sentiment, with grave aspect, would point to the "broad acres," and the village rustics, blooming with health, and redolent of content, all dancing on the village green; while in the dim distance tall chimneys vomiting clouds of smoke. partly disclosed and partly concealed the squalid regions where avarice counted its money bags, and ground humanity into "devil's dust." Public opinion was somewhat bewil dered; and retired, muttering that "much might be said on both sides."

We know not that we can better exhibit, in a few lines, a more vivid condensation of the fallacy, clap-trap, and seulment which were associated with the Corn Laws than by quoting a celebrated passage from a celebrated speech, which, in 1839, drew thunders of applause from all parts of the House of Commons. The orator has since bravely recanted his error. He has since applied his vigorous mind to the question, has spoken with a power and an eloquence which have been of immense benefit to the cause in its last struggle, and has proved his sincerity by submitting to the penalty which has followed his change of opinion and of action. With no feeling of disrespect towards Sir James GRAHAM, but the reverse, we quote the passage, because it embodies all that poetry could achieve in defence of a Corn Law, and represents to us historically the nature of the feeling prevalent in the minds of not a few of the working, a considerable portion of the middle, and nearly all the higher classes, in the year 1839;

" What change more cruel could despotism itself inflict than a change from the breezy call of meense-breathing morn, to a painful and grievous obedience to the sad sound of the factory bell; the relinquishment of the tha tehed cottage, the blooming garden, and the village green, for the foul garret or the dark cellar of the crowded city; the enjoyment of the rural walk of the innocent rustic Sabbath, for the debauchery, the tempts tions, the pestilence, the sorrows, and the sins of a congregated multitude? Where were their moralists, that their voices were not raised against the fearful consequences that would follow in its train? Talk of sending the Poles to Siberia, or the Hill Coolies from Coromandel to the Mauritius-the authors of the proposed change contemplated the perpetration, within the limits of their native land, of a cruelty far more atrocious. It was the first step towards making England the workshop of the world, dependent for its daily support upon Continental sup

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In this passage Sir James Graham re-echoed the prevalent feelings and opinions of a great bulk of the British public. That he was sincere in 1839 we have no reason to doubt; that he is sincere now we have ample evidence to show. Since 1839, "appeals to reason," official experience, the force of circumstances, the results of legislative experiment, and deliberate investigation, have shown him the fallacy of his fears; and the greatness of the change wrought in publie opinion may be inferred from the fact, that, with the approbation of a majority of the House of Commons, and the admiration of the British people, Sir James Graham concluded one of his many able speeches in 1846, by a quotation from Pope, as to the probable results of Free Trade:

"The time shall come, when free as air or wind, Unbounded Thames shall flow for all mankind, Whole nations enter with each swelling tide, And seas but join the regions they divide: Earth's distant ends our glories shall behold, And a new world launch forth to meet the old.

Amongst the most formidable of the antagonists which the Anti-Corn-Law League had to overcome, in the earlier portion of its career, were the believers in the "abstract" truth of Free Trade doctrines, but who denied their applicability to such a country as this. Strong minds are apt to undervalue this class of reasoners, and to speak of them with contempt. Of this, a somewhat whimsical example is given by Mr. Austen, in his "Province of Jurisprudence Determined." Speaking of the usual fallacious disjunction of theory and practice, he bursts out in the following characteristic way: "Tis true in theory, but then 'tis false in practice. This says NOODLE. And this he propoun with a look of profundity that were enough to make ye split. But with due and discreet deference to this worshipful and weighty personage, that which is true in theory is also true in practice."

So no doubt it appears to minds that can reason like Mr. Austen. But in the early stages of a great national controversy, before public optnion has been culightened on the subject, that generic oresture whom Mr. Austen contemptuously terms "Noodle," is really a "worshipful and mighty personage." For "Noodle" embraces a large portion of the average respectability and intelligence of the nation-cattious bankers, quiet merchants, sober shopkeepers, who revolve a new opinion a long time before they can persuade themselves to take it up-men who prefer being led to being driven, and who like to lean on authority. And we are not sure but that Sir Robert Peel himself, in the early stages of the Corn Law controversy, was a light and an example of Noodledom. He never denied the "abstract" truth of Free Trade principles—nay, he admitted them. In 1825, he joined with Mr. Huskisson in partially applying them in practice. As leader of the Opposition, he repeatedly told his followers that there was no special virtue in the sliding scale; and declared that he would not pledge himself to maintain it. His memorable speech of the 27th of Adense 1841, contained a distinct declaration to that area; and be

prevent the continuance of it-could offer a guarantee against the recurrence of it-I would earnestly advise a relaxation, an alteration,-nay, if necessary, a repeal of the Corn Laws." But hall-stones pattering on a pent-house make no impression; and abstract belief has little influence on many minds, until they come into positive contact with circumstances. When Sir Robert Peel assumed office in 1811, the responsibility of having to provide for a state of things indicated by the appalling state of Paisley, of Stockport, and of the manufacturing districts generally, made an indelible impression on him. He studied the report of the Import Duties' Committee, made in 1840; he tried the experiment of reducing the sliding scale; he revised the tariff; he listened attentively to Free Trade debates; again and again his countenance indicated the effect which the speeches of Mr. Villiens, Mr. Conden, and Mr. Bright, made upon him; his defence of the Corn Laws, growing feebler every session, indicated it still more; until at last, compelled by the force of argument, the power of truth, the demonstration of experience, and the danger to which the country was exposed from a deficient harvest, he plucked the idol from its niche, and dashed it on the ground.,

During 1840, the Anti-Corn-Law Lengue continued its up-hill work; and though Mr. VILLIERS again brought forward his annual motion, and was again defeated, by 300 to 177, the controversy was mainly carried on out of doors. In numerable were the pamphlets, the speeches, and the lectures. Grave, and even reverend men, rushed into cheap tracts, conjuring the working classes not to listen to selfish manufacturers, who, for an inappreciable fractional reduction on the price of a loaf, contemplated the ruin of the upper classes, and the bondage of the lower. Philosophic economists started unsolved problems, and in letters ad dressed to men high in office or station, expressed apprehension that this country could not "fight hostile tariffs with free imports." Professional men, attornies and doctors, assailed the "millocracy." Cotton lords would prove, so it was said, far worse despots than landlords. The Standard newspaper thought that England would be as happy and glorious, if all our manufacturing towns were razed to the ground. Yet in 1840 appeared Mr. Hume's Import Duties' Committee Report, one of the most memorable legislative "appeals to reason," by which the great contest has been carried on. And though Free Trade seemed to suffer a reverse at the general election of 1811, it must not be forgotten that the present Parliament was opened with a Free Trade Royal Speech; and Lord John Russell, even in the act of laying down his power, declared to the citizens of London his strong conviction, that though the people of England had repudiated the principles of commercial legis. lation proposed by the Whigs, yet they would discuss, hesitate, pause, and deliberate over, and finally adopt them!

The general election of 1811 gave us what was thought to be a protective administration; but it gave us, also, RICHARD COBDEN as a legislator. In 1842, the controversy which had been carried on chiefly out of doors, was transferred to the floor of the House of Commons. We had passed through a dreadful winter. The manufacturing districts were in an appalling condition. Paisley was living on publie bounty. Whole streets in Stockport were depopulated. Bolton endured a "famine siege." Workmen, wandering about idle and hungry, cheered the expression of the hope that "Captain Swing would take command." The commercial distress reached the metropolis; and the poor-rates in the city of London shot up enormously, because crowds of despairing creatures, flying from the "wolf" behind them, thought to find bread or food in the vast and wealthy capital of the country. A "Queen's Letter" called on the more fortunate to contribute to the support of the poor; the churches resounded with exhortations: thousands of pounds were collected, and speedily disappeared. Thus opened the year 1842; and all were waiting on the plans of Sir Robert Pecl. He had not then made himself up to part with the sliding scale—that was still too bold a step. So, on the 9th of February, 1842, when he propounded his new edition, which, last week, went out of print, the minds of the swarming country gentlemen were relieved of dreadful apprehensions; and the only voice which, on that evening, spoke of the measure, was that of Mr. Cobden, who denounced the modification as "an insult to a suffering country."

But the first real Free Trade movement made by Sir R. Peel, was when he propounded his new tariff on the 11th of March, 1842. In carrying through that measure, which occapied a great portion of the session, the Prime Minister had the high honour of receiving the approbation and the support of Mr. D'Israell. The member for Shrewsbury sat immediately behind the Treasury bench; his speech is preserved in Hansard, wherein he proved that Lord Shelburne and Mr. Pitt were our first legislative Free Traders, and that the Whigs, including Burke, Fox, Grey, Sheridan, had opposed themselves to a relaxations of our commercial policy, when Mr. Pitt proposed it. True, Mr. D'Israeli changed his place, and altered his opinion; but thereby the speech of 1842 is not deprived of one particle of its cogency, because the measures of 1842 are surpassed by the measures of 1846.

The tariff of 1812 nearly led to a disruption in the Conservative camp, Sir Richard Vyvyan, the member for Helston, in particular, denouncing Sir Robert Poel in strong language, especially through the medium of a publisher's letter, Mr. Miles was also valiant on the subject of foreign cattle, which, for the first time, were permitted to land on British shorts, on the payment of a duty of 11, per housed head—a duty now involving the grant time of 1846. The late 1867 was the late of 1846 and 1867 which the late 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1868 are the late of 1846 and 1846 are the late of 1846 and 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 and 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the late of 1846 are the lat

that the agriculturists had been deceived by Sir R. Peel, in his introduction of the new Corn Law, although Sir R. Peel, not eight months previously, had told a crowded House of Commons that he would not accept the support of the agricultural interest on the condition of maintaining all the details of the law of 1828. And the Dukes of Buckingham, Richmond, and Cleveland, Earl Stanhope, and Lord Beaumont, poured out, in 1842, lamentations, ejaculations, and objurgations, precisely as they did in 1816, and with as little effect. The Free Traders in the House of Commons were not idle. Manifold were the amendments proposed, and the discussions raised, and the "distress of the country" afforded a theme for animated and carnest debate. Mr. Ward raised the subject of "special burdens." Mr. Cohden moved that as it was beyond the power of Parliament to regulate the wages of labour, it was unjust to pass an act to regulate, with a view to raise unnaturally, the price of food; and Mr. Villiers had his annual debate on the Corn Laws. The session of 1842 thus laid the legislative foundation of Free Trade. Imperfectly, as the tariff of 1842 realised the doctrine, the people saw in the Customs' Act of that year a very decided attempt to carry out the principle of "buying in the changest and selling in the dearest market; while the admissions of Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Gladstone, and the arguments of Mr. Villiers and Mr. Cobden deepened the impression.

Meantime, the protracted discussions of the session or 1842 had the effect of aggravating commercial embarass ments, for trade and commerce were all but suspended, waiting the passing of the Tariff. We had already witnessed five harvests in succession, more or less deficient; and the moist heavy rains of July threatened us with another. Lord Palmerston gave warning of the danger. Sir Robert Peel nervously assured the house that in some favoured nook of the south of England, "the harvest had already begin." And Mr. Cobden protested against closing the doors of Parliament, proclaiming, in thrilling accents, that "the country was drifting on to confusion without rudder or compass!" But the doors of Parliament were closed; the insurrection of the working classes in the north broke out; though Providence, in his mercy, saved as from the horrors of a sixth deficient burvest in succession, the month of August proving one of extraordinary heat and dryness, filling the grain, and ripening the crops.

The speculators in foreign grain and fully made up their minds that we should have another deficient harvest; and they made extraordinary preparations. A large stock in bond was lying, ready to be taken out at the critical moment-Prices, instead of going up, went down; stock had to be taken out of bond at a high instead of a low daty, in order to satisfy the Lombard Street bankers, who had made large advances; enormous loss instead of profit was the result; a commercial pestilence swept Mark Lane. The abundant harvest was of itself sufficient to cause a considerable full in price, which was increased by the great quantity of foreign grain poured on the market; and the farmers had now to encounter a phenomena with which, ever since 1833, they had not been familiar. They had hitherto been in some sort compensated for diminished consumption by high prices; now low prices and limited demand came together; and the "agricultural mind" was driven into imperfect cogitation on the causes of distress.

. Notwithstanding agricultural distress, the winter of 1812-3 was got over much easier than previous winters. Cheapness of food had something to do with this; while commerce and trade received some impetus from the news of the termination of the war with China, and the opening of its ports to our manufacturers. Still at the opening of the session of 1843, the state of the country was such as to justify the Government in stating in the Royal Speech, that the " liminished receipts from some of the ordinary sources of income" was "attributable to the reduced consumption of many articles, caused by that depression of the manufacturing industry of the country which has so long prevailed." Little was practically done in 1843 for Free Trade; but much was effectively said. In the famous debate on Lord Howick's motion. Sir James Graham admitted that the principles of Free Trade were recognised by every man of common sense; and this declaration was confirmed, in subsequent debates, by other members of the Cabinet. Mr. Goulburn said that the "abstract" truth of Free Trade principles had never been disputed; and Mr. Gladstone assented. It is true, that in the debate on the annual motion of Mr. Villiers, another Cabinet Minister advanced to the table, and gravely stated that one of the reasons why the Corn Laws should be kept up was that landlords should be enabled to keep their position in society, and provide marriage settlements for their daughters. If one did not know that Sir Edward Knatchbull was perfectly sincere and serious in this, it might be suspected that he was enacting the part of a Parliamentary Dean Swift, and battering down the Corn Laws by a stroke of inimitable humour. But though little was done in 1848, the session was not wholly barren. Mr. BRIGHT appeared in the House of Commons, having made at Durham, as the Marquis of Londonderry recently assured the House of Lords, "the very best speech that ever was heard, on the subject of the repeal of the Corn Laws." [Doubtless, that speech laid the foundation of the conversion of the noble marquis.] Lord Stanley, too, introduced his Canada Corn Bill, the loss of which, by the measures of the present session, seems to have caused him so much chagrin; Mr. Gladstone repealed the restrictions on the exportation of machinery; and those discussions on Sugar began which are not yet terminated. Towards the close of the session Mr. Connex delivered a powerful speech on the

relative value of our colonial and foreign trade, and starfled the house with one of his pithy sayings—" It is with pasple we should deal, and not with barren wastes!"

Commercial prosperity, slowly returning, made its prosence palpable in the autumn of 1843. Short-sighted people then indulged in the delusion that Anti-Corn-Law agitation would "die." Little did they know the energy, the carnestness, and the faith which inspired the leaders of the League. In this department we cannot properly intermeddle with the history of the Anti-Corn-Law League 6.75 side the walls of Parliament. The fund, first of Firty THOUSAND, then of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS; the issue of ten millions of tracts; the deputations to the agricultural districts; the electioneering movements; the removal to London-all these events will be fully recorded by Mr. PAULTON, himself one of the earliest of the nctors in this great movement. But though commercial prosperity did not abate the ardour of the leaders of the League, they were so far discouraged by Parliamentary apathy as to advise that for the present the agitation should be carried on rather in the country than in the House of Commons. That this was a mistake was soon seen, and remedied afterwards; for however hostile the House of Commons might be on the subject of corn, the fiscal reductions which Sir Robert Peel effected in 1844 on glass, vinegar, currants, coffee, marine insurances, and wool, showed that the Prime Minister was steadily pursuing his course of financial reform: while the memorable debates on the Ten Hours' clause in the Factories Bill, and the no less memorable phrase used by Sir James Graham about the "House or Carns" (the significance of which was immediately discerned by Mr. Condan) caused a deep impression to be made on the public mind. But it would be quite wrong to convey the impression that in 1844 the Anti-Corn Law League did nothing in Parliament. It was on the P3th of March of that year that Mr. COBDEN moved for a select committee to inquire into the effects of protective duties upon the interests of tenant farmers and farm labourers. The speech which the member for Stockport made on this occasion was one of those creative things which give a new respect to a controversy, and a fresh inpetus to the national intellect. The country gentlemen, who attended in crowds, and sat in silent amazement, listening to their teacher, showed by their interest at once the power of the orator and the novelty of the ambject; and though Mr. Gladstone opposed the motion, that speech of Mr. Cobden's sank at the time into the heart and sont of Sir Robert Peel, and prepared the finale of the Corn Laws

At the commencement of the session of 1845, the public of London rushed in crowds to hear Sir Robert Peel propose still more sweeping fluancial reductions, repealing the cofton, glass, and 130 other duties, lowering the duty on sugar, and otherwise amending our tariff. All this, of course, furnished abundant opportunity for keeping up the Free Trade discussion; while the conduct of the landed interest on e.G.C.ASE," "LARD," and other infinitely small matters, plunged them into the mire of public odium. The annual motion of Mr. VILLIERS was met by speeches from Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham, in which there were clear indications that they were on the eve of surrending the citadel. Then followed the cold wet autumn; the potato rot; the apprehended scarcity; and the cabinet "crisis."

The results of the session of 1816, not yet brought to s close, are too fresh in the recollection of our readers to require reespitulation. Throughout the whole of the presen Parliament, from the autumn of 1841 till the present time, we have had the opportunity of attentively observing the conduct of the Parliamentary leaders of the ANTI-CORN LAW LEAGUE. Never shrinking from seizing every available opportunity for discussion, they have never frittered away their resources. All their " appeals to reason' have been conducted with due deference to constitutional and Parliamentary forms. They never turned the debate into a bore, by keeping it up beyond all reasonable length. They never lowered the dignity of their cause by coming unprepared. They always watched the suitable time (a matter of great importance in the House of Common that no use of the forms of the house could throw ridioule on their efforts. Their first quality has been cornestness; their second persoverance; their third patience; their fourth, intellectual ability and incessant effort; and their fifth, moral power. But admirable as has been their conduct throughout, it has been surpassed during the present session. From the moment that the Prime Minister came forward to repeal the Corn Laws, the Anti-Corn-Law League was quiet Tho leaders did not rush forward with vulgar haste, exclaiming to Sir Robert Peel - "That's our thunder!" Nor did they ostentatiously parade their support of the Government; their speeches were few, and to the point, made not to show that they were the authors of Corn Law repeal, but simply to afford the needing aid at the fitting time. And they have their reward. The Prime Minister proclaims to the world that the repeal of the Corn Laws is due neither to himself nor to Lord John Russell, neither to Tory nor to Whig, but to that combination of moral and intellectual power, of which the type is the name of RICHARD CORDEN.

END OF THE FREE TRADE MIRBOR OF PARLIAMENT.

MINISTERIAL EXPLANATIONS.
Sir R. PEEL at half past five o'clock entered the house amid profound silence and took his seat. In a few moments he rose and spoke as follows: Mr. Speaker—Sir, I feel it to be my duty to avail myself of the earliest opportunity of notifying to this house that, in consequence of the position of her Majesty's Government, and especially in

consequence of that vote to which the house came on the night of Thursday last, by which they refused to give to her Majesty's Government those powers which they deemed noconsary for the repression of outrage and the protection of life in Ireland, her Majesty's servants have felt it their duty to tender their resignation to a gracious Sovereign. The resolution to tender that resignation was the unanimous resolution of her Majesty's servants, adopted without besits. tion. Sir, if I had any complaint to prefer with respect to the course pursued by the house, this is not the occasion on which I should venture to prefer it. It is impossible not to feel that that occasion by a which a great change takes place in the conneils of a great empire, affecting, for weal or for woe, the welfare of many millions of the Queen's subjects, in shoost all parts of the habitable globe-it is impossible not to feel that that is an important, I might almost say a solemn occasion -- and it is not on such an occasion that one word ought to be said by a Minister, acting in homage to constitutional principles, which can by possibility revive controversies of an acrimonious, character Sir, such con troversies would be wholly unsuited to the magnitude of this occasion, and I must also say, the provocation of any such controversy would be wholly at variance with the feel ings which influence me in addressing this house (cheers). These feelings would rather prompt me to acknowledge with gratitude the many occasions on which, speaking of the great body of the gentlemen on this side of the house, at periods antecedent to the present session, I and my colleagues have received a generous and cordial support. These feelings would also rather prompt me to acknowledge with gratitude the occasions on which, from those gentlemen opposite, in obliviou of party differences, her Majesty's Government have received, for measures of which those gentlemen approved also, a cordial support; and I trust therefore, Sir, that nothing will escape me in explaining the course which her Majesty's Government have thought it their duty to pursaje which can run the risk of provoking those controversies which I so deprecate. Sir, her Majesty has been graciously pleased to accept that tender of resignation, and her Mujesty's servants now only hold their offices until their successors shall have been appointed. Sir, I said that if I had complaints to prefer, this would not be the occasion on which I would prefer them; but I must also say, that I did not propose those measures connected with our commercial policy at the commencement of this session without foreseeing that, whether those measures succeeded or failed, they must cause the dissolution of the Government which proposed them; and therefore, Sir, I rather rejoice, that her Mujesty's Government have been relieved from any doubt by an early decision of this house, as to the course it would be their duty to pursue; for I do not besitate to say that, even if that vote had been in our favour, I would not have consented to hold office by sufferance or by the evasion of any principle (great cheering). I believe that it is not for the public interest that a Government should remain in power unable to give practical effect to the measures, which they consider ry to the public welfare; and in the position in which her Majesty's Government was placed, by the withdrawal, perhaps the natural withdrawn, of the confidence of many of those who had heretofore given them their support, I do not think it probable that even if the vote to which I refer had been in our favour, ber Majesty's Government would have been combled, with credit to themselves and with advantage to the country, to continue in the administration of public affairs (great cheering). Sir, we have advised her Majesty to accept our resignations without adopting that alternative which we might have adopted, viz., recommending to the Crown the exercise of its prerogative, and to dissolve the present Parliament. We have preferred the immediate tender of resignation to the adoption of that alternative. Sir, I do not hesitate to say, speaking with a frankness which I trust will offend no one, that if her Majesty's Go vernment had failed in carrying, in all their integrity, those measures of commercial policy which it was my duty to recommend, I do not he state to say that there is no exer tion I would not have made (loud cheering) in order, if not to insure their ultimate success, at least to give the country an opportunity of pronouncing an opinion on the subject (loud cheers). In that case I should have felt myself justified in advising a dissolution, because I think that the continuance of doubt on such a subject would have been a greater evil than resorting to a constitutional expression of opinion by the people of this country (cheers). But there is no necessity for a dissolution on this ground :- those who dissented from those measures have withdrawn their opposition, and I am bound to say it was not a factious or unsecurity opposition, to them; simply protesting against them, they have given finally their consent to those measures, and those measures having passed into law, I do not feel I should have been justified, for any anbordinate consideration, for the interest of the Government merely, in advising the exercise of the prerogative to which I refer, and dissolving the Parliament (hear, hear). Because I feel strongly this,—that no administration is justified in advising the exercise of that prerogative unless there be a fair, reasonable presumption, even a strong moral conviction, that after a dissolution they should have had a party powerful enough in this house to enable us to give effect practically to the measures which we might propose. Now, I don't mean a support founded on mere temporary sympathy with our position on the part of those who, otherwise, are opposed to us; I do not mean a support founded on a concurrence on one great question of domestic policy, however important that may be. I think we ought not to dissolve without having a full assurance that we should have the support, not of those who differ from us on almost all questions of public policy, agreeing with us in one, but that we should have the support of a powerful party united to us by a general concurrence of political opinion (cheers). And I am bound to say, that in the general division of parties, and after all that has occurred, I did not en-tertain a confident hope that a dissolution of Parhament would have given us that support (hear, hear). I must also say that, after all the excitement which has taken place, and after the stagnation of trade consequent upon our protracted discussions, it did appear to us that this was a period when it would not be judicious to take such a step (hear, and cheers). Upon these grounds, we preferred instant resignation to the alternative of a dissolution. We were left in a minority on a question connected with Ireland (hear). Now I should lament, not merely because it is an Iriah question, but I should most deeply lament if it could be thought that the measure which we proposed for the repression of outrage in Ireland was an indication that her Majesty's servants held any different opinion with regard to the policy to be pursued in Ireland from that which I declared towards the close of the last session of Parliament (hear, hear). To the opinions which I then avowed -- to those opinions which had a practical effect given to them by the Charitable Bequests Act,

and by the additional vote for the endowment of Maynooth tirely subscribe (great cheering). We brought forward that measure, believing that resistance to the contagion of crime and the vigorous repression by law of the offences which diagrace some parts of Ireland, were not measures calculated permanently to improve the social condition of that conntry; but we thought they were measures which could be taken in conjunction with others necessary for the purpose of giving effect to legislation upon that subject (hear, hear). The house has, however, decided, and I am not about to impeach their decision. I only deprecate any inference, which would be unjustifiable, that, because we proposed those measures, which some called measures of coercion, which we call measures for the protection of life, therefore our views with regard to the policy to be pursued towards Ireland have undergone any change. Speaking for myself, I do not hesitate now to say that, in my opinion, there ought to be established between England and Ireland a complete equality (great cheering) in all civil, municipal, and political rights (renewed cheers). When I say complete equality, I don't mean, because I know it is impossible, to have a literal equality in every particular. Here, as in matters of more sacred import, it may be that "the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life;" I speak of the spirit, and not of the letter, in which our legislation with regard to the franchise and other privileges should be conducted (hear, hear). I mean, there should be a real, substantial equality, in political and civil rights (cheers); so that no person, viewing Ireland with perfectly disinterested eyes, and comparing its franchise with the franchise either of England or Scotland, should be enabled to say, " A different law is enacted for Ireland, and on account of some jealousy or suspicion. Ireland has curtuiled and mutilated rights." That is what I mean by equality of political franchises. Does any gentleman think I am making a reserve (cheers, and cries of "No. I speak of the spirit in which we should legislate I think it ought to be impossible to say that there is a different rule, substantially, with regard to civil or municipal franchise in Ireland from that which prevails in England (cheers). Now, Sir, with regard to our executive administration in Ireland, I think the favour of the crown cught to be bestowed in that country, and the confidence of the Crown, without reference to religious distinctions (loud cheers). It has not been from entertaining a different opinion that there may be, in our case, the appearance of partiality. Where we have taken the opportunity of manifesting confidence in some Roman Catholics, I cannot say that justice was always done to our motives, nor has the position of the individual in accepting favour from us been altogether such as to create an anxiety for the repetition of similar favours (hear, hear). Those who succeed us may have different means of carrying that principle into execution; but if they do act upon that principle, and bestow the favour and confidence of the Crown, without reference to religious differences of opinion, they shall hear no complaint from me on that ground (loud cheers). Then, Sir, with respect to the spirit in which our legislation should be conducted; adhering to all the opinions which I have expressed on the greater and more important points of Irish policy, yet I must say I, for one, am prepared to co-operate with those who feel the present social condition of the people in respect to the tenure of land, and the relation between landlord and tenant, to be one that deserves our immediate and most cautious consideration (cheers). I think it may be impossible, by legislation, to apply any immediate remedy to the state of things which unfortunately prevails in that country; but, even if the benefit is remote, if it is of a permanent character, so far from being deterred from measures calculated to afford a remedy, the distant period at which the benefit may be derived ought to operate as no discouragement to us to apply our minds most sedulously and impartially to the consideration of the subject (loud cheers). Again, with respect to legislation on all those matters connected with the tenure of land and the relation of landlord and tenant—while upholding the rights of property, which I believe you will find no advantage in violating, yet, on the whole, I think the course we have taken during this session of extreme pressure of public business is a sufficient proof that there has been no disinclination on our part to consider that subject (hear, hear). Neither will there be any disinclimation to co-operate with those to whom the practical administration of affairs may be committed (hear, hear, and cheers). Sir, I have reason to believe that the noble lord the member for the city of London has been commanded by her Majesty to repair to her for the purpose of rendering his assistance in the formation of a Government (hear, hear). Sir, I presume the general principle upon which the Government formed by the noble lord will act, so far as a commercial policy is concerned, will be the continued application of those principles which tend to give us a freer commercial intercourse with other countries (loud cheers). If that be the policy which will be pursued, as I confidently expect it will be, I shall feel it to be my duty to give to that Government, in pursuance and execution of that policy, my cordial support (immense cheering). I presume, therefore, that her Majesty's Government will adopt that policy—and that, if other countries choose to buy in the dearest market, it will be no discouragement to them to permit us to buy in the changest (cheers). I trust that they will not resume the policy which they and we have felt most inconvenient, namely, haggling with foreign countries, instead of taking that independent course which we believe to be conducive to our own interests (cheers), trusting to the influence of public opinion in other countries, that our example, with the practical benefit we derive from it, will at no remote period insure the adoption of the same course, rather than hoping to obtain commercial privileges as an equivalent for the reduction of particular duties ("hear," and cheers). Sir, when I say I presume that these general principles will influence their commercial policy, I do not of course mean to sny that the adoption of these principles is at once to overrule every moral consideration, and at once to subject every part of the inhabitants of this empire to unequal competition with other nations. I speak generally as to the tendency of our commercial policy, and I trust that every step that is taken will be towards the relaxation of restriction upon trade. I, for one, shall not urge upon them a hasty and precipitate adoption of principles sound in themselves, if they are likely to incur the risk of a great derangement of the great social system. I shall bear in mind, that great experiments have been recently made under the present administration; that the surplus amount of revenue is smaller than I could wish it to be, consistently with the permanent interests of the country, and while I offer a cordial support in enforcing the general principles of commercial policy which have received the sanction of l'arliament in the present session, I shall not urge them to any such simultaneous and

precipitate adoption of them as may be either really injurious to interests from special circumstances entitled to some continued protection, nor shall I urge them to any such rush and precipitate adoption of them as would incur the risk of deranging the finances of the country. Speaking thus, I am bound to say that I am rather indicating my own intentions and the course I shall pursue, than that I have had the op. portunity of conferring with others and speaking their sent ments. I cannot doubt, however, that those who gave their cordial concurrence to the measures which I proposed will be ready to give their general acquiescence and support to measures of a similar character to be proposed (loud cheen). Sir, I do not know that it is necessary that I should make any other declaration than those I have made. I wish to draw no invidious contrast; I wish to make no unseem allusions; but I cannot surrender power without making a least this observation,—that I do hope, during the five years for which power has been committed to our hands, beither the interests nor the honour of this country have been compromised (cheers). I think I may say with truth that during that period, the burden of taxation has been equalised and the pressure which was unjust and severe has been removed from many classes of her Majesty's subjects (cheers, I think I may say with truth, that many restrictions upon commerce injuriously affecting the trade of this counter have been removed (cheers). I think I may say that, with out at all interfering with legitimate speculation; without a all paralysing or deranging the credit of the country, stabley has been given to the monetary system of this country, through the cordial support which again (without reference to party distinctions) the measures I proposed with regard to the Bank of England, the joint stock banks, and the private banks of this country, received in the year 1843. Sir, I trust also that the stability of our Indian empire has not been weakened by the policy we have pursued; and that the glore and honour of the British arms both by sea and land in every part of the world have been maintained, not through our exertions, but through the devoted gullantry of the soldiers and sailors of this country (cheers). Sir, although there have been considerable reductions, great reductions made in the public burdens, yet I have the satisfaction of stating to the house, that the national defences of this conn try have been improved both by sea and land, and that the army and navy are in a most efficient state. I trust I may also congratulate the house, that notwithstanding the great reductions in the fiscal burdens of the country, our finances are in a prosperous and bnoyant state; and that, on the 5th of July next, the return which will be made to the house will be, that notwithstanding the reduction of taxation, the mcreased consumption of articles of Customs and Excise and the general prosperity of the people have supplied the void which might otherwise have taken place (cheers, and lond cries of "hear, hear"). Sir, lastly, I think I may say, that without any barsh enforcement of the law, without any curtailment either of the liberty of the prespeaking of Great Britain, there has been as much of obedience and submission to the law as there ever was at any period of our history (cheers). Nay, I will say more: in consequence of the greater command of the necessaries and minor luxuries of life, in consequence, too, of confidence in the administration of the law, there has been more of cententment, less of seditions crimes (hear, hear). less necessity for the exercise of power for the repression of political outrage, than there ever was at any antecedent period in this country (cheers). I said, lastly,-but I have reserved one topic, on which I also think I may, without any unseemly hoast or invidious contrast, say a few words. I think I may take credit to her Majesty's Government, at least to that distinguished member of it, less prominent, per haps, in debate, than others, but as deserving of public honour and public credit for the exertions which he has made in the maintenance of peace (loud cheers)-1 mean my noble friend the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (loud cheers,)-he has dared to avow that he thinks in a bristian country there is a moral obligation upon a Chris than Minister to exhaust every effort before incurring the risk of war (loud cheers). But while he has not shrunk from the avowal of that opinion, I will in justice to him say this-it is perfectly consistent with that opinion, as to the moral obligation of maintaining peace while peace can be maintained with honour, that there never was a Minister less inclined to sacrifice any essential interest, or to abate anything from the dignity and honour of this country, for the purpose of securing even that inestimable blessing (cheers). Sir, I do hope that we leave the foreign relations of this country in a satisfactory state (loud cheers)-that, speaking not only of France, but speaking of the other great powers of Europe, there is confidence in the intentions of this country, and a real desire on the part of the Governments of other powers to co-operate with us in the maintenance of peace (cheers). Sir, it is that mutual con fidence in the honour and intentions of public men which tes the maintenance of peace. We come in conflict with France in distant parts of the world: there are heated partisans naturally and justly jealous of the honour of their respective countries; quarrels, small in themselves, might be magnified by the spirit of jealousy, and a too nice rivalry about national honour might easily be fomented into a cause of war, desolating nations, unless the counsels of the great powers were presided over by those who, feeling peace to be the true interest of the civilised world, are determined that the heated passions of angry partisans shall not involve their respective countries in warfare (leud cheers). Sir, if anything could have induced me to regret a decision on the part of the house prematurely terminating the existence of the Government, it would have been the wish that we should have survived the day when intelligence might be received from the United States (loud cheering) as to the result of, perhaps, our last attempt to adjust those differences between this country and the United States, which, unless speedily terminated, might have involved us in war. The house will probably recollect that, after we had offered arbitration, and that offer had been rejected, the President of the United States sent a message to the houses of Congress in that country, which led to discussions with regard to the termination of that convention which provided for a temporary adjustment of our differences,-ut least, for a temporary avoidance of quarrel, and enabled the two countries jointly to occupy the territory of the Oregon. Sir, the two houses of the American Congress, although advising the President of the United States to signify to this vising the President of the United States to signify to this country, as he was empowered to do, the termination of the existing convention, by giving a year's notice, added to that advice, which might perhaps, have been considered of an unsatisfactory or hostile character, the declaration that they advised the notice for the termination of the convention to be given, in office that it might believe an emitted an emitted adjustment of the dispute. We moved the same called

amicable adjustment-wethought those expressions removed any harrier to a renewal by either country of the attempt to settle this difference. We did not hesitate, therefore, within two days after the receipt of that intelligence of a wish expressed by the houses of Congress that efforts might be made for the peaceful termination of these disputes, although the offer of arbitration had been rejected-we did not hesitate to do that which, in the present state of the dispute, it became essential to do-not to propose renewed and lengthened negotiations, but to specify frankly and at once what were the terms on which we could consent to a partition of the country of the Oregon (cheers). Sir, the President of the United States, I must say, whatever might have been the expressions heretofore used by him, and however strongly he might have been personally committed to the adoption of a different course, wisely and patriotically determined at once to refer our proposals to the Senate -that authority of the United States whose consent is requisite for the termination of any negotiation of this kind; and the Senate, again acting in the same spirit, has, I have the heartfelt satisfaction to state, at once advised the adoption of the terms we offered them (loud cheers). Sir, perhaps from the importance of the subject, and considering this is the lest day I shall have to address the house as a Minister of the Crown, I may be ollowed to state what are the terms of the proposals we made to the United States on the Oregon question. order to prevent the necessity for renewed diplomatic negotiations, we sent a convention, which we trusted the United States would accept. The first article of that con-

vention was to this effect, that "From the point on the 49th parallel of north latitude, where the boundary laid down in existing treaties and conventions between Great Britain and the United States terminates, the line of boundary between the territories of Her Britannic Migs-ty and those of the United States shall be continued west along the said 19th parallel of north latitude to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's I dand, and thence southerly through the middle of the said channel, and of Furei's Straits, to the Pacific Ocean; provided, however, that the navigation of the said channel and straits, south of the 49th parallel of north latitude, romain free and open th of the 49th parallel of north latitude, romain free and open

of these words by those high authorities, the expression of a

hope that the termination of the convention might the more

strongly impress upon the two countries the necessity of

to both parties." Those who remember the local conformation of that country will understand that we proposed the continuation of the 47th parallel of latitude till it strikes the Straits of Fuca; that it should not be continued across Vancouver's Island,thus depriving us of any part of Vancouver's Island,-but leaving us in possession of the whole of Vancouver's Island. Sir, the second article of the convention we sent for the ac-

ceptance of the United States was to this effect—that "From the point at which the 49th parallel of north latitude shall be found to inter set the great northern branch of the Colon, is river the pavigation of the said branch shall be free and open to the Hudson's Bay Company, and to all British subjects trading with the same, to the point where the said branch meets the main stream of the Columbia, and thence down the sid main stream to the ocean, with free access into and through the said riverse sings, it below understand the sell the week. the said river or rivers, it being understood that all the usual portagon along the line thus described shall in like manner by portness along the line thus described shall in like manner be free and open. In navigating the said river or rivers, British subsects, with their goods and produce, shall be treated on the same footing a citizens of the United States, it being, however, alway conderstood that nothing in this article shall be construed as preventing, or intended to prevent, the Government of the United States from making any regulations respecting the navi-cation of the said river, or rivers, not inconsistent with the pre-sent treaty."

Sir, I will not occupy the attention of the house with any more of the details of this convention (cheers). I would only state that, on this very day on my return from my mission to her Majesty to offer the resignation of her Majesty's servants, I had the satisfaction of finding an official letter from Mr. Pakenham, intimating in the following terms the acceptance of our proposals, and giving an assurance of the immediate termination of our differences with the United

"My Lord. In conformity with what I had the honour to state in my de patch No. 68, of the 7th instant, the President at ware seage on Wednesday last to the Senate, submitting for the opinion of that body the draught of a convention for the settlement of the Oregon question, which I was instructed by your lordship's despatch, No. 19, of the 18th of May, to propose for the acceptance of the United States.

"After a few hours' deliberation on each of the three days, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the Senate, by a majority of

"After a few hours' deliberation on each of the three days, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the Senate, by a majority of 38 votes to 12, adopted yesterday evening a resolution advising the President to accopt the terms proposed by Her Majesty's Government. The President did not hesitate to acc on this advice, and Mr. Buchanan accordingly sent for me this morning, and informed me that the conditions offered by Her Majesty's Government were accepted by the Government of the

United States, without the addition or alteration of a single "I have the honour to be, &c.,
"R. PAKENHAM.
"The Right Hon, the Earl of Aberdeen, K. T., &c."

(Lond and continued cheering). Thus, Sir, these two great nations, impelled, I believe, by the public opinion, which ought to guide and influence statesmen, have, by moderation by the spirit of mutual compromise, averted that dreadful calamity of a war between two nations of kindred race and common language (loud cheers), the breaking out of which would have involved the civilised world in calamities to an extent it is difficult to foresee (not one year-probably not one month of such a war, but would have been more expensive than the whole territory that had called it forth); but they have averted that war, I believe consistently with their true interests-consistently with perfect honour on the part of the American Government, and on the part of those who have at length closed, I trust, every cause of difference between the two countries (loud cheers). Sir, I may say, also, to the credit of the Government of this country, that, so far from being influenced in our views in regard to the termination of these disputes about the Oregon by the breaking out of the war with Mexico, we distinctly intimated to Mr. Pakenham, that although unexpected events had co-ourred, it did not affect, in the alightest degree, our desire for peace (cheers). Mr. Pakenham, knowing the spirit of his Government, being aware of the occurrence of these hostilities, having a discretionary power in certain cases, if he had thought this offer would have been likely to prolong negotiations, or diminish the chance of a successful issue, yet wisely thought the occurrence of Mexican hostilities with the United States, was not one of the cases to which we lied adverted, and therefore most wisely did he tender this offer of peace to the United States on his own discretion, and the confidence of his Government. Now, let me say, and I am sure this house will think it to the credit of my are about to forward a requisition to Lord Stanley's son to mobile friends that on the coordinate of these hostilities be become a candidate for the borough, in the event of a general Mexico and the United States, before we were thereof in a second a description taking place.

of the reception which this offer on our part would meet with, the first packet that sailed tendered to the United States the offer of our good offices for the purpose of mediating between them and the Mexican Government (loud cheers). Sir, I do rejoice, therefore, that, before surrendering power at the feet of a majority of this house, I had the opportunity of giving them the official assurance that every cause of quarrel with that great country on the other side of the Atlantic is terminated before we retire from office (loud cheers). Sir, I feel that I have now executed the task which my public duty imposed upon me. I trust I have said nothing which can by possibility lead to the recurrence of those controversies I have deprecated. Whatever opinions may be formed with regard to the extent of the danger with which we were threatened, I can say with truth that her Majesty's Government, in proposing these measures of commercial policy, which have disentitled them to the confidence of many of those who heretofore gave them their support, were influenced by no other desire than the desire to consult the interests of this country (cheers). Our object was to avert dangers which we thought were imminent, and to avoid a conflict which we believed would soon place in nostile collision great and powerful classes in this country The love of power was not a motive for the proposal of these measures; for, as I said before, I had not a doubt that, whe ther these measures were accompanied with failure or success, the almost certain issue must be the termination of the existence of this Government. Sir, I am not sure that it is not advantageous for the public interests that this should be so-I admit that the withdrawal of confidence from us by many of our friends was a natural result of circumstances and I do think that, when proposals of such a nature are made, apparently at variance with the course which Ministers heretofore pursued, and subjecting them to the charge or taunt of inconsistency-upon the whole, it is advantageous for this country, and for the general character of public men, that the proposal of measures of that kind under such cir cumstances should entail that which is supposed to be a fitting punishment—namely, expulsion from office. I, therefore, do not complain of it; anything is preferable to a tempting to maintain ourselves in office without a full measure of the confidence of this house (cheers). I said before, and I said truly, that in proposing those measures I land no wish to rob others of the credit justly due to them. Now, I must say, with reference to hen, gentlemen opposite, as I say with reference to ourselves, neither of us is the party which is justly entitled to the credit of them (cheers). There has been a combination of parties, and that combina tion, and the influence of Government, have led to their ul timate success; but the name which ought to be associated with the success of these measures is not the name of the noble lord, the organ of that party, nor is it mine (cheers) The name which ought to be, and will be, associated with the success of those measures, is the name of a man who, acting, I believe, from pure and disinterested motives, has, with untiring energy, by appeals to reason (loud cheers), enforced their necessity with an eloquence the more to be admired because it was unaffected and unadorned (cheers); -the name which ought to be associated with the success of those measures is the name of Richard Cobden (loud and protracted cheering). Sir, I now close the address which it has been my duty to make to the house, thanking them sincerely for the favour with which they have listened to me in performing this last act of my official career. Within a few hours, probably, that power which I have held for the period of five years will be surrendered into the hunds of another-without repining-I can say without complaint with a more lively recollection of the support and confidence I have received than of the opposition which during a recent period I met with (cheers). I shall leave office, I fear, with a name severely consured by many hon, gentlemen, who, on public principle, deeply regret the severance of party ties who deeply regret that severance, not from any interested or personal motives, but because they believe fidelity to party engagements-the existence and maintenance of a great party—to constitute a powerful instrument of Government; I shall surrender power severely consured, I fear again, by many hon, gentlemen who, from no interested motive, have adhered to the principle of protection as important to the welfare and interests of the country; I shall leave a name execrated by every monopolist (loud cheering from the Opposition), who, from less honourable motives, maintains protection for his own individual benefit (continued cheering); but it may be that I shall leaves a name sometimes remembered with expressions of good will in those places which are the abodes of men whose lot it is to labour, and to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow-a name remembered with expressions of good will, when they shall recreate their exhausted strength with abundant and untaxed food, the sweeter because it is no longer leavened by a sense of injustice (loud and vociferous cheering, during which the right hon, baronet resumed his seat).

FREEHOLDERS' BUILDING SOCIETY, MANCHESTER. The seventh monthly meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday evening last. About 1500 members were

present. The amount of money received was 4331l. 18s. 1d. The number of shares sold amounted to nearly 4000l. PROPOSED FREE TRADE CELEBRATION IN MANCHES-TER .- The following is a copy of a requisition to the Mayor of Manchester on the subject of some particular day being set apart for a general holiday, in connection with the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Corn Bill. The requisition has already received the signatures of a number of influential

gentlemen : "To His Worship the Mayou of Manchester."

"From an extensive acquaintance with the opinions and wishes of a large portion of the inhabitants of this town and neighbourhood as to the propriety of your recommending a holiday-demonstration in commemoration of the eventful passing of the bill for the repeal of the Corn Laws, we are induced respectfully to address your worship on the subject. We need say little—the people, we assure you, are most anxiously looking for some early official announcement containing a proposition for some particular day to be set apart for dessation from labour, and for recreation upon this joyous occasion; and we are persuaded that no recommendation would be so proper in itself, and so universally well received, as one issuing from yourself, holding as you do the highly-important office of chief magistrate of this borough, and enjoying as you do the good opinion of all classes of the people." TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF MANCHESTES of all classes of the people."

Amongst the gentlemen who have signed this requisition

Mr. Alderman Callender, Mr. Alderman Walker, and a number of manufacturers and merchants. It is stated in Prenton that the protectionists of that town are about to forward a requisition to Lord Stanley's son to

are Mr. Cobden, Mr. J. B. Smith, Mr. Henry Ashworth,

A BLUSH YOR MONOPOLY. In looking over a very old work, entitled "Luckombe's History of Printing," we find the following allusions to the introduction of some of the early monopolies. Printing itself seems to have been a favourite object of monopoly from a very early period, and continued so less or more to a very recent date; indeed, some of the old patents are still

not yet expired:

"Towards the close of Queen Elizabeth's reign a patent was grunted to Thomas Morley for printing musick; but it being much the same with Talis and Birde's before mentioned, we forbear reciting it. Patents were also granted to John Spilman, to make eards; to Richard Watkins and James Roberts, to print almanacks; to Richard Wrighte, to print the History of Cornelius Tacitus; to John Nordon, to print Speculum Britannie; to Sir Henry Singer, touching the printing of school-hooks; to Thomas Morley, to print seness, in three parts; to Thos. Wight, and Bonham Norton, to print law books; Edward Darry, for cards; Sc. In the debate concerning monopolies, when that of cards was mentioned. Sir Walter Raleigh blushed. Upon reading of the list of patents, Mr. Huckwell, of Lincoln's Inn. sloud up, and asked, 'I snot bread there?" Broad! says one. Bread! says another. This request seems strange, says one of the members. No, not in the least, says Mr. Hacket; for, if not speedily prevented, a patent for bread will be produced before the next be soon of Parliament. not yet expired:

Sir Walter Raleigh blushed at the mention of a patent for cards, and to most members of the House of Commons the bare allusion to bread being included in the list of monopolies of the day," seemed strange." How easily is the most unjust and impolitic imposition converted by time and habit into a strenuously asserted right!— Economist.

THE POTATO MURRAIN .--- A correspondent in the immediate vicinity of this town, states, " That the potato disease, so prevalent in the past last year, has again manifested itself, a great quantity of the forward kinds being affected, partien larly kidneys; and when it is remembered that the early potatoes last year were scarcely affected, it gives rise to fears that bad as the disease was last year, it is very probable it will be worse this." We sincerely hope that our corre spondent's fears will prove groundless, but a few weeks will

determine the matter, ... Kendal Mercury. SCARCITY OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN BUCKING. HAMSHIBER. The cutting of the grass has, in many instances, been impeded by the great difficulty of obtaining mowers. Although the price of labour has been advanced, still men could not be obtained. We have heard of a case where mowers have refused 5s, 6d, per acre for cutting grass, which is a great increase of wages over those paid at other

seasons,- Tyleshury News. THE MAYOR OF BORDEAUX, -- Those who have taken my interest in the progress of the Free Trade movement in France, will know that that country does not possess a more carnest and thorough Free Trader than the present mayor of Bordenux, M. Duffing Dubergier. This gentleman being in England, has been attracted to Manchester by the present triumphant position of the principles of commercial freedom; and on Tuesday he spent some time in the offices of the Anti Corn Law Lengue, where he had interviews with several of the principal members of the Council of the Lengue, amongst others with Mr. Cobden, Mr. J. B. Smith, Mr. Henry Ashworth, &c.; and Mr. Cobden and Mr. Thos. Bazley, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, was introduced to his worship. The Mayor of Manchester and the Mayor of Bordeaux were mutually introduced, and the latter expressed the gratification he derived from a visit Manchester at so auspicious a moment. M. Duffour, we bslieve, was educated in England, and speaks English with considerable fluency. His admirable speech in advocacy of Free Trade attracted considerable attention at the time on both sides the Channel. Amongst fourteen gentlemen named as intended to be promoted to the dignity of peers of France on the 6th July, there are two mayors—those of Bordeaux and Lisle; and by those who are qualified to judge, it is said that the elevation of M. Duffour to the upper chamber of France, will give great satisfaction to his fellow citizens,

and to the friends of Free Trade throughout France.
FREE TRADE JUNGER .-- We understand that from all parts of the kingdom letters have been received by the Council of the Amii-Corn-Law League, expressing a hope that they would appoint or recommend a general jubilee, in celebration of the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Corn Importation Bill. In some towns preparation has already been made for this celebration in various ways. At Rochdale, they have determined to celebrate the occasion by a general holi day. The holiday proceedings there are to include the closing of the mills and other places of business, and a grand procession through the town. At Newcastle on Tyne, it was at first proposed to have a Corn Law repeal banquet, and to invite Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright: but as those gentlemen could not attend a titlic of the similar celebrations there are likely to be in the various large towns of the United Kingdom, the hope of having their presence was ultimately abaudoned; but it was determined, nevertheless, to have quet on some early day, and a committee has been formed to make the requisite preparation for giving all celât to the

celebration. RELEASE OF BONDED CORN.-Monday, being the first of the operation of the new measures, was a busy day at the Liverpool Custom House. We understand that the duty received up to the close of the day was about 35,000l. above the daily average receipts from this source. A very large quantity of grain of all sorts, say upwards of 200,000 quarters, must, therefore, have come at once into the market in this town alone -Liverpool Standard.

THE CORN BILL AND WAGES .- We have heard of one instance of the influence which the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Corn Importation Bill has had on wages, which we command to the consideration of monopolists throughout the kingdom. A large manufacturer, who employs from a thousand to twelve hundred hand-loom weavers, in the neighbourhoods of Preston, Chorley, &c., went amongst them on Monday last, and announced, that in consequence of the passing of this measure, he had come to the determination to advance their wages. The week's work commencing the following day (Tuesday), the manufacturer in question has not lost a single day in making the announcement and the advance. If, as the monopolists have tried to persuade people, repeal of the Corn Laws means low wages, this is certainly an extraordinary mode of accomplishing

their prediction. Farmers, in the south of England, are this year obliged to make a considerable advance in the rate per sore paid for mowing, owing to the difficulty of obtaining mowers. It is said that in some parts of Middlesex, 7s. por eque is paid for cutting meadow grass; which is 2s. Od. above the everage rate paid last year.

PO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS, &c. -- The EEACUE Newspaper being now discontinued, J. GADSBY and modified in his Commo flows Office for the PRINTING of a MEWSPAPER. 4. O. refers with confidence to the way in which "The agains' has been set up, as a specimen of his style of work.
Whitefrians Printing Office, Bouverie-street,
Light-specif, London, July 4, 1848.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ROFA

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TO THE ELECTORS OF STOCKPORT. The following Address has been sent by Mr Cobden to the Electors of Stockport:

GENTLEMEN.—The state of my health, and other private considerations, induce me to seek a temporary withdrawal from public life. With this view, I have obtained leave of absence from Parliament for the remainder of the session; and it is my intention, after making the necessary arrangements for leaving home, to go abroad for a twelvemonth.

I therefore most respectfully beg to be considered in the enjoyment of the privileges and immunities of private life: at the same time, I feel it my duty to place my seat at your free disposal in case a dissolution should occur during my absence from England.

Allow me to take the present opportunity of expressing the grateful sense I entertain of the confidenge and kindness with which you have honoured me. To your favour alone have I been indebted for the opportunity of advocating, however humbly, in the British legislature, the now happily-triumphant include of Free Trade. I thank all and each of

have allowed me to devote myself uninterruptedly to one absorbing question; and assuring you how deeply I regret that a necessity should arise for suspending my connection with your important borough,

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, Your faithful Servant. RICHARD COBDEN.

Manchester, 3d July, 1816.

ending

## FINAL MEETING OF THE LEAGUE COUNCIL.

SUSPENSION OF PROCEEDINGS.

MANGHESTER, JULY 2. An important meeting of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League took place in the Town Hall, on Thursday, being a meeting not only of the executive body resident in Manche ter and reighbourhood, has a first the manual lands than the line beautiful to the line of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the control of the cont but of the general body throughout the Lington. The meeting was called by circular, and its object was stated to he "for the purpose of considering what course the League shell take now that the Bill for the repeal of the Corn Laws Las received the royal assent." The proceedings commenced soon after eleven o'clock. No less than 500 gentlemen were present; and for wealth, talent, and moral standing in the country, perhaps it was such an assemble, a as has never before men congregated, even in this extraordinary move before been congregated, even in this extraordinary movement. George Velses, Esq., occasied the chair; and amongst the gentlemen present we observed Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John B. ight, Esq., M.P.; J. Brother ton, Esq., M.P.; Win, Brown, Esq., Live-pead, the new candidate for South Lancashire, in the place of Lord P. Egerton, who in elevated to the peerage; William Rawson, Esq., Trensurer of the League; W. E. Callender; J. McLor, Esq., Liverpool; W. Bickham, Esq.; H. Ashworth, Esq., Tarton; W. R. Greg, Usq.; the Mayor of Bordeaux; W. Hargreaves, Esq., Milathorpe; G. Thomas, Esq., of E.g., Thiton; W. R. Greg, Paq.; the Mayor of Bordeaux; W. Hargreaves, Esq., Milathorpe; G. Thomas, Esq., of Bristol; C. Thomas, Esq., Bristol; W. Tottey, Esq., Bristol; J. Mullineux, Esq., Liverpool; W. Tottey, Esq., Bristol; J. Mullineux, Esq., Liverpool; W. Frenie, Esq.; T. Woolley, Esq.; L. B. Smith Esq.; A. Premiec, Esq.; P. A. Taylor, Psq., London; J. Finch, jun., Esq., Liverpool; F. Pennington, Esq.; C. Rawdon, Esq.; James Harvey, Esq.; Robert Mather, Esq.; John Mather, Esq., Liverpool; T. Mather, Esq., Glynn Abbott, Holywell; B. Peurson, Esq., Manchester; W. Rathbone, Esq., Liverpool; Thomas Taylor, Esq., Liverpool; Thomas F. Mainer, r.sq., Glykin Adoott, Dolywell; D. Pearson, Esq., Mainehester; W. Rathbone, Esq., Liverpool; Thomas Taylor, Usq., Liverpool; H. Ravson, Usq., Manchester; J. T. Crook, Esq., Liverpool; C. J. S. Walker, Esq.; J. Simpson, Lsq.; R. H. Greg, Esq.; W. A. Wilkinson, Esq., London; R. R. R. Menre, Peq.; J. Lond, P. sq., Bucup; W. B. Watkins, Psq., mayor of Mainehester; J. Cheetham, Esq., Salybridge; W. Foden, Esq.; D. Jerrold, Esq., London; T. Thomasson, Esq., Holton; S. Lees, Esq., Manchester; R. Steuart, Esq.; E. Smith, Psq., Sheffield; A. Henry, Esq.; J. Whitaker, Esq., Hurst; G. Bean, Esq.; J. Barratt, Esq., W. Morris, Esq., Salford; P. Seville, Lsq., Lees, near Oldham; G. Sonith, Priston; A. Watkin, Esq.; W. Johnson, Lsq., Wigan; W. Biggs, E. q. Leicester; L. Baines, jun, Esq., Wigan; W. Biggs, E. q. Leicester; L. Baines, jun, Esq., Leeds; H. Stansfeld, Esq., Rochdale; W. Hirvey, Esq.; Samuel Matley, Esq., Motram; Jaines Kershaw, Esq.; T. Barley, Lsq.; E. Armitage, Esq.; R. Johnson, Esq.; J. Potter, Esq.; J. R. Barnes, Esq.; Halshaw Moor; John Mayson, Esq.; John Burd, Esq.; S. Lucas, Esq., Collybrase, I. Chadwig, Lsq., Collybrase, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Collybrase, I. Chadwig, Lsq., Collybrase, I. Chadwig, Lsq., Collybrase, I. Chadwig, Lsq., Collybrase, I. Chadwig, Lsq., Collybrase, I. Chadwig, Lsq., Collybrase, I. Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Chadwig, Lsq., Mayson, Esq.; J. R. Darnes, r.sq., 110sona, 31001, 30001 Mayson, Esq.; John Burd, Esq.; S. Lucas, Esq., Colly-lanst; J. Chadwick, Esq., Eccles; J. Gadshy, Esq.; C. Cobden, Esq.; P. R. Arrowsmith, Esq., Bolton; E. Evans, Cobden, Usq.; P. R. Arrowsmith, Esq., Bolton; E. Evans, Usq.; S. Schwabe, Usq.; F. R. Arkinson, Esq.; James Proeter, Esq.; D. Proeter, Esq.; R. Nicholson, Esq.; W. Sicholson, Esq.; R. Hibbert, Esq. Godley; C. Tysoc, Usq.; R. Dalgleish, Esq., Glasgow; James Edwards, Esq.; N. Heald, Esq.; W. Sinutleworth, Esq.; L. W. Watkin, Usq.; Thomac Ashton, Esq., Hyde; W. Woodcock, Esq.; S. P. Robinson, Esq.; B. Syddad, Usq.; N. Buckley, Esq., Ashton; Russell Taylor, Esq.; R. P. Greg, Esq.; S. Greg, Esq.; John Shaweross, Fsq.; Robert Lees, Esq.; S. Greg, Esq.; John Shaweross, Fsq.; Robert Lees, Esq.; W. M.Call, Usq.; W. Macartney, Usq.; Frederick Douglas, Esq., Icotuner on shavery; Ethia Burritt, Esq., U.S.

The Chairman rose amidst lond cheering, and said:—

The CHAIRMAN rose amidst loud cheering, and said :-Gentlemen, I have no doubt that all the members of the Council who have received invitations to attend here this day are prepared to expect that the special besiness of this meeting will have reference to the course which this great organisation shall adopt, now that the chief purpose for which it was established is virtually accomplished thear, hear). There will, therefore, he submitted for your consideration resolutions which have engaged tention and consideration of the Executive Council. I would, by no means, have it for one moment supposed, that be ause they are so introduced and so' recommended, that it is intended to restrict the opinions of any gentlemen, members of the Council, who may entertain different opinious, or who are disposed to discuss the propriety of the course which we propose for your consideration, but that on this, as on all previous occasions, the fullest and freest discussion is invited by the members of the Executive Council, from those of the general governing body (hear, hear, hear). I rejoice, as all members of this association must do, that we meet no longer to shurpen our weapons, or to prepare to concentrate our forces for another attack upon that absurd system of legislation which has for seven years invited our special opposition. The corn monopoly, thanks to the last bill which has passed the legislature, has now its days dated and numbered; although, perhaps, if the League had been invited to prepare that measure, or if they had been consulted on its preparation, they would not have allowed the prolongation of its existence for a single day. Yet, as provision has been made for its final extinction in 1849, as during the time intervening all its horrors will be removed, we propose to take a common sense view of the subject, and discuss it as if was altogether done away with (hear, hear). It is due then to ourselves, and to the public who have entrusted us with such unlimited authority for the last seven years, that we should inquire, whether in the administration of their affairs we have ever violated a single pledge, or deof their affairs we have ever violated a single piedge, or departed on one single occasion from the principles which it
parted on one single occasion from the principles which it
was our duty to support, and lay before them (hear, hear).
We all know that the only restrictive provision of our or
the total and unconditional abolition of the Corn Laws, and
that we should acek on all coessions
which was netted, for the use of the treatment of the total and unconditional abolition of the Corn Laws, and
that we should acek on all coessions
the total and unconditional abolition of the Corn Laws, and
that we should acek it peacefully, legally, and constitute.

League 1 or the total continuous. In the depths of winter, in this town, and
ladies, who were not otherwise engaged in behalf of the
bazaar, canvassed and obtained upwards of 100,000 sigmatures to their memorial. They did more in 1813; they
should be a bazaar in the Thestre Royal, highelester, from
which was netted, for the use of the total and unconditional abolition of the Corn Laws, and
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that we should acek on all coessions
the total and unconditional abolition of the Corn Laws, and
the community.

In the depths of winter, in this town, where
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bazaar, canvassed and obtained upwards of 100,000 sigmatures to their memorial. They did more in 1813; they
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which was neglected and obtained upwards of 100,000 sigmatures to their memorial. They did more in 1813; they
had a bazaar in the Thestre Royal in the total and the condition of the condition of the condition of the condition of the con

tionally (cheers) - that, on the one band, all men who joined this association, should join it, knowing that they should be privileged from being dragged into the consider. tion of any other question; and that in doing to, they should be free from penal and legal responsibility. Now, perhaps, if we were called upon to defend ourselves, I might say, what other question has the Lengue touched or interfered with? And I might say what more how antifered set. fered with? And I might ask, what man has suffered pend or legal consequences, from becoming a member of the association? But as it will only take a few moments to show you that from the first we have adhered to our princt ples, I propose, in a few words, to show you the means we have made use of, and leave you to judge, whether they have been such as are likely, with the least delay, to seeme the accomplishment of our object. We all know the origin of the League; we all know that at a meeting in September, 1838, held in this town, at which that accomplished gentleman, Doctor Bowring, was present, a number of gentlemen resolved to form an Anti Corn Law Association, that that association grew larger and larger, extending its influence. Shortly after its formation the merchants, traders, and manufacturers of Manchester held a meeting near that place, and there voted for the purpose of supporting the Manchester held a meeting near that place, and there voted for the purpose of supporting the Manchester held a meeting the meeting the meeting the meeting the meeting the meeting the meeting the meeting the meeting the me place, and there votes for the purpose of supporting the Mah. chester Anti Corn Law Association 3000%, which was after wards mereased to 6000%. Thus armed, the Anti-Corn-Law Association convexed a meeting of delegates from all pairs of the kingdom,—they assembled in Manchester, and remolecal to force an Auto-Corn-Law Association through solved to form an Anti-Corn-Law Association throughout the kingdom. The delegates returned home; they empore cred the Manchester Association to convene a meeting in Lordon in February, 1820. This meeting took place, and then it was resolved by the merchants, traders, and delegate there assembled, to perition Parliement that they might present evidence at the bar of the House of Commons, Mr. Villiers made a motion to that effect; the petitioners were sire Greg, Mr. J. B. Smith, and others. The motion was negatived, and the delegates separated. A month chapsed, when they were again invited to meet at Palace Yuel, They tact. Mr. Villiers brought forward a resolution inviting the house to agree to the formation of a committee for the cons ideration of the abolition of the Coun Faws. That motion was again negatived; whereupon the delegates assembled and there and then resolved, at the suggestion of Mr. Coh den, to form this association which we have now met to disolve. They voted that its head quarters should be at Man chester, and that for the sake of communicating with its members and introducing notices of all its proceedings to the public, an Anti-Corn Law Circular should be established, the first number of which was published in April, 1839 Thus armed, the Executive Council at once proceedel to work. We engaged becurers, sent them throughout the country; they held meetings and discussions; they were interrupted; they conquered; Anti-Corn Law Associations were formed throughout the country, and at the end of 1829 upwards of one hundred towns joined the Anti Corn Law League. Our course of proceeding during that year was simply confined to bectures, the distribution of stamped publications, and public meetings. In 1840 we commenced those large assemblies for which Manchester has been since so famous. In January of that year there was erected on the spot that is now occupied by the site of the Free Trade Hall a pavilion, where on the 13th a public dinner was given, at which 4000 of the members and friends of the association were present; and on the 14th, 5000 operatives. Delegates attended that meeting from all parts of the kingdom. On the morning of the litti the delegates resolved again to resemble in London, at the opening of Parliament: they not in London, when Mr. Villiers again brought forward his motion. The debate closed without a division. The delegates separated and returned home, and made their te ports to those who had delegated them. In March of the same year they again a sembled at Brown's Lotel, Palice Yard. Mr. Villier, again brought frought forward his me tion, and it was negetived by a great majority. The delegates again separated, resolving to adopt other means for insmring the success of this great agitation. To the end of 1840 few changes took place, our proceedings being confined to lectures and the distribution of publications; but in November, 1840, the delegates again met, and voted confidence in the Executive Council, and recommended us further to proceed. In 1841, as you ail know, Lord John Russellgave notice of his resolution for wheat to be admitted at a day of 8s., and other things in proportion. A dissolution took place, and our question went before the country. The monopolists throughout the counties gained their elections. During that election we were numerically worse than we were in the previous Parliament, but there was sent to Parliament one ally to Mr. Villiers, whose return was worth a score of those we had lost during the election (hear, hear). Previous to the meeting of Parliament, and well knowing the great majority against the League, we applied for aid to those who, in the times of privation and distress, had shown it to be their special duty to attend to the wants and privations of the poor—the dissenting ministers; and in August of that year there was held for four days an assembly of men which, I am prepared to say, speaking the opinions of all who had the privilege of listening to their discussions, has never yet been equalled on any subject in this country. Par-liament met; the Ministers were defeated; Sir R. Peel was restored to power; they were proposing to separate without the slightest consideration of the relaxation of the corn duties, when a meeting was held in this Hall in September, to protest against the prorogation of Parliament until the subject of the Corn Laws had been again considered. A deputation was appointed by that meeting to wait upon Sir Robert Peel, and to him was conveyed the resolutions they had passed. Thus was finished 1841. Most in Parliament were hostilo to us; we had only a few who sympathised with the principles of the League. In the House of Commons we had two ablo men, who were prepared on all occesions to discuss this question; and it was discussed, and the benefits arising from the discussion consequent upon the dissolution are such as will form an era in the agitation of this question (hear, hear). The winter of 1841, now exhibited an increasing amount of distress, suffering, and privation, and then for the first time the ladies of this and the principal towns in England met together and agreed to canvass from house to house and door to door, to promote a memorial to her Majesty, humbly imploring her to instruct her Ministers to bring in a bill for the relief of the distressed community. In the depths of winter, in this town, the ladice, who waste yet otherwise arranged in labels of the

Transport !

Thus armed, we commenced the year 1842. As before, our principal movements were petitions, lectures, and publications, but in the commencement of 1812 Sir R.

Peel broug'it forward another amended sliding scale. The

delegates again met in Landon, and they denounced

this sliding scale; a meeting was convened in Manchester,

for the same purpose; it was there denounced, and the principles of the League were voted to be the only princi

ples upon which a good bill could be framed, and in every town this principle of the repeal of the Corn Laws

was introduced without opposition. Mr. Villiers then

brought in a measure for the first time, proposing that all duties upon the importation of foreign corn should cease

and determine. It was rejected, 505 voting against it, and

92 for it, leaving 303 majority against total repeal. Following

this came the disturbances, to which I will not refer beyond

this, that every attempt was rande in that critical time by the

monopolists to connect the League with the premotion of

that disturbance. It is due to the League to say that it suspended its ordinary meetings in consequence: but it is

also due to the League to say, that immediately after that it

commenced its weekly meetings; those meetings which

have since formed so important a movement in the promo-

tion of this object. In 1822 we closed, having made little

progress in Parliament, and under the persuasion that other

measures must be used forthwith in the commencement of

the new Parliament, to induce the legislature to adopt our

principle. At the end of 1842 we again met, and resolved to hold a weekly meeting. We resolved, on a review of the previous session, to distribute information much more freely,

especially among the farmers and farm labourers, and we re

solved for the purpose of the coming agitation, that a sum

of five times the amount of the previous subscription should be asked for, manely, 50,000%. The weekly meetings became

more important, and were removed to the Corn Exchange,

and then was erected that building which now stands a monument of the energy of the men who conduct the League,—The FREE TRADE HALL (cheers). 50,000L was

a large sum to collect in those days, without the object for

which it was asked being especially explained to those who

contributed. For that purpose, and at the invitation of the principal merchants, and influential persons in almost every

town in the country, Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright visited, assisted by Col. Thompson and Mr. Moore, all the large

towns of Scotland, and most of the large towns of England, and received contributions which flowed in, exceeding our expectation. We opened the Free Trade Hall

in January, 1843, announcing that 44,000% had been collected. We then commenced a most important year. We

resolved to adjourn our ordinary meetings of the Council for

commenced at the Crown and Anchor; from thence we

proceeded to Freemasons' Hall; and then, invited by that

distinguished man, Mr. Macready, took possession of Drury

Lane Theatre. From week to week these meetings were

being held; our tract distributors were at work, traversin;

hill and dale, delivering to every elector in the register a

packet of tracts, containing an exposition of our principles;

and over and beyond this, the first broadside was given to the agricultural monopolists by Mr. Cobden, announcing

his intention of holding a sories of agricultural meetings.

These meetings were continued, and, with one questionable

exception, in 31 or 32 open county meetings, the monopo-

lists, on their own ground, were overcome and defeated thear, hear, and cheers). We thus closed the year 1843.

We had lectured to the people; deputations had waited upon Government; deputations had called upon the Ministers;

information had been spread widely and freely to the people

and our county meeting a laid every one, save one, declared

in our favour. We made a report to our constituents, and

then we proposed that which they at once conceded, that

the fund to be collected for the next year should be 100,000L

It was agreed upon at a meeting held in this room, and pre-

sided over by Mr. Greg, when 12,000% was given at one

collection. It was afterwards increased to 20,000%. I shall

not go over a detailed history of our proceedings for 1814:

they were in almost all respects similar to those of 1845-

public meetings, agricultural meetings, lectures, and the dis-

tribution of publications; nor shall I refer to the proceed-

ings of the League during 1845, because they were in all

respects, save the agricultural meetings, of the same charac-

ter as those of 1841. Nor will I refer for one moment to that extraordinary exhibition of man's ingenuity and woman's

devotion, the Anti-Corn Law bazaar, which was held for 21 days in the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden. But in order,

after having educated the country, that we might bring all

the influences of the past agitation to bear on the legislature.

we projected the last and greatest movement—the registration.

I may way of that movement, much as it has been objected

to, that every vote which has been acquired according to the

suggestions laid down by the Lengue, has been pronounced,

when presented for the consideration of the Lord Chief Jus-

tice, good in every respect (hear, kear); that the desire

possess the franchise have been said by the same eminent

authority to be laudable and commendable (cheers). I have

thus gone over the principal plans pursued by the League;

they were confined to lew leading operations; it is for you

to judge whether those operations are such as should entitle

any man to say they were at variance with the principles on

which this League was established, or in any respect than

legal, peaceful, and constitutional (hear, hear). It has been

a glorious thing that to the men of Manchester and to those of other large towns, who have connected themselves with

the League, the country is mainly indebted for the abolition of the Corn Laws. It would have been glorious to have

carried our flag over the heads of our hostile opponents to victory; but surely it is more glorious, more desirable, to see

our forces recruited, and our armies lcd, by men who all

their lives, and up to the present moment, have opposed the

abolition of the Corn Laws (hear, hear), and that the flag of

Free Trade should wave in peaceful triumph over the heads

and disposition of the operatives or others who may

a month to London; also the weekly meetings.

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of a reconciled and united people (cheers). The chairman then called upon Mr. Cobden, who was received with the most enthusiastic cheers, which lasted for some minutes. Mr. COBDEN: If this were a meeting for any other purpose than that of business, in the strictest sonse of the word, I am quite sure that I should feel more embarrassed at meeting you on this occasion than I have done at any provious time; for I feel myself almost oppressed with the consciousness of the importance of the events we have been passing through lately, and of the great interest which is involved in the present meeting; and I am sure I could not do justice to the feelings which are now affecting me. We

The Executive Council of the League have called you, the Council, together, for the purpose of taking your opinion as to the course we shall now pursue; and I think the importance of that question is such that I shall couline myself as strictly as possible to business details in what I have to say, because I do not wish to prevent the many gentlemen who have come from distant parts the opportunity of giving their advice and assistance on this occasion. The Executive Council of the League in Manchester have talked over the matter repeatedly, and are now prepared to submit their views; and as I may as well put you in possession of what the general purport of all the resolutions is, I will just explain the substance of the whole (hear, hear). We propose to recommend, not that the League shall be absolutely dissolved in the strict sense of the word, and yet we propose to take such steps as amount to a virtual dissolution of the I eague, unless the protectionist party compel us again to revive our agitation. We propose to ask from you the authority and instruction to wind up and suspend the affairs of the League. We recommend that you should pass a resolution, absolving all those gentlemen who have put their names down to the large guarantee fund and paid their first instalment, from any further liability. We propose that you shall pass a resolution, authorising the gentlemen in Manchester, who have acted on the Council of the League, in case they should see any serious efforts made by the monopolists to revive the system of protection, or to induce Parliament to retrace its steps, then to request these gentlemen again to call the League into active existence. Gentlemen, we have thought that the course by which we shall fulfillour duty to the general body of subscribers, and likewise our pledges to the public. We have pledged our-selves not to retire from this agitation, or dishand the League until the Corn Laws were totally and immediately abolished. We are therefore not competent to dissolve this League, At the same time I ought to say, that with reference to our practical operations, it would be exceedingly difficult to draw a line between a total suspension of the League and a partial suspension. If we continue active operations at all, it must be on a large scale, and at an enormous expense. I do not think you can draw a distinction between 500% a-week and nothing. We have been spending the last three years at least 1000%, a week. Under these circumstances, I think itis a fair practical question to consider, what can be the object gained if we continue the active agitation of the League. In two years and a half the Corn Laws will be abolished by an Act now upon the statute book; and let us entertain the supposition that our efforts in agita tion out of doors should be ever so successful, it is hardly possible that in less than two years and a half we should succeed in altering the law which now exists; therefore I do not see that any practical good can result from continning the agitation in any form whatever (hear, hear). Now many people may say, "Are you safe in disbanding this great organization, are you safe in taking off your uniform (if I may use the expression), of casting aside your weapons of moral warfare? Will not the protectionists gain strength and confidence if they see you abolish the field?" I am of opinion that there is no danger of anything of the kind (hear, hear, hear). I look upon it that the mere boasting and vepouring of a few of the less wise part of the protectionist party may be very well excused by us. It is quite natural that men who felt worsted in an argument, and in all the tactics of political action during the last seven years, should console themselves with the promises of what they will do the next seven years But I hold that you may as soon abolish Magna Charta, or do away with Trial by Jury, or repeal the Test and Corporation Act, or the Catholic Emancipation Act, as ever re-emact protection as a principle again in this country (cheers). Some people say we go back in this country. I maintain that we never go back after a question has been discussed and sifted as ours has (hear, hear). You have never gone back in any of the great questions; if settled once they have been settled altogether. People do say that we went back after the Reform Act was passed. I will tell you what we did. We got hold of a machine which we did not know how to use, and the proper use of which we are now learning, but we never Nobody ever proposed the repeal of one enactment of the Reform Act. Therefore I hope our friends everywhere will bear this in mind, and if they should hear a noble lord, or even a noble duke, talking of what they will do, not let their nervous system be excited or They must raise a fresh crop of statesmen to alarmed. carry out their principles, for we have all the statesmen now on our side of the question (hear, hear). Such being our position, we have very good grounds for gratulation on the present occasion. I confess, I hardly know whom to thank, or how to account hardly, for our present position; there has been such a combination of fortunate accidents, that I must confess that I am disposed to thank that Providence which has overruled so many apparently so many apparently conflicting incidents for this great and mighty good -(hear, hear). I believe, gentlemen, we at all events may say, that humanly speaking we owe a debt of gratitude to our gracious sovereign, the Queen (bear, hear, and cheers). I believe it is not in strict etiquette to allude to our Queen's personal views and feelings in any matter, but it is well known that her Majesty's predilections are strongly in favour of the cause we have been agitating. Then, there's her late first Minister. Well, gentlemen, along with our success, we have seen the downfall of that Minister. Some people say he has lost office by giving us Free Trade. Well, if he has lost office, he has gained a country. For my part, I would rather descend into private life with that last measure of his, which led to his discomfiture, in my hand, than mount to the highest pinnacle of human power (hear, bear, hear). Well, among the stateamen, we owe a debt of gratitude to Lord John Russell (hear, hear). Individually, believe, we owe to him and his firmness, to his letter, and to his firmness during the intrigues of the last six months in London. I believe we owe it to his individual firmness that we had the support of the Whig aristocracy at all in this measure (hear). I am auxious as an individual on this oc-casion that I should lose sight of mobody to whom the country is indebted for the passing of these measures, because I do feel there has been a disposition to make one of us a great deal more a monopolist in this matter than he deserves (no, no). I speak of myself, and I say, that when I entered upon this career we found the road very much prevolved in the present meeting; and I am sure I could not do justice to the feelings which are now affecting me. We are met here on the present occasion as a meeting of the Council of the Langue. We have, in the working of this body, as you are a very mich was not like to be at down great prejudices, and destroy body, as you are a very men living in manifest in the committee of gentle manifests. The council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council of the council o

like the late Mr. Deacon Hume, Mr. Macgregar, and ber. Porter, in the privacy of their closets, furnished the world League, consisting of the subscribers of 50%, and upwards. with statistics, arguments, and facts, which, which, after all have awayed mankind more than any declamation or appeals to the massions can possibly do. There is one man especially whom I wish not to forget: it is Colonel Thompson (hear, hear). Colonel Thompson has made more large pecuniary sacrifices than any man living for Free Trade, and we all know his contributions in an intellectual point of view, which have been invaluable to us-we will not forgot the worthy Colonel amidst our congratulations amongst each other. Gentlemen, I said I should not detain you wish a long speech, and in fact I cannot do it, for I do feel oppressed with the feelings which now pervade my mind (hear, hear). I believe we are at an era which in importance, soenally, has not its equal for the last 1800 years. I believe there is no event that has ever happened in the world's his tory, that in a moral and social point of view-there is no human event that has happened in the world more calculated for the enduring interests of humanity than the establishment of the principle of Free Trade,-1 don't mean in a peouniary point of view, or as a principle applied to England, but we have a principle catablished now which is eternal in its truth and universal in its apolication, and must be applied in all nations and throughout all times, and applied not simply to commerce, but to every item of the tariffs of the world; and if we are not mistaken in thinking that our principles are true, be assured that those results will follow, and at no very distant period ( hear, hear, and cheers). Why, gentlemen, it is a world's revolution, and nothing clse (hear, hear), and every meeting we have held of this League, and this its last meeting probably, may be looked back upon as the germ of a movement which will ultimately comprehend the whole world in its embrace (cheers). I see and feel, and have always felt, the great social and moral importance of this great question (hear, hear). I believe many who have taken an active part in this question have been influenced solely by its moral and social consequences (hear). Gentlemen, we have amongst us on this occasion is gentleman who has come from a neighbouring country, France, an eloquent advocate of Pree Trade there, Mons. Duffour Dubergier, the Mayor of Bordeaux (hear, hear, and loud cheers). Gentlemen, it is gratifying that we should attract by a kindred sympathy the visit to our meeting of so distintinguished a man (hear, hear); and I know he will go back, not with fresh emotions of sympathy towards our cause, for those he has entertained already, but I have no doubt he will go back inspirited by what he sees here, and that he will be anxious that France should not stand long apart from England in this glorious career, but that we join hand to hand in setting nations the example of the mutual sdvan-tages of peace and prosperity (loud cheers). Well, gentlemen, this League must dissolve it must suspend. Our clements must be scattered. Well, I cannot help saying personally for myself, that the greatest pleasure I have found in the course of those proceedings has been in the acquaintances I have formed with, and the kindness I have received from, the men connected with this association (hear, hear). If I could ever have desprired of this country, after the acquaintances which I have made with the men in connection with this question -men who will be found the salt of this land in whatever good is to be accomplished -- having known what I do of my fellow countrymen in this agitation, I shall never despair of this moral power to conduct this good ship through whatever storm may affec, which will save us from anarchy at one cud, or tyrainly at the other of society (hear, hear). I am going to be egotistical; but I will say that, so far as I myself am concerned so far as my tastes go- a re lease from an active life of agitation will not be unacceptable to me (hear, hear). I ought, in order to enjoy the full pleasure of an agitator, to be differently constituted; and 1 don't think nature ever intended me for that line (laughter). I say it most unaffectedly, that I entered upon the career of agitation without the slightest idea that it would ever have conducted me to the point to which I have arrived (hear, hear, hear). I had not the most distant idea of it. I don't think circumstances would have warranted myself in taking the step eight years ago if I could have seen what it would lead to (hear). We got into the groove, and were pushed along, and we found ourselves currying a train of good hardy spirits who would not leave us; and having given us their support we were impelled forward in the groove at an accelerated speed, and with a constantly accelerated sympathy Well, gentlemen, for myself, you will hardly credit it, when I say that with respect to myself, I have precisely the same feeling now with respect to the ordeal of public meetings that I had when I began this agitation. It is a matter of great reductance and difficulty for me to appear before an audience at all (hear, hear). Many people would think that we had our reward in the appliance and eclat of public meetings; but I declare upon my honour that it is not so with me, for the inherent reluctance I have to address public meetings is so great that I don't even get up to present a potition in the House of Commons without reluctance. I therefore hope I may be believed when I say that if this agitation terminates now it will be very acceptable to my feelings; but if there should be the same necessity; the same feeling which has impelled me to take the part I will impel me to a new agitation,-ny, and with tenfold more vigour, after having had a little time to recruit my strength (cheers). Well, gentlemen, we are going to dissolve; those good spirits must disband, and I am not quite sure that it is not wise and proper that it should be so. Now we have been kept together for seven years without one single dispute, without anything to cause the slightest alienation. We have had the bond of freemosonry and brotherhood so closely knit about us, that I don't think there has been a keen word in the happy family of the Anti-Corn-Law Lesgue (cheers). Well, that is the spirit in which we should break off. Were we to continue our agitation, when the object for which we associated is gone, I am afraid that the demon of discord would be getting in among us. It is in nature so. It is in our moral nature necessary that when an organised body has performed its functions, it must pass into a new state of existence, and become differently organised. We are dispersing our elements to be ready for any other good work, and it is nothing but good works that will be attempted by good Longuers (clicers). Our body will, so to say, perish, but our spirit is abroad, and will pervade all the nations of the earth (renowed cheers). It will pervade all the nations of the earth because it is the spirit of truth and justice, and because it is the spirit of peace and good will amongst men (cheers). I move:

(cheers). I move:

"That an Act of Parliament having been passed providing for the absolution of the Corn Laws in Pebruary, 1849, it is desired expedient to enumend the active operation of the Anti-Cambillar of League; and the Executive Council in Manphester is hereby equation to the Executive Council in Manphester is hereby equation to the League with as little delay as possible.

John Baiout, Esq., M.P., rose to second the resolution, and was greeted with loud cheers. He spoke as follows need not way that I participate to the fullest extent in the feelings which have been expressed by Mr. Coblen; feelings which must arise, I believe, in the hearts of most of us, when we contemplate the fact that this is in all probability the last meeting of the Anti-Corn-Law League "hear, hear, hear"). I am at this moment im pressed with a feeling of the greatest possible delight that the object for which we have been handed together is at longth accomplished; but that feeling is tinged with one of another character, when I remember that in all probability we are now about to separate from friends with whom we have been long connected, and that have no longer in puranit an object which has been the dearest and most cherished of our lives (hear, hear). At such a meeting as this, and in such circumstances. I would be the very last man to atter one will able of unworthy exultation over those who have been defeated (hear, hear). I would not add one word to the implement sensations of a party whose liopes have been altegether descroyed; I would not say anything that should add to the exasperation and the bitterness which have un fortunately been introduced to some extent between various classes of this community during the protracted struggle which is now concluded; but I am of opinion that this final meeting may have some result beyond that of merely determining to wind up the affairs of this Lengue; that it may have some result, and that by it we may point a moral, and we may learn a lesson, we may contemplate the past, and we may for a little survey the future (hear, hear). To the public, the men, especially, who don't think very deeply, the object of the Auti Corn Law League is accomplished when the Corn Law is repealed; but if a tranking and philosophic mind were a ked what the League has done, I am of opinion that his answer would include many other points and many other things beyond the report of a particular statute Clear, hear). We have taught the people of this country the value of a great principle (hear, hear). They have learned that there is nothing that can be held out to the intelligent people of this king low so calculated to stimulate them to action, and to great and persevering action, as a great and sacred principle like that which the League espoused thear, hear). They have learned that there is in public opinion a power much greater than that which resides in any particular form of Government; that although you have in this king dom a system of government which is called "popular" and called "representative," a system which is somewhat clumsily contrived, and which works with many jars and joltines, that still, with a great principle, and with great labour, and with great sacrifices, all those obstacles are overcome, and out of a muchine specially contrived for the contrary, justice and freedom at length is achieved for the nation; and the people have learned something beyond this, that is, that the way to freedom henceforward is not through violence and bloodshed thear, hear, hear, and loud cheers). Why, there can be no power on earth with which we can ever be again called to contend more powerful than that which we have overthrown on this question (hear, hear) for we have low the particular privileged class bunded together, many of them strong in prejudices, many of them believing that their personal and class interests depended upon the views which they then held being maintained; and we have had also mighty prejudices and ignorances among the people to contend with, and yet all these have been dispelled; and there is nothing in the whole United Kingdom at present to oppose us, except the miscrable remnant of the ignorance which once prevailed (hear, hear, and cheers). I take it that there is no better lesson for the people to learn from it than this, that by persevering effort that by no infraction of moral law by strict obedience to the principles which we believe to be enjoined by the Christian code, they can obtain so great and signal victories, and victories which are not tarnished in the gaining, and victories which can never be lost -more great and more glorious than any other nation ever scheved by force of arms (hear, hear, and cheers). But this Vuti Corn Law League will stand before the world as a sign of a new order of things (hear, hear). Until now this country has been ruled principally by the class of great promietors of the soil. Every one must have foreseen that as trade and manufactures extended the balance of power would, at some day or other, be thrown into another scale. Well, that time has come (hear, hear) - and the rising of this League seven years ago was sufficient to have pointed out to any statesman that the power of the landed aristocracy had reached its height, and that henceforth it must find a rival and an opponent to which eventually it must become subjected thear, hear, and cheers). Now we have been living through a revolution without knowing it. In 1832 the House of Lords deemed itself a power in the state irresponsible except to heaven, and able of itself to say that a law should or should not pass. The House of Lords now makes no such pretensions. Lord Stanley declared, "God forbid that your lordships should set your selves against the clearly expressed will of the people (hear, hear); and I heard (for I listened to most of their debates on this question) -- I heard several other members of the House of Peers make use of very similar expressions thear, hear). They therefore understand their position now that they sit there not directly representing certain constituencies, or elected by them, but still that they are supposed to represent the people to some extent, and that they are responsible to public opinion for the exercise of the power which the constitution has entrusted them with (hear, hear, and cheers). But it is this and a neighbouring county that the great element of power in this country is henceforth to be found. Lancashire, the cotton district, and the West Riding of Yorshire, must govern England thear, hear). I don't mean that they must of themselves assert a superiority over other parts of the kingdom, like that which the rural and agricultural counties have asserted over us in times past; but I say that the vast population of those counties, with their interests, their morality, their union, that all these must exercise an immense influence upon all future legislation in this kingdom, and that the direction of legislation must be in accordance with the prevailing sentiments of the population of those two counties,-(hear, hear). And there is not a man in the kingdom knows it better than Sir Robert Peel (hear). There is no man more likely to know it, for he was born amongst us, and I confess that in looking at the course he has taken during the last session, I have felt some satisfaction that the man who in the last place came forward to give the fluishing stroke to that gigantic monopoly to which we have been opposed, should have been a man born amongst us, spring from the trade of this distriet, of a family who have done much to create and extend the industry of this district, and the wealth of whose family has to be traced entirely to that industry (hear, hear). Two years ago, Col. Thompson, at a meeting at Bristol, prophesy-

ing of Sir R. Peel-for the Colonel undoubtedly is a prophet, (cheers and laughter)-he said Sir R. Peel began in cotton spinning, and in plenty of cotton spinning he would end (laughter). But at the commencement of the present session Sir Robert Peel showed that he knew what was the power of this kingdom. When the address was to be moved, which was an address almost pledging the House of Commons to sanction some great measure of commercial reform, the members chosen to move and accoud the address were the members for the West-Riding of Yorkshire, and for the constituency of Bouth Lancashire - (hear, hear, hear) - and I am certain that henceforth a representative from these districts will have a large influence in the House of Commons, and that as the spirit which is now originated extends and becomes perpetual we shall have a much better representation for these distriets than we ever had before; and that in the House of Commons, as well as in the country, they will take the position which their constituencies take out of doors (hear, hear) I said we have been living in a revolution, and I am prepared to maintain it. Not such a revolution as that which we were charged with. We all recollect the seditions, the conpiracies, and the ulterior objects, and the democracy, and the revolution, and the destruction of property, and all other things, which were laid to the charge of this National Anti-Corn Law League. Now, I am prepared to maintain, that the result of this agitation has been of the very best charac ter, not only as respects the great mass of the population who live by labour, but as respects the holders, the owners, and the enjoyers of the great mass of property in this kingdom (hear, bear). Now, I put it to the meeting, -is it to be believed at this moment that the Crown is less popular than it was seven years ago? (Cries of "No," and cheers.) Is not the Queen as much in the occupation of her throne without any aspirant-without any one to envy or to slander her, as she was at any time (hear, hear)? Even the House of Lords itself, I believe, at this moment stands infinitely better in the respect of the affections of the people than it has for many years possessed (cheers). Why, we don't look at the House of Lords now as a body in the state which either ignorantly or wickedly is maintaining a law which we believe to be unjust to millions (hear, hear). We look upon it as a house tending, unfortunately sometimes too much-(hear, hear)—to moderate the legislation of another house. which nobody, I think, will contend goes on too fast for usbut I must confess that I have a greater respect for the House of Lords, from watching their passing of this bill, and the manner in which they have passed it, than I have ever had at any former period (hear, hear, and cheers). And of the House of Commons also we may have a better opinion, for notwithstanding we had so few votes before the Peel conversion, yet there can be no doubt that a very harge number, almost every one of the men who have come round with him, lad been before partially or wholly convinced of the necessity of the measures which he has introduced, and were only prevented from belying us because they were bound in by those fetters of party by which so much good is often prevented, and I must say also by which so much good is often accomplished. I believe this country also is in a much better position now than it was when our aritation commenced, because I believe the effect of all our writing and speaking has been to create a greater reverence for law not for bad law, but for justice; for we have taught that justice between man and man is really the principle on which legislation ought to take place (cheers). I look upon the effort which has given the great strength to this League with more interest than ever; but although we have accomplished this object, and the Corn Law is as good as dead, I would just speak one word of consolation to the men and capitalists of this district, that there are many more things to do; and I speak not of political or constitutional changes, but I believe at this moment there is a feeling among the great mass of the operatives of this district that there has been a persevering and determined effort on the part of the middle classes here to obtain for themselves and for the operatives a great measure of justice from the Government (hear). There is prevailing now (1 speak of the working classes) a very great degree of harmony in Yorkshire and Lancashire. I am most anxious that this harmony should be festered and rendered permanent. The duties by which that can be done are duties which do not devolve entirely upon workmen, but are duties to the performance of which capitalists and employers are also called -(hear, hear)-and I am persuaded if the capitalists and employers of these districts would, with an increasing kindliness and sympathy of feeling, unite themselves with the operative classes, do all they can to instruct them, do all they can to add to their enjoyments, treat them always with sympathy and always with justice (cheers) -I am perfectly satisfied that should our million and a half become three millions within this already densely crowded district, that all those visions of danger which men love to paint as the result of manufacturing enterprise and manufacturing employment, will remain only visions and will never be realised (hear, hear, and cheers). I will not pretend, in conclusion, to add anything to what has been said before with respect to the dissolution of this League. I wish it only to be remembered as being the example of the intelligent middle and working classes of the community rising up, banding themselves together, without violence, in obedience to every just law, strengthening year by year, until at length the greatest and the most odious tyranny from which any so-called free country ever suffered has been entirely overthrown (loud cheers). We need not raise monuments of stone, or of brass, or of any such durable material, to the honour of this League (hear, hear). If we have not been mistaken in the seven years we have worked, if we are not mistaken now—and I think I may say for all that have been working in this cause, that we not only do not believe we are mistaken, but we are confirmed in our conviction, that we shall find the result of this measure will be extended freedom to all classes of this country (hear), with extended freedom, increased security, not only for property, but increased security for labour, and for the rewards and for the enjoyments which are procured by labour; and I trust and believe-I speak conscientiously, I speak it after years of consideration-I believe that we have cleared away the greatest obstacle that atood in the path of the people, that we now stand on the threshold of a new career, and that if the spirit, and the energy, and the intelligence, of the great and noble qualities of which we boast ourselves, and which to some extent have been exhibited in the working of this League, - if those qualities we still possess, and we still bring into action, I know not that there is any height to which this nation may not aspire; and I know not but that in all good things, as we have often in all bad things, we may not lead forward other nations in the same career (great and

prolonged obsering).

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously amidst loud cheers.

R. H. GREG, Esq., was next called upon, and said,-The following resolution has been put into my hands, which I shall have great pleasure in moving:

"That after payment of the first instalment the subscribers of the £250,000 League Fund be released from all further liabilities."

I suppose, Mr. Chairman, this resolution has been placed in my hands because I was chairman of that meeting some six months ago, at which we called for the subscription of 250,000L (loud cheers), in the hope thereby of securing the repeal of the Corn Laws (renewed cheers). Now, gentle men, if you subscribed with pleasure to that fund in the hope of obtaining that great boon, I have no doubt you will receive with great pleasure that you will not be called upon for any future instalment—the end having been obtained for which it was entered into (hear, hear). It is to be hoped, however, that those who have not paid their first in stalment will lose no time in doing so (hear, hear). You see the release is conditional (hear, hear, and laughter. because there are many debts to pay, which I am sure everybody will wish to be discharged with honour and pune. tuality (hear, hear). And unless we have this money we cannot discharge those debts with that justice and liberally with which I am sure every friend of the League would wish them to be discharged. Before sitting down, I should like to add one or two words to this "last dying speech," as I suppose I may call it, of our body (hear, hear, and laugh There are only two great public objects for which I ever felt intensely interested—the reform in Parliament and the abolition of the Corn Laws (hear, hear). Gentlemen, I esteem myself happy to have lived until the time when both these objects have been accomplished (cheers). There may be different opinions as to the value of these measures. and it may be asked, "Are you not somewhat disappointed in the result of the Reform Bill, and may you not be equally disappointed in the advant ges you expect to derive from the repeal of the Corn Laws" (hear)? Now, gentlemen, up to this time, after the passing of the Reform Bill, I think it has not sufficiently been appreciated-I think its value has not been duly appreciated and acknowledged; and I think with Mr. Cobden, we have never made a full and proper use of it (hear). But this I will say, that the carrying of a reform in Parliament has had the effect of saving us from a revolution, and of more firmly attaching the middling classes to the constitution of the country (hear, hear, hear). In this point of view it is perhaps worth all the trouble and risks we ran in pussuit of it (hear, hear, hear). With respect to the passing of the measure for the repeal of the Corn Laws, I will mention my views, and you may judge from them whether the opinions I have formed are extravagant. I think we may expect to see the average price of corn and provisions somewhat lower than they have been (hear, hear). I expect the range of s will be much less than we have hitherto witnessed, and this, both to the benefit of the producer and consumer (hear, hear). I think the general value of the produce of the necessaries of life will be increased beyond the decline in prices, by the better development of the resources of the country, by a fair interchange of the great staple anicles of consumption which every country possesses thear, hear). I believe we shall not have the extreme gluts in manufactures and commerce which we have hitherto seen (hear, hear, and applause). I am far from being so sanguine as to say, we shall be entirely free from them. I am glad to see one thing, that the Government and landed aristocracy have learnt to appreciate the power and influ ence of the middle classes; and I believe they will regard us in future as brothers and equals, and not as dependants and inferiors (loud cheers). I am also induced to believe, that those results mentioned by Mr. Cobden will be realised through the world, from the example we have set of freely exchanging the products of the industry of one country with those of another (hear, hear). With respect to agriculture, I believe it has received a greater stimulus from the repeal of the Corn Laws than from all the agricultural societies that ever have been established (applause and laughter). I am confident the produce of the land will be greatly augmented, and that the landowner, instead of viewing mischief, will derive great advantages. With respect to the tenant farmer, I believe it will secure to him a better tenure of his farm, and tend to increase the wealth and comfort of the whole body of farmers (loud cheers). With respect to the League, though I am one of that body, I must give it credit for the uniform energy and wisdom with which it has carried out all its proceedings; and most of all I have admired the unanimity and single-mindedness which have distinguished it through the whole of the long period of the seven years of its existence (cheers). I must say that I am most of all satisfied with our present act of suicide, (hear, hear, and a laugh)—that our death is as worthy as our life has been; answer to those insinuations of our enemies, that we should use our power for ulterior puposes (hear, hear, and cheers). Gentlemen, I have felt that the existence of such a body as the Anti-Corn-Law League would be intolerable in any country, were not its powers limited, and its dissolution provided for, when it has accomplished the purpose for which it

was established (cheers). HENRY ASHWORTH, Esq.: Mr. Chairman, I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution. It has been my duty more than my pleasure on former occasions to address you. and on the last occasion it was for the purpose of proposing that the sum of 250,000% should be raised with a view to ob taining the abolition of the Corn Law. I now congratulate you that the work has been accomplished for one-fifth of the sum (hear, and loud applause). Gentlemen, I have greater pleasure in rising to take part in these proceedings than in any former ones, because I believe it may be the last one on which I may have occasion to appeal to the public. I shall be thankful to take leave of public life if I may be permitted to do so; and I am thankful that the residue of my life may be spent in domestic life, instead of being as it has been for some years, in political agitation (hear, hear, and applause). In conclusion, I would briefly advert to the period when we became banded together. For several years previous to 1887 we had abundant harvests, good trade, prosperity, and com-fort; and for several years after we had the reverse of that position (hear, hear). We found merchants and manufac-turers engaged in trade, who, without any cause of sensible reason, so far as they were concerned, found their property wasted, their business consumed, and themselves turned into the Gazette, without any charge of dishonesty; and in this way a wreck of property took place which it was painful to behold (hear, hear, hear). And we saw also that the working classes were brought into want and suffering that, those were the years when it was said, Change and

of this meeting, we did think of proposing a number of reso-

lutions of thanks to individuals; -we found, however, that

That bill, which will, at no distant period remove restric-

was very dear, and flesh and blood were very cheap (b ca

purpose of repealing those laws, which, we believe, brought

those inflictions upon us. It may appear a long time that

we should have been engaged for seven or eight years in a controversy to bring about that which is merely an act of

justice—(hear, hear);—but if we consider that, let us also consider the elements we had at our command to effect our object (hear, hear). We were an association

formed merely of commercial people, unlearned in agitation

and unskilled in logic or rhetoric, and lacking the knowledge

of those arts which our opponents were possessed of, and there

fore it was hardly to be expected that we should be prepared

for the accomptishment of a result such as that we have

now achieved (applause). Gentlemen, it has now been

econ that business industry, with a good cause, can beat

titled power with a bad one (cheers). We know our

strength; -it becomes us not to use it heedlessly and im-

properly, but not to hesitate to use it on all proper occasions. The League has now finished its work, and in taking leave

of you I may adopt the language of one of our distinguished

disciples on a recent occasion - namely, that the name of the

League will live in the execration of monopolists, but that

it will be gratefully remembered in the homes of toiling

labour (hear, hear); and that when the workman comes to

refresh his strength with food, it may be all the sweeter that

LIDWARD BAINES, Esq., jun., of Leeds & Mr. Chairman

and Gentlemen,-It is not my intention to detain you with

any general remarks on this occasion; but inasmuch as I

am a member of the League who does not belong to the

county of Lancaster, I feel that I should not do my duty

if I did not take the opportunity of saying for the West Riding of Yorkshire, that we feel, and that the country

seels (hear, hear)-the liveliest gratitude to the men of

Manchester for the wise, the admirable, the persevering

manner in which they have conducted this great con

sututional struggle to a triumphant issue (cheers). And

now, sir, I will not make another general observation,

but come to the matter which seems to me to be clearly

the duty of this day (loud applause). There is a duty

I think to the members of the League, and to the Face

Traders throughout the country, which we ought to dis-

charge, which is to give them advice; and that advice I

think they ought to neeept and net upon. You, sir, in

the course of the excellent observations with which you

opened this meeting, told us that the last and greatest movement of the League was the registration move

that it was by means of the registration movement that those

manifestations of public feeling and opinion were brought

about throughout the country which have ended in this glo-

rions result we are met to congratulate ourselves upon; but

t think after the League has planghed the ground, and

sowed the seed of registration for Free Trade throughout

the country that, seeing we are just on the eye of another

registration, and that that registration is to determine the

character of the next Parliament-probably for six or seven

years-I think, I say, that under these circumstances, it is

incumbent throughout the country to reap at least the crop

of which you have sown so plentifully the seed (hear, hear).

We must not forget, notwithstanding the delightful assu-

rances which have been given us by my honourable friend

tto whom I feel a personal gratitude for his invaluable la-hours in this cause)—Mr. Cobden,—we must not forget,

strongly, and in which, on one condition, I agree that the

Corn I aws will never be revived,-we must not forget two

or three things on which we have east our eyes in the course

of the scenes through which we have passed. We must not

forget that Lord Stanley and the Duke of Richmond-the

leading protectionists,—have given a distinct and solemn

pledge, that they intend at the next election to fight this

buttle of protection and Free Trade over again (hear, hear).

Now when we recollect that the Corn Laws have existed in

England for centuries, in one form or another, that the prin-

ciples of protection are deeply rooted in the selfishness of

binnan nature,-when we recollect that in the last election

when we consider that the converts in the House of Lord,

have not been the most sincere .-- when we consider these things, and the pledge given by the leading protectionists, it

would not be expedient that we, throughout the country,

should be indifferent to it (hear, hear). You are well aware

that the new registration will almost immediately commences

and, under these circumstances, I say it becomes the duty of

the League to offer this advice to the various Parliamentary

constituencies, -- that imamuch as it has become derirable

that the League should dissolve, in consequence of Free Trade having become the law of the land, they recommend

that the Free Traders shall so attend to the registration as

to secure a Free Trade majority at the next election to up-

"That the Conneil of the Lengus, whilst discontinuing its own operations, cannot be insensible to the infimation given by the leading protectionists in both Houses of Parliament, of a

pleasure in submitting the following resolution:

Willi these views, I have great

t majority of 90 was returned in favour of protection,-

notwithstanding those assurances he has given us

ment (hear, hear).

You told us, sir, and most truly,

it has not been leavened with taxation (cheers).

The resolution was carried with applause.

At that time we became associated together for th

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80 me wine. Bt is

Llike ns I

tally

determine on to contest the onening general election with a siew to obtain the repeal of the Corn Importation Bill; and, under these circumstances; to conneil off r their carnest reconnectation to the Free Tralers in the Parlamentary constituencies to continue their vigilant attention to the registration,

so as to be able to return a decided Free Trade majority to the next House of Commons.

id that law (hear, bear).

Mr. P. TAYLOR, of London, seconded the resolution. He

had served his apprenticeship to the League in Manchester, and he rejoiced that he was at last out of his time (hear,

hear, and a laugh). He assured the meeting that the grati-tude felt in London towards Mr. Colden was not exceeded

by any part of the kingdom. If there had ever been a slight feeling of jeulousy, the amiable conduct of the League it-

self, and the great efforts they had made, had rendered that body as popular in London as any where. He was gratified

at the resolution of the League to dissolve itself, for this was a virtual dissolution, for it was good that it should expire in

its full strength (hear, hear), and that it should exhibit no

symptoms of weakness and decay (hear, hear). It had suc-

reeded in its object, and it was good that it should now expire, but leaving behind a monument of great and noble ex-

ertions in a great and noble cause (cheers). He had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

WILLIAM BROWN, Esq., Liverpool, rose amidst lond and prolonged chearing, which was repeatedly revived, and said: Gentlemen, I may well rise with hesitation to address a few words to you, after the speeches I have heard of surpassing

eloguence and feeling; but I cannot let the opportunity pass without congestulating you all moon the great fact we have, solved with renewed cheering. He said Mr. Chairman lieard, that we have released from the Corn Law (cheers).

tions which have so long trammelled the energies of the country, and kept up scarcity, has at length received the Royal assent; and, gentlemen, it is not only here this happy effect will follow, but I am convinced that it is the best measure that has been adopted, or ever can be adopted, to keep us at peace with all mankind (cheers). And I must say that I do attribute the pleasant naws we have recently received from the United States to a knowledge of the fact, that those Free Trade measures had passed (hear, hear, and cheers). It is exceedingly gratifying gentlemen, that we have it in our power, and that we are this day met to redeem that pledge given to the world, -- that the Anti-Corn I aw League should only co exist with the Corn Laws. As has been said, we have been called an unconstitutional body- a body having ulterior and revolutionary views; this day will prove to mankind the singleness and honesty of our purpose thear, hear, cl.cers). It is quite true, gentlemen, that the Anti Corn-Law League have made a great revolution in our commercial policy, and one which I believe will have a more happy effect in keeping the peace of the world than the most brilliant victories ever achieved by arms created (cries of "hear, hear," and load applause). We must feel, gentlemen, a deep debt of gratitude to the early members of the League, who undertook the Heroulcan task of teaching a whole nation the folly of protective laws. When they lead to encounter the scoffs and sneers of those with whom they had to contend, they never once forsook their course, but took a plan which has made truth triumph over error, and by that they have now brought us together in this hall to celebrate the victory (cheers). All honour to such men! If it had not been for their zeal, their singlemindedness, their willingness to submit to great personal sacrifices of time and convenience, I fear we should be here—or rather not here, but in the country deploring a defeat instead of celebrating a victory (hear, hear). I fear, also, these labours have not only interfered with the time,

we shall never be called upon to carry it into effect. I have great pleasure in moving it. great piensure in moving it.

"That in ease any serious attempts be made by the protection ist perty to induce the legiclature to retrace its steps, or present the find extinction of the Corn Law in February, 1819, the gentlemen who have hitherto so ably fulfilled the duties of the Exe

but with the health of our distinguished leaders (hear

hear); and the country owes them, I am sure, a debt of

gratitude which it can never repay; but as there is another

meeting in connection with that subject, at which I shall be

happy to be present (hear, hear, and cheers), I shall not

further refer to the matter now. I think the chairman has

placed in my hands a resolution, which he ought not, be-

cause that it is a protective resolution (a laugh); but I hope

cutive Council be hereby authorised to call the League into renewed existence. JOHN CHEETHAM, Esq. (Stalybridge): I rise, Sir, with great pleasure to second the resolution moved by Mr. Brown, whose presence on this occasion, standing in his public, and I might almost say, official position, (lond and protracted cheering) is an example of the no small results which have spring from the organisation of this League (cheers). resolution he has proposed, and which I have been called to second, asks you to leave in the hands of the Executive Council of the League the duty of carefully and zealously watching the progress of the events, so that if it be required you shall be once more summoned to the field. I admit that it is a large power to leave in the hands of these gentlemen, but I am sure the best guarantee you have for its proper exercise is the care and wisdom and discretion, which have characterised their past actions. (foud cheers and applause). In alluding to the past proceedings of the League, almost all the speakers have seized upon some point of interest in those proceedings to remind you more particularly of; and there is one which, as it comes to my mind associated with many pleasing recollections of the room in which we are now assembled, I would also mention. It is to that gathering which you, Sir, called together in this room of those 700 ministers of the gospel from different parts of the country (hear, hear, and cheers). Now, I am sure—for our worthy chairman himself has acknowledged it—that he who looks back to the history of the last seven years must regard that as an event of no ordinary consequence in producing the results at which we have now arrived. You had gone, before this, with your facts, and arguments, and reasons, to Parliament; but when you gathered these men together here, you threw these things uside, and left them to decide, "Are these laws just?" And when they And when they solemnly declared before the country, and of Him in whose presence they were assembled, that these laws-be their object what it might -were they necessary to one interest or another,-were essentially unjust. (hear, hear, hear)-I say, when this declaration was made, when the neverdying feeling went forth that these laws were unjust and unrighteous, your work was half done (hear, hear, and applause)!-Mr. Chectham went on to say that there was great encouragement in their past proceedings to struggle for other rights; for it taught this lesson, which ought ever to be inscribed on the banners of men banded together in

pursuit of the public good, that "great is the truth, and it must prevail (applause).' F. R. ATKINSON, Esq., said, he would remind the meeting, now that they were about to suspend proceedings, of the remark of Oliver Cromwell, when he said, "Gentlemen, let us go to pray, but keep your powder dry (applause and laughter). Now he had not much confidence in the promises of the protectionists, unless they (the Free Traders) kept their powder dry, and kept a sharp look out, for he feared there would be some treachery (hear) All he had to say was, that he hoped the Council would exercise great vigilance, and be ready at the slightest alarm to call together that powerful and active body the Lengue, which had

accomplished so much (loud appliance).

— Gronge Тиомая, Esq., of Bristol, said, he thought the League was bound to dissolve, but still he thought this resolution was the safety valve (hear, hear). It was a gratifying thing to him to meet so many noble spirits on this occasion, and that they owed a debt of gratitude to the men of Lancashire especially, which they could never repay. He thought they could hardly calculate the results of this measure to the world: it was beginning a new era, and what we had known of prosperity in his opinion would be far ex-

The Chairman put the resolution, and it was carried with much applause. JOHN WHITTARER, Esq., of Hurst, here rose and moved that the Chairman do leave the chair, and that Mr. Robert Hyde Greg be called thereto.—Mr. Greg took the vacant

coeded by that which was to come (cheers).

chair amidst loud cheers. Bromand Condun, Esq., presented himself, and was re-

the field was so very wide, and that it would be likely to lead to some invidious exceptions or omissions, so that we thought it would be best to avoid any compliments (hear, hear). It must not be supposed, therefore, that we forget any one (hear, hear); especially do we bear in mind, I am sure, the services of our friend Mr. Villiers (hear, and loud cheers). I have always considered it, gentlemen, one of the most fortunate accidents of this agitation—a providential incident, I should almost call it-that our question fell into the hands of Mr. Villiers; for there is not a man in tho kingdom, in the hot bed of the League itself, that has more unflinchingly held the principles of repeal, nor who, during the last six months that we have been on the tenter-hooks of auxiety on this question, has had his mind more absorbed in the result, than Mr. Villiers (hear, hear, and cheers). I am sure that my friend Mr. Bright, and every one who has been in London, can bear testimony to the deep auxiety of our friend -("hear, hear," from Mr. Bright, and cheers); and also to the exertions which he was constantly making to help forward our question, by encournging those who were disposed to support it; while he discouraged others who had hopes that they might be able to compromise the principles of that measure. Well, gentlemen, there were other parties to whom I might with propriety allude; and amongst others I might mention the quiet members of the League—the silent members, I might call them (hear, hear, and cheers). There are a number of gentlemen who, during the last seven years and a half have been almost daily in attendance at the League rooms in Newall's Buildings; and bear in mind for the first two or three years of our agitation it was a very hopeless matter, there was so celat, no applause, the result of the power wo now enjoy (hear, hear); - we sat in a small room, the same we now have, and we had a dingy red curtain drawn across the room, that we might not feel chilled by the pancity of our numbers (cheers and laughter). Two or three were all that were there on one occasion, and I recollect smiling and saying to my friend Prentice, "What a lucky thing it is the monopolists cannot draw aside that curtain, and see how many of us there are, for if they could, they would'nt be much fightened" (cheers and laughter). Now it would give you an idea of the almost unheard-of labours of these men if I gave you the number of times half a dozen of them have attended meetings of the League, and had their names recorded on the minutes of proceedings (hear, hear). There is our friend George Wilson, the chairman, 1801, times - (loud cheers;) - Mr. Prentice, who stands next, 1127 times-(lond cheers;) -- Mr. Samuel Lees 863 times-(lond cheers;) - Mr. Rawson 601 times— (lond cheers) Mr. T. Woolley 485 times — (lond cheers;)—Mr. W. Bickham 174 times-(loud cheers;) Mr. W. Evans 144 times (loud cheers); and Mr. Henry Rawson 258 times-(loud cheers). I have given you here the names of those gentlemen who have attended most frequently there, and others have also given their attendance for 100 and 150 times. Now these gentlemen have also been most assiduous workers in private, in conducting the correspondence and others labours of the Council: and some of them have never been heard of before, and never would have been heard of, if I had allowed their modesty to have prevailed (cheers and lond huighter). Now I think it is a matter to be referred, - not to the Executive Council, because they are the parties themselves -- but to members of the Council from a distance, - I think it should be recommended to them to consider some mode of giving a testimonial, something which should be durable and remain in the families of these gentlemen (lond cheers). I am sure it is less the value of the thing than it is desirable that a tribute so honourable to them and to you should be presented to them, to hand down their names to their children and to posterity, as having contributed to this great event (lond cheers). I leave that in the hands of others; but now, gentlemen, I come to a question of an important kind. We have moved our friend Mr. Wilson out of the chair; it was because I have a few words to say which it would not be agreeable to his modesty to listen to. Gentlemen, these proceedings cannot be allowed to determine without taking into consideration the best mode of testifying to Mr. Wilson the opinions we entertain of the unparalleled services he has rendered to this cause (loud and prolonged cheering). Mr. Wilson, Mr. Prentice, myself, and another or two, were at the outset the incubers who most frequently attended these meetings. There are only a few gentlemen who can vouch, as I hope they will, for the labours of Mr. Wilson. Now, some of you may have thought that he was remunerated for his services to the League. I know that there has been such an opinion abroad, and when you have heard it you will no doubt have said that nothing could be more fair and just than that he should have been remunerated (hear, hear). But, gentlemen, from the first, Mr. Wilson has refused to receive one furthing of compensation for his services (loud and prolonged cheer Seven years ago I pressed it upon Mr. Wilson to allow us to give him with his office as chairman of the Council of the League a stipend; and although we were then poor and hardly knew where to raise funds for our humble agitation, I proposed to him to receive 500% a year, to abstract himself from business, and give his attention almost exclusively to the League. He declined the offer, but stated his willingness to bear all the weight of business we could lay upon him shoulders. Well, gentlemen, as our friends increased, we pressed upon him to accept 1000% a year; but this he declined. He probably thought—what none of us did—that if he ant in the chair as a stipendiary chairman, he would not preserve that independence and usefulness which he has done. Gentlemen, the services of Mr. Wilson have not been on the surface like those of some of us. My friend Mr. Bright and myself have been rewarded with the applause and encouragement of public meetings, -one of us far beyond his descris—(no, no, and cheers)—but the labours of Mr. Wilson have been the labours of the counting house and the closet (cheers). He has had the labours of this body entirely under his control-and the practical details of the business of the League have been entirely under the ours of Mr. Wilson; and I will say, after seeing many public men, and knowing something of public business, that I never met with a man who possesses such instinctive sagacity in sacertaining the principles and motives which actuate men, and such a comprehensive power of dealing with matters of business as my friend Mr. Wilson (cheers). Organisation the organisation of men is, with our friend Mr. Wilson, an instinct; the management of details of the largest possible extont are with him practicable, and he manages them with asso at the same time that he grasps a thing in its whole extent. There is not a thing, whether it has come in the shape, of a bazaar or a gublic movement, but Mr. Wilson has taken

charge of the whole details from the first advertisement that there was to be a bezaur, as in the case of that in London, down to the superintendence of painting the interior of the theatre; he has taken the whole of the details under his care so as no other man could do it. It has been one of the most gratifying features, indeed, of this movement, that we have found men fitted to fill every department; men have fallen into their places instinctively, but of all the talent, the labour we have had at our command, I do not know of any human means by which we could have reached the point we have, if we had not had the services of Mr. George Wilson (hear, hear, and loud cheers). And now, gentlemen, after saving that, I beg to propose that we pass to some fitting mode of seeing how we can in some measure reward—for we cannot adequately reward him, I am Sine (hear, hear hear). Gentlemen, on the receipt of the whole of the first instalment of our last fund, we shall have such a sum es I believe will enable us to wind up the affairs of the League -though there are many things which we may not have yet taken into account, and there are many points that come as a sort of backwater, after so much agitation, -but I believe we shall have in our power, offer meeting all our engagements, the masns of pressing npon his acceptance the receipt of a sum of not less than 10,000/, (foul and repeated shouts of appliance). I have not said a word to him as to his feelings in this matter, but fay friend Wilson possesses sound common sense, and is roll a churlish man (laughter), and therefore I hope he will not reference to the satisfaction of paving this tabute to his worth (loud cheers). I therefore move:

(lond cheers). I therefore move:

"That this meeting views with feelings of unfelgmed advargation and quatitude the long, ardigon; and involvable sees reserved to the Lengus by the Chairman of its Conneil, George Wilson, Esq., and hereby authors as the Lengus Conneil to present to him, and to recept of a sum of not less than 10,000% to be paid out of the funds of the Leagus."

Mr. Switt: The manimity which percels the meeting on this resolution is what I anticipated, therefore I shall not trees pass further moon your time to say I give my cordial as ent to

pass further upon your time to say I give my cordial assent to

Mr. BROTHERTON, M.P., said that, like his found, Mr. Cob. Mr. BROLLETELON, M.P., wild that, like this friend, Mr. Cob-den, he inch been always extremely reductant to precent him well before a public in ction; but he really could not slow him well the pleasure of supporting the motion which had just been just from the chair. He had been a writers of Mr. Wilson's conduct during the best seven years, and he had no hesitation in saving that whatever might have been the exercises of the others of the League, he did consider that the success of this great measure was as much attributable to the uney angled as in anxing that whatever might have been the exercises of the others of the League, he did consider that the success of this great measure was as much stributable to the times ampled as ablutty and wisdom he might even and the conduct generally, and the influence of Mr. When in the League, as to are other member of it, however do timenished. Therefore he (Mr. Brothertor) doubt not sit still without offerme his tribute of price to that centleman, and expressing less extreme gratification that such a vote had been proposed. And while the was on his pressuch a vote had been proposed. And while the was on his pressuch as the would allow him, as that was the lest meeting that ever would be held on the subsect to constitute that we at emmanity on what he helic of to be the virtual reneal of the emmanity on what he helic of to be the virtual reneal of the form leave. He must say that he felt it to be a great henour and privilese that he had the oupportunity of adding in a humble degree, in the promation of this great cares. It had been be in tabley expressed by Mr. Coislen, that we no man, however and writing could have expected the woll of some man become in the hearth leave. He can idered that the meson Parliament might he reproduced a Whige Parliament, here, hear). He can idered that the meson Parliament might he hearth of the considered and the we has of their belowed Sover ign to not down the commonly in each in time tend of those members here the deed who would easy out the a price ciples, a recat majority of momonolists we say that the meson at large that it was impossible that the meson records to the among at large that it was impossible that the meson is ciples, a read majority of monomolists was elected. It upper was to the nation at large that it was impossible that the imaging could even be executed but, in suite of of the combination of circum squeecthes had so enduring the last fixe years, there had no in the thorn one pull to truth as directive that the Leasure was teremologic telescope. He could not between this proof measure a possible power of mile contains. In every the execution is the latter of the measurement with the had been for a crum extent in the latter. therefore a peroat of the power of multi-ordenous. In every other frent aritation there had been, to a extrain extent, in time left on or an an obscauce of physical force, but with record to the agitation in factories the repeal of the Corn Laws, they found four it has been contacted as expected as the contacted and the contacted are sentenced. on an an ourance or poysion party for vita result to present the anti-order of the Corn Law, they found that the following the public of the theory entirely assemble included by enlightening the public returned or party. All they was here exist measures under the accomplished chan found don truth and pustice, here ever appear mees to did be accorded to truth and pustice the thought and disposition to be immuned of in the beyond their belowed Queen to carry out this measure for which the had disposed Paria ment, and to put that thought into the mind of a perceful ment to aid in carrying it out, and the measure was ecomplished (cheeps). He (Mr. En allevion) consequents distributed that her each, and the measures which he frusted would yet be passed before this Pariaments, which he frusted would yet be passed before this Pariament was dissolved. They might see acciculture, manufactures, and commerce, all dourishing simultaneously, and they probably would not the acquestone three alternations of prost crity and also a strendful. merce, all flaurishing simultaneously, and they probably would not then experience these alternations of prosts rity and adversity which had been seen during the last twenty or tvents five years, or at least since the Corn Lays were possed floor, bear). It had been proved that these measures would not toud to the injury of agriculture, but that all classes in the community would be benefited by them. They would see the important results of these measures in the improved state of secondy in present, they should see in the improved state of second in the commercial energies of the country extended and proper info-they should see less crime, less poverty, and a better state the commercial energies of the country extended and proper info-the commercial energies of the country extended and proper info-they should one loss crime, less poverty and a better state of society (hear). He /Mr. Brothen in) was delighted to leave that there might be a continuation between the operative and manufacturer (lear, hear). They knew that property had its getter in wise measures to promote the energial combon it is getter in wise measures to promote the energial beautiful of the community, a degree of prosperity would be enloyed in this community, a degree of prosperity would be enloyed in this community of which, perhaps, the most sanguine mind in the room could scapedy form an idea (hear, hear). In many respects this measure would be advantageous. It would be advantageous both in a physical and commercial point of view (hear, hear). Let them only consider what the adde of that country was when he told them that the respect of the Corn Laws took off a fay of one million a year which was levied on the possible of Lucashire (hear, hear.). Such benefits as the salware worthy of creat eyer, thous, the end had hear accomplished in the most striking manner, and be trusted they should all unite together in making the heat use of that which had now been placed within the result of that most commercial community (hear, hear). He /Mr. Rootherton again tendered the tribute of his thanks to Mr. Wilson and the other gentlemen who had displayed so much Restherton) again tendered the tribute of his thanks to M. Wilson and the other gentlemen who had displayed so much attention in carrying out this great and peaceful axitation, and he trusted they should have no occasion whatever foremore their exertions thear, mean. He could not say he agreed in the sentiment that had been expressed by Mr. Atkinson with regnd to distrusting the aristogras or anybody in the curving our of this measure. It had been accomplished by truth and justice, and if there was an attempted breach of faith, there was energy enough in the axion to induce the at tise in a sone man to realst such an attempt (cheers). He did not aich to see distinct engeniered and he believed that now the measure was carried, and the nation convinced of its advantages, no power on earth

and the nation convinced of its advantages, no power on earth and the nation convinced of its advantages, no power on earth could repeal that law (cheers).

A. Phi Stite, Esc.: I did not intend to a diress you; after having written for 10 years, and snoken for 50 years against the Corn Laws, you may imagine that I came rather to listen than to talk. But I came to help rising when the subject is the claims of Mr. Wilson to your gratitude (land cheers and explains). Mr. Cabden has told you that Mr. Wilson's attendances at the Cornell amounted to 1360 times; but that is not half of the amount of his attendances any notice of his journeys to London on the basiness of the League for wreks together, often occupying

night and day; there is no notice of his journeys to other parts of the country on the business of the League. I think that if we take 7½ years and multiply it by 380 working days, and count all those days as fully employed in this cause, you would have a notion of his services. Gentlemen, it is nothing but the dictate of gratitude that we should offer him this testimonial. I do not think any money will repay his services, and I think that tate of gratitude that we should ofter him this testimonial. I do not think any money will repay his services, and I think that loose, has not been fixed upon because it was in any way conceived to be the measure of the value of his services, but the thought that dictated the sum was rather that that was the amount which remains in our hands as a surplus. Then there is the subject of attendances: Mr. Woolley, Mr. Lees, and others have attended upon sub-committees. I do not take much credit for having attended more general meetings, because these gentlemen have often attended meetings of committees which have occupied much more time, and often till a late hour of night, coupled much more time, and often till a late hour of night when I have not.

Mr. Bigos expressed his gratification at being present at that Mr. Bigos expressed his gratification at being present at that meeting, and coming as he did from a middand county, he could not, with justice to himself, or those from whom he came, refrainfrom expressing the deepest sense of gratitude for the ser yiers of the Council of the League (cheers). He regretted that the distance of his place of residence had prevented him from rendering the effectual assistance which bis inclination would prompt to render; but he was glad the management of their affairs was in the hands of gentlemen so patriotic and energetic. removing the checium assistance which his meaningment of their points to render; but he was glad the management of their affairs was in the hands of gentlemen so patriotic and energetic, and who had accomplished such great social results (appliance). He conceived the passing of the measure for the repeal of the Corn Laws was not only one of the greatest events of modern times, but would confer more advantages on the people of this acid other countries than any measure that had passed for centrales. The work in which they had been engaged had conferred benefits on haupanity at large; and they felt that the services of those centlemen who had been occupied in carrying out the details of that work had been invaluable. He entirely agreed in the vote to Mr. Wilson (cheers), and suggested that some token should be paid to those gentlemen whose names had been read over by Mr. Colden cheers). On behalf of the midland connicts, he wished to say he ventirely they approved of the conduct and her deep in the League.

cit of the Longue.

The resolution was then put and carried by acclamation in the nost enthusiastic manner, all the members of the Council and of the poneral body standing up, and cheering vociferously.

Mr. Ratunova, of Liverpool, briefly proposed the next resolution which was as follows:

lution which was us follows:
That the members of the Executive Council of the League That the members of the Executive Council of the League articalitled to the warmest gratifude of the League and of the country for their high principled, laborious, and most success, ful exertions during the seven years of our constitutional agita from and that a committee he appointed, consisting of Joseph Brotheston, E.-q., M.P., and sucb-gentlemen as he may associate with Finiself, to determine on some suitable testimonial to be presented to those gentlemen out of the funds of the League." It was not necessary to say one word as to the propriety of grying some token of gratitude to those who had worked so laboriously without any reward but the approbation of their own priving some token of gratitude to those who had worked so laboried dy without any reward but the approbation of their own consciences (cheers). He hoped, now their efforts had been successful, that a moral regeneration would take place among the people, without which cheap bread would be of little value.

Mr. Bines triefly seconded the resolution, which passed with appliance.
The Custrass: As no other gentleman has anything to ad-

diess to this meeting, it is now my duty to say that the Anti-Com Law League stands conditionally discolved.

Co-n Law League stands conditionally dissolved.

A deep silence followed this announcement for a few seconds, when some calculation for "three cheers," and Mr. Couties, rising, said, I don't think we can get up a cheer their, he ir, and lengther), for, as I have just been observing to my friends on my right and left. I never felt so "flat" in all my life (tanciter). I never heard speeches that fell so flat, and never sew an audience that looked so flat as to-day (a laught). It is right it should be so, for we have been celebratine the obsenever sow an audience that looked so flat as to day (a lauch). It is right it should be so, for we have been celebrating the obseques of the League. We began in solemnity, and we end in solemnity (hear, hear). The world will see, at all events, that what we relse they may be, they are cornect men who have engaged in this work (hear, lear). If you would like to have a cheer, let us try if we can't get up a few sepulchral ones (build cries of "hear, hear," and laughter). Come, I'll be your fredeman.

fur leman.
The lemanuable gentleman then led off, and was followed with right good will by the meeting, in very loud, prolonged, and

effective cheering.

"The Queen" was then named, and the mention of her Ma jesty was received with a long and hearty burst of applause, and the meeting then separated.

# AGRICULTURE.

THE EMANCIPATION OF INDUSTRY.

A FEW LAST WORDS TO THE TENANT FARMERS.

The work of the League is accomplished. Absolute freedom of trade in corn, within three years, is provided for by Act of Parliament; and in the mean time a modified and moderate scale of duties will be in operation. We believe that this period of transition will be mischievous to farmers; first, by preventing them from gaining at once the full advantage of freely importing grain for cattle food; and next, by inducing an exaggerated expectation on the part of foreign growers of the ultimate capacity of our market. Moreover, it will postpone arrangements with the landlords. However, whatever be the effects of one or all of these causes, they will be only temporary, and ought not seriously to derange the plans of any intelligent and calculating farmer Virtually the trade in corn is free. A legislature of landowners no longer metes out to the people the quantity of their food. Parliament has given up the hopeless, impossible task of "regulating" the price of grain. Henceforth that must depend upon the seasons, the enterprise of our agricultural capitalists and of our merchants. The prices of corn, be they high or be they low, will be natural prices, the result of natural causes. Artificial scarcity will no longer be brought in aid of the landlord's rental. Like the rest of the community, he is to come into fair competition in the world's market. Wheat grown on ducal and squirearchal acros will not again be sold at a price beyond its real value, because the duke or the squire who owns the acres is "heavily mortgaged," or has large portions and family jointures to provide for. Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, London, and the hundreds of other tages of leisure and edication of interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest and interest a

places in which the toiling artisan gives indirectly an enormous value to the land of this country will no more be taxed, to uphold the "station" or satisfy the greed of a landed aristocracy. The combination of trading energy and educated knowledge which constituted the power of the League, has emancipated the trading and commercial industry of the nation from the last bond of feudalism.

Would that we could say that rural industry in emancipated also. The blight of feudalism still rests on agriculture. Customs, which have he better source than landlord prejudices, and regulations, which result from the capricious exercise of landlords' will, still prevent the development of the art of husbandry. That business, which of ali others is most congenial to the human mind, which affords a wide sphere of usefulness, and requires for complete success the exercise of many and varied talents, is the only one from which educated, highminded, and independent men, are excluded; and excluded by that system of managing landed property, which renders the tenant farmer—the agricul. tural capitalist-in point of position and security. but one degree removed from the condition of the landlords' builiff. And is this state of things to continue? We firmly believe that it cannot for any great length of time; measuring time by the period of national existence. But the problem is, how to emancipate the present generation of farmers?

We have laboured earnestly during the last three years, to draw the attention of tenants to their trus position. We have shown them, not only the direct losses and injuries they have sustained from the system of "protection," but still more the bar it has presented to their emancipation from a state of real and practical vassalage. We have exposed the delusions which have been fostered amongst them by their only political leaders, the landowners; who, for their own party or class objects, have operated upon the hopes or fears of the tenantry, deluding them alike whether promising an Act of Parliament price for wheat, or threatening an "inundation" of foreign corn, at next to no price at all. We have steadily argued the question of Free Trade upon agricultural grounds; we have left to others the wider field of the injustice and public wrong inflicted by the Corn Laws upon the community, in order to demonstrate that, passing the more general question, the Corn Laws inflicted, directly and indirectly, the deepest. injury upon the capitalists engaged in husbandry.

But while seeking to induce the industrious agriculturists to join with the other industrious classes in the demand for Free Trade, we have not flattered the prejudices of farmers. On the contrary, we have told them that there is no royal road to success in farming. We have shown, from every chapter in the history of British husbandry of the last thirty years, that legislative protection is a mero illusion. a mirage, mocking the distressed agriculturist with false hopes of special dispensation in his favour; we have told the farmers that upon their own exertions they must roly, and that so rolying success

We have stated facts to illustrate the capacity of our soil for improvements almost indefinite, and for an increase of production incredible to the farmer, who has relied upon protection and high prices for profit. We have pointed to successful farmers, and their methods of cultivation, as evidonce that success in agriculture was to be obtained only by disregarding the promises of the Corn Laws, that is, by looking to quantity without referonce to price. Nor have we hesitated to show the nearly universal deficiency of capital with which the business of farming is carried on, or to trace that deficiency to its source, the absence of permanent holdings and the existence of landlord imposed burdens, which prevent the secure application of capital to the culture of the soil. And we have reason to believe that the course of remark into which our advocacy of Free Trade has led us, has not been without effect upon both tonants and landlords. Both may have been occasionally offended by direct or implied rebukes, but they have been led to examine and consider the points upon which observation has been made. And we have ever main. tained that the tenants as a body are, in all that relates to agriculture, far in advance of the lands lords as a class; that, in spite of the greater advan-

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sharpening effects of self-interest have brought the tenant farmers to more correct views of the wants and impediments of agriculture than the landowners, with a few eminent exceptions, entertain, But what the farmers most require is independonce-mental independence-to domand that fair consideration, that equal share in contracts with their landlords, which is essential in the main to their mutual benefit. There is, however, an immense mass of prejudice to be overcome, before the business of a farmer can become what it ought to be-the simple occupation of land at a money rent This can only be accomplished by vigorous action on the part of farmers. They must resolutely resist the continuance of semi-feudal practices, such as the reservation of game, and yearly tenancies. They should insist upon long leases, free from obsolete covenants and restrictions, while they ought to be prepared to offer a full equivalent in the shape of rent, founded upon a careful calculation of the fluctuations of seasons, and which they must expect to pay under all circumstances. There is nothing so adverse to the farmer's independence as eleemosy. nary abatements of rent; and with the introduction of well considered leases, that abatement system will cease. This will probably be our last opportunity of addressing the tenant farmers, and we use it to urge upon them the necessity of trusting to them-

Henceforth the object of farmers must be to attain independence, social and political independence. They must think for themselves, and they must act for themselves. Above all, they must avoid "farmers' friends." The landowners can never be true representatives of the farmers.

In most questions of material interest, the two classes, the landlords and the tenant farmers, are directly opposed to each other; and the prejudices and recollections of the past will long induce the landowners to desire the depression rather than the elevation of the social position of the tenant farmers.

The means by which alone the farmers will attain independence will be SELF-RELIANCE.

They must do as the trading classes have done before them, select for their representatives in the House of Commons men of their own class, or men who sympathise with their class. Now no one can do so less than a landlord. That must be a standing rule; and overy landowner who, as a public man, seeks the confidence of the farmers, should establish affirmatively his right to be considered an exception.

The farmer should always remember, that as a capitalist his interest is identified with that of the trading classes, that their well-doing is his well-doing, and that the kind of patron and client relation which has hitherto subsisted between landlord and tenant in England is utterly inconsistent with the successful prosecution of farming as a business. Let the farmers learn from the success of the League, and of the classes who have supplied the energy of the League in emancipating their own industry, that fortune helps those only who will help themselves.

#### REVIEW.

THE HISTORY OF COMMERCE. By W. Cooke Taylor, Esq., L.L.D. of Trin. Coll., Dublin.

The above work is intended to set forth the history of commerce in connection with the were gradually developed by the progress of exchange, to show the connection between the merease of commercial intercourse and the spread of civilisation; to show how commercial enterprise prompted to maritime and inland discovery, and to exhibit how commercial credit becomes the bond of brotherhood between nations The "History of Commerce" must, in fact, to some extent, be an exposure of pernicious errors and perverted truths; but in a still greater degree it will be a record of honourable exertions in the cause of humanity, and brilliant discoveries for the moral advancement of mankind. It will show that truth, justice, and freedom, are the great elements of commercial prosperity; and that no individual, and no nation, can violate their principles with impunity. We have witnessed the dawn of a water, mising on the world as a sun of rightcousness, with healing in its wings, and at such a time it would be ungrateful to neglect the methory of

those who toiled and struggled through the long night that is now gone down the sky.

The literary and personal connection between Doctor Cooke Taylor and Archbishop Whateley will no doubt be continued through the proposed work, and will, of course, ensure both its scientific accuracy and its moral value. It will elucidate many points, both in ancient and modern history, which have received but little attention from English writers; as, for instance, the Carthagenian system of banking; the Greek plan of colonisation; the state of the trading municipalities under the Romans; the effect produced on commerce by the invasion of the barbarians in the west, and the conquests of the Saracens in the east; the rise and growth of commerce among the Lombards, the Albigenses, the Moors, and other communities in the Western Mediterranean; the formation of the Hansentic and Rhenish Leagues, and a succinct view of the commercial history of the principal European nations since the discoveries of Vasco di Gama and

We have merely to announce these works; there is no need of dwelling upon their importance; and it would be rather premature to speculate on the style of their future execution.

Bentley's Modern Literature, Part I. Walpole's Letters, London, Bentley.

We have seen no more acceptable series of cheap literature than that which Mr. Bentley has commenced, for it gives us cheapness, without any sacrifice of convenience or comfort. The works appear with such elegance of paper and print as to fit them for the most luxurious library, and at a price which places them within the range of persons of moderate fortune. The eye is not wearied by small print and crowded pages. Instead of imperfect woodcuts, we have steel plates, executed in the best style of art. We are glad that the publisher has commenced the series with the inimitable letters of Horaco Walpole, a correspondence which, for lively wit, shrewd appreciation of character, and thorough knowledge of English parties at an important period of history, has no rival in the whole range of the world's literature. To criticise a work which is known and estoemed wherever our language is spoken would be superfluous, but we shall extract some of the passages relating to the expulsion of Sir Robert Walpole from office, which have the greater interest at a crisis when a still greater Sir Robert has been forced to abandon the reins of

The opposition to Sir Robert Walpole was conducted with a personal ferocity to which modern times can afford no parallel. It was known that the session of 1742 would decide the issue; and though there was no division on the address, there were significant indications of a desperate struggle, which Horace thus describes:

"We had no division, but a very warm battle between Sir R. and Pultney. The latter made a fine speech, very per sonal, on the state of affairs. Sir R. with as much health as much spirits, as much force and command as ever, an swered him for an hour; said, 'He had long been taxed with all our misfortunes; but did he raise the war in Germany? or advise the war with Spain? did he kill the late Emperor or King of Prussia? did he counsel this king? or was he first minister to the King of Poland? did he kindle the war betwixt Muscovy and Sweden?' For our troubles at home, he said, 'all the grievances of this nation were owing to the Patriots.' They laughed much at this; but does he want proofs of it? He said, 'They talked much of an equilibrium in this Parliament, and of what they de signed against him; if it was so, the sooner he knew it the better; and therefore if any man would move for a day to examine the state of the nation, he would second it. Mr. Pultney did move for it; Sir R. did second it, and it is fixed for the 21st of January. Sir R. repeated some words of Lord Chesterfield's, in the House of Lords, that this was a time for truth, for plain truth, for English truth, and hinted at the reception his lordship had met in France. After these speeches of such consequence, and from such men, Mr. Lyttleton got up to justify, or rather to flatter Lord Chester field, though everybody then land forgot that he had been mentioned Danvers, who is a rough, rude beast, but now and then months out some humour, said, 'that Mr. P. and Sir R. were like two old bawds, debauching young members.

"That day was a day of triumph, but yesterday (Wednesday) the streamers of victory did not fly so gallantly. It was the day of receiving petitions; Mr. Pultney presented an immense piece of parchment, which he said he could but just lift; it was the Westminster petition, and is to be heard next Tuesday, when we shall all have our brains knocked out by the mob; so if you don't hear from me next post, you will conclude my head was a little out of order. After this we went upon a Cornish petition, presented by Sir William Yonge, which drew on a debate and a division, when lo! we were but 222 to 215—how do you like a majority of seven? The Opposition triumphs highly, and with reason; one or two such victories, as Pyrrius, the member for Macedon, said, will be the ruin of us. I look upon it now, that the question is, Downing Biroet or the Tower; will you come and see a body, if one should happen to lodge at the latter? There are a thousand pretty things to amuse you; the lions, the armoury, the crown, and the axe that beheaded Anna Bullen. I design to make interest for the room where the two princes were smothered; in long winter evenings, when one wants company, (for I don't suppose that many people will frequent me then,) one may sit and scribble verses against Crouchback'd Richard, and dirges on the sweet babes. If I die there, and live my body thrown into a wood, I am too old to be buried by robin redbreasts, am not I?

"Bootle, the prince's chancellor, made a most long and

stupid speech; afterwards, Sir R. called to him, 'Prother Bootle, take care you don't get my old name.' 'What's that?' 'Blunderer.

"You can't conceive how I was pleased with the vast and deserved applicate that Mr Thute's brother, the lawyer, got; I never heard a clearer or a finer speech. When I went home, 'Dear Sir,' said I to Sir R. 'I hope Mr. Chute will carry his election for Heydon; he would be a great loss to you.' He replied, 'We will not lose him.' I, who meddle with nothing, especially elections, and go to no committees, interest myself extremely for Mr. Chute.

with nothing, especially elections, and go to no committees, interest myself extremely for Mr. Chute.

"Old Marlhorough is dying but who can tell! last year she had lain a great while ill, without speaking; her physicians said, 'She must be blistered, or she will die. She celled out, 'I won't be blistered, and I won't die.' If she takes the same resolution now, I don't believe she will."

The Duchess of Marlborough kept her word; she lived more than three years after the date of this letter, and she urged on the opposition to their first great victory on the Westminster petition. The letter, describing this part of the contest, furnishes more than one curious illustration of the morality of party:

"Monday and Tuesday we went on the Westminster election. Murray spoke divinely; he was their counsel. Lloyd answered him extremely well; but on summing up the evidence on both sides, and in his reply, Murray wasin short, beyond what was ever heard at the bar. That day (Tuesday) we went on the merits of the cause, and at ten at night divided, and lost it. They had 220, we 216; so the election was declared void. You see four is a fortunate number to them. We had forty-one more members in town, who would not, or could not come down. The time is a touchstone for wavering consciences. All the arts, money, promises, threats, all the arts of the former year, 41, are upplied; and self interest, in the shape of Scotch membersnay, and of English ones, operates to the aid of their party, and to the defeat of ours. Lord Donevaile, a young lyishman, brought in by the Court, was petitioned against, though his competitor had but one vote. This young man spoke as well as ever any one spoke in his own defence; insisted on the petition being heard, and concluded with declatting, that 'his cause was his defence, and impartiality must be his support.' Do you know that, after this, he went and engaged, if they would withdraw the petition, to vote with them in the Westmuster affair! His friends reproached him so strongly with his meanness, that he was shocked, and went to Mr. Puliney to get off; Mr. P. told him, he had given him his honour, and he would not relewe him, though Lord Doneralle declared it was against his conceince; but he voted with them, and lost us the next question which they put (for censuring the High Bailell') by his single vote; for in that the numbers were 217 against 245; the alteration of his vote would have made it even; and then the Speaker, I suppose, would have chosen the merciful side, and decided for us. After this, Mr. Pultney, with an affected humanity, agreed to commit the triph Bailiff only to the serjeant at arms. Then, by a majority of six, they voted that the soldiers, who had been sent for, after the poll was closed, to save Lord Sundan's life, had come in a military and illegal manner, and influenced the election. In short, they determined, as Mr. Murray had dictated to them, that no civil magistrate, on any pretence whatsoever, though he may not be able to suppress even a riot by the assistance of the militia and constables, may call in the aid of the army. Is not this doing the work of the Jacobites? have they any other view than to render the riot act uscless? and then they may rise for the Pretender whenever they please. Then they moved to punish Justice Blackerby for calling in the soldiers; and when it was desired that he might be heard in his own defence, they said be laid already confessed his crime. Do but think on it! without being accused, without knowing, or being told it was a crime, a man gives evidence in another cause, not his own, and then they call it his own accusation of himself, and would condemn him for it. You see what justice we may expect if they actually get the majority. But this was too strong a pill for one of their own leaders to swallow: Sir John Barmad did propose and persuade them to give him a day to be heard. In short, we sat till half an hour after four in the morning; the longest day that ever was known. I say nothing of myself, for I could but just speak when I came away; but Sir Robert was as well as ever, and spoke with as much spirit as ever, at four o'clock. This way they will not kill him; I will not answer for any other. As he came out, Whitehead, the author of Manners, and agent, with one Carey, a surgeon, for the Opposition, said, 'D—n him, how well he looks?' Immediately after their success, Lord Gage, went forth, and hegged there might be no mobbing; but last night we had honfires all over the town, and I suppose shall have notable mobbing at the new election; though I do not believe there will be any opposition to their Mr. Edwin and Lord Perceval. Thank God! we are now adjourned for threa weeks. I shall go to Swallowfield for a few days : 40 for one week you will miss hearing from me. We have escaped the Prince's affair bitherto, but we shall have it after the holidays. All depends upon the practices of both sides in seeming or getting new votes during this recess. Sir Robert is very sanguine: I hope, for his sake and his honour, and for the nation's peace, that he will get the better; but the moment he has the majority secure, I shall be very carnest with him to resign. He has a constitution to last some years, and enjoy some repose; and for my own part (and both my brothers agree with me in it), we wish most heartly to see an end of his ministry. If I can judge of them by myself, those who want to be in our situation, do not wish to see it brought about more than we do. Is is fatiguing to bear so, much envy and ill-will undescreedly,—Otium Divos rogo; but alien politics for these smoke? but adicu, politics, for three weeks !

The next stringgle was on the appointment of a secret committee, and it occasioned a scene without a parallel in the history of the House of Commons:

"It was a most shocking sight to see the sick and dead brought in on both sides! Men on crutches, and Sir William Gordon from his bed, with a blister on his head, and flaunch hanging out from under his wig. I could scarce pity him for his ingratitude. The day before the West-minster petition, Sir Charles Wager gave his son a ship, and the next day the father came down and voted against light. The son has since been cast away; but they converted it from the father, that he might not absent himself. However, as we have our good-natured men too on our side, one of his countrymen went and told him of it in the Manage Make old man, who looked like Lazarus at his resuscitation, bore

it with great resolution, and said, he knew why he was told of it, but when he thought his country in danger, he would not go away. As he is so near death, that it is indifferent to him whether he died two thousand years are or to morrow, It is unlucky for him not to have lived when such insensibility would have been a Roman virtue.

There are no arts, no menaces, which the Opposition do not practise. They have threatened one gentleman to have a reversion cut off from his son, unless he will vote with them. To Totuces there came a letter to the mayor from the Prince, and signed by two of his lords, to recommend a candidate in opposition to the Solicitor general. The mayor sent the letter to Sir Robert. They have turned the Scotch to the best account. There is a young Oswald, who had engaged to Sir R. but has voted against us. Sir R. sent a friend to reproach him: the moment the gentleman who had engaged for him came into the room, Oswald said, 'You had like to have led me into a fine error! did you not tell me that Bir R. would have the majority?

"When the debate was over, Mr. Pultney owned that he had never heard so fine a debate on our side; and said to Sir Robert, 'Well, nobody can do what you can " 'Yes,' replied Sir R. 'Yonge did better.' Mr. P. answered, 'It was fine, but not of that weight with what you said.' They all allow it; and now their plan is to persuade Sir Robert to retire with honour. All that evening there was a report about the town, that he and my uncle were to be sent to the Tower, and people hired windows in the city to see them pass by -but for this time I believe we shall not exhibit so Instorical a parade,

The night of the committee, my brother Walpole had got two or three invalids at his house, designing to carry them into the House through his door, as they were too ill to go round by Westminster Hall; the patriots, who have rather more contrivances than their predecessors of Grecian and Homan memory, had taken the precaution of stopping the keyhole with sand. How Livy's cloquence would have been hampered, if there had been back doors and keyholes to the Temple of Concord.

We have a less lively, but still a graphic account of the catastrophe:

"I am miserable that I have not more time to write to you especially as you will want to know so much of what I have to tell you; but for a week or fortulght I shall be so hurried, that I shall scarce know what I say. I sit here writing to you, and receiving all the town, who flock to this house; Bir Robert has already had three levees this morning, and the rooms still overflowing-they overflow up to me. You will think this the poslude to some victory! On the con trary, when you receive this, there will be no longer a Sir Robert Walpole; you must know him for the future by the title of Earl of Orford. That other envied name expires next week with his ministry!

Preparatory to this change, I should tell you, that last week we heard in the House of Commons tha Chippenham election, when Jack Frederick and his brother in law, Mr. Hume, on our side petitioned against Sir Edmund Thomas and Mr. Bavuton Rolt. Both sides made it the decisive question -but our people were not all equally true; and upon the previous question we had but 235 against 236 lost it by one. From that time my brothers, my uncle, I, and some of his particular friends, persuaded Sir R. to resign. He was undetermined till Sunday night. Tuesday we were to fluish the election, when we lost it by 16; upon which, Sir Robert declared to some particular persons in the House his resolution to retire, and had that morning sent the Prince of Wales notice of it. It is understood from the heads of the party, that nothing more is to be pursued against him. Yesterday (Wednesday) the King adjourned both Houses for a fortnight, for time to settle things. Next week Sir Robert resigns, and goes into the House of Lords. The only change yet fixed, is, that Lord Wilmington is to be at the head of the Treasury but numberless other alterations and confusions must follow. The Prince will be reconciled, and the Whig patriots will come in. There were a few bonfires last night, but they are very unfashionable, for never was fallen minister so followed. When he kissed the King's hand to take his first leave, the King fell on his neck, wept and kissed him, and beeyed to see him frequently. He will continue in town, and assist the ministry in the Lords. Mr. Pelham has declared that he will accept nothing that was Sir Robert's; and this moment the Duke of Richmond has been here from court to tell Sir R, that he had resigned the mastership of the horse, having received it from him, unasked, and that he would not keep it beyond his ministry. the greater honour, as it was so unexpected, and as he had no personal friendship with the dake.

For myself, I am quite happy to be free from all the fatigue, envy, and uncertainty of our late situation. I go everywhere; indeed, to have the stare over, and to use myself to neglect, but I meet nothing but civilities. Here have been Lord Hartington, Coke, and poor Fitzwilliam, and others crying: here has been Lord Deskford and numbers to wish me loy; in short, it is a most extraordinary and various scene,

There are three people whom I pity much; the King, Lord Wilmington, and my own sister; the first, for the affront, to be forced to part with his minister, and to be forced to forgive his son; the second as he is too old, and (even when he was young,) unfit for the burthen; and the poor girl, who must be created an earl's daughter, as her birth would deprive her of the rank. She must kiss hands, and bear the flirts of impertinent real quality.

It is not necessary to compare the fate of the two Sir Roberts; the scone we have extracted terminated Walpole's public life, but with Sir Robert Peel we foully hope and believe that the "the end is not yet.

REFRESENTATION OF WINDSON.—Colonel Reil, one of the representatives of Windsor, was in the town on Saturday and Monday, and made several calls upon those voters who supported him at the election in November last. Mr. Ne ville, the other member for the borough, was expected to arrive yesterday. A rumour was in circulation, that there was a probability of a son of Colonel Vyse, of Stoke, and a brother of the member for the southern division of the county of Northampton, offering himself on the protectionist interest, at the next general election. It is not expected that Sir John de Beauvoir will again contest the representation of the borough.—Morning Past.

FRUITS OF THE CORN LAWS.—Many cargoes of the oats that have arrived at Shields this week, are in a very bad condition with inspets owing to the largethead time there.

condition with insects, owing to the lengthened time they have been in bond.—Newcasile Guardian.

SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ENGRAVING OF THE OUNCIL OF THE

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Charles Grach, do
Le oh Bright, Jun., Rochdale
William Cripps, Nottingham
P.A. Taylor, Cryydon
Robert Russelt, do
J.H. Hutchinson, London
S. Overbury, Westbary
James Mellot, Live pool
Thomas Prout, London
John Gully, Ackworth Park, Wakefield
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ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC.

NEW FEATURES OF THE ECONOMIST.

London, June 26th, 1846

Such has been the Economist hitherto It is not for us to say how far the senumerous departments have been efficiently managed. The general approbation of our read is is the only evidence we have to refer to on that points. But we have now gained one great object for which this paper was established.

This CORN LAWS ARE THIS DAY PRACTICALLY REFEALED. The first and most important aim of Free Trade has been accomplished; but the great and practical frains of that freedom are yet to be avoided, and numerous relies of the protective system are yet to be avoided, and numerous relies of the protective system are yet to be swept from our institutions and our commerce.

The rame principles on which the truth and advantages of Free Trade are based, will be found equally applicable to all other political and social improvements. The foundation of all moral and intellectual improvement will be found to consist in the same great and universal principles on which the truth of Free Trade depends. Self respect, a consciousness of individual responsibility, a healthy reliance on independent exertion, and a high sense of that justice which, while it demands what is due to itself, his the mest acquision that Physical improvement virtues and duties of life. Our principles are therefore closely associated with the great questions of Education, the Physical improvement of the People, and the general advancement of their and Religious Liberty.

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#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Evening, July 4, 1846.

The usual events for the vacancies caused by the formation of a new Ministry have been moved for, and Lord John Russell has published his address to the citizens of London. A new crain English history has commenced, and not the leat significant novelty is the fact that the Premier will be the representative of the metropoli-Another remarkable novelty will be the return of a merchant, Mr. Brown, as member for South Lan cashire. No more striking proofs could be given of the recognition of the dignity of commerce in the empire, when the Prime Minister is the representative of the largest commercial con stituency, and when one of the largest county constituencies selects a commercial gentleman for its member. It is also gratifying to observe the almost perfect identity of sentiment between Lord John Russell's address, and the speech with which Sir Robert Peel closed his Ministerial career. Both have emphatically pledged themselves to consummate the great work of Free Trade; and both have declared themselves ready to adopt such measure as will ensure for Ireland equal participation in the rights and privileges of the British constitution.

In another part of this paper we have taken our farewell of our readers: and we have now only to add that our pride in the past is not greated than our hope in the future. The speech of the out-going, and the address of the in-coming Premier, are equally manifestos of a course of policy suited to the circumstances, the position, and the dignity of the British Empire. Whatever men may hold power, the measures propounded by these whom we can no longer regard as rival statesmen, will be, and must be, the basis of every future administration. Henceforth monopoly is no longer practicable:

" Prone in the dust Protection shall be hurl'd, Its name, its nature banish'd from the world '

Already its power has been shaken in France and smitten in America: Russia has begun to remodel her tariff, and the voice of Free Trade is heard in the Zollverein. The mutual interests of commerce are felt to be the very honds of peace, and the mutual exchange of benefits is found to be the only allience deserving the name of Holy. We have a new era opening before us; the dawn of a brighter day than ever yet shope upon England is already sending its rays above the horizon, cheering, illumining, and inspiring. Grate ful to Providence that has bestowed upon us such blessings, we call upon our country to accept, her high mission, and fulfil her great destiny: "Are shine, for thy light is come; and the glory of Lord hath rison upon thee!"

Commonia, on Monday, June 20.

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M. JULIEN'S has the honour to announce that his Concerts will post (rely to randate on Saturday, July 18th, and that his Grand Ral Masque the only one this wason) will have place on the following Monday, July 20th. Every preparation is being made to render this centertainment in all repeave qualifinot superior to M. Jullien's former balls. The decorations, between the fine as an Orchestic de dause be perfect in its constitution. Tackets for the Ball 198 64. The Prices of Admission for Spectators, for whom the node ce portion of the Theatre will as before he set apart, will be as on a time or casions, viz. Dress Circles 58., Boxes 56., Lower Gallery 28., Upper 1999 by Private Poxes from 13-28. Our upwards. Private Poxes from 13-28. Our upwards. Private Poxes from 13-28. Our upwards.

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to hasting honour'd this our vast concern.
We relt a thrill of pleasure in our hearts,
While thou wast yisting the mart of marts;
And whilst your Highness gazed on every side,
Our besons beat with a becoming pride.
Long shall we recollect the important day
On which then didst this glorious visit pay;
And may'st thou ne er forget the visit paid
To MOSES: noted Parthenon of Frade.
Go. go! Illustrious Prince! and sound abroad
The glad occasion which we here record.
When far away on Egypt's shores, proclaim
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Tell how the mighty warchouse is display'd
The most assounding monument in trade:
And say what thousands hasten to admire -

And say what thousands hasten to admire — What thousands purchase the superbattire. And if sgain your Highness over please For Lind sind's lide for rosethe while deep ser Forget not Moses, who would half at heart Another visit to their princely mart.

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The next Division of Profits will be made in Nov 1847. The total number of policies I sued from the commencement of the Institution. In December, 130, to the present trace, is 1063, and the annual income of the Society is unwards of 179 060.

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#### NEWS.

Were it possible for a man to realise a recent foriorn idea of Lord Brougham's, and live seven days "in an air-pump," it is our hope that our hourly goasip. To achieve this, we shall mittate the che mical doings of certain purveyors, who to make food pertable, condense the essence of whole said and all to public merals, we shall not irreduce the penny a liner. Let one instance suffice for our general plan.—Hanging being still condense the case of the cut when the circuit was a condense to the unfortunate man, or woman (children are not hanged now) was launched into advantage—it gives us brevity, and more, in a clearer light, it sets forth truth

## POLITICS.

We shall deal with Politics as men deal with melons, accept a slice from any sine. If the slice be good. And the simile holds out. For whereas, in the good old times, and times not so good or old, laws, like exactics, were cultivated for the few, so are they now, equally desirable by the many. And more, they will be now pencefully—but determinedly—had. And in this inevitable adjustment, far be it from us to wish to set class against line word, our Politics will be the Politics of Progress. And for the 'wisdom of our ancestors," we shall not, like antiquarian inclallists, desire to proserve it for the rust and verdigris of the past, but solely for its current value and utility to the present and the future.

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It was recently said an' well said, too', by the Bishop of Oxford, "that it was a good thing the people would not now be kept quiet by a low p are and quietness." The people are no longer to be thus drugged. They were assert their rightful condition in the State. Let the State, then, be maid of Universal Surresson, will have our uncersing advocacy.

#### RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

l'uless Heaven could be mapped out by Government Survey, we are for no government way to immortality. We say with Hood—

"Our heart ferments not with the bigot's leaven,
All men we view with tolerations thorough,
And have a horror of regarding heaven
As any Prince or Prelate's rotton borough."

Mence, the vessel of the Blahop's Church—a very different vessel, by the way, from the boat of Simon Peter—would not, we think, Inevitably founder,
we re her golden tow rope past off from the Blate, and the rest of her voyage worked by volunteers.

#### FREE TRADE.

As free as the design of Providence, in its great bounty, is made manifest. For surely, every lind would have contained everything within seelf, and not the Ulver of the Good intended its free exchange among the family of man.

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The First Lord of the Admiralty has recently avowed his preference of "the man who serves his country twom rims, to the man who serves it runs rims." Thus, in the Ellenborough mind, Private Smith in a shower of ballets is nobler, more sublime than Shakepeare in his study—than con, Newton, Copernicus, Watt. We would not underrate the courage and endurance of Private Smith, but we shall do our best to do without them; to show that we have glory sufficient; and that the noblest and most humanising truths are written not in laurel isaves, but elive.

Enough of profession. We have briefly indicated our principles. We will no further dwell upon the weekly contents of our newspares, than to state that they will comprise more than the usual subjects of information and amusement, animated, it is hoped, with a spirit of novely. WE WRITE FOR THE MASKES. We shall endeavour to write not nown, but up them. Assuredly, we shall not imitate a too common practice; thinking, that like certain yeomanry of indelible memory, the common business way to bit the crowd is—to similar.

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Edited by Mr. PRENTICE, one of the seven originators of the Mr. chester Anti Corn-Law Association, in September, 1828, and Member of the Executive Council of the League, from its appointment in March, 1829.

The Matchester Times, commenced in 1828, was established leasues thus means appeared to the result of the march 1829, was established leasues thus means appeared of unusual excitement and conflict of opinion, has received its realous assistance.

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It was the first paper in this part of the country which removed from what was then called the ultra liberal press the imputation of midelite, and by its reports of meetings which had previously been utterly neglected by the Manchester papers, was at first shown that Laucashire possessed a relivious nubile.

by the Manchester papers, was at first shown that Laurashire posessed a religious public.

It supported catholis Pmancipation, not from indifference to the value of Frotestantism, but on the ground that men should not be excluded from civil rights on account of their religious opinions.

It supported to the project of the Reference of the old representative system previous to the project of the Reference ill were of acknowled utility, and, since the passing of that great but still imperfect measure, it has not created to advocate a fuller and shore complete representation of the people, with full protection to the voter from the exercise of undue internet.

people, with full protection to the voter from the exercise of undue influence.

It was the only paper in Manchester which devoted its space to the proceedings of the Anti Slavery Society; and the editorial articles which appeared from time to time to show that man could not justly hold proper in man, were not uninfluential in forming that public opinion which effected the emancipation of the negroes in our colonies.

It took the lead of all the provincial papers in opposition to Church Rates, either as a direct impost, or, as the Whig administration proposed, a permanent charge on the Conseldeted Fund; and it is now the only paper. Manchester which asserts that the religion of the people is not a proper subject for state legislation.

Recognising the advantages of Education, in the establishment of new and the reform of old Educational Institutions, it has been emmently useful, and it was the only paper published in Manchester which opposed the measure of Church aggression brought forward by Sir James Graham, under the guite of a "Factory Education Hill."

It was the only provincial paper in the kingdom which exposed that inquitious monopoly of the King's Printer and the Universities which machine Word of God double, and, in some instances, treble the price at which, in consequence of the destruction of the monopoly in Scotland, it is now published.

It has unceraingly been the earnest advocate of perfect freedom of trade, not only for its direct benefits, but as a means of promoting Universit

It has uncomingly been the earnest advocate of perfect freedom of trade, not only for its direct benefits, but as a means of promoting Universit Pence, and it is not too much to affirm, that the lead which Manchester has taken in the present great movement against the landowners in no poly may, in a considerable degree, be attributed to the effect produced upon the public mind by its constantly-repeated expositions of the mischiefs inflict d by the Corn Laws.

Nuch was the course pursued when the proprietors were in advance of public opinion, and when they had to atruggle with difficulties which would have overwhelmed mon offices attachment to principle and less determination to carry out the views which they were pledged to maintain. That such a course has been pursued, under such circumstances, is no slight guarantee, that now, notwithstanding the temptations to expeditury offered by the example of public men hitherto enjoying much of the public enfidence. Civil, Iteligious, and Commercial Liberty will continue to be promoted with unashated seal and enorgy.

Ducic-place, Manchester, Dec 31st, 1845.

MUDIE'S NEWSPAPER OFFICE, 10, Coventy A street. Haymarket.—The readers of Thu Lasoun are respectfully informed that Thomas Mudic and Sons are Agents for the supply of all the London Newspapers, and that to ensure the utmost regularity is delivery they print the address of their country customers on the covers, when a dered for all or twelve months. A remittance of reference is town is required with orders.

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